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REPUBLIC OF MAURITIUS

INTERIM REPORT
ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF AGENDA 2063

Foreword

Agenda 2063

Agenda 2063 reflects Africa's vision of its socio-economic development and lays down an action plan for the achievement of this vision.

At the core of this agenda is the realization of an integrated, prosperous and peaceful Africa driven by its own citizens.

Agenda 2063 builds upon the Lagos Plan of Action, the Abuja Treaty and the New Partnership for Africa's Development (NEPAD) – key continental initiatives - to address new challenges facing the continent in an evolving global scenario.

The Core aspirations

Agenda 2063 is based on seven ambitious aspirations which cover prosperity, unity, governance, peace and security, culture, women and youth, as well as partnerships and which are expected to transform the African continent by the centenary year 2063. The aspirations are as follows:

- Aspiration 1:** A prosperous Africa based on inclusive growth and sustainable development.
 - Aspiration 2:** An integrated continent, politically united and based on the ideals of Pan Africanism and vision of Africa's Renaissance.
 - Aspiration 3:** An Africa of good governance, democracy, respect for human rights, justice and the rule of law.
 - Aspiration 4:** A peaceful and secure Africa.
 - Aspiration 5:** Africa with a strong cultural identity, common heritage, values and ethics.
 - Aspiration 6:** An Africa whose development is people driven, relying on the potential of the African people, particularly its women and youth and caring for children.
 - Aspiration 7:** Africa as a strong, united, resilient and influential global partner and player
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Timeline

Agenda 2063 was formulated in 2013 during the 50th anniversary of the founding of the Organisation for African Unity (OAU) during the May 2013 AU Summit.

Agenda 2063 was formally adopted at the African Union Summit in January 2015 in Addis Ababa.

Whilst Agenda 2063 is a vision for the next 50 years, its implementation is effected in 5 ten year plans.

The First Ten-Year Implementation Plan - 13 fast track or 'flagship' projects:

- Integrated high-speed train network: aims to connect all African capitals and commercial centres;
 - Pan-African virtual university: designed to accelerate development of human capital, science and technology and innovation;
 - African commodities strategy: aims to enable African countries to develop a vibrant, socially and environmentally sustainable commodities sector;
 - Annual African forum: designed to bring together Africa's political leadership, private sector, academia and civil society to discuss Agenda 2063;
 - Continental Free Trade Area (CFTA) by 2017: aims include to double intra-Africa trade by 2022, strengthen Africa's common voice in global trade negotiations and operationalise the African Investment Bank (2025) and Pan African Stock Exchange;
 - the African Passport and free movement of people: aims to fast track continental integration by enhancing free movement of all African citizens from all African countries by 2018;
 - Silencing the guns by 2020: aims to end all wars, conflicts and violations of human rights;
 - Grand Inga Dam Project: aims to boost Africa's energy production;
 - Pan-African E-Network: designed to transform e-applications and services in Africa;
 - African outer space programme: aims to bolster African development in various fields, including agriculture, disaster management, remote sensing, climate forecast, banking and finance, defence and security;
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- Single African air transport market: aims to deliver a single African air transport market to facilitate air transportation in Africa;
- African continental financial institutions: aims to accelerate integration and socio-economic development of the continent. The institutions include the African Central Bank, African Monetary Fund and African Investment Bank;
- Great Museum of Africa: the Museum, to be established in Algiers, Algeria, was added to the flagship projects in July 2016.

The purpose of developing the ten year plan are to:

- Identify priority areas, set specific targets, define strategies and policy measures required to implement the first ten-year plan of Agenda 2063;
- Bring to fruition of the Fast Track programmes and initiatives outlined in the Malabo Decisions of the AU to provide the big push and breakthroughs for Africa's economic and social transformation;
- Provide information to all key stakeholders at the national, regional and continental levels the expected results / outcomes for the first ten years of plan and the roles;
- Assign responsibilities to all stakeholders in the implementation, monitoring and evaluation;
- Outline the strategies required to ensure availability of resources and capacities together with citizen's engagement in the implementation of the First Ten Year Plan.

