PRESS RELEASE

The Executive Council met at 10.00 hours this Friday 21 October 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 construction of an access road towards the new shelter at Baladirou for an estimated cost of about Rs 1,880,370.36. The access road will consist of the construction of a road of about 100 m as from the main road and it will be 6 m wide made up of bituminous concrete. There will be also a shallow drain and a low masonry edge.

The construction of the new shelter at Baladirou is nearly completed and arrangement has been made for the purchase of equipment and furniture. The inauguration of the new shelter for children and women is scheduled for November 2011.

(ii) to approve the cancellation of reservation letter in favour of White Ocean Resorts Ltd for a plot of state land at Graviers as at date, the promoter has not yet fulfilled many of the conditions of the reservation letter, i.e. the submission of three preliminary sets of developments plans, a detailed project write up and the EIA licence. It is to be noted that this project has not received the Forestry Services recommendation the release of the site for it is 80% under tree cover.

(iii) to approve the erection of a monument in honour of all Rodriguan who served at the war and who died at the battlefield in the premises of the Quarters allocated to Shoals, Rodrigues at Pte Canon on the occasion of the Remembrance Day 2011 which be held on 13 November. A Parade will be organised on the same day as from 10.30 hours followed by a lunch at La Residence.
TAKEN NOTE:

(i) that a contract for consultancy services has been awarded to monitor the construction of five fishing boats being funded under the IFAD/MARS Programme. It is proposed that a delegation comprising two persons from each group including their skippers will proceed to Mauritius to attend the “Mise à l’eau” of the boats and possibly make the journey to Rodrigues on their respective boats and familiarize themselves with the operation of the vessel.

(ii) that the Commission for Health has organised a Sensitization Campaign on Breast Cancer during the month of October as from 18 October 2011 which has been proclaimed Breast Cancer Awareness Month by major organisations that fight against cancer with a view to increase awareness of the disease and to raise funds for research into its cause, prevention, diagnosis, treatment and cure.

(iii) that the Commission for Co-operative in collaboration with the Co-operative Societies is organising a Co-operatives Fair from 27 to 29 October, 2011 under the Grand Chapiteau at Port Mathurin in the context of the Co-operative fortnight which is usually celebrated in Mauritius in October each year.

The aim of the fair is to give the opportunity to Co-operative Societies in Rodrigues to promote their activities and market their products to the public. Around twenty (20) Cooperative Societies from different Sectors namely Agro Food Processing, Livestock, Agricultural, handicraft and consumers will participate in the fair.

(iv) that the Commission for Health in collaboration with the Ministry of Health and Quality of Life has organised a one-day workshop for all Stakeholders involved in the Health Sector on Thursday 20 October, 2011 at Pointe Venus Hotel as from 09.30 hrs. It is to be noted that the Ministry of Health and Quality of Life is presently finalising the formulation of the Health Sector Strategy for the period 2012 - 2016 which will include coherent strategies for further development of the National Health Sector including that of Rodrigues.
TAKEN NOTE:

(v) that following the Commission of Health requested for the Project AIRIS/COI to carry out a Rapid Assessment of the situation in Rodrigues approval has been conveyed for the Project Support to the Regional Initiative of HIV/AIDS/STI Prevention (AIRIS)/the Indian Ocean Commission (COI) will finance a Rapid Situation Assessment concerning the abuse of drugs including alcohol and tobacco in Rodrigues. The study is expected to be completed in December this year and thereafter, an Action Plan will be worked out to fight against drug abuse in Rodrigues.

(vi) that a delegation of the Ministry of Health and Quality of Life will visit Rodrigues from 23 to 29 October 2011 in the context of the Rodrigues Diabetes Surveillance Project 2010. For recall the Ministry of Health and Quality of Life in collaboration with Baker IDI Heart and Diabetes Institute has conducted a Diabetes Surveillance Project in Rodrigues in May/June 2010. During the mission, the team will among others:-

(a) fine tune the surveillance data;
(b) carry out adjudication exercise;
(c) do preliminary report writing for the Diabetes surveillance programme; and
(d) revisit of participants where necessary.

Central Administration
Chief Commissioner’s Office
Port Mathurin
Rodrigues

Date: 21 October 2011