The 2013 Budget, Vice-Prime Minister Duval said, rests on a five-fold strategy: Embracing technology and reinforcing our Africa Strategy; supporting growth and creating employment; strengthening public services; protecting the vulnerable; and ensuring sound macroeconomic management.

The overall objective is to, through timely decisions and innovation, guide the country to more prosperity, higher standards of living, better public services, a cleaner environment and a more just society.

Innovative measures

To accelerate the transition to technology and reduce the digital divide, a number of innovative measures are being taken such as Internet access to a greater number at a subsidised rate and a scheme to provide Form IV students with tablets.

As regards the manufacturing sector, existing schemes are being improved and new ones put up to help the
sector cope with the difficult economic conditions, with SMEs being taken fully on board.

A four-point action plan is being put up to reduce youth employment. This will be done through the Youth Employment Programme, the Skills Working Group, the Service to Mauritius Programme, and Industry placements.

Two landmark measures are being introduced for the vulnerable groups: a hot meal daily for students of ZEP schools and, a child allowance of Rs 750 per month per child for families earning less than Rs 6 200 monthly, subject to eligibility.

The 2013 Budget also introduces a health insurance premium whereby every person will be allowed to deduct from his net income as from 1st January 2013, premiums paid in respect of a medical or health insurance policy contracted for himself and his dependents.

To encourage healthy and responsible consumption, excise duty on tobacco products and alcoholic products is being increased, while a new tax of two cents per gram of sugar content on soft drinks will be introduced.

The 2013 Budget also promotes the concept of a Cleaner and Greener Mauritius. In a bid to promote energy efficiency, measures will be taken to subject energy inefficient appliances to a modulated penalty levy of up to 25% while Funds available for the solar water heater scheme operated by DBM will be doubled to Rs 200 million. Moreover, the concept of Paperless Office will be given a new impetus.

The Figures

Gross Domestic Product for 2013 is forecast to grow by 4 percent in real terms. Total revenue would go up by 12.5 percent to Rs 83.3 billion, of which Rs 71.1 billion from taxes. Expenditure will increase to Rs 91.8 billion of which 11.7 billion for direct capital expenditure.

The economy is expected to grow by 3.4% while the budget deficit would be at 2.6%. Public sector debt is expected to decline to 53.7%.

Capital investment programme for 2013 will amount to Rs 28.6 billion, an increase of 39% over 2012. These heavy investments will be in the water sector, electricity, waste management, wastewater management, roads, port, airport and communication, amongst others.
The 2013 Budget places much emphasis on revamping and boosting up the manufacturing industry and SMEs.

Local Manufacturing – Main measures

• Provision of Rs 135 million will be made for Enterprise Mauritius to develop overseas markets.

• Banks will loan an additional amount of Rs 250 million annually to micro and small enterprises with turnover under Rs 10 million. Interest rates will be capped at repo rate plus 3%, that is currently 7.9%. All processing fees and other related bank charges will be waived. Government will exceptionally guarantee 50% of any losses incurred by banks.

• The interest rate for Leasing Equipment Modernisation Scheme currently at 8.5% is being brought down to 7.25% on all new leasing facilities.

• The VAT registration threshold is being doubled from an annual turnover of Rs 2 million to Rs 4 million. This measure will cost the exchequer Rs 300 million and will remove 1 300 businesses from the VAT net.

• The AGOA levy, which is a tax on imports, is being abolished.

SMEs

• In a bid to put an end to the unfair practice of passing imported handicraft products as being locally produced, SMEDA will develop the Mauritius “Made with care” label. Moreover the National Heritage Trust Fund Act will be amended to enable protection and control of importation of such products.

• The diverse existing schemes for SMEs will be regrouped and rationalised. Henceforth, performance bonds will not be required for contracts of up to Rs 5 million, when bidding for a Government contract.

• Special provisions for the shoe industry will be made, including help from Mauritius Business Growth Scheme to increase productivity.

• There will be a complete waiver of loans taken from the Development Bank of Mauritius for which the capital outstanding does not exceed Rs 20 000 and which have remained unpaid for three years, thus relieving some 2 000 persons at the lower rungs of the ladder.

Government is investing heavily in the education system and is introducing a series of measures to strengthen the quality and accessibility of education. The budgetary commitment to education is increasing by 12% to Rs 12.6 billion.

Highlights

• Provision of a one-off grant of up to Rs 200 000 to existing child day care centres in disadvantaged areas that need to upgrade their standard.

