



**BUDGET SPEECH
HIGHLIGHTS
2022 / 23**



Foreword

Just like the rest of the world, Mauritius is trying to find its feet in the aftermath of the last 2 years which were largely dominated by the global pandemic. A high vaccination rate, standing at 76% of the population being fully vaccinated at the time of this article, as well as a wide-spread booster dose, has enabled the country's economy to operate as normal as possible while respecting the mandatory sanitary precautions. The reopening of the borders in October 2021 also allowed the country to welcome visitors again, a much needed boost to the ailing tourism industry.

However along with the side-effects of the pandemic on the economy, both global and local, 2022 has also brought with it new challenges, such as the Russia-Ukraine war and China's zero-Covid strategy which amongst others, are disrupting supply chains. The widespread increase in prices of important commodities such as oil and gas as well as food items, a worldwide phenomenon, is exercising tremendous pressure on the Mauritius economy and is fueling growing discontent among the people at large.

In these troubled times, the Honourable Dr Renganaden Padayachy, Minister of Finance, Economic Planning and Development had the delicate task of presenting the national budget on 7 June 2022. While it was expected that the measures would be in continuity with the previous two budget speeches made by the Minister, most of the population were eagerly awaiting for measures that would alleviate the loss in purchasing power.

The budget, titled "With the People, for the People", tried to meet those expectations with measures to boost the country's self-sufficiency in terms of food and energy, the payment of a direct monthly income allowance to people earning a gross monthly income of up to MUR 50,000 and measures to alleviate the fiscal burden on low- and middle-income earners.

We are pleased to present the highlights of the Budget Speech 2022 / 2023 and wish you a pleasant reading!

Best wishes,

Tax Team
AAA Global Services Ltd



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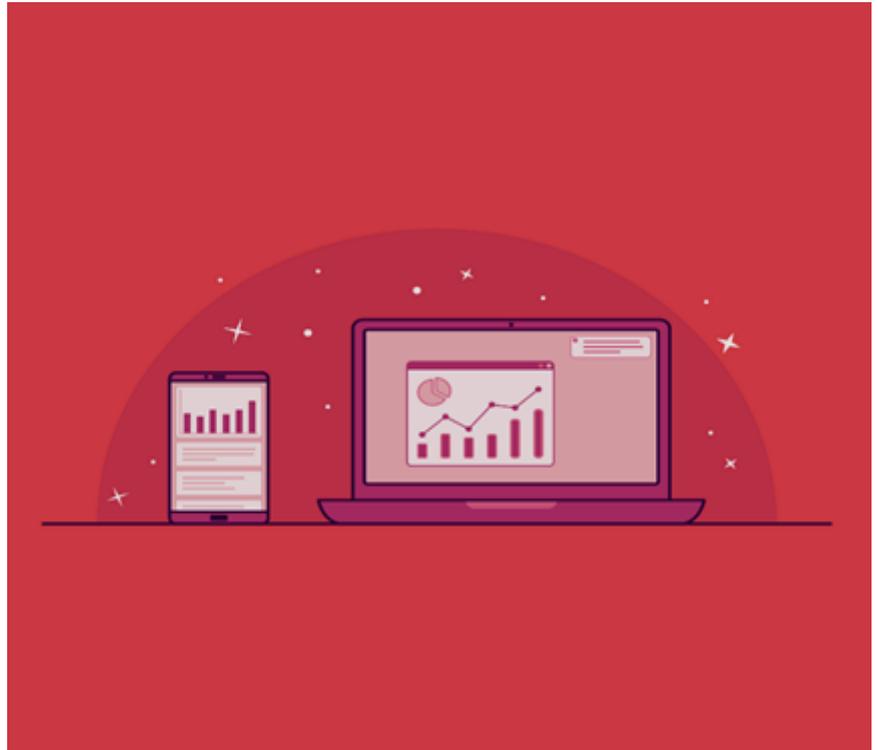
KEY FACTS and FIGURES

 GDP to exceed its pre-pandemic level by 2022 as per IMF forecasts

 Unemployment expected to fall from 9.1% to 7.8%

 Investment rate to increase to 21.2% of GDP from 19.2% in 2021

 Foreign Direct Investment to exceed MUR 20 billion from MUR 15.4 billion last year



 Public sector debt to follow a downward trend, going from 96.1% in June 2021 to 87.4% in June 2022

 Government debt to fall from 87.1% in June 2021 to 77.3% in June 2022

Corporate Tax Measures

Tax Holidays

An 8-year income tax holiday will be granted to a newly set up freeport operator or developer making an investment of at least Rs 50 million and provided it –

- starts its operations on or after 1 July 2022; and
- conforms with the substance requirements set by the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD).

