

RODRIGUES REGIONAL ASSEMBLY Executive Council

MAIN DECISIONS

Executive Council Meeting – Friday 23 February 2024

The Executive Council met today under the chairmanship of the Chief Commissioner, Mr. Johnson ROUSSETY, G.O.S.K; and has among its deliberations:

DECIDED

- (i) To approve that the Rodrigues Regional Assembly will provide assistance to the Vicar Apostolic of Rodrigues in connection with the Episcopal Ordination of Mgr Michel MOURA as Bishop which will be held on 19 March 2024.
- (ii) To approve that the Commission for Trade and Licensing proceed with the grant of five (5) Trade Licences, pending finalisation and/or amendment of the commercial leases for subletting as appropriate and to refer the cases to the Cadastral Office for further processing.
- (iii) To approve the renewal of the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between Shoals Rodrigues and the Rodrigues Regional Assembly for a period of three years as from June 2024. The objective of which is to provide support and collaborate for scientific research, training, sensitisation and education in the field of marine and coastal environment.
- (iv) To approve that the Commission for Water Resources will release funds for the payment of the operational costs of the Rodrigues Public Utilities Corporation (RPUC) for the month of January, February and March 2024.

(v) That the Deputy Chief Commissioner's Office will issue works order under the rates contract for "Maintenance, Upgrading, resurfacing and Construction of Roads" for the implementation of the following projects;

SN	Project
(i)	Road realignment at Mt Tonnerre
(ii)	Mt. Cabris to Marechal (Fazenda) Phase I
(iii)	Construction of road from Citron Donis to Tamarin Phase 2 Zone 3
(iv)	Construction of road from La Ferme to Marechal Phase II
(v)	Construction of Access road leading to Technopark Baladirou
(vi)	Construction of Access Road from main road to Cemetery at Baie Diamant
(vii)	Access road to Morcellement Songes
(viii)	Resurfacing of yard in front of the Cathedral at St Gabriel
(ix)	Box Culvert at Grand La Fouche Mangues
(x)	Upgrading of Access to Accacia
(xi)	Access Road to Anse Baleine Retenue Collinaire Site

(vi) That the Commission for Environment will provide a financial assistance to the non-governmental organization Rodrigues Environment Friendly Group (REFG) for the implementation of the project "Promoting Environmental Culture and Sustainable Development Goals" in villages and educational institutions of the South East of Rodrigues.

The aim of the project also aims to boost the management and restoration of degraded natural resources and to increase the ability of households and institutions in the South East region to adapt to climate change.

- (vii) That the Commission for Fisheries will organise "La fete du Poisson" at Pointe L'Herbe Corail on 1st March 2024 in connection with the opening of large net fishing season.
- (viii) That the Commission for Youth and Sports will provide partial sponsorship to two participants of Rodrigues to the World Youth Festival (WYF) 2024 to

be held in Sochi, Russia from 01 to 17 March 2024. The WYF 2024, the largest global youth event aims at bringing together fervent people from all over the World to participate in workshops, discussions, trainings, and cultural performances.

(ix) That the Commission for Arts and Culture will provide assistance for the organisation of a dance competition in Rodrigues in line with the Indian Ocean Dance Battle Championship 2024 which will be held on Saturday 04th May 2024 with a view to reinforce ties amongst islands of the Indian ocean, on a commonly shared culture/sport and thrive together to reach international level in the field.

TAKEN NOTE

- (i) That Dr. the Honourable Renganaden PADAYACHY, Minister of Finance, Economic Planning and Development will proceed to Rodrigues from 1st to 3rd March 2024 for budget consultations, meetings with the Executive Council and representatives of the economic and social sectors, for the financial Year 2024/2025.
- (ii) That Honourable Mrs. Kalpana Devi KOONJOO-SHAH, Minister of Gender Equality and Family Welfare will lead a delegation to Rodrigues from 26 to 29 February 2024 in connection with the National Gender Policy which provides guidelines that underpin the Government's commitment to integrate gender into existing legislative, institutional structures, policies and programmes for the Republic of Mauritius.
- (iii) That Honourable Sudheer MAUDHOO, Minister of Blue Economy, Marine Resources, Fisheries and Shipping and a delegation of his Ministry comprising of the Acting Permanent Secretary, the Advisor on Information Matters, and the Acting Deputy Controller of the Fisheries Services, will be on official mission in Rodrigues from 02 to 04 March 2024 in the context of the Welcoming Ceremony for the arrival of MV Peros Banhos on Sunday 03 March 2024.

During their mission, the delegation will seize the opportunity to distribute fishing equipment to Octopus Fishers and five (5) Large Net Operators.

(iv) That since the end of January 2024, a new episode of coral bleaching is currently being observed whereby various species of corals in the SEMPA

lagoon and some in the northern lagoon are bleaching and that corals in pristine Conservation Zones such as Couzoupa and Paté Reynieux are also undergoing bleaching at an alarming rate. The bleaching is affecting both in-situ corals as well as those being planted in the MPA under various initiatives and is being caused by an increase in sea surface temperature.

Scientific monitoring will be conducted jointly by SEMPA in collaboration with NGO Shoals Rodrigues to assess and monitor the extent of the bleaching episode and to understand the impact of the increase in sea surface temperature as a result of El Nino on our marine ecosystem.

- (v) That the Licensing Committee at its meeting held on Thursday 15 February 2024 has approved the issue of five (5) Trade Licences.
- (vi) That at its meeting held on Monday 20 February 2024, the Building and Land Use Permit Committee has approved the grant of four (4) Residential Building and Land Use Permit.
- (vii) That for period March 2022 to date, the Commission for Agriculture has issued four hundred and twenty-five (425) Agricultural Permits.
- (viii) That the Commission for Women's Affairs will enlist the Services of Legal Resource Persons to provide legal counselling sessions in cases of family disputes, custody and other family related problems and to provide legal assistance in court.
- (ix) That as at Friday 23 February 2024, there were a total of 311 active cases of Dengue Fever in Rodrigues and that with the mass fogging and larviciding campaign which is being carried out in the North and Central regions, the number of cases detected is following a downward movement.

Chief Commissioner's Office Port Mathurin Rodrigues

Date: 23 February 2024