Information Note for Participants

Organisation

The IOPS Meetings and the OECD-IOPS Global Forum, organised by the International Organisation of Pension Supervisors (IOPS), the Financial Services Commission, Mauritius (FSC Mauritius), and the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD), will be held from 23 to 25 October 2017 in Belle Mare, Mauritius.

Registration

Please note that participation in the Forum is by invitation only. If you have been invited to register, please do so by filling out the registration form attached. Participants are kindly requested to liaise directly with their respective hotels by sending an email to the relevant contacts as indicated further below. Participants are encouraged to complete hotel reservation for their stay by 31 July 2017. Afterwards, due to the peak tourist season, room availability at the selected hotels may be limited.

INFORMATION ABOUT MAURITIUS

Mauritius is located approximately 2000 kilometres to the South Eastern coast of Africa and lies East of Madagascar on 20°S, 57°5E. The country covers an area of 1865 kilometres and has 330 kilometres of coastline. Mauritius is 45 kilometres in width and 65 kilometres in length.

Being of volcanic origin and generally sheltered by barriers of coral reefs forming natural, safe, crystal clear lagoons, Mauritius has long been a dream destination. Known to the Arabs as early as the 10th century, but officially «discovered» in 1505 by the Portuguese navigator Pedro Mascarenhas, the island was occupied successively by the Dutch (1598-1712) and the French (1715-1810), and was ceded to Great Britain in 1814 through the Treaty of Paris. On 12 March 1968, Mauritius became Independent. The Republic Day was proclaimed on 12 March 1992.

The various population movements of the 18th, 19th and early 20th centuries have made of Mauritius a unique blend of different races, cultures and religions. People of European, African, Indian and Chinese origins have created a multiracial society where the various cultures and traditions flourish in peace and harmony.

Since independence in 1968, Mauritius has developed from a low-income, agriculturally based economy to a middle-income diversified economy with growing industrial, financial, and tourist sectors. For most of the period, annual growth has been in the order of 5 percent to 6 percent. This remarkable achievement has been reflected in more equitable income distribution, increased life expectancy, lowered infant mortality, and a much-improved infrastructure. The economy rests on sugar, tourism, textiles and apparel, financial services, and is expanding into fish processing, information and communications technology, hospitality and property development.
More information click here.

**Venues**

The IOPS Technical and Executive Committee meetings, the Annual General Meeting (AGM), and the Global Forum will be held at the Maritim Crystals Beach Hotel, Mauritius (Conference Venue).

**Address:** Coastal Road, Belle Mare, Mauritius

**Website:** [www.maritim.mu](http://www.maritim.mu)

You may wish to contact Ms Chitra Mungra. Her contact details are as follows:

Tel: +230 402 7800     Fax: +230 415 1860

Email: reservation.mac@maritim.de; ighurbhurr.mac@maritim.de

Wifi facilities will be provided at the Conference Venue.

**Accommodation**

You are responsible to book and settle your own accommodation and hotel charges respectively. However, the FSC Mauritius is pleased to inform that a special rate has been negotiated with the hotels proposed below. To benefit from this special rate, please quote ‘**FSCEVENT2017**’ while booking your accommodation at these hotels.

You are kindly requested to make your reservation directly with the hotel by sending an email on the relevant email address provided below.

### Indicative distance

**Airport to Hotel**

- Maritim Crystals Beach (Conference Venue) - 47Km / 1 hour
- Surcouf Hotel - 45 Km / 58 min
La Palmeraie Boutique Hotel - 47 km / 1 hour
The Residence Mauritius - 48 km / 1 hour
Long Beach Golf & Spa Resort - 52 km / 1 hour 8 min

You are kindly requested to contact the hotel directly for your booking. We strongly recommend that you make your reservations before the 31 July 2017, since October is generally the peak tourist season in Mauritius.
Social Events

Evening
- A Cocktail and Dinner will be hosted by the IOPS on 23 October 2017 at the Maritim Crystals Beach Hotel (Conference Venue).
- A Cocktail and Gala Dinner for the Participants will be hosted by the FSC Mauritius at L’Aventure du Sucre, Beau Plan on 24 October 2017.

Dress Code
Formal dress code during the IOPS Meetings, Global Forum and Gala Dinner. A smart casual dress code will be required for the IOPS dinner on 23 October.

Transport Facilities
The FSC Mauritius will provide transport arrangements for Participants as follows:
- Airport Transfers - from the Airport to the proposed hotels mentioned above and from these hotels to the Airport;
- To and from the four above mentioned hotels to Conference Venue; and
- From the abovementioned hotels to Gala Dinner and back.

Note: Please provide the relevant details while registering for the event so as to help us make the necessary transport arrangements.

You may wish to take note that the average travel time from the hotels to the Conference Venue are as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Hotel</th>
<th>Average Travel Time</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Surcouf Hotel (3 Stars)</td>
<td>5 minutes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>La Palmeraie Boutique Hotel (4 stars+)</td>
<td>5 minutes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Residence Mauritius (5 Stars)</td>
<td>5 minutes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Long Beach Golf &amp; Spa Resort (5 Stars)</td>
<td>10 minutes</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* Note: Since the meeting and conference venue is in the eastern part of the island, kindly consider opting for hotel accommodation in the vicinity.

