



EXPORT DEVELOPMENT IN AFRICA

Government is working on consolidating diplomatic footprint in Africa; the budget 2017-2018 lays much emphasis on the development of trade and capacity building in the African region. In that respect Mauritius would capitalize on the trade access already existing in the tunnel of commerce with the African countries. Mauritius which has a huge potential in the African market would make use of all available avenues to strengthen its trade relations with African countries. Some of the measures provided in the budget include:

- Joint commissions will be held with countries such as Ivory Coast, Ethiopia, Ghana, Kenya, Madagascar and Zambia. Our aim is to further enhance bilateral cooperation with these countries in various sectors, including trade, investment and capacity building.
- This month, the first Special Economic Zone in Senegal will be inaugurated. Mauritius-Africa Fund is a partner in that venture. In fact, Phase 1 of the development of that Zone is completed and will give Mauritian companies access to warehouses and office spaces totalling 31,000 square meters on 13 hectares. Phase 2 of the development will be on 40 hectares.
- As regards Ivory Coast, the Mauritius-Africa Fund has secured access to land, on preferential terms, in the "Zone Franche de la Biotechnologie et des Technologies de l'Information et de la Communication" for Mauritian enterprises to undertake development projects.
- To facilitate the implementation of joint projects by Mauritian enterprises in Africa, the Mauritius-Africa Fund will establish a Business and Investment Platform for Africa (BIPA).

