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2. International Travel and Tourism

MINISTRY OF ECONOMIC PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT
PORT LOUIS
MAURITIUS
BRIEFING NOTE NO. 3 ON THE NATIONAL LONG-TERM PERSPECTIVE
STUDY
IMPLEMENTATION PROGRAMME

This article is the third in the "NLTPS" series. The first two were published in issues Nos 128 and 144 of the Economic Indicators. The purpose of this paper is to inform the public of recent developments and the course of action proposed to finalise the NLTPS by the end of this year.

Recent Developments

Financing of the Project

2. Since the National Seminar held in February 1992 during which the methodology for carrying out the study was discussed, negotiations have been held with aid donors for the funding of the project. This delay is explained by the Mauritian desire to ensure that the NLTPS exercise is carried out in a manner that would take into account the specificities of Mauritius. Once this was achieved, a financing agreement amounting to US $ 600,000 was signed in August 1993. The funding will be shared equally between the UNDP under the national Indicative Planning Figure and the Abidjan-based African Futures, a UNDP-implemented programme with a mandate to assist African countries in their long-term planning efforts.

Project Management

3. The services of the Commonwealth Consultative Group on Technology Management (CCGTM) has been secured for the overall supervision of the NLTPS exercise. CCGTM network members have been involved in a similar exercise in Malaysia and Britain. The African Futures group would contribute to this exercise through the supply of information on global and regional scenarios.

4. After discussions with CCGTM consultants, some changes have been brought to the approach to the study with a view to rationalise and streamline the work of the Sectoral Working Groups. The new approach proposes the setting up of eight Working Groups (WG's) in a manner that will minimise overlapping of issues to be examined.
5. The Ministry of Economic Planning and Development will play a lead role in the execution of the project. It has the responsibility for the overall supervision of the study through its Director, Mr. R. Bheenick and Principal Economist A. Nakhuda who are the Project Director and Co-ordinator respectively. The Project Director will also be responsible for steering the final NLTPS report for Government's approval and the editing of all final documents prior to publication. In addition, the Project Director will lead a Core Group, comprising Working Groups (WG) Chairmen and Secretaries to ensure better co-ordination of the exercise. A small secretariat has been set up within the Ministry for this purpose.

6. The Core Group will provide a forum where the WG’s can
   - interact and keep track of what other WG’s are doing,
   - share views on issues of mutual interest, and
   - address common problems.

This will enable the study to be carried out in a systematic manner and ensure its timely completion.

The role of Working Groups

7. Each WG has a Chairman and a Secretary, who will be persons of repute in their areas of responsibilities. In order to ensure the widest possible participation in this exercise, representatives from the public sector, research institutions, and the private sector have been called upon to chair the WG's or to act as Secretary to these WG’s. The Chairmen and Secretaries of the different WG's are as follows:

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<th>Working Group</th>
<th>Chairman</th>
<th>Secretary</th>
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<tr>
<td>The Economy</td>
<td>Prof R Lamusse, Dean, Faculty of Law and Management University of Mauritius</td>
<td>Mr D. Dusoruth, Principal Economist, MEPD</td>
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<tr>
<td>Environment</td>
<td>Mrs N Burn, Senior Lecturer Faculty of Social Studies and Humanities University of Mauritius</td>
<td>Mrs M Koenig, Executive Secretary, Friends of the Environment</td>
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<td>Society and Cultures</td>
<td>Mr M Vayid, CGM Member, National Economic Development Council</td>
<td>Dr S Bunwaree, Lecturer Faculty of Social Studies and Humanities University of Mauritius</td>
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<td>Science and Technology</td>
<td>Dr C Ricaud, Director, MSIRI</td>
<td>Prof J Baguant, Pro Vice-Chancellor, Dean, Faculty of Engineering, University of Mauritius</td>
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<tr>
<td>Agriculture</td>
<td>Mr. R. Antoine, Executive Chairman, Food and Agricultural Research Council</td>
<td>Mr R Hazareesing Senior Accountant, Mauritius Chamber of Agriculture</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tourism</td>
<td>Sir Harry Tirvengadum, Chairman and Managing Director, Air Mauritius</td>
<td>Mr R Makoond, Director, Joint Economic Committee</td>
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<td>Employment</td>
<td>Prof J Manrakhan, Vice-chancellor, University of Mauritius</td>
<td>Mrs A C Timol, Senior Lecturer, Faulty of Social Studies and Humanities, University of Mauritius</td>
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<tr>
<td>Industry</td>
<td>Mr G Chung Tick Kan, Chairman, EPZDA</td>
<td>Mr S Futloo, General Manager, T-Printers Co Ltd</td>
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8. The final choice of members of each WG has been made by the respective Chairman and Secretary. The composition of the WG's has been effected to ensure that the best possible local competence contribute in shaping a vision of the country in the year 2020 and help to chart out a practical strategy to translate that vision into reality. The WG's have the possibility of co-opting additional members whenever the need arises or bring in outside expertise where these are not available locally.

9. The WG's are expected to prepare a preliminary report by end-June 1994. This will be firmed up during a Scenario Building Workshop planned for mid-July. This Workshop will enable the various WG's to explore different scenarios in order to reduce uncertainties of the future and map out realistic alternative future possibilities. External resource persons with experience in this area will contribute to this exercise.

National Consultations

10. The Scenario Workshop will be followed by National Consultations programmed late in August this year during which the final report of the WG's will be debated. This will provide an opportunity for a wider segment of the community
to consider the issues raised and express their views on them to ensure that the study finally emerges with a vision of the future that carries popular support and consensus.

Publication of the NLTPS

11. The output of NLTPS will be in three volumes. Volume I will be the actual NLTPS, consisting of some 150 pages. Volume II will comprise the reports of the WG's in their original form. The third Volume will be a shorter and more popular version of between 20 to 30 pages aimed at the general public with a view to sensitizing the population on the issues involved.

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