### INTERNATIONAL TRAVEL & TOURISM

## 1st Quarter 2010

#### Introduction

This issue of the Economic and Social Indicators presents data on International Travel and Tourism and hotel statistics for the first quarter of 2010. A brief on the compilation of these statistics is given at Annex I while Annex II contains a glossary of terms used.

### 2. Passenger Traffic

### 2.1 Total Passenger Traffic

Passenger traffic for the first quarter of 2010 totalled 700,875, made up of 335,108 arrivals and 365,767 departures. Compared to the same period of 2009, these figures represent increases of 9.1% in arrivals and 10.3% in departures. Movements by sea accounted for 9.2% of arrivals and 10.4% of departures. Further details on monthly figures are given in Table 1.

#### 2.2 Excursionists

Total arrivals by air included 3,091 "excursionists", i.e. visitors arriving and leaving on the same day. Of these excursionists, 1,231 (39.8%) came from France and 1,018 (32.9%), from Reunion Island. Total arrivals by sea included 27,352 "cruise excursionists" (18,304 passengers and 9,048 crews) aboard 16 cruise ships, which visited our port during the first quarter of 2010.

#### 2.3 Mauritian Residents

During the period under review, the number of Mauritian residents travelling abroad went up by 8.1% to 49,560 compared to 45,836 for the first three months of 2009 and accounted for 13.5% of total departures (Table 2). The following changes were observed in the number of Mauritian departures by major country of disembarkation: Hong Kong (+74.2%), Singapore (+40.7%), India (+38.6%), Malagasy Republic (+25.0%), Seychelles (+22.8%), Reunion Island (+15.6%), Republic of South Africa (+4.4%), United Kingdom (-5.1%), France (-6.4%), United Arab Emirates (-16.8%) and Australia (-21.4%).

Figure 1 shows the percentage distribution of Mauritian departures by major country of disembarkation for the period January to March of 2009 and 2010.

20.0
15.0
15.0
Reunion France India UAE UK South Africa

Figure 1 - Percentage distribution of Mauritian departures by major country of disembarkation, January - March of 2009 and 2010

#### 2.4 Tourist Arrivals

Tourist arrivals for the first quarter of 2010 increased by 7.3% to reach 249,971 compared to 232,908 in the corresponding quarter of 2009. Figure 2 shows monthly tourist arrivals for the period January to March of 2009 and 2010. Further details on tourist arrivals are given in Tables 3 to 6.

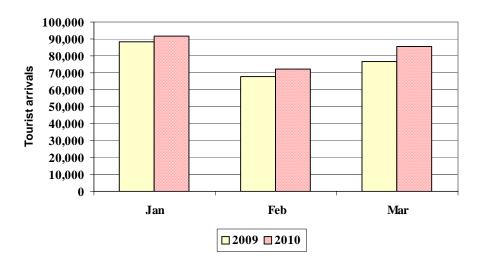


Figure 2 - Monthly Tourist Arrivals, January - March of 2009 and 2010

Around 93% of the tourists came for holidays while 3.5% were on business/conference trips and another 0.6% were in transit (Table 4).

Arrivals from Europe, which accounted for 69.0% of total tourist arrivals, increased by 5.9% to reach 172,528 during the first quarter of 2010 against 162,988 in the corresponding quarter of 2009. Arrivals from France, our leading market representing 34.0% of total tourist arrivals and 49.3% of the European market, rose by 10.9% to attain 85,039 during this quarter. The performance in arrivals for the other major generating countries of Europe was as follows: Italy (+11.1%), Germany (+1.1%) and United Kingdom (-5.6%). As regards the remaining European countries, the following changes were recorded: Switzerland (+30.9%), Austria (+16.8%), Belgium (+7.4%), Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS) (-17.4%), Spain (-20.4%), Netherlands (-21.4%) and Sweden (-31.5%).

