



RODRIGUES REGIONAL ASSEMBLY

Executive Council

MAIN DECISIONS

Executive Council Meeting – Friday 03 February 2023

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) That the Chief Commissioner's Office will increase the financial assistance ceiling from Rs 50,000 to Rs 100,000 of the Technology Acquisition and Modernisation Scheme (TAMS) and launch the scheme for this financial year targeting fifteen (15) entrepreneurs in the manufacturing sector, including the following activities:
- Food processing (including agro-processing, pastry, bakery, catering, seafood and meat processing);
 - Handicraft;
 - Textile;
 - Production of beauty care, medicinal and wellness products;
 - Cabinet making;
 - Aluminium workshop; and
 - Any other SME in the manufacturing sector accepted by the Commission.

- (ii) To release the annual grant of Rs 300,000 to the Coopérative Polyvalente des Caisses Villageoises Lévé Déboute de Rodrigues Ltée so as to enable it to meet part of its administrative expenses for financial year 2022/2023. The Cooperative Society has received requests from its members for the setting up of three additional “Caisses Villageoise” at Tamarin, Jardin Mamzelle and Ste Famille, while 64 “Caisses Villageoises” are already operational around the island.
- (iii) To provide a one-off financial grant amounting to Rs 200,000 to the Bus Operators Multipurpose Cooperative Society Ltd to be used to meet the administrative expenses such as Board members’ Allowance, Contribution towards salaries and rent and to ensure that contribution are paid by members.
- (iv) To award contracts to 250 persons for the provisions of labour in connection with the Land Rehabilitation and Derocking and soil erosion control for an initial period of four months and sixteen contracts will be awarded for the provision of supervisory services.
- (v) That the Commission for Fisheries will launch the scheme to provide a subsidy of 50% up to a maximum of Rs 100,000 to eligible fishers on the purchase of fishing materials such as:-
 - a) Reel and Rod Electric;
 - b) Global Positioning System (GPS);
 - c) Eco-Sounder;
 - d) Fish Finder; and
 - e) Fishing Line

The objective of this scheme is to better equip and encourage Off-Lagoon Professional Fishers to increase fish production in line with the vision of the Rodrigues Regional Assembly to achieve food security.

- (vi) Decided to approve the implementation of the scheme to provide a subsidy of 50% to eligible registered Off-Lagoon Fishers for the purchase of outboard motor, of a maximum of 20 Hp, to encourage fisher to venture into off-lagoon fishery and facilitate their fishing activities. The scheme will be opened to registered off-lagoon fishers whose fishing boat:-
 - a) is not equipped with an outboard motor engine;
 - b) is equipped with only one engine;
 - c) is equipped with two outboard motor engine of which one is more than 10 years old; and
 - d) is not less than 23 ft/7 metres long.

- (vii) To approve the reconstitution of the Human Resource Ethics Committee which is responsible for the examination of research proposal or study involving human beings to be undertaken in Rodrigues and to give clearances as deem appropriate. Actually, the Commission for Health is in presence of several research proposals from universities in Mauritius and other organisations to conduct research studies involving human beings.
- (viii) To approve that the Rodrigues Regional Assembly (Women’s Development Forum) Regulations 2023 will be brought to the Regional Assembly to set up a Women’s Development Forum to promote women’s empowerment through their active participation in the social, economic and political field. The forum will also provide a platform for women to voice out their concerns and aspirations and improve the coordination of women’s organisation.
- (ix) That due to lack of space and inaccessibility of the site initially identified at Pointe Venus for the construction of the Maison des Art Martiaux’, the project will be relocated in the region of Papayes or Marechal.
- (iii) Decided to grant permission to the MCB Forward Foundation to use the playground of Patate Theophile for activities of the MCB Football Academy for the next 10 years and to proceed with renovation works to the playground infrastructure replacement of fencing at the football ground. The playground is managed by a “Comité de Gestion” comprising, representative of MCB Forward Foundation, members of the Patate Theophile Village Committee and the Football Club of the locality.
- (x) To approve the activities to be organised to mark the celebration of the 55th Anniversary of Independence and 31th Anniversary of the Republic of Mauritius with the National theme retained for the occasion **“55 an larmoni dans nou Repiblik”** including amongst others:
 - (a) the Golden Bat Night Trail on Saturday 4 March 2023 as from 18 hours;
 - (b) a Flag Raising Ceremony in all Educational Institutions on Friday 10 March 2023 and the Reading of Prime Minister’s Message now rests under the purview of the Head of Schools;
 - (c) The official ceremony, a display which will culminate with the final of the Football Republic Cup on Sunday 12 March 2023 at Grande Montagne football playground.

- (d) A Drama Festival in creole language to promote our mother tongue and instil a sense of belonging to the Republic.

TAKEN NOTE

- (i) That the Rodrigues Public Utilities Corporation Ltd (RPUC) which has taken over the management and operation of Pointe Venus Desalination Plant as from 01st February 2023 has recruited:
- 4 Administrative Officers;
 - 4 Trainee Engineers;
 - 4 Plant and Equipment Operators on Roster; and
 - 4 Heavy Vehicles Driver on Roster.
- (i) Of the organisation of “Assises de l’Eau” which will be held from 23 to 25 February 2023 at the Leisure and Cultural Centre, Mon Plaisir, under the theme “Shaping the Future of Water in Rodrigues” which aims to be a landmark foundational conference in the endeavour of the Rodrigues Regional Assembly to solve the acute and persistent water shortage issue on the Island. The conference will focus on four themes namely surface & ground water, desalination, distribution network and legal & institutional reform and will involve participation of international stakeholders and partners in their capacity of expert in the water sector or potential development partners to accompany the proposed reforms in the water sector either technically or financially. The Commission for Water Resources has also launched an open invitation in local and national newspapers, online and through the radio for potential participants who are willing to contribute to the debate.
- (ii) That a delegation of the World Bank led by Ms Berina UWIMBABAZI, Sector Leader Sustainable Development will be on mission to Rodrigues from 07 to 08 February 2023 for follow up on technical discussion with the Rodrigues Regional Assembly and to identify areas of where the Bank can provide technical assistance and support particularly in the agricultural (with special emphasis on Climate Smart Agriculture), water security and bleu economy sectors

- (iii) That the Commission for Women's Affairs, Child Development, Family Welfare and others in collaboration with PEDOSTOP, Mauritius will organise three full days awareness/training sessions on child sexual abuse for social workers working directly with children from 15 to 17 February 2023 for a first batch of 32 participants and during school holidays in April 2023 for some other 94 participants.

- (iv) That three Meteorological Telecommunication Technicians from the Mauritius Meteorological Services will be on mission to Rodrigues from 5 to 25 February 2023 to carry out the installation of two new Automatic Weather Stations (AWS) at Riviere Banane and Songes and Maintenance/Repairs of four stations at Patate Theophile, Citronelle, Plaine Corail and Montagne du Sable.

- (v) Of the statistics on tourist arrivals for the period of March to December 2022 whereby 64,844 tourists visited Rodrigues as compared to 77,831 for the whole year of 2019 prior to the advent of the Covid-19 pandemic.

**Chief Commissioner's Office
Port Mathurin
Rodrigues**

Date: 03 February 2023