

**CABINET DECISIONS – 22 SEPTEMBER 2017**

1. Cabinet has taken note of the apprehensions of the bus companies operating along the corridor of the Metro Express Project, and the issues raised by the trade unions representing the bus industry workers, and agreed to the Ministerial Committee under the Chairmanship of the Acting Prime Minister, Minister of Energy and Public Utilities, examining the impact of the Project on the bus industry and making recommendations accordingly. The Committee comprises –

- (a) the Minister of Public Infrastructure and Land Transport;
- (b) the Minister of Arts and Culture;
- (c) the Attorney General, Minister of Justice, Human Rights and Institutional Reforms;
- (d) the Minister of Social Integration and Economic Empowerment;
- (e) the Minister of Labour, Industrial Relations, Employment and Training;
- (f) the Minister of Local Government and Outer Islands;
- (g) the Minister of Civil Service and Administrative Reforms; and
- (h) the Minister of Financial Services and Good Governance.

Cabinet has further taken note that the Joint Project Monitoring Committee on the Metro Express Project, under the Joint Chairmanship of the Minister of Public Infrastructure and Land Transport and the High Commissioner of India, had met to review physical progress, and ensure the smooth implementation of the Project, as well as ascertain conformity to the prescribed quality standards, time frame and cost. The Committee would meet at regular intervals. A Monitoring Committee, chaired by the Minister of Public Infrastructure and Land Transport, also meets on a weekly basis to monitor the implementation of the Project.

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2. Cabinet has agreed to the setting up of an Ocean Economy Unit at the Ministry of Ocean Economy, Marine Resources, Fisheries and Shipping to formulate and implement policies and strategies for the development of the Ocean Economy.

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3. Cabinet has agreed to the Radiation Protection Act 2003 being repealed and replaced by a new legislation that would provide for an enhanced framework for radiation safety and nuclear security, and respond effectively to technological and scientific changes.

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4. Taking into consideration the extensive use of pesticides in foodcrop cultivation, Cabinet has agreed to the introduction of an appropriate legislation in the National Assembly to regulate the use of pesticides in agriculture for an effective control of pests, and the protection of human health and the environment from their harmful effects.

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5. Cabinet has agreed to the Minister of Ocean Economy, Marine Resources, Fisheries and Shipping amending the Fisheries and Marine Resources (Licence and Fees) Regulations 2013 to regulate the operation of supply vessels in the Economic Exclusive Zone of Mauritius, and provide for the payment of licence fees.

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6. Cabinet has taken note of the outcome of the recent mission of the Minister of Health and Quality of Life to Zimbabwe where he participated in the Sixty-Seventh Session of the WHO Regional Committee for Africa. The Committee considered, among others, the implementation of Transformational Agenda for Africa, the regional strategy to reduce the burden of diseases attributable to environmental determinants, and the strategies and policies to address non-communicable diseases.

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7. Cabinet has taken note that in the context of World Heart Day, observed on 29 September, the Ministry of Health and Quality of Life would, during the month of September 2017, organise screening exercises, talks, and exhibitions on cardiovascular diseases and their risk factors, as well as campaigns on obesity, keep fit, prevention of tobacco use, healthy living, etc. The theme chosen for the World Heart Day 2017 is “**share the power**”.

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8. Cabinet has taken note that the Ministry of Tourism, in collaboration with the United Nations Environment Programme, the German Federal Ministry for Environment, and the Travel Foundation, is organising an Inception Workshop on the theme “**Transforming Tourism Value Chains for Sustainable Development**” in October 2017. The Workshop would launch the project “*Transforming tourism value chains in developing countries and Small Island Developing States (SIDS) to accelerate more resource efficient and low-carbon development*”, that has as objective to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, and increase source efficiency in the tourism sector value chains.

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9. Cabinet has taken note of the outcome of the recent mission of the Minister of Tourism to China where he attended the 22<sup>nd</sup> Session of the United Nations World Tourism Organisation (UNWTO) General Assembly. The theme of the Assembly was “**Tourism and the Sustainable Development Goals: Journey to 2030**”. The General Assembly, among others, considered and approved the UNWTO Framework Convention on Tourism Ethics that upgrades the existing Code, covers the responsibilities of all stakeholders in the development of sustainable tourism, and provides a framework adopting ethical practices in tourism development.

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10. Cabinet has taken note of the outcome of the recent mission of the Minister of Agro-Industry and Food Security to Madagascar where he attended the International Agricultural Fair, organised by the Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock of Madagascar. A conference on the theme “*For a Modern and Prosperous Agriculture*” was also organised where the President of the Malagasy Republic highlighted the challenges facing the Agricultural Sector, the measures to be taken to address those challenges, and the projects to be implemented to improve infrastructure in the country to enhance production. The Minister of Agro-Industry and Food Security had a working session on bilateral cooperation in the field of agriculture with the Malagasy President, in the presence of the Malagasy Minister of Agriculture and Livestock. The Minister of Agro-Industry and Food Security thanked the President for the decision taken to lift the ban on the importation of day old chicks and livestock feed from Mauritius.

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11. Cabinet has taken note of the outcome of the recent mission of the Minister of Industry, Commerce and Consumer Protection to Zambia where he participated in the COMESA Ministers of Industry Meeting. The Meeting adopted the COMESA Industrialisation Strategy 2017–2026 that aims at creating a globally competitive, environmental-friendly and diversified industrial sector through the transformation of regional resources based on innovation and sustainable manufacturing.

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12. Cabinet has taken note of the appointment of Mrs Angel Angoh as Chairperson of the Committee of the *Centre de Lecture Publique et d’Animation Culturelle*.

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13. Cabinet has taken note of the setting up of the Mauritius Cane Industry Authority Advisory Council with Mr Marie Joseph Gérard Chasteau de Balyon as Chairperson.

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