

MRA HOSTS WORKSHOP ON ADVANCING GENDER EQUALITY IN CUSTOMS ADMINISTRATIONS



The Mauritius Revenue Authority (MRA), in collaboration with the World Customs Organisation (WCO), is hosting a five-day workshop on Gender Equality in Customs Administrations at the MRA Custom House from Monday 06 to Friday 10 May, 2019. The workshop aims at enhancing the skills of participants from the East and Southern Africa (ESA) region on how Gender Equality could be included in the overall training curriculum of countries. It is developed by the WCO Secretariat under the framework of the Finland ESA Project. Delegates from Eswatini, Malawi, Kenya, Rwanda, South Africa, Uganda, Zimbabwe, Seychelles and Mauritius are availing themselves of the interactive discussions led by WCO resource persons, Ms. Johanna Tornstrom and Ms. Bénédicte Meille.

Honourable Fazila Jeewa-Daureeawoo, G.C.S.K., Vice-Prime Minister, Minister of Local Government and Outer Islands, Minister of Gender Equality, Child Development and Family Welfare was the chief guest to the opening ceremony. She was welcomed by the Director- General of the MRA, Mr. Sudhamo Lal, in the presence of Ms. Riitta Passi, Project Manager for Finland ESA, and members of the MRA Management Team.

In her keynote address, the Vice-Prime Minister praised the MRA and the WCO for their concerted effort to host the Workshop on Gender Equality in Customs Administrations and extended her full support to this initiative.

Honourable Fazila Jeewa-Daureeawoo underscored that the MRA's formulation of the Equal Opportunity Policy and the inclusion of the Gender Statement in its forthcoming Annual Report clearly illustrate MRA's will to be an equal opportunity employer. She concluded that there are potential avenues of collaboration which could be explored by the MRA and the Ministry of Gender Equality, Child Development and Family Welfare for the advancement of gender equality.

The Project Manager for the Finland ESA, Ms. Riitta Passi, observed, in her address, that Finland is one of the leading countries of the world in fostering gender equality and the country keeps on taking actions to promote it.

On his part, Mr. Sudhamo Lal underlined that, since its inception in 2006, the MRA has been living up to its commitment of being an equal opportunity employer. This is boldly stated in the MRA HR Management Manual, he said. Mr. Lal further added that, in line with the Equal Opportunity Act 2008, the MRA is engaged to minimise discrimination and promote recruitment, training, selection and employment on the basis of merit.

