

Seychelles Ports Authority
Public Relations and Communications: Content for Publication

Event: EU Ambassadors and Members State Ambassadors Visit

Date of Event: Friday 18th October 2024

The Seychelles Ports Authority (SPA) hosted a delegation of EU ambassadors and member state ambassadors at the Mahe Quay on Friday 18<sup>th</sup> October 2024 for a presentation and visit in respect to the ongoing Port Victoria Rehabilitation & Extension Project (PVREP).

They were welcomed by the Chief Executive Officer of the Authority, Mr Sony Payet, who highlighted the importance of the investment of this project for Seychelles as a small island state. "It has been a long time coming and we need to move forth with it as planned. Together we can work to achieve the same goal," he highlighted.

A presentation on the port extension project was done by Philippa Samson, Deputy Chief Executive of SPA and also the Project Manager of PVREP, who outlined the main components of the project. This was followed by a series of questions and answers on the presentation for clarifications and sharing of ideas.

On his side, Mr Sanders Van Kooten, Loan Officer East & Southern Africa, gave an overview on the works that have been carried out between SPA and the European Investment Bank (EIB) in terms of the project and the progress that have been made since conceptualisation as well as the way forward.

Discussions on possible collaboration between Sweden and Seychelles Ports Authority for a more sustainable port ensued by HE. Mrs Caroline Vicini, Ambassador of Sweden to Seychelles. Meetings have already been initiated the EU representatives, the Ministry of Transport and SPA in that regards. A model which is being used by the Sweden ports – specifically a small and similar port to SPA – will be replicated and adapted so as to fit the Seychelles' context.

SPA's CEO formally thanked Ambassador Vicini and Mr Van Kooten for their invaluable support and extended heartfelt appreciation for the collaborations to come. Each representative at the meeting was bestowed with a gift – a book that was published for the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Mahe quay, highlighting its history.