PRESS RELEASE

The Executive Council met at 10.00 hours this Friday 15 July 2011 under the chairmanship of the Chief Commissioner, Mr. G. JABEEMISSAR, G.O.S.K. and has, among its deliberations:

DECIDED:

(i) to approve the payment of extra course fees to the tune of US $ 3000 (Rs90,000) to the SSR Medical College in favour of Miss RAVINA with a view to enabling her to attend some extra six months courses before sitting for University examinations in November 2011.

(ii) to approve the participation of young players of 11-13 years at the following football tournaments:

(a) Trophée International de football de Port Louis, Mauritius from 14 to 16 August 2011.

(b) Tournoi U15 de la ville de Saint Pierre, Reunion, Island from 1 to 2 October 2011.

The objective of this football tournament is to discover the talents of the young footballers among the best team of the Indian Ocean in festive and convivial conditions whereby the fair-play’s will be combined with success.
TAKEN NOTE:

(i) that in the context of Voluntary Relinquishment of Fisherman Registration Cards, the Chief Commissioner and Commissioner for Fisheries will meet the 329 applicants at Mont Plaisir Leisure Centre on Thursday 21 July at 13:00 to advise them of the modalities concerning the procedures and options available to them. A Representative of the National Empowerment Foundation will be present.

(ii) the outcome of mission of the Chief Commissioner Mr. JABEEMISSAR, G.O.S.K. in Mauritius from 5-10 July 2011.

(a) The Chief Commissioner chaired the Steering Committee meeting on the feasibility study on the airport runway project. The consultant presented the various options available for the runway extension project.

**Option Zero** - The airport continues to operate as it is now

**Option One** - Extend current runway with 50m by an EMAS on the existing runway (results in 1340m runway) and extend apron

**Option Two** - Extend runway by means of stilts resulting in a 30m wide / 1800m long runway capable of receiving A319 aircraft serving short distance routes (Mauritius, Reunion)

**Option Three** - Extend runway by means of stilts resulting in a 45m wide/2000m long runway capable of receiving A319 aircraft serving regional routes (South Africa)

**Option Four** - New runway, 45m wide, 2000m long with possibility to extend to 3000m.

(b) The Chief Commissioner had a working session with members of the European Delegation and representatives of the Ministry of Finance and Economic Development. The proposed sensitisation Campaigns to inform the population of the new opportunities for available to Non State actors following the decision of the EU to provide additional support to the Government of Mauritius as the mid-term review of the 10th EDF Programme were discussed.
**TAKEN NOTE:**

(c) The Chief Commissioner had a working session with representatives of the Ministry of Finance and Economic Development on the incoming Annual Business Plan meeting scheduled for Wednesday 21 July 2011. The Rodrigues Regional Assembly will make proposals in the partner’s meeting as planned in the agenda of the meeting.

(d) The Chief Commissioner had a working session with the Director of the NPCC, Dr. K. Coonjan whereby areas of cooperation in the field of support for the development of agricultural production, tourism development and Youth, Parenting and Education development was discussed.

(iii) that Honourable Rajesh JEETAH, Minister of Tertiary Education, Science, Research and Technology will be in Rodrigues for the 1st Edition of Rodrigues Science Challenge 2011 and the 2nd Edition of “La Caravanne de la Science” in Rodrigues on Saturday 16 July 2011 at 10.30 hours at the Regional Cultural Leisure Centre, Mont Plaisir. The said event is being organised by the Commission for Education in collaboration with Ministry of Tertiary Education, Science, Research and Technology and the Rajiv Gandhi Science Centre.

(iv) that the Commission for Education organised the annual Inter Primary Athletic Day on Thursday 14 July 2011 as from 9:30 a.m at Camp du Roi Stadium. The following sports events were carried out, namely 80 m, 60 m, Long Jump, High Jump, Relay 4 x 60m, Relay 4 x 80m, Bottle Throw, 600m, 1000m, 1200m and Tug of War.

(v) the outcome of the 2nd Regional Workshop on Gender Based Violence headed by the Deputy Chief Commissioner and Commissioner for Women’s Affairs from 6-8 July 2011 at St. Denis, Reunion Island. Rodrigues made the recommendation that “Une Observatoire” be set up to collect data of each Indian Ocean Country and for the publication of an annual report on the status of violence in the Indian Ocean.
TAKEN NOTE:

(vi) that Miss Atimine FELICITE and Mrs. Ludmie ALLAS will participate in the Women in Politics Congress to be held in Mauritius on Sunday 17 July 2011. The objective of this Congress is for the stakeholders to learn from the actions carried out in Mauritius to increase women’s participation in Politics.

(vii) the outcome of the mission of Mr. Christian AGATHE, Commissioner for ICT in Mauritius from 8-10 July 2011. During the mission, the Commissioner met key stakeholders to discuss on the possibility of enhancing ICT in Rodrigues in line with the Sustainable Integrated Development Plan. It was agreed that the ICT authority in Mauritius will prepare a preliminary assessment of the ICT landscape in Rodrigues and will implement the first phase of the ICT Enhancement Plan in Rodrigues by October 2011.

(viii) that the Commission for Agriculture has negotiated with the Sugar Planters Mechanical Pool Cooperation for the provision of a “caterpillar” for a period of one year to assist in the mechanisation of agricultural land in Rodrigues.

(ix) that the Honourable S. SOODHUN, Minister of Industry and Co-operatives was on mission to Rodrigues from 13-14 July 2011 in the context of activities marking the International Co-operatives Day 2011. The Minister of Cooperatives participated in activities such as handing over of certificate on Thursday 14 July 2011 at the Cultural Leisure Centre, Mt Plaisir as from 9:30 hours as well as meeting with the Co-operatives des Pecheurs at Pointe Monier followed by a site visit at the “Maison des Elevieurs et Agriculteurs” at Citronelle and the Fair Price Shop at St. Gabriel.

Central Administration
Chief Commissioner’s Office
Port Mathurin
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Date: 15 July 2011