



REPUBLIC OF MAURITIUS

**MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS, REGIONAL INTEGRATION AND  
INTERNATIONAL TRADE**



**ANNUAL REPORT ON PERFORMANCE  
FINANCIAL YEAR 2024-2025**

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## Statement of the Honourable Minister

It is an honour to present the Annual Report of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Regional Integration and International Trade for the Financial Year ending June 2025.



Over the period under review, our foreign policy at the bilateral, regional and multilateral levels was pursued with vigour and determination. As from 2025, the Government Programme 2025-2029, “A Bridge to the Future” has further guided a more focussed approach to our diplomacy.

The Ministry continued to serve as the principal interface between the Republic of Mauritius and the international community with our diplomatic service empowered to ensure that Mauritius remains a proactive and credible voice on the global stage. Our engagements with international partners have focused on accelerating the country’s economic transformation through investment, innovation, and enhanced international cooperation.

During the reporting period, several high-level visits and engagements were undertaken, most notably the State Visit of Shri Narendra Modi, Prime Minister of India, on the occasion of the 57th Anniversary of Independence and the 33rd Anniversary of the Republic. These interactions contributed to further strengthening of diplomatic relations and the advancement of cooperation across priority sectors. They also facilitated the signing of cooperation instruments and the implementation of mutually beneficial initiatives.

In a move to deepen international engagement, bilateral cooperation frameworks with our traditional partners were substantially reinforced. This strengthening was driven by the successful conclusion and implementation of various strategic agreements and comprehensive support programmes designed to enhance mutual interests.

As part of ongoing cooperation efforts, new support was secured to advance development projects, including the grant of 1 billion Japanese Yen for the acquisition of a tugboat, under the Economic and Social Development Programme (ESDP).

Mauritius also took steps to ease travel arrangements with partner countries, helping to promote closer exchanges between Peoples. The Ministry and our Missions abroad continued to extend consular facilities to our citizens in Mauritius and abroad.

Mauritius demonstrated its commitment to global engagement by participating in Osaka-Kansai Expo 2025. This major international event served as an important and strategic platform to powerfully project our unique identity as a Large Ocean State, significantly enhance our international visibility across key regions, and open valuable new avenues for expanded trade, investment, and international partnership.

Following the landmark agreement on the exercise of our sovereignty over the Chagos Archipelago in May 2025, Mauritius and the United Kingdom agreed to a new Strategic Partnership Framework for enhanced cooperation between the two countries.

Our economic diplomacy continued to play a pivotal role in promoting Mauritius as a reliable investment hub and development partner. A major milestone was the organisation of the First Mauritius–EU Partnership Dialogue held on 10 April 2025 under the Samoa Agreement. This Dialogue deepened collaboration with the European Union on trade, investment, Global Gateway projects, climate resilience, fisheries, digital innovation, human rights, and regional integration.

Another significant achievement during the period was the successful securing of a long-term European Union-funded technical assistance programme to support the registration of Geographical Indications (GIs), thereby enhancing global recognition of Mauritian products.

At the multilateral level, engagements with the United Nations, International Financial Institutions and Multilateral Development Banks including the AfDB, BADEA, World Bank, IMF, Afreximbank and BIE have facilitated access to technical and financial assistance for strategic national priorities such as port modernisation, industrialisation, and climate resilience.

At the continental level, Mauritius actively participated in the work of the African Union, including the AfCFTA which offers a transformative opportunity to position the country as a strategic gateway for trade and investment.

Mauritius also continued to play an active role in advancing regional integration and sustainable development through projects implemented in partnership with SADC, COMESA, IOC and IORA across areas such as agriculture, maritime security, climate change, trade facilitation, education, health, environment and disaster risk reduction. Collaboration with the private sector and civil society has ensured that regional initiatives deliver tangible benefits to our people.

On the human rights front, Mauritius reaffirmed its commitment to upholding international standards. The Combined 24th and 25th Periodic Reports under the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination (CERD) and the Fifth Periodic Report under the Convention Against Torture (CAT) were reviewed in April 2025. The Committees commended Mauritius for legislative and institutional reforms, including the Children's Act 2020, the establishment of a Special Court for Children, and the enactment of the Child Sex Offenders Register Act.

I wish to convey my profound appreciation to all Officers of the Ministry, both at the Headquarters and in our Missions abroad for their professionalism, dedication, and tireless efforts in the advancement of Mauritius' foreign policy objectives.

**Honourable Dhananjay RAMFUL**  
**Minister of Foreign Affairs, Regional Integration and**  
**International Trade**

## Statement of the Secretary for Foreign Affairs

I wish to highlight at the outset that this 2024-2025 Annual Report of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Regional Integration and International Trade has been prepared under the strategic guidance of the Honourable Minister and it showcases the main achievements of the Ministry in promoting and safeguarding the national interests of the Republic of Mauritius in an increasingly complex international environment.



The world continues to experience prolonged uncertainty characterised by inter alia escalating geopolitical tensions, persistent poverty, widening inequality and climate change emergencies. The global GDP growth for this year is now expected to be lower than previously projected as higher tariffs and ongoing policy uncertainty slows down investment and trade.

As an export-oriented economy, Mauritius remains at the mercy of the volatility at international and regional levels. We cannot address those challenges in isolation. Mauritius is therefore committed to multilateralism, regional cooperation and global solidarity as essential instruments for peace, prosperity and sustainable development.

Our foreign policy continues to be guided by adherence to the rule of law, respect for human rights, democratic governance and international cooperation. Throughout the year, the Ministry pursued diplomatic initiatives anchored in the reform of multilateralism and the call for a fairer, more inclusive international system that duly reflects the priorities of Small Island Developing States (SIDS).

Enhanced market access and deeper economic integration remained central to our external engagements. A key milestone was the successful conclusion of the Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement (CEPA) with the United Arab Emirates which entered into force on 1 April 2025. This landmark agreement opens new opportunities for trade in goods and services and further diversifies Mauritius' external partnerships.

The Ministry has also remained actively engaged with our traditional partners and emerging markets alike. Collaboration with the European Union under the Samoa Agreement has deepened through the First Mauritius–EU Partnership Dialogue, while negotiations to expand the interim Economic Partnership Agreement (iEPA) between the EU and Eastern and Southern Africa (ESA) States continue to advance.

Regionally, Mauritius continued to play an active role in the Southern African Development Community (SADC), the Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa (COMESA), the Indian Ocean Commission (IOC) and the Indian Ocean Rim Association (IORA). These engagements enabled the country to secure both financial and technical assistance for priority projects across agriculture, environment, education and industry, including the development of the leather sector with strong value-addition potential.

At the continental level, the operationalisation of the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA) presents transformative opportunities for enhanced intra-African trade and investment. The adoption of the Annexes to the Protocol on Digital Trade at the 38th Ordinary Assembly of the African Union in February 2025 marked an important milestone in advancing Africa's digital economy agenda.

Human rights have remained a core pillar of Mauritius' foreign policy and domestic governance. During the reporting year, Mauritius underwent review before the Committee Against Torture (CAT) and the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination (CERD), reaffirming its commitment to the promotion and protection of human dignity, equality and justice. Awareness-raising campaigns were conducted for law enforcement officers, youth and the general public, further strengthening a culture of respect for human rights.

These collective efforts underscore the Ministry's evolving role as a proactive and delivery-oriented coordinating institution. By aligning foreign policy, trade, and development cooperation with the national vision for sustainable and inclusive growth, the Ministry continues to ensure that Mauritius remains an active and respected member of the international community.

I seize this opportunity to express my appreciation to all officers of the Ministry and our Missions abroad for their professionalism, dedication and commitment. Their collective contributions remain central to our achievements.

**Mr. Janmajaising BISSOONDOYAL**  
**Secretary for Foreign Affairs**

# PART I



# ABOUT THE MINISTRY

## **The Ministry at a glance**

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Regional Integration and International Trade is the executive arm of the Government for the implementation of the foreign policy of Mauritius.

We pursue proactive engagements aimed at maintaining and expanding our bilateral relations with other countries and through our participation in regional and international organisations to which Mauritius is a member.

The Ministry pursues active diplomacy focused on defending our national sovereignty, strengthening our partnerships and building influence in global forums in order to promote our socio-economic transformation.

The promotion and establishment of external trade and economic relations through negotiation is likewise an important function of the Ministry.

The Ministry also records and advises on Mauritius' accession and ratification of Treaties, Conventions and Agreements. Additionally, the Ministry carries out depositary functions for various regional and international agreements.

The Ministry is also responsible for matters concerning Human Rights, and ensures the promotion and protection of human rights as enshrined in Chapter 2 of the Constitution.

During the year under review, the Ministry continued its pragmatic and outcome-oriented engagements to build stronger connectivity, open up new market access and investment opportunities while expanding cooperation with a broader range of countries.

## **Vision and Mission**

### ***Vision***

- ❖ A prosperous and sustainable Republic of Mauritius fully integrated in a globalised and equitable world.

### ***Mission***

- ❖ Uphold the sovereignty and territorial integrity of Republic of Mauritius;
- ❖ Promote and safeguard the national interests of Republic of Mauritius at bilateral, regional and international levels;
- ❖ Contribute towards building a secure, equitable and democratic international community;
- ❖ Strengthen our existing bilateral relations and forge new partnerships;
- ❖ Work towards sustainable development through the deepening and acceleration of regional integration;
- ❖ Foster inclusive and sustainable economic growth through the expansion of trade with a view to integrating the Republic of Mauritius into the global economy;
- ❖ Enhance our diplomatic network overseas for greater visibility and outreach.

### ***Values***

- ❖ Excellence
- ❖ Integrity
- ❖ Accountability
- ❖ Transparency
- ❖ Discipline
- ❖ Proactiveness

## **Roles and Functions of the Ministry**

- ❖ To develop and implement foreign policy which actively safeguards and promotes the strategic interests of the Republic of Mauritius as well as upholds our national sovereignty and territorial integrity;
- ❖ To promote and reinforce bilateral relations through the expansion of the diplomatic network;
- ❖ To consolidate existing economic and trade partnerships whilst expanding bilateral, regional and multilateral cooperation initiatives to advance national development; and
- ❖ To implement our bilateral and international obligations.
- ❖ To assist in implementing and spreading knowledge of International Humanitarian Law Instruments to which Mauritius is a party, as well as ensuring that existing legislations are in compliance with such laws.

## Key Responsibilities of the Ministry

Various responsibilities of the Ministry are depicted at Figure 1.



*Figure 1: Key Responsibilities*

## Directorates and Divisions of the Ministry

There are 11 Directorates and 3 Divisions under the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Regional Integration and International Trade, as illustrated at Figure 2.



Figure 2: Directorates and Divisions

## **Functions of Directorates / Divisions**

### **Secretary for Foreign Affairs**

The **Secretary for Foreign Affairs** is the Accounting Officer of the Ministry. He is responsible for the sound administration and management of the Ministry and all the Mauritius Missions Overseas.

He is assisted in his duties by the Permanent Secretary, the Heads of Directorate/Division, and the administrative and diplomatic staff– both at the Ministry and in our overseas diplomatic missions.

The role and functions of the diplomatic and administrative staff are geared towards ensuring smooth delivery of services in line with the vision and mission of the Ministry.

### **Protocol Directorate (Ceremonials, Consular and Immunities)**

The **Protocol Directorate (Ceremonials, Consular and Immunities)** is usually the first point of contact between the Ministry and foreign Governments as well as with the public.

The Directorate advises on established international protocol rules and provides protocol assistance to the State House, the Prime Minister's Office and other Ministries/Departments holding important international events. The Directorate coordinates international visits as well as the signing of international Treaties and Agreements.

The Directorate coordinates and organises the accreditation of foreign Ambassadors to Mauritius and that of Mauritian Ambassadors in foreign countries. Similarly, it is responsible for the appointment of Honorary Consuls of Mauritius abroad and processing the requests for the appointment of foreign Honorary Consuls in Mauritius.

The Directorate also provides efficient and timely consular services which include: advice and assistance to Mauritian nationals overseas on matters relating to the issuance of documents; attestation of identity; accidents; repatriation of Mauritius nationals in difficulty. At the same time, the Directorate ensures that the rights, interests and welfare of Mauritian nationals living legally abroad are safeguarded.

The Directorate is also responsible of entering visa waiver agreements, transfer of prisoners' agreements with different countries, extradition procedures,

legalization of documents, overflight and port call clearances. It ensures that all Diplomatic Missions based in Mauritius receive the immunities and privileges to which they are eligible.

### **IGOs Political (UN System) Directorate**

The **IGOs Political Directorate (UN System)** deals with a range of multilateral issues, including peace and security, digital governance, sustainable development, the ocean, climate change, the environment, the advancement of the SIDS agenda and elections in United Nations (UN) bodies.

Its focus is the UN System - the UN Principal Organs, UN Subsidiary Bodies, Programmes and Funds, Functional Commissions, Specialised Agencies, the UN General Assembly and its Committees.

This Directorate is the privileged contact point between the Ministry and the United Nations Resident Coordinator Office in Mauritius, as well as UN bodies/agencies accredited to Mauritius.

The Directorate is also the national focal point for the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals and for all SIDS-related matters. The Sustainable Development Unit (SDU), set up in January 2021, is responsible for the coordination, monitoring and assessment of the implementation of the 17 Sustainable Development Goals.

The main aim of the directorate is advancing the interests of Mauritius in and through these entities. In this regard, the Directorate works in close collaboration with our mission overseas, especially New York, Geneva, London, Berlin and Addis Ababa. We also continuously interact with the diplomatic missions accredited to Mauritius.

### **IGOs Political Directorate (Geneva and The Hague related issues)**

The **IGOs Political Directorate (Geneva and The Hague)** is focused on engagement with international organizations related to human rights, labour rights, migration and diaspora contributions to national development, international terrorism among others:

- UN Organs: World Health Organization (WHO) and International Organization for Migration (IOM)
- Functional Commissions (e.g., Narcotic Drugs, Status of Women)
- Specialized UN Agencies (e.g., International Labour Organization (ILO))

- **Political and Policy Aspects of Human Rights:** This includes oversight of Human Rights Treaty Bodies and the Human Rights Council resolutions

The Directorate also handles issues pertaining to The Hague-based institutions, including the International Criminal Court, the Permanent Court of Arbitration, the International Court of Justice, the Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons and The Hague Conference on Private International Law.

### **IGOs Economic Directorate**

The **IGOs Economic Directorate** focuses on current and emerging economic issues at the national, regional and international levels with the objective of preserving and enhancing the economic interests of Mauritius.

It also coordinates the engagement of different stakeholders with our traditional and emerging economic partners.

The Directorate participates in the efforts to promote Mauritius as an investment destination as well as a crucial hub for regional and international trade taking advantage of our preferential market access in Europe, Africa, Asia and USA.

The Directorate also facilitates the provision of technical assistance and capacity building from international financial institutions such as the World Bank, IMF, African Development Bank (AfDB), Afreximbank, Bureau International des Expositions (BIE) and, through the Commissioner General of Section, the Japan association for Expo 2025, Osaka.

### **Commonwealth, OIF and African Union Directorate**

The **Commonwealth, OIF and African Union Directorate** is responsible for promoting and defending the interests of Mauritius at the African Union and other international organisations, through participation in relevant meetings, programmes and events.

It also coordinates the implementation of policies/decisions of the African Union with line Ministries. It is the national focal point for the implementation of Agenda 2063 and the African Peer Review Mechanism.

### **Bilateral Africa Directorate**

The **Bilateral Africa Directorate** is responsible for the enhancement of bilateral relations, which includes the negotiating and concluding of bilateral agreements as well as strengthening economic and trade relations, with African countries.

The Directorate also undertakes coordination and interaction between stakeholders dealing with trade and economic relations both locally and in targeted countries in Africa.

### **Bilateral Europe Directorate**

The **Bilateral Europe Directorate** focuses on building a more resilient partnership with Europe, by way of pursuing a more active collaboration with our traditional European partners, namely UK and France.

The Directorate also works towards developing sustained engagement with like-minded countries and new partners in Central and Eastern Europe in order to reach out to emerging markets and developed economies in Europe for our exports, boosting trade and investment to and from the region, particularly in the backdrop of evolving opportunities.

Moreover, the Bilateral Europe Directorate takes measures to address challenges including rising global economic uncertainty, high inflation and energy costs, and the frequency of natural disasters. Sectoral cooperation is also considered in a broad number of areas of mutual interest, including protection of the environment and biodiversity along with science and innovation, amongst others. Additionally, initiatives are focused on people-centric policies aimed at facilitating mobility of students and university staff as well as promoting human development, circular migration and tourism.

### **Asia, Indo Pacific, Russia and Ukraine Directorate**

The **Asia, Indo Pacific, Russia and Ukraine Directorate** keeps abreast of political and economic developments in the countries under its purview with the objective of strengthening of bilateral relations and cooperation with our long-standing partners, including China, India, Japan, Pakistan, Bangladesh, Russia, South Korea, Malaysia, Indonesia, Thailand, Philippines and Singapore, among others.

During the period under consideration, the Directorate prepared Official Visits of high-level personalities, such as that of the External Affairs Minister of India and that of the Prime Minister of India.

### **Americas, Australasia and Sovereignty Issues Directorate**

The **Americas, Australasia and Sovereignty Issues Directorate** deals with all relevant bilateral, political, economic, trade and commercial development

cooperation issues in respect of all the countries covered within the geographic zones of Americas and Australasia.

The Directorate also processes, in consultation with the Prime Minister's Office, matters related to the effective exercise of Mauritius of its sovereignty over the Chagos Archipelago and Tromelin.

### **Middle East and Indian Ocean Islands Directorate**

The **Middle East and Indian Ocean Islands Directorate** focuses on reinforcing and promoting our political, economic (trade, investment, finance and related), social and cultural relations and interactions with neighbouring Indian Ocean countries, as well as Middle East countries, including the Gulf Cooperation Council countries.

### **Digital Transformation, Communication and Capacity Development Directorate**

The **Digital, Transformation, Communication and Capacity Development Directorate** disseminates timely and relevant international information within the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. The Directorate's daily news report, distributed to both domestic staff and diplomatic missions abroad, provides a comprehensive overview of global developments. The Directorate is also responsible for maintaining Ministry's website.