• Extension of Summer and Winter schools’ programme to the tune of Rs 5 million.

• Introduction of a new Government-backed Student Loan Scheme where Banks will offer low cost student loans up to Rs 100 000 per year to students to finance university.

• Provision of Rs 20 million as scholarship for tertiary level to students from vulnerable families who cannot secure a student loan.

• Provision of funds for the establishment of three new campuses across Mauritius in the Réduit Triangle, Pamplemousses and Montagne Blanche.

• Extension of student visa scheme for foreign students in vocational and technical fields.

• Les Assises de L’Education will be held every year so as to develop sector priorities with the participation of stakeholders.
**Budget Highlights**

**Agriculture**

The 2013 Budget provides for a series of measures to manage land use and encourage more organic farming techniques, together with greater package of support for farmers.

**Land use**

As regards land use, the Land Conversion Committee will elaborate criteria for land conversion bearing in mind the need for continued development whilst protecting production.

Moreover, to achieve greater food security, the Mauritius Cane Industry Authority will compile information on availability of idle land and provide same to planters wishing to lease them. An appropriate framework including a model lease agreement to encourage owners to offer their land on short leases for productive agricultural use will also be developed.

**Measures to support small farmers**

- A subsidy of 40 million rupees on locally produced compost to encourage sustainable farming.
- Increase of provision for the Field Operations Regrouping and Irrigation Project (FORIP) from Rs 351 million to Rs 458 million, which will also benefit non-sugar planters such as growers of fruits, flowers and vegetables.
- Government will bear the full costs for pre-market tests and certification for small agricultural enterprises with a turnover less than Rs 10 million.
- Government is maintaining the freight rebate scheme for planters and exporters of fruits until 2015 at a further cost of Rs 10 million per year.
- Extension of full VAT-refund on spare parts, post-harvest equipment and other agricultural equipment and materials.
- Provision for a modern *Salle de Découpe* for pig breeders to the tune of Rs 15 million.

As regards the cane industry, the payment of an 80% advance to sugar planters is being maintained as soon as their crops are sent to the mill. Government will pursue all diplomatic efforts to ensure that market access for refined sugar which comes to an end in 2015 is extended to at least 2020.

**ICT**

Government is working towards a major overhaul of its IT services. Hence, the Central Informatics Bureau, the Central Information Systems Division and the IT Security Unit would be merged to create a more holistic unit focused on delivering quality IT solutions.

**Main measures**

- Appointment in each ministry of a professional as ‘Head of IT’ to strengthen the application of IT solutions in Government.
- Implementation of e-payment gateway to achieve the objective of an Online Government.
- Accelerating the rollout of 4G across the country by 2013 to make Mauritius a fully digital country.
- Decrease of price of internet by 15%.

Furthermore, the 2013 Budget provides for the distribution next year of one tablet computer to each student of Form IV. Government is also extending high-speed fibre optic cables to every secondary school.
Health

Government spending on health development aims to ensure that the public gets the best treatment and makes provision for fully qualified doctors, hi-tech medical equipment and new facilities at different hospitals. The budget for the health sector amounts to Rs 8.7 billion.

Among main measures:

- Allocation of Rs 721 million for new facilities and hi-tech medical equipment at Victoria, Flacq, New Jeetoo hospitals and Triplet and Goodlands mediclinics.
- Recruitment of 25 specialist doctors, 75 general practitioners and a new cohort of nurses.
- Introduction of a shift system for Casualty Departments to ensure that health care professionals do not work for more than 8 hours at a stretch.
- Introduction of a Pre-Clinical Trial Bill to ensure that Mauritius participates in the full range of drug research activities.

The budget further outlines measures to ensure that doctors keep abreast of latest developments and technologies and bring our healthcare system in line with those in most advanced countries. On that score, all doctors and dental surgeons practising in Mauritius will be required to undertake Continuous Professional Development.

Graduates in medicine will have to pass a pre-registration examination in order to qualify as general practitioner. This measure will ensure an acceptable level of clinical competence.

Youth Employment

A four-point Action Plan will be adopted to address youth unemployment.

The Action Plan comprises the following elements: a Youth Employment Programme; Skills Working Group; Service to Mauritius Programme; and Industry placements.

