PRESS RELEASE

The Executive Council met at 10.00 hours this Friday 28 October 2011 under the chairmanship of the Chief Commissioner, Mr. G. JABEEMISSAR, G.O.S.K. and has, among its deliberations:

DECIDED:

(i) that the Executive Council hold a press conference to state the official position of the Rodrigues Regional Assembly with regards to sections 10-13 of the proposed Local Government Bill 2011.

The Executive Council is of view that as per Section 75 (E) of the constitution, which relates to the Rodrigues Regional Assembly, any law giving effect to Chapter VI A (Rodrigues Regional Assembly Act) and to matters incidental thereto shall not be altered without the concurrence of the Rodrigues Regional Assembly.

The Executive Council of the Rodrigues Regional Assembly stands by its position communicated to the Central Government through the Minister of Fisheries and Rodrigues via a letter dated 01 July 2011 that any setting up or change of status for Port Mathurin and other villages in Rodrigues as per Local Government Bill 2011 rests with the Rodrigues Regional Assembly.

The Executive Council is of view that Sections 10-13 of the proposed Local Government Bill 2011 are part of a law which needs the concurrence of the Rodrigues Regional Assembly or a majority of two thirds in the National Assembly, failing which it would be unconstitutional.

(ii) to approve that the Commission for Public Infrastructure proceeds with the construction of track roads in each of the local regions on a self-help basis.
DECIDED:

(iii) to approve the construction of a concrete access at Papayes Basketball pitch which is presently under construction by COLAS (Mauritius) Ltd in view to enhance the aesthetic infrastructure of the site and good access especially during rainfall. The scope of the works will thus consist of the following:-

(a) Excavation works;
(b) Fill with materials for excavation;
(c) Formwork;
(d) Concrete and masonry works;
(e) Construction of drains; and
(f) Construction of a concrete access.

TAKEN NOTE:

(i) the mission report of the Chief Commissioner from 13-17 October 2011 in Mauritius. He had working sessions with several personalities namely Hon. V. Bunwaree, Minister of Education and Human Resources, the Minister of Fisheries and Rodrigues and delegation of Australian High Commission concerning the issue of award of Scholarships to Rodrigues under the Australian Development Scholarship Scheme. In addition the Chief Commissioner had a working session with Akademi Kreol Morisien.

(ii) the proposal for the setting up of a Cyber Village in Rodrigues following the report of further development on the framework for ICT development. In this connection the laying of a foundation stone will be carried out at Papayes which will serve as a basis for BPO type of activities being given the proximity of the site with the WIFI Zone at Marechal.
TAKEN NOTE:

(iii) that a plot of land at Citadelle Rodrigues will be granted to “Association Femme Entrepreneur de Citadelle” for the implementation of their project to establish 80 bee hives. The said association project has been approved through the Special Collaborative Programme for Support to Women and Children in Distress of the Ministry of Gender Equality, Child Development and Family Welfare.

These Women will be trained with the technique to work with bees with the production of honey on a large scale. The honey will be sold on the local market and in Mauritius and the said activities will increase the monthly income of these women.

(iv) of the outcome of the recent mission of the Commissioner of Youth and Sports to Reunion Island in the context of the participation of a Rodriguan delegation in the tournoi de St Pierre under 15. Several avenues of cooperation in the field of sports were discussed among which discussion with the President of “La Ligue Reunionaise de Football” of the possibility of taking charge young Rodriguan football players during immersion stage in Reunion Island with the possibility to undergo test match in Europe. In addition the possibility that a delegation from Rodrigues participates in the tournament for young aged less than 18 years old in April next year was also discussed and agreed.

Central Administration
Chief Commissioner’s Office
Port Mathurin
Rodrigues

Date: 28 October 2011