

HIGHLIGHTS OF CABINET MEETING – FRIDAY 22 MAY 2026

1. Cabinet has taken note of the outcome of the recent participation of the Prime Minister in the Africa Forward Summit in Nairobi, at the joint invitation of HE Mr Emmanuel Macron, President of the Republic of France and HE Mr William Ruto, President of the Republic of Kenya. The Summit served as a platform to showcase Africa's innovation dynamics to boost exchanges and investments between Africa and France and enhance joint responses to global challenges. Given the strong bilateral relations between Mauritius and France and having regard to the longstanding relations with Kenya, the Prime Minister attended the Summit in order to reaffirm the positioning of Mauritius as a regional leader and consolidate existing relations across the continent.

During his intervention at the Leaders' Plenary on Peace and Security, the Prime Minister underscored the importance to counter the mounting challenges facing the Continent amidst the current geopolitical situation where no country is left unscathed. The Prime Minister underscored the need for appropriate frameworks to address climate change, maritime security, financing of peace-keeping missions, cybersecurity issues and uphold rule of law. The Prime Minister stressed on the need for an urgent rethink of international institutions to make them more responsive to the current context.

The Prime Minister co-chaired a Round Table on Blue Economy along with HE Bassirou Diomaye Faye, President of the Republic of Senegal. During his intervention, the Prime Minister highlighted the relevance of Mauritius co-chairing the Round Table as a representative voice for African Small Island Developing States; the more so since the country is a significant Ocean State, and that oceans can no more be construed solely as geographical space since they remain essential for energy transition, food security and economic development. He pleaded for a collective and responsible response to ensuring the sustainability of our oceans and for protecting our fragile ecosystem and urged countries to expedite the ratification of the Biodiversity Beyond National Jurisdiction Treaty in their domestic laws so as to enhance the governance framework of oceans. He also informed of the establishment of the Chagos Archipelago Marine Protected Area to protect the marine environment through international partnerships. The Prime Minister called for a Coalition of Ocean States, to be known as the Global Blue Belt Coalition, to jointly frame an appropriate roadmap to address challenges in the maritime realm.

The Prime Minister had several bilateral meetings in the margins of the Summit. During his meeting with HE Mr Macron, the Prime Minister discussed the deepening of cooperation between Mauritius and France and thanked the French President for the close collaboration with the Reunion authorities for the joint operations against drug trafficking and illegal fishing. The Prime Minister requested assistance in the training of Police Officers for VVIP protection and Police Riders, as well as cooperation with the Forensic Science Laboratory. Assistance was also requested for the veterinary service, including the proposed new veterinary hospital. They also discussed the challenges posed by the current international situation.

The Prime Minister had a meeting with HE Mr Ruto, President of Kenya and discussed the consolidation of the cooperation between the two countries. The Prime Minister also had meetings with HE Mr António Guterres, Secretary-General of the United Nations; HE Mr Bouya, the Deputy Prime Minister of the Republic of Congo; Mrs Louise Mushikiwabo, Secretary General of the Organisation internationale de la Francophonie; and HE Mr Aziz Akhannouch, Head of Government of the Kingdom of Morocco.

2. Cabinet has agreed to the adoption of the National Protocol on Heavy and Torrential Rain for Mauritius. The Inter-Ministerial Committee under the chair of the Minister of Labour and Industrial Relations met on several occasions to review the National Protocol and came up with, inter alia, the following recommendations -

- (a) the implementation of one National Protocol on Heavy and Torrential Rain for Mauritius, which provides for the applicable arrangements in the private and public sectors, emergency services and the education sector;
- (b) for the public and private sectors, irrespective of whether the employee is working on a full-time, part-time or shift basis, the following measures will be applicable -
 - (i) where a heavy rain warning is issued by the Mauritius Meteorological Services (MMS), employees shall report for duty and continue to work, unless and until an Order or communiqué to evacuate the workplace, or to remain indoors or not to report to work is issued by the National Crisis Committee (NCC);
 - (ii) where a torrential rain warning is issued by the MMS, employees other than in emergency services shall not be required to report for duty or to continue working, and the employers must not wait for an Order or communiqué of the NCC to release their employees; and
 - (iii) resumption of work shall take place only following an Order or communiqué issued by the NCC declaring that it is safe to venture outside or to report to work;
- (c) for emergency services -
 - (i) as is currently the case, employees working in emergency services may be required to report for duty or remain on duty during extreme weather conditions; and
 - (ii) each agency providing emergency services would be required to develop and maintain its specific internal protocol and contingency plan, which is aligned with the National Protocol on Heavy and Torrential Rain in Mauritius;

