

Message from Clara Calou, President

Dear AMFCE Members,

It is a honour, which goes together with its responsibilities, to be today the President of AMFCE.

AMFCE is today a well-known institution thanks to pioneer women entrepreneurs. Nine presidents have paved the way and I feel that with the effort of one and all we will go much further and succeed in our endeavours.

Personally I wish to put more effort on making women entrepreneurs in Mauritius work together. By now we know each other and the market is small and we know who are the reliable people we can work with - of course men are not to be excluded.

As we are also affiliated or member of other associations we should have common goals to help entrepreneurs consolidate their position and become more sustainable for the future.

Continued....



AMFCE Newsletter
Issue No.2 / Apr 2017

We would like to share:

- **Composition of New Executive Committee**
- **2017 AGM**
- **Been There .. Done That ..**
- **Save the Date!**
- **Your Voice Matters**
- **Coming Soon**
- **Spoiler Alert**

Continued

Message from Clara Calou, President

We should also consider working with the women entrepreneurs of the region to build a strong vertical value chain.

We have experience on how to manage a company in different sectors , we work with international standards & have export facilities , in Rodrigues women know how to fish and naturally preserve their catch, in Madagascar they know how to make natural silk, have virgin soil which would facilitate bio cultivation, have precious and semi-precious stone for jewelry.

If we want to export we have to work together, we have already opened the door to working together through our Mentoring program for the region.

My message to you ladies is 'Don't give up on your dreams, keep sleeping or else wake up and join us to make things happen'

*'Don't give up on
your dreams,
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else wake up and
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Composition of new Executive Committee



AMFCE Post	Name
President	Clara Calou
Vice President	Namita Jagarnath Hardowar
Treasurer	Reena Dhanjee
Assistant Treasurer	Rita Heeralall
Secretary	Veena Molye
Assistant Secretary	Rima Hitié
Committee Member	Shabnam Haji Esmael
Committee Member	Sameera Koyratty
Committee Member	Jennifer Thomas – EFOI Maurice



*Namita, Sameera, Rita, Reena, Clara, Veena, Jennifer & Rima
Missing on the photo: Shabs*



2017

Annual General Meeting



- The 2017 AGM of the AMFCE was held on Thursday 23rd March 2017 at the Mauritius Gymkhana Club.
- The AGM was attended by 25 members and the Agenda items were dealt with.
- It is worth noting that the President's Report was presented in a very innovative way – that is – projection of a short movie showing the accomplishments of the Association during the past two years and supported by testimonials from the Australian High Commissioner, Past Presidents and Members.





2017

Annual General Meeting



When AMFCE lets her hair down.

- The event ended with a dinner organised for members. The ambiance was invigorating and some members said “ Best AGM Ever!”.
- All those present commended the high level of positive energy, amazing synergy and bonding demonstrated during both the AGM and dinner - an unforgettable evening indeed!
- Few Glimpses to capture the moments





8 Mar: International Women's Day 2017

14-17 Mar: FCEM World Committee 2017

27 Mar: Presentation of the 10-Year Master Plan for the SME sector

30 Mar: MCCI Council Meeting

30 Mar: HRDC Meeting

31 Mar: NPCC Focus Group

8 March: International Women's Day 2017

AMFCE partnered with the Australian High Commission & Women in Networking Ltd for the International Women's Day celebrations. The celebration was marked by the projection of The Queen of Katwe – a movie with strong themes of empathy, humility, perseverance, teamwork and above all, girls' empowerment.

The event was attended by the Honourable Minister of Education and Human Resource, Tertiary Education and Scientific Research and the Honourable Minister of Gender Equality, Child Development and Family Welfare as well as the Australian High Commissioner and other officials.

A fund raising for SOS Femmes was organised during the event.



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14-17 March: FCEM World Committee 2017, Monaco

The FCEM World Committee was held on 14-17 March 2017 in Monaco. The theme of this World Committee was: *Women's entrepreneurship and the new issues of environment, health and quality of life*. The event was attended by around 300 delegates from more than 40 member countries. Patricia Day Hookoomsing and Veena Moloye represented AMFCE at the FCEM.

The event comprised of the Committee, Discussion Forums and B2B meetings.

The most memorable event was definitely the gala dinner held at the Monaco Yatch Club where the Guest of Honour was H.S.H Prince Albert II of Monaco!





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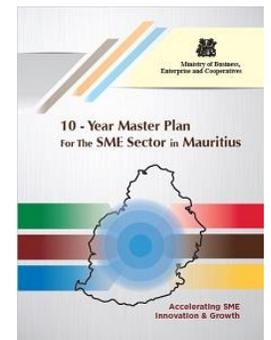
27 March: Presentation of the 10-Year Master Plan for the SME sector by the Ministry of Business Enterprise & Co-operatives

The purpose of the 10 -Year SME Master Plan is to trigger major paradigm and structural shifts towards an entrepreneurial economy. The aim is to encourage the emergence of a new breed of SMEs that can foster market and technology-driven advancements to create more high-skilled jobs in all economic sectors.

Commenting on the plan, the AMFCE President stated that: *'the plan was long overdue and it is most welcomed but 10 years is too long and we should think of updating same at least every 3 years. SMEs should work together for advancement and also to be able to export.'*

The Master Plan can be downloaded at the link below:

http://enterbusiness.govmu.org/English/Documents/SME%20Master%20Plan_Full%20Version_FINAL.pdf





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The 167th Annual General Meeting of the MCCI was held on 30th March 2017 and AMFCE has been re-elected as member on the MCCI Council.

