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Seychelles Ports Authority  
Official Visit of the International Association of Cities and Ports (AIVP) Delegation  
Public Relations and Communications: Content for Publication

Event: Meeting with AIVP Delegation  
Component held on Friday 06<sup>th</sup> May 2022

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## **PRESS RELEASE**

### **The AIVP discusses the element of 'green ports' with the SPA**

A delegation from the International Association of Cities and Ports (AIVP) was on a three-day official visit in Seychelles from 04<sup>th</sup> to 06<sup>th</sup> May 2022. The AIVP is the technical partner of the Green Ports of the Indian Ocean study which is financed by the Agence Francaise de Développement (AFD) and commissioned by the Association of Indian Ocean Islands Ports (APIOI). To note that the APIOI groups together member ports from the Comoros, Madagascar, Mauritius, Reunion and Seychelles. The delegation's visit was facilitated by the Seychelles Ports Authority (SPA) as a member of the APIOI.

The main aim of the mission was to have an insight on the current situation at SPA in relation to "green port" related issues as well as establish contacts with local agencies dealing with the thematic areas of the project. The team was also trying to identify possible climate change related vulnerabilities and explore the possibility to develop potential projects in that aspect. The delegation comprised of four AIVP experts; Mr Jean-Marc Beyney, a Port Engineer, Mr Bruno Petat, the Development Director, Mrs Sophie Minssart, the Architect-Urban Planner, and Mr Patrick Lambert, a Senior Environmental Official.

With the undertaking of the Port Victoria Rehabilitation and Extension Project (PVREP) by the SPA, and the evolution in port management, a 'green port' strategy will be developed, with the aim of achieving more sustainable, environmentally-friendly and efficient port operations. The development of climate resilient infrastructures is also an element being incorporated into the project to cater for possible future climate scenarios.

The delegation's first meeting was chaired by the Chief Executive of the SPA, Mr Ronny Brutus, who presented the organisation's mission, vision and objectives. He also highlighted the cooperation between the SPA and other international bodies as well as its successes over the years. This was followed by a presentation of the Port Victoria Rehabilitation and Extension Project (PVREP), which is the main project currently being undertaken by SPA and is also one of the largest in the country. Ms Philippa Samson, the Project Manager, presented the project's justification and its expected outcome. It was also an opportune time for the members of the delegation to further discuss the SPA's plan on the inclusion of facilities relating to 'green ports' sustainable and practices.

The Green Ports of the Indian Ocean study is being carried out with the aim to raise awareness and build the capacity of the APIOI members on the 'green and resilient ports' subject. The project has three thematic areas with energy and ecological transition being the first one, adaptation to climate change the second and thirdly port-city interfaces, which is hence the reason for conducting meetings with key stakeholders involved in these areas of operations. To that effect, meetings that were held with the Public Utilities Corporation (PUC) and the Seychelles Energy Commission focused on energy and ecological transition as well as adaptation to climate change. On the other hand, the meetings with the Mayor's Office and the Seychelles Planning Authority highlighted port-city interfaces. The delegation was accompanied to their meetings by Mr Rodney Quatre, the Environment & Social Impact Manager at the SPA. A site visit was also conducted at Ile de Romainville to give the delegation an insight of the solar and wind farms that are being managed by the PUC.

The project is currently being implemented in its first and second phase simultaneously which encompasses of a review of the locally available information to identify the priorities and vulnerabilities of each port in the APIOI and also to explore and develop concrete and fundable projects.

The delegation left the country on Friday 6<sup>th</sup> May 2022.

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