

CABINET DECISIONS – 04 DECEMBER 2009

1. Cabinet has agreed to Mrs Luisa Dias Diogo, Prime Minister of Mozambique, being invited as Chief Guest on the occasion of the commemoration of the 175th Anniversary of the Abolition of Slavery on 1 February 2010, and to the Ministry of Education, Culture and Human Resources making arrangements for a sculptor from Mozambique, India and China to carve rocks, symbolizing the links Mauritius had with other countries in the Indian Ocean Slave Route, at the International Slave Route Monument at Le Morne.

2. Cabinet has taken note that, in the context of the commemoration of the Bicentenary of the Naval Battle of Grand Port in 2010, –

- (a) a Musée Surcouf would be set up in the former residence of the navigator Robert Surcouf in the Delange Building, opposite the Municipality of Port-Louis;
- (b) Treasury Hunts/Roulotte de la Culture would be organised as a sensitization campaign on our heritage and history; and
- (c) the Mauritius Broadcasting Corporation would produce a documentary entitled **“Et l’Isle de France devient Mauritius”**.

3. Cabinet has taken note that the Recreation Centre for Senior Citizens at Belle Mare would be inaugurated on 6 December 2009 by Dr the Hon Navinchandra Ramgoolam, GCSK, FRCP, Prime Minister. The Centre comprises –

- (a) 40 twin-bedrooms, including special amenities in two of the bedrooms to cater for persons with disabilities;
- (b) an administrative block;
- (c) a kitchen and a dining room; and
- (d) a swimming pool.

The Centre would be named after Dr the Rt. Hon Sir Seewoosagur Ramgoolam, KCMG, GCMG, Father of the Nation.

The People’s Republic of China has donated 3 TV sets, 1 DVD player and 5 wheelchairs to equip the Centre.

4. Cabinet has taken note that the Minister of Women's Rights, Child Development and Family Welfare, in the presence of the Minister of Local Government, Rodrigues and Outer Islands, has, on 19 November 2009, laid the foundation stone of a residential Drop-in-Centre at Grand River North West. The Drop-in-Centre, which would cater for the rehabilitation and reintegration of children, victims of commercial and sexual exploitation, would provide the following services -

- (a) first hand counselling and medical facilities;
- (b) psychological sessions to help victims overcome the trauma of prostitution and enter the rehabilitation process; and
- (c) psychotherapy sessions to help the integration and rehabilitation of victims.

5. Cabinet has taken note that, in the wake of the United Nations Climate Change Conference to be held in Copenhagen, Denmark, from 7 to 18 December 2009, the Ministry of Environment and National Development Unit is organising a campaign to sensitize the public on climate change and its impact on Small Island Developing States. The following activities are scheduled -

- (a) Organisation, on 6 December 2009, of an Environment Day at L'Escalier and Rivière des Anguilles, comprising, inter alia, a "Walk to Combat Climate Change", a clean up campaign and tree-planting. On the occasion, the Ministry of Agro Industry, Food Production and Security would distribute plants to the inhabitants of the locality and a movie on climate change would be projected.
- (b) The organisation of a one-day Workshop on Capacity Building of NGOs, Environment Partners on Sustainable Lifestyles with a view to enlisting their support to drive projects related to climate change and share experience and lessons learned and a half-day workshop to sensitize and encourage youth to combat climate change.

The activities would be organised on the theme '**Maurice île Durable: Notre Défi et Notre Espoir**'.

6. Cabinet has taken note that the National Parks and Conservation Service would intensify the crow control campaign with a view to reducing the number of crows to a minimum nuisance level and to prevent the colonization of new sites in the country. The sites and regions targeted during the campaign are, inter alia, Poudre d'Or, Grand Gaube, Verger Baudot, Sir Seewoosagur Ramgoolam Botanic Garden, Baie du Tombeau, Rivulet Terre Rouge Estuary Bird Sanctuary, Roche Bois Waste Transfer Station, La Gare du Nord, Champ de Mars, La Citadelle, Le Dauguet, Les Salines, Albion, La Ferme, Beau Bassin Prison, Brown Sequard Hospital, Vacoas, Curepipe, Le Bouchon, Blue Bay and Ile aux Cerfs.

7. Cabinet has agreed to the introduction into the National Assembly of the Finance (Miscellaneous Provisions) (No. 2) Bill which provides for the implementation of the measures announced in the Budget Speech of 18 November 2009 and includes amendments for strengthening and streamlining certain provisions relating to revenue and public finance.

8. Cabinet has agreed to Mauritius signing and ratifying the African Charter on Statistics, which regulates statistical activities and serves as a tool for advocacy and the development of statistics in Africa. The objectives of the Charter are, inter alia, to -

- (a) ensure improved quality and compatibility of statistics across countries and regions;
- (b) promote adherence to fundamental principles of production, storage, management, dissemination and use of statistical information in the African Continent;
- (c) promote a culture of evidence-based policy formulation, monitoring and evaluation; and
- (d) contribute to the strengthening and effective functioning of an African Statistical System.

9. Cabinet has agreed to the introduction into the National Assembly of the Additional Remuneration (No. 2) Bill which provides for the payment of an additional remuneration to employees of the private sector with effect from 1 January 2010, as announced in Budget Speech 2010, i.e., -

Basic Wage or Salary	Additional Remuneration per Month
Up to Rs 4,000 per month	3.5% rounded up to the next rupee
Above Rs 4,000 and up to Rs 12,000 per month	3.5% rounded up to the next rupee
Above Rs 12,000 per month	Rs 420

10. Cabinet has taken note that the Ministry of Health and Quality of Life, in collaboration with the Blood Donors' Association, would hold the Annual Mega Blood Donation on the Esplanade of Emmanuel Anquetil Building, Port Louis on 17 December 2009. It is expected that about 1,500 pints of blood would be collected to cater for shortages of blood during the forthcoming festive and cyclone seasons.

11. Cabinet has taken note that the first phase of the upgrading of the road from Wooton to Quartier Militaire has been completed and the road would be opened next week.

12. Cabinet has taken note of the reconstitution of the Board of Trustees of La Clinique Mauricienne for the year 2010.
