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## AFRICAN CONTINENTAL FREE TRADE AREA (AfCFTA)

### MAURITIUS' NATIONAL RESPONSE STRATEGY VALIDATION WORKSHOP

FRIDAY 25 MARCH, 2022

THE WESTIN TURTLE BAY RESORT & SPA, BALACLAVA

09.30 – 10.00	<b>Registration</b>
10.00-10.45	<p><b>Opening Ceremony</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Welcome remarks by <i>Mr Narainduth Boodhoo, Director-Trade Policy, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Regional Integration and International Trade;</i></li> <li>Statement by <i>Ms Eunice Kamwendo, Director, ECA Sub-regional office for Southern Africa;</i></li> <li>Statement by <i>Dr. Laurent Musango, Resident Coordinator a.i, Mauritius &amp; Seychelles;</i></li> <li>Statement by <i>the African Union Commission (tbc);</i></li> <li>Statement by <i>AfCFTA Secretariat (tbc);</i></li> <li>Statement by <i>H. E Mr. Vincent Degert, Ambassador and Head of EU delegation in Mauritius (tbc);</i></li> <li>Keynote Address by <i>H.E. Ambassador Mr. H. Dillum, Secretary to Foreign Affairs, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Regional Integration and International Trade.</i></li> </ul>
10.45-11.15	<p><b>Tea/ Coffee Break</b></p> <p><b>Press Conference</b></p>
11.15-13.00	<p><b>Presentation of the AfCFTA National Response Strategy</b></p> <p>Presentation by International Economics Ltd (Mr. Paul Baker, Mr. Neetish Hurry &amp; Ms. Zahraa Beeharry).</p> <p><b>Context of the AfCFTA:</b> Overview of the AfCFTA, significance of the AfCFTA for Mauritius, and performance of Mauritian products in Africa.</p> <p><b>Sectoral potential and challenges:</b> Overview of the potential and challenges of the Mauritian key sectors in Africa.</p> <p><b>Vision and Strategic Objectives:</b> Presentation and discussion of the Vision and Strategic Objectives of the National Response Strategy.</p> <p><b>Institutional Framework:</b> Presentation of the proposed AfCFTA Institutional Framework, including M&amp;E, Communication Strategy and Institutional Structure.</p>



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	Q&A (30 mins)
13.00 -14.00	<b><i>Lunch Break</i></b>
14.00- 15.30	<b><i>Discussion on the findings/Recommendations of the National Response Strategy</i></b>  Presentation of the different recommendations put forward. Discussions and identification of additional recommendations to improve the ability of Mauritian companies to trade with Africa  <b><i>Action Plan to implement the National Response Strategy</i></b>  Presentation of the Action Plan to implement the National Response Strategy and additional recommendations.
15:30 - 15.45	<b><i>Tea Break</i></b>
15.45 -16.00	<b><i>Way Forward and Concluding Remarks by</i></b>  Mr D. Luximon – Deputy Director-Trade Policy, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Regional Integration and International Trade