

## **CABINET DECISIONS – 23 FEBRUARY 2018**

1. Cabinet has taken note of the Paper published by the Law Reform Commission on the Legislative Framework for the Regulation of Activities of Estate Agents and has agreed to the drafting of the Real Estates Agents Bill with a view to establishing a Real Estates Agents Authority, setting professional standards in the profession of real estate agents and providing accountability and transparency in the profession of real estate agents. The Ministry of Housing and Lands would have consultations with relevant stakeholders on the proposed Real Estates Agents Bill.

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2. Cabinet has agreed to the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding between the Public Service Commission of Mauritius and the Union Public Service Commission of India which provides for the establishment of close cooperation between the two parties in the following areas -

- (a) exchange of experience on modern approach to public service recruitment and selection;
- (b) sharing of expertise in the use of Information Technology (IT) in the preparation of written examination and holding of Computer Based Recruitment Test and Online Examinations; and
- (c) capacity building through formal training sessions, including short-term attachments.

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3. Cabinet has agreed to the signing of a Programme for Cultural Cooperation between the Government of the Republic of Mauritius and the Government of the Republic of India for the years 2018 to 2021 which aims at further strengthening the friendly ties between both countries, whereby both parties agree to share know how and skills in the promotion of cultural programmes/events, literature, music and dance, heritage and people to people diplomacy.

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4. Cabinet has agreed to the recommendations of the Ministerial Committee set up to look into the issue of delays being encountered in the determination of cases at the level of the Environment and Land Use Appeal Tribunal. The Committee has recommended that the Environment and Land Use Appeal Tribunal Act 2012 be amended with a view to reducing the time for the determination of an appeal by the Tribunal.

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5. Cabinet has taken note that, according to the last monthly report published by the Statistics Unit of the Ministry of Tourism, 120,974 tourists visited Mauritius in January 2018. Growth has been registered in arrivals from France (+5.8%), Germany (+16.9%), United Kingdom (+2.0%), South Africa (+10.3%), Saudi Arabia (+361.8%), Netherlands (+46.9%), Switzerland (+12.6%), Czech Republic (+9.4%) and Australia (+7.5%).

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6. Cabinet has agreed to the 9th General Assembly and meetings of the African Accreditation Cooperation (AFRAC) being held in Mauritius in September 2018. The main function of the African Accreditation Cooperation is to operate a Mutual Recognition Arrangement for the recognition and acceptance of accredited reports, thus enhancing regional trade. The Assembly and meetings would include discussions, inter alia, on specific technical issues, review of AFRAC documents and Strategic Plan, workshop on various accreditation standards and peer evaluations performed by AFRAC. Some 55 participants from abroad are expected to attend the meetings.

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7. Cabinet has taken note of the holding of the WHO Global Conference for SIDS Group of Africa and South East Asia on "Health and Climate Change" in Mauritius from 21 to 22 March 2018. The Global Conference is expected to bring together approximately 65 participants including Ministers, Health Experts, Regional Specialists, representatives of African Union (AU), Regional Economic community participants and donors. It is expected that there will be active participation from the SIDS member countries namely, Cabo Verde, Comoros Island, Madagascar, Mauritius, Sao Tome and Principe, the Seychelles, Timor-Leste and Reunion Island.

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8. Cabinet has taken note of the arrangements being made for the proclamation of the National Women's Council Act 2016 on 8 March 2018 to coincide with the International Women's Day.

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9. Cabinet has taken note of the outcome of the recent mission of the Minister of Tourism to the Union of Comoros and Mayotte. In Comoros, the Minister attended the *Assises Nationales* at the invitation of the President of the Union of Comoros. The objectives of the *Assises* were to take stock of the progress achieved after 42 years of independence and lay the foundations for better governance with a view to revamping socio-economic growth of the country. During his visit, the Minister paid a courtesy call on HE Mr Assoumani Azali, President of the Union of Comoros and had a working session with the HE Mr Djaffar Ahmed Said Hassani, Vice-President for Economy, Energy and Tourism.

In Mayotte, the Minister of Tourism attended the handing over ceremony of the Presidency of the Vanilla Islands Organisation. The representatives of various member countries shared the progress made in association with the Vanilla Islands Organisation to showcase the multiculturalism of its members so as to allow them to fulfill the potential and ambitions for their respective tourism industry.

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10. Cabinet has taken note of the outcome of the visit effected by the Attorney General, Minister of Justice, Human Rights and Institutional Reforms to Rodrigues from 4 to 5 February 2018. The main objectives of his visit were to take stock of issues pertaining to Human Rights and have consultations with various stakeholders on the Island so as to have a better understanding of the prevailing situation and how the Ministry of Justice, Human Rights and Institutional Reforms could assist/facilitate them.

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11. Cabinet has taken note of the appointment of –

- (a) Dr Michael Atchia as Chairperson of the Mauritius Research Council; and
- (b) Mr Dhurma Ashdeo Soburrun as Chairperson of the National Computer Board.

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12. Cabinet has taken note of the reconstitution of –

- (a) the National Adoption Council Board with Mr Mohammad Oumar Kholeegan as Chairperson; and
- (b) the National Remuneration Board with Mr Woopendre Punchcoory Gungah as Chairperson.

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