

## Promotion of International Trade between Goa and Mauritius gets a shot in the Arm

India and Mauritius have a long-standing goodwill and have traditionally partnered with each other in promoting trade and cultural ties which have been nurtured over the years and have now become an inherent part of the rich relations that the two countries share amongst themselves. With this as a base, international trade between India and Mauritius thus becomes an interesting subject for deep analysis and brainstorming, for scouting for new avenues and areas of mutual interest that both the countries could benefit from.

In keeping with its objective of guiding entrepreneurs based in Goa on bi-lateral trade, World Trade Center Goa in association with the Economic Development Board (EDB) of Mauritius organized an insightful webinar on understanding and tapping opportunities that Goa and Mauritius could both take advantage of for Economic Development and progress of both countries.

Key speaker **Mr. Veepre Kureeman, Lead Professional Global Outreach and India Desk in-charge of the Economic Development Board (EDB) of Mauritius** during his address said that the EDB of Mauritius started operations in the year 2018 and since then is playing a leading role in investment promotion and business facilitation in Mauritius. It thus plays a pivotal role in encouraging investments into Mauritius with the aim of boosting bi-lateral trade. He highlighted that the India – Mauritius Comprehensive Economic Cooperation and Partnership Agreement that came into force in 2021 is one of the avenues that gave boost to the trade ties between the two countries. “He also pointed out that Mauritius is the gateway to the African Market and Goa and Mauritius could collaborate in many ways, starting from the Education sector where Indian entities could start centres of learning to cater to the African Markets. Further, he informed that Mauritius offers opportunities in the areas of agriculture, textiles, tourism and electronics amongst a host of opportunities. Mauritius, he said is also a producer of quality wine and beer and local Goan entrepreneurs could take up the import of these products for distribution and sale in Goa as well as all pan India.

**Mr. Cyril Desouza, Assistant Director - Trade Promotion, WTC Mumbai** in his address remarked that the similarities of outlook and cultural habits of masses in India and Mauritius can help pave a smooth way for boosting bi-lateral trade between Goa (India) and Mauritius. He pointed out that Goa produces a many food products, especially a variety of spices and other verticals that could not only be exported to Mauritius but to the entire African continent by using Mauritius as the gateway. Mr Desouza further expressed confidence and hoped that this webinar could be a harbinger for promotion of better bi-lateral trade ties between Goa and Mauritius.

The webinar concluded with a Q&A session.

**The webinar was held on June 1, 2023.**