During the first quarter of 2010, arrivals from Africa, with a share of 22.7% of total tourist arrivals, expanded by 12.7% to 56,794. Arrivals from Republic of South Africa went up by 18.1% to 17,592 and those from Reunion Island by 9.9% to 33,394. The following changes in arrivals were noted for the other African countries: Comoros (+54.8%), Seychelles (+21.6%), Malagasy Republic (+12.6%), Kenya (-5.0%) and Zimbabwe (-18.1%).

For the quarter under review, tourist arrivals from the Asian market, which represented 5.7% of total tourist arrivals, went up by 15.0% to reach 14,249. Arrivals from India, our major source on this continent, rose by 20.7% to 8,173. The performance in arrivals from other Asian countries was as follows: Singapore (+57.6%), Japan (+1.8%), People's Republic of China (+0.9%) and Hong Kong (-5.2%). No change was registered in arrivals from United Arab Emirates and Malaysia.

Arrivals from Oceania went down by 26.1% from 2,881 to 2,129 due to declines in arrivals of 27.1% from Australia and 11.9% from the other Oceanian countries.

Arrivals from the continent of America increased by 0.5% being the net result of an increase of 23.0% from "Other American" countries and decreases of 1.8% and 6.6% in arrivals from Canada and U.S.A respectively.

Tourist arrivals from top ten markets for the period January to March of 2009 and 2010 are given in Figure 3.

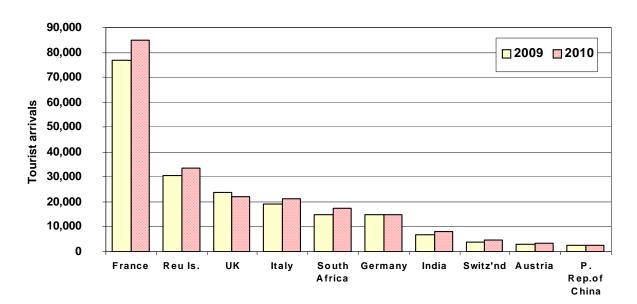


Figure 3 - Tourist Arrivals from Top Ten Markets, January - March of 2009 and 2010

### 3. Tourist Nights

Total tourist nights spent in the country during the first three months of 2010 is estimated at 2.4 million, representing an increase of 5.5% over the same period of 2009 (Table 6).

#### 4. Hotel Statistics

At the end of March 2010, there was a total of 105 registered hotels in operation. Owing to renovation works, five hotels were not operational. The total room capacity for these registered hotels was 11,564 with 23,547 bedplaces (Table 7). For the first quarter of 2010, the room occupancy rate for all hotels averaged 67% compared to 63% in the corresponding quarter of 2009 while the bed occupancy rate was 59% against 56% for the first quarter of 2009. (Table 8).

"Large" hotels, i.e. well-established beach hotels with more than 80 rooms, numbered 47 (45% of all registered hotels in operation). These hotels had a room capacity of 8,729 with 17,832 bedplaces, representing 76% of both total room capacity and total bedplaces. The average room occupancy rate for these hotels for the first three months of 2010 was 69% and bed occupancy rate averaged 61% compared to 63% and 57% respectively for the first quarter of 2009 (Table 8).

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**5. Gross Tourism Receipts** 

Data from the Bank of Mauritius indicate that gross tourism receipts for the first quarter of

2010 were Rs 11,021 million, i.e. a increase of 7.4% compared to Rs 10,265 million for the same

period of 2009 (Table 6).

6. Employment

According to the Survey of Employment and Earnings, direct employment in hotels,

restaurants and travel and tourism establishments employing 10 persons or more stood at 26,922 at the

end of March 2009 showing a decrease of 6.4% over the figure of 28,753 for March 2008. Of this

number, 20,531 or 76.3% were engaged in hotels (Table 9).

7. Forecast Year 2010

Based on data available on tourist arrivals and information gathered from stakeholders, the

forecast of 915,000 tourist arrivals for the year 2010 is maintained, representing an increase of 5.0%

over the figure of 871,356 in 2009.

