

**HIGH LEVEL SYMPOSIUM**  
**ON**  
**DEVELOPING AND SUSTAINING**  
**THE COMPETITIVE ADVANTAGE**  
**OF MAURITIUS**

*Issues and Challenges*

23, 24, 25 April 2001

Maritim Hotel, BalACLava

Organised by

MEF

MIM

in collaboration with

The International Labour Organisation

**OPENING CEREMONY**

by

**Hon. Sir Anerood Jugnauth QC, KPMG, PC**

Prime Minister, Minister of Defence and Home Affairs

## BACKGROUND

The *Global Competitiveness Report 1999* ranks Mauritius as 29<sup>th</sup> out of 59 countries. The *African Competitiveness Report* ranks Mauritius second behind Tunisia. While Mauritius has quite an honourable ranking on the African front it is not so remarkable when compared to a number of its competitors such as Singapore (1<sup>st</sup>), Hong Kong (3<sup>rd</sup>), Taiwan (4<sup>th</sup>), Malaysia (16<sup>th</sup>) and Korea (22<sup>nd</sup>).

While we have made great strides since the early sixties, we should not sleep on our laurels. There is a need to stand back and reassess our strengths and weaknesses. Our future economic prosperity depends on technological change, innovation, training and productivity improvement so that we may sharpen our competitive edge. It depends on skills, competence, and knowledge management since there is a need to upgrade the quality of our products and services to further increase our market share.

## OBJECTIVES

- To raise awareness of the issues and challenges facing the country in the context of globalisation
- To highlight the urgent needs of the country to improve productivity and competitiveness
- To help in the formulation of right policies to develop and sustain the competitive advantage of Mauritius
- To position Mauritius in the New Economy

**Free for all participants**

Dr Joseph Prokopenko's '*Competition: An Agenda for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century*'

**Monday 23 April 2001**

09h00 - 09h30      Registration of participants

09h30 – 10h45      *OPENING CEREMONY*

**Welcome Speech**

**Mr François Woo Shing Hai**  
President  
Mauritius Employers' Federation

**Addresses**

**Mr Khemil Gobin**  
President  
Mauritian Institute of Management

**Mrs Catherine Hein**  
Director  
International Labour Organisation

**Mr Jean François Retournard**  
Director, Bureau for Employers' Activities  
International Labour Organisation

**Mr Goran Hultin**  
Executive Director, Employment Sector  
International Labour Organisation

**Opening Address**

**Hon. Sir Anerood Jugnauth QC, KPMG, PC**  
Prime Minister, Minister of Defence and Home Affairs

## ***High Level Symposium***

**Monday 23 April 2001**

### **Productivity and Competitiveness**

#### ***Session I***

***Chairman: Mr Pierre Dinan, CSK  
Partner, De Chazal du Mée & Co.***

- 10h45 – 11h15      Competition: An Agenda for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century  
**Dr Joseph Prokopenko**  
International Management Consultant
- 11h15 – 11h45      Enhancing the Competitiveness of Mauritius  
**Mr Nikhil Treebohun**  
Executive Director  
National Productivity and Competitiveness Council
- 11h45 – 12h15      Findings of MEF Survey on Employers' Perspectives on Competitiveness  
and Productivity  
**Mrs Aisha Oozeer**  
Training Manager  
Mauritius Employers' Federation
- 12h15 – 13h00      Panel Discussions
- 13h00 – 14h00      Lunch

#### ***Session II***

***Chairman: Mr Mazahir Adamjee  
Director, Bonair Knitwear Ltd***

- 14h00 – 14h30      Positioning Mauritian Exports on the World Market  
**Mr J.Denis Bélisle**  
Executive Director  
International Trade Centre
- 14h30 – 15h00      (To be announced)  
**Mr A. Bhuglah**  
Senior Trade Analyst  
Ministry of Industry, Commerce and International Trade
- 15h00 – 15h15      Tea Break
- 15h15 – 15h45      Why WTO matters for Mauritius?  
**Mr Alan Frank**  
Director, External Relations Division,  
World Trade Organisation
- 15h45 – 16h45      Panel Discussions

19h30 – 22h00 Gala Dinner

**Tuesday 24 April 2001**

## **The New Economy**

### *Session I*

*Chairman: Mr Sunil Banyandhub*

- 09h00 – 09h30 Knowledge Management Strategies: Issues and Implementation  
**Prof. Paul Gamble**  
Director,  
Surrey European Management School  
University of Surrey
- 09h30 – 10h00 (To be announced)  
**Mr Raj Makoond**  
Director  
Joint Economic Council
- 10h00 – 10h15 Strategic Issues Facing Countries in Generating Employment With Particular  
Emphasis on the Information Age  
**Mr Goran Hultin**  
Executive Director, Employment Sector,  
International Labour Organisation
- 10h15 – 11h45 Panel Discussions
- 10h45 – 11h00 Tea Break

### *Session II*

*Chairman: Mr Sushil Baguant*

*Director, Information Systems and Communications, Air Mauritius Ltd.*

- 11h00 – 11h30 (To be announced)  
**Mr Kemraz Mohee**  
Executive Director,  
National Computer Board
- 11h30 – 12h00 E-business Technology Strategy for Developing Countries  
**Mr Alexander Ntoko**  
Project Manager, Electronic Commerce,  
International Telecommunication Union
- 12h00 – 13h00 Panel Discussions
- 13h00 – 14h00 Lunch

## PANELLISTS

Mr Dan Bundhoo

Director

Rogers & Co Ltd

Mr Roland Dubois

Director

Industrial Vocational & Training Board

Mr Eddy Yeung

Director

Ferney Spinning Mills Ltd

Mr Donald Lim Fat,

Managing Director

Information Management Services

Mr Georges Chung Tick Kan

Director

T-Printers

Mr Colin Taylor

Managing Director

Taylor Smith & Co Ltd

Mr Maurice Vigier deLatour

Director for Marketing & International  
Operations

Floreal Knitwear Ltd

Mr Rajesh Unnuth

Chairman

Mauritius Telecommunications Authority

Dr Raj Lutchmeah

Executive Director

Tertiary Education Commission

Me Iqbal Rajahbally

Chairman

Mauritius Telecom

This list is not exhaustive

## METHODOLOGY

- Presentation of Papers
- Contribution from panellists
- General Discussions
- Two Special Workshops

- Case Studies

# SPECIAL WORKSHOPS

25 April 2001

## New Developments in the Company Competitive Strategies

*Led by*

**Dr Joseph Prokopenko**

*International Management Consultant*

### Workshop 1

08h30 – 09h00	Registration
09h00 – 09h15	Introduction
09h15 – 11h00	New competitiveness factors faced by enterprises in the new global business environment
11h00 – 12h30	Major shifts in company policies and strategies in meeting new challenges
12h30 – 13h30	Lunch
13h30 – 15h00	Group work: Overcoming the most important barriers to competitiveness faced by Mauritius companies. Plenary discussion.
15h00 – 15h30	Break
15h30 – 17h00	What is common among best practice companies Discussion Programme summary and closing

### Workshop 2

#### E-commerce

*Led by*

**Mr Alexander Ntoko**

15h30 – 17h00 *Project Manager, Electronic Commerce*

*International Telecommunication Union*

## TARGET AUDIENCE

Chief Executives in the private sector and top level civil servants, policy makers in the public sector and representatives of natural institutions.

# **GALA DINNER**

23 April 2001

Meet our resource persons and other distinguished guests in the magnificent setting of Maritim Hotel

Time: 19h30 – 22h00

Address by the Hon. Paul Raymond Bérenger

*Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Finance and other key resource persons.*