THE NATIONAL YOUTH PARLIAMENT
Fifth Edition, held on 28 and 29 August 2026

Motion:

The Member of the National Youth Parliament (Mr Zaza)

"The National Youth Parliament resolves that Government further strengthen peace, justice and accountable institutions by preventing corruption and violence, improving equal access to justice, protecting fundamental rights and ensuring meaningful youth participation in public decision-making, in furtherance of Sustainable Development Goal 16."

******

THE FIFTH EDITION OF THE NATIONAL YOUTH PARLIAMENT,

COMMENDING the sustained efforts of the Government of Mauritius that have contributed to the country's uninterrupted 18-year record as Africa's most peaceful nation, as measured by the Global Peace Index's indicators on safety and security, ongoing conflict, and militarization; and

MINDFUL of the opportunity to strengthen the Mauritian judicial system, particularly, with regard to case backlogs, finite judicial resources, and administrative processes, where continued investment could further improve the timeliness of dispute resolution; and

APPLAUDING Mauritius's 3rd-place ranking out of 54 African countries in Accountability & Transparency, as reported in the 2024 Ibrahim Index of African Governance (IIAG), and *recognising* that transparent, merit-based public-sector recruitment is essential to public confidence, equality of opportunity, and the retention of young talent; and

REAFFIRMING the constitutional guarantees of fundamental rights and protection from discrimination under Sections 3 and 16 of the Constitution, and recognising the importance of ensuring that existing statutory protections and remedies against discrimination remain comprehensive, accessible and effective for every person; and

ACKNOWLEDGING that vulnerable persons may face practical, financial or psychological barriers when seeking judicial or administrative remedies, while acknowledging existing statutory mechanisms permitting representative applications in specified circumstances; and

RECOGNISING youth participation in Mauritius, as measured by the 2025 Global Youth Participation Index (GYPI), where it scored 67 out of 100 and ranked 49th out of 141 countries assessed, and affirming that, like every country assessed, there remains an opportunity to deepen meaningful youth participation in public decision-making; and

CONCERNED that 74.4% of adult convicts admitted to prison in 2025 had previously been imprisoned, and *recognising* the continued importance of rehabilitation, education and social reintegration in addressing juvenile delinquency; and

FINALLY, RECOGNISING the Legal Aid and Legal Assistance Act 2025 providing for the expansion of eligibility to households earning up to Rs 25,000 monthly, with assigned barristers and attorneys remunerated from the Consolidated Fund, and affirming that continued attention to funding, practitioner availability and public awareness will further strengthen access to justice for all;

THE NATIONAL YOUTH PARLIAMENT HEREBY:

CALLS UPON the Government of Mauritius to sustain and build upon the safety and security gains reflected in both the 2025 Global Peace Index and the 2024 Ibrahim Index of African Governance, including through continued investment in crime prevention and community policing, while actively reversing the negative trend recorded specifically in Mauritius's performance under the IIAG's 'Absence of Human Trafficking & Forced Labour' indicator between 2014 and 2023; and

RECOMMENDS judicial digitalisation, funded in part through the provision of allocarions, pursuant to the Legal Aid and Legal Assistance Act 2025, to reduce case backlogs and improve dispute resolution timelines, through the (a) nationwide rollout of an E-Judiciary system for digital case management, e-filing, and hearing notifications (b) an AI-assisted Legal Guidance Platform, subject to mandatory human review, Data Protection Act safeguards, and clear liability rules and (c) awareness campaigns on expanded legal aid eligibility; and

URGES the Ministry of Labour, Human Resource Development and Training to implement a Public-Sector Recruitment Transparency Framework by (a) adopting anonymous resumé screening (b) publishing eligibility criteria and assessment methodologies (c) establishing an independent appeals mechanism for recruitment irregularities and (d) mandating annual civil society and youth review of public employment data; and

REQUESTS the Government of Mauritius to periodically review statutory anti-discrimination protections to ensure alignment with sections 3 and 16 of the Constitution of the Republic of Mauritius, and *encourages* continued public legal education on available remedies; and

DEMANDS the implementation of a Whistleblower and Witness Protection Framework, administered by the Human Rights Division, including (a) legal immunity, confidentiality, and anonymous reporting channels (b) amended *locus standi* rules allowing representative standing for vulnerable persons fearing retaliation or stigma and (c) a secure, centralised digital reporting portal; and

INCENTIVISES Government, building on its "High" GYPI ranking, to strengthen Youth Civic Participation by (a) establishing a National Youth Advisory Council with mandatory governmental response to its recommendations (b) integrating peace education, conflict resolution, and civic responsibility into school curricula and community programmes; and

ENCOURAGES correctional reform, in the light of the 74.4% recidivism rate, through a three-tiered system (a) dedicated remand facilities (b) rehabilitation-focused programming for non-violent offenders, including education, vocational training, and mental health support (c) high-security confinement for serious offenders and (d) a National Reoffending Index to track post-release outcomes; and

FINALLY, INVITES Government to amend the Legal Aid and Legal Assistance Act 2025 to introduce a phased Pro Bono Contribution scheme - voluntary at 4% of annual professional hours in year one, rising to a mandatory 8% by year three, following consultation with the Mauritius Bar Council - and recommends awareness campaigns to inform eligible households of their entitlements.

******