



**MINISTRY OF PUBLIC SERVICE, ADMINISTRATIVE AND
INSTITUTIONAL REFORMS
MAURITIUS**

22 October 2020

Ministry of Public Service, Administrative and Institutional Reforms
Circular Letter No 55 of 2020
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From : Secretary for Public Service

To : Supervising Officers in charge of Ministries/Departments

Occupational Safety and Health Management System (OSHMS)

Mauritius, being a party to the International Labour Organization (ILO), is obliged to ensure a safe and healthy workplace. In this context, Government enacted the Occupational Safety and Health Act (OSHA) in 2005, which made the setting up of Occupational Safety and Health Committees in Ministries and Departments a mandatory requirement to look into safety and health matters at the workplace.

2. An Occupational Safety and Health (OSH) Management System is an important plank in an organization's risk management strategy. In 2018, the International Organisation for Standardization (ISO) came up with the ISO 45001 Standards to provide organisations with a tool for implementing safety and health norms at workplaces based on international best practices. The ISO 45001 is designed to prevent work-related injury and enhance safety at workplaces. It will increase organisational resilience through proactive risk prevention, innovation and continual improvement. It also strengthens legal and regulatory compliance and shows commitment towards a safe, healthy and sustainable workplace.

3. Government has, accordingly, decided that the ISO 45001 standard should be implemented across the Public Service with a view to promoting a safe and healthy working environment to mitigate occupational safety and health risks, prevent work related incidents and improve compliance with the OSHA 2005.

4. All Ministries and Departments should make necessary arrangements to embark forthwith on the OSH Management System on the basis of the ISO 45001 guidelines. The Occupational Safety and Health Division of this Ministry will extend all the necessary assistance and support.

5. Supervising Officers are kindly requested to take appropriate action and submit to this Ministry a quarterly report on the status of implementation.

6. I rely on your usual collaboration.

S. Ragen

Secretary for Public Service

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