



"Leading in utility regulation"

PRESS RELEASE

[For immediate release]

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### **URA launches its Strategic Business Plan 2019-2022**

***Ebene, Thursday, 15 August 2019*** – The Utility Regulatory Authority (URA) has officially launched its 2019-2022 Strategic Business Plan, today, Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> August 2019 at the Hennessy Park Hotel, in the presence of the Hon. Ivan Collendavelloo, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Energy and Public Utilities.

URA received assistance from the African Development Bank (AfDB) and the African Legal Support Facility (ALSF) who funded a utility regulatory expert to help URA crystalize its Vision, Mission and Strategic Objectives.

The Strategic Plan 2019-2022 has ensured that the URA's strategic objectives are aligned with the aspirations of Mauritius to have dynamic and financially sustainable utility sector that will provide value for money and premium service to consumers and support the country's broader economic agenda.

URA has embraced the vision of becoming a responsible regulator for sustainable utility businesses through the promotion of fair competition in the utilities sector, utility consumer rights and awareness and affordable and fair tariffs and premium quality services.

In his address, the Chairman of the URA, Mr Philip Ah-Chuen has stated that the strategic plan *"provides for seamless transitional arrangements and the need for ongoing legal reviews and harmonisation of utility sector laws, creation of supporting regulations and signing of Memorandum of understanding to provide for emerging issues, clarity and complementarity of various laws."*

Mrs Eunice Potani, Chief Executive Officer of the URA, explained that the Authority has also developed a six months road map till December 2019, and *"briefing meetings with key stakeholders on the road map have started and are ongoing. This process will lead to the operationalization of the URA Licensing framework which is one of the key and critical activity of the Strategic plan. Stakeholders are therefore invited to play their respective roles in this process to ensure the realisation of the strategic objective of a vibrant and sustainable utility sector."*

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**About the Utility Regulatory Authority**

The Utility Regulatory Authority (URA) was officially launched in September 2016 with the appointment of the Chairperson and Commissioners as per the provisions of the *URA Act* which was enacted in November 2004 and further amended in 2008 and 2016. The URA's objectives are four-fold: to ensure the sustainability and viability of utility services, to protect the interests of both existing and future customers, to promote efficiency in both operations and capital investments in respect of utility services, and to promote competition to prevent unfair and anti-competitive practices in the utility services industry.

The URA's office is located at 1 Cybercity Building, Level 8, Ebene.

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