The Innovative approach of Agenda 2063

- Bottom-up approach: There was extensive consultations of the African Citizenry. This enhances ownership of both the processes and outcomes of the initiative for having a continental agenda for socio-economic transformation. It is not the work of bureaucrats, but rather an Agenda driven by the voices of the African people indicating the Africa They Want;
 - Result Orientation: Goals, targets and strategies have been set in each aspirational area for the national, regional and continental stakeholders/ levels. The targets will form the basis for holding stakeholders accountable for performance;
 - Monitoring and Evaluation / Accountability: There is a monitoring and evaluation component to ensure that planned activities, outputs, outcomes are on track for attainment- with the midterm reviews providing the basis for programme re-alignment. Accountability roles will be assigned and the outcomes of the
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monitoring and evaluation process will be used to manage the accountability relationship;

- **Policy Coherence / Space:** For the first time all continental and regional initiatives have been brought under one umbrella. The integration is expected to enhance consistency, remove policy over laps and redundancies and create space for the management of diversity and uniqueness in the AU;
- **Financing/Partnership:** A Resource Mobilization Strategy developed has identified key areas of intervention and their associated funding options. Next steps will be taken to operationalize the financing strategies / instruments identified. Strategies for expanding / maximizing partnerships for Agenda 2063 implementation have been developed and would be implemented;
- **Communications Strategy:** While past frameworks were known only to bureaucrats, Agenda 2063 is to be driven / owned by the people. A Communications strategy has been developed for implementation;
- **Capacity:** A key success factor for the successful implementation of Agenda 2063 is the capacity of individuals and institutions to play their roles- in the domestication of the Agenda. A Capacity Assessment Study is being undertaken to address the capacity needs of continental and regional institutions; this will later be extended to Member States.

Mauritius and Agenda 2063

The Constitution of Mauritius defines the territory of Mauritius as comprising the Islands of Mauritius, Rodrigues, Agalega, Tromelin, Cargados Carajos and the Chagos Archipelago, including Diego Garcia. The implementation of Agenda 2063 is extended to the whole territory of Mauritius.

It should be noted that Mauritius is unable to exercise effective sovereign control over the Chagos Archipelago and Tromelin in view of their unlawful occupation by the UK and France respectively. Mauritius is firmly committed to Agenda 2063 and has developed its own action plan.

This Interim Report covers the period 2016-2017. The Report highlights the measures taken by Mauritius to mainstream the core aspirations and goals of Agenda 2063 in its development framework.

The Mauritius Vision 2030 encapsulates its future socio economic transformation objectives and is aligned on the core ideals of Agenda 2063.

AGENDA 2063- IMPLEMENTATION IN MAURITIUS

| Aspiration | Goals | Priority Areas | Implementation |
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| 1. A Prosperous Africa, based on Inclusive Growth and Sustainable Development | (1) A High Standard of Living, Quality of Life and Well Being for All Citizens | Income, jobs and decent work | <p>Reducing Unemployment Creation of jobs is one of the priorities of the Government</p> <p>Mauritius Unemployment Rate dropped to 6.60 % in Dec 2016, from the previously reported rate of 7.60 % in Sep 2015.</p> <p>Government is addressing the issue of skills mismatch through training in existing and emerging sectors of the Mauritius economy.</p> <p>4,000 persons have been enrolled under the National Skills Development Programme for the development of technical skills that are in high demand. The programme also includes industrial placement.</p> <p>Provisions have also been made for a special scheme for the placement of 200 trainee engineers in public sector bodies and the enlistment of 2,000 unemployed under the Youth Employment Programme.</p> <p>One thousand young people are currently being trained in various sectors including the following: ICT, tourism and hospitality; nursing and paramedical services as well as construction. These trainees receive a monthly stipend of Rs 5,000 (around 150 USD).</p> |

