IN THE REPUBLIC OF MAURITIUS

PRESS COMMUNIQUE

Following the press communique dated 29th of September 2021, members of the public are hereby informed that proceedings of the Commission of Inquiry set up to:

1. *inquire into and report on:*
2. *the circumstances-*
3. *which led to the negotiations and subsequent signing of the Contract of Affreightment between the State Trading Corporation (STC) and Betamax Ltd, including pourparlers, pre-contract negotiations and finalisation of contract terms;*
4. *in which amendments were brought to the Public Procurement Act and Public Procurement Regulations 2008 prior to the signature of the aforesaid Contract of Affreightment;*
5. *in which the Government of Mauritius provided a guarantee towards payment of all dues under the Contract of Affreightment to Betamax Ltd in case of default by STC;*
6. *in which the aforesaid Contract of Affreightment was terminated and the financial and commercial consequences thereof;*
7. *the decision-making process of the relevant public bodies and public officials concerned by (a) (i) and (ii) above;*
8. *the contract terms contained in the aforesaid Contract of Affreightment with regards to financial, commercial and procurement consideration;*
9. *any matter ancillary or incidental to (a) to (c) above;*
10. *consider and report on whether the national interests of Mauritius were safeguarded by public bodies and public officials concerned with the aforesaid Contract of Affreightment; and*
11. *make appropriate recommendations that will contribute to the strengthening of the integrity of the procurement system in the public sector.*

will start on **Tuesday 23rd of November 2021 at 2 o’clock** in court room No. 2, Old Supreme Court Building, Pope Hennessy Street, Port Louis.

The proceedings of the Commission will be held in public but the Commission may refuse to allow the public or any portion of the public to be present at any part of the proceedings where it considers that is expedient in the public interest to do so.

Given the current prevailing sanitary conditions, access will be limited to the space available in the court room in strict compliance with Covid-19 sanitary protocol. Strict sanitary protocols will be observed throughout the hearing, including social distancing inside and outside the court room.

For further information, please contact the Secretary on **58386413/2604138** during office hours or by mail to the following address: **coi-betamax@govmu.org.**

C D Ramkalawon

Secretary, Commission of Inquiry on the Contract of Affreightment awarded to Betamax Ltd by the State Trading Corporation and its subsequent termination.

18th November 2021

EN LA RÉPUBLIQUE DE MAURICE

COMMUNIQUE DE PRESSE

Suite à la communique de presse datée du 29 septembre 2021, les membre du public sont informés que les travaux de la commission d'enquête instituée et dont les attributions sont comme suit :

“

1. *inquire into and report on:*
2. *the circumstances-*
3. *which led to the negotiations and subsequent signing of the Contract of Affreightment between the State Trading Corporation (STC) and Betamax Ltd, including pourparlers, pre-contract negotiations and finalisation of contract terms;*
4. *in which amendments were brought to the Public Procurement Act and Public Procurement Regulations 2008 prior to the signature of the aforesaid Contract of Affreightment;*
5. *in which the Government of Mauritius provided a guarantee towards payment of all dues under the Contract of Affreightment to Betamax Ltd in case of default by STC;*
6. *in which the aforesaid Contract of Affreightment was terminated and the financial and commercial consequences thereof;*
7. *the decision-making process of the relevant public bodies and public officials concerned by (a) (i) and (ii) above;*
8. *the contract terms contained in the aforesaid Contract of Affreightment with regards to financial, commercial and procurement consideration;*
9. *any matter ancillary or incidental to (a) to (c) above;*
10. *consider and report on whether the national interests of Mauritius were safeguarded by public bodies and public officials concerned with the aforesaid Contract of Affreightment; and*
11. *make appropriate recommendations that will contribute to the strengthening of the integrity of the procurement system in the public sector.”*

vont commencer le **mardi 23 novembre 2021 à 14 heures** dans la salle d'audience n° 2, Old Supreme Court Building (l’ancien Immeuble de la Cour Suprême), rue Pope Hennessy, Port Louis.

Les travaux de la Commission seront publics, mais la Commission peut refuser d'autoriser le public ou une partie du public à assister à toute partie des travaux lorsqu'elle estime que cela est opportun dans l'intérêt public de le faire.

Etant donné les conditions sanitaire prévalents, l'accès sera limité à l'espace disponible dans la salle d'audience dans le strict respect du protocole sanitaire Covid-19. Des protocoles sanitaires stricts seront observés tout au long de l'audience, y compris la distanciation sociale à l'intérieur et à l'extérieur de la salle d'audience.

Pour plus amples d’informations, veuillez contacter la Secrétaire au **58386413/2604138** pendant les heures de bureau ou par courrier à l'adresse suivante : **coi-betamax@govmu.org**

C D Ramkalawon

Secrétaire, Commission d'enquête sur le contrat d'affrètement attribué à Betamax Ltd par la State Trading Corporation et subséquemment sa résiliation.

18 Novembre 2021