Global Minimum Tax Rate

A domestic minimum top-up tax will be implemented to ensure that resident companies forming part of multinational enterprise groups having a global annual revenue of EUR 750 million or more are taxed at a minimum rate of 15%.

Premium Visa Scheme

It will be clarified that the foreign employer of the holder of a Premium Visa will not, in respect of that employee, be subject to the payment of:

- corporate tax under the Income Tax Act; and
- social contribution under the Social Contribution and Social Benefits Act.

Additional Deduction - Procurement from Small Enterprises

A large manufacturer (having annual turnover exceeding MUR 100 million) will be granted an additional deduction of 25% on the amount incurred to purchase locally manufactured products from a small enterprise.

Waiver of Income Tax Penalties for Small and Medium Enterprises

The Income Tax Act will be amended to waive penalties imposed on Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs), remaining outstanding as at 25 March 2022, for late submission of income tax returns and late payment of income tax during the years 2020 and 2021.

Financial assistance to Small and Medium Enterprises – Salary Compensation 2022

The Income Tax Act will be amended to refund to a Small and Medium Enterprise (SME), in addition to the salary compensation 2021, the salary compensation 2022 paid to its employees up to 30 June 2022. The amendment will be effective as from 1 January 2022.

Thus, the Mauritius Revenue Authority (MRA) is, in relation to salary compensation for year 2022, paying to a non export-oriented SME an amount of:

- MUR 500 monthly per employee deriving a basic wage not exceeding MUR 13,500; and
- MUR 400 monthly per employee deriving a basic wage exceeding MUR 13,500 up to MUR 50,775.

Financial Assistance to the Tourism Sector – Salary Compensation 2022

The Income Tax Act will be amended to refund to an enterprise in the tourism sector the salary compensation paid to its employees for the period January 2022 to June 2022, that is, an amount of:

- MUR 500 monthly per employee deriving a basic wage not exceeding MUR 13,500; and
- MUR 400 monthly per employee deriving a basic wage exceeding MUR 13,500 up to MUR 50,775.

The amendment will be effective as from 1 January 2022 and will not apply for an SME in the tourism sector already benefitting under the SME Salary Compensation Refund or to workers of an enterprise in the Island of Rodrigues for a particular month if they have benefitted from the Wage Assistance Scheme in that month.

Tax Administration

PAYE

An individual liable to the Solidarity Levy and deriving pension or director's fees will be given the option to request the person responsible for the payment to deduct the Pay As You Earn (PAYE) for the Solidarity Levy at the rate of 10%.

Tax Deductible at Source

The rate of tax deduction at source (TDS) on:

- services provided by professionals will be increased from 3% to 5%; and
- rent paid to a resident will be increased from 5% to 7.5%.

The Income Tax Act will be amended to broaden the scope of TDS to cover:

Services	Rate of TDS
Consultancy Fees	3%
Security Charges and Cleaning Services	3%
Pest Management Services	3%
Payment of fees made by insurance companies to motor surveyors and mechanics for repairs of motor vehicles of policy holders	3%

Foundations and Trusts

The MRA will be allowed to request information from a Foundation or Trust to enable the Authority to:

- make an assessment;
- collect tax; or
- comply with any request for the exchange of information under a Double Taxation Avoidance Agreement.

Transfer of Asset to a Related Company

Transfer of plant, machinery or industrial premises to a related company is deemed to be transferred at its net value (after allowing for depreciation under the Income Tax Act). This facility will be extended to cover any asset which is subject to depreciation.

Declaration of Assets

The Independent Commission Against Corruption (ICAC) will be allowed to disclose a copy of the Declaration of Assets of the employees of the MRA to the Head of the Internal Affairs Division of the Authority.

E-Publication of Names of Companies not Submitting Returns

The Director-General of the MRA will be allowed to publish the name of a company which has not filed its income tax return on the website of the MRA instead of publishing same in the newspapers. Furthermore, the notification to the company regarding the publication may be made electronically.

International Arrangements

The Income Tax Act will be amended to allow Mauritius to enter into international arrangements for:

- alternative dispute resolution with a view to resolving cross border tax disputes; and
- implementing the internationally agreed standards to prevent base erosion and profit shifting.