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| | | Poverty, Inequality and Hunger | <p>Specific training has been developed to prepare some 1,200 seafarers for cruise jobs and in shipping companies. As an incentive, seafarers are exempted from the payment of income tax.</p> <p>The Government is upgrading educational hardware and infrastructure in training institutions, including the training centres in the island of Rodrigues.</p> <p>.Poverty and Inequality The Government has Launched the Marshall Plan Against Poverty to combat poverty and social exclusion. It includes a variety of programmes and actions that interlock to assist and empower poor families.</p> <p>A new scheme has been introduced under which every adult on the Social Register is entitled to a monthly subsistence allowance based on a minimum threshold of Rs 2,720 [around 80 US Dollars with a maximum threshold of Rs 9,520 [around 280 US Dollars] for a family of two adults and three children.</p> <p>This scheme provides those families with a subsistence allowance that is 40 percent higher than the threshold recommended by the World Bank. This measure is effective since December 1st 2016 and 8000 families have</p> |
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| | | Social Inclusion | <p>already benefitted from it.</p> <p>Government has introduced the concept of negative income tax. This measure provides for those earning Rs9,900 or less monthly [approximately 300 US Dollars] in full time employment, to benefit from additional financial support from the State.</p> <p>Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR)</p> <p>A National Economic and Social Council has been set up under the chairmanship of the Prime Minister to address key socio- economic issues and strengthen dialogue with the private sector and the civil society. Government implements a National Corporate Social Responsibility Scheme which requires businesses to contribute 2% of their taxable income to support civil society action in six priority areas: Poverty alleviation; Educational support; Social housing; Supporting persons with severe disabilities; Dealing with health problems resulting from substance abuse and poor sanitation and family protection. This scheme is managed by a CSR Foundation comprising representatives of the public and private sectors.</p> <p>Social Security to the vulnerable population</p> <p>Mauritius is a strong welfare state which provides universal pension to all citizens over 60 years. In addition, a</p> |
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| | | <p>Social security and protection Including Persons with Disabilities</p> | <p>basic invalidity pension is provided to all persons who suffer from disabilities.</p> <p>The Government has also launched a special scholarship scheme for five students with disabilities for pursuing tertiary studies locally.</p> <p>Another major programme to empower these families to break away from the poverty cycle and to stand on their own feet is through improving educational achievements.</p> <p>Consequently, to encourage students from poor families to achieve higher levels of education, the Government gives them a cash award as follows: Rs 15 000 (around 429 USD) for successfully completing the grade 9 level under the nine year schooling; Rs 25 000 (around 714 USD) for successfully completing the School Certificate level or equivalent vocational certificate; and Rs 35 000 (around 1000 USD) for those successfully completing the Higher School Certificate or equivalent technical qualification.</p> <p>A Senior Citizens Council has been set up under the Senior Citizens Council Act. The Council has a network of Senior Citizens Associations in Mauritius which receive a yearly grant from Government to organise educational, leisure and cultural activities at regional level.</p> |
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| | | Modern and Liveable Habitats and Basic Quality Services | <p>The Ministry of Social Security, National Solidarity and Reform Institutions also provides the following social aid schemes:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i) Social Aid in Cash; ii) Refund of exam fees; iii) Allowance to discharged prisoners; iv) Allowance to flood victims, fire victims; v) Allowance to centenarians for the purchase of medicine; vi) Assistance to twins/triplets; vii) Funeral Grant; viii) Rent allowance to needy beneficiaries of Basic Retirement Pension, living alone and paying rent; ix) Carer's Allowance and Compassionate Allowance, for a child between the age of 6 months and 15 years where the child suffers from a Permanent disability of at least 60% and is in need of constant care and attention as certified by a Medical Board. x) Assistance in kind: spectacles, wheelchairs, hearing aid; xi) Income support scheme-Food Aid – Rice and Flour Allowance; xii) Bad weather allowance to fishermen. <p>Higher Standards of Living</p> <p>Government is committed to providing decent shelter to low income families</p> |
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| | | | through the provision of 8 billion rupees [approximately 240 million dollars] for the construction, rehabilitation and completion of housing units. |
| | (2) Well Educated Citizens and Skills revolution underpinned by Science, Technology and Innovation [STI] | Education and STI skills driven revolution | <p>Education is a key pre-requisite for the socio-economic development of any country.</p> <p>To this effect, Government provides free education and free transport at the pre-primary, primary and secondary level.</p> <p>In addition, to alleviate financial burden, Government ensures that all pupils attending primary schools receive a free hot meal.</p> <p>In order to prepare our children, our education system must evolve and improve. Major reforms have been introduced as from this year to better equip our youth for the labour market.</p> <p>The Technical Vocational Education and Training (TVET) The TVET sector is undergoing a major transformation to become a vibrant and modernised sector responsive to national economic needs, ensuring that all graduates from the TVET stream are highly skilled and ready for employment.</p> |
| | (3) Healthy and well nourished citizens | Health and Nutrition | <p>Health Free health facilities are available to all citizens.</p> |

