MACOSS

NEWSLETTER

2020

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António Guterres
UN Secretary-General

The world marks the 30th anniversary of the International Day of Older Persons as we reckon with the disproportionate and severe impact that the COVID-19 pandemic has wrought on older persons around the world – not only on their health, but on their rights and well-being.

António Guterres
UN Secretary-General

A Few Pertinent Words

Last months brought in lot of activities, workshops and meetings. Post COVID-19 curfew, MACOSS renewed itself with its members and stakeholders. And importantly, it reflected on how our elderly can best cope with the pandemic.

Whilst many countries continue to face serious challenges in these pandemic outbreak and where some are forced back to lock-down, Mauritius doubles its efforts to remain safe. But we must remain very careful when it comes to our elderly, the most vulnerable groups who contributes in the socio-economic development of the country.

On the 1st day of October the world celebrates the International Day of Older Persons. MACOSS did not miss this opportunity and addressed the question "Pandemics: Do They Change How We Address Age and Ageing?" together with its members and stakeholders.

It was a moment of bliss and undoubtedly our members were delighted to celebrate together with our other stakeholders of MACOSS, including the youth.

MACOSS 2.0

In this era Facebook, Instagram and YouTube are very popular among the public at large especially the youth.

To be in pace with the technological advancements and be closer to our members, collaborators & society in general, we have ventured in the social media arena.

MACOSS has re-launched its new **Face Book Page, Instagram Account and YouTube Channel**. These medium are being used to disseminate local, regional and international information on the social sector. Members and stakeholders are invited to stay connected with these social media tools and be updated on social endeavours.

MACOSS also attempts through these initiatives to attract the youth towards social work and inspire them to engage in volunteerism for a more sustainable society.

The Website of MACOSS is being re-vamped and is under construction for next year. Members will have the opportunity to live a new experience through the new MACOSS website.

In the words of Influencers…

Please Like, Share & Subscribe to "MACOSS MAURITIUS".

HONORARY OFFICERS

Mrs. Prosper Khedoo Marie Anic Rozy

Educational Qualification: Diploma in Community Services.

Social Experience: Capacity Building, Community Development, Social Marketing, Leadership & Management, Kreol Literacy, Child Abuse & Child Neglected, Battered Women and Children, Mediation, Conflict Management, Suicide.

Project Community: Rehabilitation of Street Children, Teenage Pregnancy & Poverty Alleviation

HONORARY VICE PRESIDENT

Mr. Goinsamy Naidu

Head teacher of Primary Schools

Manager of L.P Govindramen SEN School

Assistant Secretary of Club Le Flamboyant

President of Grand Port Anti –Corruption Committee

Honorary Citizen of L’Escalier

HONORARY VICE PRESIDENT

Mr. Veenace Koonjal

Holder of a Masters' degree in Economics & Counselling Psychology. He is currently a learner for a Doctoral degree. He has previously served in the private sector as well as in State owned Institutions as Economist, Board Director and General Manager and in the Government, as Senior Advisor to the Minister of Education and Human Resources.

He is presently the Managing Director of a Training & Consulting company and as a registered licensed trainer, he offers training programmes in a number of private and public institutions.

As an active social entrepreneur, **Mr. Veenace Koonjal** is the President of Children Foundation and has in the past occupied and experienced the following positions amongst others:

- Former President of the Mauritius Council of Social Service [MACOSS]
- President of Sri Sathya Sai Organization Vacoas
- National Service Convenor of Sri Sathya Sai Organizations Mauritius
- Manager of the Hindu Education Authority [HEA] Arya Sabha Mauritius
- President of PTA Aryan Vedic Hindu Aided School
- Executive member of PTA Dr. Maurice Cure State College
- Life Member of Arya Sabha Mauritius till now

HONORARY VICE PRESIDENT

Mr. Saheed Thupsee

Former teacher at Saint Mary's College

Former Officer in charge SMEs incubator at SMEDA

Business linker at Malaysian Trade Development Corporation

Member of Health Advisory of Victoria Hospital

Founder of NGO Aaleemee Society

Founder of Cardiac Centre Pamplemousses

Honorary freedom of Town of Curepipe (Citoyenneté de Curepipe)

EVENTS

A workshop on Communication Strategy was held at the Regional Leadership Centre, Moka on 18/09/20.

The workshop was animated by Mr. Dhuvandranand Seethiah, Lecturer at the University of Mauritius.

Attendees:
Executive Committee Members
Members of MACOSS
Staff of MACOSS
Academia

Workshop on Communication Strategy

A Symposium was held on 01/10/20 to mark the International Day of Older Persons in Collaboration with DIS-MOI, the Senior Citizen Council, United Nations Resident Coordinator's Office for Mauritius & Seychelles at the Regional Leadership Centre, Moka.

