



**RODRIGUES REGIONAL ASSEMBLY**  
**Executive Council**

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**MAIN DECISIONS**

**Executive Council Meeting – Friday 01 December 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 (Trade, Commerce and Licensing) proceeds with the enlistment of the services of seven (7) interviewers to conduct a Survey of all registered SMEs in order to establish a register with the aim to update and consolidate statistics of economic activities in Rodrigues as announced in the Budget Speech for Financial Year 2023-2024. The register will consequently enable the formulation and implementation of appropriate and efficient policies to better promote and facilitate trade in Rodrigues.
  
- (ii) To approve that the Chief Commissioner's Office (Trade, Commerce and Licensing) nominates the Officer in Charge of the Licensing Unit (Analyst Trade) and a Surveyor from the Cadastral Office as new members of the Licensing Committee so as to enable better decision making regarding the issue of licences for Trade activities.

- (iii) That the Chief Commissioner's Office (Trade, Commerce and Licensing) will grant permission to persons who wish to sell snacks, firecrackers, non-alcoholic beverages and other items excluding alcoholic drinks during the last two weeks of December starting Monday 18 to Saturday 30 December 2023 under a Chapiteau to be placed on the space located next to the Central Administration Building against payment of a fixed participation fee of Rs 200.
- (iv) That the Chief Commissioner's Office (Industrial Development) proceeds further with the processing of eight (8) applications for Commercial and Industrial projects and eleven (11) applications for Land Permits for Small Scale Commercial activities.
- (v) To approve the signature of a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between the Rodrigues Venture Capital and Leasing Fund (RVCLF) and the Development Bank of Mauritius (DBM) to reactivate the following two loan schemes, provided by the RVCLF for small and medium enterprises (SMEs) and businesses:

**A. SME Loan Scheme**

The SME Loan Scheme offers a loan of up to Rs 500,000 at an interest rate of 5% over a repayment period of 48 months. This scheme targets Rodriguan SMEs in the manufacturing and production sectors with a turnover not exceeding Rs 5.0M.

**B. Equipment Loan Scheme**

The Equipment Loan Scheme provides SMEs with a loan facility to purchase new equipment to enhance their efficiency and productivity. This scheme offers a loan facility of up to Rs 300,000 under the same conditions as the SME Loan Scheme.

- (vi) That the Chief Commissioner's Office (Industrial Development) proceeds with the launching of an Expression of Interest (EOI) to invite professional fishers and local promoters to signify their intention to refit and operate six (6) off-lagoon fishing boats on lease for 20 years with a view to transform the local fishing industry. The aim is to render these boats seaworthy and operational whilst creating job opportunities for locals and contributing to the island's economy.

- (vii) To approve that a fishing locker at Les Salines be allocated to three (3) professional fishers respectively, who have been relocated in the context of the Airport Development Project for the storage of their fishing equipment.
- (viii) To approve that the Commission for Agriculture and Others provides clearance to the Central Electricity Board (CEB) to supply electricity to the respective farms of twenty-eight (28) genuine farmers to enable them to operate their pump for irrigation purposes. The Commission will provide a financial assistance of 75% of the amount payable to the CEB up to a maximum of Rs 100,000 while the remaining 25% will be borne by the applicant.
- (ix) That the Commission for Employment and Others organises basic training course in favour of 30 beneficiaries/Jobseekers under the Employment Relief Programme (ERP) for Financial Year 2023 - 2024 with effect from January in the field of Food Production to be dispensed by the Mauritius Institute of Training and Development (MITD). The main objective of the ERP is to provide training and placement to enable specific jobseekers to acquire appropriate skills and experience so that by the end of training program, they can start an income generating activity.
- (x) To approve the participation of Rodrigues in the 40<sup>th</sup> Edition of "La Foire Agricole de Miel Vert" which will be organised by La Mairie de Tampon at Plaine des Cafres in Réunion Island from 05 to 14 January 2024. It would be an opportunity to promote the Rodrigues destination by providing information to the expected 200,000 potential visitor.