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| | | | <p>The Government is committed to providing universal, accessible and quality health services, free of any user cost.</p> <p>In this context, the following measures are being implemented:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - A special code of ethics has been introduced for health professionals. - A new Master Plan on Primary Health Care is being implemented to reduce pressure on regional hospitals. - For patients needing home care, a system of domiciliary visits by specialised nurses has been established. - Dedicated counters are set up at the level of primary health care centres and hospitals to cater for the needs of the elderly and disabled persons. - The implementation of a new HIV/AIDS Action Plan 2015-2020 is underway with decentralization of AIDS related services in community centres. Core measures also focus on community awareness and providing screening services free. Prevention activities target high risk groups including injecting drugs users and prisoners. |
| | (4) Transformed Economies | Sustainable and inclusive economic growth | <p>The Government has a strong commitment and political will to promote a just and equitable society. In this regard, the following targeted measures have been adopted :</p> |

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| | | STI driven Manufacturing / Industrialization and Value Addition | <ul style="list-style-type: none">- A Gender Development Index for Mauritius has been introduced to measure progress in gender equality- The National Women Entrepreneur Council (NWECC) provides support and assistance to both potential and existing women entrepreneurs in Mauritius. <p>To give a fresh impetus to the manufacturing sector, Government is working on the elaboration of an Export Development Plan with emphasis on an Africa Export Strategy that will provide strong support to the Domestic Oriented Enterprises to tap opportunities in the African markets.</p> |
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| | | Hospitality/Tourism | <p>Tourism</p> <p>The number of tourist arrivals for the year 2016 increased by 10.8% to reach 1,275,227.</p> <p>In 2016 Travel and Tourism directly supported 45,500 jobs (8.2% of total employment). This is expected to rise to 55,000 jobs (9.4% of total employment) in 2027.</p> <p>Mauritius is working on the setting up of leisure attractions, namely:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A world class aquarium • A national museum • Other new leisure attractions |
| | Modern Agriculture for increased productivity and production | Agricultural Productivity and production | <p>Although the Mauritius economy has diversified significantly, the agricultural sector remains an important pillar of our economy.</p> <p>With a view to enhancing its contribution to the Mauritius economy and increasing the income of the pastoral society, Government is implementing the following measures :</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - establishment of a land management system which will put marginal land to productive use - Implementation of technology driven agriculture and biofarming - Creation of a Bio farming/Organic Zone and the study for the establishment of a Biotechnology Institute - Imposition of a 15% levy on the |

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| | | | <p>use of pesticides to promote production of healthy fruits and vegetables.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Freight rebate to allow the diversification of agricultural products exported from Mauritius. - Loans are also provided to assist planters whose crops are damaged by climatic conditions, pests and diseases. |
| | (6) Blue/ ocean economy for accelerated economic growth | Marine resources and Energy | <p>Mauritius views the ocean economy as a future pillar of its socio economic growth and is a firm believer of the need to preserve the eco-balance of our oceans.</p> <p>The development of a Marine Spatial Plan, as an important component of our sustainable development plan, is aimed at ensuring that the natural capital and the value of ecosystems of the country are retained for successive future generations – all amidst climatic change (cyclones, surges, erosion, sea level rise, etc.).</p> <p>In the context of advancing the development of the ocean economy, the following national initiatives are being developed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Accelerated development of the fisheries industry by encouraging unloading and processing fish catch in Mauritius - Setting up of common facilities on land for aquaculture and |