If you have made a booking in a hotel other than those mentioned above, you may wish to avail yourself of the Mauritius public transport system which includes car rental, taxi and bus services. Transport arrangements can also be made through your hotels.

Documentation and website
Additional information will be made available to delegates on the OECD website [www.oecd.org/daf/pensions] and the IOPS website [www.iopsweb.org].

For further information relating to the organisation of the event, please contact the IOPS Secretariat or the FSC Mauritius.

IOPS Secretariat:
Mrs. Sally Day-Hanotiaux, email: sally.day-hanotiaux@oecd.org
Tel: +33 1 45 24 96 61

FSC Mauritius:
Mrs Shaminah Neetoo, email: sneetoo@fscmauritius.org; iops2017@fscmauritius.org
Mrs Rubyna Ramah-Ramsamy, email: rramah@fscmauritius.org; iops2017@fscmauritius.org
Working Language
The IOPS Meetings, AGM, Global Forum and all related documentations will be in English.

Visas
You may require a visa for entry into Mauritius. Please click here to verify any such requirement with the embassy/consulate in your respective country.

For further assistance regarding visa, please contact: iops2017@fscmauritius.org

Practical information

CURRENCY
The local currency is Mauritian Rupee (MUR). Bureau de Change (Foreign Exchange Dealers) and ATM cash machines are available all around the island. Indicative Exchange Rates as at 06 April 2017 are as follows:

1 EUR = MUR 38.67
1 GBP = MUR 45.24
1 USD = MUR 36.38

For more information on currency exchange rate, click here.

CREDIT CARDS
Credit cards are normally accepted by banks and most hotels, restaurants and tourist shops.

ELECTRICITY SUPPLY AND VOLTAGE
Electricity in Mauritius is 220 Volts, alternating at 50 cycles per second. If you travel to Mauritius with a device that does not accept 230 Volts at 50 Hertz, you will need a voltage converter. Outlets in Mauritius generally accept 2 types of plug namely two round pins and two parallel flat pins with ground pin.

CLIMATE
Mauritius enjoys a mild tropical maritime climate throughout the year. The country has two seasons: a warm humid summer extending from November to April and a relatively cool dry winter from June to September. The month of October and May are commonly known as the transition months. The month of October is the driest.

Mean summer temperature is 24.7 degrees Celsius and mean winter temperature is 20.4 degrees Celsius. The temperature difference between the seasons is only 4.3 degrees Celsius. In October, on the eastern coast the temperature varies between 18 to 30 degrees Celsius.

For more information click here.

TOURIST INFORMATION
The Mauritius Tourism Promotion Authority (MTPA) may be contacted for further tourist information. Their offices are located at the SSR International airport and in Port Louis. The contact number is +230 210 1545.

For more information about Mauritius please click here.
COMMUNICATIONS

Mauritius has a good telecommunication network with three main operators namely Mauritius Telecom, Emtel and MTML. Both domestic and international calls can be made through fixed lines or mobile phones.

EMERGENCY PHONE NUMBERS

Police Information Room : 999
Police : + 230 208-7018 / 20
Fire : 995

SAMU (Ambulance) : 114
Apollo Bramwell (Ambulance): 132
Fortis Darné (Ambulance): 118

HEALTH

No vaccinations are required. However, a yellow fever vaccination certificate is required for travellers over 1 year of age who arrive from areas where yellow fever cases are reported.

LANGUAGE

Most people in Mauritius are bilingual and are equally fluent in English and French. Creole and French are the main languages in the everyday environment and several oriental languages are also spoken.

SHOPPING

Shopping hours in our main cities range from 09.30 hrs to 19.30 hrs (Monday-Saturday). Some shops are open till noon on Sundays and public holidays. Many duty free shops and modern shopping centres (Caudan, La Croisette, Coeur de Ville, Bagatelle Mall of Mauritius, Cascavelle Mall, Phoenix Commercial Centre, Riche Terre Mall – Riche Terre, Curepipe, Floréal Square, Orchard Centre) offer a wide choice of products.

Please note that no shops are open in Flacq, Rose-Hill, Curepipe and Quatre-Bornes on Thursday afternoon.

DRIVING

People in Mauritius drive on the left-hand side of the road and give way to the right. Foreigners with a driving licence issued by a Competent Authority in their respective countries are allowed to drive during their stay in Mauritius.

IMPORTANT LINKS

- Financial Services Commission, Mauritius: http://www.fscmauritius.org
- Government of Mauritius: http://www.govmu.org
- Ministry of Financial Services, Good Governance and Institutional Reforms: http://financialservices.govmu.org
- Passport and Immigration Office, Mauritius: http://passport.govmu.org/
- Mauritius Tourism Promotion Authority: http://www.tourism-mauritius.mu/
- Bank of Mauritius: https://www.bom.mu/