

MINISTRY OF CIVIL SERVICE AND ADMINISTRATIVE REFORMS MAURITIUS

20 October 2005

Ministry of Civil Service and Administrative Reforms Circular Note No 9 of 2005

E/148/3/01

From:

Senior Chief Executive, Ministry of Civil Service and Administrative Reforms

To:

Supervising Officers in charge of Ministries/Departments

Setting up of Ethical Standards Management Committee

The Code of Ethics for Public Officers established in the year 2000 sets out clearly the standards, values and behaviour to guide public officers in all their professional activities. The code published both in English and French has been widely circulated in the form of a pamphlet. Posters have also been displayed in prominent places in all Ministries and Departments.

- 2. With a view to maintaining a high standard of conduct in the Public Service and as the management of ethics is an essential component for the promotion of good governance, Ministries and Departments are advised to set up their Ethical Standards Management Committee under the responsibility of the Head of the Organization and comprising a minimum of two other Senior Public Officers as well as a Trade Union representative.
- 3. In this connection, you may wish to stand guided by the following in framing the Terms of Reference of your Ethical Standards Management Committee:
 - (a) To promote and disseminate the values of the Code of Ethics for public officers on an on-going basis;
 - (b) To monitor and evaluate the internalization of ethical behaviour among all public officers;
 - (c) To consider problem cases relating to unethical behaviour and the underlying reasons for such cases;

- (d) To provide assistance such as coaching, counselling and mentoring where necessary;
- (e) To recommend appropriate action as per existing rules and regulations in cases where there is a persistent problem of unethical behaviour;
- (f) To review the overall progress in the implementation of the Code of Ethics at least twice a year;
- (g) To ensure that public officers comply with the provisions of the forthcoming Public Service Act; and
- (h) To examine current concerns about standards of conduct of public officers and make recommendations as to any changes which might be required to ensure the highest standards of propriety in public life.

(K. R. Mudhoo) Senior Chief Executive

Copy to: Secretary to Cabinet and Head of the Civil Service