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| | | | <p>fish farming</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Empowering the young fishermen community through grants and loans facilities to help them improve their productive capacity in a sustainable manner - To promote research on renewable marine energy production - To promote coral farming by fishermen and SMEs - Amendments to be made to the Maritime Zone Act to cater for marina development - Sensitization on economic opportunities to be derived from the ocean economy. In this context Mauritius has co-hosted international conferences such as the high-level "Mauritius International Meeting - Towards COP22: The African Ministerial Conference on Ocean Economies and Climate Change" with the support from the World Bank Group, and the "Indian Ocean Rim Association Blue Economy Ministerial Conference" with a view to raising awareness about the ocean economy. |
| 2. An Integrated Continent Politically united and based on the ideals of Pan Africanism and the vision of African Renaissance | World Class Infrastructure crisscrosses Africa | Communications and Infrastructure Connectivity | Given the importance of efficient infrastructure and connectivity in the development of a country, Mauritius is developing modern and efficient inland, maritime, air and IT connectivity. |

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| | | | <p>Road Decongestion Programme and Metro Express Project</p> <p>An affordable mass transit system is being developed along with a network of modern integrated urban terminals comprising parking facilities, food courts, commercial spaces, dedicated hawker areas and green spaces.</p> <p>Such a project is considered to be a game changer. It will totally redesign our towns, create new growth poles around the terminals, drastically reduce the commuting time for our citizens, raise productivity, eliminate the inconvenience of traffic congestion, save on our petroleum import bills and significantly cut down pollution.</p> <p>Development of a Road Decongestion Programme is underway.</p> <p>Port operations</p> <p>Massive investments are being made in the development of the port infrastructure with the objective of transforming it into a regional maritime hub.</p> <p>In fact, the extended Mauritius Container Terminal berth will be fully operational by October 2017 with an increased capacity to handle up to 750,000 TEUs.</p> <p>The objective is to further increase the capacity to 1.5 million TEUs by 2030</p> |
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| | | | <p>through the Island Terminal project.</p> <p>Air connectivity The establishment of an air corridor between Asia and Africa is now fully embedded in our air access policy.</p> <p>ICT Sector Major investments are made on connectivity that will significantly improve the deployment of broadband infrastructure and its quality. These include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • investment in a 'Third Undersea Cable' project by a consortium led by Mauritius Telecom. • investment in a fibre-optic undersea cable by a consortium of regional telecom operators. This will link Mauritius, Reunion, Madagascar with an international backbone through South Africa. • the acceleration of the Fibre To The Home (FTTH) programme by Mauritius Telecom to cover every town and village by December 2017; and • an investment of Rs 200 million (around 5 million USD) by the CEB to provide high |
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| | | | speed broadband to Internet Service Providers through its island-wide fiber optic cable network. |
| 3. An Africa of Good Governance, Democracy, Respect for Human Rights, Justice and the Rule of Law | Democratic values, practices, universal principles of human rights, justice and the rule of law entrenched | Democracy and Good Governance • Human Rights, Justice and The Rule of Law | <p><u>Promotion of Human Rights</u> Actions are being taken at the national level by the Government of Mauritius to promote and protect human rights, including through the national human rights institutions, the dissemination of human rights instruments, awareness campaigns and educational programmes. These actions are targeted at all Mauritian citizens.</p> <p>In this context, the Government has set up a Human Rights Monitoring Committee to analyse the implications of ratifying or acceding to the Human Rights instruments.</p> <p><u>Constitutional Amendments</u> With a view to complying with the findings of the Human Rights Committee, Parliament has, in July 2014, adopted the Constitution (Declaration of Community) (Temporary Provisions) Act whereby it is no longer mandatory for a candidate to declare the community to which he belongs. Section 4 of the Act provides that notwithstanding paragraph 3 of the First Schedule to the Constitution, a candidate at the next general election may elect not to declare the community to which he /she belongs. In the event that a candidate at that election has not declared his/her</p> |

