

Seychelles Ports Authority Workshop Public Relations and Communications: Content for Publication

Event: Pilot Project - Green Port Toolkit for Sustainable Development Component held from Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> to Friday 26<sup>th</sup> July 2024

## Five-Day Workshop to Pilot Green Port Toolkit for Sustainable Port Development

In an era where environmental sustainability has become a global priority, the maritime industry is making significant strides towards greener practices. Ports are vital hubs of economic activities, facilitating the movement of goods and resources across the world. However, they are also significant sources of environmental pollutions, contributing to air and water pollution, and increased carbon emissions.

The Seychelles Ports Authority (SPA) piloted the Sustainable (Green) Port Toolkit during a five-day workshop from 22<sup>nd</sup> to 26<sup>th</sup> July 2024 with the aim of equipping Seychelles with the essential tools and strategies to enhance sustainability initiatives at the SPA aiming to result in the long-term ecological balance of the port's operations.

"This workshop comes at an opportune time as Seychelles Ports Authority increasingly aligns itself with the green port concept and seeks to integrate sustainable approaches into our daily operations. Over the course of this week, we eagerly anticipate the outcomes and insights that will emerge, guiding us in setting strategic targets that will enhance our competitiveness regionally and internationally," said Sony Payet, Chief Executive of the SPA.

During the five-day working sessions, the experts touched-base on various topics including SPA's stance and approach on sustainability in Seychelles, a general overview of the toolkit for Sustainable Port Development in the Western Indian Ocean, Port Sustainability Performance (PSP) Index, development of recommended actions and overview of key findings for Port Victoria, amongst other relevant discussions.

In his remarks at the end of the workshop, representative from the Nairobi Convention Secretariat, Mr Jared Bosire, said that he is very humbled by the commitment and leadership of the SPA towards this project and that, notably, change works only when it is led from the top.

The delegation present for the workshop comprised of representatives from the Ports Management Association of Eastern and Southern Africa (PMAESA), the Nairobi Convention, the Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR) and Transnet National Ports (TNPA).