- (d) for public and private childcare and educational institutions, as is currently the case, following the heavy or torrential rain warnings issued by the MMS, the closure of childcare facilities, schools and universities or release of students will be governed by the communiqués issued by the Ministry of Gender Equality and Family Welfare, the Ministry of Education and Human Resource and the Ministry of Tertiary Education, Science and Research, as appropriate;
- (e) where the NCC issues an Order or communiqué declaring that it is safe to venture outside or to report to work, an employer may require his employee to report to work provided that the employer provides a means of transport to the employee or public transport is available from his place of residence to his place of work; and
- (f) provisions be made for employees to be remunerated at not less than twice the rate at which work is remunerated when performed during normal working hours when working from home during extreme weather conditions, be also extended to workers who earn more than Rs600,000 annually.

The National Protocol on Heavy and Torrential Rain for Mauritius will be made public and will become effective once appropriate amendments have been brought to the Workers' Rights Act and the National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Act.

3. Cabinet has taken note that in July 2025, the International Court of Justice (ICJ) provided an advisory opinion, which although not binding, had significant legal and moral authority towards clarifying the legal obligations of states in addressing global warming and climate change.

On 20 May 2026, the United Nations (UN) General Assembly adopted a Resolution, ratifying the ICJ's advisory opinion. The Resolution calls on all UN Member States to take all possible steps to avoid causing significant damage to the climate and environment, including Greenhouse Gas emissions produced within their territories and to commit to their existing climate pledges under the Paris Agreement. The Resolution is a strong message to all Member States that it is a legal obligation under international law to address the climate crisis by taking every possible measure to reduce global warming and its damaging impacts.

4. Cabinet has taken note that an amendment will be brought to the list of Public Holidays 2026 so that the Ganesh Chaturthi Festival 2026 be celebrated on Tuesday 15 September 2026 instead of Wednesday 16 September 2026, at the request of the Mauritius Marathi Mandali Federation which has informed that the date of 16 September 2026 was proposed following a misinterpretation of calculations.

5. Cabinet has taken note that the elections of the Lord Mayor of the Municipal City Council and the Mayors of the Municipal Town Councils will be held on –

- (a) Municipal Council of Beau Bassin/Rose Hill on Saturday 23 May 2026 at 1500 hours;
- (b) Municipal Council of Quatre Bornes on Monday 25 May 2026 at 1300 hours;
- (c) Municipal City Council of Port Louis on Monday 25 May 2026 at 1700 hours;
- (d) Municipal Council of Vacoas Phoenix on Monday 25 May 2026 at 1700 hours; and
- (e) Municipal Council of Curepipe on Monday 25 May 2026 at 1730 hours.

6. Cabinet has taken note that works under the Pipe Replacement Programme, funded under a Line of Credit of an amount of Rs2.9 billion from the Government of India, will start in October 2026. The works will include replacement of major pipes at Chemin vingt pieds, Grand Baie with a view to improving water supply in the northern region.

7. Cabinet has agreed to the promulgation of the following Regulations to strengthen the legislative frameworks to prevent, detect and sanction the misuse of subsidised products –

- (a) Consumer Protection (Control on Repacking and Resale of Subsidised Goods) Regulations 2026;
- (b) Consumer Protection (Control on Export of Subsidised Goods) Regulations 2026;
- (c) Consumer Protection (Export Control) (Amendment) Regulations 2026;
- (d) Consumer Protection (Price and Supplies Control) (Amendment of Schedule) Regulations 2026; and
- (e) Consumer Protection (Fixed Penalty Notice) (Amendment) Regulations 2026.

The Consumer Protection (Control on Repacking and Resale of Subsidised Goods) Regulations 2026 will establish a clear deterrent and enforcement framework which will regulate the repacking and resale of subsidised goods imported and marketed by the State Trading Corporation and prohibit the sale, offer for sale or possession for trade purposes of subsidised goods which have been unlawfully repackaged or altered.

The Consumer Protection (Control on Export of Subsidised Goods) Regulations 2026 will prevent the leakage of subsidised goods to external markets, ensure that subsidised goods remain available for domestic consumption, reinforce inter-agency enforcement, and protect public funds from indirect transfer to foreign markets. Subsequent amendments will also be brought to the –

- (a) Export framework through the Consumer Protection (Export Control) (Amendment) Regulations 2026;

- (b) Fixed Penalty Notice regime through the –
- (i) Consumer Protection (Price and Supplies Control) (Amendment of Schedule) Regulations 2026; and
 - (ii) Consumer Protection (Fixed Penalty Notice) (Amendment) Regulations 2026.