According to the Bank of Mauritius, tourism receipts for the year 2010 will be around

Rs 40,150 million (+12.5 %) compared to Rs 35,693 million in 2009.

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Table 1:- Passenger Traffic 1 by month, 2008 - 2010

Mandh	20	008	20	009	2010 <sup>2</sup>		
Month	Arrivals	Departures	Arrivals	Departures	Arrivals	Departures	
January 125,228 1		144,490	117,415	138,314	119,807	145,268	
February	98,424	99,897	90,042	90,246	91,943	92,398	
March	115,987	122,014	99,673	103,146	123,358	128,101	
1st Quarter	339,639	366,401	307,130	331,706	335,108	365,767	
April	96,210	97,364	91,269	91,483			
May	87,375	96,647	83,609	89,204			
June	76,627	63,360	70,662	70,071			
2nd Quarter	260,212	257,371	245,540	250,758			
1st Semester	599,851	623,772	552,670	582,464			
July	112,508	91,931	98,683	84,366			
August	98,044	113,039	89,460	102,778			
September	84,194	83,868	78,928	78,452			
3rd Quarter	294,746	288,838	267,071	<u>265,596</u>			
Jan. to Sep.	894,597	912,610	819,741	848,060			
October	104,069	101,959	100,677	98,938			
November	98,663	93,176	101,626	98,919			
December	129,099	99,004	134,535	107,652			
4th Quarter	331,831	294,139	336,838	305,509			
2nd Semester	626,577	582,977	603,909	571,105			
Whole Year	1,226,428	1,206,749	1,156,579	1,153,569			

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Excluding inter islands traffic

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Provisional

 $\begin{tabular}{l} Table~2: - Departure~of~Mauritian~residents~by~country~of~disembarkation,\\ 1st~Quarter~of~2009~and~2010 \end{tabular}$ 

Country of disembarkation	2009	2010	% Change
EUROPE	13,877	13,546	-2.4
France	6,571	6,150	-6.4
Germany	641	666	3.9
Italy	1,278	1,482	16.0
Switzerland	309	434	40.5
United Kingdom	5,074	4,814	-5.1
Other European	4	0	-100.0
AFRICA	14,224	16,221	14.0
Malagasy Republic	1,554	1,942	25.0
Reunion	6,048	6,992	15.6
Seychelles	1,720	2,112	22.8
S. Africa, Rep. of	4,590	4,790	4.4
Zimbabwe	-	-	-
Other African	312	385	23.4
ASIA	14,262	16,984	19.1
Hong Kong SAR <sup>1</sup>	1,784	3,107	74.2
India	4,209	5,833	38.6
Malaysia	524	646	23.3
Singapore	1,668	2,347	40.7
Saudi Arabia	-	-	-
United Arab Emirates	6,066	5,045	-16.8
Other Asian	11	6	-45.5
OCEANIA	3,409	2,678	-21.4
Australia	3,409	2,678	-21.4
Other Oceanian	-	-	-
AMERICA	4	0	-100.0
U.S.A	-	-	-
Canada	2	0	-100.0
Other American	2	0	-100.0
NOT STATED	60	131	118.3
All Countries	45,836	49,560	8.1

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Special Administrative Region of China

Table 3:- Tourist arrivals by month, 2008 - 2010

M	41-	Number					
1010	onth	2008	2009	2010 1			
January		94,579	88,591	91,857			
February		77,763	67,892	72,366			
March		89,152	76,425	85,748			
	1st Quarter	<u>261,494</u>	<u>232,908</u>	<u>249,971</u>			
April		72,837	68,969				
May		67,705	64,761				
June		53,722	46,866				
	2nd Quarter	194,264	<u>180,596</u>				
	1st Semester	455,758	413,504				
July		81,169	71,872				
August		71,605	63,365				
September		65,632	60,144				
	3rd Quarter	<u>218,406</u>	<u>195,381</u>				
	Jan. to Sep.	674,164	608,885				
October		83,524	80,197				
November		75,380	78,544				
December		97,388	103,730				
	4th Quarter	256,292	<u>262,471</u>				
	2nd Semester	474,698	457,852				
Who	le Year	930,456	871,356				