Furthermore, the Directorate occasionally engages in knowledge-sharing and capacity-building through outreach awareness sessions. These sessions, featuring presentations and interactive discussions, focus on international issues of direct relevance to the Diplomatic Corps. These sessions aim to foster a deeper understanding of global challenges, promote knowledge sharing, and enhance the professional development of the Ministry's diplomatic staff.

### **Regional Integration Division**

The **Regional Integration Division** focuses on the formulation, coordination and implementation of regional policies and plans at the regional and national levels.

It is responsible for the promotion and enhancement of regional and continental integration through the membership of Mauritius in SADC, COMESA, IOC and IORA. The Regional Integration Division also contributes to the preparation of bilateral/continental briefs/papers.

## **International Trade Division**

The **International Trade Division**, which also includes the Industrial Property Office of Mauritius is responsible for the formulation and development of trade policies of Mauritius, including industrial property. It aims at creating a conducive trade policy environment for Mauritius to position itself on the world market and to increase its trade share. Through bilateral, regional and international trade negotiations, the International Trade Division seeks to open new markets and preserve existing market access in goods and services for our business community. It is equally engaged in safeguarding the interests of local businesses against unfair trade practices from other countries

In addition, the International Trade Division is responsible for the conduct of trade remedies investigations, and for preparing the Trade Policy Review of Mauritius at the World Trade Organisation.

## **Industrial Property Office**

The **Industrial Property Office** of Mauritius, established under Section 3 of the Patents, Industrial Designs and Trademarks Act in 2002, is a revenue-generating Office. It is mainly responsible for the registration of trademarks and industrial designs, grant of patents, and maintenance of Industrial Property Rights.

A new Industrial Property Act was proclaimed on 31 January 2022, which aims to enhance the protection of industrial property rights, namely, patents, utility models, layout-designs of integrated circuits, breeders's rights, industrial designs, trademarks, trade names and geographical indications. It also provides for the setting up of an Industrial Property Council.

## **Human Rights Division**

The **Human Rights Division** is mandated to ensure that the State of Mauritius fulfils its reporting obligations. It also provides a platform for the dissemination of information on human rights through the National Mechanism for Reporting and Follow-up (NMRF). The Human Rights Division is also the National Focal Point for the International Humanitarian Law (IHL). Moreover, it coordinates with relevant stakeholders for State Reports to be prepared and for measures to be adopted to comply with provisions of the Arms Trade Treaty (ATT).

Mauritius is committed to the promotion and protection of human rights as enshrined in chapter 2 of the Constitution. One of the key tasks of the Human Rights Division is to prepare reports on measures taken for the promotion of

human rights in line with the State reporting obligations. Mauritius is party to 7 International instruments, 5 Optional Protocols, 4 Multilateral Treaties and 4 Regional Human Rights Instruments. The Human Rights Day is observed annually on December 10th, commemorating the adoption of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.

The Human Rights Division also facilitates consultations, coordination and engagements with relevant stakeholders.

The Division is the administrator of the National Recommendations Tracking Database (NRTD). It ensures that the Database is constantly updated with inputs provided by Ministries/Departments as per Recommendations of treaty Bodies.

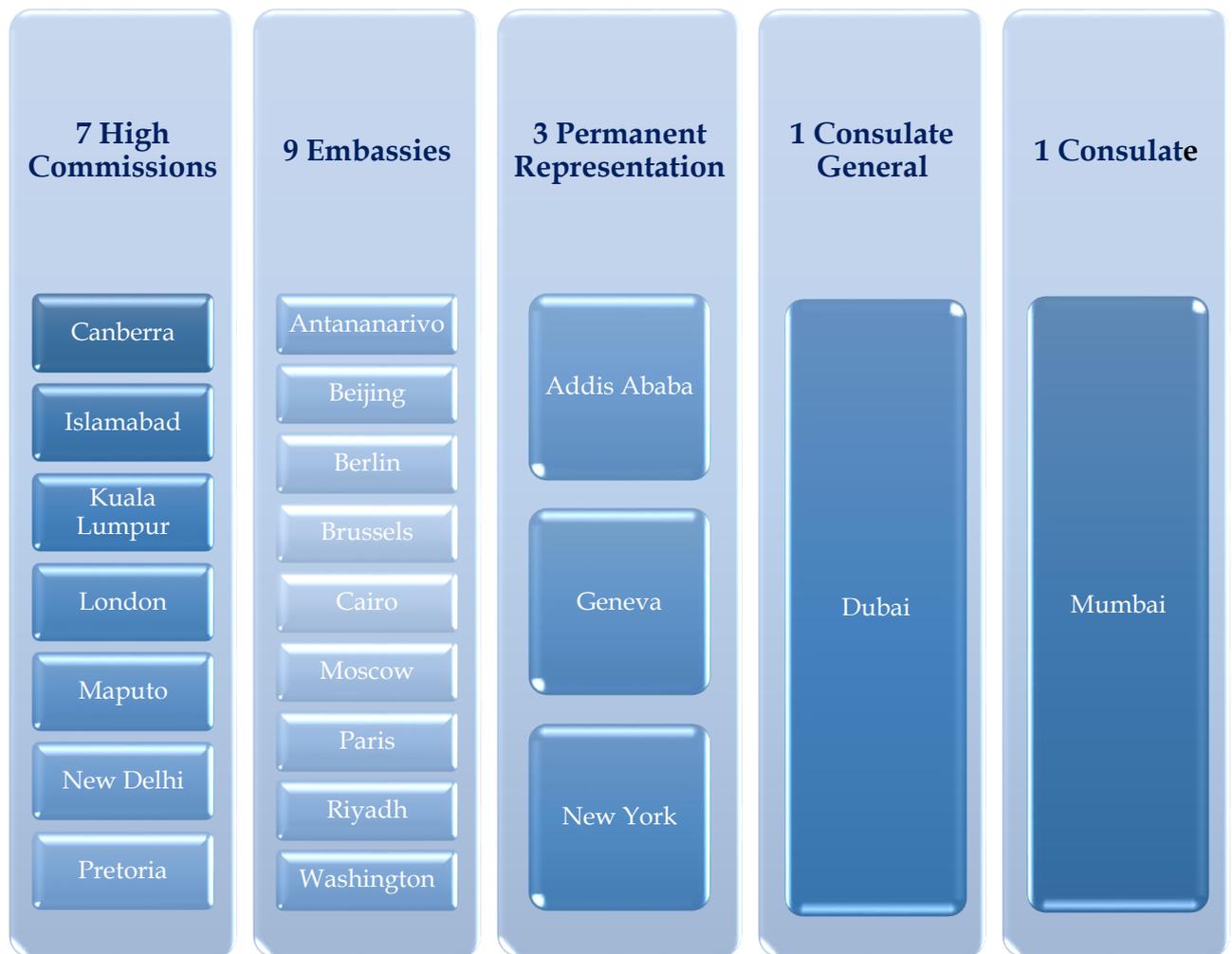
### **General Administration Division**

The General Administration provide support to the various Directorates and Divisions. The activities are as follows:

- **Operation of Mission Overseas** – Arrangement for the departure and return of diplomatic staff posted overseas, payment of allowances and grants, processing of all expenditures and procurement.
- **Finance and Budgeting** – budget proposals, monitoring of expenditure, maintaining of accounting records, ensuring follow-up on internal and external audit reports, and implementation of budget measures, among others.
- **Human Resources Management** – Coordinating and implementing all aspects which relate to the management of human resources, conditions of service, staff relations, training and development.
- **Procurement and Supply** – Conducting procurement exercises in line with public procurement legislations, ensuring maximum value for money.
- **Confidential and Open Registries** – Ensuring the proper management of correspondence, files, documents and records within the Ministry.

## Overseas Missions

The Republic of Mauritius is represented worldwide through a network of 19 Diplomatic Missions, one Consulate General and one Consulate as shown at Figure 3. These overseas Missions are an integral part of the Ministry and are headed by an Ambassador/High Commissioner or a Consul, as appropriate.



*Figure 3: Overseas Missions*

## **Occupational Safety and Health Committee**

An Occupational Safety and Health Committee chaired by the Deputy Permanent Secretary was set up on 29 August 2018 to look into issues relating to safety, health and welfare of employees at work and to promote a working environment which is safe and without health risk.

The Committee meets regularly to discuss issues raised by staff and to agree on remedial measures accordingly.

## **Gender Policy Statement**

The Ministry advocates gender equality in its strategies and objectives. It aims to foster gender-equitable work-life integration whilst ensuring coherence in our policy objectives and sustainable development goals.

## Organisational Chart

The Minister of Foreign Affairs, Regional Integration and International Trade is the cabinet minister in charge of the Ministry, assisted by the Junior Minister, and the administrative head is the Secretary for Foreign Affairs. There are several Directorates and Divisions, which are operated within the Ministry, as shown at Figure 4.

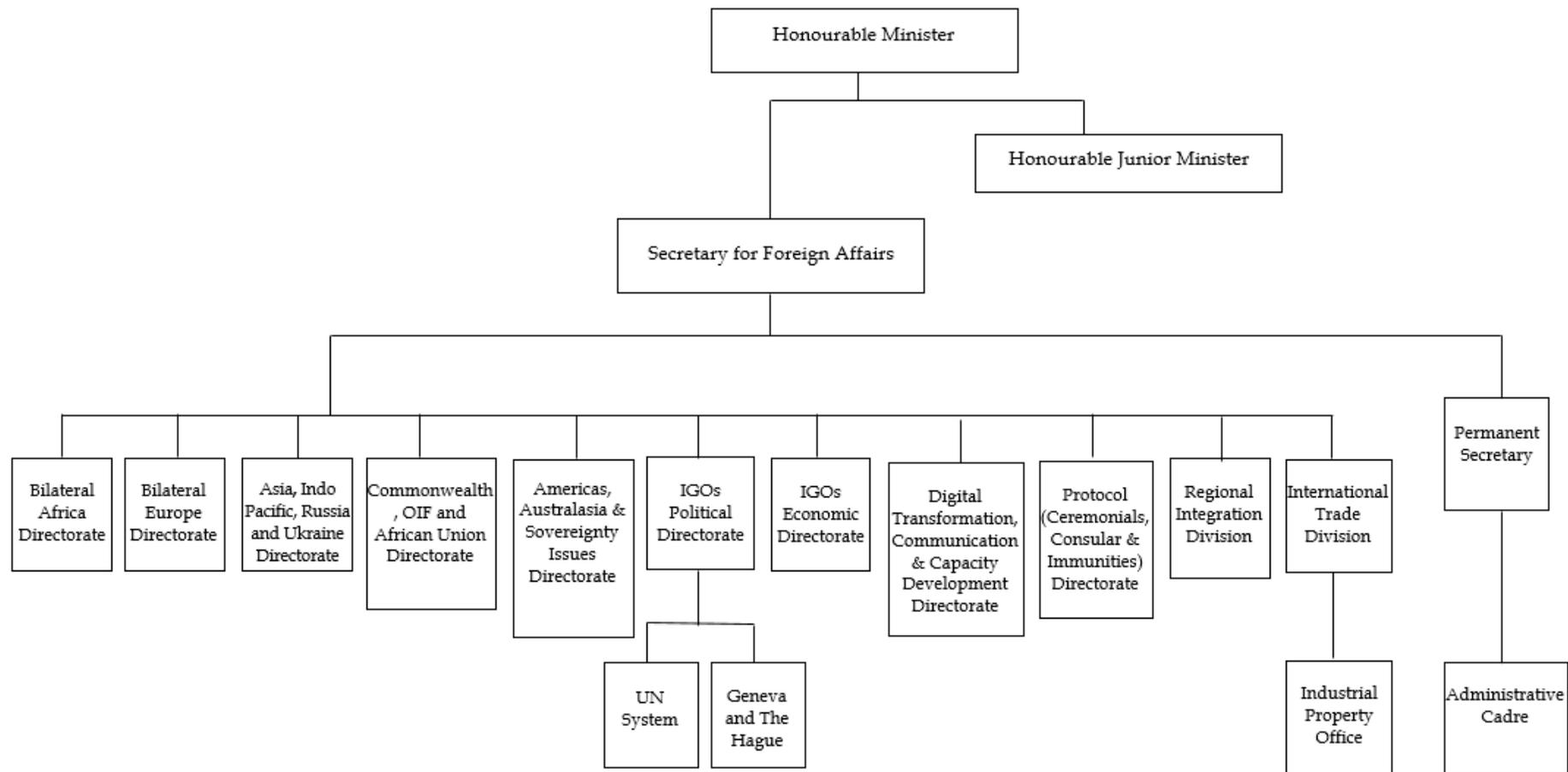


Figure 4: Organisational Chart

# **PART II**



# **MINISTRY'S ACHIEVEMENTS**

# 1. Protocol, Consular and Immunities Directorate

## 1.1 Ceremonials

During the financial year 2024/2025 the Directorate successfully:

- (i) organised/provided protocol assistance to 127 diplomatic functions, which include: organization of international conferences and diplomatic visits; logistical arrangements for VIP/ VVIPs; seating plans, sequence of events, as well as advice and guidance to other ministries;
- (ii) organised 240 courtesy calls of VIPs on Mauritian dignitaries;
- (iii) processed 417 requests for access to VIP lounge;
- (iv) processed 112 requests for overflight and landing clearance; and
- (v) provided protocol services on arrival/departure to 137 VIPs.

### Some major visits included:

#### A. High Level Visits

- 1) H.E. Dr. Subrahmanyam Jaishankar, External Affairs Minister of India from 16 to 17 July 2024.
- 2) H.E. Dr. Dmytro Kuleba, Minister of Foreign Affairs of Ukraine from 07 to 08 August 2024.
- 3) Hon Sylvestre Radegonde, Min of Foreign Affairs & Tourism of Seychelles from 12 to 14 September 2024.
- 4) S.E. M. Andry Rajoelina, Président de la République de Madagascar on 28 to 30 September 2024.
- 5) The Hon Tim Watts MP, Australian Assistant Foreign Minister from 03 to 04 December 2024.



6) H.E. Mr. Vikram Misri, Foreign Secretary of India from 20 to 22 December 2024.



- 7) Shri Narendra Damodardas Modi, India's Prime Minister 11 to 12 March 2025.



- 8) M. Thani Mohamed Soilihi, *Ministre délégué* from 24 to 25 April 2025.



### **B. Special Envoys:**

- 1) H.E Liu Yuxi, *Représentant spécial du gouvernement chinois pour les affaires africaines et Ambassadeur pour les affaires du FOCAC* (Forum on China-Africa Cooperation), from 30 July to 01 August 2024.
- 2) Mr. Mohlabi Tsekoa, Special Envoy of the Prime Minister of the Kingdom of Lesotho, from 30 July to 02 August 2024.

- 3) Hon Shirley Ayorkor Botchwey, Minister for Foreign Affairs and Regional Integration, Republic of Ghana, from 07 to 09 August 2024.
- 4) Mr Jonathan Powell, UK Prime Minister's Special Envoy/ National Security Advisor:
  - (i) on 30 August 2025;
  - (ii) from 13 to 14 September 2024; and
  - (iii) on 25 November 2025.
- 5) Special Envoy from H.E. Ismail Omar Guelleh, the President of Djibouti, to deliver a message to the Hon Prime Minister from 19 to 26 September 2024.
- 6) Special Envoy of the President of Djibouti - H.E. Mrs Ouloufa Ismail Abdou, Minister of Social Affairs and Solidarity, from 25 to 26 September 2024.
- 7) Hon Phila Buthelezi, Minister for Labour and Social Security, Special Envoy of His Majesty King Mswati III, from 14 to 15 January 2025.
- 8) Ambassador Lazarous Kapambwe, Presidential Envoy of Zambia to lobby support for Dr. Samuel Munzele Maimbo for the position of President of the Africa Development Bank (AfDB) from 06 to 08 August 2024.
- 9) Visit of *S.E. M. Abdelhak Saihi - Ministre de la Santé, en qualité d'envoyé spécial du Président de la République Algérienne Démocratique et Populaire*, from 22 to 23 January 2025.
- 10) S.E. Mme. Rafaravavitafika Rasata, *Ministre des Affaires Etrangères et Envoyé spéciale de la République de Madagascar*, 06 February 2025.
- 11) H.E. Mr. Mabouba Diagne, Minister of Agriculture, Food Sovereignty and Livestock, Special Envoy from Senegal from 18 to 19 April 2025.
- 12) H.E. Mr. Mohammed Benjilany, *Ambassadeur de Sa Majesté Le Roi Porteur d'une lettre de Mr. Nasser BOURITA, Ministre des Affaires Etrangères, de la Coopération Africaine et des Marocains résident a l'Etranger*, from 14 to 16 July 2025.
- 13) Mr. Mohlabi Tsekoa, Special Envoy of the Prime Minister of the Kingdom of Lesotho, 30 July 2025 to 02 August 2025.

## **1.2 Expanding diplomatic network of Mauritius**

The Directorate contributed to the expansion of our diplomatic network by successfully processing the accreditation of the following Ambassadors/ High Commissioners of Mauritius:

<b>Capital</b>	<b>Name</b>	<b>Date of Assumption of duty</b>
<b>New York</b>	Dr. Milan Jaya Nyamrajsingh MEETARBHAN, GOSK, Permanent Representative to the UN	25 February 2025
<b>UNESCO (Paris)</b>	Mrs. Marie Jasmine TOULOUSE-OLIVIER, Permanent Delegate of Mauritius to UNESCO	1 February 2025 (Port Louis)
<b>Geneva</b>	Mr. Brian Neil Joseph GLOVER, Ambassador and Permanent Representative of Mauritius to the United National Office in Geneva	08 April 2025
<b>London</b>	Dr. Rajeshwar JEETAH, High Commissioner to the UK	16 June 2025

### **1.3 Request for Agrément Process and Presentation of Credentials of Ambassadors of Foreign countries to Mauritius**

The Directorate completed the process for presentation of credentials of the following Ambassadors/ High Commissioners as indicated in the table hereunder.

