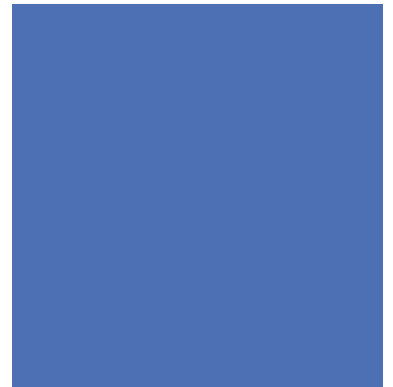


THE FISHERMEN WELFARE FUND



ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2023



The Fishermen Welfare Fund
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FISHERMEN WELFARE FUND ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2023

Date: 03 April 2024

The Honourable Sudheer MAUDHOO
Minister of Blue Economy, Marine Resources,
Fisheries and Shipping.
4th Floor, LIC Building,
President John Kennedy Street,
Port Louis.

Dear Sir,

Re: - Annual Report for the year ended 30 June 2023

I have the pleasure to present to you the Annual Report of the Fishermen Welfare Fund for the year ended 30 June 2023 as per Section 15 (1) of the Fishermen Welfare Fund Act of 2000.

Yours faithfully,

K. Beemadoo
.....

Mr. Kistnensamy BEEMADOO
Chairman

The Fishermen Welfare Fund

HISTORY OF THE FISHERMEN WELFARE FUND

The Fishermen Welfare Fund (FWF) is a Corporate Body under the aegis of the Ministry of Blue Economy, Marine Resources, Fisheries and Shipping. It was created by the FWF Act No. 28 of 2000 and started activities in May 2001.

Objectives

The objectives of the Fund as per section 4 of the FWF Act are:-

- (a) To advance and promote the welfare of fishers and their families.
- (b) To manage and optimise the financial and other resources of the Fund to improve the social and economic welfare of fishers.
- (c) To develop schemes and projects for the welfare of fishers.
- (d) To set up schemes, including schemes in respect of loans or other financial assistance for the benefit of fishers who should make contributions.
- (e) To do all such things as appear to be necessary and conducive to the welfare of fishers in general.

Main Activities of the Fishermen Welfare Fund

The Fund provides financial assistance to registered fishers under the following schemes:-

(a) Sickness Allowance

Under this scheme a registered fisher is eligible to a financial assistance of Sickness Allowance whenever he/she is hospitalized for a minimum of 3 days to a maximum of 14 days. The hospitalisation for chronic disease which requires the fisher for regular hospitalisation is excluded for the consideration of Sickness Allowance.

Where the hospitalisation is over 14 days, the fisher's case is referred to the Ministry of Social Security, National Solidarity and Reform Institutions for consideration for social aid. The daily rate for Sickness Allowance is at par with the current Bad Weather Allowance which is Rs. 575/= for financial year 2022-2023.

(b) Interim Assistance to Fisher's Family in Distress

This allowance is granted to the family of a registered fisher who has disappeared at sea during work. An amount of Rs. 2,500/= is given on an interval of 15 days to cater for the basic needs of the family. A maximum of Rs. 10,000/= is granted for the first two months of the absence of the fisher.

The case is also referred to the Ministry of Social Security, National Solidarity and Reform Institutions for social aid and to the Ministry of Gender Equality and Family Welfare for psychological support.

(c) Financial Assistance for Accidentally Damaged Boat

This assistance is given to a registered fisher whereby his/her fishing boat is damaged accidentally at sea during work exercise. The financial assistance provided is limited to Rs. 5,000/=.

The aim of this assistance is to enable the fisher to re-start fishing activities at the earliest.

(d) Contributory Scheme for Bank Fishermen

The scheme was introduced in financial year 2006/2007 for Bank fishermen.

A Bank fisherman who has a Continuous Record Book and has been on at least two fishing campaigns on the following banks:- "Nazareth" and "Saya de Malha" during the period of 1st September in a year to 31st May of the following year may participate in the scheme by making a contribution of Rs. 2,000/=.

The Fishermen Welfare Fund and fishing operators, each contribute Rs. 2,000/= per Bank fisherman who participates in the scheme.

The contribution received are lumped and the Rs. 6,000/= is provided to the fisher in three instalments during the months of June, July and August as Winter Allowance.

(e) Maternity Allowance

This scheme has been introduced in financial year 2014 under which the Fishermen Welfare Fund grants a one-off maternity allowance to fisherwomen who have given birth. The aim of this allowance is to meet the basic needs of the family and to contribute towards the health of the mother and the child. The allowance is Rs. 10,000/=.