The Youth Employment Programme will facilitate youth employment with the least delay when they enter the labour market. Budget 2013 makes provision for an investment of Rs 330 million under the Programme which will include:

- Revamping the programme of job placement for young men and women up to the age of 25 so as to make it more attractive.
- Increasing the contribution to the salary of non graduates from 3,000 to 4,000 rupees per month and for that of graduates from Rs 6,000 to Rs 7,500 per month. The duration of the support will be extended from six months to a full year. Government will meet training costs up to Rs 7,500 per trainee during this period.

The Skills Working Group programme, a flexible and comprehensive programme within the National Resilience Fund, encompasses tailor made and practical solutions to put the youth to work. Special attention will be given to unemployed graduates who have not found a job within one year of graduation.

Three hundred new graduates will be recruited under the Service to Mauritius Programme.
Visit to Rodrigues
Rodriguans entitled to the same rights and privileges, PM says

‘Rodriguans are entitled to the same rights and privileges as other citizens of the Republic of Mauritius. There cannot be two categories of citizens within the Republic of Mauritius’, the Prime Minister, Dr Navin Ramgoolam, said while on a three-day visit to Rodrigues from 2 to 4 November 2012.

During his visit, the Prime Minister had working sessions with the Chief Commissioner, Mr. Serge Clair, as well as with members of the Executive Committee. He also met youth leaders, representatives of women’s associations and NGOs for an interactive session.

In a big gathering at Malabar, Dr Navin Ramgoolam announced that prices of rice and flour will be the same as in Mauritius. Accordingly subsidies worth Rs 20 million will be allocated for freight charges, which will help reduce prices of main commodities in Rodrigues. The number of scholarships offered to Rodriguans will also be doubled, he said.

Inauguration of ICT Centre for Excellence

The Prime Minister also inaugurated the ICT Centre for Excellence, a training centre for young Rodriguans, at Camp du Roi, Port Mathurin. The ICT Centre for Excellence will offer courses to 65 young people in Business Process Outsourcing. It is to be noted that this centre is the first of its kind to be opened in the Republic of Mauritius.

In his address, Dr Ramgoolam reiterated the wish that both the islands of Rodrigues and Mauritius achieve similar progress in the fields of BPO/ICT and finance. The fibre optics project, he said, will enable Rodrigues to develop its ICT sector and will help in creating prosperity and wealth.

Furthermore, the Prime Minister announced the launching of the ICT Skills Development Programme in Rodrigues. Under this programme, Government will grant financial assistance to those who have completed their Higher School Certificate and to degree holders. Courses will be supervised by prestigious IT institutions such as Oracle, Microsoft and Accenture. After successful completion of the courses, participants will be awarded certificates by the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, USA.

Still in relation to ICT, the Prime Minister officially opened the first edition of the Salon de l’Infotech at Mont Plaisir organised by the National Computer Board.

Inauguration of MBC news studio and Tekoma Hotel

On the last day of his visit, Dr Ramgoolam inaugurated the MBC News studio in Rodrigues and was present for the launching of the first news bulletin prepared by the local team. He also proceeded with the inauguration of Tekoma Hotel at Anse Ally.
IOR-ARC
Comoros admitted as 20th Member and USA as 6th Dialogue Partner

The 12th Council of Ministers (COM) Meeting of the Indian Ocean Rim Association for Regional Cooperation (IOR-ARC), held on 2 November 2012 in Gurgaon, Haryana, India admitted the Union of Comoros as its 20th member, while the United States of America was inducted as the 6th Dialogue Partner.

The COM Meeting was chaired by Indian Minister of External Affairs Salman Khurshid. Some 200 delegates representing 20 countries participated, among whom eight Foreign Affairs ministers. The Mauritian delegation was led by the Secretary for Foreign Affairs, Mr A. P. Neewoor.

The theme for the Meeting was IORARC at 15 – the Next Decade. The objective was to lay down a roadmap and agenda for the Association for the coming years that will eventually establish IOR-ARC as an apex organisation for the Indian Ocean region.

The 12th COM Meeting followed the 14th meeting of the Committee of Senior Officials, the 18th meeting of the IOR Academic Group, the 12th meeting of the Working Group on Trade & Investment and the 18th meeting of the IOR Business Forum held from 29 October to 2 November 2012.

The Meeting included two open sessions, a closed session and a concluding session wherein the Gurgaon Communiqué was adopted.

Australia will be chairing the IOR-ARC for the next two years. The vice-chair is Indonesia. The next COM Meeting will be held in Australia in 2013.