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Provisional

Table 4 :- Tourist arrivals by main purpose of visit, 1st Quarter of 2009 and 2010

Purpose of visit	1st Quarter 2009	1st Quarter 2010 <sup>1</sup>	% Change
Holiday	217,540	232,613	6.9
Business	5,783	8,020	38.7
Transit	2,975	1,538	-48.3
Conference	401	674	68.1
Sports	241	567	135.3
Other & Not Stated	5,968	6,559	9.9
Total	232,908	249,971	7.3

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Provisional

Table 5: - Tourist Arrivals by Country of Residence, January - March of 2009 and 2010

Country of	1st Quarter		201	10 1		% Change
residence	2009	Jan	Feb	Mar	1st Quarter	Q1 2009 to Q1 2010
EUROPE	162,988	58,639	56,010	57,879	172,528	5.9
Austria	2,942	1,232	1,290	915	3,437	16.8
Belgium	2,096	853	689	710	2,252	7.4
France	76,648	29,914	27,909	27,216	85,039	10.9
Germany	14,776	4,361	4,534	6,039	14,934	1.1
Italy	19,058	8,118	6,621	6,431	21,170	11.1
Netherlands	1,128	302	267	318	887	-21.4
Spain	1,824	473	403	575	1,451	-20.4
Sweden	2,494	707	560	441	1,708	-31.5
Switzerland	3,613	1,556	1,690	1,484	4,730	30.9
United Kingdom	23,563	6,291	7,155	8,805	22,251	-5.6
CIS <sup>2</sup>	3,748	1,340	717	1,037	3,094	-17.4
Other European	11,098	3,492	4,175	3,908	11,575	4.3
AFRICA	50,392	26,753	9,283	20,758	56,794	12.7
Comoros	104	88	35	38	161	54.8
Kenya	281	92	74	101	267	-5.0
Malagasy Rep.	1,914	662	724	770	2,156	12.6
Reunion	30,391	19,359	3,588	10,447	33,394	9.9
Seychelles	1,447	486	617	656	1,759	21.6
S. Africa, Rep. of	14,901	5,446	3,887	8,259	17,592	18.1
Zimbabwe	227	64	35	87	186	-18.1
Other African	1,127	556	323	400	1,279	13.5
ASIA	12,394	4,439	5,584	4,226	14,249	15.0
Hong Kong SAR <sup>3</sup>	116	24	53	33	110	-5.2
India	6,769	2,695	3,183	2,295	8,173	20.7
Japan	342	121	127	100	348	1.8
Malaysia	256	55	108	93	256	0.0
P. Rep. of China	2,378	523	1,270	607	2,400	0.9
Singapore	205	80	129	114	323	57.6
United Arab Emirates	470	209	127	134	470	0.0
Other Asian	1,858	732	587	850	2,169	16.7
OCEANIA	2,881	741	500	888	2,129	-26.1
Australia	2,687	692	455	811	1,958	-27.1
Other Oceanian	194	49	45	77	171	-11.9
AMERICA	4,114	1,241	960	1,934	4,135	0.5
USA	2,336	450	399	1,333	2,182	-6.6
Canada	944	288	299	340	927	-1.8
Other American	834	503	262	261	1,026	23.0
OTHER & N.STATED	139	44	29	63	136	-2.2
All Countries	232,908	91,857	72,366	85,748	249,971	7.3

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Provisional

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Commonwealth of Independent States (Ex Soviet Union Countries)

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Special Administrative Region of China

