MAIN DECISIONS

Executive Council Meeting–Friday 09 December 2022

The Executive Council met today under the chairmanship of the Acting Chief Commissioner, Mr. Franceau Aubrey GRANDCOURT, and has among its deliberations:

DECIDED

(i) That the Commission for Water Resources will carry out a bidding exercise for the construction of a concrete circular reservoir of 1000m$^3$ at Montagne Piquant instead of Mt Cherie. The existing reservoir thereat has a capacity of only 350m$^3$, which will not be sufficient to transfer the volume of water expected to come from the existing and the additional 3000m$^3$ to be produced by the new Desalination Plant to be installed at Pte Coton.

(ii) To approve that the Commission for Agriculture and Others allocates a subsidy of Rs 10 per kilo of feed to registered livestock farmers with a view to assist them to face the dearth of fodder caused by the severe drought, now prevailing in Rodrigues.

(iii) To approve in principle that the Deputy Chief Commissioner’s Office initiates action for the visit of Mr. Gianni CHIANETTA, the CEO of Global Solar Council to assist in the assessment of the sustainability of Rodrigues and to develop strategies to greening the destination through consultations with local stakeholders and tourism operators.
(iv) To approve that a financial support to the tune of Rs 31,751 be granted to Mr. Joseph Grajille FELICITE, the President of the Rodrigues Environment Friendly Group and focal point of the Mauritius United Nation Association (MUNA), to enable him to attend and participate in the Call of Time Dialogue to be held in Johannesburg, South Africa from the 26th to 29th of January 2023. The purpose of the forthcoming dialogues will focus on the notion of generating prosperity following the two (02) years of global pandemic and the increasing impacts of climate change.

(v) To review the modalities for the placement programme, being implemented by the Commission for Women’s Affairs and Others, for vulnerable women, victims of domestic violence and ex-inmates of the Foyer Marie Madeleine de la Croix in local enterprises.

TAKEN NOTE

(i) Of the proposals being considered by the Committee chaired by the Deputy Chief Commissioner to review and work out the modalities for the Supplementary School Feeding Project to provide hot meal to primary and secondary students as from the beginning of the academic year 2023.

(ii) That the Commission for Education and Vocational Training will organise a meeting with all Higher School Certificate (HSC) School leavers on Friday 16 December 2022 at 14.00 hours at La Residence to share the vision and mission of the Rodrigues Regional Assembly and to provide information on the different opportunities, available financial assistance and scholarships and job options so as to help them understand the job market to help them to choose their field of study.

(iii) Of the status of emergency measures put in place by Commission for Water Resources to alleviate the hardship being faced by the population due to severe water stress situation resulting from the persisting drought; namely through the award of a contract for the supply of 4000 reusable containers of 18.9 L each 18000 packs, each of 6x1.5 L of bottled water for distribution to beneficiaries of social aid; and the distribution of water by private lorry tankers.

(iv) That the Chief Commissioner’s Office (Commission Marine Parks) has awarded a contract for the construction of a new workshop and miscellaneous works at the SEMPA for the total sum of Rs2,428,000 (VAT exclusive).
(v) That a delegation from the UNDP led by Mr. Riad MEDDEB, Senior Principal Advisor SIDS, UNDP Headquarters and comprising Mr. Daniel OMODO-MCMONDO, Head Environment (a.i), Ms. Renooka BEEJAN, Head of the Socio-Economic Development Unit and Ms. Pamela BAPOO-DUNDU0, National Coordinator for the UNDP GEF Small Grants Programme, will be on mission in Rodrigues from 11th to 13th of December 2022.

(vi) That in the context of the Project “Setting Up of a Nature Reserve at Cascade Pigeon Phase II”, the Commission for Agriculture and Others has awarded contracts to five (5) local communities found around reserve for the restoration of 10 hectares of Forest at Cascade Pigeon, which hosts the first Golden Bats Roost. Invasive plants will be removed to free spaces for planting of 50 000 seedlings of endemic species in February 2023.

(vii) That approval has been obtained from the Ministry of Blue Economy, Marine Resources, Fisheries and Shipping for the extension of the Canotte Scheme to eligible registered Rodriguan Artisanal Fishers who will be provided with a grant representing 50% of the cost of a Canotte type fishing boat and engine up to a maximum of Rs 200,000 to encourage them to fish off-lagoon.

(viii) That the Commission for Agriculture and Others will proceed with the allocation of anti-bird nets to thirteen (13) successful applicants to protect their fruit plantation from damage caused by birds.

(ix) That the Commission for Agriculture and Others is initiating urgent arrangements to supply water to the farmers’ community in view to assisting to cope with the severe drought condition that is impacting their farming activities.

Chief Commissioner’s Office
Port Mathurin
Rodrigues

Date: 09 December 2022