The Executive Council met at 09.00 hours this Friday 23 September 2016 under the chairmanship of the Chief Commissioner, Mr. Louis Serge CLAIR, G.C.S.K.

1. The Executive Council has taken note of the progress with regards to the submarine fibre optic cable project. The Executive Council has approved the Scope of Works and terms of reference for the enlistment of the services of a Transaction Advisor for the Build Operate and Transfer (BOT) for the submarine Fibre Optic Cable. To ensure a timely implementation of the project, a Steering Committee chaired by the Deputy Chief Commissioner has been set up to spearhead the implementation of the project.

2. The Executive Council has taken note of the precautionary measures taken in Rodrigues in the context of the salmonellosis outbreak in Mauritius. The following measures are being implemented:

   i. The disinfection of each egg and poultry container by the Mauritius Shipping Corporation before any shipment to and from Rodrigues;

   ii. Each consignment would be cleared by the Mauritius Revenue Authority and the Commission for Agriculture prior to delivery in Rodrigues;

   iii. All consignments of fruits and vegetables should be accompanied by a phytosanitary certificate and a Veterinary Health Certificate for poultry and eggs;

   iv. All suppliers of animal feed should produce a certificate that their products are salmonella free prior to sale in Rodrigues; and

   v. The setting up of an appropriate structure to conduct salmonella test in Rodrigues for counter-verification as and when required.
3. The Executive Council has taken note of the holding of the **Comité de Pilotage, Plateforme Entreprendre au Féminin Regional** (EFOI) in Rodrigues from 04 and 05 October 2016 at the Cotton Bay Hotel. During the COPIL Platform, there will be the passation of the Regional Presidency from Madagascar to Mauritius. In the same context, EFOI Rodrigues/Maurice is also organizing a “Salon Fam de Zil” on 1st October 2016 at the Caudan Waterfront, Mauritius to allow women entrepreneurs of the Indian Ocean Region to sell their products and market their services.

4. The Executive Council has taken note of the status of the Foot and Mouth Disease outbreak in Rodrigues. The number of cases reported as at 20 September 2016 is 2,095 and the vaccination campaign up to 21 September 2016 has reached a total of 21,901 animals.

5. The Executive Council has taken note that the Charity Shield Football match between the AS Port Louis 2000 and Pamplemousses Sc will be played on Saturday 24 September 2016 at the Camp du Roi Stadium. Entrance at the stadium will be free of charge but there will be a “plateau à la porte” where persons willing can make a cash donation. The money collected will be remitted to a charitable institution in Rodrigues.

6. The Executive Council has taken note of the number of tourist arrivals in Rodrigues for the month of August 2016. 6,572 tourists visited Rodrigues during the month as compared to 5,697 arrivals for the same period in the year 2015. Representing an increase of 15.36%.

7. The Executive Council has agreed that the Commission for Fisheries enlists the services of thirty-two Community Resource Observers for the South East Marine Protected Area.

8. The Executive Council has agreed that a delegation from Rodrigues participates in Les Florilèges 2016 in la Ville de Tampon, Reunion Island. A tourism event will be held from 06 to 16 October 2016.

9. The Executive Council has agreed that the Commission for Community Development assists the Rodrigues Council of Social Services and the **Plateforme des ONGs** in the organization of the 5th Edition of the **Salon des ONGs** in Port Mathurin from 06 to 08 October 2016. The salon will be a regional event with the participation NGOs from Mauritius, Madagascar, Seychelles and Rodrigues.

10. The Executive Council has taken note that a Working Committee has been instituted following the workshop held from 29 August to 1st September 2016 for the launching of the Women in Uniform Network in Rodrigues.
11. The Executive Council has taken note that the World Tourism Day 2016 is being celebrated on 27 September under the theme “Tourism for ALL – promoting universal accessibility”. The following activities are being organized in Rodrigues to mark the day:

(i) Traditional dance and music by two local groups in front of the office of Discovery Rodrigues Ltd. from 09.00 hours to 12.00 hours; and

(ii) A statement by the Commissioner for Tourism on the World Tourism Day and achievements in the tourism sector on 27 September at the Regional Assembly.

12. The Executive Council has taken note that the Ministry of Environment, Sustainable Development, Disaster and Beach Management is organizing a validation workshop of the Third National Communication (TNC) under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change in Rodrigues on 06 and 07 October 2016. The objectives of the workshop are:

(i) To present findings pertaining to Rodrigues in the Third National Communication; and

(ii) To discuss and validate the Chapter on Rodrigues in the TNC report.

13. The Executive Council has taken note that the presentation ceremony of certificates, start up and Prix Bourse in connection with the “Programme pour la Promotion de l’Entrepreneuriat Jeunesse” is being held on Saturday 24 September 2016 at the Family Integrated Centre at 10.00 hours.

Chief Commissioner’s Office
Port Mathurin;
Rodrigues

Date: 23 September 2016