Table 6:- Tourist arrivals, nights and receipts, 2007 - 2010

	Year	Tourist arrivals (Number)	Tourist nights (000)	Tourism receipts <sup>1</sup> (Rs million)
	2007	906,971	8,987	40,687
	2008	930,456	9,218	41,213
	2009	871,356	8,600	35,693
2007	1st Qr.	243,931	2,297	10,791
	2nd Qr.	188,182	1,666	8,961
	1st Semester	432,113	3,963	19,752
	3rd Qr.	212,708	2,031	8,652
	4th Qr.	262,150	2,993	12,283
	2nd Semester	474,858	5,024	20,935
2008	1st Qr.	261,494	2,491	11,951
	2nd Qr.	194,264	1,709	10,219
	1st Semester	455,758	4,200	22,170
	3rd Qr.	218,406	2,249	8,631
	4th Qr.	256,292	2,769	10,412
	2nd Semester	474,698	5,018	19,043
2009	1st Qr.	232,908	2,275	10,265
	2nd Qr.	180,596	1,625	7,984
	1st Semester	413,504	3,900	18,249
	3rd Qr.	195,381	1,950	7,436
	4th Qr.		2,750	10,008
	2nd Semester	457,852	4,700	17,444
2010 2	1st Qr.	249,971	2,400	11,021

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Source: Bank of Mauritius

Table 7:- Hotels, rooms and bedplaces, 2007 - 2010

v	ear	Number as at end of period					
1	Cai	Hotels Rooms		Bedplaces			
	2007	97	10,857	21,788			
	2008	102	11,488	23,095			
	2009	102	11,456	23,235			
2007	1st Qr.	97	10,683	21,509			
	2nd Qr.	88	9,126	18,256			
	3rd Qr.	93	10,201	20,454			
	4th Qr.	97	10,857	21,788			
2008	1st Qr.	96	10,796	21,649			
	2nd Qr.	94	10,503	21,063			
	3rd Qr.	99	10,933	21,939			
	4th Qr.	102	11,488	23,095			
2009	1st Qr.	102	11,444	23,148			
	2nd Qr.	97	10,486	21,362			
	3rd Qr.	100	11,102	22,530			
	4th Qr.	102	11,456	23,235			
2010 1	1st Qr.	105 <sup>2</sup>	11,564	23,547			

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Provisional

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Provisional

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Excluding five hotels not operational because of renovation works

Table 8 :- Monthly Occupancy Rates (%) for All Hotels and "Large" Hotels, 2008 - 2010

			All H	lotels				"Large" Hotels				
Month	20	2009		2010 1		20	2008		2009		2010 1	
	Room	Bed	Room	Bed	Room	Bed	Room	Bed	Room	Bed	Room	Bed
January	82	73	69	62	72	64	82	74	69	62	74	66
February	78	70	60	53	67	58	80	72	60	54	67	60
March	77	69	59	52	64	56	78	70	59	53	65	58
1st Quarter	<u>79</u>	<u>71</u>	<u>63</u>	<u>56</u>	<u>67</u>	<u>59</u>	<u>80</u>	<u>72</u>	<u>63</u>	<u>57</u>	<u>69</u>	<u>61</u>
April	72	65	59	53			75	67	61	54		
May	66	60	58	52			68	61	59	52		
June	49	43	45	39			49	44	44	39		
2nd Quarter	<u>62</u>	<u>56</u>	<u>54</u>	<u>48</u>			<u>64</u>	<u>57</u>	<u>55</u>	<u>49</u>		
1st Semester	71	63	59	52			72	65	59	52		
July	61	55	51	45			62	56	52	46		
August	65	58	59	52			67	60	61	54		
September	65	58	62	55			68	61	64	56		
3rd Quarter	<u>64</u>	<u>57</u>	<u>57</u>	<u>51</u>			<u>66</u>	<u>59</u>	<u>59</u>	<u>52</u>		
Jan. to Sep.	68	61	58	52			70	63	59	52		
October	71	64	65	58			73	65	67	59		
November	69	62	69	61			71	63	71	63		
December	69	62	70	62			70	63	73	64		
4th Quarter	<u>71</u>	<u>63</u>	<u>68</u>	<u>61</u>			<u>72</u>	<u>64</u>	<u>69</u>	<u>62</u>		
2nd Semester	67	60	63	56			68	61	64	57		
Whole Year	68	61	61	54			70	62	62	55		_