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| | | | <p>community, he/she shall be deemed to have opted not to be considered for the purpose of the allocation of additional seats and no additional seat shall be allocated to him /her.</p> <p>Human Rights in Schools The Ministry of Education and Human Resources, Tertiary Education and Scientific Research has integrated human rights in the curricula of lower secondary school on a pilot basis as from January 2016.</p> <p><u>Conventions and Treaties</u> At the international level, Mauritius is party to all core international human rights treaties and conventions.</p> <p><u>Universal Periodic Review</u> Mauritius was reviewed for the second time on 23 October 2013. The mid-term review was carried out in May 2015 and the next UPR is scheduled in November 2018.</p> <p><u>African Peer Review Mechanism</u> Mauritius was peer reviewed in 2010. A progress report is being prepared in consultation with the APRM Secretariat.</p> <p>Greater Women representation in national decision-making The representation of women in Parliament has increased from 3% in 1991 to 5.7% in 2000 to 17.1% in 2005 and 18.8 % in 2010 despite the absence of electoral quotas for</p> |
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| | | | <p>election to the National Assembly. At the last General Elections in December 2014, this figure dropped to 11.4%. Government is nonetheless fully committed in promoting women's active participation in politics and decision making instances. The nomination of two women, one as President of the Republic of Mauritius and one as Speaker of the National Assembly, for the first time in the history of Mauritius, is testimony to the commitment of the Government to have women at the highest level of decision making.</p> |
| | Capable institutions and transformative leadership | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Institutions and Leadership and Participatory Development and Local Governance | <p>The Constitution advocates equality for all the citizens of Mauritius. The Constitution has also conferred on the Judiciary the role of ensuring the proper functioning of a democratic society. The latter holds responsibility for ensuring that legislative and executive powers are executed in accordance with the Constitution and within the limit authorised by the Constitution. It is also charged with the duty to safeguard fundamental rights which include, <i>inter alia</i>, protection of the law.</p> <p>Equal Opportunities Commission The Equal Opportunities Commission was set up as the embodiment of the clear commitment of Mauritius to eradicate all forms of discrimination.</p> <p>Ombudsman The President of Mauritius appoints an</p> |

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| | | | <p>Ombudsman to investigate complaints against public servants, including police officers and prison guards. Individual citizens, cabinet ministers, or members of the National Assembly may request the ombudsman to initiate an investigation.</p> <p>Independent Commission Against Corruption (ICAC) The Independent Commission Against Corruption (ICAC) is mandated as per the Prevention of Corruption Act 2002 to promote links between the Commission and international organisations in order to foster international cooperation in the fight against corruption and money laundering.</p> <p>Mauritius, as a member of the Eastern and Southern African Anti-Money Laundering Group (ESAAMLG) since 1999 and is required to undergo a Mutual Evaluation on Anti-Money Laundering and Combating Financing of Terrorism (FATF) every 8 years. Our evaluation took place in 2016/2017.</p> <p>Local Governance The Local Government Act (2011) provides for:-</p> <p>(a) the establishment of democratically elected local authorities with sufficient autonomy to manage the local affairs of their area;</p> <p>(b) local authorities to provide services and facilities which will ensure the economic and social well-being of</p> |
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| | | | <p>their local communities in an ecologically sustainable manner so as to meet the present and future needs of their communities;</p> <p>(c) an effective, efficient, inclusive and accountable system of local government;</p> <p>(d) the management and governance of local authorities;</p> <p>(e) the duties of Councillors and officers of local authorities;</p> <p>(f) the accountability of local authorities;</p> <p>.</p> |
| 4. A Peaceful and Secure Africa | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Peace Security and Stability is preserved • A Stable and Peaceful Africa | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Maintenance and Preservation of Peace and Security - Institutional structure for AU Instruments on Peace and Security - Defence, Security and Peace | <p>Mauritius is supportive of stronger partnerships between global and regional organisations to promote international peace and security. Mauritius has always firmly supported the resolution of disputes by peaceful means as inscribed in the Charter of the United Nations and the Constitutive Act of the African Union.</p> |
| 5. Africa with a Strong Cultural Identity Common Heritage, Values and Ethics | African Cultural Renaissance is pre- eminent | Cultural Heritage, Creative Arts and Businesses | <p>Cultural Heritage</p> <p>Mauritius has made significant efforts to protect its historical heritage and to promote its intangible cultural heritage.</p> <p>There are two UNESCO World Heritage Sites in Mauritius namely Le Morne and Aapravasi Ghat.</p> <p>In this regard, stringent planning controls are exercised on development proposed close to those two sites in view of preserving their historical characteristics, whilst other buildings/sites listed as National</p> |

