

HIGHLIGHTS OF CABINET MEETING – FRIDAY 02 OCTOBER 2026

1. Cabinet has taken note that, in the National Accounts Estimates published on 30 September 2026, Statistics Mauritius has undertaken a comprehensive enhancement of the National Accounts to provide a more complete, accurate and internationally comparable representation of the Mauritian economy.

For the current exercise, Statistics Mauritius has brought three main changes –

- (a) first, establishing 2023 as the new benchmark year, replacing 2018, based on the results of the 2023 Census of Economic Activities, the 2023 Household Budget Survey, the 2024 Census of Agriculture and strengthened administrative data sources;
- (b) second, implementing the 2025 System of National Accounts (2025 SNA) in a phased manner, with full implementation targeted by 2029; and
- (c) third, improving coverage and classification of Global Business Companies (GBCs), including GBCs involved in merchanting and trading activities, in line with the recommendations of different International Monetary Fund (IMF) technical assistances.

With these changes, the level of GDP for 2023 has increased by around Rs58 billion as follows –

- (a) Rs27 billion due to the change in the benchmark year and improved data coverage and reconciliation from the results of the Census of Economic Activities;
- (b) Rs11 billion with the implementation of the 2025 SNA; and
- (c) Rs20 billion with the inclusion of merchanting by GBCs as recommended by the IMF Technical Assistances.

Statistics Mauritius has also revised the GDP figures as far back as 2013 to produce a more coherent and comparable series.

Statistics Mauritius plans to undertake a new Census of Economic Activities in 2028, in line with the recommended five-year cycle. The results of the Census will be used for a rebasing and benchmarking exercise and review of the National Accounts Estimates. Statistics Mauritius will also continue the implementation of the 2025 SNA, with full implementation targeted for 2029.

2. Cabinet has agreed to the promulgation of the Road Traffic (Amendment of Schedule) (No. 3) Regulations 2026 which will enable the online payment of fixed penalties for traffic offences that do not carry penalty points.

The public will be able to pay traffic fines electronically for offences not carrying penalty points, through the Supreme Court Portal, as from 30 October 2026. Users will authenticate their identity through their MauPass account, and enter the Fixed Penalty Notice (FPN) number and vehicle registration mark. Payments may be made via MauCAS QR Code payment applications such as Juice or Pop or by credit/debit card.

During the initial phase of implementation, online payment will be restricted to offences not carrying penalty points and will be conditional upon the FPN having been entered into the system by the Mauritius Police Force. In the second phase, the online payment facility will be extended to all traffic offences, including those carrying penalty points as well as Photographic Enforcement Device Notices issued for speeding offences detected by the 63 speed cameras located across the island.

3. Cabinet has taken note of the setting up of a Crisis Committee on the water situation in Mauritius under the chair of the Minister of Energy and Public Utilities to look into urgent measures to be taken in view of the low level of water in our reservoirs and the dry weather forecast.

4. Cabinet has taken note of the setting up of an Inter-Ministerial Committee under the chair of the Minister of Agro-Industry, Food Security, Blue Economy and Fisheries to look into the abusive use of pesticide in the food crop cultivation sector and its likely impact on the health of the citizens.

5. Cabinet has taken note that a team from Meta, owner of social media platforms, Whatsapp and Facebook, will be on visit in Mauritius on 06 and 07 October 2026. Working sessions will be held with different stakeholders. Discussions will focus on the following areas –

- (a) liability of persons posting undesired content and the requirement for online platforms to have local representation in Mauritius;
- (b) content moderation and Mauritian Creole content, including the availability of appropriate capacity building to review and address content in Mauritian Creole;
- (c) age assurance and protection of children, including cut-off hours;

- (d) amendments being brought to the Cybersecurity and Cybercrime Act 2021;
- (e) fast track management of take down requests process;
- (f) verifiable identities;
- (g) support to the police for criminal investigations; and
- (h) trusted partner programme whereby Meta works with local organisations capable of identifying and escalating problematic content.

The Ministry of Information Technology, Communication and Innovation and Meta will discuss a Framework Agreement setting out the proposed areas of cooperation between the Government of Mauritius and Meta, with a view to strengthening the online safety environment and addressing issues specific to the Mauritian context.

