

THE NATIONAL YOUTH PARLIAMENT
Fourth Edition, held on 21 and 22 August 2025

Motion:

The Member of the National Youth Parliament (Ms Kulpoo) –

“This National Youth Parliament resolves that a national framework be established for the implementation of Public-Private Partnerships Schemes in vocational, technical and skills-based training across all levels of education.”

THE FOURTH EDITION OF THE NATIONAL YOUTH PARLIAMENT,

RECOGNISING the increasing importance of Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) competencies in driving innovation, productivity, and sustainable economic growth in the Republic of Mauritius,

OBSERVING that global labour market trends show a rapidly growing demand for STEM related skills across both emerging and traditional industries, necessitating a shift in educational priorities,

NOTING WITH CONCERN that despite improvements in educational attainment, there remains skills mismatch between graduates and the technical requirements of modern industries, particularly in sectors such as digital technology, renewable energy, advanced manufacturing, and scientific research,

ACKNOWLEDGING that recent labour force surveys published by Statistics Mauritius indicate that youth (aged 15–24) face significantly higher unemployment rates than the general population, underlining the urgent need for workforce-ready skills routes,

AFFIRMING that a closer integration between the education system and industry through Public–Private Partnerships, complemented with critical thinking, problem-solving and digital literacy can foster innovation, ensure curriculum relevance, and create sustainable career opportunities in STEM fields,

RECOGNISING FURTHER the exponential growth of Artificial Intelligence (AI) globally, its transformative impact across sectors, and the need for Mauritian nationals to actively participate and compete in this global technological race,

ALARMED by the WHO's projection of a global shortfall of 18 million health workers by 2030, which may disproportionately affect Small Island Development States (SIDS) like Mauritius if vocational training pipelines are not strengthened,

EMPHASISING that a comprehensive framework is required to unify public education institutions and private sector stakeholders in a collaborative effort to design, certify, and deliver such training effectively and inclusively,

NOTING WITH APPRECIATION the growing global recognition of Public-Private Partnerships as catalysts for improving workforce readiness and bridging the gap between education and employment,

NOTING WITH APPROVAL the establishment of institutions such as Polytechnic Mauritius Ltd, the Mauritius Institute of Training and Development (MITD), and the Sir Gaëtan Duval Hospitality School, which provide certified vocational and technical education aimed at improving youth employability,

RECOGNISING that despite these efforts, enrolment in vocational programmes remains comparatively low, with approximately 11% of upper secondary students currently enrolled, highlighting the need to expand and diversify vocational training opportunities to meet growing demand across multiple sectors,

FURTHER RECALLING the value of fostering a national culture that celebrates STEM excellence and technical skills as prestigious and rewarding career paths, thereby enhancing youth motivation and societal recognition of such professions,

CONVINCED that the effective integration of vocational, technical, and skills-based training into the education system requires actionable commitments, coordinated governance, and measurable outcomes to ensure tangible benefits for youth and the broader economy,

THE NATIONAL YOUTH PARLIAMENT HEREBY RESOLVES TO:

1. **CALL FOR** the establishment of a National Framework for Public-Private Partnerships (PPPs) integrating certified STEM-focused training across all education levels, through collaboration between government, private sector, academia, and research bodies, emphasizing employment-oriented and innovation-driven outcomes,
2. **EMPHASIZE** the adoption of outcome-driven education strategies that prioritise practical competencies, critical thinking, digital literacy, and entrepreneurial skills to equip learners with the abilities necessary for sustainable employment and meaningful participation in a dynamic economy,
3. **ENCOURAGE** industry participation through apprenticeships, internships, and project based learning opportunities in STEM disciplines, while supporting the creation of innovation and skills hubs in collaboration with industry partners for advanced STEM training, prototyping and entrepreneurial development,

4. **MANDATE** that STEMS curricula within the PPP framework incorporate future-facing fields, including artificial intelligence, robotics, biotechnology, environmental sciences, marine sciences, and data analytics, while maintaining adaptability to emerging sectors,
5. **RECOMMEND** the establishment of a National Skills and Curriculum Alignment Council with representation from education authorities, labour market regulators, industry associations, and research institutions, tasked with aligning national education and curriculum formulation with labour market needs, forecasting skill demand, and ensuring continuous curriculum updates,
6. **CALL UPON** the collaborative development of nationally and internationally recognized certification standards, while reinforcing dedicated career guidance and mentoring programmes in all secondary and tertiary institutions to guide students in navigating certified pathways and aligning their studies with their future,
7. **COMMEND** the recruitment of qualified school counsellors tasked with providing tailored advice, psychosocial support, and informed guidance to students in their educational and professional choices, thereby fostering resilience, confidence, and lifelong learning mindsets among youth,
8. **ENDORSE** the organisation of an annual National Youth Skills Games and a Youth Skills Ambassador Programme to promote excellence in vocational and technical fields, celebrate young talent, inspire youth engagement and foster national pride in skilled careers,
9. **SEEK** a centralised digital Youth Talent hub under the PPP Framework to connect with private sector employers, while promoting outcome-driven education strategies that prioritise practical competencies, digital literacy and entrepreneurial skills for sustainable employment.
