

MINISTRY OF GENDER EQUALITY AND FAMILY WELFARE

Expression of Interest for a “We Remember Monument”

Gender Based Violence (GBV) is an umbrella term for any harmful act that is perpetrated against a person’s will, and that is based on socially ascribed (gender) differences between males and females. The root cause of GBV lies in the patriarchal norms that govern the society and is a product of an unequal power differences between men and women.

Due to the increasing cases of GBV in Mauritius, a High-level Committee on the Elimination of GBV has been set up by Government. Consequently, a National Strategy and Action Plan (2020-2024) on the Elimination of GBV to respond to the unique cultural and institutional specificities of Mauritius, was launched in November 2020. With a view to addressing the said scourge, the Ministry is proposing to come up with a National Campaign geared towards providing support to Victims by breaking a culture of silence around Gender Based Violence (GBV) through Recognition and Remembrance and by creating “We remember Monument”.

The “We Remember” monument will be a public monument that honors the lives of local victims who are directly or indirectly victims of GBV. The monument will act as a stark reminder of the courage and resilience of those who have suffered or are suffering due to this phenomenon, that is omnipresent in our society. Moreover, this monument is a way to grieve for those who could not escape the cycle of violence. It will be a way to remember and salute the souls of victims who lost their lives due to GBV and to acknowledge their voice and their suffering. This monument stands for awareness and change against GBV that occurs every day. A symbolic representation, it will be a constant reminder to victims of GBV that they are not alone, and they can reach out for help whenever they want. The monument will also serve to bring people together as no one can fight GBV alone. It can be gathering point for marches or ceremonies. Families who have lost a member due to GBV can come together thus making the grieving process an easier experience. It will also help men and women reflect on their actions and the norms that perpetuates GBV.

The Ministry of Gender Equality and Family Welfare is inviting potential sculptors and artists to come up with proposals for the conceptualization of the “We remember Monument”. The best selected proposal will be awarded a **cash prize of Rs50,000/-** by the Ministry.

The potential sculptors and artists are hereby requested to submit their proposals to the **Acting Senior Chief Executive of the Ministry of Gender Equality and Family Welfare, Newton Tower, 7th Floor, Sir William St, Port Louis at latest by 31 May 2022.**

For any further details, the Ministry of Gender Equality and Family Welfare may be contacted on phone nos. 2063810/3815/3797.

The Ministry will further reserve the rights not to proceed with this expression of Interest at any time, without ascribing any reason whatsoever.

12 May 2022