PRESS RELEASE

The Executive Council met at 10.00 hours this Friday 25 March 2011 under the chairmanship of the Chief Commissioner, Mr. G. JABEEMISSAR, G.O.S.K. and has, among its deliberations:

DECIDED:

to approve that the Rodrigues Regional Assembly (Fisheries and Marine Resources South East Marine Protected Areas) Regulations 2011 be pass at the next sitting of the Rodrigues Regional Assembly. The Rodrigues Regional Assembly (Fisheries and Marine Resources – South East Marine Protected Areas) Regulations 2011 essentially sets out the provisions amongst others to:-

(a) provide for the establishment of three broad sub-zoning of the SEMPA for management purposes viz; a Multi-use zones, Seasonally closed multiple-use zones and Conservation zones;

(b) give statutory recognition of such permissible activities that shall be allowed in the respective zones and provides the introduction of a SEMPA card in view to exercising an intrinsic control over the marine park; and

(c) define activities that shall not be allowed with the SEMPA as a whole.

TAKEN NOTE:

(i) that the Commission for State Land has set up proper mechanism and provide the necessary resources with a view to provide Fast Tract processing of State Land Leases for cases of Trust Fund and other cases with a view to clear the existing backlog of Residential/Commercial Leases.
TAKEN NOTE:

(ii) that in view of promoting tertiary education in Rodrigues, the Chief Commissioner and Commissioner for Education will sign a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the Tertiary Education Commission (TEC). The objective of this MoU is in line with the Central Government programme 2010-2015 to:-

(a) further invest in tertiary education through the physical expansion of existing institutions and the setting up of new “Campus Universitaires” in different parts of Mauritius;

(b) strive to achieve the objective of one graduate per family;

(c) develop a skilled, versatile and competent work force and to promote social mobility; and

(d) promote research and intellectual property development.

(iii) that a Graduation Ceremony will be carried out by the Commission for Education and Training for students having followed a Diploma in Software Engineering on Monday 28 March 2011 at 13 00 hours at the Human Resource Centre, Malabar. The Diploma Software Engineering has as objective to impart necessary training and technical knowledge in various aspects of Information Systems Development so as to prepare a skilled workforce of qualified technicians for the IT sector in Rodrigues.

(iv) that in the context of the World Book Day Celebrations 2011, the Ministry of Arts and Culture, the National Library and the Deputy Chief Commissioner’s Office will organise a Book Festival from 31 March to 02 April 2011 under the Chapiteau at Port Mathurin. The aim of this initiative is to promote a reading culture among the people of Rodrigues, particularly the student population. UNESCO has proclaimed 23 April as the “World Book and Copyright Day”.

(v) that the Deputy Chief Commissioner’s office will organise the following activities to mark the World Theatre Day which will be celebrated on Sunday 27 March 2011:-

(a) a reflection on “Theatre in Rodrigues” at the Cultural and Leisure Centre, Mon Plaisir as from 09.30 hrs with stakeholders; and

(b) at 13.00 hrs, reporters of the reflection will present the resolutions officially and a drama festival will then follow with the participation of Dark Crystal, Jean Pierre Soussigne, Brunedanielle Leopold Rosange André and Pavillon Drama Club.
TAKEN NOTE:

(vi) that the Commission for Public Infrastructure has awarded the contract for the Construction of a Box Culvert at Champs. The scope of works will consist of demolition works, construction of box culvert, erection of handrails, construction of masonry walls, construction of ramps and construction of track roads.

(vii) that the Commission for Public Infrastructure has awarded a contract for the Maintenance, Upgrading and Construction of Roads in Rodrigues for year 2011 to Colas (Maurice) Ltée for the total sum of Rs 120,249,405.00, inclusive of VAT. The scope of this contract consists mainly of the maintenance and upgrading of existing roads and construction of new roads in the island and works will be carried out through the issue of Works Order to the Contractor on an “as and when” required basis.

(viii) of the outcome of the recent mission of Mr. J.D.SPEVILLE, Commissioner for Water Resources in Mauritius during the period 15 to 18 March 2011. A meeting was held with Dr. the Honourable A.R. BEEBEEJAUN, G.C.S.K, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Renewable Energy and Public Utilities during which it was agreed that the services of an Engineer will be provided to Rodrigues for a period of 1–2 months and Mr. Loic GIORGI, Consultant in Geology will visit Rodrigues in the month of August to draw up an “etat des lieux” of all boreholes in Rodrigues.

Central Administration
Chief Commissioner’s Office
Port Mathurin
Rodrigues

Date: 25 March 2011