

CABINET DECISIONS – 20 APRIL 2018

1. Cabinet has agreed to the introduction into the National Assembly of a new Human Tissue (Removal, Preservation and Transplant) Bill which would repeal the Human Tissue (Removal, Preservation and Transplant) Act. The new legislation would provide a better legal framework for the removal, preservation and transplant of human tissue, other than blood, under appropriate medical supervision.

2. Cabinet has agreed to the Ministry of Health and Quality of Life entering into a consolidated Memorandum of Understanding with the “*Hôpitaux Universitaires de Genève*” (HUG). The HUG, which is the main hospital center of Geneva, is a reference for advanced medicine. It provides high quality and professional medical services, medical training, as well as scope for research in various medical fields. The collaborative framework provides for a package of facilities, including exchange of expertise in the field of health and medicine, as well as the possibility for Medical Health personnel to pursue postgraduate, specialisation training in priority fields namely Neurosurgery, Paediatric Cardiovascular Surgery, Cardiac Surgery, Interventional Cardiac Surgery, Renal Transplant Surgery, Ophthalmology, Obstetrics & Gynaecology and other vital fields. High level experienced experts/specialists from HUG will also pay visit to treat complicated cases locally. There will be enhancement of health service with Continuous Professional Development.

3. Cabinet has taken note that Hon Justice Asraf Ally Caunhye has been elected as Independent Expert to the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights during the meeting of the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) held on 16 April 2018 in New York. He will serve for four years on the Committee as from 01 January 2019.

4. Cabinet has taken note that the scheme of pupillage at the Attorney General’s Office currently applicable to public officers and employees of parastatal bodies will be extended to prospective barristers and attorneys not from the public service.

5. Cabinet has taken note that athletes aged between 14 and 17 years are currently participating in the 11th edition of the CJSOI Games in Djibouti. A delegation led by the Minister of Youth and Sports and a team comprising medical and paramedical staff are accompanying the athletes to ensure that all necessary facilities are provided to them so that they may perform in the best possible conditions.

6. Cabinet has taken note of the outcome of the recent mission of the Minister Mentor, Minister of Defence, Minister for Rodrigues to Singapore following an invitation of the Deputy Prime Minister and Coordinating Minister for Economic and Social Policies of Singapore, His Excellency Mr T. Shanmugaratnam. The objectives of the visit, among others, were to –

- (a) learn from Singapore's overall policies/strategies in policing and security matters;
- (b) learn from Singapore's experience with surveillance technology and smart cameras to fight crime and terrorism; and
- (c) get a better insight of how Singapore was addressing the problem of drugs abuse, attending to emergencies and to the training needs of its Police Force.

The Minister Mentor also paid a courtesy call on the Minister of Home Affairs, Hon S. Shanmugan during which they discussed on general security issues. The delegation also had a working session with senior officials of the Singapore Prisons and took note of the successful implementation of its rehabilitation scheme under its established Yellow Ribbon Programme which is based on a strong partnership with its community.

7. Cabinet has taken note of the outcome of the recent mission of the Minister of Foreign Affairs, Regional Integration and International Trade to Azerbaijan and the United Arab Emirates where he attended the XVIII Ministerial Meeting of the Non-Aligned Movement and the 8th Annual Investment Meeting (AIM), respectively.

At the Ministerial Meeting of Non-Aligned Movement (NAM), the Minister of Foreign Affairs, Regional Integration and International Trade also made a statement on the issue of Chagos Archipelago and reiterated the deep appreciation of the Government of Mauritius to all Members of the NAM for their long standing support to Mauritius on the matter. He further urged NAM Member States to participate actively in the hearing which will take place at the International Court of Justice as from September 2018. The NAM Meeting also approved the resolution on the Chagos Archipelago.

The Annual Investment Meeting gathers the international investment community, political leaders, prominent academics and experts to showcase up-to-date information, strategies and knowledge on attracting Foreign Direct Investment (FDI). The theme of this year was *'Linking Developed and Emerging Markets through FDI: Partnerships for Inclusive Growth & Sustainable Development'*. The event offered a knowledge-based forum with cutting edge information on the latest developments in foreign direct investment and related issues. It served as a unique platform to meet, network, exchange experiences, and explore investment opportunities.

The Minister of Foreign Affairs, Regional Integration and International Trade also had bilateral meetings with the UAE political leadership in the margins of the AIM to discuss matters that would foster closer economic and diplomatic relations, between Mauritius and the UAE, and regional cooperation.

8. Cabinet has taken note of the outcome of the recent mission of the Minister of Tourism to the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia where he, inter alia, participated in the roadshows organised in the cities of Jeddah, Dammam and Riyadh and the 10th International Riyadh Travel Fair. The roadshow was attended by leading Saudi tour operators and journalists, bloggers and leading travel and tourism magazines. The Minister of Tourism also attended the Riyadh Travel Fair which is one of the major Fairs in the Middle East for the travel and tourism industry and the 10th edition consisted of tourism promotion organisations, travel agencies tour operators, hotels, destination management companies, health tourism companies and airlines, from 55 countries. The Mauritian stand accommodated some 10 exhibitors promoting the destination and their business.

9. Cabinet has taken note of the reconstitution of the following Boards/Committee –
- (a) the Mauritius Renewable Energy Agency with Mr Arjoon Suddhoo as Chairperson;
 - (b) the Energy Efficiency Management Committee with Mr Kendall Tang as Chairperson; and
 - (c) the Statutory Bodies Family Protection Fund Board, with the Permanent Secretary of the Ministry of Local Government and Outer Islands as Chairperson.
