Press Communiqué: Repatriation of Mauritian Students from Wuhan

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Regional Integration and International Trade continues to monitor closely the situation in the People’s Republic of China regarding the spread of the Novel Coronavirus, in particular, the state of play in the city of Wuhan after its complete lockdown for sanitary reasons.

The Minister of Foreign Affairs, Regional Integration and International Trade, the Minister of Health and Wellness, the Ambassador of China in Mauritius, the Ambassador of Mauritius in China, the representatives of the World Health Organisation (WHO), of Air Mauritius and of the Mauritius Tourism Promotion Authority held a meeting anew this afternoon to agree on actions to be taken by all stakeholders.

Regarding the Mauritian students in Wuhan, the Embassy of Mauritius in Beijing is in close contact with each of them to ascertain their wellness and living conditions. The Ministry has received several reports today indicating that all students are in good health and have adequate food and water supplies.

The Ministry has also requested a number of friendly countries including Australia, France, India, the United Kingdom and the United States of America to look into the possibilities of assistance for repatriating the Mauritian students in Wuhan.

The request is under active consideration by the French authorities, with whom the Ministry has been liaising since Monday 27 January 2020.

A list of students requesting to return to Mauritius has been established to facilitate the démarche of the Ministry. The Ministry is also in contact with the Chinese authorities who are providing all logistical support to facilitate the process.

A further communiqué will be issued as the situation unfolds.

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