

CABINET DECISIONS – 26 OCTOBER 2017

1. Cabinet has taken note that, in the context of the Metro Express Project, the Barkly Sport Complex would be relocated adjacent to the existing market fair. The Complex would also comprise, a volleyball cum basketball pitch, a mini soccer pitch and a green space.

2. Cabinet has agreed to the introduction of the Copyright (Amendment) Bill into the National Assembly. The object of the Bill is to amend the Copyright Act in order to, inter alia, –

- (a) make provisions regarding phonograms;
- (b) increase the length of the duration of copyright;
- (c) make better provisions in relation to the payment of equitable remuneration; and
- (d) to set up the Mauritius Society of Authors to replace the Rights Management Society, and represent and defend the interests of its Members.

3. Cabinet has taken note of the African Gender and Development Index Report for Mauritius, the first Index Report that measures gender equality and women empowerment in the economic, social and political space, and indicates progress in the implementation of regional and international instruments. The Report will be forwarded to the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa.

4. Cabinet has agreed to a project proposal to set up an Aerospace Research, Education and Training Centre, with an investment of Euro 2.6M. The project aims at democratizing access to aerospace research, technology innovation, and educational flights, including weightless techno-science research and development, and aerospace tourism. A number of jobs would be created through the implementation of research and aerospace tourism activities.

5. Cabinet has taken note of the activities that would be organised on the occasion of the 183rd Anniversary of the Arrival of Indentured Labourers, commemorated on 2 November, namely, a wreath-laying ceremony, cultural performances, and the launching of two books.

6. Cabinet has taken note that the Pharmacy Council Act 2015 would be proclaimed to take effect on 01 November 2017. The implementation of the Pharmacy Council Act will enable better regulation and control of the profession of pharmacist, and promote the advancement of the profession through compliance with a proper Code of Practice and the provision for Continuous Professional Development.

7. Cabinet has taken note that the Minister of Local Government and Outer Islands would make the Local Government (Application for Building and Land Use Permit) (Collection and Transfer of Fees) Regulations to facilitate the processing of Building and Land Use Permits and collect and transfer fees in respect of applications for such Permits requiring the clearance from the utility service providers.

8. Cabinet has taken note of the outcome of the recent mission of the Minister of Foreign Affairs, Regional Integration and International Trade to Brussels where he participated in the 20th Meeting of the ACP Ministerial Trade Committee, and the 15th Meeting of the Joint ACP-EU Ministerial Trade Committee. The ACP-EU Meeting focused, among others, on the implementation of Economic Partnership Agreements, deliverables for the 11th World Trade Organisation Ministerial Conference, Non-Tariff Barriers, EU list of non-cooperative tax jurisdictions and Brexit.

During his visit, the Minister of Foreign Affairs, Regional Integration and International Trade, also, had bilateral meetings with –

- (a) HE Mr Didier Reynders, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs of Belgium, regarding cooperation in the area of health with focus on capacity building in the area of Oncology, as part of the ongoing efforts in the fight against cancer; and
- (b) Mrs Sandra Gallina, Director for Sustainable Development; Economic Partnership Agreements for the ACP region; Agri-food and Fisheries at the Directorate General for Trade, European Commission, on the way forward to deepen the Interim Economic Partnership Agreement.

9. Cabinet has taken note of the status with regard to the outbreak of plague in Madagascar, and the surveillance measures put in place at the SSR International Airport and the port. The Ministry of Health and Quality of Life has also launched campaigns of disinfection, and deratisation in different parts of the country.