(f) Funeral Grant

This scheme has been introduced in financial year 2014 under which the Fishermen Welfare Fund assists the family of a fisher who has passed away. The quantum of the grant is Rs. 5000/= and is payable at once to the deceased fisher's family who has borne the funeral expenses, thus alleviating the sudden unexpected additional expenses.

(g) Hardship Scheme

Under this scheme a registered fisher is given a one-off financial assistance of Rs. 10,000/- whenever his/her residence is damaged by fire or where the fisher is seriously injured or sick as a result of which he/ she cannot continue with fishing activities for some time.

(i) Award of Scholarship

The Scholarship scheme was first introduced by Government in 1991. The aim behind this scheme was to provide financial assistance to fishers' children with good academic aptitude to emerge.

The scheme has been a gateway to democratise access for fisher's children to higher education.

The scheme was managed by the Ministry of Fisheries and later passed over to the Fishermen Welfare Fund upon its enactment. Following the introduction of 9 Years Basic Continuous Education, the Scholarship scheme has been revisited.

At present, a total of 168 Scholarships are available. The Scholarship scheme is devised in such a manner that no fishers' children are laid off of on any educational streams.

Details are as follows:-

<u>Scholarship per category</u>	<u>Details</u>	<u>Duration</u>	<u>MRU</u>	<u>Categories</u>			<u>Stipends</u>	
				<u>BNK</u>	<u>ROD</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Monthly (Rs)</u>	<u>Yearly (Rs)</u>
Post PSAC – NS	Academic - Normal Stream (Grade 7 to 9)	3 years	27	4	10	41	375	4,500
Post PSAC - ES	Extended Stream	4 years	9	2	4	15	375	4,500
Post NCE	Grade 10 to 11	2 years	36	6	14	56	375	4,500
Post SC	Grade 12 to 13	2 years	15	4	6	25	750	9,000
Post HSC	Diploma, Degree and Professional Qualification	Up to 4 years	7	2	5	14	1,500	18,000
Vocational	NC 2 - 3 or equivalent	Duration of Course	3	1	1	5	375	4,500
Vocational or Polytechnic	NC 4 - 5 and/or equivalent	Duration of Course	2	1	1	4	750	9,000
Vocational or Polytechnic	NC 6 and/or Onwards or equivalent	Duration of Course	1	1	1	3	1,500	18,000
Post Graduation	Post graduate course	Up to 2 years	2	1	2	5	2,000	24,000

Total 168

BENEFICIARIES DATA

The number of running scholarships and new awards

Scholarship per category	No of Beneficiaries
Post CPE	29
Post PSAC – Normal Stream	122
Post PSAC – Extended Stream	6
Post NCE	79
Post SC	33
Post HSC	29
Post Graduation	-
Vocational: Level 1	-
Level 2	3
Level 3	2
Total	303

Financial Assistance

S/No.	Schemes	No. of Beneficiaries
1.	Sickness Allowance	11
2.	Interim Assistance to Fisher's Family in Distress	1
3.	Financial Assistance for Accidentally Damaged Boats	10
4.	Contributory Scheme for Bank Fishermen	-
5.	Special Assistance for Hardship Cases	1
6.	Funeral Grant	19
7.	Maternity Allowance	1
Total		43