Taxation of Digital Economy

The power of the Minister of Finance to make regulations will be extended to cover internationally agreed policies to address the tax challenges arising from the digitalisation of the economy.

Tax Arrears Settlement Scheme (TASS)

The Tax Arrears Payment Scheme will be re-introduced. The Scheme provides for full waiver of penalties and interest where tax arrears, outstanding under the Income Tax Act, the Value Added Tax Act and the Gambling Regulatory Authority Act, are paid in full by 31 March 2023 and provided that the taxpayer registers himself under the Scheme by 31 December 2022.

Taxpayers having assessments pending before the Assessment Review Committee (ARC), the Supreme Court or Judicial Committee of the Privy Council, and who wish to take advantage of the Scheme, may do so by withdrawing the case before these institutions.

Power to require information from the Stock Exchange

The Central Depository and Settlement Company Ltd will be required to submit, on an annual basis to the MRA, a statement of financial transaction on individuals and companies that have purchased shares in listed companies exceeding -

- MUR 250,000 in one transaction in the case of an individual; and
- MUR 500,000 in one transaction in the case of a company.



Power to Require Information from Banks

Banks will be required to provide information:

- as provided for in the Income Tax Act pertaining to a bank account held jointly by a taxpayer in a similar manner as for an individual account; and
- pertaining to persons who have been convicted of money laundering or financing of terrorism offences.

Alternative Tax Dispute Resolution – Threshold

The threshold for tax appeal cases to be expedited by the Alternative Tax Dispute Resolution (ATDR) panel will be reduced to MUR 5 million.

Customs cases at the Assessment Review Committee

Provision will be made for an aggrieved person lodging a representation at the ARC against a decision taken by MRA Customs under the Customs Act and Customs Tariff Act to file a Statement of Case with all facts of the case in view of the technical nature of such cases. 26

Improving Efficiency of the Assessment Review Committee

In order to speed up determination of cases at the level of the ARC, the following amendments will be brought in the Mauritius Revenue Authority Act –

- subject to agreement from both parties, one mediation meeting may be held if the Chairperson or the Vice-Chairperson is of the view that some or all of the issues of a case can be resolved through mediation;
- depending on the nature of a tax appeal case, the Chairperson or Vice-Chairperson may constitute a panel consisting of only 2 persons instead of 3 persons, i.e. the Chairperson or Vice-Chairperson and a member;
- the Chairperson or the Vice-Chairperson, alone, may hear a case and may give decision orally on the same day on the issues where:
 - a taxpayer has failed to file a tax return or produce required documents to the Objection Directorate of the MRA;
 - an aggrieved taxpayer has failed to pay the 10% due on objection or 5% due on appeal;
 - a case is lodged after the statutory delay; or
 - a point of law is taken before the start of a hearing.
- subject to agreement from both parties, a panel of the ARC will be allowed to replace up to 2 of its members, apart from the Chairperson or Vice-Chairperson, and proceed with the hearing of a case without having to start anew;
- the ARC will be able to conduct, at the request of a party, a hearing through videoconferencing subject to the agreement of the other party;
- the Chairperson or the Vice-Chairperson, depending on the nature of a tax appeal case, may give a decision based on the submission of statements of case only subject to the agreement of both parties; and
- each party will be given not more than 21 days to submit its statement of case and witness statement, if any, to the Committee with copy to the other party after a case has been called proforma for the first time before the Committee.

Arrears Payment Scheme

The Arrears Payment Scheme under the Registrar-General's Department will be re-introduced for another year. The Scheme will provide for full waiver of penalties and interest if a debtor of the Department settles any debt amount on or before 31 March 2023. This Scheme will apply to tax arrears due as at 31 May 2022.

Claim for Additional Duty or Tax on Re-assessment

No claim for additional duty or tax will be issued by the Registrar-General for an amount of less than MUR 7,500 instead of MUR 5,000 following a re-assessment of the value of an immovable property.

Transfer of Shares by a Non-citizen

A non-citizen will be required to produce a certified copy of the certificate under the Non-Citizens (Property Restriction) Act not only on the acquisition of shares in a partnership, society or a company but also on the disposal of such shares.

Digital Signatures

Provision will be made in the Registration Duty Act to accept a deed for registration where a secure digital signature has been affixed in conformity with the Electronic Transactions Act.