8. Cabinet has taken note that the World Health Organization has determined that the epidemic of Ebola disease caused by Bundibugyo virus in the Democratic Republic of the Congo and the Republic of Uganda constitutes a public health emergency of international concern.

The Ministry of Health and Wellness has reinforced its surveillance mechanism at all ports of entry and is monitoring the evolution of the disease closely. A protocol for international travellers is also being worked out.

9. Cabinet has taken note of the coordinated actions and preventive measures being implemented by the Ministry of Local Government and relevant stakeholders to address the growing concerns relating to leptospirosis, chikungunya and dengue. The Ministry of Local Government in collaboration with the Ministry of Health and Wellness, the Ministry of Environment, Solid Waste Management and Climate Change, Local Authorities, the Mauritius Fire and Rescue Service and other relevant stakeholders has initiated a series of coordinated actions to strengthen sanitation, rodent control and vector prevention measures across the island.

Local Authorities have intensified deratisation and baiting exercises in public places including markets, road reserves, drains, bridges, rivers, bare lands and other sensitive areas where rodent infestation had been reported. Additional cleaning and flushing operations are also being carried out in markets and public areas with the assistance of the Mauritius Fire and Rescue Service. Local Authorities are also implementing structured and regular deratisation programmes covering entire towns and villages instead of isolated localities.

Simultaneously, enhanced enforcement measures have been initiated against owners of unmaintained bare lands and premises contributing to insanitary conditions. Around 3,000 enforcement notices have been issued from March 2026 to date by local authorities to owners of unmaintained bare land and premises requiring immediate cleaning and maintenance of their lands. The assistance and collaboration of Mauri-Facilities Management Co. Ltd have also been sought to support Local Authorities in the cleaning of bare lands and related sanitation exercises. Coordination mechanisms have accordingly been established between Local Authorities and the representatives of Mauri-Facilities Company Ltd to facilitate operations on the ground and improve the deployment of available resources.

The Ministry of Local Government is also organising training sessions for officers of the Health Inspectorate of Local Authorities with a view to strengthening operational capacity, improving enforcement and ensuring the effective implementation of sanitary and public health measures across all regions.

10. Cabinet has taken note that several suspected cases of Hand, Foot and Mouth disease have been reported at Mare D'Albert Government School. The Ministry of Education and Human Resource has promptly -

- (a) apprised the Jawaharlal Nehru Hospital and the Rose Belle Area Health Centre of the situation;
- (b) given instructions to close the school today and to postpone the sports day which was scheduled on the football playground of Mare D'Albert;
- (c) issued a communiqué to inform the public of the exceptional closure of the school due to sanitary reasons; and
- (d) made arrangements with the Ministry of Health and Wellness for health practitioners to visit the concerned families.

11. Cabinet has taken note of the activities being organised by the Ministry of Environment, Solid Waste Management and Climate Change to commemorate World Environment Day 2026, which is celebrated annually on 05 June. The theme retained for this year focuses on "urgent action on climate change".

To commemorate World Environment Day 2026 the following activities will be organised –

- (a) the launching of a coastal walking track linking Le Bouchon Public Beach and Pas Géométriques Virginia in the Pont Naturel region;
- (b) enhanced recreational and landscaping facilities at Sodnac Wellness Park; and
- (c) a national awareness campaign on Civic Responsibility, Environmental Protection, Public Cleanliness and Public Hygiene.

12. Cabinet has taken note of the promulgation of the Cybersecurity and Cybercrime (Critical Information Infrastructure Designation) Regulations 2026, which will aim at establishing a regulatory framework for designating and managing Critical Information Infrastructures within identified key sectors namely, the –

- (a) financial services, banking and non-banking sectors;
- (b) public service;
- (c) Information and Communication Technology and broadcasting sectors;
- (d) energy and water supply sectors; and
- (e) transport industry.

The National Cybersecurity Committee will be empowered to designate a system as a Critical Information Infrastructure (CII) based on criteria outlined in the Cybersecurity and Cybercrime Act, in consultation with the relevant regulatory authority, through appropriate notification in the Government Gazette. Owners of CIIs will have the obligations to comply with directions issued by their respective regulatory authority, with emphasis on confidentiality and restriction of access to sensitive information about the CII infrastructure to authorised persons.