<b>SN</b>	<b>Appointment of Foreign Ambassadors/ High Commissioners to Mauritius</b>	<b>Residence</b>	<b>Ambassador/ High Commissioner</b>	<b>Date of POC in Mauritius</b>
<b>1</b>	Algeria	Antananarivo	H.E. Mr. Filali Ghouini, Ambassador	31-Jul-2024
<b>2</b>	Kingdom of Sweden	Pretoria	H.E. Mr. Per Erik Anders Lindgårde, Ambassador	13-Aug-2024
<b>3</b>	Pakistan	Mauritius	H.E. Mr. Syed Zahid Raza, High Commissioner	16-Aug-2024
<b>4</b>	Italy	Pretoria	H.E. Mr. Alberto Vecchi, Ambassador	20-Aug-2024
<b>5</b>	Rwanda	Pretoria	H.E. Mr. Emmanuel Hategeka, High Commissioner	17-Sep-2024
<b>6</b>	Denmark	Tanzania	H.E. Mr. Stephan Schönemann, Ambassador	02-Oct-2024

<b>7</b>	Ireland	Pretoria	H.E. Mr. Austin John Gormley, Ambassador	09-Oct-2024
<b>8</b>	Russia	Mauritius	H.E. Ms. Irada Zeynalova, Ambassador	15-Oct-2024
<b>9</b>	Tanzania	Zimbabwe	H.E. Mr. Simon Nyakoro Sirro, High Commissioner	16-Oct-2024
<b>10</b>	Swiss Confederation	Pretoria	H.E. Mr Mirko Manzoni, Ambassador	28-Oct-2024
<b>11</b>	India	Mauritius	H.E. Mr. Anurag Srivastava, High Commissioner	17-Dec-2024
<b>12</b>	Tunisia	Pretoria, South Africa	H.E. Mrs. Karima Bardaoui, Ambassador	8-Apr-2025
<b>13</b>	Federal Republic of Germany	Antananarivo, Madagascar	H.E. Mr. Olivier Knoerich, Ambassador	9-Apr-2025
<b>14</b>	Columbia	Pretoria, South Africa	H.E. Ms. Maria Del Rosario Mina Rojas, Ambassador	22-Apr-2025
<b>15</b>	People's Republic of China	Mauritius	H.E. Dr. Huang Shifang, Ambassador	5-May-2025
<b>16</b>	Georgia	Pretoria, South Africa	H.E. Mr. Roland Beridze, Ambassador	6-May-2025
<b>17</b>	Viet Nam	Maputo, Mozambique	H.E. Mrs. Tran Thi Thu Thin, Ambassador	2-Jun-2025
<b>18</b>	Finland	Pretoria, South Africa	H.E. Mr. Pekka Juhani Metso, Ambassador	6-Jun-2025
<b>19</b>	Czech Republic	Pretoria, South Africa	H.E. Mr. Tomáš Uličný, Ambassador	9-Jun-2025
<b>20</b>	New Zealand	Pretoria, South Africa	H.E. Mr. Philip Hewitt, High Commissioner	16-Jun-2025
<b>21</b>	Hellenic Republic	Kenya, Nairobi	H.E. Mr. George Psiachas Ambassador	20-Jun-2025

#### 1.4 Appointment of Honorary Consuls of Mauritius Abroad

The Directorate completed the process of appointment of Mr. Piero Augusto COLONNA as the Honorary Consul General for the Republic of Mauritius in Switzerland.

#### 1.5 Appointment of Honorary Consuls in Mauritius

The Directorate completed the appointment process of the following Honorary Consuls and Consul General to Mauritius:

Country	Name	Date of Exequatur
<b>Bulgaria</b>	Mr. Vishal RAMLALL, Honorary Consul of Bulgaria in Mauritius	19 September 2024
<b>Kazakhstan</b>	Mr Dick Christophe NG SUI WA, Honorary Consul of Kazakhstan in Mauritius	25 October 2024
<b>France</b>	Phaniel Leveque, Honorary Consul of France in Rodrigues	19 March 2025
<b>Morocco</b>	Mr. Muhammad Samiir Ruhomutally, Honorary Consul of the Kingdom of Morocco in Mauritius	09 May 2025
<b>Comoros</b>	Mrs Koulthoum Djamadar, Consulate General of the Union of the Comoros in Mauritius	12 May 2025

The Letter of Exequaturs were handed over by the Minister of Foreign Affairs, Regional Integration and International Trade to the Consul General and four Honorary Consuls during diplomatic ceremonies organised by the Directorate.

#### 1.6 Consular Immunities and Privileges

Another responsibility of the Directorate is to ensure the proper implementation by Mauritius of its obligations:

- (i) under the Vienna Convention on Diplomatic Relations;
- (ii) under the Vienna Convention on Consular Relations; and
- (iii) under The Hague Convention of 1961.

Ministry responds to hundreds of routine consular cases annually in all countries around the world. The majority of consular services are provided by consular officers at our Missions abroad.

The highest priority of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Regional Integration and International Trade is to **protect the lives and serve the interests of Mauritius**

**citizens overseas.** A key focus for the Directorate is providing information to enable Mauritian citizens to make educated decisions about safety and security while travelling.

During the financial year 2024/2025, the Directorate successfully:

- (i) provided assistance in 5463 consular cases;
- (ii) provided assistance/guidance to 2177 persons (Mauritian or Foreign nationals) who came to Ministry;
- (iii) attended to 2198 cases of privileges and immunities requests made by Diplomatic Missions in Mauritius, 640 applications of access to VIP lounge and 7964 certification process of Apostille forms as prescribed under The Hague Convention of 1961;
- (iv) Number of Residence Permit: 1023; and
- (v) Number of ID and VAT cards: 873

Response to these consular cases often involve strategic, multi-faceted consular and diplomatic efforts through extensive and high-level bilateral and multilateral engagements, including engagement of the mission network.

### **1.7 Online Consular assistance**

In the wake of the ongoing conflict in the Middle East Region, the Directorate took a preemptive approach in anticipation of any request for consular assistance to Mauritian nationals who may find themselves stranded across the region.

On 03 December 2024, a communiqué was issued for consular assistance to Mauritians in Mozambique following unrest in prevailing in the country.

A crisis cell was set at the Ministry to provide consular assistance to Mauritians who may find themselves in difficulty following the conflict between between Israel and Iran.

A communiqué was issued on 23 June 2025 informing the public that a hotline had been set up at the Ministry to respond to calls and requests for assistance to Mauritian nationals stranded in that part of the world.

The Ministry is in the process of implementing a Government chatbox which an Intelligent Virtual Assistant Software so as to better response to citizens' queries on consular issues.

## 2. IGOs Political Directorates

Over the course of the financial year 2024-2025, the Directorate coordinated, supported and facilitated the participation of high-level Mauritius delegations to important meetings, including those listed below. The support included preparation of briefs, statements and talking points, and recommendation on meetings with delegations to strengthen bilateral relations, and recommendation for participation on events to maximise our visibility and pursue our position on issues of interest.

### **2.1 79<sup>th</sup> Session of the UN General Assembly, New York (September 2024)**

The Mauritius delegation was led by the President of the Republic to the 79th Session of the UN General Assembly.

The President of the Republic also participated in the Summit for the Future; the High-Level Meeting on addressing the existential threats posed by sea level rise; the Meeting of the AOSIS Leaders; the Summit of the Coalition to address Synthetic Drug Threats; the Leaders Dialogue Event on Climate Adaptation Action.

### **2.2 COP 29, Baku (November 2024)**

The Head of the Directorate led the Mauritius delegation to the 29th Conference of Parties to the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (COP 29). The delegation worked in close collaboration with AOSIS, the African Group and G77 in pursuing our common interests including on climate finance, adaptation, mitigation and the carbon market.

It is recalled that COP 29 adopted the New Collective Quantified Goal on Climate Finance (NCQG), which will triple finance for developing countries, from the previous goal of USD 100 billion annually, to USD 300 billion annually by 2035. It also to scale up finance to developing countries, from public and private sources, to the amount of USD 1.3 trillion per year by 2035.

Furthermore, many of the amendments proposed by the delegation were included in the Baku Declaration on Amplifying SIDS' Voice at COP29 for a Resilient and Sustainable Future.

### **2.3 SIDS Summit of the OPEC Fund, Vienna (May 2025)**

The Minister participated in the OPEC SIDS Summit, during which the Fund launched the Island Resilience Facility by the OPEC-Fund. The Facility aims at providing financial, technical, knowledge-based assistance to SIDS, on a needs-based approach, given their special requirements. Such assistance is expected to enhance SIDS' resilience to natural disasters and climate change, and improve their disaster risk management and sustainable energy transition.

The Minister participated in the Ministerial Roundtable which fostered an actionable dialogue on financial barriers facing SIDS, including debt sustainability, currency fluctuations, and access to affordable finance.

### **2.4 Third UN Conference on Oceans, Nice (June 2025)**

The Mauritius delegation was led by the Honourable Prime Minister. The latter called for immediate and bolder actions towards the preservation of marine biodiversity and made a strong plea for a special consideration for SIDS while calling for enhanced cooperation and transfer of technology so that SIDS are not left behind.

The Prime Minister also participated in the *Forum mondial des îles* and the *L'Afrique pour l'océan* Summit.

In the run-up to UNOC3, Mauritius joined the High Ambition Coalition (HAC) on BBNJ<sup>1</sup> in June 2025.

By joining the HAC, Mauritius, *inter-alia*, established its position as a leader among both SIDS and African nations in promoting the conservation and sustainable use of marine biodiversity beyond national jurisdiction.

### **2.5 4<sup>th</sup> International Conference on Financing for Development (FfD4), Sevilla (June 2025)**

The Permanent Representative of Mauritius to the UN, New York, led the Mauritius delegation. The Conference saw the adoption of the Compromiso de Sevilla to address the widening financing gap for the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

Throughout 2025, the Directorate ensured the strong and principled engagement on issues related to peace and security, **especially on the issue of Palestine** and the humanitarian crisis in Gaza within the UN framework.

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<sup>1</sup> The HAC on BBNJ came into being in February 2022 through a joint initiative by the EU, Palau and Seychelles. The HAC paved the way for the rapid conclusion of negotiations on the BBNJ Agreement. The BBNJ will come into force in January 2026

Mauritius supported all resolutions considered by UN General Assembly and the 10th Emergency Session.

Amongst others, Mauritius participated in the High-level International Conference for the Peaceful Settlement of the Question of Palestine and the Implementation of the Two-State Solution (New York, July 2025). Mauritius promptly endorsed the New York Declaration on the Peaceful Settlement of the Question of Palestine and the Implementation of the Two-State solution, which charts a clear pathway towards renewed efforts for peace and justice in the region.

## **2.6 Elections to International Bodies**

The Directorate processed the national position in the context of some 30 elections that took place within the UN system during period July 2024-June 2025.

The Directorate devised the lobbying strategy for our candidature to the Human Rights Council for the term 2026-2028 which included securing endorsement by SADC, persuading Tanzania to defer its candidature, conclusion of mutual and reciprocal support arrangements. The strategy was implemented in close coordination with our Missions.

(Elections were held in October 2025 and Mauritius won the highest number of votes (181 out of 187) among the countries that were elected)

The Directorate coordinated closely with our Missions to ensure the election of Mr. Paul Lam Shang Leen, retired Puisne Judge of the Supreme Court of Mauritius, to the Subcommittee on the Prevention of Torture (SPT) for term 2025-2028.

## **2.7 Second Voluntary National Review**

Mauritius presented its 's second Voluntary National Review (VNR) during the UN High-Level Political Forum (July 2024). The report showcased significant progress in social development and emphasized the need for improved access to concessional and climate financing to sustain progress and enhance national resilience.

## **2.8 UN Summit for the Future, July 2024**

In preparation for the UN Summit of the Future, the Directorate and the UN Country Team organized national consultations in July 2024 to ensure that the inclusion of the country's perspectives and priorities in the global Pact for the Future. The thematic discussions focused on Sustainable Development and Financing for Development, Science, Technology and Innovation (STI) and Digital Cooperation, and Youth and Future Generations. These deliberations captured the national vision for inclusive digital transformation, enhanced financial accessibility for SIDS, and the empowerment of young people as agents of sustainable change.

## **2.9 Credentials**

The Directorate processed 23 credential letters in respect of Mauritius delegations attending international meetings/conferences. A Letter of Credential is document issued by the Minister of Foreign Affairs, which designates the delegation to participate in international meetings and authorizes the head of the delegation to participate, speak and take national position on behalf of the country.

## **2.10 International Organisation for Migration (IOM)**

The Ministry collaborated with the International Organization for Migration (IOM) for the organization of a two-day Diaspora initiatives Stocktaking Workshop on 14 to 15 May 2025, at the Caudan Arts Centre, in Port Louis. The workshop focused on leveraging diaspora contribution towards sustainable development, and identifying the key challenges and issues related to diaspora engagement. The objective was also to harmonise Government's actions to facilitate effective and efficient engagement with the Mauritian diaspora.

The key recommendations made by the Ministry during the workshop are:

- Increase recruitment of local consultants who will have a stronger understanding of the local context with regard to diaspora projects;
- To revamp the EDB Mauritian Diaspora Scheme to make it more investment focused;
- To restructure the Diaspora Cell to include inter-Ministerial officials and to sub-head it as the Inter-Ministerial Diaspora Coordinating Unit;
- To enlarge the composition of the Diaspora Cell so that it involves not only the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Regional Integration and International Trade but also other government stakeholders;

- The National Diaspora Engagement Plan to be made simpler, action-oriented and more achievable.

### **2.11 Human Rights Council**

Mauritius is currently an active Observer State of the Human Rights Council (HRC). The Human Rights Council holds three regular sessions a year, for a total of at least ten weeks.

The 57<sup>th</sup>, 58<sup>th</sup> and 59<sup>th</sup> sessions of the Human Rights Council focused on various pressing human rights issues worldwide.

During these three sessions, Mauritius participated actively in the debates and considered around 91 resolutions on various human rights issues, with particular attention to thematic resolutions which aim to address human rights issues and promote the protection and enjoyment of human rights for all.

### **2.12 World Health Organisation (WHO)**

The 78th World Health Assembly (WHA78) which was held in Geneva from 20–28 May 2025, concluded with several important decisions aimed at reinforcing global health cooperation and building sustainable systems moving forwards.

One of the key outcomes was the adoption of the first-ever Pandemic Agreement – a legally binding framework to support more coordinated, equitable responses to future global health emergencies, complementing the existing international health regulations (IHRs).

Mauritius participated at the Ministerial level and supported various draft decisions/resolutions on, among others, International Health Regulations (2005) to Palestine and Health Conditions in the occupied Palestinian territory, including East Jerusalem and in the occupied Syrian Golan.

The outcomes of the 78<sup>th</sup> World Health Assembly demonstrate global commitment to strengthening health systems, promoting health equity and addressing pressing health challenges.

### **2.13 International Labour Organisation (ILO)**

The Ministry of Labour and Industrial Relations was assisted for effective participation of its delegation in the 113th Session of the International Labour Conference, held from 2 to Friday, 13 June 2025, in Geneva.

The International Labour Conference is an annual event organised by the International Labour Organization, which brings together representatives of Governments, Workers' and Employers' organisations to, inter alia, discuss, establish and adopt international labour standards and also consider issues related to the application of International Labour Organization standards by Member States.

### 3. IGOs Economic Directorate

#### 3.1 First Mauritius–EU Partnership Dialogue (10 April 2025)

Mauritius and the European Union held the inaugural **Mauritius–EU Partnership Dialogue** in Port Louis, co-chaired by Hon. D. Ramful, Minister of Foreign Affairs, Regional Integration and International Trade, and H.E. O. Benedikt, EU Ambassador. This high-level platform marked a new chapter in bilateral relations under the **Samoa Agreement** and covered key areas such as trade and investment, Global Gateway projects, climate action and the circular economy, ocean governance and fisheries, digital innovation, human rights, democracy, and regional integration. Both sides agreed to pursue cooperation and identify new opportunities under the mechanism of the Partnership Dialogue.

#### 3.2 Participation in World Expo 2025 Osaka (13 April – 13 October 2025)

Mauritius is participating in the **World Expo 2025 in Osaka, Japan**, under the theme “*Designing Future Society for Our Lives.*” The country is represented with a **Type-C Pavilion (55m<sup>2</sup>)** showcasing Mauritius as a *Large Ocean State* and destination for tourism, innovation, investment and culture. A highlight was the celebration of **Mauritius National Day in the context of Expo 2025 on 14 July 2025**, attended by the Hon. Minister of Foreign Affairs, Regional Integration and International Trade as Chief Guest. The programme included an official ceremony with flag hoisting, national anthems, cultural performances by Mauritian artists sponsored by the Japanese Association for Expo 2025, and a luncheon hosted by the Government of Japan. A reception followed on 15 July 2025, bringing together dignitaries from various businesses such as Tourism and air travel, Japanese local authorities, Expo organisers and international guests.

## 4. Commonwealth, OIF and African Union Directorate

### 4.1 Africa Day

The Ministry organised an official function hosted by H.E the President of the Republic at the State House, in the presence of H.E. the Vice President of the Republic, the Deputy Prime Minister, our Honourable Minister and Junior Minister as well as the Members of the Diplomatic Corps and International Organisations.

H.E. the President of the Republic reiterated the profound significance of this year's AU theme "Justice for Africans and People of African Descent through Reparations" for Mauritius as we achieved the full sovereignty over the Chagos Archipelago, including Diego Garcia.

H.E. the President of the Republic extended his heartfelt gratitude to the African Union, its Member States and to all our valued friends and partners across the world for the unwavering support throughout the endearing journey to complete the decolonization of the Republic of Mauritius.



#### **4.2 38<sup>th</sup> Ordinary Session of the Assembly of the African Union**

The Prime Minister attended the 38th Ordinary Session of the Assembly of the African Union centered around the theme of “Justice for Africans and People of African Descent through Reparations” in February 2025 in Addis Ababa at the AU Headquarters.

The theme was of direct relevance to the struggle to exercise the sovereignty of Mauritius over the Chagos Archipelago. In his statement, the Prime Minister gave an account of some of the measures that Mauritius had taken to redress the negative impact of slavery and indentured servitude in Mauritius. The Prime Minister also expressed his gratitude to the African Union for its unwavering support in the long struggle for the exercise of sovereignty over the Chagos Archipelago.

