



RODRIGUES REGIONAL ASSEMBLY

Executive Council

PRESS RELEASE

The Executive Council met at 10.00 hours this Friday 16 July 2010 under the chairmanship of the Chief Commissioner, Mr. J. ROUSSETY, G.O.S.K and has, among its deliberations:

DECIDED:

- (i) To set up six Integrated Regional Offices (IRO) in the six local regions of Rodrigues in order to decentralize services of the Rodrigues Regional Assembly and to ensure proper running and maintenance of all public infrastructures throughout the island as well as to carry out enforcement duties more effectively. The main objectives and roles of the IRO offices, which will be under the general direction of a Commissioner and headed by a Departmental Head and a team of public officers, shall be:
 - a) To enforce existing laws and regulations related to forests, lands, agriculture, water resources, etc;
 - b) To act as a watchdog of the RRA with regards to land use and town and country planning and to report on any illegal occupation/ practice;
 - c) To sensitize the population and stakeholders on sustainable land use and development practices;
 - d) To build and maintain public buildings and other infrastructure in the local region such as drains, roadsides, traffic signs, street lighting, etc in the region;
 - e) To maintain forest zones, re-afforest bare state lands and maintain a regional nursery; and
 - f) To keep records and provide data and keep registers of information on specific aspects in the region e.g. no of farmers, households, government buildings, etc.

DECIDED:

- (ii) to approve the increase of the share capital of the Rodrigues Housing Property Development Company Ltd, a company wholly owned by the RRA, from Rs 1 million to Rs 3 million to enable the company to proceed with the implementation of the social housing programme of the Rodrigues Regional Assembly.

TAKEN NOTE:

- (i) of the progress achieved in the project of the construction of a Specialised Medical Care Unit at the Queen Elizabeth Hospital. An Implementation Committee has been set up under the chairmanship of Mr A.L. EMILIEN, Commissioner for Health, and the committee is in the process of preparing the specifications and designs of the Specialised Medical Care Unit as well as the Master Plan with the assistance of the consultancy firm Servansingh Jadav and Partners Ltd. The Specialised Medical Care Unit will include a modern and full fledged Operation Theatre Complex, a Recovery Room, a Surgical Ward including surgical and orthopaedics, a High Dependency Ward that can cater for up to 6 patients, a fully equipped SAMU Unit, a modern INTENSIVE CARE UNIT that can accommodate 10 patients including infants from Neonatal and paediatric cases and a Tele-Medecine Department.
- (ii) that the Commission for Social Security, Women's Affairs, Child Development and Family Welfare has awarded the tender for the supply of sportswear to Solem Sportswear Co Ltd (SIGMA) for the sum of Rs 285,469 (including VAT) in the context of the Women Athletic Day 2010 which will be held on Sunday 8th August 2010.
- (iii) that the Commission for Agriculture has awarded the contract for the provision of labour for the fencing of the Citronelle Agricultural Services compound, which is not properly secured and which has been the subject of various cases of losses of equipment, to Mr. Jacques SPEVILLE for the sum of Rs 484,150 (including VAT).
- (iv) of the progress achieved in the project of the construction of rainwater harvesting structures on a pilot basis at fifty sites all over the island by the Commission for Water Resources.

TAKEN NOTE:

- (v) that following the Fourth Meeting of Ministers of Gender and Women Affairs of the COMESA region held in May 2010, the COMESA Secretariat is implementing the "COMESA Regional Agriculture Input Programme" (COMRAP) and the "COMESA Conservation Agriculture Programme" to promote the economic empowerment of women through trade and private sector participation by increasing the participation of female farmers in the agri-business sector. In this connection, Mr. Ian KUMWENDA, COMESA Secretary, Ms. Maria PHIRI of the Gender Division of COMESA, and Ms. Anjalee DABEE, Adviser on Gender Issues at the Ministry of Gender Equality, Child Development and Family Welfare are on mission in Rodrigues from 15 to 17 July 2010 to hold working sessions with key stakeholders.
- (vi) of the outcome of the mission to Mauritius of Mrs. M.T. CLAIR-BRAULT, Commissioner for Social Security, Women's Affairs, Child Development and Family Welfare from 30 June to 1 July where she attended a workshop on "L'Empowerment des Femmes Politique de L'Ocean Indien" and the mission in Reunion Island from 6 to 8 July 2010 where she attended the "5^{ème} Rencontre des Femmes Entrepreneurs de L'Ocean Indien".

Central Administration Office
Port Mathurin
RODRIGUES

Date: 16 July 2010