6. Cabinet has agreed to the enlistment of the services of a consultant for the implementation of an integrated approach for the development and sustainable management of the pig sector in Mauritius. Government is committed to modernising the pig sector and to striking the right balance between public health and environmental protection in advancing the sector. A new approach based on the following strategic priorities will be adopted -

- (a) productivity and farm modernisation;
- (b) animal health, biosecurity and traceability;
- (c) environment management;
- (d) infrastructure, slaughtering, finance and processing;
- (e) farmers support, skills and access to technology; and
- (f) market development and value addition.

The services of a consultant will accordingly be enlisted for submission of recommendations for this integrated approach with a view to strengthening domestic pig production, improving food security, enhancing animal health and biosecurity, ensuring environmental sustainability and strengthening the resilience of this sector. The consultant will also be required to carry out a review of the regulatory framework.

7. Cabinet has taken note that the Memorandum of Understanding on the support of Mosques between the Ministry of Islamic Affairs, Dawah and Guidance of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia and the Ministry of Arts and Culture of the Republic of Mauritius is ready to be signed. In this context, the Minister of Arts and Culture has been invited by the Government of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia for the signing ceremony scheduled on 18 October 2026 in Riyadh.

8. Cabinet has taken note that with a view to giving fresh impetus to the work of the State Trading Corporation and accelerating the implementation of the measures announced by Government, the Board of the State Trading Corporation is being reconstituted with, inter alia, –

- (a) Mr Jyh Guang (Gilbert) Shu, as part time Chairperson;
- (b) Mr Parsooramen Chellun, also known as Jayen Chellun, as representative of consumer interests; and
- (c) Mr Veereindre Mussai, as independent member.

9. Cabinet has taken note that Mauritius has improved its ranking in the Global Innovation Index (GII) 2026 from 53rd position in 2025 to 50th position out of 139 countries and economies, while retaining its 1st position in Sub-Saharan Africa and improving from 6th to 5th position among upper-middle-income economies. The GI 2026, published by the World Intellectual Property Organization, was released on 29 September 2026 under the theme “Powering Entrepreneurs at the Frontier of Science”.

Mauritius recorded improvements in Human Capital and Research, Infrastructure, Creative Outputs and Business Sophistication, with the latter improving from 103rd to 90th position and Creative Outputs from 37th to 30th position.

Mauritius’ progress in the GI, from 82nd position in 2019 to 50th position in 2026, reflects the continued strengthening of its national innovation ecosystem and provides a useful benchmark for Government, the private sector, academia and research institutions in identifying areas of strength and addressing areas requiring further investment and collaboration.

10. Cabinet has taken note of the outcome of the tenth meeting of the Inter-Ministerial Committee on the implementation of the Government Programme 2025-2029 held on 24 September 2026, under the chair of the Minister of Housing and Lands, to review the progress achieved by the Ministry of Environment, Solid Waste Management and Climate Change in implementing the relevant measures of the Government Programme and to consider the challenges encountered and actions required to facilitate implementation.

The Committee took note of, inter alia, the following salient points –

- (a) the proposed arrangements under the Circular Economy framework for the collection, refurbishment, recycling and disposal of end-of-life electronic equipment, including the need to distinguish between equipment which can be repaired and reused, and equipment which constitutes actual waste;
- (b) the funding requirements for the extension of the Air Monitoring Network, Stack Emission Monitoring, the introduction of a Lagoon Water Quality Index and the extension of real-time monitoring of surface and ground water at Poste de Flacq;
- (c) the ongoing coastal protection programme and the proposal to consider a pilot scheme at an eroded public beach, as well as the proposal to examine coastal protection practices undertaken by hotels and other countries, including sand pumping for the replenishment of eroding shores;
- (d) the need for enhanced coordination amongst the Ministry of Housing and Lands, the Ministry of Environment, Solid Waste Management and Climate Change and the Beach Authority; and
- (e) the need to review the legislative framework governing the Beach Authority with a view to strengthening its enforcement powers, as well as the proposed collaboration through a Memorandum of Understanding amongst relevant stakeholders;
- (f) the need to regularise access to public beaches where access is privately owned or restricted;
- (g) the progress of the Integrated Waste Processing Facilities at Laventure and La Chaumière;
- (h) the progress on Extended Producer Responsibility for e-wastes and PET beverage containers; and
- (i) the need to identify alternative sites for the relocation of the Roche Bois Transfer Station.

11. Cabinet has taken note of the activities being undertaken by the Ministry of Agro-Industry, Food Security, Blue Economy and Fisheries for the promotion of animal health and welfare.

