CABINET DECISIONS – 9 FEBRUARY 2018

1. Cabinet has taken note of the outcome of the 3rd round of discussions on the Comprehensive Economic Cooperation and Partnership Agreement (CECPA) between India and Mauritius held in January 2018 in Mauritius. The objectives of the meeting were to finalise the Joint Study Group Report and initiate negotiations on the Trade in goods and Trade in services under CECPA. Discussions also centered on Economic Cooperation in several areas including ocean economy, modernisation of SMEs, innovation and research and ICT. The next round of negotiations is expected to be held in March 2018.

2. Cabinet has taken note of the setting up of a Centralised Online Incident Reporting System at the Computer Emergency Response Team of Mauritius (CERT-MU) of the National Computer Board. The System will help to coordinate and resolve Social Media incidents efficiently and also serve as an analytical tool on Social Media incident trends that could be used as an input to carry out the risk profiling of incidents and perpetration. Various types of cybercrimes can be reported on the System, including online harassment, hacking, sextortion and online scams and frauds. The System consists of a portal which will allow organisations and individuals to report an incident. All stakeholders namely, CERT-MU, the Mauritius Police Force, the Data Protection Office and the Information and Communication Technologies Authority may log into the System, investigate on the incident reported and take action accordingly.

3. Cabinet has taken note that in the context of the forthcoming Pesticides Use Bill, the Ministry of Agro-Industry and Food Security would embark on an islandwide sensitisation campaign as from the second week of February 2018, to create awareness on the sound and prudent use of pesticides in agriculture with a view to minimizing risks to human health and the environment.

4. Cabinet has taken note that the second meeting of the Steering Committee of the Commonwealth Climate Finance Access Hub would be held in Mauritius on 20 February 2018. The objective of the Hub is to act as a coordination mechanism for requests relating to technical assistance and capacity building of Small Island Developing States (SIDS) and Least Developed Countries (LCDs) in accessing and managing climate finance. The meeting will, inter alia, review the progress of the Hub, take note of the challenges being faced, provide guidance on the proposed work plan and devise an outreach strategy to further promote the Hub.