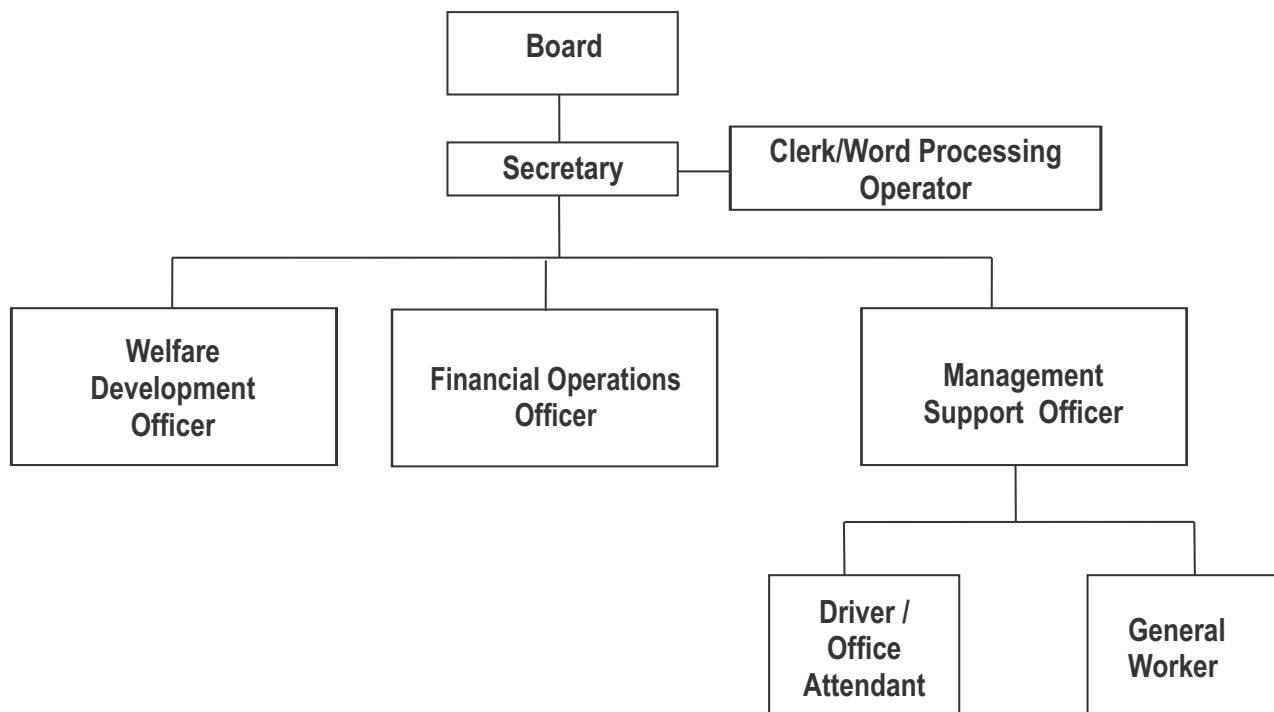


MEMBERS OF STAFF

Job Description

Secretary and Officer in Charge	• Mr. BOODIA Tedj Iswar (ACIS, FAIA, MIPA)
Financial Operations Officer	• Mr. POSOOA Viraj Ragoobeer (Bsc (Hons) Management, Bsc (Hons) Computing & Information System, Diploma in Business Informatics)
Welfare Development Officer	• Mr. KISSOONAH Sunil Dutt (Ad. Diploma in Management, MBA)
Management Support Officer	• Mrs. PANCHOO Marie Michele
Acting Driver/Office Attendant	• Mr. LALJI Sharvind

ORGANIGRAM AND GRADINGS



Grade	No. of Post in Grades	No. employed in Grades
Secretary	1	1
Financial Operations Officer	1	1
Welfare Development Officer	2	1
Management Support Officer	1	1
Clerk/Word Processing Operator	1	-
Driver Office Attendant	1	1
General Worker	1	1
TOTAL	8	5

REPORT ON STRATEGIC PLAN OF THE FISHERMEN WELFARE FUND

As per the Statutory Bodies (Accounts and Audit) Act, the Fishermen Welfare Fund is a listed body in Part II of the first schedule.

The Fund's activities are regrouped under only one programme.

Programme 1:- Welfare

Implementation of Government Policies for the welfare of fishers' community of both Mauritius and Rodrigues. This is achieved by making arrangements:-

- To award Scholarships of 9 different categories to children of registered fishers.
- To provide financial assistance to registered artisanal fishers who are hospitalized for a minimum of 3 days to a maximum of 14 days.
- To provide financial assistance to fishers' family who are in deep distress following the loss of fisher at sea during fishing activities.
- To provide financial assistance for the repairs of damaged boats.
- To provide financial assistance in form of Winter Allowance to Bank fishermen during the month of June, July and August.
- Facilitating and liaison role between the fishers' community and other institutions.
- Commemoration of the World Fisheries Day and organisation of Scholarship Award Ceremonies.
- To provide Maternity Allowance.
- To provide Funeral Grant.
- Financial assistance under Hardship cases. (on a case to case basis)

Our priority objective is to promote the betterment of registered fishers and their families through the promotion of quality and cost effective services.