A Veterinary School and an Animal Hospital will be set up with the assistance of the Indian Government. The Indian Authorities have initiated procurement procedures for the appointment of a consultant for the preparation of the Detailed Project Report and the Project Management. State Land of an extent of around 11 arpents has been earmarked at Fiveways, Belle Rive, for the implementation of the project.

In line with the Government Programme 2025-2029, action is also being taken for the establishment of regional shelters for stray and abandoned dogs, to be managed by the Mauritius Society for Animal Welfare. A plot of State Land at Richelieu, Petite Rivière, of an extent of two arpents, has been earmarked for the construction of a dog shelter.

The assistance of friendly countries and regional organisations such as Southern African Development Community, Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa and Indian Ocean Commission is being sought for the recruitment of Veterinary Officers, in view of shortage of suitably qualified local personnel. This recruitment would be subject to registration with the Veterinary Council of Mauritius.

12. Cabinet has taken note of the implementation of a digital consumer transparency initiative, which mandates retailers to display the standardised Quick Response (QR) Code prominently at all points of sale for display of the statutory maximum prices for controlled goods and subsidised commodities.

Consumers will be able to access the live webpage that will provide up-to-date product descriptions, real time prices and automatic updates whenever prices change, by scanning the QR code with a standard mobile phone or any other device camera and without having to navigate the official website of the Ministry of Commerce and Consumer Protection. It will also enable citizens to report pricing discrepancies to officials of the Ministry of Commerce and Consumer Protection.

13. Cabinet has taken note that the Department of International Relations and Cooperation of the Republic of South Africa has informed that Mauritian Nationals are now exempted from the requirement of a port entry visa for a period not exceeding 90 days per visit.

14. Cabinet has taken note given that the timetables for the School Certificate and Higher School Certificate examinations are determined by Cambridge International Education and apply to all countries, students who are registered for Spanish language and Biblical studies at Higher School Certificate Level, will be required to sit for examinations on 09 November 2026, notwithstanding that 09 November 2026 is a public holiday.

As regards students who will sit for the School Certificate oral examinations, which are conducted locally, the Mauritius Examinations Syndicate has rescheduled the oral examinations for English language from 09 November 2026 to Saturday 14 November 2026.

15. Cabinet has taken note that the Board of Le Morne Heritage Trust Fund has recommended the temporary closure of Section 2 of Le Morne Brabant Mountain for security reasons to prevent exposure of visitors to the potentially unstable surface area and rock fall hazards pending a technical assessment and implementation of safety measures.

16. Cabinet has taken note of the National Action Plan developed following the Second Terrorist Financing Risk Assessment of the Non-Profit Organisation Sector in Mauritius. The National Action Plan which was endorsed by the National Committee and the Core Group for AML/CFT, covers the period February 2026 to June 2029, and aims to address the following focused areas -

- (a) enhancing coordination and collaboration among Non-Profit Organisation Regulators and with relevant Competent Authorities;
- (b) enhancing risk understanding among relevant Competent Authorities;
- (c) enhancing the Legislative and Regulatory Framework;
- (d) mitigating unintended consequences;
- (e) further promoting accountability, integrity and public confidence;
- (f) self-regulatory measures and internal controls;
- (g) continuing sustained outreach;
- (h) risk-based oversight/monitoring of Non-Profit Organisations;
- (i) countering the Financing of Terrorism Supervision; and
- (j) enhancing Countering the Financing of Terrorism Knowledge of relevant Competent Authorities.

A number of measures to address the identified Terrorist Financing risks have already been initiated by the relevant stakeholders, reflecting ongoing efforts to strengthen the Non-Profit Organisation sector's resilience against terrorist financing abuse.

17. Cabinet has taken note of the outcome of the Money Laundering and Terrorist Financing Risk Assessment of Legal Persons and Legal Arrangements in Mauritius as well as the launching of the public version of the consolidated Money Laundering and Terrorist Financing Risk Assessment of Legal Persons and Legal Arrangements. The objectives of the risk assessments were to –

- (a) map the different types of Legal Persons and Legal Arrangements and identify their key characteristics;
- (b) identify and assess the overall Money Laundering and Terrorist Financing threats associated with Legal Persons and Legal Arrangements;
- (c) assess the entity Money Laundering and Terrorist Financing risks of different types of Legal Persons and Legal Arrangements; and
- (d) assess the jurisdiction's overall vulnerability to the misuse of Legal Persons and Legal Arrangements for Money Laundering and Terrorist Financing purposes.

18. Cabinet has agreed to the Ministry of Education and Human Resource entering into a Memorandum of Understanding with Yamaha Music Gulf FZE Inc., for the implementation of a structured music education project in selected primary schools.