In the margins of the Summit, the Prime Minister had a number of bilateral meetings with, inter alia, the President of the Union of Comoros, the President of Madagascar, a number of Heads of State and Government including those of Algeria, Botswana, Djibouti, Kenya and Mauritania, the Secretary-General of the United Nations, the Director-General of the World Trade Organisation, the President of the African Development Bank and the Secretary General of the Organisation Internationale de La Francophonie.



### **4.3 47<sup>th</sup> Ordinary Session of the Executive Council of the African Union**

The preparatory meetings held from end of June 2025 to early July 2025, including the holding of the 47<sup>th</sup> Ordinary Session of the Executive Council of the African Union in Malabo, Equatorial Guinea saw the election of Mauritian candidate, Mrs Nandita Devi Suneechur, Acting Director of the Education and Prevention Division of the Financial Crimes Commission, as a member of the African Union Advisory Board Against Corruption (AUABC) for a term of six years.

## **5. Bilateral Africa Directorate**

The destiny of Mauritius is inextricably linked to the future development of Africa. The government's strategy remains to reinforce political and economic diplomacy to consolidate the position of Mauritius as the strategic partner for African States.

In pursuit of a stronger and more dynamic continental strategy, the Government through this Ministry has been actively undertaking several initiatives to enhance diplomatic and economic cooperation with African countries. These initiatives are aligned with our firm commitment to regional integration, economic diplomacy, and sustainable development as outlined in the Government Programme 2025-2029.

At the diplomatic level, high-level discussions have been ongoing with other African countries to deepen bilateral relations. A key plank of the African Continental Strategy for Mauritius includes enhancement of bilateral relations and cooperation with key African countries, through Joint Commission meetings.

In the above context, the Republic of Congo and Republic of South Africa have proposed to organize the inaugural session of Joint Commissions in October/November 2025.

Joint Commissions are being envisaged with other countries such as Ghana, Kenya, Rwanda, Mozambique and Zambia.

In our strategic approach for leveraging economic diplomacy and strengthening Mauritius's position as the leading financial hub for Africa, 10 key African nations have been identified.

This Ministry is coordinating with the Ministry of Finance to update/renew the Double Taxation Avoidance Agreements with the following countries: Tanzania,

Mozambique, Nigeria, Cote d'Ivoire, Ethiopia, Morocco, Democratic Republic of Congo, Cameroon, Kenya and Senegal.

Our diplomatic missions in Africa are also following up on initiatives to enhance cooperation with African countries in a number of areas through MoUs and bilateral agreements, including agreements to set up Joint Commissions with other key countries such as Cote D'Ivoire, Tanzania, Senegal, Botswana, Zimbabwe, Angola, Namibia, Tunisia and Uganda.

The Directorate has been one of the main facilitators in promoting the Mauritius Africa Scholarships Scheme since year 2013. For the financial year 2024/25, 50 scholarships have been awarded to African students within the context of making Mauritius a Regional Knowledge Hub.

Some 98 training programmes offered by the Government of Egypt under the Egyptian Agency of Partnership for Development have successfully been disseminated.

During the last financial year, the Governments of Algeria and Egypt have provided to Mauritian students some 20 scholarships for studying at graduate and post graduate levels.

The Directorate has also effectively coordinated some 5 Benchmarking / Study Visits to Mauritius by institutions from different African countries during the year 2024/25.

## **6. Bilateral Europe Directorate**

Mauritius highly values its excellent and longstanding relations with its European partners.

Government aims to continue collaborating with our European partners in areas such as the financial sector, blue economy, renewable energy, the pharmaceutical sector, artificial intelligence, education sector, maritime security, innovation and technology, digitization, smart agriculture, fight against illegal fishing, combating illicit drug and human trafficking, money laundering, circular economy, food security, among others.

### **6.1 Commission Mixte Maurice Reunion**

The Second Session of the Commission Mixte Maurice – Reunion was held on 25 April 2025 at the Harilall Vaghjee Hall.

The Joint Commission between the two islands emanates from the Framework Agreement signed during the visit of Dr. the Hon. Prime Minister to Reunion Island in January 2011. The 1st session of the Commission Mixte was held on 04 November 2022 in Reunion Island.

The Commission Mixte is centred around three fundamental pillars namely:

- *Valorisation et développement des territoires ;*
- *Résilience et complémentarité ;*
- *Un avenir en commun.*

The second session was co-chaired by the Minister of Foreign Affairs, Regional Integration and International Trade of Mauritius, Hon. Dhananjay Ramful and the *ministre délégué français auprès du ministre de l'Europe et des Affaires étrangères en charge de la Francophonie et les Partenariats internationaux*, Mr. Thani Mohamed Soilihi who visited Mauritius following the postponement of the scheduled visit of the French President, Mr. Macron.

The French delegation to the Commission Mixte included Mrs Huguette Bello, President of the Conseil Regional of Region Reunion, Ms. Sophie Arzal, Vice President of the Conseil Departemental of Reunion, Mr. Patrice Latron, Préfet de la Reunion as well as senior officials from Reunion Island.

The Mauritius delegation included Mr. Fabrice David, Junior Minister at the Ministry of Agro-industry, Blue Economy and Fisheries, Mr. Jean Sydney Pierre Junior Minister at the Ministry of Tourism and Mrs. Véronique Leu-Govind, Junior Minister at the Ministry of Arts and Culture as well as senior officials of key Ministries and agencies.

Key issues addressed during the Commission Mixte ranged from culture, tourism, biodiversity, circular economy, solid waste management and transition to green energy.

The following MoUs on cooperation were concluded and signed as a result of those discussions:

**(i) Memorandum d'entente pour la coopération dans le domaine de la conservation, de la médecine vétérinaire, de l'échange technique, du transfert de technologie, du partage de données et de la recherche sur les tortues marines:**

*This Memorandum of Understanding focuses on cooperation in areas such as (i) research and development; (ii) consolidation of the existing protocol for the care of stranded turtles; (iii) implementation of communication, awareness-raising, and educational programs and tools; and (iv) the creation of a care center and its daily operations.*

**(ii) Protocole d'Entente par le Food and Agricultural Research and Extension Institute (FAREI) et le Centre de Coopération Internationale en Recherche Agronomique pour le Développement (CIRAD) dans le domaine de la transition agricole**

*The Agreement ensures close cooperation between different stakeholders: governments, farmers, non-governmental organizations, researchers, businesses, and consumers. It also aims at promoting the exchange of knowledge, expertise, and technologies with a view to developing innovative agricultural systems.*

**(iii) Protocole d’entente en matière de sécurité civile entre Le Mauritius Fire and Rescue Service et le Service Départemental d’Incendie et de Secours de La Réunion;**

*The MoU embodies our desire to strengthen collaborations with local communities and risk management experts between the two islands. Its initiative represents a collective effort and synergy based on the sharing of best practices, ongoing training, and technological innovation. It is to be noted that a Training Course in fighting vegetation/ bushfire fighting (28 Sep to 18 Oct 2025) is being offered to the Mauritius Fire Rescue Services Officers by the French/ Reunion authorities.*

**(iv) Projet d’accord entre le Mauritius Tourism Promotion Authority et le Comité régional du tourisme de La Réunion sur la coopération touristique entre Maurice et La Réunion;**

*This Agreement has as objective to strengthen relations between the two islands, particularly in the tourism sector as both Mauritius and Reunion Island value the development of sustainable projects that would benefit both our populations.*

**(v) Projet d’Accord-cadre entre Météo-France et Mauritius Meteorological Services (MMS) dans le domaine de la météorologie**

*As we recognize the need for ongoing exchanges between the meteorological services of our two islands through increased collaboration, this agreement embodies our collective desire to combine our efforts to better understand the complexities of our atmosphere.*

**(vi) A “Protocole d’accord en vue d’une coopération scientifique et culturelle entre le Musée historique de Villèle et l’Intercontinental Slavery Museum Mauritius Ltd.”** was signed during the visit of Mr. Soilihi at the Intercontinental Slavery Museum.

An exhibition of “*bustes de la collection de Froberville*” was also inaugurated at the Intercontinental Slavery Museum following consultations between Mauritius and French authorities, as part of ongoing efforts to safeguard the cultural and historical legacy of Mauritius.

**(vii) An “Accord complémentaire au Protocole précisant le statut particulier de la Caisse Centrale de Coopération Economique à l’île Maurice entre Maurice et l’Agence française de développement”** was signed at the end of the Commission Mixte.

In the wake of the sustained dialogue with the French, financing Agreements/ MOUs between the Agence Française de Développement (AFD) and public/private banks and institutions were also concluded.

## **6.2 Cooperation relating to the “patrimoine culturel”**

A *Declaration d'Intention relative à une coopération en matière de préservation du patrimoine architectural mauricien* between Mauritius and France was also inked on 25 April 2025.

The signing of the *Declaration d'Intention* is a step towards formalising collaboration in the restoration, rehabilitation, and valorisation of heritage buildings, with France offering its expertise and financial support.

### **6.3 State visit of President to Portugal**

The former President Mr. Prithvirajsing Roopun GCSK, proceeded on a state visit to Portugal as from 15 July 2024 on the invitation of the President of the Portuguese Republic, His Excellency, Mr Marcelo Rebelo De Sousa. It was the first state visit by a Mauritian dignitary to Europe in over a decade.

During the visit, Mr. Roopun was conferred the prestigious award of the Grand Collar of the Order of Prince Henry by the President of the Portuguese Republic. This Award is one of the highest Portuguese honours.

### **6.4 Conclusion of Bilateral Consultation Mechanism with Portugal- 16 July 2024**

The Memorandum of Understanding on the Establishment of a Consultation Mechanism between the Government of the Republic of Mauritius and the Government of the Portuguese Republic was also signed during the presidential visit.

The Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) provides a platform for structured official consultations with the objective of setting the pathway for institutional collaborative initiatives in mutually agreed fields and for the exchange of views on contemporary global issues such as climate change and those relating to regional cooperation.

The conclusion of the MoU further marks a new beginning in the partnership between Mauritius and Portugal with new opportunities for trade and investment, synergies in maritime security, harnessing the potential of the blue economy, collaborating in marine research and science, jointly promoting tourism, mitigating the impacts of climate change, promoting public health, nurturing youth capacities as well as cultural and creative industries.

### **6.5 Outcome of the Bilateral Political Consultation Mechanism with Spain**

In the wake of the outreach initiatives for constructive engagements with European states, the first Bilateral Political Consultations (BPC) between the Republic of Mauritius and the Kingdom of Spain were held at the Ministry of

Foreign Affairs, Regional Integration and International Trade, Newton Tower, Port Louis on 21 October 2024.

The meeting was co-chaired by Ambassador J. Bissoondoyal, then Ag. Secretary for Foreign Affairs at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Regional Integration and International Trade of Mauritius and H.E. Mr. Raimundo Rubio, former Ambassador of the Kingdom of Spain to Mauritius and based in Pretoria, South Africa.

The Mauritius delegation comprised the Director, Bilateral Europe Directorate as well as key officials from the Ministries of Foreign Affairs, Finance, Environment, Education, Health, Tourism, Blue Economy, Energy, Fisheries, Public Utilities, Agro-industry, Land Transport and agencies falling under their respective purviews including officials from the Economic Development Board.

The Spanish Delegation included senior officials based at the Embassies of Spain in Pretoria and Nairobi.

During the meeting, discussions focused on climate change and renewable energy, the Mauritius International Financial Centre, investment and financial matters, sustainable use of ocean resources as well as foreign policy issues. Cooperation in the health, tourism, educational, environment, water, agro-industry and maritime sectors was also envisaged.

The agreement of the Spanish authorities to the holding of the Bilateral Political Consultations was in itself an achievement. The main outcomes of the BPC were a firm intent of both sides to collaborate constructively on key issues though the conclusion of appropriate MoUs outlined below:

**(i) Environment**

Constructive partnership has been forged in the field of environmental protection and circular migration. In February 2025, two project proposals namely (i) *Observatoire de l'environnement*; and (ii) Enhancing circular Economy have been submitted to the Spanish authorities for consideration.

**(ii) Water Reuse/ Waste Water risk management**

Cooperation is in the pipeline in the field of Water Re-Use/ Waste and Water Risk Management. A draft MoU in the field of Energy has been transmitted to the relevant Spanish authorities for consideration.

**(iii) Education**

Cooperation is being extended with the Spanish side in the field of Education, wherein the Spanish side is proposing for Spanish language trainers to train Spanish language teachers/ lecturers in Mauritius. Preliminary information has been submitted to the Ministry of Education on the training programme scheduled at the *Lycée des Mascareignes* from 20 to 24 October 2025 and consultations are ongoing.

A fruitful partnership is further envisaged in the field of hospitality with an MOU between Ecole Hoteliere Sir Gaetan Duval and ICEX Spain Trade and Investment Agency being considered by the Mauritius Institute for Training and Development.

***(iv) Agro Industry***

In the field of Agro Industry, Spanish expertise is expected in the field the mitigation of fruit flies. A draft MOU as provided by the Ministry of Agro-Industry, Food Security, Blue Economy and Fisheries is under study by the Spanish side.

***(v) Marine Oceanography sector***

The Political consultations further provided an ideal platform for targeted discussions in oceanography with a focus on research in aquaculture.

The political consultations have indeed provided a new impetus to the bilateral cooperation between our two countries.

## **6.6 Implementation of the Strategic Trade Partnership (STP) with UK & Outcomes**

In the context of the gradual implementation of the Strategic Trade Partnership, the following have been achieved in the field of higher learning:

- Participation of Minister of Tertiary Education, Science & Research in the Education World Forum (EWF) from 15 to 21 May 2025.
- Signature of Letters of Intent by Quality Assurance Authority (QAA) Mauritius with the Quality Assurance Agency for Higher Education of the UK (QAA UK) on 25 May 2025
- Memorandum of Understanding between Polytechnics Mauritius Ltd and the Kingston University Higher Education Corporation signed on 23 May 2025
- Collaborative endeavours between the King's College Hospital NHS Foundation Trust and the Ministry of Health and Wellness.
- Collaboration between Polytechnics Mauritius Ltd and the King's College London and the Guy's and the St Thomas NHS Foundation Trust, London;
- MoU between Coventry University & the University of Mauritius signed on 18 June 2025
- MoU between Swansea University UK and the Unicity International Education Hub (UIEH);

It is to be noted that Mauritius is home to around 35 UK awarding bodies from Middlesex University, Swansea University, UCLAN, University of Suffolk or Leeds Beckett University.

Further requests from Kings College London, University College of London and London South Bank University are currently being processed by the Higher Education Commission of Mauritius.

## **6.7 Agreement on Mauritius UK Strategic Partnership Framework (SPF) in May 2025**

The conclusion of the agreement on the exercise of sovereignty over the Chagos Archipelago in May 2025 is an invaluable milestone that will provide opportunities for Mauritius and the UK to explore collaborative opportunities and address shared challenges. It will allow both countries to chart a path toward a future of mutual benefit and enduring partnership and friendship.

Further to this landmark agreement, both countries agreed to a new Strategic Partnership Framework. It is a testimony and reaffirmation of our resolve to deepen the economic bonds between both countries in key sectors of trade and investment, maritime security, climate change, renewable energy, including the following:

- fostering and deepening trade relationship under the United Kingdom-Eastern and Southern Africa Economic Partnership Agreement
- cooperating on competitive financing through UK Export Finance, with at least £5 billion in market risk appetite, to deliver British investment in Mauritius
- cooperation through G to G on digital trade and health, and the setting up of a United Kingdom/Mauritius Business Forum
- materializing formal and constructive partnerships with Mauritian and British institutions across priority sectors, including hospitals, the civil and public service, universities, and City of London financial institutions

Both countries are dedicated to enhancing the status of our IFC as a regional financial hub to instil further confidence in Mauritius as an investment hub serving the Indian ocean and Africa regions.

## **6.8 Double Taxation Agreements with Jersey, UK**

The Double Taxation Avoidance Agreement between Mauritius and Jersey was signed on 03 March 2017. Since both Mauritius and Jersey are members of the Multilateral Convention to implement Tax Treaty Related Measures to prevent Base Erosion and Profit Shifting (MLI-BEPS) of the OECD, both countries have to sign the Protocol amending the DTAA to fully comply with BEPS minimum standards.

Further to regular follow up and proper coordination undertaken by this Ministry between the Ministry of Finance, Economic Planning and Development and the Mission in London, the Protocol amending the Mauritius-Jersey Double Taxation Avoidance Agreement was signed on 08 July 2024 in Jersey and on 09 August 2024 in Mauritius.

Internal process is being currently undertaken for the ratification of the Agreement.

## **6.9 Monaco – Specialised Training in Hospitality**

Capacity building is a major component of our cooperation with Monaco. Mauritian students are thereby benefitting from specialised training in the Principality of Monaco.

As a result of consultations with Monaco with the support of our Honorary Consul there, the Protocole D'Accord entre Maurice et Monaco– Programme d'Échange dans le domaine de l'Hôtellerie et de la Restauration is being renewed.

As such the Agreement aims at improving the skills of MITD students in the hotel and catering industry as well as allowing students to acquire knowledge in the field of cooking, pastry making and *sommellerie*.

In April 2025, Ministry gave its no objection to the Ministry of Tourism to proceed with the renewal of the above-named Agreement for period 2025-2027.

## **6.10 Exploration Tour of Norwegian vessels**

Regular interactions with the Norwegian authorities resulted in the exploration tour of the research vessel Dr F. NANSEN, a FAO flagged vessel operating under the FAO/EAF Nansen programme and the conducting of exploratory expeditions and studies in the untapped region of our EEZ.

This is a collaborative research work among the Government of Mauritius, the FAO and the Government of Norway. The research is focused on fisheries resource mapping, biodiversity assessment, seafloor mapping and oceanographic studies.

Fourteen (14) local scientists were onboard in June this year undertaking scientific works along with international experts from FAO and Institution of Marine Research from Norway.

The Vessel also undertook exploratory missions in the Mauritius/Seychelles Joint Management Area in the Mascarene Plateau Region.

Notwithstanding the importance of research, Mauritius has vast potential to explore and develop its marine resources and such collaboration will help to advance sustainable fisheries and ocean research in Mauritius whilst deepening bilateral relations between Mauritius and Norway and promoting SDG 14.