<u>Programme Components</u>		<u>Priority Objectives</u>
<u>Programme Welfare</u>	Education for children of fishers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure fishers' children get access to higher education in order to secure a better career.
	Financial assistance for fishers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • For repairs of accidentally damaged boats to resume work as quickly as possible. • Cater for hospitalisation of fishers. • Meet the basic needs of fisher's family when the latter is disappeared at sea. • Funeral Grant. • Maternity Allowance. • Financial Assistance for Hardship on a case to case basis.
	Management of Contributory Schemes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure that Bank fishers are provided with winter allowance by which they can meet their basic family needs during the winter season and to promote a saving culture among bank fishers.
	Mentoring and Sensitising Campaign	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Counsel fishers to adopt modern fishing technique and develop fishing activity as a business. • Inform fishers on the preservation of catch to enhance quality of fish. • Inform fishers about the facilities put on offer by the government. • Encourage them to adopt a saving culture.
	Organisation of events	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To pay homage to fishers lost at sea. • To award Scholarships to selected children of fishers.
	Collaboration Role	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To assist Parent Ministry and stakeholders as and when services are needed.

SERVICES TO BE PROVIDED (Outputs) AND PERFORMANCE INFORMATION (Outcomes / Delivery Units / Outputs / Performance Indicators and Targets)

PROGRAMME:- Welfare			
Outcomes:			
Cater for the Welfare and promote the betterment of registered fishermen.			
DELIVERY UNITS	SERVICES TO BE PROVIDED (Outputs)	PERFORMANCE	
		Indicators (Service Standards)	Targets Jul 23-Jun24
Technical, Administration and Finance.	Education for children of fishers. (Scholarships)	No. of children getting access to education other than running scholars	168
	Financial Assistance for repairs of damaged boats.	Resumption of Fishing activities.	24
	Financial Assistance for hospitalisation of fishers.	Meet the basic family needs in absence of income from fishing during illness	12
	Financial Assistance for Disappearance of fishers at sea.	No. of families assisted.	12
	Management of Contributory Schemes for Winter Allowance.	- Saving culture. - Meet the basic needs during winter period.	50
	Mentoring & Sensitisation	No. of fishers to be counselled.	700
	Commemoration of the World Fisheries Day and Scholarship Award Ceremony	No. of expected invitees.	500
	Funeral Grant	No. of families to be assisted.	36
	Maternity Allowance	No. of fisherwomen to be assisted.	4
	Hardship	No. of fishers to be assisted.	10
	Financial assistance for purchase of Computer	No. of Post HSC scholars	14

CORPORATE GOVERNANCE REPORT

The Fishermen Welfare Fund Board and members of staff ensure that all its activities and decision making process comply with the Statutory Bodies (Accounts and Audit) Act.

Corporate Governance is among the objective of the Fishermen Welfare Fund. It acknowledges the duty of accountability to the National Assembly through the Parent Ministry.

In so far as the activities are concerned, the extents to which key performance targets and objectives are meant adhere to its function of stewardship.

The Fund has adopted a Customer Charter.

1. Corporate Objectives Statement

Vision

The Fund exists to promote the betterment of registered fishers and their families of both Mauritius and Rodrigues.

Mission

The Fund promotes a high quality and cost-effective service to the fisher's community.

Strategy

The Fund's strategy is to sensitise and assist registered fishers of both Mauritius and Rodrigues in empowering them for a better future.

Values of the organisation

The Fund practices and promotes the following values:-

- Effectiveness and Efficiency.
- Quality.
- Diligence and honesty at work.
- Good customer relations and
- Good Governance.