The regulations shall come into operation on 01 June 2026 and every owner of a CII shall, within 12 months of the coming into operation of the regulations comply with same.

13. Cabinet has taken note of the status of the Mobile Number Portability (MNP) project, which is being implemented by the Information and Communication Technologies Authority. The MNP, which is a system that allows consumers to retain their existing mobile numbers when transferring from one service provider to another, is internationally recognised as a mechanism that promotes competition between Mobile Network Operators, enhances consumer choice and improves service quality in the telecommunications sector. The implementation of the MNP is expected to make it easier for customers to switch between mobile operators, increase competition in the market and encourage operators to innovate and constantly improve customer service.

14. Cabinet has agreed to the promulgation of the Legal Metrology Information System Regulations 2026, which will establish the necessary legal and administrative foundation required for the digital transformation of Legal Metrology Services in Mauritius. The Regulations will provide for the recognition and use of electronic transactions, electronic records, digital certificates and online service delivery mechanisms, thereby enabling the transition from a predominantly paper-based system to a modern and technology-driven regulatory framework.

The Legal Metrology Information System will provide an integrated electronic platform for the submission, processing, approval and issuance of applications, certificates, notices and other documents under the Legal Metrology Act. It will modernise the administration of the Legal Metrology Services and its service delivery, thereby contributing positively to trade facilitation, regulatory effectiveness and national economic development. The system will allow for the electronic submission and processing of applications, online payments, issuance of electronic certificates and permits, as well as the secure maintenance and retrieval of records, thus substantially reducing administrative burdens, minimising delays associated with manual processing and improving overall operational efficiency within the Legal Metrology Services.

15. Cabinet has agreed to the signing of the Memorandum of Understanding on the Enhanced Strategic Trade Partnership (ESTP) between the Government of the Republic of Mauritius and the Government of the United Kingdom (UK) of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, which provides for –

- (a) the establishment of an ESTP framework to strengthen bilateral cooperation between Mauritius and the UK in the areas of trade, investment and strategic economic collaboration;
- (b) cooperation in priority sectors, namely the Green and Blue Economy, Healthcare and Life Sciences, Education, and Financial, Professional Services and Digital Transformation;
- (c) collaboration in areas such as investment facilitation, technical assistance, Government-to-Government initiatives, institutional partnerships and access to finance;
- (d) the establishment of a Coordinating Committee under the leadership of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Regional Integration and International Trade comprising representatives of key Ministries, institutions and stakeholders from both Mauritius and the UK, to support the implementation and monitoring of the ESTP and facilitate coordination of activities undertaken thereunder; and
- (e) the establishment of a Mauritius-UK Business Forum aimed at strengthening engagement between the public and private sectors, facilitating dialogue on trade and investment opportunities, and supporting collaboration between the business communities of both countries.

16. Cabinet has agreed to the Ministry of Labour and Industrial Relations facilitating the placement of Mauritians in employment in Canada under the Francophone Labour Mobility Project (FLMP) and other similar programmes.

The objective of the Canadian FLMP is to support the Government of Canada in enhancing French-speaking immigration to Canada through the structured international recruitment and permanent integration of French-speaking new-comers in Francophone Minority Communities, while also contributing to national priorities within the country of origin.

The project activities will be funded, through the International Organization for Migration as the implementing UN agency, by the Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada which is the official Canadian federal government department responsible for handling immigration matters, refugee protection and granting Canadian citizenship. It is proposed that 50 bilingual Mauritian workers be recruited on a pilot basis over a period of two years in the –

- (a) construction sector in grades such as Welder, Carpenter, Plumber and Machinist;
- (b) education sector as Teacher Assistant; and
- (c) hospitality sector as Cook and Hotel Supervisor.

17. Cabinet has agreed to the request of the Government of the Republic of Seychelles to establish a High Commission in Mauritius and to the appointment of Mr Nicholas Gerard Prea as its first Resident High Commissioner to Mauritius.

18. Cabinet has agreed to Mauritius adapting its position over the Western Sahara in line with the United Nations Security Council Resolution 2797(2025) adopted on 31 October 2025.

19. Cabinet has taken note of progress achieved in the formulation of Vision 2050, particularly with regard to the nationwide regional and thematic consultations being undertaken as part of the national planning exercise. The consultation process has fostered a whole-of-society approach, by bringing together stakeholders from the public sector, private sector, academia, civil society and development partners, thereby strengthening inclusiveness, national ownership and policy coherence in the formulation of Vision 2050. Eleven regional consultations have been conducted across the local authorities and 14 out of 21 thematic consultations have been completed.