Value Added Tax Measures

- Where a person is required by law or MRA directs him to be compulsorily VAT registered but he fails to do so, MRA will be empowered to register him compulsorily.
- A list of all VAT-registered persons will be published on the website of MRA to avoid fraudulent practices. The list will be updated on a quarterly basis.
- Where a taxable person fails to submit a return, MRA will be empowered to publish electronically, 3 months after the due date, the name and address of the taxable person and his directors and the taxable period in respect of which the return has not been submitted. However, the taxable person will be notified prior to the publication.
- In case an aggrieved person makes an objection against a decision of MRA but fails to submit information, books or records requested by MRA within the required time frame, MRA may determine that the objection has lapsed. Where an appeal is then made to the ARC on this matter, these information, books or records will not be allowed to be submitted before the Committee.
- Provision will be made for a VAT refund on a residential building, house or apartment to be effected not later than 30 days from the date of receipt of all documents in support of an application for refund instead of 30 days from the date of receipt of the application.
- One of the conditions to be eligible to make an application for VAT refund on a residential building, house or apartment is that the cost should not exceed MUR 3 million. This will be replaced by the condition that the covered area constructed should not exceed 1,800 square feet.



- Where a taxable person dies, any heir/legatee who accepts the succession of his estate or any executor/liquidator of his estate will be deemed to be an agent of the deceased and be liable to submit any VAT return and pay the VAT due with respect to transactions where VAT has been collected by the deceased.
- Where the business continues to operate after the death of the taxable person, the transactions will be deemed to be those of the succession and the latter will be required to register for VAT purposes.
- MRA will come up with a roadmap by December 2022 for a phase-wise implementation of the e-invoicing system. This system will allow the online recording, authentication and monitoring of all invoices issued in the course of a business activity.
- It will be clarified that, where a VAT-registered person acts as an agent of a principal and goods received under consignment or a sale or return agreement are sold by the agent in his own name, VAT should be charged by the agent on the selling price of the goods.
- With a view to increasing VAT compliance and collection, Ministries, Government departments, local authorities, statutory bodies and the Rodrigues Regional Assembly will remit directly to MRA a percentage of VAT to be paid on contracts exceeding a specified threshold for the procurement of goods and services. The VAT registered contractors will make necessary adjustments regarding input tax and output tax in their VAT returns.
- Following a change in the definition of “small farmer” in the Small Farmers Welfare Fund Act, consequential amendment will be made to include in the list of beneficiaries of the VAT Refund Scheme a group of small farmers, such as a farmers’ association, society, company or co-operative owned by a small farmer or a group of small farmers and having an annual turnover not exceeding MUR 10 million, which is registered with the Small Farmers Welfare Fund under the Small Farmers Welfare Fund Act.

Personal Tax Measures

New Tax Rate

- As from the income year 2022-2023, an individual earning an annual net income:
 - of up to MUR 700,000 will be taxed at the rate of 10%;
 - above MUR 700,000 and not exceeding MUR 975,000 (i.e. MUR 75,000 per month) will be taxed at the rate of 12.5%; or
 - above MUR 975,000 will be taxed at the rate of 15% and the Solidary Levy, if applicable.

Other Exemptions and Reliefs

- Additional Deduction for Tertiary Education
The additional deduction in respect of a dependent child who is pursuing tertiary studies will be raised from MUR 225,000 to MUR 500,000 and covers both undergraduate and postgraduate courses.



- Relief for Medical or Health Insurance Premium
The maximum allowable deduction for medical insurance premium will be increased as follows:
 - MUR 20,000 to MUR 25,000 for an individual and his first dependent; and
 - MUR 15,000 to MUR 20,000 for every other dependent.
- Contribution to Personal Pension Schemes
The maximum allowable deduction in respect of contributions made by a taxpayer to a personal pension scheme for the provision of a pension for himself will be increased from MUR 30,000 to MUR 50,000.
- Donations to Charitable Institutions
The maximum allowable deduction for donations made to an approved charitable institution including a religious body will be increased from MUR 30,000 to MUR 50,000.
- Deduction for Dependent who is a Bedridden Next of Kin
It will be clarified that a taxpayer will be able to claim his/her spouse as a bedridden next of kin irrespective of any financial assistance provided to the bedridden spouse under the National Pensions Act.
- Exempt Income
The maximum allowable deduction for petrol or travelling allowance paid to an eligible employee using his private car for the performance of his duties will be increased from MUR 11,500 to MUR 20,000.