### **TAKEN NOTE**

- (i) That the Honourable Jean Christophe Stephan Toussaint, Minister of Youth Empowerment, Sports and Recreation will lead a delegation to Rodrigues from 08 to 15 December 2023 to officially launch the 5th Batch of the National Youth Civic Service (NYCS). The NYCS Programme has as objective to enable the participants to develop confidence, competence, character, compassion, Communication skills and enhance their employability profile.

- (ii) Of the official visit of Mrs. Priscilla LI YING, United Nations Fund for Population (UNFPA), Head of Office for Mauritius and Seychelles to Rodrigues from 12 to 15 December 2023 whereby she will have several working sessions and discussions on Annual Work Plan of UNFPA cofunded projects with implementing partners.
  
- (iii) That a delegation led by the new Ambassador of the European Union (EU) to the Republic of Mauritius and to the Republic of Seychelles, H.E., Mr. Oskar BENEDIKT will be on a mission visit to Rodrigues from Tuesday 12 December to Thursday 14 December 2023 to meet the Executive Council to discuss specific issues pertaining to Airport Project; progress of the GCCA + projects; and the implementation of SIDPR amongst others.
  
- (iv) That a delegation from the World Bank led by the Senior Transport Specialist and Task Team Leader will field a mission visit in Rodrigues from 12 to 14 December 2023 in connection with the Pre-launch of the Rodrigues Airport Project. The aims of the mission are, amongst others:
  - (i) to follow up on the progress towards the signing of the legal agreement;
  - (ii) to finalise the content of the activities to be financed; and
  - (iii) to address any remaining issues, including institutional arrangements.
  
- (v) Of the calendar of activities in view of the forthcoming exercise for admission to Grade 7 in 2024, as submitted by the Ministry of Education, Tertiary Education, Science; and as follows:
  - a) PSAC results will reach Rodrigues in the morning on Tuesday 12 December 2023 and thereafter be distributed to Heads of Primary Schools;
  - b) PSAC results and other relevant documents will be distributed to Responsible Parties at schools as from 13.00 hours;
  - c) Registration of students in secondary schools will be held on Tuesday 19 December 2023;

- d) PSAC re-sit assessment will be held on Thursday 21 December 2023; and
- e) PSAC re-sit results will be issued to candidates on Friday 29 December 2023.

(vi) That the Rodrigues Regional Assembly through the Commission for Vocational Training is awarding sponsorship in favour of two (2) students at post-graduate level, as detailed below:

<b>Sn</b>	<b>Name</b>	<b>Programme of Studies</b>	<b>Institution</b>	<b>Duration of Studies</b>
1.	LOUIS Jean David	MSc Renewable Energy	Cranfield University, UK	1 Year
2.	TOLBIZE Zaccharie Jordan	MSc Agricultural Science	University of Queensland	2 Years

- (vii) That the Economic Development Board (EDB) in collaboration with the Commonwealth Secretariat will deliver a three-day training programme on Rodrigues Export and Market Development in favour of 50 entrepreneurs to be held at Les Cocotiers Hotel from Wednesday 06 to Friday 08 December 2023 to enhance the capacity for export readiness of businesses in the Manufacturing Sector from Rodrigues. The project also aims to better position Rodriguan products in export markets through better quality standards, greater trade connectivity, and to make Rodriguans businesses aware of export market requirements and trends.
- (viii) That at its meeting held on Tuesday 28 November 2023, the Building and Land Use Permit Committee has approved the grant of four (04) Residential, two (02) Commercial, one (01) Industrial and one (01) Social Building and Land Use Permits.
- (ix) That the Commission for Women Affairs' and Others will organise two (02) training programmes, namely a training on the sensitisation of boys/men on: promoting gender equality to end Gender Based Violence (GBV) targeting one hundred boys/men from different regions of Rodrigues and a Training of Trainer's Course on Women's Leadership Skills in collaboration with Gender Links, Mauritius in view of empowering women through Leadership skills, to be held on 07, 08 and 11 to 15 December 2023, respectively.

- (x) Of the results for the National Certificate of Education (NCE) Assessment 2023, the overall percentage pass rate for Rodrigues for Academic Year is 66.6% compared to 50.50% for Academic Year 2021/2022 which represents an increase of 16.01%.

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

**Date:** 01 December 2023