Under the Yamaha Music Project, the recorder (flute) will be introduced as a musical instrument for pupils of Grades 3 and 4 in 10 selected primary schools, on a pilot basis. The project will directly benefit 775 pupils in Grades 3 and 4, who will be supported by the existing complement of holistic educators. Through the structured participation in music, the project is expected to contribute to enhancing pupils' confidence, motivation and sense of belonging, while providing opportunities to identify and nurture talents that may otherwise remain undiscovered.

19. Cabinet has agreed to the Ministry of Education and Human Resource signing the Extended Memorandum of Understanding in respect of Phase 2 of the myt Learn Education Platform which is being implemented, on a pilot basis, for another period of six months, from July to December 2026, with Mauritius Telecom Ltd.

Phase 1 of the mytGPT Education Platform served as a basis for the introduction of Artificial Intelligence (AI) into the learning process of the local education system. Following the completion of the Pilot Phase 1, the AI-Powered Platform was reviewed and further refined. The project has been rebranded as myt Learn Version 2.0 which is an enhanced and more comprehensive version of the existing learning platform and incorporates expanded functionalities and improved learning features to support teaching, learning and assessment. This version includes curriculum aligned learning modules, AI-powered homework assistance, automated identification of learning gaps and the generation of personalised practice exercises tailored to individual student's need.

20. Cabinet has taken note of the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between the Financial Intelligence Unit (FIU) of the Republic of Mauritius and the Gabinete de Informação Financeira de Moçambique (GiFiM) of the Republic of Mozambique.

The objective of the MoU is to facilitate the exchange of financial intelligence relating to suspected money laundering, associated predicate offences and terrorism financing and proliferation financing between Mauritius and Mozambique. The MoU sets out the arrangements, inter alia, for the FIU (Mauritius) and the GiFiM to –

- (a) collect, develop and analyse information relevant to suspected money laundering, associated predicate offences, terrorism financing and proliferation financing;
- (b) exchange spontaneous or upon-request the widest range of information available or obtainable, based on reciprocity; and
- (c) conduct enquiries on behalf of the requesting FIU and provide all information that the counterpart would be able to obtain if such enquiries were carried out domestically.

21. Cabinet has taken note of the report of the Office of Public Sector Governance (OPSG) on the “Independent Audit on the Projects and Activities of the New Social Living Development Ltd” (NSLD). In March 2025, the OPSG was requested to undertake an assignment at the NSLD, according to the following terms of reference -

- (a) review the procurement process in the allocation of contracts for construction and other associated works;
- (b) assess the project management processes and management of contracts including delays, deviations in cost of projects, variations, and cost overrun;
- (c) examine the human resource management processes; and
- (d) assess the management of funds allocated for operational and capital expenditure.

The OPSG completed the audit exercise in February 2026 and submitted its report together with an Action Plan that will assist the NSLD in the implementation of some 116 recommendations. The Ministry of Housing and Lands is following closely with the NSLD to ensure implementation of the Action Plan. The NSLD has already taken a number of remedial measures to address the shortcomings identified.

22. Cabinet has taken note that the second meeting of the India-Mauritius High Powered Joint Trade Committee under the Comprehensive Economic Cooperation and Partnership Agreement which was scheduled from 07 to 09 October 2026, has been postponed at the request of the Indian side and will be rescheduled on mutually agreed dates.

23. Cabinet has taken note that the Indian Ocean Rim Association (IORA) Council of Ministers has, intersessionally, approved the appointment of Mauritius as Vice-Chair of the IORA until October 2027. The IORA Council of Ministers has also endorsed the appointment of Mauritius for the following positions until October 2027 –

- (a) Coordinating Country of the Academic, Science and Technology Cooperation priority area;
- (b) Coordinating Country for China, an IORA Dialogue Partner;
- (c) Chair of the Indian Ocean Rim Academic Group;
- (d) Chair of the Working Group on Science, Technology and Innovation; and
- (e) Chair of the Core Group on Tourism.

24. Cabinet has taken note that the Public Officers' Welfare Council will organise the 31st Edition of the Public Service Kermesse on Sunday 29 November 2026 at the Gymkhana Grounds, Vacoas. The Public Service Kermesse is a major event organised annually by the Public Officers' Welfare Council in collaboration with the Ministry of Public Service and Administrative Reforms, with the overall objective to enable Staff Welfare Associations of all Ministries/Departments to raise funds for the benefit of their members.
