

CABINET DECISIONS – 23 MARCH 2018

1. Cabinet has agreed to the introduction of The Judicial and Legal Provisions Bill into the National Assembly. The Bill provides for amendments to be brought to a number of existing enactments with a view to bringing improvements to the administration of justice in Mauritius.

2. Cabinet has taken note of the Stamp Issue Programme for the year 2018. Postage stamps would be issued depicting the following –

- (a) the Lions International Centennial Anniversary and its 50th year of presence in Mauritius;
- (b) the centenary of the establishment of the Pandit Cashinath Kistoe Aryan Vedic Aided School, Vacoas;
- (c) 50 years of the establishment of diplomatic relations between Mauritius and Ex-USSR/ Russian Federation;
- (d) the 100th Anniversary of The End of the World War I;
- (e) the bicentenary of the birth of Mr Nicolas Pike and his contribution as member of the Royal Society of Arts and Sciences in Mauritius;
- (f) the invention of photography by Mr Joseph Nicephore Niepce;
- (g) the famous Chinese painter/calligrapher, Mr Dubenji;
- (h) the diplomatic relations between the Republic of Mauritius and the Republic of India; and
- (i) the Life Saving Society and the St John Ambulance in Mauritius.

3. Cabinet has taken note that the Mauritius Standards Bureau would sign a Memorandum of Understanding with the Zambia Bureau of Standards. The objective of the Memorandum of Understanding is to promote and facilitate bilateral trade between the two countries through the elimination of non-tariff barriers. It will also cover, among others, cooperation in Standardization, Quality Assurance, Metrology, Conformity Assessment, Pre and Post-Shipment Inspection and Training and would provide a broad framework for cooperation in areas such as mutual recognition, inspection and capacity building.

4. Cabinet has taken note that the *Conservatoire National de Musique François Mitterrand* would sign a Memorandum of Understanding with the Tianjin Conservatory of Music. The aim of the Memorandum of Understanding is to enable the two institutions to work together to enhance the educational, cultural, and academic links between them. Both institutions would, among others, exchange teachers or researchers to give lectures or do research, convene a series of exchange concerts on promoting Sino-Mauritius cultural exchange and work on an Undergraduate Collaboration Project.

5. Cabinet has taken note that the Ministry of Arts and Culture proposes to submit the nomination dossier of 'Sega Tambour Chagos' for possible inscription on the UNESCO List of Intangible Cultural Heritage in Need of Urgent Safeguarding to rectify threats posed to such heritage of humanity.

6. Following complaint made by Mr and Mrs Sookun alleging the disappearance of one of their new born babies, on 16 March 2018 at SSRN Hospital, Cabinet has decided that an enquiry be carried out to look into the matter.

7. Cabinet has taken note that the 2018 Commonwealth Games would be held from 04 to 15 April 2018 in Gold Coast, Australia and Mauritius would be represented by a delegation of 100 athletes and officials. Mauritius would compete in all sports disciplines retained for the Games, namely Athletics, Boxing, Cycling, Wrestling, Weightlifting, Swimming, Para-Athletics, Squash, Triathlon, Table Tennis and Badminton.

8. Cabinet has taken note that Mauritius would participate in the 11th edition of the "Commission de la Jeunesse et des Sports de L'Océan Indien" (CJSOI) Games to be held in Djibouti from 20 to 28 April 2018. Mauritius would compete in all sports disciplines retained for the Games, namely Athletics, Football, Handball, "Pétanque" and Table Tennis. Mauritius would be represented by a delegation of 153 athletes (aged between 14 to 17 years), officials, artists and performers.

9. Cabinet has taken note of the outcome of the recent mission of the Deputy Prime Minister, Minister of Energy and Public Utilities to India where he participated in the Founding Conference of the International Solar Alliance held under the joint chairmanship of the Prime Minister of the Republic of India and the President of the Republic of France. The Prime Minister of the Republic of India announced that the International Solar Alliance and the Indian Government would –

- (a) create 500 training slots for member countries;
- (b) provide consultancy support as project preparation facility to enable member countries to design bankable projects;
- (c) initiate a Solar Technology Mission with international focus, to lead research and development in solar energy; and
- (d) finance solar projects worth nearly US\$ 1.4 billion under lines of credit in 15 countries, in addition to the projects already approved under Line of Credit.

India is financing a solar farm project of 8 MW, worth USD 10 million at Henrietta under its Line of Credit. The French President also committed an additional 700 million Euros to solar energy by 2022, taking his Government's total commitment to one billion Euros.

10. Cabinet has taken note of the outcome of the recent mission of the Minister of Technology, Communication and Innovation to Spain where he participated in the Ministerial Programme of the Mobile World Congress 2018 organised by the Global System Mobile Communication Association. The theme for the Mobile World Congress 2018 was 'Creating a Better Future'. The focus areas were 5G Technologies, Internet of Things and Artificial Intelligence in the fields of transport, education, health, agriculture, environment, utilities, amongst others, Virtual Reality, Big Data, Analytics and Block Chain techniques. The Ministerial Programme 2018 consisted of roundtables, bilateral meetings and networking opportunities with objectives to discuss, among others, -

- (a) policies, regulations and innovative strategies for the digital age which would be more responsive to the mobile industry and which would drive the digital economy;
- (b) future trends for the mobile industry;
- (c) investment opportunities in the field of digital transformation; and
- (d) the role and opportunities of ICT in the fields of e-health and education.

11. Cabinet has taken note that Hon H. Essaiem, Commissioner, African Commission of Human and Peoples' Rights would be on mission in Mauritius in September 2018. The African Commission of Human and Peoples' Rights has as functions –

- (a) the protection and promotion of human and peoples' rights; and
- (b) the interpretation of the African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights.

12. Cabinet has taken note of the reconstitution of the Board of the National Women's Sports Commission with Mrs Isabelle André as Chairperson.
