



COMMUNIQUE
CHIEF COMMISSIONER'S OFFICE (TOURISM)
RODRIGUES REGIONAL ASSEMBLY

**COVID-19 WAGE ASSISTANCE SCHEME FOR THE TOURISM RELATED BUSINESSES
FOR PERIOD 16 APRIL to 30 APRIL 2020**

The Executive Council, at its meeting held on Friday 24th April 2020, has taken note that the extension of the Wage Assistance Scheme proposed by the Government is applicable to Rodrigues only for the period 01st to 15th April 2020.

2. Therefore, in order to alleviate the financial burden and maintain employment in the tourism sector, the Executive Council has exceptionally approved that the Rodrigues Regional Assembly provides wage assistance to tourism-related businesses to top up the payment of salary of their employees for the period 16th April to 30th April 2020.

3. However, the eligibility of a business to benefit from wage assistance is subject to the following conditions:

- The scheme is applicable to businesses in the private sector and with respect to their employees drawing a monthly basic wage of up to Rs 50,000.
- A business will be entitled only in respect of employees for whom it has been paying monthly NPS contributions. The quantum of assistance claimed will be based on the basic salary of the employees as normally declared by employers in their monthly NPS Contribution Returns.
- The funds obtained by the Business under the Government Scheme, has been used to pay the salaries of employees for the months of March and April 2020 **(Proof of MRA refund should be made available).**
- The Business has not laid off a single employee during the lockdown/curfew period.

The wage assistance would be applicable in respect of citizens of the Republic of Mauritius in full-time or part-time employment in tourism-related businesses in Rodrigues.

All businesses will have to fill in the Undertaking and Application Forms to confirm that they have complied with the above conditions in order to benefit from the wage assistance.

4. The Undertaking and Application Form is available at the Tourist Enterprise Licensing Unit, Central Administration, Port Mathurin (*Office Hours:- 08.00hrs to 15.15hrs*). Deadline for submission of the forms has been set for the 15th of May 2020.

Date: 30 April 2020