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Seychelles Ports Authority  
The Association of the Ports of the Indian Ocean Islands Meetings  
Public Relations and Communications: Content for Publication

Event: General Assembly and Board Meeting  
Component held on 22<sup>nd</sup> & 23<sup>rd</sup> May 2023

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## **PRESS RELEASE**

### **Port of Toamasina Hosts APIOI's Meetings**

In his capacity as the President of the Association of the Ports of the Indian Ocean Islands (APIOI), Mr Sony Payet, who is also the Chief Executive of the Seychelles Ports Authority (SPA), chaired the General Assembly and Board of Directors meeting of the APIOI members on 22<sup>nd</sup> and 23<sup>rd</sup> May 2023. The meetings took place at the Academy Centre Toamasina, Madagascar.

Country members present at the meetings were; Seychelles, Mauritius, Reunion, Comoros and Madagascar. The meeting on 22<sup>nd</sup> May was dedicated to the Board of Directors whereas the second day for the General Assembly.

Several points revolving around projects being implemented by the APIOI were addressed. This include; the creation of an alumni circle, Green Ports Study, preparation for the Maritime Week which will be held in September 2023 in Reunion, effective communications tools for APIOI to move towards digitalization along with tariffs planning, as well as cruise ship promotions within the Vanilla Islands.

It was also an opportune time to discuss possible avenues and strategies on how to bring more efficiency within the ports in the Indian Ocean.

Following the meetings, the APIOI members present got the chance to tour the Port of Toamasina where they were apprised of its port extension project. This was headed by the Chief Executive of the Port of Toamasina, Christian Eddy Avellin. During the tour, the members also had the chance to share their expertise and best practices for such a project.

A Memorandum of Understanding was also signed between Port of Toamasina and Port of Comoros in relation to exchange programmes and trainings for port employees.

The members present were able to interact with the concessionaires and other partners of the Port of Toamasina in a banquet that was organised on the evening of 22<sup>nd</sup> May.