NEWS RELEASE

Official Visit of the ICT Authority in Rodrigues

- **Launch of Free Wi-Fi Zone Project at Anse Quitor Community Centre**
- **23 Wi-Fi Zones in Rodrigues**
- **Meeting with Stakeholders in Rodrigues**
- **Donation of Laptops to NGOs**

Port-Louis: The Free Wi-Fi Zone project was officially launched in Rodrigues at Anse Quitor Community Centre on 29 June 2023. This event was held in the presence Mr. Alain Wong So, Commissioner for ICT in Rodrigues and Mr. Dick Ng Sui Wa, Chairman of the ICT Authority.

The event in Rodrigues is in line with the launching, by the Hon Pravind Kumar Jugnauth, Prime Minister, Minister of Defence, Home Affairs and External Communications, Minister for Rodrigues, Outer Islands and Territorial Integrity, of the 234 Free Wi-Fi Zone project which was held at Chamarel Village Hall on 27 May 2022.

Democratisation of access to the Internet to help bridge the digital divide

Under this project, the population in Rodrigues may now access free Internet in twenty-three (23) Wi-Fi Zones over the island.

With the aim of bridging the digital divide, the deployment and installation of Free Wi-Fi Zones in Rodrigues consonant with the Government's vision towards democratising access to the Internet for promoting economic development and social prosperity.

Through this project, inhabitants of Rodrigues will benefit free Wi-Fi service to stay connected and take advantage of online facilities to ease their daily lives.

The twenty-three (23) Free Wi-Fi Zones in Rodrigues are as follows:

1. Anse Quitor Community Centre
2. Riviere Coco Community Centre
3. Port Sud Est Community Centre
4. Mt Cherie Community Centre
5. Mourouk Anse Enfer Community Centre
6. Jardin Mamzelle Community Centre
7. Roseaux Community Centre
8. Mt Malgache Community Centre
9. Mt du Sable Community Centre
10. Eau Clair Community Centre
11. Mt Cabris Est Community Centre
12. Ile Michel Community Centre
13. Grand Bay Community Centre
14. Ste Famille Community Centre
15. Patate Theophile Community Centre
16. Cascade Jean Louis Community Centre
17. Mt Cabris Corail Community Centre
18. Malartic Community Centre
19. Nassola Community Centre
20. Pistache Community Centre
21. Corail Petite Butte Community Centre
22. Malabar Human Resource Centre
23. Marechal Youth Advisory Bureau

An initiative of the ICT Authority under the Universal Service Fund

This initiative of the ICT Authority under the Universal Service Fund aims at providing free Internet connection in public spaces such as community centres, village halls, hospitals and district councils.

The Universal Service Fund has been established and is managed by the ICT Authority pursuant to Sections 18 & 21 of the ICT Act.

Availability and accessing the Free WI-FI service

The Free Wi-Fi service is available 24 hours over 7 days a week and may be subject to the opening hours of certain sites. Each user will benefit from 2 hours of access per 24-hour period. To access the Free Wi-Fi service, select the 'ICTA Free Wifi' network. (see details on the attached video).

Meeting with Stakeholders

During the visit in Rodrigues, the delegation from the ICT Authority met Mr. Johnson Roussety, G.O.S.K, Chief Commissioner of the Rodrigues Regional Assembly and Mr. Alain Wong So, Commissioner for ICT in Rodrigues to discuss on several issues pertaining to broadcasting frequencies, the MARS cable, the Quality of Service for Internet and several other related matters.

Donation of Laptops to three (3) NGOs

The representatives from the ICT Authority also donated three (3) laptops to NGOs (Respite Care Centre, Anglican Church St Barnabas, Foyer Marie Madeleine de La Croix) which would enable these organisations to promote ICT literacy among their communities.

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