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| | | | <p>Heritage are also protected from the adverse impact of development.</p> <p>As regards intangible cultural heritage, the Sega Tipik and Geet Gawai are inscribed on the UNESCO Representative List of the Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity</p> <p>The Mauritian Sega Tipik is a vibrant performing art and dance, emblematic of the Creole community whilst Geet-Gawai is a pre-wedding ceremony that combines rituals, prayer, songs, music and dance. It is performed mainly by Mauritians of Indian descent.</p> <p>The National Heritage Fund is presently working on the nomination of the Sega Tambour of Rodrigues and Sega Chagos to the aforementioned list.</p> <p>Cultural tourism and film production are being promoted through various incentives such as a film rebate scheme, a start-up and special schemes for cultural entrepreneurs with a view to giving a new impetus to the sector and boosting artistic creativity. In addition, a National Arts Fund and a Village des Artistes are also being set up.</p> <p>The Government is working on the setting up of a Mauritian History and Culture Museum retracing the history of Mauritius.</p> |
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| <p>6. An Africa Whose Development is people driven, relying on the potential offered by African People, especially its Women and Youth, and caring for Children</p> | <p>Full Gender Equality in All Spheres of Life</p> | <p>Women and Girls Empowerment Violence & Discrimination against Women and Girl</p> | <p>Reduce levels of violence Domestic violence is a social ill and Government has set up a National Coalition against Domestic Violence.</p> <p>Encouraging Women to work. Government is working on the amendment of the Employment legislation to attract more women into the labour force and raise productivity nationally.</p> <p>The objective is to increase the participation rate of women in the national labour force from the current figure of 43.6% to 50% by 2030.</p> <p>Rights of the Child A Children's Bill is being worked on to further consolidate the legal architecture for the protection of the rights of the child.</p> <p>Government's policy is that children with special education needs should get the help that addresses their individual differences and needs in an effective way.</p> <p>In this context, Government is increasing the grant-in-aid to the Non-Governmental organisations [NGOs] running Special Education Needs schools to Rs 110 million (around 3 million USD). Moreover, a new Strategy Paper for the Special Education Needs is being developed.</p> |
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| | Engaged and Empowered Youth and Children | Youth Empowerment and Children | <p>Activities for Youth and Children</p> <p>To promote the holistic development of youth including children, Government is facilitating access to sports, leisure and recreational activities. Financial provision has been earmarked for the following targeted programmes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Keeping vulnerable youths away from the many ills of society, such as drugs; - encouraging greater participation of young adolescent girls in sports activities; - creating structured programs in sports for school age children after school hours; <p>Mauritius also runs a programme – Volunteer Mauritius under the aegis of Ministry of Youth and Sports that gives the opportunity to the young to acquire life skills, develop creativity and build team spirit.</p> |
| 7. An Africa as A Strong, United, Resilient and Influential Global Player and Partner | Africa as a major partner in global affairs and peaceful coexistence | Africa's place in global affairs. Partnership | <p>Mauritius is fully committed to enhancing Africa's voice and stature in global negotiations.</p> <p>This objective can be achieved through a united Africa, where each African state contributes to the best of its ability and capacity in the realization of the ideals of Agenda 2063 and its flagship projects.</p> <p>In this context, Mauritius has taken the</p> |

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| | | | <p>following actions :</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Mauritius was privileged to host the launch of the African Economic Platform in March this year . The synergy between Government, private sector and academia in Africa has been crystallized though the holding of the Platform. - Mauritius will continue to encourage investments in Africa in the spirit of finding African solutions to African problems. <p>In this context, the Government of Mauritius is actively encouraging private stakeholders to invest, from and through Mauritius, in Special Economic Zones to be established through Government to Government agreements in Madagascar, Senegal and Ghana.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Mauritius is committed to the early establishment of the Continental Free Trade Area and actively participates in discussions. - At the political level, the solidarity of Africa's peoples and leadership is a precondition to the ability of Africa making its voice heard and heeded in the international fora. <p>This solidarity has been recently</p> |
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| | | | demonstrated on 22 June 2017 when the UN Member states voted in favour of a resolution tabled by the member states of the African Union, requesting for an advisory opinion of the International Court of Justice on the legal consequences of the separation of the Chagos Archipelago from Mauritius in 1965. |
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