

HIGHLIGHTS OF CABINET MEETING – FRIDAY 09 JANUARY 2026

1. Cabinet has taken note that HE Dr. Patrick Herminie, President of the Republic of Seychelles has accepted the invitation of the Prime Minister to join the Government of the Republic of Mauritius in commemorating the 58th National Day Celebrations on 12 March 2026.

2. Cabinet has, in the context of the implementation of the Pay Research Bureau (PRB) Report 2026, agreed to the issue of payment of allowances to officers working on shift/roster on Sunday being looked into by the High Powered Committee, chaired by the Secretary to Cabinet and Head of the Civil Service in consultation with relevant stakeholders. Stakeholders will be invited to submit their written proposals to the High Powered Committee within a week.

3. Cabinet has agreed to the promulgation of the following regulations in connection with the implementation of the Salary Compensation 2026 -

- (a) the Workers' Rights (Additional Remuneration) (2026) Regulations 2026 which will provide for the additional remuneration payable to -
 - (i) a part-time worker, who earns a monthly basic wage or salary below Rs17,110 rupees, to be 3.7 % of the monthly basic wage or salary, rounded up to the next rupee; and
 - (ii) a worker remunerated on a piece rate basis at rates prescribed in the Banks Fishermen and Frigo-workers (Remuneration) Regulations 2019, the Cinema Employees (Remuneration) Regulations 2019, the Tea Industry Workers (Remuneration) Regulations 2019 or any other enactment, for such rates to be increased by 3.7 % as from 01 January 2026 up to a maximum amount of Rs635 per month.
- (b) the Export Enterprises (Remuneration) (Amendment) Regulations 2026 which will provide for -
 - (i) adjusting the monthly basic wage and the national minimum wage for such category of employee specified in the Third Schedule of the Regulations as applicable; and
 - (ii) a monthly basic wage or salary of a Diploma holder and a Degree holder to be not less than Rs24,245 and Rs26,245 respectively.

(c) the National Minimum Wage (Amendment) Regulations 2026 which will provide for an increase of Rs635 on the National Minimum Wage payable to an employee, that is, from Rs17,110 to Rs17,745 monthly.

4. Cabinet has taken note of the situation at Shelter *Cap L'Espoir*, Cap Malheureux, formerly known as Shelter *L'Oiseau du Paradis* which was reopened on 05 December 2025 with new building amenities and programmes designed to strengthen a child-centred approach. Despite these improvements, some residents have repeatedly disrupted operations, creating fear among minors and caregivers. Several incidents have been reported.

The prevailing situation has resulted in persistent caregiver shortage which compromises supervision and safety. Psychologists have conducted counselling sessions to address behavioural issues, trauma, and substance abuse and 24/7 police presence was provided.

An Inter-Ministerial Committee comprising representatives of the following ministries will be set to review the whole situation, including proposed amendments to the Children's Act –

- (a) the Prime Minister's Office (Home Affairs Division);
- (b) the Ministry of Health and Wellness;
- (c) the Attorney-General's Office;
- (d) the Ministry of Gender Equality and Family Welfare and
- (e) the Ministry of Education and Human Resource.

5. Cabinet has taken note that following a request from Government, the Judicial Committee of the Privy Council has agreed to hearings being held in Mauritius as from this year. The Supreme Court will make logistical arrangements in that respect.

6. Cabinet has taken note that the newly set up Revenue Tribunal will be operational as from 12 January 2026.

7. Cabinet has taken note that, according to latest figures, tourist arrivals for the period January to December 2025 exceeded 1.4 million, resulting in tourism earnings of more than Rs100 billion.

8. Cabinet has taken note of the discontinuation of the Technology Education Programme; and the alignment of the National School Certificate (Technology Education) of the only cohort, year 2024-2025, to the Cambridge School Certificate, as recommended by the National Equivalence Committee.

9. Cabinet has agreed to the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding between the Conservatoire National de Musique François Mitterrand Trust Fund and the *Conservatorio Vecchi - Tonelli di Modena*.

The Memorandum of Understanding aims at promoting cooperation and exchange activities of mutual interest between the two parties to -

- (a) encourage and facilitate faculty exchange and mutual visits to pursue collaborative artistic projects;
- (b) develop a course sharing and crediting mutual recognition mechanism between the two institutions, and send undergraduate and graduate students for semester exchange study on a tuition-free basis;
- (c) encourage joint performances by faculty members and students;
- (d) exchange information, scores, music materials and publications as appropriate;
- (e) conduct theatre collaborations;
- (f) explore opportunities for conducting lectures, masterclasses, seminars, and organising symposia and conferences; and
- (g) promote other academic and artistic cooperation and collaboration.