### **6.11 Diplomatic Training Austria**

Following consultations during a meeting between the Austrian Ambassador and the Hon. Minister, the Austrian authorities have for the first time granted a two-week diplomatic training programme entitled “Austria, Diplomacy and International Affairs” scheduled to be held in Austria from 27 October 2025 to 07 November 2025 for young and mid-career Mauritian diplomats.

Such overseas training not only enhances the professionalism of our diplomats to operate efficiently in the complex world of diplomacy and international relations but also provides the added value of learning and benchmarking with their foreign counterparts.

## **7. Americas, Australasia and Sovereignty Issues Directorate**

### **7.1 Upholding the Sovereignty and Territorial Integrity of Mauritius**

Following sustained diplomatic high-level initiatives, the United Nations General Assembly requested the International Court of Justice (ICJ) to give an advisory opinion on the legal consequences of the separation of the Chagos Archipelago from Mauritius in 1965. In its Advisory Opinion of 25 February 2019, the ICJ made it clear that the Chagos Archipelago is and has always been an integral part of the territory of Mauritius.

In its Judgement of 28 January 2021, the International Tribunal for the Law of the Sea fully endorsed the determinations made by the ICJ in its Advisory Opinion and held that Mauritius has undisputed sovereignty over the Chagos Archipelago.

Following the meeting which the Hon Prime Minister had with then UK Prime Minister Elizabeth Truss on 21 September 2022 in New York, Mauritius and the United Kingdom decided to begin negotiations on the exercise of sovereignty over the Chagos Archipelago.

Mauritius will endeavour expeditiously to conclude a negotiated agreement that respects international law and the sovereignty of Mauritius, respects the interests of the former inhabitants of the Chagos Archipelago, enhances environmental cooperation, protects and preserves vital security interests on Diego Garcia, and builds a long-term strategic partnership between Mauritius and the UK as close Commonwealth partners.

As regards Tromelin which also forms an integral part of the territory of Mauritius, we look forward to the early resolution of the dispute over that island in the spirit of friendship that characterizes the relations between Mauritius and France.

## **7.2 Enhancing relations with Australia**

Mauritius and Australia share common values and work in close collaboration across multilateral, regional and international organisations.

Our strong bonds of friendship have been forged by the considerable size of the Mauritian diaspora in Australia and student alumni.

Mauritius and Australia enjoy a strong bilateral relationship based on the basis of a wide range collaboration in various spheres namely blue economy, maritime security and climate change.

This year marks the 54 years of diplomatic relations between Mauritius and Australia. Our excellent relations with Australia was given a fresh impetus with the exchange of views on our bilateral cooperation during the meeting of Dr. the Hon Navinchandra Ramgoolam, GCSK, FRCP with Hon. Anthony Albanese, Prime Minister of Australia in November 2024.



Our collaboration with Australia in the education sector is strong and well-established. During the official visit of the former Assistant Minister for Foreign Affairs of Australia Mr Tim Watts in December 2024, the Assistant Foreign

Minister highlighted that Australia's largest international University campus in Africa is found in Mauritius. There is a growing interest among Mauritian students for Australian education.



### **7.3 Building a long-term strategic partnership with the United States of America**

Mauritius and the US share excellent bilateral relations. Our longstanding partnership is based on deep friendship, shared values of democracy, pursuit of inclusiveness, pluralism and cultural affinities.

Bilateral cooperation between Mauritius and the United States of America encompass maritime security, the fight against drug trafficking, trade and investment, regional security, the promotion of democratic values and the creation of a more inclusive society.

The African Maritime Forces Summit was hosted by Mauritius in June 2025 in Mauritius. Military and government leaders from 45 countries participated in the event which addressed transnational maritime security challenges in the African region. This summit marked another significant step in responding to the complex and dynamic challenges in the Western Indian ocean and advancing maritime security.

The US is building its Embassy and it has invested USD 300 million for its construction. The construction is now halfway and the Topping- Out ceremony

was held on 11 December 2025. The construction of the US Embassy in Mauritius further demonstrates the strength of our partnership with the US and the new Embassy compound represents a tangible symbol of long-term diplomatic engagement, continued cooperation and shared values.

The Hon. Minister of Foreign Affairs, Regional Integration and International Trade had a fruitful bilateral meeting with the US Deputy Secretary of State, Mr Christopher Landau in the margins of the 80th session of the United Nations General Assembly in September 2025. Both sides acknowledged the strong bilateral relations between Mauritius and the US.

Mauritius will host the 18th US-Africa- Business Summit in 2026 which further demonstrates our commitment to strengthen Africa-US economic relations. The selection of Mauritius as the host country bears testimony to the deep commitment in strengthening a mutually beneficial trade and investment relationship between Africa and the United States.

Deepening bilateral cooperation with Canada.

Mauritius and Canada share an enduring friendship reinforced by shared values and interests, people-to-people connections through an important Mauritian diaspora and students. We share common pursuits such as democracy and good governance, inclusive development, ambitious action on climate change and a fair rules-based international order.

We received the visit of officials from the Immigration and Citizenship Canada (IRCC) in November 2025 to discuss outreach activities in support of Canada's immigration programme with relevant stakeholders.

The new High Commissioner of Canada accredited to Mauritius presented his credentials on 3 December. 2025. Mauritius and Canada look forward to broaden its bilateral relations in the education sector, climate change and other sectors for the mutual benefit of both countries.

## **8. Asia, Indo-Pacific, Russia and Ukraine Directorate**

### **8.1 Visit of Dr. S. Jaishankar, Minister of External Affairs of India, 16 to 17 July 2024**

The Minister of External Affairs India, Dr S. Jaishankar, undertook an official visit to Mauritius from 16 to 17 July 2024.

During the visit, 12 India-assisted Community Development Projects were virtually inaugurated. A Mediclinic in Grand Bois was also inaugurated, together

with the first overseas Jan Aushadi Kendra, reflecting the deep and longstanding cooperation between the two countries, particularly in the health sector.

A number of bilateral agreements and official documents were exchanged in areas such as the development of the India–Mauritius Joint Satellite, digitisation of immigration archives, education and culture.

Dr Jaishankar also presented Overseas Citizenship of India (OCI) cards to the first two seventh-generation Mauritian citizens and handed over a royalty cheque for the sale of nautical charts, pursuant to the bilateral MoU on the sale of navigational charts.

The visit reaffirmed the steadfast commitment of both Mauritius and India to strengthening multifaceted bilateral relations and further deepening their close People-to-People ties.

## **8.2 8th Indian Ocean Conference (IOC), 16 to 17 February 2025, Oman**

Hon. Dhananjay Ramful, Minister of Foreign Affairs, Regional Integration and International Trade participated in the 8th Indian Ocean Conference (IOC) 2025, held in Muscat, Oman, from 16 to 17 February 2025.

The Conference brought together key stakeholders from across the Indian Ocean region and beyond to deliberate on maritime security, economic cooperation, and regional stability.

The event, organised by the India Foundation in collaboration with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Oman and the S. Rajaratnam School of International Studies (RSIS), saw the participation of Ministers, Diplomats, industry leaders, and experts from over 45 countries.

## **8.3 Visit of the Prime Minister of India to Mauritius, 11 to 12 March 2025**

The Prime Minister of the Republic of India, Shri Narendra Modi, was on a State Visit to Mauritius from 11 to 12 March 2025. Shri Narendra Modi was the Chief Guest for our National Day Celebrations marking the 57 years of Independence of Mauritius and the 33rd Anniversary of the Republic.

The following 8 agreements were exchanged during the visit:

- (a) MoU between the Financial Crimes Commission, Mauritius and the Central Bureau of Investigation, India;
- (b) MoU between the Financial Crimes Commission, Mauritius and the Directorate of Enforcement, India;

- (c) Technical Agreement on the sharing of White Shipping Information between the Indian Navy and the Mauritius Police Force;
- (d) Credit Facility Agreement between the Government of Mauritius and the State Bank of India to finance projects being implemented by the Central Water Authority under the Pipe Replacement Programme;
- (e) MoU between the Sushma Swaraj Institute of Foreign Service in New Delhi, India, and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Regional Integration and International Trade;
- (f) MoU between the Ministry of Industry, SME and Cooperatives and the Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises of the Republic of India;
- (g) MoU between the Ministry of Public Service and Administrative Reforms of Mauritius and the National Centre of Good Governance on the training of public officers; and
- (h) MoU between the Department for Continental Shelf, Maritime Zones Administration and Exploration and the Indian National Centre for Ocean Information Services.

The Area Health Centre of Cap Malheureux and 20 Small Development Projects, all funded by the Government of India, were also e-inaugurated.

#### **8.4 Exchange of Notes for the acquisition of a tug boat from Japan**

Mauritius continues to strengthen its cooperation with Japan in the field of maritime safety and security. An Exchange of Notes for a grant amounting to approximately 1 billion Japanese Yen (equivalent to around Rs 300 million), was effected on 14 March 2025, for the acquisition of a tug boat, under Japan's Economic and Social Development Programme.

The tugboat will enhance the operational capacity of the Mauritius Ports Authority by supporting day-to-day port activities and, where required, by undertaking emergency response missions in the high seas, including towing operations, firefighting, pollution control and assistance to vessels in distress. This investment will significantly contribute to the country's maritime resilience and its preparedness to manage maritime incidents.

On this occasion, Mauritius and Japan reaffirmed the long-standing bilateral relations shared since the establishment of diplomatic ties in 1968. The principles of democracy, rule of law, sustainable development and peace in the Indian Ocean region were highlighted as the foundations of this partnership.

### **8.5 3rd Japan-Africa Public Private Economic Forum**

The 3<sup>rd</sup> Japan-Africa Public Private Economic Forum took place in Abidjan, Cote d'Ivoire on 16 December 2024.

The Forum provided the opportunity for Japanese and African Companies as well as key business institutions to highlight their work in Africa.

Hon. Mr. Hambyrajen Narsinghen, Junior Minister, participated in the event held under the theme "*Collaboration, co-innovation, co-creation with Africa to develop our future*".

The high-level forum aimed to deepen economic ties between Japan and African countries, and brought together Ministers and other high-ranking representatives from both sides.

### **8.6 9th Forum on China-Africa Cooperation (FOCAC), 02 to 06 September 2024, Beijing**

Mauritius participated to the 9<sup>th</sup> Forum on China-Africa Cooperation (FOCAC) held in Beijing from 02 to 06 September 2024.

The theme of the Summit was "*Joining Hands to Advance Modernization and Building a Community with a Shared Future*". The Summit of Heads of States was preceded by the FOCAC Senior Officials Meeting and the FOCAC Ministerial Conference, held on 02 and 03 September 2024, respectively.

Moreover, with a view to furthering our bilateral relations, the Chinese Vice Premier announced a grant of RMB 200 million equivalent to Rs 1.2 billion for joint projects, to be mutually agreed by both sides.

Furthermore, the Economic Development Board (EDB) and other Mauritian businesses participated in the 8<sup>th</sup> Conference of Chinese and African Entrepreneurs which was held on 06 September 2024, in the margins of the Summit.

A Bilateral Currency Swap Agreement (BCSA) was also signed between the Bank of Mauritius and the People's Bank of China (PBC) of RMB 2 billion/MUR 13 billion. This arrangement is a key pillar of financial cooperation between BoM and PBC and is designed to promote and facilitate bilateral trade and investment between the two countries. The effective period of the BCSA is three years which can be extended on mutual consent.

## 8.7 Visa Waiver Agreement between Mauritius and Ukraine

An Agreement on the Mutual Abolition of Visa Requirements between the Government of the Republic of Mauritius and the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine, was signed on 08 August 2024.

The signing of this Visa Waiver Agreement between Mauritius and Ukraine formalised the mutual abolition of visa requirements for nationals of both countries.

## 9. Middle East and Indian Ocean Islands Directorate

### 9.1 Countries in the Indian Ocean

In line with Government Programme to strengthen regional dynamics by promoting regional cooperation and enhancing economic integration, the Regional Cooperation and Integration Council has been re-established as a high level public private sector forum to address regional policy issues, with the aim of creating a synergy between Government and private sector economic operators to tap into opportunities for the region.

In order to reduce the cost of living and to ensure self-sufficiency, this Ministry is working with the State Trading Corporation and the IOC Secretariat and exploring avenues for pooled procurement of basic necessities.

### 9.2 Joint Commissions and bilateral issues

It is known that Joint Commissions provide a platform for countries to discuss on existing bilateral agreements and projects, as well as proposed areas of cooperation and to this end the Directorate monitors on the implementation of the progress achieved under the Joint Commissions with neighbouring countries. The second Joint Commission with **Madagascar** was held in May 2024 where discussions were held on connectivity, judicial cooperation, recruitment of manpower and illicit trafficking.

Mauritius also has excellent relations with the Union of **Comoros**. The first Joint Commission with the Union of Comoros was held in 2017, and the Directorate is actively preparing for the second Joint Commission in the forthcoming months.

The 13th Session of the Mauritius-**Seychelles** Commission on Bilateral Cooperation (CBC) dates back to April 2023. Various areas of cooperation including Ocean/Blue Economy, Fisheries, Agriculture, Financial Sector, Legal Affairs, Security and ICT were discussed. It is proposed to do a follow up on the progress achieved during the 14th Session of the Mauritius-Seychelles CBC to be held later this year or early next year.

The joint management of the extended Continental Shelf with Seychelles is a major success, and we are committed to achieve the goals set in the 2023-2027 Strategic Plan for Development of the Joint Management Areas of the Mascarene Plateau Region.

To counter the labour shortage in Mauritius, we are working to conclude a Memorandum of Understanding on Recruitment and Employment of workers from Madagascar.

With Seychelles, a new Bilateral fisheries Agreement is being finalized which will allow Mauritian vessels to fish in the Seychelles fishing zone for another period of 3 years.

### **9.3 Official visits and high level delegations**

High level visits take place regularly between Mauritius and neighbouring countries.

The Hon. Prime Minister visited Madagascar twice in the context of the Fifth Summit of the Indian Ocean Commission (IOC) and the 45th Ordinary Summit of SADC Heads of State and Government, and had the opportunity to raise bilateral issues of interest with the previous President of Madagascar. The Hon. Prime Minister took the opportunity during the IOC Summit to hand over to the Malagasy President a gold consignment which was illegally being siphoned off Madagascar, and was transiting through Mauritius to Dubai. This gesture of goodwill was highly appreciated by the Malagasy side.

His Excellency the President was invited to attend the 50th anniversary celebration of the Independence of the Union of Comoros. During his visit, he had discussions with the President of Comoros and reinforced the engagement of Mauritius to foster partnerships and create economic opportunities based on mutual respect.

#### **9.4 Cooperation with Middle East countries**

We have prioritised the strengthening of our bilateral relations with countries in the Middle East, especially the rich countries in the GCC, which hold immense potential in terms of developing our high end tourism industry. We are thankful to the financing provided by Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, UAE for our infrastructure development. The Arab countries have always been attentive to our requests for financing, and are an important partner in the infrastructure development of the country, such as the Flacq Teaching Hospital, Cancer Hospital, Social Housing Sector, New Eye Hospital.

The Saudi Fund for Development is co-financing the construction of the Rivière-des-Anguilles Dam which is set to begin by the end of 2025, and end by 2029. Upon completion, the dam will provide drinking water to a population of around 40,000 in the South West of Mauritius.

The Directorate will continue to engage with countries in the Middle East for the conclusion of bilateral agreements in order to promote bilateral cooperation in various sectors including double taxation avoidance agreement, investment promotion agreements, trade and tourism as well as judicial cooperation agreements concerning Transfer of Prisoners, Extradition and Mutual legal assistance in criminal matters.

Following the signature of the Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement with the UAE and its ratification, the Directorate will coordinate with the International Trade Division for its sensitization to the wider business community, in order to reap the benefits of this Agreement.

The Directorate is also following up on negotiations towards a Double Taxation Avoidance Agreement with the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, in order to encourage investments from this Gulf country.

A Memorandum of Understanding between the Ministry of Islamic Affairs, Dawah and Guidance of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia and the Islamic Cultural Centre of Mauritius is ready for signature, and it will provide the required funding for the refurbishment of mosques.

The Executive Programme for Cultural Cooperation with Saudi Arabia is also ready for signature and it will include co-operation to enhance cultural cooperation and exchange between the parties in the fields of heritage, music, literature and visual arts.

## **9.5 Political situation in the Middle East**

The Directorate is focal for the monitoring of the fragile crisis situation in the middle east. We continue to reiterate the position of Mauritius in advocating for the de-escalation and a peaceful resolution of conflicts. Our solidarity with the Palestinian people is unflinching, and we voice out our stand in all international fora. The Directorate issued several public statements over the ongoing conflict and the precarious humanitarian situation in Gaza. While condemning all acts of violence, we expressed our deep apprehensions over the Israeli plan to fully occupy the Gaza strip, as this jeopardises the Two State solution. On 18 August 2025, the Minister of Foreign Affairs and Expatriates of the State of Palestine has conveyed the profound appreciation of Palestine for the clear and principled position of Mauritius reaffirming the inherent and inalienable rights of the Palestinian people to life, dignity and statehood.

## **10. Digital Transformation, Communication and Capacity Development (DTCCD) Directorate**

### **10.1 Digital Communication and Strategic Information Dissemination**

During the financial year 2024/2025, the Ministry successfully built a robust, efficient and effective digital communication infrastructure, transforming its website into a vital hub and key platform for information exchange and sharing.

This system ensures the timely and consistent delivery of official communiqués, statements, and news, offering up-to-date, high-quality information to staff, the public, and the diaspora. The website effectively highlighted all important news, major announcements and guiding users easily to essential resources, especially during crisis situations.

To maximize reach and broaden public awareness, this crucial information was also successfully disseminated on time through the Government's social media platforms, such as the GIS Facebook and Instagram pages, and communicated to the local press. This enhanced efficiency is especially crucial during crisis situations, significantly reinforcing the Ministry's strategic response capacity and supporting critical decision-making across every level.

To further enhance service delivery and better assist the public more efficiently, the Ministry is actively collaborating with the Ministry of Information Technology, Communication and Innovation (MITCI) to revamp its website.

