PRESS RELEASE

The Executive Council met at 09.00 hours this Friday 14th June 2013 under the chairmanship of the Chief Commissioner, Mr. Louis Serge CLAIR, G.C.S.K. and has among its deliberations:

1. The Executive Council has taken note of developments in the implementation of the following projects which were announced in the last budget speech:

   (a) The contract for civil works in respect of the renovation of Synthetic Track at Camp du Roi Stadium has been awarded for the sum of Rs 6,600,770.

   (b) Bids for the construction of secondary school phase II at Terre Rouge College have been launched by the Central Procurement Board and the closing date is Thursday 18 July 2013.

   (c) Bids for the construction of Community School at Montagne Goyaves have been launched by the Central Procurement Board and the closing date is Thursday 18 July 2013.

   (d) Bids for the installation of four Reverse Osmosis Desalination Plants at Pointe Venus, Caverne Bouteille, Baie Malgache and Pointe Coton have been launched by the Central Procurement Board and the Closing Date is 8 August 2013

2. The Executive Council has agreed for the participation of a theatrical group in the Theatre Festival which will be held in July 2013 at Serge Constantin Theatre, Vacoas. The participation of “Theatre troupe de Rodrigues” will be an opportunity for them to stage the play “donn la zeness so sans” and have exchanges with Mauritian Actors and Theatre Directors.
3. The Executive Council has agreed that the Commission for Social Security refund travelling expenses (morning and afternoon) to the accompanying parent of children with disabilities requiring the help of their parents to accompany them to attend schools/day care centres in Rodrigues.

4. The Executive Council has agreed that approval be granted to the California State University Dominguez Hills to undertake caves research in Rodrigues. The research is aimed at reconstructing the past climate history (such as precipitation variability, droughts, ecology and temperature) through the state-of-the-art geochemical analysis of stalagmites.

5. The Executive Council has taken note of the plan for the capacity building of artists and the calendar of activities related to arts and culture which has been worked out in consultation with the “Conseil Culturel”.

6. The Executive Council has taken note that a delegation from the Ministry of Gender Equality, Family Welfare and Child Development will be on mission to Rodrigues from 21 to 29 June 2013 to draft a gender policy for Rodrigues. The aim of the gender policy is to tackle the increasing disparity between men and women and to have a framework that will strengthen initiatives to reduce gender inequality at all levels in the Rodriguan society.

7. The Executive Council has taken note that a Parental Education Programme is being implemented by the Commission for Family Welfare in collaboration with the “Action Familiale” for male employees on their site of work. The themes that will be covered during the intervention are parent-child relations, self-esteem, family budget and anatomy, physiology and family planning issues.

8. The Executive Council has taken note that the Day of African Child will be celebrated on 16 June. The theme chosen by the United Nations this year is “Ensemble pour des actions urgentes enfannts de rue” and for Rodrigues the theme is “Ki mo capav fer pou protez zenfan dan Rodrig”. The following activities will be organised to mark the day:

   (i) A radio intervention on Friday 14 June 2013 by representatives of the Commission for Child Development, Brigade des Mineurs, Action Catholique des Enfants (ACE), the Education Sector and the Comités des Droits de l’Enfant;

   (ii) Placing of banners in eight conspicuous locations around the island;

   (iii) A workshop for teachers on the Convention on Child Rights in mid August;
(iv) A “Concour d'affiche” in the form of drawings and slogan for children under the age of 13;

(v) An essay competition for children aged 14 to 15; and

(vi) An elocution contest for adults on what they are doing and can do to protect children.

9. The Executive Council has taken note of the actual situation concerning the labour dispute between employees and management of Pointe Venus and Les Cocotiers Hotel.

10. The Executive Council has taken note of the status of the implementation of the Social Register Mauritius Child Allowance Scheme in Rodrigues. Visits are being carried out to ascertain genuineness of claim from applicants and are expected to be completed by the end of June 2013.

11. The Executive Council has taken note of the increase in number of tourist’s arrival for the months of April and May 2013 compared to the same period in 2012. 4,874 tourists visited Rodrigues in April as compared to 4,768 for the same month in 2012 and 3,797 visited the Island in the month of May as compared to 3,655 for the same period last year.

12. The Executive Council has taken note that Honourable M. SIK YUEN, Minister of Tourism and Leisure and delegation will be on mission to Rodrigues from 21 to 23 June 2013.

13. The Executive Council has taken note that the International Organisation for Migration (IOM) (Mauritius) will carry out a sensitization session for planters and agro-processors on Monday 17 June 2013 at the Leisure and Cultural Centre, Mont Plaisir. The sensitization session is in line with the proposal to offer training opportunities to planters and agro-processors in agro-industry to undergo training at an international training centre in Italy in the month of October 2013.

Central Administration
Port Mathurin
RODRIGUES.

Date: 14 June 2013