The key orators were:

- The Director of DIS-MOI, Mr Vijay Naraidoo
- The Vice President of DIS-MOI, Mr Alain Auriant
- The Chairperson of Senior Citizen Council, Mr Hanslall Seebaruth MSK
- The Chairperson of MACOSS, Mr Suraj Ray FCG
- The UN Resident Coordinator for Mauritius and Seychelles, Her Excellency, Ms.Christine N.Umutoni
- Student of MEDCO Cassis, Ms.Chéri-Anne Juliette,
- The Chairperson, National Human Rights Commission, Mr Dheeraj Seetulsingh
- The Resident Coordination Office Team Leader and Strategic Planner, Mr Robert Banamwana

INTERNATIONAL DAY OF OLDER PERSONS

International Day of Older Persons

Ms Umutoni, Mr Hanslall Seebaruth MSK, Mr Alain Auriant, Mr Suraj Ray &
Ms.Chéri-Anne Juliette and
Students of MEDCO, Cassis

Ms. Christine N. Umutoni, UN Resident Coordinator for Mauritius and Seychelles

The Annual General Meeting was held on 10/10/20 to discuss the functioning of MACOSS along with the Annual Report 2019

Mr Roshan Rajroop
Secretary of MACOSS
appointed on 25/02/2020

Mr Roshan Rajroop, Mr Suraj Ray FCG & Mr Ameene Kodabux MSK

Developing a Communication Strategy Workshop

A workshop was organized on 19/10/20 to refresh the Vision and Mission of MACOSS and to define its Core Values. The Workshop also considered developing a Communication Strategy for the Council.

Honorary President
Mrs. Rozy Khedoo

Honorary Vice President
Mr. Veenace Koonjal
Mr. Saheed Thupsee
Mr. Goinsamy Naidu

Developing a Communication Strategy Workshop organized on 19/10/20

African Peer Review Mechanism
National Governing Committee (NGC)

The National Governing Committee met as follows:

- **31 July 2020**
- **21 August 2020**
- **30 September 2020**
- **8 December 2020**

The First APRM Progress Report is being edited and finalised by an Editing Team. The Final Report is likely to be validated in January 2021 by the National Governing Committee.

FEMNET

STRENGTHENING WOMEN'S MOVEMENT FOR GREATER IMPACT

FEMNET envisions an African society where gender equality is achieved and women and girls enjoy all their rights and live in dignity. As an affiliate of FEMNET, MACOSS has been solicited to partner for the implementation of part of this Project in Mauritius.

The overall objective of this project is to strengthen the institutional and operational capacity of MACOSS Secretariat to lead effectively, coordinate and to support its membership on policy advocacy, campaigning, networking and information sharing.

FORUS CAPACITY DEVELOPMENT ACTIONS

FORUS launched its project, “A stronger International Forum of National NGO Platforms for greater impact on public policies”.

FORUS is a global network and its members are national NGO platforms and regional NGO coalitions which together contribute significantly to Development, Peace and Justice throughout the world.

The main objective of the Project is for FORUS members to directly influence public policy on a national, regional and global level, by contributing directly to the guarantee of respect of human rights, efforts to eliminate poverty and its causes, and the achievement of sustainable, equitable and inclusive development.

International Day of People With Disabilities (IDPD)

"Not all Disabilities are Visible"

3 December 2020

In collaboration with an NGO, special activities have been organised to celebrate and promote this noteworthy day.

5 DECEMBER 2020 @ AMITIE, RIVIERE DU REMPART

International Day of People With Disabilities (IDPD)

"Not all Disabilities are Visible"

3 December 2020

‘Building Back Better: toward a disability-inclusive, accessible and sustainable post Covid-19 World’

International Day of People With Disabilities (IDPD)
“*Not all Disabilities are Visible*”
3 December 2020

International Volunteer Day (IVD) (5 December 2020)

Commemorated on 7 December 2020

To mark the International Volunteer Day 2020, the Council organized a Wreath Laying Ceremony on 7th December 2020 at the 'Volunteers Stele' at the Municipality of Beau Bassin/rose Hill to pay special tribute to those who put their time and devotion to the service of the community.

TOGETHER WE CAN THROUGH VOLUNTEERING

International Volunteer Day (IVD) (5 December 2020)

Commemorated on 7 December 2020

TOGETHER WE CAN
THROUGH VOLUNTEERING

International Volunteer Day (IVD) (5 December 2020)

Commemorated on 7 December 2020

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