10. Cabinet has agreed to the holding of a capacity-building workshop on the United Nations Agreement on the Conservation and Sustainable Use of Marine Biological Diversity of Areas Beyond National Jurisdiction (BBNJ Agreement) from 19 to 21 January 2026, in Mauritius. The workshop will be organised by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Regional Integration and International Trade in collaboration with the Commonwealth Secretariat.

The Commonwealth Secretariat will provide technical assistance to Mauritius for the domestication of the BBNJ Agreement. The workshop will be organised to –

- (a) raise awareness on the BBNJ Agreement among relevant stakeholders;
- (b) clarify national obligations and responsibilities under the BBNJ Agreement;

- (c) highlight the benefits accruing to Mauritius from its status as a Party to the Agreement; and
- (d) provide practical guidance on implementation strategies.

Several entities, including, Ministries/Departments, the private sector and non-governmental organisations, which were actively involved throughout the negotiation, signature and ratification processes and will eventually be involved in the implementation of the BBNJ Agreement for Mauritius will be invited to participate in the workshop.

11. Cabinet has taken note of the programme of activities being organised by the Ministry of Arts and Culture in collaboration with the Chinese Speaking Union, the United Chinese Associations, the Federation of Chinese Societies and the China Cultural Centre to celebrate the Chinese New Year at national level.

In the context of the Cultural Exchange Programme signed between the Government of the People's Republic of China and the Government of Mauritius, a cultural troupe from the Province of Sichuan, will be in Mauritius from 14 to 18 February 2026 to participate in the Spring Festival celebrations. The cultural exchange initiative contributes to strengthening bilateral relations between Mauritius and the People's Republic of China and supports Government's objective of enhancing cultural diplomacy and international cultural cooperation.

A series of activities will be organised as follows –

- (a) a National Banquet in collaboration with the Chinese Speaking Union, the United Chinese Associations and the Federation of Chinese Societies;
- (b) a National Gala Show in collaboration with the Embassy of the People's Republic of China and the China Cultural Centre wherein the cultural troupe from the Province of Sichuan will perform during the event, showcasing elements of Chinese traditional performing arts; and
- (c) a Float Parade by the United Chinese Associations and the Municipal City Council of Port Louis.

12. Cabinet has taken note that confirmed cases of Mpox have been reported in the Republic of Madagascar. The Ministry of Health and Wellness has strengthened the protocol for surveillance at the level of Port and Airport for all incoming passengers from Madagascar to cater for any suspected case.

13. Cabinet has taken note of the outcome of the recent mission of the Minister of Information Technology, Communication and Innovation to Mumbai. The Minister led a delegation to Mumbai in order to pursue further discussions with the Maharashtra Cyber Police on specific areas of cooperation.

The Minister had the opportunity to witness live demonstrations to detect deepfake, mobile hacking and CCTV vulnerabilities. During his visit the Minister met the Chief Minister of Maharashtra who expressed his support to strengthen the Cyber Security ecosystem of Mauritius.

14. Cabinet has taken note of the outcome of the recent participation of the Minister of Public Service and Administrative Reforms in the 44th Annual Roundtable Conference of the African Association for Public Administration and Management (AAPAM) held in Mbabane, Kingdom of Eswatini.

The theme of the 44th AAPAM Roundtable Conference was “Agile Public Administration: Partnership and Digital transformation for Citizen-Centric Service Delivery”. The Conference explored various dimensions of agile and governance responsiveness, policy effectiveness, digital innovation and multi-sectoral partnerships, addressing Africa’s persistent socio-economic and environmental challenges.

The Minister made opening remarks on the theme of the Conference and chaired the session on the Sub-theme 4: Digital Technologies and AI Disruption: Harnessing Digital Transformation for Development. The Minister stressed on the need for public institutions to embrace innovation and digital transformation to deliver more effective, timely and responsive services and embody the principles of transparency, accountability and inclusion. He also pointed out the actions being taken within the digital transformation agenda of the Mauritian public service, in line with Government Programme 2025-2029.

15. Cabinet has taken note of the appointment of Mr Fooad Fazil Nooraully, as President of the Redundancy Board.
