

CABINET DECISIONS – 20 MARCH 2020

1. Cabinet has taken note of additional measures put in place in the context of the outbreak of COVID-19. The situation is being closely monitored.

A Communication Cell has been set up to inform the public, on a daily basis, of the evolution of the situation.

Cabinet has also taken note that during the confinement period, the following basic priority services would, inter alia, be provided –

- (a) the scavenging and cleaning services would be maintained as scheduled by the local authorities so as to ensure a good sanitation level; and
- (b) all vegetable, meat/fish/poultry markets would continue to operate.

2. Cabinet has agreed to the implementation of a COVID-19 Wage Support Scheme to provide financial support to employees who would become technically unemployed on a temporary basis due to the impact of COVID-19. The Scheme would cover the Travel and Tourism Sector, as well as the Export Oriented Enterprises, the ICT/BPO Sector and SMEs affected by COVID-19.

Furthermore, in view of the confinement period of two weeks, the COVID-19 Wage Support Scheme would be extended to cover workers in other formal sectors of the economy for the two weeks' restriction period.

3. Cabinet has taken note of the stock position of strategic commodities imported by the State Trading Corporation (STC), namely, petroleum products, rice, flour and Liquefied Petroleum Gas (LPG), as well as other essential products such as milk powder and pharmaceutical products. No shortage of these products is anticipated. Officers of the Consumer Affairs Unit of the Ministry of Commerce and Consumer Protection would continue to monitor the situation.

4. Cabinet has agreed to the price of hand sanitizers, respirators N95 and PPF2 type and masks being controlled under the Consumer Protection (Consumer Goods) (Maximum Mark Up) Regulations 1998.

5. Cabinet has agreed to the promulgation of the Consumer Protection (Shelf Life of Imported Food Products) Regulations 2020 in order to protect consumers and ensure that fresher products are available for consumption by the population. The objective is to avoid dumping of products in Mauritius and curb unethical trade practices of importation and sale of products with very short shelf life. The Regulations would come into effect on 15 June 2020.

6. Cabinet has agreed to amendments being brought to the International Arbitration Act, following the judgment given by the Judicial Committee of the Privy Council in the case of Peepul Capital Fund II LLC and another vs VSoft Holdings LLC [2019] UKPC 47.

7. Cabinet has agreed to drafting instructions being given to the Attorney General's Office to amend the composition of the Veterinary Council under the Veterinary Council Act with a view to ensuring a better representation therein.

8. Cabinet has agreed to the promulgation of the Road Traffic (Registration of Motor Vehicles and Trailers) Regulations 2020 to make provision, inter alia, for the online reservation and online payment of a Personalised Registration Mark.

9. Cabinet has taken note that the Minister of Health and Wellness would make Regulations under the Dental Council Act to include SEGi University, Malaysia in the recognised list of dental institutions of the Council for the purpose of registration.

10. Cabinet has taken note of the reconstitution of the Standards Council of the Mauritius Standards Bureau with Mr Abdool Rahman Burahee as Chairperson.

11. Cabinet has taken note of the constitution of the Redundancy Board with Mr Abdool Rashid Hossen as President and Mr Claite Bernard Marie as Vice-President.