## **10.2 Strategic Support for Ministerial Communication and Engagement**

The Ministry further strengthened its strategic communication capacity by actively supporting high-level ministerial engagements. This involved playing a crucial role in facilitating and managing the Honourable Minister's media interviews, including the coordination and preparation of briefing materials and subsequent content dissemination. Through the effective management of these interactions, the Ministry successfully conveyed the Government's key policy positions and diplomatic messages, significantly enhancing the visibility of the Government's work across various domestic and international audiences.

## **10.3 Diplomatic Knowledge Exchange with Students**

The Ministry actively strengthened its academic outreach by hosting 26 international law students from the Middlesex University, Mauritius, in April 2025. This interactive session involved high-level participation from the Minister, Junior Minister, Supervising Officer and Mauritian Diplomats. The diverse international student group engaged officials on critical diplomatic topics, including treaty ratification processes, the submission of state reports under UN mechanisms, and the Ministry's operational function in maintaining diplomatic relations. This initiative successfully fostered knowledge exchange and enhanced the Ministry's visibility.

## **10.4 Capacity Development on Climate Financing**

In May 2025, the Ministry significantly bolstered its staff capacity development by successfully hosting a high-level knowledge-sharing event focused on the Taskforce on Access for Climate Finance. This critical initiative was designed to enhance the specialized knowledge of diplomatic staff concerning complex international funding mechanisms.

The event brought together leading international experts, featuring Professor Jeremy Hills, Senior Consultant for the Taskforce, alongside Rosalind Gater, Senior Cooperation Adviser, and Andrew Hellyer, Programme Implementation Lead, all distinguished officers from the UK Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office (FCDO).

The successful organization of this training ensured staff were effectively engaged on complex and critical areas, including the general introduction to Climate Financing, major financing institutions, access mechanisms, and the Ministry's strategic role in international advisory and resource mobilisation efforts.

## 11. Regional Integration Division

During the period under review, the RID received Technical Assistance and equipment from the regional organisations for line Ministries/institutions. The RID successfully lobbied for the appointment of Mauritian nationals in regional organisations. It also facilitated the signature of the legal instrument in the margins of the SADC Summit. The RID liaised with Directorates of this Ministry regarding the support of Mauritius in international organizations.

### 11.1 Support received from Regional Economic Communities (RECs)

- COMESA donated IT equipment to Statistics Mauritius to support the implementation of Statistical Data and Metadata Exchange at national level. Support was also provided to Mauritius for the compilation of migration statistics.
- Technical assistance (laptops) was also provided by the COMESA Secretariat to the National Women Entrepreneur Council.
- Meteorological equipment was donated by SADC to the Mauritius Meteorological Station.
- Technical Assistance being provided by the SADC to proceed with a Study relating to the establishment of the proposed New Roche Bois Wastewater Pumping Station and Baie Du Tombeau Wastewater Treatment Plant.
- Meteorological equipment received under the SADC Intra-ACP Climate Services and Related Applications Programme (CLIMSA) Programme in 2024.
- Secured funding to the tune of US\$ 39,350 for the project “Enhancing Trade and Investment Facilitation in the IORA Region”.
- The Green Climate Fund (GCF) Secretariat has approved the Readiness Proposal of Mauritius with the Indian Ocean Commission (IOC) as the delivery partner on 18 April 2025. The proposal, to the tune of USD 1,885,105, is for “Enabling the National Adaptation Plan Formulation and Implementation Process and Enhance Private Sector Engagement in Mauritius”.

## **11.2 Signature of legal instruments / Agreements**

- Mauritius signed the Declaration on 17 August 2024 during the SADC Summit of Heads of State and Government in Harare, Zimbabwe. This demonstrated Mauritius' commitment to advancing the rights and protection of persons with albinism in the region.
- The RID held consultations with stakeholders regarding the signature of the Extension Agreement of the COMESA Regional Enterprise Competitiveness and Access to Markets Programme.

## **11.3 Representation in Regional Organisations/Committees**

- Hon. Ah Foon Chui Yew Cheong former Puisne Judge was elected to serve as Judge on the First Instance Division of the COMESA Court of Justice for the period June 2025 – June 2030.
- Mr. Vipin Naugah, was elected as the Chairperson of the Board of Commissioners of the COMESA Competition Commission.
- Mauritius has been elected as member of the SADC Board of Auditors for a three-year period (2024-2027), ensuring financial transparency and accountability within the SADC organization.

## **11.4 Recruitment for Professional Posts**

A Mauritian national, has been appointed as Trade Officer at the COMESA Secretariat. The RID processed, screened and evaluated all applications received.

## **11.5 Support of Mauritius in international organisations**

The RID liaised with Directorates of this Ministry regarding the support of Mauritius in international organizations:

- (i) The following positions were endorsed at the SADC Summit in August 2024:
  - A seat on the Executive Board of United Nations Economic, Scientific and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO) for the term 2023-2027 at the 42<sup>nd</sup> General Conference in November 2023; and
  - A seat on the United Nations Human Rights Council for the term January 2026 - December 2028.
- (ii) The March 2025 SADC Council of Ministers urged Member States to support Mauritius for its re-election to the International Telecommunication

Union (ITU) Council, for the term 2027-2030, at the 23<sup>rd</sup> Plenipotentiary Conference of the ITU in Doha, Qatar in October 2026.

### **11.6 Support / Assistance provided by RID**

- The RID consulted and gathered inputs from various stakeholders for the implementation of COMESA Council decisions at national level.
- COMESA is in the process of developing its Regional Qualification Framework to facilitate the mobility of skills labour the region. A Technical Working Group comprising 8 Member States, including Mauritius, has been established to lead the process.
- Mauritius was selected as the Coordinating Country for China, an IORA Dialogue Partner, from October 2023 to October/November 2025. Our role involves working with the IORA Secretariat and China to identify potential collaborative projects for the Association.
- The IORA Indian Ocean University Network (UNIOR) was launched on 15 November 2024 at the Curtin Mauritius Campus in Moka. UNIOR aims to foster regional university collaboration. The University of Mauritius is a founding member of the Network and, during its first phase, will co-chair the Network alongside Curtin University, Australia.
- Mauritius' application for IORA Special Fund to the tune of US\$ 39,350 for a project entitled "Enhancing Trade and Investment Facilitation in the Indian Ocean Rim Association (IORA) Region" was approved by IORA Member States in October 2024. The project is scheduled to start in April 2025.
- IORA Day was celebrated on 7 March 2025 in Mauritius. The Junior Minister of Foreign Affairs, Regional Integration and International Trade, Hon H. Narsinghen, attended the event.
- Mauritius became a member of the Finance Sub-Committee in April 2024 and assumed chairmanship as from April 2025.
- Mauritius has been elected as member of the SADC Board of Auditors (2024–2027) in August 2024 for a three-year period, ensuring financial transparency and accountability within the SADC organization.
- Technical assistance received from the SADC Secretariat regarding the development of a National Food Fortification Programme, 2024. Mauritius has

launched its National Food Fortification Programme in 2024, a significant milestone in addressing iron deficiency among young girls. Supported by SADC and the Food Fortification Initiative, the programme introduces fortified wheat flour enriched with iron, now available in local markets.

- Mauritius settled its outstanding contributions to the SADC Missions in Mozambique and the Democratic Republic of Congo in January 2025.

### **11.7 The RID facilitated the following events:**

- A new milestone in healthcare training with the launching of the first Master's degree in field epidemiology on 5 July 2024 at the Secretariat of the Indian Ocean Commission (IOC). This training program is aimed at healthcare professionals in the region. 18 students have been selected for this first cohort from the 5 member states.
- Mauritius received technical assistance from the SADC Secretariat to develop its National Action Plan (NAP) on the Women, Peace, and Security (WPS) Agenda. Mauritius' NAP aims to strengthen the country's efforts to promote gender equality and empower the participation of women in peacebuilding and security processes. In August 2024, the Division facilitated the organization of a National Awareness Workshop on the WPS Agenda. The workshop brought together key stakeholders to discuss strategies for integrating the WPS framework into Mauritius' proposed NAP.
- SADC conducted a Pre-Election Goodwill Mission in September 2024 and deployed a 70-members Electoral Observation Mission (SEOM) to Mauritius in November 2024. The RID facilitated the organization of meetings between the SEOM and various stakeholders, including civil society organizations, the media and the election management bodies for both the goodwill mission and the SEOM.
- The Division coordinated arrangements for the SADC Electoral Observer Mission deployed for the National Assembly Elections of Mauritius held on 10 November 2024. It ensured smooth deployment of the Mission and strengthened Mauritius' adherence to regional electoral norms.
- The Division facilitated the organisation of SADC Regional Training Workshop on Gender Statistics in Mauritius on 28 July 2025, bringing together regional stakeholders. It enhanced national and regional capacity in producing and using gender statistics to inform policy and planning.

- The IORA Marine Debris Cleanup Day was held in June 2025 at Ferney. The IORA Marine Debris Cleanup Day brought together local students, line Ministries, diplomatic corps of IORA Member States in Mauritius and the IORA Secretariat in a practical initiative to collect waste in Ferney. Hon. N. Narsinghen, Junior Minister was present at the event. The cleanup contributed towards the implementation of the IORA Strategic Framework of Action on Marine Debris.



**11.8** The Ministry participated in the following conferences during the Financial Year 2024-2025:

- **SADC Council of Ministers Meeting, 12-14 March 2025 and the Extraordinary Summit on SAMIDRC, 13 March 2025**

Mauritius participated in the SADC Council of Ministers meeting held virtually on 12–14 March 2025 and the virtual Extraordinary Summit on 13 March 2025. The Council meeting contributed to deliberations on key regional integration and development issues. The Council meeting oversaw the mid-term evaluation of the SADC Regional Indicative Strategic Development Plan (RISDP) implementation and advanced discussions on regional integration through the Tripartite Free Trade Area (TFTA) and the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA), amongst others. On the other hand, the Extraordinary Summit endorsed the phased withdrawal of SADC troops from the Democratic Republic of Congo following the conclusion of the SADC Mission in the Democratic Republic of Congo (SAMIDRC) mandate.

- **23rd COMESA Summit of Heads of State and Government, October, Bujumbura, Burundi**

The Ministry attended the 23<sup>rd</sup> COMESA Summit of Heads of State and Government which was held on 31 October 2024 in Bujumbura, Burundi under

the theme ‘Accelerating *Regional Integration through the development of Regional value chains in climate resilient, Agriculture, Mining and Tourism*’. Representatives of the Ministry also participated in the Ministers of Foreign Affairs’ meeting, preceding the Summit, on 29 October 2025.

During the Summit, our former Ambassador, Mr Patrice Curé, was sworn in as member of the COMESA Committee of Elders. Ambassador Curé was re-elected for a second term of four years, ending in July 2027.

- **5th IOC Summit of Heads of State and Government, Antananarivo, Madagascar**

The Republic of Madagascar hosted the 5<sup>th</sup> Summit of the Indian Ocean Commission (IOCI) on 24 April 2025 under the theme: "Food Security and Sovereignty for the Development of the Indian Ocean Market". The Summit focused on regional responses to food insecurity, climate change and the need for an integrated market. The leaders reaffirmed the importance of building common resilience in the face of economic and environmental vulnerabilities. The Hon Prime Minister called for a collective effort to preserve marine resources and strengthen cooperation between states. The Summit reflected the ambition for a more resilient, integrated, and solidarity-driven "Indian Ocean region".





- **39th IOC Council of Ministers meeting, Mahe, Seychelles**

The 39<sup>th</sup> Council of Ministers of the Indian Ocean Commission (IOC) was held in Mahé, Seychelles, on 15-16 April 2025. The Council granted observer status to the Republic of Korea, which underscores the IOC's growing global partnerships. The Council reaffirmed its commitment to deepening regional cooperation, with a strong focus on maritime security, climate change, fisheries, and food security. Collaboration with the Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa (COMESA) was further strengthened, highlighting opportunities for synergy in advancing shared objectives.



- **Indian Ocean Rim Association (IORA) Council of Ministers (COM), May 2025 (Virtual)**

Mauritius participated in the Indian Ocean Rim Association (IORA) Council of Ministers (COM) which was held virtually in May 2025. The Mauritius delegation was led by Hon Dhananjay Ramful, Minister of Foreign Affairs, Regional Integration and International Trade.

The COM discussed and reviewed projects and programmes in the six priority areas of co-operation (maritime safety and security, trade and investment facilitation, tourism and cultural exchange, fisheries management, disaster risk management and academic, science and technology co-operation) and two cross cutting issues (Blue economy and women's economic empowerment). The COM endorsed the IORA Guidelines on Combating Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated (IUU) Fishing and the IORA Climate Change Strategic Agenda.



## **12. International Trade Division**

### **12.1 14th and 15th round of technical negotiations between the European Union and Eastern and Southern African States (ESA 5)**

Mauritius actively participated in the 14<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup> rounds of technical negotiations held in October 2024 and March 2025 respectively, during the Financial Year 2024-25 between the European Union and Eastern and Southern African States (ESA 5), comprising Comoros, Madagascar, Mauritius, Seychelles and Zimbabwe, on the deepening of the interim Economic Partnership Agreement.

The negotiations are at an advanced stage, with eight out of the thirteen chapters under discussion now provisionally closed, namely: (i) Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures, (ii) Technical Barriers to Trade, (iii) Partnership in Agriculture, (iv) Fisheries and Aquaculture, (v) Competition Policy (State Owned Enterprises and Competition), (vi) Transparency in Public Procurement, (vii) Economic and Development Cooperation and (viii) Protocol on Mutual Administrative Assistance in Customs Matters .

## **12.2 Improving Market Access into India**

Since the implementation of the Comprehensive Economic Cooperation and Partnership Agreement (CECPA) between Mauritius and India in 2021, the Agreement has emerged as an important instrument in strengthening Mauritius's trade relations with India. The total export value of products under the CECPA rose from Rs 239.8 million in 2023 to Rs 303.5 million in 2024, largely driven by a surge in export of optical and medical instruments. Sugar exports resumed in 2024 amounting to MUR 432,851.

By facilitating greater market access, reducing tariff barriers, and creating new trade opportunities in high-value and strategic sectors, the CECPA is playing a pivotal role in enhancing Mauritius' export performance and deepening its economic partnership with India.

## **12.3 Entry into force of the Tripartite Free Trade Area Agreement**

The COMESA-EAC-SADC Tripartite Free Trade Area (TFTA), officially launched on 10 June 2015, brings together 29 Member States spanning three major Regional Economic Communities. This landmark initiative aims to deepen regional integration and boost intra-African trade.

The TFTA Agreement came into force on 25 July 2024, following the formal ratification by fourteen Member States, thus marking a significant milestone in the African continent's regional integration agenda.

## **12.4 Progress on the African Continental Free Trade Area**

Following the successful completion of negotiations on the annexes to the Protocol on Digital Trade, these have been adopted by the 38<sup>th</sup> Ordinary Assembly of the African Union held in February 2025.

## **12.5 The Africa Growth and Opportunity Act (AGOA) renewal**

The Africa Growth and Opportunity Act (AGOA) has strengthened trade between the U.S. and Sub-Saharan Africa, including Mauritius, boosting exports, jobs, and economic growth. Mauritius plays a key role in the textile and apparel regional value chain. As matters stand, 10.11% of exports were destined to the

US market in 2024. Should the AGOA programme lapse on 30 September 2025, it will have serious implications for our manufacturing sector as it will be difficult for our operators to find new markets in the short-term.

In the pursuit of AGOA renewal, Mauritius has teamed up with the African Diplomatic Corps in Washington to engage with US Government. A short-term renewal of AGOA in its present form, which would give time to the Administration for a review and come up with a new form of partnership to pursue trade and investment strategic goals in Africa. In parallel, Mauritius reiterated the proposal for a Mauritius-US bilateral trade agreement on various occasions.

## **12.6 US Reciprocal tariffs**

On 2 April 2025, President Trump announced reciprocal tariffs based on trade imbalances, with Mauritius initially facing a 40% rate. This was later reduced to 10% during a 90-day pause. On 7 July, the pause was extended to 1 August, with revised rates for several countries.

Mauritius has engaged with the US at several levels under the leadership of the Hon Prime Minister regarding the US reciprocal tariffs. Under the new Executive Order dated 31 July 2025, Mauritius will face a 15% tariff.

## **12.7 China – Mauritius Free Trade Agreement**

The) has set transparent and predictable conditions to enhance trade, investment and economic cooperation between our two countries while at the same time providing a more solid institutional guarantee for deepening our relations.

Since its entry into force in 2021, the China-Mauritius Free Trade Agreement (FTA) has created new market access opportunities for a wider range of goods and services. Mauritius has started exporting products such as sugar, black tea, and garments (including shirts and polo shirts). However, the full benefits of the Agreement are still unfolding, as Mauritius has recently completed its final tariff liberalisation while China will complete its final cut by 2027.

To fully capitalise on the FTA, Ministry is actively engaging with the Chinese side to facilitate the export of fresh fruits (pineapples and litchis) and seafood, which are subject to China's strict sanitary and phytosanitary (SPS) requirements. This process will eventually pave the way for new exports and support the diversification of Mauritius' export to China.

## **12.8 Training and Capacity building of officials in the field of Trade in Services Statistics for the ICT Sector**

The International Trade Division played a pivotal role in facilitating a three-day technical workshop held in Mauritius, spearheaded by the International Trade Centre (ITC) in partnership with the African Trade Observatory (ATO) under the

framework of the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA). The workshop aimed to strengthen national capacities in compiling trade in services statistics, with a particular focus on the ICT sector.

This initiative delivered targeted technical assistance to empower national compilers, statistical experts, and key stakeholders. Participants enhanced their proficiency in methodological frameworks, data sourcing techniques, survey design, and dissemination practices—ensuring alignment with global standards such as MSITS 2010, BPM6/7, and EBOPS classifications.

Beyond technical training, the workshop fostered peer-to-peer learning and institutional collaboration, underscoring the critical need for harmonized approaches to trade in services measurement across the African continent.

### **12.9 The Mauritius-United Arab Emirates Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement (CEPA)**

The Mauritius-United Arab Emirates Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement (CEPA) officially entered into force on 1st April 2025. The CEPA marks a significant step towards the consolidation of bilateral economic and trade ties between Mauritius and the United Arab Emirates (UAE).