As a member of the MCCI Council, AMFCE has benefited immensely in terms of visibility and recognition both at the national and regional levels. Our membership has also provided the opportunity to our members to have their opinions and contributions taken on board for formulation and implementation of strategic policy level proposals and decisions.



The newly elected MCCI Council



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The President and the Vice President of the AMFCE attended a meeting with officials of the HRDC on 30th March 2017. The objective of the meeting was to enquire more about the **National Skills Development Programme (NSDP)** and how members could benefit from it.

The **NSDP** is a programme that was set up following the 2016 -17 Budget and aiming to provide training to some 4000 young unemployed in technical fields which are highly in demand on the job market.

The areas identified are: ICT, Tourism & Hospitality, Nursing & Paramedics, Construction, Manufacturing, Financial Services, Logistics & other sectors.

It is proposed to invite a Senior Officer from the HRDC to deliver a talk on the scheme. A survey will be carried out to gauge potential interest amongst members very soon.



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In line with its Strategic Plan 2016- 2019, the NPCC is setting up a smart platform to trigger thinking about the issue of low female participation in the economy and what should be done to redress the situation.

A focus group discussion on the theme: '**Promoting Female Participation in the Economy.**' was facilitated by Ms R. Mooneeram and attended by the AMFCE and other stakeholders, namely WIN and a number of Women Associations.

The outcome of the discussions and an action plan which will be formulated by the NPCC will thereby be submitted to relevant authorities/stakeholders to instigate action at their end.

AMFCE has also requested inputs from its members on key issues affecting the woman entrepreneur's participation in the economy and same will be forwarded to the NPCC and other stakeholders for action.

coming soon

Mark your calendar for the forthcoming events

Local

Apr

17th

Members Event
at The Hive

May

4th

Talk on Alternative
Dispute Resolution
by Mr Sauzier

International

Nov

23-25th
FCEM
Congress





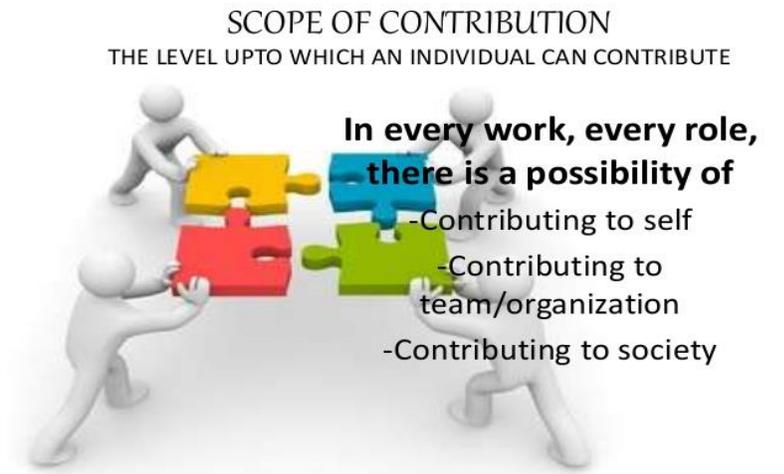
We want to hear from you !

The new Executive Committee will be issuing the E-Newsletter on a regular basis to ensure a good flow of communication and constant dialogue with our members, the objective being to listen to members and ensure AMFCE is responding to their expectations.

But communication is a two-way dialogue

Call for Contributions

So Members, please share your experiences, anecdotes, expertise and knowledge, that we shall include in the Newsletter, in an attempt to build a mutually supportive culture within AMFCE.





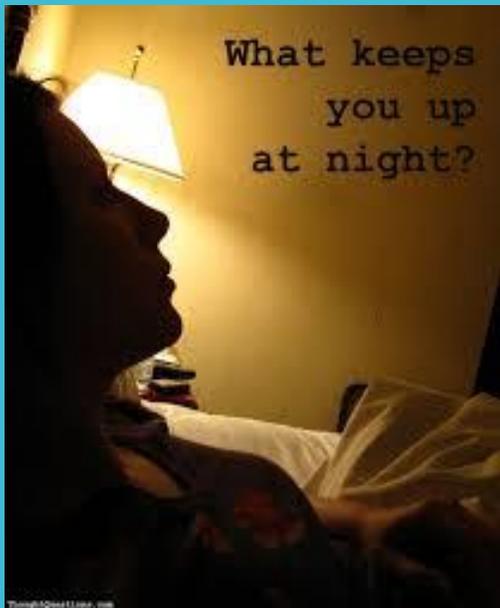
Successful women have stories to share

There are so many success stories amongst our members. Let's share and appreciate each other's journey. Our endeavour is to make the AMFCE a learning and sharing platform.

Let us always be inspired and guided by our motto which is:

Alone We Are Invisible, Together We Are Invincible

**SPOILER
ALERT!**



What Keeps You Awake At Night?

Identify **ONE** problem, related to your professional field, that's worrying you at the moment, and share it with us, by email on amfce@outlook.com

Let's see how we can assist each other through a peer to peer support mechanism!

Outcome to follow in our next edition.... Watch-out, ladies! AMFCE Synergy rolls on...



**WHEN WOMEN
SUPPORT EACH
OTHER, INCREDIBLE
THINGS HAPPEN.**

AMFCE, c/o Clara Calou, 2 Atals Avenue, Morc
Nazroo – Pte Aux Sables - Mauritius
Tel: (230) 5257 2015
Email: president@amfce.com
Website: <http://www.amfce.com>

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