It is recalled that the Association was launched in 1997 in Mauritius. Its objectives are to promote the sustained growth and balanced development of the region and of Member States, and to create common ground for regional cooperation amongst others.

Members are Australia, Bangladesh, India, Indonesia, Iran, Kenya, Madagascar, Malaysia, Mauritius, Mozambique, Oman, Seychelles, Singapore, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Tanzania, Thailand, the United Arab Emirates, Yemen and Union of Comoros. Dialogue partners are China, Japan, UK, France, Egypt and USA.

The Gurgaon Communiqué

Highlights

• Strengthening IOR-ARC institutions and enhancing their capabilities for IOR-ARC to play its due role as the apex organisation in the Indian Ocean region that can effectively deliver on issues of contemporary relevance to its Members.

• Increasing capacities to deal with common challenges in a more effective manner by forging enduring partnerships, and supporting closer interaction between the Association and regional organisations in the Indian Ocean, such as the African Union.

• Reaffirming the importance of maintaining freedom of navigation and safety and security of Sea Lanes of Communication in the Indian Ocean since piracy is an increasingly serious concern and poses a threat to maritime commerce and the safety of sea farers.

• Emphasising the need of building human connectivity through deepening cultural cooperation and promoting tourism in the region which is marked by diversity in social and cultural values.

• Working towards better preparedness to fight natural and other disasters in the maritime domain and necessity to develop cooperation among agencies concerned to evolve regional disaster management strategies and operational processes.
In his address at the Aapravasi Ghat on 2 November 2012 at the ceremony commemorating the 178th Anniversary of the Arrival of Indentured Labourers in Mauritius, the Prime Minister, Dr Navinchandra Ramgoolam, urged Mauritians to build and develop their inner strength. ‘If we want to succeed we must put in more efforts’, he said, citing the example of our ancestors who did not give up despite adversity, humiliation and derision.

Dr Ramgoolam recalled the political struggle and quest for political power led by the Indentured Labourers and descendants of former slaves and the major role they played in the country’s progress. He stated that the Aapravasi Ghat was among one of the first places to receive Indentured Labourers and appealed to Mauritians to learn about and understand their heritage, preserve it and share this legacy with the future generations.

The commemorative activities on 2 November at the Aapravasi Ghat World Heritage Site in Port Louis comprised a wreath laying ceremony, a cultural programme with the participation of groups from Kerala, India, and exhibitions on Indentured Labour. A replica of an Indentured Village as in the 1860’s has also been mounted for the occasion. The Village will last for three months.

The anniversary of the Arrival of Indentured Labourers in Mauritius is commemorated each year on 2 November. It is to be recalled that in 1834, the British Government selected the island of Mauritius to be the first site for what it called ‘the great experiment’ in the use of ‘free’ labour to replace slaves.

NCB

3rd edition of Directory of ICT Companies in Mauritius launched

The third edition of the Directory of ICT Companies in Mauritius, which contains comprehensive information on the Mauritian ICT industry and its operators, was launched on 23 November 2012 at La Grande Cannele, Domaine Les Pailles.

The Directory, in line with the National Computer Board’s objective to facilitate and promote the development of the ICT industry, represents an effective tool to market the know-how, product and services of ICT companies operating in Mauritius. It is also a guide for international outsourcers looking to do business with ICT service providers in Mauritius and potential investors in the ICT sector looking for local partners.

Published by the National Computer Board, it is expected that the Directory will give a boost to Mauritian ICT exports and contribute to the development of a strong and sustainable ICT industry in the country.

This third edition contains a list of major local ICT operators, information on their activities, expertise, products and services, contact details, as well as on export potential and markets. An electronic version of this third edition of the ICT Directory is also available on http://www.ncb.mu.
The 6th Global Forum on Migration and Development (GFMD), a platform which brings together policymakers and stakeholders from all over the world to discuss about migration and developmental issues, was held from 19 to 22 November 2012 in Mauritius at the Swami Vivekananda International Convention Centre in Pailles.

Around 250 delegates coming from the Americas, Asia-Pacific, Africa, Europe and Middle-East from various sectors of civil society, including diaspora and migrant organisations, human rights and development groups, labour unions and representatives from the academic and the private sector participated in the four-day forum.

The themes discussed were labour mobility, skills and jobs across borders, diaspora engagement, integration of migration into development planning, south-south migration, protective forms of legal migration and global domestic workers.