The objective of the Agreement is to strengthen trade relations between the two countries, particularly through the reduction or elimination of tariffs on trade in goods and the elimination of non-tariff barriers on trade in goods.

The CEPA also covers trade in services, investment, digital trade, and opens new doors for our businesses. The CEPA provides also a platform for deeper economic cooperation in areas such as manufacturing, healthcare, renewable energy, and ICT between both countries.

## **12.10 Industrial Property- Geographical Indication (GI)**

The Industrial Property Act 2019 established a robust legal and regulatory framework to safeguard industrial property (IP) and foster an environment conducive to innovation through IP protection. Particular emphasis in the year 2024 was placed on Geographical Indications, which is a relatively new and complex area for Mauritius

### *(i) Short term project on unrefined sugar*

In mid-2024, the Ministry benefited from short-term technical assistance from the African Regional Intellectual Property Organization (ARIPO) and the Intellectual Property Rights and Innovation in Africa (AfrIPI) on the Mauritius unrefined sugar. An EU consultant conducted field mission to Mauritius to work with the Mauritius Sugar Syndicate (MSS) and the sugar mills.

A two-day workshop was also held in August 2024 to explore the opportunities associated with the registration of a geographical indication on Mauritius unrefined sugars, which are renowned for their unique and distinctive flavours on international markets.

In addition to the discussions, the workshop featured a tasting session of Mauritian unrefined sugars, allowing participants to experience firsthand the distinctive flavours that set them apart.

### *(ii) Long term technical assistance on GI for Mauritius*

From April to December 2024, a long-term EU-funded project provided technical assistance to prepare eligible Mauritian products for GI registration, namely special sugar, rum, and Rodrigues lime. The project also included comprehensive capacity-building programmes for national agencies involved in GI matters. As a result of this long-term support, Mauritius unrefined sugar was officially granted GI status in December 2024, the first Mauritian product to receive such recognition.



*Tasting of preparations made with Mauritius Unrefined Sugar by the Hon. D. Ramful*

The Ministry is continuing its efforts, in collaboration with the private sector, to complete the remaining procedures for registering other products, including Rodrigues lime.

### **12.11 Climate Competitiveness Project by International Trade Centre**

In June 2023, Mauritius was selected as a beneficiary of the Climate Competitiveness Project, funded by the European Union and implemented in partnership with the International Trade Centre (ITC). The project also includes seven other beneficiary countries: Kenya, Senegal, Ecuador, the Dominican Republic, Vietnam, the Philippines and Nepal.

The objective of the project is to support developing countries' engagement in the Trade and Environmental Sustainability Structured Discussions at the World Trade Organisation. It focuses on working with the beneficiary countries to assess the role that trade and trade policy can play in helping them meet their climate mitigation and adaptation objectives.

As part of this initiative, a national workshop on circular economy and the role of trade policy in lithium-ion battery waste management was held in March 2025. The workshop presented preliminary findings and fostered dialogue among industry and government representatives, with the aim of identifying strategic trade-related actions to strengthen Mauritius' circular economy efforts. The final report is in the process of being finalised.



In addition, under this project, the International Trade Centre (ITC) delivered capacity building activities for small businesses on resource efficiency through its Green Performance Toolkit, including:

- Training of Trainers (ToT) for business organisations in January–February 2025
- Two virtual sessions with Small and Medium Enterprises on sustainability and the importance of data collection systems and the Green Performance Toolkit on 13 and 15 May 2025.

## 13. Human Rights Division

### 13.1 Review of the Fifth Periodic Report of Mauritius to the Committee Against Torture (CAT)

The Fifth Periodic Report of Mauritius to the Committee Against Torture (CAT) took place at the Palais Wilson, Geneva on 09 and 10 April 2025. The delegation of Mauritius led by the Hon. Gavin Patrick Cyril Glover, SC, Attorney-General, comprised the following:

- H.E. Mr. Brian Neil Joseph Glover – Ambassador and Permanent Representative of the United Nations, Geneva
- Ms. Sooraya Gareeboo, Assistant Solicitor General

- Mr. Omduttrajsingh Sewraj – Minister Counsellor
- Ms. Tejaswinee Burumdoyal – Second Secretary
- Mr. Tarun Sharma Bhubooty, Human Rights Officer

During the first day of the Review, the Head of the Delegation, in his opening remarks, emphasised the following:

- (a) Reaffirming the Republic of Mauritius' commitment towards the Rule of Law and International Law;
- (b) Compliance to Human Rights: Treaties and Optional Protocols;
- (c) Commitment to the Convention against Torture and other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment terms of applicability and reporting procedures; and
- (d) Progress made since 2021.

Committee Experts praised the country for the prohibition of corporal punishment through the enactment of the Children's Act 2020; establishment of a special Court for Children and the Child Sex Offenders Register Act.

The Committee was concerned by numerous reports of torture, deaths in police custody, and police violence and abuse in Mauritius, as well as allegations of police interference in investigations of complaints of their misconduct, victims' fear of reprisals, and ineffective protective measures.

While noting the State Party's pledge to adopt a Code of Practice and to strengthen police training, the Committee urged Mauritius to ensure that the Independent Police Complaints Commission is adequately resourced and empowered to investigate all cases of torture and ill-treatment promptly, impartially and effectively and to prosecute perpetrators as appropriate. It also called for stronger measures to prevent reprisals targeting victims, their families, and legal representatives.

Particularly about reported deaths in police custody, the Committee noted with concern that only a few cases had led to investigations or prosecutions. It called upon Mauritius to ensure all such deaths are promptly and independently investigated, including through independent forensic examinations, in line with the Minnesota Protocol. It also asked the State Party to provide the Committee with detailed data on all deaths in detention, their causes, and investigation outcomes.

The Head of the Delegation responded to the questions posed by the Committee members informing that the new Government would set up a Constitutional Review Commission to make recommendations for constitutional reforms that will enforce the protection of fundamental rights. In addition, written answers

and questions not directly answered during the review were sent to the CAT Committee on Monday 04 April 2025.

The Concluding Observations was published on **04 June 2025** and the State received 23 Recommendations. The State needs to submit its follow-up report on certain Recommendations by **02 May 2026**. The 6<sup>th</sup> Periodic Report is expected on the **06 May 2029**.

## Status on Implementation of Key Actions

The table below shows the status of the Key Actions and the Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) pertaining to the Ministry as at 30 June 2025:

Outcome	Outcome Indicator	Target 2024/25	Achievements as at 30 June 2025	Remarks
Stronger economic growth through effective foreign policy and enhanced international trade	Percentage nominal growth in exports of goods & services	5%	1%	As per the Ministry of Finance, exports of goods and services are as follows:  2023/24 – Rs 458,374 M (Growth Rate: 9.8%)  2024/25 – Rs 462,881 M (Growth Rate: 1.0%)

Delivery Unit	Main Service	Key Performance Indicator	Target 2024/25	Achievements as at 30 June 2025	Remarks
<b>Overseas Mission</b>	Creating opportunities for export of goods and services and promotion of investment	Number of trade and investment links or leads initiated and/or established	326	313	
	Securing economic opportunities through the implementation of various diplomatic strategies	Number of Agreements and MOUs concluded with various countries or under negotiation	73	124	
<b>International Trade Division</b>	Expanding trade agreements and market access opportunities	The holding of 3rd UK-EPA Committee to oversee the implementation and address operational issues	June 2026	-	The 3 <sup>rd</sup> UK-EPA Committee is expected to be held tentatively by June 2026, subject to the availability of all Parties (UK and ESA)

		Pursue phase II SADC Trade in services negotiations	Dec 2026	-	The Phase II negotiations on trade in services is currently ongoing focusing on business, distribution, educational, environmental, health, recreational, cultural and sporting services, amongst others.
		Finalise negotiations on the deepening of the Interim EPA with the EU	Dec 2025	Significant progress was made in several areas during the negotiations. A key achievement was the technical closure of the Economic and Development Cooperation (EDC) chapter. With this development, eight of the thirteen negotiated chapters are now provisionally closed.	The 15th Round of talks between the EU and the ESA 5 (Comoros, Madagascar, Mauritius, Seychelles and Zimbabwe) was held in hybrid mode from 3rd to 7th March 2025 in Brussels.
	Strengthening engagement with the WTO	Finalisation and adoption of a comprehensive Fisheries Subsidies Agreement at the WTO	Dec 2026	-	To support implementation, the WTO Fisheries Subsidies Agreement, Mauritius intends to submit project proposals to the WTO Fish Fund by the deadline of 09 October 2025.

					Note: No progress has been made on the "second wave" of negotiations to address subsidies contributing to overcapacity and overfishing, to achieve a comprehensive agreement.
	Creating a proper Industrial Property Framework	Implementation of the Geographical Indication (GI) component of the Industrial Property Act 2019	(1)To register eligible Mauritian products, namely, special sugar, rum, and Rodrigues lime as GI.  (2) To build the capacity of relevant national Agencies in the field of GI	(1) Mauritius unrefined sugar became the first product to be officially granted GI status in December 2024.  (2) Capacity building programmes conducted by EU experts on GI was completed.	The Ministry is continuing its efforts, in collaboration with businesses, to complete the remaining procedures for registering other products, including Rodrigues lime.  -
<b>Regional Integration Division</b>	Preparation of regional projects for funding	Number of regional projects submitted to Regional Economic Communities	5	5	(i) Enhancing Trade and Investment Facilitation in the IORA region. (ii) Entrepreneurship and Technology Training Programme (iii) Capacity Building Workshop: Building Capacities for Cultural and

					<p>Heritage Tourism for a Sustainable Future</p> <p>(iv) National workshop for validation of study on leather value chain.</p> <p>(v) Enabling the National Adaptation Plan Formulation and Implementation Process and Enhance Private Sector Engagement in Mauritius</p>
<b>Human Rights Division</b>	Timely reports to be forwarded to Treaty Bodies	Number of reports to be submitted	1	-	No report was submitted during the period 2024/25, as the deadline of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (ICCPR) Report was still being awaited.

## **Risk Management, Citizen Oriented Initiatives & Good Governance**

### **Risk Management**

Risk management, recognised as an integral part of responsible management and the Ministry, helps to become more reactive to change and make better decisions on how to operate more effectively in the future, ultimately leading to better citizen outcomes and improved internal efficiency.

### **Good Governance**

#### **❖ *Audit Committee***

In line with the Government decision that an Audit Committee should be set up in all Ministries/Departments with a view to minimise the number of audit queries, an Audit Committee, chaired by the Deputy Permanent Secretary, is operational at the level of the Ministry to review management and control processes throughout the organisation.

During the period under review, the Audit Committee met on 6 occasions to review progress in implementing corrective actions proposed by the Director of Audit as well as reports from the Internal Control.

#### **❖ *Internal Control Unit***

Internal audit is an independent objective assurance and consulting activity that is guided by a philosophy of adding value to improve the operations of the Ministry. It assists the management in accomplishing its objectives through a systematic, disciplined approach to evaluate and improve the effectiveness of risk management, control and governance processes.

The Internal Control Cadre, which falls under the aegis of the Ministry of Finance, provides internal audit services to Ministries. The Internal Control Unit of Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Regional Integration and International Trade is headed by one Assistant Manager, Internal Control, who is assisted by an Internal Control Officer/Senior Internal Control Officer for the year 2024-2025.

To maintain the independence and objectivity of the Internal Audit function, the Assistant Manager, Internal Control reports directly to the Accounting Officer. The Internal Control Unit is supervised by the Audit Committee for proper functioning.

### **Achievement for the year**

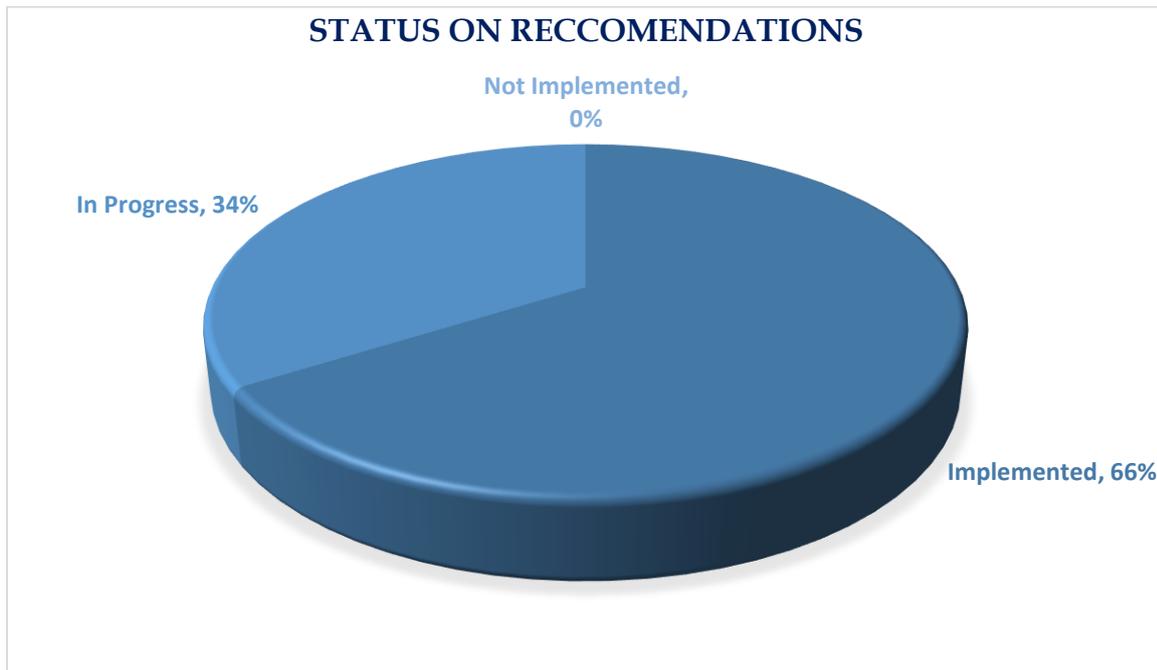
After consultation with the Accounting Officer, Audit Committee and other stakeholders, a risk-based internal audit plan was prepared in line with the Ministry's strategies, objectives and associated risks for the Financial Year 2024/25.

The Accounting Officer and the Audit Committee are informed of the performance achievement relative to the plan on a quarterly basis.

During the Financial Year 2024/25, 10 audit assignments were planned, out of which 6 audit assignments were completed, representing around 60% of the Annual Internal Audit Plan 2024/25.

### **Follow up audit**

Follow up audit was carried out on 52 recommendations made in reports issued for the Financial Year 2023/24 to determine the status of recommendations implemented. At least 66% of the recommendations has been implemented with 34%, still in progress. Results of the follow up audit are illustrated in the Pie Chart below.



*Figure 5: Status on Recommendations*

### ***Special Assignments***

Special assignments were also carried out on the request of management during the Financial Year 2024/25. There were a total of 12 special assignments, which have been carried out during the Financial Year under purview.

### **Implementation Plan – Director of Audit Comments**

The shortcomings noted in the Reports of the Director of Audit for the FY 2022/2023 and 2023/2024 were discussed at the level of the Audit Committee and a close follow up was carried out on the issues reported.

# PART III



# FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE

## Financial Highlights

The Budget 2024-2025 makes provision for 3 sub-heads, where funds have been allocated as follows:

Sub-Head	Details	2024-2025 Estimates (Rs '000)
13-401	General	99,200
13-402	Foreign Relations and Regional Integration	1,753,100
13-403	International Trade	72,700
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1,925,000</b>

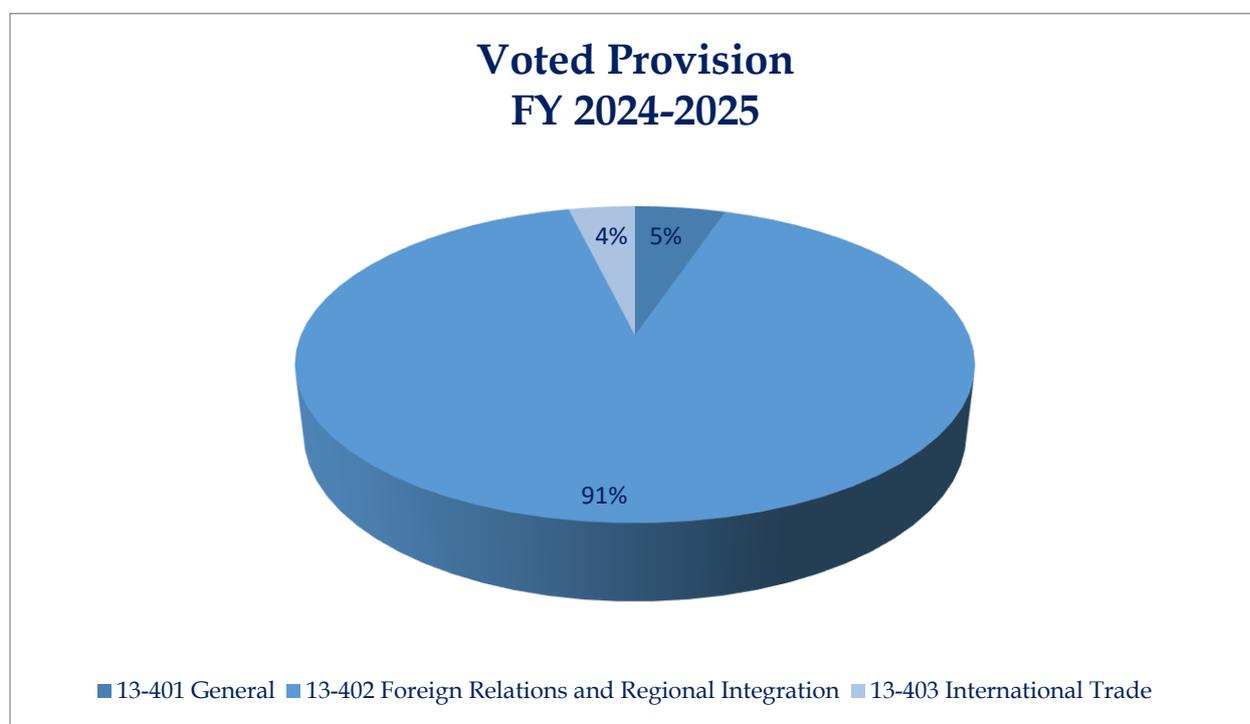


Figure 6: Voted Provision FY 2024-2025

## Analysis of Major Changes

The overall budgetary allocation of the Ministry has increased from Rs 1.531 billion in financial year 2023/2024 to Rs 1.925 billion in financial year 2024/2025. This difference of Rs 394 million represents:

- (i) increase in Recurrent Budget by Rs 417.8 million in respect of Compensation of Employees, Goods and Services and Grants; and

- (ii) decrease in Capital Budget by Rs 23.8 million in respect of Acquisition of Non-Financial Assets.

