

CABINET DECISIONS – 10 APRIL 2020

1. Cabinet has, after taking into consideration the various reports on the prevailing situation pertaining to the outbreak of COVID-19, agreed to the extension of the Curfew Order for the island of Mauritius up to 04 May 2020.

Cabinet has also taken note that there is no case of COVID-19 in Rodrigues and Agalega and that the passengers placed in quarantine in Rodrigues have already been released. Cabinet has agreed that the Curfew Order in Rodrigues and Agalega would lapse on 15 April 2020 to allow economic and other activities to resume, except for schools that will remain closed for the time being. Passenger flights will not resume until further notice. However, sanitary and non-sanitary precautions would be taken to ensure that there is no importation of COVID-19 on both islands.

2. Cabinet has agreed to the setting up of a National Steering Committee under the chair of the Prime Minister to develop a post-curfew Strategy and Action Plan for a phased resumption of economic and other activities. Four Sub-Committees would be set up to make appropriate recommendations promptly to the National Steering Committee as follows –

- (a) Sub-Committee on Education, Health and Social Issues, under the chair of the Vice-Prime Minister, Minister of Education, Tertiary Education, Science and Technology;
- (b) Sub-Committee on Public Sector and Local Authorities, under the chair of the Vice-Prime Minister, Minister of Local Government and Disaster Risk Management;
- (c) Sub-Committee on Labour Issues and Transport, under the chair of the Minister of Transport and Light Rail; and
- (d) Sub-Committee on Finance and Economic Matters, under the chair of the Minister of Finance, Economic Planning and Development.

3. Cabinet has taken note of the outcome of the Emergency Meeting of the SADC Council held through video conference on 6 April 2020. The Mauritian Delegation was led by the Minister of Foreign Affairs, Regional Integration and International Trade and the Minister of Health and Wellness. The SADC Emergency Council adopted the report of the Technical Committee which was set up for the coordination and monitoring of the SADC Protocol on Health and directed the Secretariat to undertake a mapping of regional manufacturers of essential medicines and medical supplies to enable the SADC Pooled Procurement Agency to make bulk purchases for the SADC Member States on preferential rates during the COVID-19 period.

The Secretariat, in consultation with the SADC Cross Border Road Transport Regulations Forum, has proposed regional Guidelines on the harmonisation and facilitation of cross border transport operations. The aims and objectives of the guidelines which were approved by the Emergency Council are to –

- (a) contain the spread of the COVID-19 through a rigorous control at border points;
- (b) facilitate the implementation of transport-related national COVID-19 measures on cross border transportation;
- (c) facilitate the flow of essential goods such as fuel, food and medicines;
- (d) limit the mass transportation of passengers across borders; and
- (e) harmonise and coordinate transport-related national measures.

The Minister of Foreign Affairs, Regional Integration and International Trade would chair a National Transport and Trade Facilitation Committee to coordinate and implement the SADC regional Guidelines and to facilitate the operational issues during the COVID-19 period.

4. Cabinet has taken note of the constitution of the Appeal Committee under the National Land Transport Authority Act with Mr Sandilen Calliapien, Barrister-at-Law, as Chairperson.