Customs Act

- A definition of “audit-based” control under Customs Laws will be introduced in line with the Provisions of the Revised Kyoto Convention which is the World Customs Organisation blueprint for modern and efficient customs procedures. Similar provision will be made in the Excise Act.
- Presently, where goods are purchased by a departing citizen of Mauritius free of taxes under the Deferred Duty and Tax Scheme and the goods are imported back by him within 6 months of the date of his departure, taxes become payable on the goods. Henceforth, taxes will no longer be payable.
- Where a payment instruction is given by an importer for taxes to be paid electronically to MRA Customs, the payment will have to be credited within 3 working days. This will ensure that payments are effected in a timely manner as well as provide clarity on the time of application of late payment penalty and interest.
- Presently, the requirement to furnish a security by bond with adequate surety to cover the amount of taxes in case of default or in compliance with Customs Laws differs under various provisions of the Customs laws. The provisions will be harmonised and at least one adequate surety will be required in all cases.



- The penalty provision for failure to submit a Bill of Entry for the clearance of goods within 5 working days after the time an aircraft has landed or a vessel has been berthed will be suspended up to 30 June 2023.
- The implementation of the penalty provision applicable upon failure by a master/agent to make amendments to his aircraft/vessel manifest within 5 working days after the aircraft has landed or the vessel has been berthed will be deferred until 30 June 2023.
- Provision will be made to allow a stakeholder to make an objection to a decision of MRA Customs electronically. Similar provision will be made in the Customs Tariff Act and Excise Act.
- It will be clarified that an objection by a stakeholder to a decision of MRA Customs should be made in the approved form and not by way of a letter. Similar provision will be made in the Customs Tariff Act and Excise Act. Provision will be made to allow a refund of taxes by MRA Customs in cases where a stakeholder objects to a tax assessment and the Objection Directorate at MRA allows the objection.
- Provision will be made to allow MRA Customs to communicate valuation information to Ministries/Departments upon request provided authorisation is obtained from the Minister of Finance.
- The Industrial Property Act has made provision for the protection of the Intellectual Property Rights of an owner of a utility model, layout design, breeder's right, trade name and geographical indication. Consequential amendment will be made to the Customs Act for the protection of these rights at the border and in the local market.
- A penalty of MUR 5,000 per day of non-compliance up to a maximum of MUR 50,000 will be applicable where the proprietor/occupier of a bonded warehouse fails to:
 - keep records of goods received into and delivered from his warehouse. If this offence is committed more than three times in a calendar year, his authorisation to operate a bonded warehouse may be revoked or altered;
 - record entries in real time on the approved computerised warehouse management system and give MRA Customs online access in cases where he has been authorised to operate his warehouse without Customs locks and the presence of Customs officers. If this offence is committed more than three times in a calendar year, his authorisation to operate a bonded warehouse may be revoked or altered;
 - equip his bonded warehouse with a CCTV system and/or does not give online access to MRA Customs. In case of non-compliance within a period of six months, his authorisation to operate a bonded warehouse may be revoked or altered; or
 - submit a 12 months statement of stock duly certified by an auditor within one month after the end of the month in which the stocktaking was carried out. His authorisation to operate a bonded warehouse may also be revoked or altered.

There will be a right of appeal against the penalty. Consequential amendment will be made in the MRA Act regarding appeal at the level of the ARC.
- It will be clarified that, where an order approving a bonded warehouse is revoked, taxes on all the warehoused goods will have to be paid by the proprietor/occupier within two months of the date of revocation.



- Provision will be made to allow the master/agent or representative of a vessel to submit a consolidated Bill of Entry in respect of bunker fuel loaded during a month on vessels bound for the high seas to reduce the administrative burden.
- Where a broker or Freight Forwarding Agent informs MRA Customs that he has ceased or intends to cease operation, MRA Customs will be empowered to revoke his authorisation to act as broker or Freight Forwarding Agent.
- Where a broker or Freight Forwarding Agent has committed a breach entailing suspension but the breach relates to a specific function, MRA Customs will be empowered to allow the broker or Freight Forwarding Agent to continue carrying out those functions where there has been no breach.
- Following the repeal of the Independent Tax Panel under the MRA Act, consequential amendment will be made to remove the reference to the guidelines of the Independent Tax Panel when considering the waiver of penalty, interest, surcharge or rent.
- Where, for audit purposes, books and records requested from an importer, exporter, freight forwarding agent or broker are not submitted or access to computers and other electronic devices is not granted to the satisfaction of MRA Customs, the latter will be empowered to raise a claim for payment of taxes. There will be a right of appeal against the claim. Consequential amendment will be made in the MRA Act regarding appeal at the level of the ARC.
- With a view to ensuring that customs enforcement is carried out in a secured manner, MRA Customs will be empowered to prohibit the use of electronic communication devices within a customs area or an area where goods or persons are under customs control. Failure to comply will constitute an offence and an offender will be liable, upon conviction, to a fine not exceeding MUR 100,000.

