

**CABINET DECISIONS – 28 DECEMBER 2018**

1. Cabinet has taken note of the outcome of the recent mission of Hon Pravind Kumar Jugnauth, Prime Minister to Vienna where he attended the High Level Forum Africa-Europe. The theme of the Forum was “*Taking Cooperation to the Digital Age*”. The Political Leaders Meeting was opened by HE Mr S. Kurz, Austrian Federal Chancellor and HE Mr P. Kagame, President of Rwanda who both spoke about defining a new relationship between Africa and Europe. The Meeting was followed by a High Level Dialogue which provided a platform for political leaders, international institutions and the private sector to reflect on the deepening of the relationship between Africa and the European Union, with special focus on how to promote innovation and digitalisation as important factors for the future development of the two continents. HE Mr J.C. Juncker, President of the European Commission highlighted the results of the Africa-Europe Alliance for Sustainable Investment and Jobs.

During his intervention at the High Level Dialogue, the Prime Minister underscored the readiness of Africa to embrace technological change and the need to set the appropriate conditions to attract investors. He also underlined the strategy put in place by Mauritius to maximise the potentials of the fourth Industrial Revolution and sought the support of the European Union in the country’s pursuit to embrace new technologies.

In the margins of the Forum, the Prime Minister had a bilateral meeting with Mr Neven Mimica, European Commissioner for Development and International Cooperation with whom he discussed the measures that have been taken in order to ensure that the country is a compliant jurisdiction. The Prime Minister also met several African and European leaders and high level representatives of international organisations.

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2. Cabinet has taken note of the Report of the Ministerial Committee, chaired by Hon Mrs F. Jeewa-Daureeawoo, GCSK, Vice-Prime Minister, Minister of Local Government and Outer Islands, Minister of Gender Equality, Child Development and Family Welfare, which was set up to look into the issues relating to the organisation, coordination and monitoring of disaster risk reduction and management activities. The recommendations in the Report relate, inter alia, to the facilities which would be provided in refugee centres during cyclones, floods and other natural disasters. The recommendations would be incorporated in the National Disasters Scheme which defines the roles and responsibilities of various institutions involved in risk reduction, preparedness and management before, during and in the aftermath of natural disasters. The Committee has also recommended the construction of additional refugee centres, including one in Agalega.

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