The GFMD was officially launched on 21 November 2012 by the Minister of Foreign Affairs, Regional Integration and International Trade, Dr Arvin Boolell. In his keynote address, Dr Boolell said Mauritius has always considered migration as an integral part of its sustainable development policies. He also said that Mauritius is a sending country and a country of destination since it hosts over 40 000 migrants working in diverse range of sectors, while highlighting that Mauritius is part of the South-South migration story.

He added that the country is determined to engage African partners in the GFMD with a view to encouraging the emergence of an even stronger African perspective on migration issues. He also emphasised that Mauritius is looking forward to explore concrete, achievable programmes and strategies that would result in improved well-being of migrants.

To that end, he recalled, Mauritius has recently signed regulations to open up visa requirements for 75 countries including 29 additional countries from Africa which will be either exempted entirely or will benefit from visas upon arrival.

The Global Forum on Migration and Development

The GFMD is being held for the first time in an African country.

The Civil Society Days of the GFMD were from 19 to 20 November 2012 while the following two days were for government officials.

The GFMD emerged as an outcome of the UN General Assembly’s High Level Dialogue on Migration and Development in 2006. It is a State-led, voluntary process dedicated to informal, non-binding and outcomes-oriented dialogue.

Although State-led, the GFMD directly engages civil society partners, including migrant and diaspora organisations, human rights and development groups, labour unions, and members of the academic community and the private sector.
World Diabetes Day
Towards the formulation of a framework for an audit of diabetes care

The development of a framework for an audit of diabetes care at primary health care level was the focus of a one-day workshop on ‘Diabetes: Protect our Future’ organised at Domaine Les Pailles on 14 November 2012 by the Ministry of Health and Quality of Life in the context of World Diabetes Day.

According to the Minister of Health and Quality of Life, Mr Lormus Bundhoo, Government proposes to recruit at least one specialist diabetologist in each Regional hospital, while a Health Literacy Framework will soon be developed to ease the flow of information on health issues to all sections of the population through multisectoral and coordinated efforts with the ultimate goal of ensuring a healthier nation.

On a broader level, Mauritius is strengthening its efforts to promote population-wide primary prevention of non-communicable diseases, through the National Strategy Plan of Action for Diet, the Physical Activity and Health and the implementation of the Framework Convention on Tobacco Control.

Other measures include the introduction of the Diabetes Specialist Nurse cadre; implementation of the National Action Plan on Physical Activity (NAPPA) 2009-2012 and the National Plan of Action for Nutrition 2009-2010; provision of analogue insulin and free glucose meters to all Type 1 diabetes patients; and introduction of glycocylated haemoglobin testing to better monitor patients with diabetes.

Village and Municipal Council Elections

Village Council and Municipal Council elections will take place on 2 December and 9 December 2012 respectively.

Village Councils

Some 3 867 candidates will contest the Village Council elections.

There are 130 villages in Mauritius and each of them returns 9 councillors. The village of Triolet has the largest number of electors that is 16 971. The smallest number of electors is found in the village of Bananes, with 489 potential voters.

Municipal Councils

A total of 385 292 electors will be called upon to elect 90 Councillors in the Municipal City Council of Port Louis and the four Municipal Councils, namely Beau Basin-Rose Hill, Quatre Bornes, Vacoas-Phoenix and Curepipe. A total of 348 candidates have registered themselves for the municipal elections.

According to the 2012 Electoral Register, Port Louis has a total of 110 916 electors in eight wards; Beau Bassin-Rose Hill 76 239 electors in six wards; Quatre Bornes 57 175 electors in five wards; Vacoas-Phoenix 80 330 electors in six wards, and Curepipe 60 632 electors in five wards.

NCDs - Facts and figures

According to Non-Communicable Diseases surveys, the prevalence of diabetes in Mauritius has increased by 60% from 1987 to 2009.

However, a general decreasing trend has been observed as regards first attendances at Primary Health Care Centres between 2006 and 2011 due to both diabetes (from 25 156 to 15 868) and hypertension (from 29 464 to 17 775) respectively. The same tendency has also been noted in government general hospitals admitting patients with cardiovascular diseases and diabetes and their related complications, from 15.1 % in 2005 going down to 13. 4 % in 2011.