Excise Act

- Definitions of “document” and “risk management” will be introduced in line with the Customs Act.
- Entries for excisable goods made by a manufacturer in respect of goods deposited in an excise warehouse or removed from a factory or a consolidated bill of entry for excisable goods to be warehoused or cleared during a month will henceforth be deemed to be a self-assessment.
- It will be clarified that, where the Objection Directorate at MRA allows an objection by a stakeholder claiming refund of excise duty paid in excess, the refund will be made together with interest.
- Provision will be made with retrospective effect to allow a distiller-bottler of alcohol to sell at his factory fusel oil (a by-product of the distillation process) for use as biofuel.
- MRA will be empowered to carry out “controlled delivery” of excisable goods such as cigarettes and tobacco with a view to gathering evidence on the smuggling chain.



- The opening hours for the sale of alcoholic products in restaurants and pubs will be extended to 2 a.m. everyday.
- The requirement to affix excise stamps will be extended to cover beer and wine in cans and other types of packaging.

Property Tax Measures

Home Ownership Scheme

The Home Ownership Scheme will be extended to 30 June 2023.

Home Loan Payment Scheme

The Home Loan Payment Scheme will be extended to 30 June 2023.

VRS Scheme – Transfer among Heirs

A VRS property transferred to the heirs of a deceased beneficiary shall be deemed to have been obtained by inheritance thus enabling the property to be transferred between the heirs free from duty and tax.

This amendment will be backdated to take effect as from 1 July 2016.

Share Buyback

The relevant legislations will be amended to clarify that a share buyback will be subject to registration duty and tax in the same manner as for a transfer of shares with respect to a company holding immovable property.

Financial Services

- Revamping of the Financial Services Commission (FSC) framework to enable Re-Insurance companies to set up operations in Mauritius.
- Removal of “Global Headquarters Administration”, “Global Shared services” and “Global treasury activities” from the scope of “financial services” under the Financial Services Act and creation of a new section for regulation of global activities in line with FATF requirements.
- Reviewing the current requirement for high-net worth individuals and families to a minimum portfolio of USD 5 million per management family office.
- Adapting the legislative framework to converge the domestic and the global business regime.
- Setting up of the Financial Crime Commission to ensure an effective coordination in the fight against financial crimes.
- Enabling the FSC to initiate regulatory actions against individuals performing the functions of an officer who not formally approved by the FSC.



- Setting up of a Settlement Committee to assess the possibility of early resolution of disciplinary matters with a licensee.

Insurance Act

- Harmonizing the provisions of FIAMLA to include combatting of proliferation financing in line with the requirements of the FATF.
- Setting up of a framework for Structured Investment-Linked Insurance Business activities.
- Aligning the approval of the appointment of fit and proper persons with the provisions of the Financial Services Act.
- Extension of the prescribed delay from 2 to 5 years for claim applications to be made to cater for more victims of hit and run accidents.
- Establishing a multilateral clearing framework in compliance with FSC Rules to expedite the settlement of outstanding motor claims recoveries.
- Providing that the FSC may require motor insurers to furnish information to facilitate, in collaboration with other regulatory body, the clearing and settlement of claims through a clearing system.

Securities Act

- Extending the regulatory functions of an Official exchange to allow for investigations of market abuse cases involving issuers on securities exchanges.

Virtual Asset and Initial Token Offering Services Act

- Allowing the FSC and investigatory authorities to make use of software/digital tools in carrying out supervision and investigation and information obtained to be admissible as evidence for purposes of a criminal investigation, prosecution or other related criminal or civil court proceedings.

Measures for Doing Business

- Waiving of fee to start a business and incorporate a company.
- BOM will ensure that a bank account can be opened within 1 week.
- An Inter-Ministerial Committee chaired by the Prime Minister will oversee the streamlining of licenses and permits in the construction, tourism, healthcare, and logistics sectors.
- Introduction of a Business Regulatory Reform Bill as an apex legislation on business facilitation.



