



RODRIGUES REGIONAL ASSEMBLY Executive Council

MAIN DECISIONS

Executive Council Meeting – Friday 28 April 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 Commission for Education will organise the first edition of the Rodrigues Regional Assembly Educational Awards 2023 on Thursday 18 May 2023 on the Parking Space in front of Antoinette Prudence Human Resource Development Centre (HRDC) at Malabar, to reward students who excelled at Primary School Achievement Certificate (PSAC), National Certificate in Education (NCE) and School Certificate (SC) 2022.
- (ii) To approve the payment of salary and arrears of bonus to Community Resource Observers (CROs) of the South East Marine Protected Area (SEMPA) for the Covid lockdown period of 20 March to 15 April 2020 in line with the Regulations made under the Quarantine Act 2020. Remedial measures have also been taken concerning other long-standing complaints including non-provision of monthly pay slips, communication allowances, protective clothing and mandatory leaves.
- (iii) That three Engineers of the Deputy Chief Commissioner's Office will follow a FIDIC Contract Training Courses which is being organised by the Association of Consulting Engineers Mauritius in collaboration with the Construction Industry Development Board from 29 May to 02 June 2023 in Mauritius, in the context of their continuous professional development.

- (iv) To approve the modalities to provide sponsorship facilities based on family revenue on a pro rata basis to suitably qualified Rodriguan students undergoing their undergraduate or post graduate studies so as to enable them to pursue their professional development in specific fields that form part of the Priority List that has been found to be essential for the development of Rodrigues.
- (v) To approve the implementation of the Sheltered Farming Scheme through the provision a financial assistance of up to Rupees Three Hundred Thousand (Rs 300,000/-) to ten (10) selected planters for the construction of green houses, to encourage planters to shift from traditional open field cultivation to sheltered farming system to mitigate the effects of climate change and to improve productivity and quality of food crop.
- (vi) To approve the setting up of a Water Technical Coordination Committee under the Chairmanship of the Chief Commissioner, Mr. Johnson ROUSSEY, G.O.S.K. to coordinate activities in the water sector for more effectiveness and efficiency in the delivery of services. One of the first tasks of the Committee will be to review the Water Sections in Rodrigues.
- (vii) That to mark the International Day of Families 2023 which is commemorated on the 15th of May every year, the United Nation has chosen the theme: “Demographic Trends and Families to raise awareness of the Impact of demographic trends on families”. In this context, the Commission for Women’s Affairs will organise the following activities:

DATE	ACTIVITIES
10 May 2023	A workshop for women to sensitize and disseminate knowledge on the use of solar cooker and solar cooking in collaboration with the University of Mauritius.
15 May 2023	A debate on the theme: “L’impacte de la technologie sur la famille” at the Cultural and Leisure Centre, Mon Plaisir.
27 May 2023	A photo shooting on the occasion of Mother’s Day in front of La Residence, Port Mathurin
17 June 2023	A photo shooting on the occasion of Father’s Day
18 June 2023	Organization of a Family Fun Day at Pointe L’herbe

- (viii) That the Commission for Industrial Development provides a grant to the Rodrigues Trading and Marketing Co. Ltd (RTMC) to kick start the distribution of subsidised basic commodities such as powdered milk, edible oil and pulses of Smatch brand supplied by the State Trading Corporation (STC). The selling prices and payment terms will be defined through a Commercial Agreement after confirmation of RTMC's requirements.
- (ix) That the Commission for Education provides a grant in aid to CARITAS Rodrigues for the provision of meals to 500 vulnerable students of Primary, Secondary Schools and Vocational Training institutions for the second school term at a revised rate of Rs 65 per meal. CARITAS has reported that most of the beneficiaries do not qualify for any social aid and come from pockets of poverty.

TAKEN NOTE

- (i) That the Ministry of Blue Economy, Marine Resources, Fisheries and Shipping has extended the Canotte Scheme to registered Rodriguan artisanal fishers which provides successful applicants with a grant representing 50% of the cost of a Canotte type fishing boat up to a maximum of Rs 200,000 and the Development Bank of Mauritius Ltd (DBM) will provide a loan up to Rs 300,000 to the beneficiaries.
- (ii) That the Rodrigues Public Utilities Corporation (RPUC) is proceeding with the launching of bids for the construction of a new building at Pointe Coton to accommodate the three additional desalination units of daily production of capacity of 1,000 m³ each, with a view to increasing production to cope with the water stress situation caused by climate change and to ensure a regular supply of this essential commodity to the population.
- (iii) That the RPUC has also launched tenders for the construction of two 1,000 m³ concrete circular reservoirs at Pointe Coton while the Commission for Water Resources is inviting bids for the construction of a new transit reservoir of 1,000 m³ at Mt. Piquant, Roche Bon Dieu.
- (iv) That Technical team from MASCARA is actually in Rodrigues to assess the breakdown at Caverne Bouteille desalination plant and to see with the RPUC on actions to be taken to put the plant back to operation within one month. Upon its repair RPUC will take over maintenance and operation of Caverne Bouteille desalination plant bringing all water desalination production under the responsibility of the company.

