



**SUSTAINABLE FISHERIES AGREEMENT
SEYCHELLES - MAURITIUS**



**NEGOTIATION
VICTORIA, SEYCHELLES
4-8 FEBRUARY 2022**

AGREED RECORD

In view that the Seychelles – Mauritius Fisheries Agreement will expire on 19 February 2022, representatives from the Republic of Seychelles and the Republic of Mauritius met between 4-8 February 2022 in Victoria, Seychelles to discuss the extension of the existing Agreements and began negotiation for new reciprocal Agreements.

The Seychelles delegation (herein after referred to as 'the Seychelles side') was led by Mr Jean-Francois Ferrari, Designated Minister and Minister for Fisheries and the Blue Economy. The Mauritius delegation (herein after referred to as 'the Mauritius') was led by Mr Sudheer Maudhoo, Minister of Blue Economy, Marine Resources, Fisheries and Shipping.

The list of participants is attached in *Annex 1*.

1. Scope of the discussion

Both Parties agreed on the following:

- a) To extend the existing Agreements for a period of 60 days from its date of expiry, in order not to have any disruption in fishing activities from the fleets of both Parties;
- b) To enter into interim Agreements for a period not exceeding one (1) year with the following provisions (draft Agreements at *Annex 2a and 2b*), subject to Cabinet approval:
 - i. An increase to the existing license fees in the respective Agreements;
 - For fishing in Seychelles waters by Mauritius purse seine vessels from USD 110,000 to EUR 143,000
 - For fishing in Mauritius waters by Seychelles purse seiners from USD 24,000 to EUR 31,200
 - For longliners in the respective Agreements, for a period of six months from USD 17,000 to EUR 22,750 and for a period of one year from USD 30,000 to EUR 39,000.
 - For supply vessel in the respective Agreements, from USD 5,000 to EUR 5,000.
 - ii. Introduction of an environment and research fee of EUR 2.25 per Gross Tonnage (GT) per purse seine vessel per year;
 - iii. Management of Fishing Aggregating Devices (FADs) in the waters of the respective Parties;
 - iv. To endeavour to embark national seamen.
- c) To negotiate for new Agreements once the interim Agreements have been signed based on a new fee structure;



**SUSTAINABLE FISHERIES AGREEMENT
SEYCHELLES - MAURITIUS**



- d) The Seychelles side referred to the previous Joint Commission meeting held in Mauritius in November 2021 concerning sea-cucumber exploratory fishing. It was agreed at the JMA meeting that there would be an exchange of fishing conditions by both sides so as to agree on licensing conditions as soon as possible. The Seychelles side had sent its proposed licensing conditions to the Mauritian focal point of the JMA, but had not received a feedback. The Mauritius side took note of the above and undertakes to transmit the request to the Prime Minister's Office.
- e) The Seychelles side gave a briefing of the Saya de Malha mission in the framework of the Indian Ocean 2022 expedition of the Monaco explorations (*Annex 3*);
- f) The Parties recognise the need to increase surveillance and should find ways to seek support and funding;
- g) The Parties agreed to work together to best safeguard the interests of both parties before the IOTC.

2. Programme of visit (*Annex 4*)

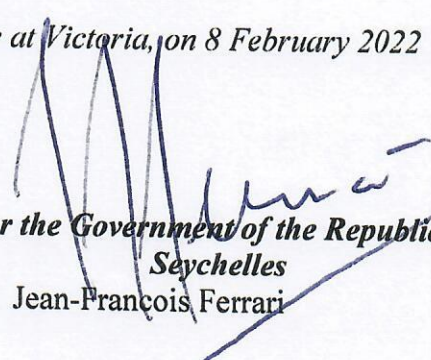
The Seychelles delegation led the Mauritius delegation to a visit of the various fishing facilities in support of artisanal and semi-industrial fisheries. The Mauritius delegation took note of the of development in the field of fisheries and its lessons learnt. Designated Minister Ferrari stated that we can also learn from Mauritius in several areas, in particular the management of the octopus fishery in Rodrigues. Minister Maudhoo extended an invitation to the Designated Minister and his delegation to an exchange visit in Rodrigues.


The Seychelles side took note of the bilateral meetings which have been planned with IOTC and FITi for the Mauritius side.

3. Finalisation of minutes and Closing of the meeting

The Parties finalised and signed the minutes of the meeting.

Done at Victoria, on 8 February 2022


*For the Government of the Republic of
Seychelles*
Jean-François Ferrari


*For the Government of the Republic of
Mauritius*
Sudheer Maudhoo

Designated Minister,
Minister for Fisheries and the Blue Economy

Minister of Blue Economy, Marine Resources,
Fisheries and Shipping