SME

- The definition of SMEs reviewed:

Type	Turnover
○ Micro-Enterprise	○ MUR 2M to MUR 10M
○ Small Enterprise	○ MUR 10M to MUR 30M
○ Medium Enterprise	○ MUR 30M to MUR 100M
○ Mid-Market Enterprise	○ Up to MUR 250M

- The DBM SME interest free loan scheme and the Covid-19 Special Support Scheme extended up to June 2023.
- Allocation of MUR 5 billion to support SMEs, Mid-Market Enterprises and entrepreneurs.
- Setting up of a Venture Capital Fund of MUR 5 billion by the MIC targeting SMEs and Mid-Market Enterprises.
- SMEs will benefit from the Freight Rebate Scheme on the South African market.

Occupation Permits, Permanent Residence Permits, Work Permits and Premium Visa

- Global Headquarters Administration licencees will be provided work and residence permits for 5 executives and their dependents.
- Non-citizens having acquired residential property under 'fractional ownership' will be eligible to apply for the status of residency provided that the investment by each non-citizen exceeds USD 375,000.
- Holders of Residence Permits may upon application, acquire a residential property of a minimum of USD 350,000 outside the existing schemes, subject to a 10% contribution made to the Solidarity Fund.
- Assessment and claim by the Registrar-General of the amount of duty or tax which would otherwise be payable in respect of a holder of a Premium Investor Certificate failing to use land acquired for the project approved under the Premium Investor Certificate.
- Issuance of work permits will be expedited by the setting up a Work Permit Committee to be chaired by the Prime Minister.
- Enabling businesses to recruit talents under the young professional occupation permit.



- A foreign employer of premium visa holders will not, in respect of the employee, be subject to corporate tax and social contributions.
- Entrepreneurs and students completing their studies to benefit from the premium visa.
- First edition of the Mauritius International Silver Economy Festival will be organized by EDB to continue attracting more foreign retirees in Mauritius.
- Validity period of the Pre-Shipment Inspection Certificate from 2 to 4 months

Other Measures

Companies Act

- Removal of temporary time extensions in respect of annual meetings, preparation and filing of financial statements.
- Reinstating the application of Section 162 relating to duty of directors on insolvency.
- Providing for the following disclosure in respect of subsidiaries in annual reports:
 - particulars of interest;
 - donations made by the subsidiaries;
 - details of present and past directors;
 - fees payable to auditors; and
 - details of major transactions.
- Easing restoration of company to the Register in case it was still carrying on business at the time of removal by the Registrar of Companies.

Banking

- Launching of a regional Renminbi Clearing Centre in 2022 by the Bank of Mauritius (“BOM”) together with the Bank of China.
- Issuance of “RuPay” cards and Indian QR Code by the BOM in collaboration with the National Payments Corporation of India.
- Introduction of a National Payment Card for customers.
- Issuance of a 5-Year Emerald Jubilee Bond at an annual interest rate of 4%.
- Clarifying that BOM may open accounts and accept deposits for the purpose of issuing of digital currency.



- Increasing the functionalities of the Central KYC system and the Central Accounts Registry established by the BOM
- Modification of the criteria for the BOM to grant an in-principle approval in relation to an application for a banking licence.
- Enabling the BOM to require a financial institution or a service provider to comply with confidentiality requirements specified in its guidelines, directives or instructions.
- Requiring a person intending to carry out due diligence on a financial institution with a view to acquire a shareholding to sign a Declaration of confidentiality.

Financial Reporting Act

- Conducting of examinations, assessments or interviews by MIPA for registering public accountants.
- Exempting public interest entities from Section 75(1) of the Financial Reporting Act.

Training

- The Financial Services Institute to become an awarding body to cater for specialist trainings.
- The BOM and the FSC will renew their one-year graduate training programme on AML, targeting 100 graduates with a monthly stipend of MUR 15,000.
- Monthly Prime à l'Emploi of MUR 15,000 for the first year of employment of 10,000 youths between 18 and 35 years and women up to 50 years
- Increased monthly stipend of MUR 10,000 for the Graduate Training for Employment Scheme.
- Increased monthly stipend of MUR 8,000 for those under the National Apprenticeship Programme and the National Skills Development Programme.

The United Nations (Financial Prohibitions, Arms Embargo and Travel Ban) Sanctions Act

- The definition of “international terrorism” will be added.



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