



RODRIGUES REGIONAL ASSEMBLY

Executive Council

PRESS RELEASE

The Executive Council met at 10.00 hours this Friday 9 September 2011 under the chairmanship of the Chief Commissioner, Mr. Gaetan JABEEMISSAR, G.O.S.K. and has, among its deliberations:

DECIDED:-

to approve that after consultation with major stakeholders and after duly considering all the opinions and what is best to take maximum advantage of the tourism potential and future socio-economic development of the island, i.e the *option of the construction of a runway on a new heading with an initial length of 2000m with possibility of future extension to an operational length of +3000m* as initially recommended by ADP Ltée be retained. This option is also being favoured by the AML Ltd who has a wide experience with the infrastructure at Sir Seewoosagur Ramgoolam (SSR) International Airport, Plaisance and the Department of Civil Aviation as the future tourism potential of Rodrigues will be met as well as the development beyond 2030.

The Central Government through the Ministry for Fisheries and Rodrigues will be informed of this decision as well as the consultant who will start the next step of the consultancy services, that is, the preparation of the implementation schedule and the other bid tender documents as stipulated in the contract agreement.

TAKEN NOTE :-

- (i) that the launching of the South East Marine Protected Area (SEMPA) will be effected on Monday 12 September 2011 in the presence of the UNDP Resident Representative. The SEMPA has been set up in the context of the "Partnerships for Marine Protected Areas in Mauritius and Rodrigues" Project to address the problems of ecosystem degradation and loss of biodiversity within the lagoon as a result of overexploitation of the lagoon.

- (ii) that the Commission for Education organised a half day activity on Thursday 8 September 2011 as from 1300 hrs at the Regional Cultural and Leisure Centre of Mont Plaisir in the context of the International Literacy Day. The main objective of the Commission for Education is to combat illiteracy in view of fighting against poverty and social exclusion of the vulnerable groups. The following activities were carried out:-
 - (a) a presentation on the theme of literacy by the Director of centre Carrefour;
 - (b) handing over of certificates of attendance to the second batch of trainees of the Adult Literacy and Numeracy Project;
 - (c) a film projection on the evaluation of the Adult Literacy and Numeracy Project; and
 - (d) a slam presentation, song and dance by trainers of the literacy and numeracy project.

- (iii) the Chief Commissioner's office in collaboration with the Small and Medium Enterprises Development Authority (SMEDA) have sent some 29 enterprises from Rodrigues to participate in the Salon des PME 2011 organised at the Swami Vivekananda International Conventional Centre, Pailles, Mauritius from 1st to 4th September 2011. The Salon is an annual event offering the opportunity to SMEs to promote their visibility, market test their products and obtain new orders or contracts.

TAKEN NOTE :-

- (iv) that the Commission for Public Infrastructure and Land Transport has issued a short term Road Service Licence to three Public Service Vehicle (contract bus) which will provide school services from Mt. Charlot and Mt. Fanal to Basile Allas Government School. The licence will be renewed on a monthly basis to operate buses from Port Mathurin Traffic Centre to Mt. Charlot via Camp du Roi and Mt. Fanal. The decision was taken following various complaints received from the inhabitants of Mt. Charlot and Mt. Fanal that students in their localities have to walk to attend school and back.
- (v) that the Commission for Fire Services has awarded a contract for the Supply and Delivery of protective equipment for the staff of the Fire Services with a view to ensure the safety and Security of Fire Fighters during rescue and fire fighting operations.
- (vi) of activities to be organised by the Commission for Health and the Commission for Public Infrastructure in collaboration with the Rodrigues Befrienders Association on the occasion of the World Suicide Prevention Day on 10 September, 2011 from 17h30 to 20h45 around the theme "Ensam a nou combat suicide dans la Societé Rodriguaise". Thereafter, the new office of Rodrigues BeFriends Association will be inaugurated followed by a Film Presentation "cozé mo écouté". The aim of the World Suicide Prevention Day is to promote worldwide commitment and action to prevent suicides.
- (vii) of the outcome of the mission effected by the members of the Rodrigues Commission for Conciliation and Mediation (RCCM) in Mauritius from 29 August to 1st September 2011. The objectives of the mission were mainly to have working sessions with key stakeholders in Mauritius so as to be more acquainted with the system of reconciliation and Mediation in dispute resolution at place of works and thus to consolidate and optimize the function of the RCCM.

TAKEN NOTE :-

- (viii) that Mr. Vivian GUNGARAM, Administrative Secretary of the Mauritius Athletics Association was on mission to Rodrigues on Saturday 03 September 2011 with a view to enlighten the Commission for Sports on technical matters pertaining to the renovation of the synthetic track and also to define the scope of work.
- (ix) The outcome of the mission of the Commissioner for youth and Sports, Mr. AGATHE Jean Christian in Mauritius from 28 to 31 August 2011. During the visit in Mauritius the Commissioner had meetings with Dr. the Hon Arvin BOOLELL, G.O.S.K, Minister of Foreign Affairs, Regional Integration and International Trade for the possibility of financing SEGANET Project from donor agencies in the Indian Ocean with extension to Rodrigues. In addition he had working session with the Ambassador H. E. Mr. Alexandro MARIANI and supporting staffs.
- (x) that the Commission for State Land has approved the grant of a plot of state land of the extent of 3 ha 2750 m² (7A74) to the Tertiary Education Commission (TEC) for the setting up of a "Campus Universitaire" in Rodrigues.
- (xi) that the Commission for Agriculture will celebrate the 16th World Food Day 2011 through the organization of a fair at Port Mathurin, Millenium Square from 14-16 October 2011. The theme set by the Food and Agricultural Organisation (FAO) of the United Nations is "Food Prices: from Crisis to Stability". The following activities will be run during the fair, namely sale of local agricultural products, agricultural inputs, livestock products and forestry plants. Partners from Reunion Island and Mauritius will be invited to participate in the fair as in previous years.

Date: 9 September 2011

Central Administration Office
Port Mathurin
RODRIGUES