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Seychelles Ports Authority  
Public Relations and Communications: Content for Publication

Event: Courtesy Call on President Wavel Ramkalawan  
Component held on Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> August 2024

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### **SPA's New Harbour Master Calls on President Ramkalawan**

President Wavel Ramkalawan has congratulated Capt. Jean-Paul Fanchette on his new appointment as the Harbour Master of the Seychelles Ports Authority (SPA) which took effect on 01<sup>st</sup> August 2024.

Capt. Fanchette, who was accompanied by the Chief Executive of SPA, Mr Sony Payet, paid a visit to the President this morning where he discussed his appointment as the Harbour Master and his plans during his mandate. President Ramkalawan expressed his gratitude towards the appointment of a young Seychellois captain who is very promising in terms of knowledge and expertise in the field. He said he is proud of him and vouched that his office will support Capt. Fanchette in his endeavours to make Port Victoria a renowned port within the region.

“Standard should remain at the right level especially now that SPA is undertaking the port extension project. We need to see how best we can develop our infrastructures to ensure we remain relevant and competitive at all times,” said President Ramkalawan.

“I am confident that with the support of the authority and everyone around me I will discharge my responsibilities with efficacy to keep Port Victoria as a competitive port within the region so that it remains financially stable,” expressed Capt. Fanchette to the President. He added that he is aware of the challenges and expectations that come with the position and that he will do his utmost best to establish the right procedures in place so that Port Victoria operates as per the norms and international standards. Capt. Fanchette pointed out that safety will also be one of his focus and that his office is currently working on a series of measures that will ensure all safety regulations within the ports are well implemented and respected at all times.

On his side, Mr Payet discussed the infrastructural works being undertaken by SPA and the need to put the right people to lead such endeavours. He said that infrastructure is still a challenge and the authority is working hard to improve them along with its services ensuring they are at the level they ought to be. “This includes investing in all our infrastructures on Mahe as well as Praslin and La Digue,” highlighted Mr Payet. “We need to make calculative decisions on how to make this happen. And we need great decision makers to fulfil these expectations.”

As the Harbour Master, Capt. Fanchette oversees the operations and security departments with around 200 employees which is over 60% of SPA's workforce.