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Provisional

 $\frac{1}{3}$ 

Table 9:- Employment in the tourist industry as at end of March, 2005 - 2009

Year Establishments	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009
Restaurants	1,809	1,805	2,012	2,251	2,309
Hotels	19,226	19,536	20,233	22,314	20,531
Travel and Tourism	4,342	4,457	4,296	4,188	4,082
Total	25,377	25,798	26,541	28,753	26,922

Source: Survey of Employment and Earnings in large Establishments (i.e employing 10 or more persons)

#### BRIEF ON COMPILATION OF PASSENGER TRAFFIC STATISTICS

#### Sources of data

The main source of data for the compilation of passenger traffic statistics is the Passport and Immigration Office, which maintains a database of all travellers entering and leaving the country. The data are collected from the passport of travellers, disembarkation cards filled in by non-residents and questions put to non-residents entering the country. At the end of every month, passenger traffic for that particular month is downloaded and supplied to the statistics unit of the Ministry of Tourism, Leisure and External Communications within fifteen days. Additional data on cruises are supplied by the Mauritius Ports Authority.

To supplement the recurrent statistics a Survey of Outgoing Tourists (SOT) is conducted every two years since 1984 jointly by the Central Statistics Office and the Ministry of Tourism, Leisure and External Communications. This survey covers a representative sample of tourists at departure and provides qualitative and quantitative information on tourists. Results of the survey are published in the Survey of Outgoing Tourists report.

### **Tourism receipts**

The Bank of Mauritius is responsible for the estimation of tourism receipts based on monthly statements of Inward and Outward Remittances of Commercial Banks.

#### **Monthly Occupancy Rates**

All hotels are contacted by phone at the end of every month for data on room/bed nights available and rented during the month for the calculation of room and bed occupancy rates.

### **Short-term projections of tourist arrivals**

A Tourism Statistics Committee grouping various stakeholders of the tourism industry meet regularly under the chairmanship of the Director of the Central Statistics Office to discuss performance of the tourism sector and to provide information for short-term forecast of tourist arrivals.

#### **Publications**

The regular publications of the unit are:

- (i) Monthly tourist arrivals (by mid of each month)
- (ii) Quarterly Economic and Social Indicators on International Travel and Tourism (with a lag of seven weeks)
- (iii) Quarterly tourism statistics (Pamphlet)
- (iv) Digest of International Travel and Tourism (August )
- (v) Handbook of statistical data on tourism (August )
- (vi) Report of the Survey of Outgoing Tourists

ANNEX II

#### **GLOSSARY OF TERMS**

#### 1. Tourist

A tourist is defined as a non-resident staying overnight but less than a year, and who has no employer-employee relationship with a resident.

#### 2. Transit

A transit passenger is one who stops over in the country for flight connections to other destinations. There are two types of transit passengers:

- *Type I*: Passengers who do not leave the transit area of the airport or the harbour.
- *Type II*: Passengers who do leave the airport or harbour and stay in the country overnight but only for flight connection purposes.

Only Type II transit passengers, as defined above, are included in the definition of "Tourists".

### 3. Excursionist or Same-day Visitor

Excursionists are non-resident visitors, other than those who do not leave the airport, who depart on the same day they arrived.

### 4. Tourist Nights

"Tourist nights" means the total number of nights spent in the country by tourists, as defined above, during the period under review.

### 5. Large Hotels

Large hotels are well established beach hotels with more than 80 rooms.

### 6. Occupancy rate

The room/bed occupancy rate is the ratio of room/bed nights rented to the total number of room/bed nights available.

= <u>Total number of room/bed nights rented</u> x 100 Total number of room/bed nights available

### **7. CIS**

**CIS** denotes the Commonwealth of Independent States. It consists of the States of the former Soviet Union.