Value Drivers

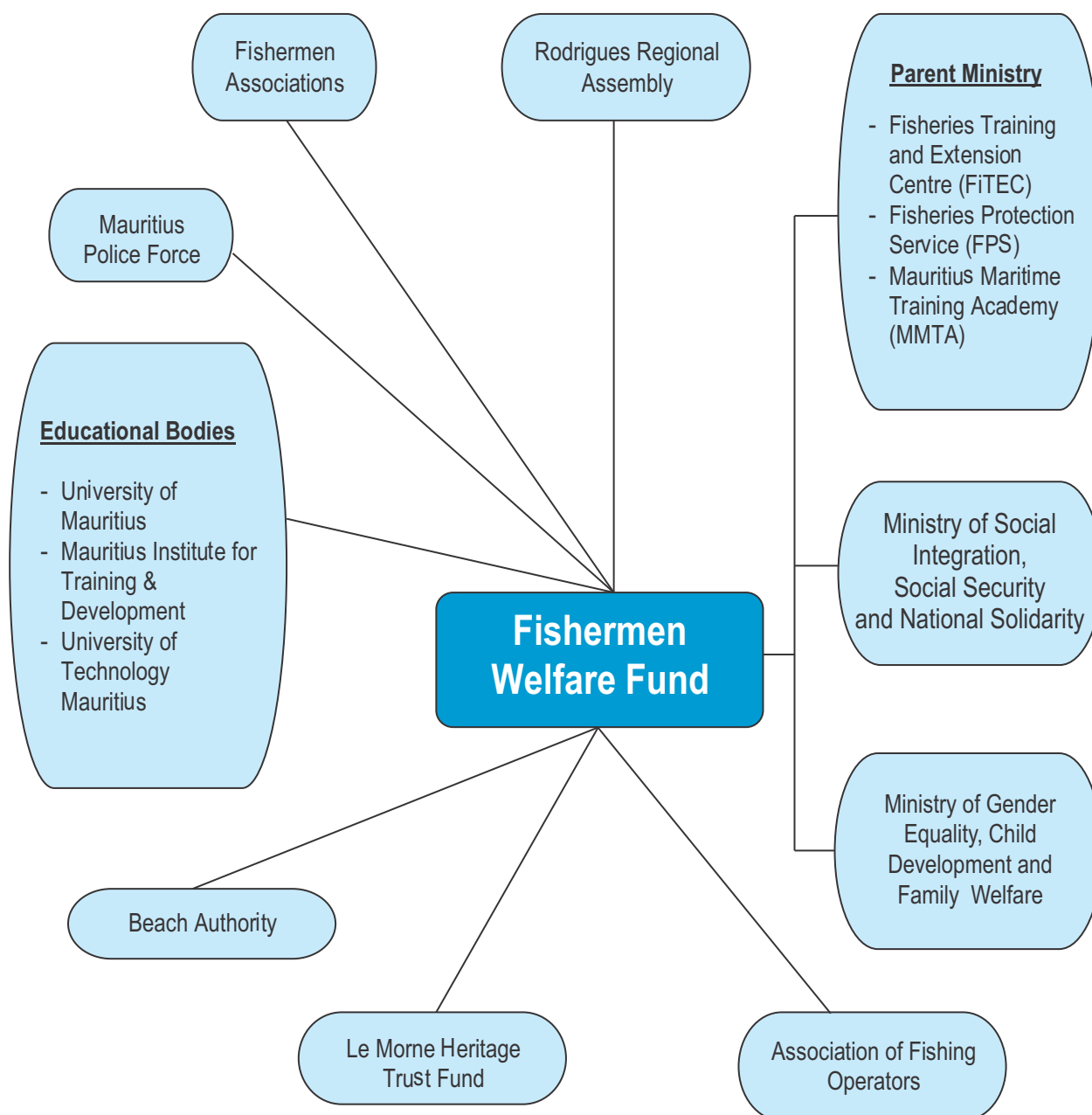
- The members of staff are courteous, helpful and act in the best interest of the stakeholders.
- They provide to their best of knowledge correct information and solve problems as far as possible.
- They offer consultation in an open transparent manner.

Statement on Stakeholders

The Fishermen Welfare Fund has two types of stakeholders namely:-

- Internal who are the employees and Board members.
- External who are illustrated on the next page.

Our External Stakeholders are:-



The following eight Corporate Governance Principles have been designed and applicable at the Fishermen Welfare Fund which are in accordance with the eight principles of the National Code of Corporate Governance for Mauritius (2016).

Principle 1: Governance Structure

The Fishermen Welfare Fund is a Corporate Body under the aegis of the Ministry of Blue Economy, Marine Resources, Fisheries and Shipping which manages welfare and social schemes for the fishers' community of both Mauritius and Rodrigues.

The Fishermen Welfare Fund Corporate Governance structure stands on the following:-

- The Fishermen Welfare Fund Act lays down specific criteria for the appointment of the Chairman and Board members.
- Board and Sub-committees are set up to closely oversee Corporate Governance, financial activities, technical issues, Scholarships and staff matters.
- There exists strong ethics and integrity management which are inbuilt in Fishermen Welfare Fund Customer Charter.
- Standard operating procedures for all Fishermen Welfare Fund scheme processes exist, thus enhancing transparency and accountability.
- There exists proper channel of communication with its stakeholders together with standing meeting with main stakeholders.

Roles of the Board

As per section 5 of the Fishermen Welfare Fund Act 28 of 2000, the administration and control of the affairs of the Fund is vested in a Board known as the Board of Fishermen Welfare Fund.

- The Board promotes, encourages and expects open and frank discussion at meetings.
- Board meetings provide a forum for challenging and constructive debates.
- The Chairman and the Secretary agree meeting agendas to ensure adequate coverage of the key issues during the year.
- Board papers are sent to Chairman and members in advance.