- (v) That in line with the vision of the Rodrigues Regional Assembly to make Rodrigues an ecological island the Commission for Environment has introduced a more efficient arrangement for the management of used oil in Rodrigues whilst controlling its storage, and disposal in line with the Environment Protection (Collection, Storage, Treatment, Use and Disposal of Waste Oil) Regulation 2002, and has awarded a contract for the collection of used oil from boat owners, mechanical workshops and individuals around Rodrigues and its transport to the Port Area in Port Mathurin for shipment and recycling in Mauritius.
- (vi) That a team from the Traffic Management and Road Safety Unit of the Ministry of National Infrastructure and Community Development comprising the Deputy Director Mr. H. SUNGKER, Principal Technical Officer, Mr. H. SUNNASSEE and Technical Officer Mr. D. DOORJUN will be on official mission in Rodrigues from 01 May to 09 May 2023 to design proper road marking and traffic signs schemes for newly constructed roads.
- (vii) That the Ministry of Health and Wellness in collaboration with the Commission for Health will organise a “Strategic Toolkit for Assessing Risks” (STAR) workshop in Rodrigues from 29 May to 02 June 2023 to prepare the Commission in dealing with different kinds of Health Hazards. The STAR methodology developed by the World Health Organisation (WHO), is a comprehensive, easy-to-use and evidence-based approach to enable authorities to rapidly conduct strategic assessment of public health risks.
- (viii) Of the outcome of the mission of Dr A. Jodheea-Jutton IPC Focal Person from the World Health Organisation (WHO) and Dr D. Nuckchady, National IPC Focal Point at the Ministry of Health and Wellness who were on mission in Rodrigues from 28 February to 02 March 2023 to provide guidance on IPC activities to the IPC Team in Rodrigues to ensure that the risks caused by the transmission of preventable infections are minimised.
- (ix) That all the residents of Ste Marie Village have successfully been relocated in new housing units equivalent in size to the ones they had to forego to allow the construction of a new runway at Plaine Corail Airport. These beneficiaries will now be provided with their residential leases whereas bidding document is being prepared for the construction of two new housing units for the relocation of the two other families found at Mt. Travers.
- (x) That the Commission for Youth and Sports will organize the National Youth Civic Service Training Courses (NYCS) for a fourth batch of sixty (60) young people from May to July 2023. The Ministry of Youth Empowerment, Sports and Recreation will provide the services of a French Trainer from Reunion Island to conduct Courses on ‘Acculturation Numerique’ that is practical digital skills.

- (xi) Following a mission undertaken by the RDA and the Traffic Management and Road Safety Unit (TMRSU) in Rodrigues in September 2022 to carry out a physical assessment of the roads in Rodrigues and recommend the classification of the roads, the Ministry of National Infrastructure and Community Development (National Infrastructure Division) has submitted a report detailing the physical conditions of the roads on the island, existing legal framework, proposed amendments thereto and the proposed road classification in Rodrigues. Proposed regulations for the classification of roads in Rodrigues will now be drafted on the basis of the report's recommendations.
- (xii) That the Commission for Agriculture has awarded a contract of Rs 4,100,000 for the Rehabilitation of the Ex-Community Centre at Terre Rouge into a new Farmer's Centre which will provide a selling point for the marketing of vegetables and other products.
- (xiii) That the Commission for Women's affairs in collaboration with the Commission for Education has launched a Comprehensive Sexuality Education (CSE) Programme in all the pre-primary schools of Rodrigues on Thursday 27 April 2023.
- (xiv) That a delegation of the Mauritius Oceanography Institute (MOI) is in Rodrigues from 24 April to 6 May 2023 to perform current pattern surveys in the South East Marine Protected Area (SEMPA) which is important for proper planning of coral plantation for the protection of the marine ecosystem.

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

Date: 28 April 2023