

MEETING IN THE CONTEXT OF THE
ALL AFRICA PUBLIC SECTOR INNOVATION AWARDS 2010
THURSDAY 01 JULY 2010

Address by Hon Ashit Kumar Gungah,
Minister of Civil Service and Administrative Reforms

Ms Radebe, Chief Executive Officer and
Mr Schoonraad, Head of Research and Development
from the Centre for Public Service Innovation of the
Republic of South Africa

Mrs Oree, Acting Permanent Secretary

Representatives of Ministries/Departments

Ladies and Gentlemen

It gives me great pleasure to be in your midst this morning to officially open this meeting which has been convened to share and exchange information on the 2010 edition of the All Africa Public Sector Innovation Awards (AAPSIA).

Allow me first of all to welcome Ms Thuli Radebe, Chief Executive Officer and Mr Pierre Schoonraad, Head of Research and Development from the Centre for Public Service Innovation (CPSI) of the Republic of South Africa, who have come to Mauritius to promote the AAPSIA 2010.

AAPSIA is a continental-wide awards initiative of the Pan-African Conference of Ministers of Civil Service, which not only promote and encourage innovative practices in the public sector for improved service delivery but also encourage regional cross-sector collaboration towards enhancing good governance on the African Continent.

Mauritius as a firm believer and a keen player in international cooperation has spared no effort to promote regional and international cooperation. We always collaborate with organizations like the African Union, SADC and COMESA and friendly countries in sharing innovative and best practices.

It is in this context that, Mauritius, through my Ministry, took the lead as Champion of the first edition of the AAPSIA where we actively participated amongst others, in the conception and marketing of this initiative.

Ladies and Gentlemen

The Civil Service has a crucial role to play in the developmental process of a nation and it is the key to establishing an enabling environment for the private sector and civil society to flourish and prosper.

AAPSIA recognizes successful and effective service delivery projects and initiatives that have been achieved through the application of innovative approaches, methodologies and tools. AAPSIA also provide opportunities for information sharing, lesson learning, partnerships and the possible replication of successful initiatives across the African Continent.

The first edition of the awards attracted 59 entries from 10 countries across the African continent, including Mauritius.

You will be pleased to note that the Biodiversity Unit of the Mauritius Forestry Service obtained the 1st Runner-Up Award in the first edition of the AAPSIA in the category *Innovations in Systems and Processes of Governance* for its project on ‘Environmental Education and Public Awareness’.

This is a source of Inspiration for other participating organisations from Mauritius.

My Ministry has already, through a circular letter invited all Ministries/Departments to participate in this current edition of AAPSIA.

I therefore take this opportunity to reiterate my wish for wide participation in this initiative.

I thank the representatives of the different Ministries/Departments present here today and I am sure, participating in such an initiative will

surely bring about a sharper focus in your quest for quality and excellence.

Madam,

As I said earlier, Mauritius has always been a collaborator and it is indeed a great pleasure for me to respond positively to the request of your Minister Hon. Richard Baloyi.

Kindly convey to your Minister the assurances of our highest consideration.

I thank you for your attention.

30 June 2010

Administrative Reforms Division
Ministry of Civil Service and Administrative Reforms