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Seychelles Ports Authority  
Public Relations and Communications: Content for Publication

Event: Staff Recognition

Component held on Tuesday 29<sup>th</sup> October 2024

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## **PRESS RELEASE**

### **SPA Recognizes Staff for Dedication Amid Fire Outbreak and Vessel Grounding**

A group of staff of the Seychelles Ports Authority (SPA) was honoured for their dedication and exertion demonstrated during a fire outbreak at Zone 14 and grounding of a container vessel, 'MV SPIL Ningsih'; two separate incidents which occurred on Friday 18<sup>th</sup> October and Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> October to Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> October respectively.

Certificates of recognition were presented to staff during the ceremony held on the 29<sup>th</sup> October 2024 to inaugurate new tugboat 'Silwet'.

The vessel could not have joined at a more opportune time! The grounding incident on Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> October, forced SPA to deploy all of its marine assets including the new addition, 'Silwet', to assist in a coordinated operation to safely remove MV SPIL Ningsih in the marine park near Ste Anne island where it had grounded. A fitting occasion for the tug to demonstrate its versatility and capabilities which left quite an impression.

While both occurring portrayed the bravery and resilience of the port's personnel in a high-stressed environment, it also showcased their ability to manage crisis effectively and go above and beyond the call of duty.

The combined efforts of the team and the quick response of those involved in the respective operations, ensured that the situations were contained, damage during the grounding incident was prevented and no injuries were caused in both instances.

In their remarks, the Minister for Transport, Mr Antony Derjacques, and the Chief Executive of SPA, Mr Sony Payet, both praised the steadfast commitment and professionalism displayed by the port's personnel.

“Whether it was managing the fire outbreak at Zone 14 or responding to the grounding of a container vessel near Ste. Anne Island, these events tested our readiness and resilience. Your quick response, skills, and unwavering dedication have safeguarded lives, protected assets, and upheld the reputation of the Seychelles Ports Authority,” highlighted Minister Derjacques.

The crowd present during the ceremony commanded the brave men and women for their solidarity and commitment to the port and the community it serves.