One of the factors behind this trend may be an increase in prevalence in physical activity among both male and female adults aged 35 to 64 years, as unpublished figures from the National Nutrition Survey 2012 indicate.
ICT and SADC
Ministerial meeting approves moving towards adoption of ‘Roam like a Local’

The annual Meeting of SADC Ministers responsible for Communications and ICT has approved that, regarding the SADC Home and Away Roaming initiative, the Region move towards the adoption of the ‘Roam like a Local’, which links to a benchmark price for national calls within the visited country.

Mauritius hosted the SADC ministerial Meeting which was held on 8 November 2012 at La Plantation Resort & Spa, Balaclava around the theme Moving SADC towards a Broadband Ecosystem.

Were present Ministers responsible for Communications and ICT from SADC Member States as well as Chief Executive Officers of Regional Agencies. The meeting focused on several issues, among which:

- The SADC Home and Away Roaming
- The implementation of the SADC Road Map on Digital Broadcasting Migration 2013
- The SADC e-Commerce Readiness Strategy; the adoption of the Road Map and Strategy for the implementation of the ICT Chapter of the Regional Infrastructure Development Master Plan
- The implementation of the WRC-12 and SADC Frequency Band Plan.

The next Meeting of SADC Ministers responsible for Communications and ICT will be held in Lesotho in May 2013.

The Meeting - Main Outcomes and Recommendations

The Ministers extended the term and mandate of the Regional Alliance Task Team (RATT), set up in 2008 to ensure that the SADC Home and Away becomes a reality. The revised SADC Roadmap on Digital Terrestrial Television (DTT) Broadcasting Migration was also approved.

Concerning the legislative and regulatory framework, the Ministers approved the draft SADC Model Laws on Cyber Security; Cybercrime, Data Protection and Electronic Transactions, which were developed in conformity with the Africa Union Commission (AUC) Draft Convention on Cyber Security. The draft laws will be submitted to the AUC Summit in January 2013. The draft e-Commerce Strategy and Action Plan was also approved.

Other recommendations include the convening of a High Level Ministerial Postal Conference to consider and approve the SADC Postal Strategy and work programme detailing the implementation of the key Universal Postal Union resolutions as agreed to in the Doha Postal Strategy as well as the approval of priority projects to be undertaken during the year 2013/2014 pertaining to Infrastructure Development, Policy and Regulatory Framework, Postal Operations and Regulation, Regional Coordination and new priority areas.
Mauritius celebrates Universal Children’s Day 2012

A series of activities targeting children aged six to fifteen years marked Universal Children’s Day 2012, commemorated on 20 November.

The objective of Universal Children’s Day is to promote the ideals and welfare of children in the world by seeing that children are celebrated, nurtured and treasured by one and all, providing special opportunity for adults and parents to spend quality time with their children and contributing to creating wonderful memories for the children.

In Mauritius, the theme chosen for this year’s celebrations was Nou Zanfan Republik Moris, Selebre Nou Leritaz (Children of the Republic of Mauritius, let’s celebrate our heritage) with a view to enabling children to discover the rich cultural values and national heritage of Mauritius and thus instilling a sense of belonging and civic pride with respect to national heritage.

Judiciary

Centre for professional legal studies launched

The Centre for Professional Legal Studies (CPLS), aiming to provide outstanding training in legal practice, was launched on 16 November 2012 by the President of the Republic, Mr Rajkeswur Purryag, at the Octave Wiehé Auditorium, Réduit in the presence of the Chief Justice, Mr Bernard Sik Yuen.

The objective of CPLS is to offer an intensive preparation to join the legal profession, promote professionalism and a high level of ethics in the legal profession.

Following the recommendations of the Report of the Committee on the Review of Legal Studies in Mauritius chaired by Justice R. Lallah in 1983, the training of professionals had been entrusted to the Council of Legal Education. Until 2012, no structural reforms had taken place and the vocational courses continued to be catered for by the Council.

Upon the promulgation of The Law Practitioners (Amendment) Act 2011 on 3 September 2012, the vocational preparation of prospective lawyers (Attorneys, Barristers and Notaries) in Mauritius is being undertaken by the CPLS.

Set up under the aegis of the Faculty of Law and Management of the University of Mauritius, the Centre is responsible for the administration and conduct of the vocational training and qualification of prospective attorneys, barristers and notaries in Mauritius. Courses will start in January 2013.

The training will incorporate both the academic and vocational perspective in the delivery of the programmes, encourage collaboration between the academics and the practitioners of the legal profession and establish an institutional framework conducive to the learning and practising of law.