The consultation phase, which commenced in January 2026, is nearing completion, with the remaining consultations expected to be finalised by June 2026. The progress achieved so far reflects a structured, participatory and forward-looking approach to national planning and has laid important institutional and analytical foundations for the formulation of Vision 2050 and the 10-Year National Development Plan. The process is also contributing towards strengthening a culture of long-term strategic thinking, evidence-based policymaking and whole-of-society engagement in shaping the future development trajectory of Mauritius.

20. Cabinet has taken note of the highlights of the deliberations of the fourth meeting of the Inter-Ministerial Committee on Anti-Money Laundering, Combatting the Financing of Terrorism and Countering Proliferation Financing, co-chaired by the Attorney-General and the Minister of Financial Services and Economic Planning. The Committee reviewed the progress in the preparation of the Mutual Evaluation exercise and took note of the progress made on several other ongoing sectoral risk assessments.

21. Cabinet has taken note of the forthcoming launch and the implementation roadmap of the Mauritius National Fintech Strategy 2026-2030 prepared with the technical support of the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa, following consultations with stakeholders from the public and private sectors. The National Fintech Strategy aims at strengthening Mauritius' competitiveness as a regional Fintech Hub while accelerating the country's internal digital and financial transformation by deepening the adoption of fintech solutions across Government, businesses and households.

The National Fintech Strategy proposes a series of recommendations which are structured around six pillars, namely –

- (a) Regulatory Framework and Innovation;
- (b) Digital Infrastructure and Cybersecurity Development;
- (c) Talent and Skills Enhancement;
- (d) Innovation, Investment and Market Development;
- (e) International Collaboration and Positioning; and
- (f) Financial Inclusion, Consumer Awareness and Protection.

The National Fintech Strategy is supported by an implementation framework, detailing institutional responsibilities and a phased roadmap.

22. Cabinet has taken note that the Mauritius Revenue Authority will co-host a Regional Workshop on Building Intelligence Bases and Utilising Human Sources by the US Federal Bureau of Investigation from 25 to 29 May 2026.

The workshop aims to equip investigators and prosecutors with the skills to identify and effectively use multiple sources of intelligence to support criminal investigations and prosecutorial efforts. The workshop will be attended by around 50 participants, comprising representatives from Seychelles and Mauritius.

23. Cabinet has taken note of the outcome of the recent participation of the Minister of Tourism in Africa's Travel Indaba 2026 in Durban, South Africa on the theme "Unlimited Africa: Growing Africa's Tourism Economy". Mauritius occupied a dedicated stand which showcased the diversity of our destination, hospitality sector and cultural richness and thus –

- (a) improve our visibility within the African tourism market;
- (b) strengthen existing partnerships;
- (c) identify new market opportunities in strategic short-haul African and international markets, especially in the light of the Middle East conflict and its impact on our tourism sector;
- (d) reinforce our image as a safe and competitive leisure destination;
- (e) promote the diversity and quality of our tourism product; and
- (f) engage with key travel trade stakeholders.

Participation in Africa's Travel Indaba 2026 provided an effective platform to promote our tourism sector, reinforce our visibility on the African market, strengthen regional partnerships and explore new opportunities for investment, air connectivity and tourism cooperation within the African continent. The Minister signed a Memorandum of Understanding on tourism cooperation between the Republic of Mauritius and the Republic of South Africa.

24. Cabinet has taken note of the outcome of the official visit of the Minister of Commerce and Consumer Protection to Rodrigues, undertaken to engage with Rodriguan authorities and stakeholders on issues affecting the supply, distribution and storage of essential commodities.

During his visit, the Minister held meetings with the Chief Commissioner, the Deputy Chief Commissioner, the Commissioner for Women and Others and the Commissioner for Agriculture and Others. The Minister also held an interactive session with members of the Rodriguan business community. Discussions focused on key issues affecting the economic and commercial situation in Rodrigues. The Minister also visited the petroleum storage facilities operated by AEL DDS Ltd in Rodrigues.

25. Cabinet has taken note of the appointment of –

- (a) Mr Rajendraparsad Mungur as part-time Chairperson of the Mauritius Cane Industry Authority; and
- (b) Mr Vashist Chand Dunhawoor as part-time Chairperson of the Tourism Authority Board.