## Statements of Revenue and Expenditure

### Statement of Revenue

Table 1 below shows a summary of total revenue from Sales of Goods and Services (Trade Mark, Patents and Industrial Designs) and other sources which were collected by the Ministry.

Revenue	2023-2024 Estimates (Rs)	2023-2024 Actual (Rs)
Sales of Goods and Services (Trade Mark, Patents, Industrial Design)	28,638,000	30,021,400
Miscellaneous Revenues	0	4,034,259
<b>Total Revenue</b>	<b>28,638,000</b>	<b>34,055,659</b>

*Table 1*

### Statement of Expenditure

Table 2 provides a summary of total expenditure incurred by the Ministry under Vote 13-4 (Ministry) which includes Sub-Heads 13-401, 13-402 and 13-403.

Head/Sub-Head of Expenditure	2023-2024 Actual Rs	2024-2025 Estimates Rs	2024-2025 Actual Rs
<b>Vote 13-4 Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Regional Integration and International Trade</b>			
<b>Sub-Head 13-401: General</b>			
Compensation of Employees	75,432,123	86,023,000	83,662,986
Goods and Services	13,658,914	13,944,000	13,686,423
<b>Total</b>	<b>89,091,037</b>	<b>99,967,000</b>	<b>97,349,409</b>
<b>Sub-Head 13-402: Foreign Relations and Regional Integration</b>			
Compensation of Employees	480,488,016	521,553,000	486,376,692

Goods and Services	334,698,762	373,700,000	318,771,571
Grants: Contribution to International Organisations	508,076,992	840,712,000	836,830,271
Donation to Foreign Governments	5,594,163	1,435,000	1,363,225
Acquisition of Non-Financial Assets	10,176,898	22,400,000	11,722,821
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,339,034,831</b>	<b>1,759,800,000</b>	<b>1,655,064,580</b>
<b>Sub-Head 13-403: International Trade</b>			
Compensation of Employees	36,168,445	36,678,000	35,093,127
Goods and Services	20,526,606	28,722,000	25,547,709
Grants: Contribution to International Organisations	5,121,472	4,900,000	4,463,985
Acquisition of Non-Financial Assets	300,000	400,000	379,443
<b>Total</b>	<b>62,116,523</b>	<b>70,700,000</b>	<b>65,484,264</b>
<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURE for Vote 13-4</b>	<b>1,490,242,391</b>	<b>1,930,467,000</b>	<b>1,817,898,253</b>
<b>Actual expenditure as compared to Estimated <math>\approx</math> 94.17%</b>			

**Table 2**

Table 3 below shows the total actual expenditure of all the 3 Sub Heads of the different components and their respective percentage of the total expenditure.

<b>Components</b>	<b>2024-2025 Rs</b>	<b>Percentage (%)</b>
Compensation of Employees	605,132,805	33.29%
Goods and Services	358,005,703	19.69%
Grants: Contribution to International Organisations	841,294,256	46.28%
Donation to Foreign Governments	1,363,225	0.07%
Acquisition of Non-Financial Assets	12,102,264	0.67%
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,817,898,253</b>	<b>100%</b>

**Table 3**

The pie chart below gives a graphical distribution of the expenditure incurred during the financial year 2024-2025.

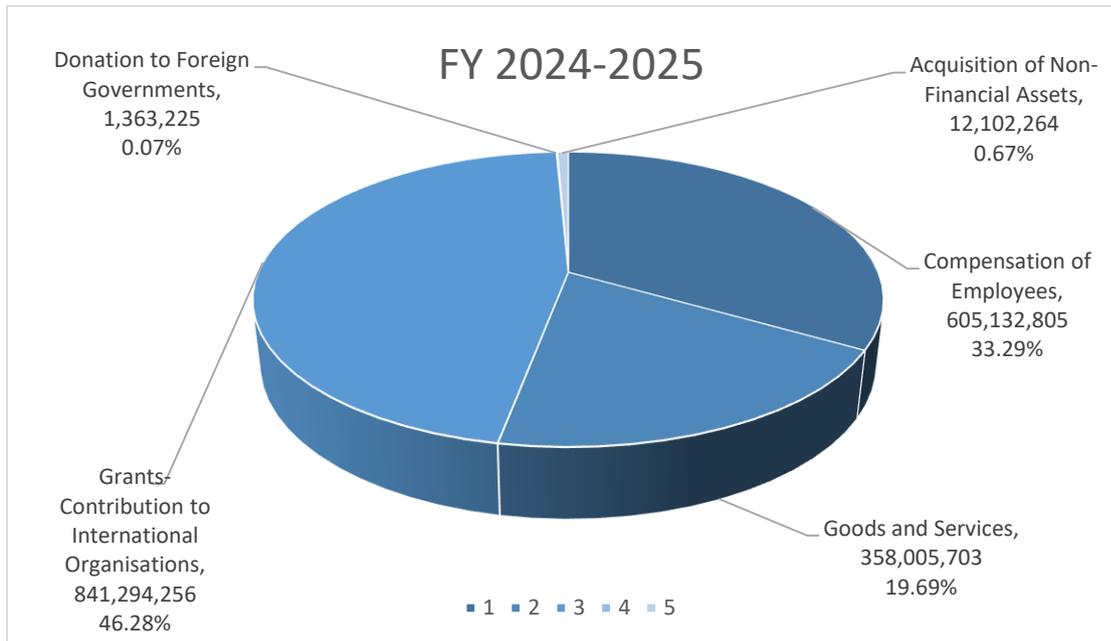


Figure 7: Distribution of Expenditure FY 2024-25

# PART IV



# WAY FORWARD

## **Trends and Challenges**

### ***Key Challenges***

- ❖ Ongoing conflicts which may continue to affect movement of goods and individuals worldwide
- ❖ Political uncertainties due to regional and international conflicts impacting commodity prices and global supply chains
- ❖ Erosion of market share in our traditional trade partners against emerging and low-cost-high-volume producer countries
- ❖ Dependency on a limited basket of goods and services of export interest
- ❖ Vulnerability to rising global inflation being a Net Food Importing Developing Country
- ❖ Increasing stringent quality standards and regulations in international markets
- ❖ Uncertainty regarding the renewal of African Growth and Opportunity Act (AGOA)

## Strategic Direction 2025-2028

Strategic Direction	Enabler
<p><b>Strengthen bilateral and international relations with a view to diversifying the economic space of Mauritius</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Hold Joint Commissions and Political Dialogues with individual or group of countries to, inter alia, expand trade and investment opportunities and promote capacity building</li> <li>▪ Conclude new bilateral agreements in new areas of cooperation</li> <li>▪ Participate actively in international fora for increased political influence</li> </ul>
<p><b>Reinforce engagement with the WTO</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Securing meaningful outcomes for Mauritius on key issues being negotiated or mooted at the WTO, including fisheries subsidies, agriculture, E-commerce Work Programme, special and differential treatment, services, dispute settlement, and the Joint Statement Initiative.</li> <li>▪ Advocating for the recognition of Mauritius unique challenges and needs as a Small Island Developing State (SIDS) in WTO negotiations, particularly regarding access to markets, climate change impacts, and sustainable development.</li> <li>▪ Engaging in strategic partnerships with other like -minded economies within the WTO to amplify collective voices and secure better trade outcomes for vulnerable economies.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Deepen trade relations and economic partnership with Development Partners to unlock growth potential</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Pursue and/or complete negotiations on the deepening of the Economic Partnership Agreement (EPA) with EU to enhance market access</li> <li>▪ Engage in strategic negotiations with SADC Member States to advance trade in services across key sectors, including business, distribution, education, environment, healthcare, recreation, culture, and sports, among others. Complete outstanding negotiations on AfCFTA and ensure its effective implementation</li> <li>▪ Complete negotiations on the COMESA-EAC-SADC Tripartite FTA</li> <li>▪ Pursue ways to boost intra-COMESA trade by eliminating non-tariff barriers and implementing trade facilitation measures.</li> <li>▪ Pursue discussions with the US administration on the Mauritius US bilateral trade agreement</li> <li>▪ Implementation of the Mauritius-UAE CEPA</li> <li>▪ Pursue discussions with the Chinese authorities to enhance trade with China including facilitating export of fresh fruits (pineapples and litchis) as well as seafood</li> <li>▪ Pursue negotiations at the regional forefront on new services sectors</li> </ul>

<p><b>Promote regional cooperation and integration</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Elaborate regional projects in specific areas of interest</li> <li>▪ Assist in the improvement of air and digital connectivity</li> <li>▪ Enhancement of intra-regional trade and investment</li> <li>▪ Foster industrialisation through regional linkages</li> <li>▪ Advocate Science, Technology and Innovation to enhance creativity, learning capability and job creation</li> <li>▪ Ensure sustainable use of marine resources</li> <li>▪ Enhance maritime domain awareness</li> </ul>
<p><b>Create a conducive environment for business and innovation through a proper industrial property framework</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Pursue efforts in collaboration with businesses, to complete the remaining procedures for registering other products, including Rodrigues lime.</li> <li>▪ Engaged with relevant stakeholders on the development of a framework for the implementation of international exhaustion regime for a selected number of products, including medicines.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Promote Human Rights</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Engage with International and Regional Treaty Bodies in order to provide a human rights-based approach to enable Mauritians to enjoy a good quality of life, based on human dignity, equality of treatment, economic empowerment and social justice</li> </ul>
<p><b>Achieve the Seven AU Agenda 2063 Aspirations</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Implementation of the Agenda 2063 Second Ten Year Implementation Plan (STYIP) [2024-2033]</li> </ul>
<p><b>Strengthen coherence in the strategic implementation of the United Nations 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Enhance collaboration between relevant stakeholders in the monitoring and evaluation of the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)</li> </ul>

## Appendices

### Appendix A: Key Staff / Senior Management Team

SN	Name of Officers
1.	<b>Secretary for Foreign Affairs</b> Mr. J. Bissoondoyal
2.	<b>Head, IGOs Economic Directorate</b> Mr. N. Chedumbarum, Ambassador
3.	<b>Head, Commonwealth, OIF and African Union Directorate</b> Mr. R. Sookun, Ambassador
4.	<b>Head, Asia, Indo Pacific, Russia and Ukraine Directorate</b> Mr. K. Jingree, Ambassador
5.	<b>Permanent Secretary</b> Mr. R. S. Sonea
6.	<b>Head, Bilateral Europe Directorate</b> Mr. T. K. Chamane, Minister Counsellor/Deputy Head Commissioner
7.	<b>Head, IGOs Political Directorate – (Geneva and The Hague Related Issues)</b> Mr. S. N. Udaiyan, Minister Counsellor/Deputy Head Commissioner
8.	<b>Head, Bilateral Africa Directorate</b> Mrs. B. Trilok, Temporary Minister Counsellor/Deputy Head Commissioner
9.	<b>Head, Americas, Australasia and Sovereignty Issues Directorate</b> Mr. S. Gujadhur, Temporary Minister Counsellor/Deputy Head Commissioner
10.	<b>Head, IGOs Political Directorate (UN System)</b> Mr. P. Gopaul, Temporary Minister Counsellor/Deputy Head Commissioner
11.	<b>Head, Protocol Directorate (Ceremonials, Consular and Immunities)</b> Mr. H. I. A. Bhugun, Temporary Minister Counsellor/Deputy Head Commissioner
12.	<b>Head, Digital Transformation, Communication and Capacity Development Directorate</b> Mrs. B. Trilok, Temporary Minister Counsellor/Deputy Head Commissioner

<b>13.</b>	<b>Head, Middle East, Indian Ocean Islands Directorate</b> Mr. O. Sewraj, Temporary Minister Counsellor/Deputy Head Commissioner
<b>14.</b>	<b>Head, Regional Integration Division</b> Mrs. M. Dabee-Hauzaree, Director
<b>15.</b>	<b>Head, International Trade Division</b> Mr. K. Jingree, Ambassador
<b>16.</b>	<b>Head, Industrial Property Office</b> Mr. R. Beergaunot, Officer in Charge
<b>17.</b>	<b>Head, Human Rights Division</b> Mr. R. S. Sonea, Permanent Secretary
<b>17.</b>	<b>Deputy Permanent Secretary</b> Mrs. D. Takoory
<b>18.</b>	<b>Deputy Permanent Secretary</b> Mrs. S. Meeajane

## Appendix B: Missions Abroad

SN	Mission	Head of Mission	Contact details
1.	Addis Ababa	Mr. Indrarjeet BABOOA, Ambassador	Phone : + 25111 661 5997 Email : <a href="mailto:addisemb@gmail.com">addisemb@gmail.com</a>
2.	Antananarivo	Dr. Bruno Clifford CUNNIAH, Ambassador	Phone : + 261 20 22 538 42 Email : <a href="mailto:memad@moov.org">memad@moov.org</a>
3.	Beijing	Mr. Gaëtan Michel SIEW HEW SAM, Ambassador	Phone: + 86 10 6532 5695 Email: <a href="mailto:mebj@govmu.org">mebj@govmu.org</a>
4.	Berlin	Mrs. Tanya Prayag GUJADHUR, Chargé D' Affaires	Phone: + 49 30 26 39 36 - 18 Email : <a href="mailto:berlin@mauritius-embassy.de">berlin@mauritius-embassy.de</a>
5.	Brussels	Mr. Yousouf Mohamed RAMJANALLY, Chargé D' Affaires	Phone : + 32 2740 99 88 Email : <a href="mailto:ambsecmauritius@gmail.com">ambsecmauritius@gmail.com</a>
6.	Cairo	Mr. Reza GUNNY, Ambassador	Phone: +202 2736 5208 Email: <a href="mailto:cairoemb@govmu.org">cairoemb@govmu.org</a>
7.	Canberra	Mrs. Sarojini SEENEEVASSEN-FRERS, High Commissioner	Phone: + 612 6281 1203 Email: <a href="mailto:canberra hc@govmu.org">canberra hc@govmu.org</a>
8.	Dubai	Mr. Vikash NEETHALIA, Temporary Minister Counsellor/Deputy High Commissioner	Phone: + 971 4 3429896 Email: <a href="mailto:info@mauritiusconsulate.com">info@mauritiusconsulate.com</a>
9.	Geneva	Mr. Brian Neil Joseph GLOVER, Ambassador and Permanent Representative	Phone: + 41 22 734 8550 Email: <a href="mailto:mauritiusembassy@bluewin.ch">mauritiusembassy@bluewin.ch</a>
10.	Islamabad	Mr. Munsoo KURRIMBACCUS, High Commissioner	Phone: + 92 51 282 4657/8 Email: <a href="mailto:mauripak@dsl.net.pk">mauripak@dsl.net.pk</a>
11.	Kuala Lumpur	Mrs Fee Young LI PIN YUEN, Chargé D' Affaires	Phone: + 603 2163 6301/06 Email: <a href="mailto:klhc@govmu.org">klhc@govmu.org</a>
12.	London	Dr. Rajeshwar JEETAH, High Commissioner	Phone +44 207 581 0294 Email: <a href="mailto:londonhc@govmu.org">londonhc@govmu.org</a>

<b>13.</b>	Maputo	Mrs. Danielle PERRIER, High Commissioner	Phone: +258 2149 4182 Email: <a href="mailto:mhcmaputo@aol.com">mhcmaputo@aol.com</a>
<b>14.</b>	Moscow	Mr. Pravass PURMANUND, Chargé D' Affaires	Phone: + 7495 915 0492 Email: <a href="mailto:moscow_emb@govmu.org">moscow_emb@govmu.org</a>
<b>15.</b>	Mumbai	Mr. Dooshant Kumar BUCKTOWAR, Acting First Secretary	Phone: + 91022 – 22825421/22 Email: <a href="mailto:mumbcon1@yahoo.com">mumbcon1@yahoo.com</a>
<b>16.</b>	New Delhi	Mrs. Sheilabai BAPPOO, High Commissioner	Phone: + 91-11-2410 2161/62/63 Email: <a href="mailto:mhcnewdelhi@gmail.com">mhcnewdelhi@gmail.com</a>
<b>17.</b>	New York	Mr. Milan Jaya Nyamrajsingh MEETARBHAN, G.O.S.K, Ambassador and Permanent Representative of Mauritius to the United Nations	Phone: +1 212 949 0190/0259 Email: <a href="mailto:mauritiusmissionnyc@gmail.com">mauritiusmissionnyc@gmail.com</a>
<b>18.</b>	Paris	Mr. Marie Joël RAULT, Ambassador	Phone: + 331 42 27 30 19 Email: <a href="mailto:paris@amb-maurice.fr">paris@amb-maurice.fr</a>
<b>19.</b>	Pretoria	Mrs. Maria Francesca Mireille MARTIN, High Commissioner	Phone: + 27 12 342 1283/84 Email: <a href="mailto:pretoriahc@govmu.org">pretoriahc@govmu.org</a>
<b>20.</b>	Riyadh	Mr Mohammad Yaaseen HANSROD, Chargé D' Affaires	Phone: + 966 11 482 9567 Email: <a href="mailto:emb.riyadh@govmu.org">emb.riyadh@govmu.org</a>
<b>21.</b>	Tokyo	Ms. Madhvi SEEBALUCK, First Secretary	Phone: + 080 829 077 71 Email: <a href="mailto:mauritusemb.japan@govmu.org">mauritusemb.japan@govmu.org</a>
<b>22.</b>	Washington DC	Mrs. Gajjaluxmi MOOTOOSAMY, Ambassador	Phone: +1 -202 -244 1491 Email: <a href="mailto:mauritius.embassy@verizon.net">mauritius.embassy@verizon.net</a>