Principle 2: The structure of the Board and its Composition

Chairman

- Mr. Kistnensamy BEEMADOO

Members

- Mrs. Dhanita RAMDHAREE (also Chairperson Staff and Scholarship Committee and the Finance Committee) – Joined as from November 2022.
- ~~#####~~ Mrs. Bibi Swaleha GUNGADEEN (Also Chairperson Staff and Scholarship Committee) (Retired in November 2022)
- Mrs. Shamira BHEEKHOO
- Miss Bibi Nawsheen Begum SAIRALLY (Joined in August 2022)
- Mrs. Kesavadee Modely VYAPOOREE-PONIN (Retired in August 2022)
- Mrs. Bimla GUNNUCK JEETUN
- Mr. Jean Noel LONFLE
- Mr. Paul Judex RAMPAUL (Retired in March 2022)
- Mr. Goorodeo SOOKUN
- Mr. Jean Eric CESAR
- Mrs. Soonaina MURACHPERSAD

Secretary

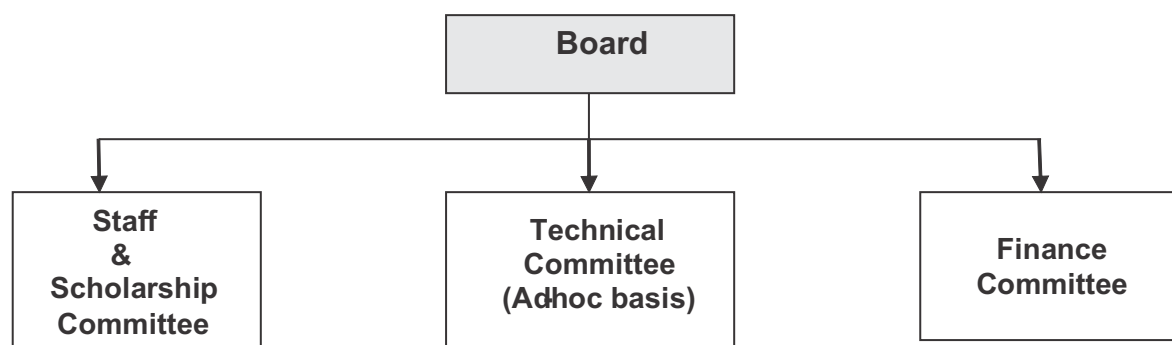
- Mr. Tedj Iswar BOODIA

2 (i) Board Committees

In line with paragraph (5) of section 6 of the Fishermen Welfare Fund Act, the Board may set up such Sub-Committees as may be necessary for the discharge of its function.

All Sub-committees operate independently from the Board and they are chaired by a member appointed by the Board.

The structure of Fishermen Welfare Fund Board and Sub-committee as at 30 June 2023 is illustrated below.



Each Sub-committee operates within defined terms of references.

2 (ii) Staff and Scholarship Committee

a) *The Committee considers all applications received for Scholarships and makes recommendations to Board for award of Scholarship to selected applicants.*

b) *The Committee also considers:-*

- any grievances received in connection with Scholarships.
- the proposals for increase, shifting of Scholarships and revision in the rate of stipends.
- the human resource needs of the Fund.
- the selection and training needs of staff.
- promotion for members of staff.
- to initiate disciplinary action against members of staff.
- any other matters pertaining to human resource of the Fishermen Welfare Fund.

2 (iii) Technical Committee

The Committee is held on an ad-hoc basis to deal with matters where expert advice might be sought to guide Board in the implementation of new projects or review of existing ones.

2 (iv) Finance Committee

The Committee considers:-

- Estimates of the Fund.
- Opening of quotations.
- Quotation analysis from Management and recommend Board for procurement.
- Consider the Financial Statement of the Fishermen Welfare Fund.
- Any other decision pertaining to financial matters.

There is a transparency and disclosures mechanism whereby Board Committee members are required to disclose any actual or potential conflict of interest.

Members are provided with accurate and relevant information, and facts are placed before the Board to enable the former reach informed decision in all independence.

Principle 3: Director's Appointment Procedures

As per the Fishermen Welfare Fund Act there are ten members who are Directors of the Board who consist of:

- 1) Chairman appointed by the Minister;
- 2) a representative nominated by the Prime Minister's Office;
- 3) a representative nominated by the Ministry responsible for the subject of Finance;
- 4) a representative nominated by the Ministry responsible for the subject of Fisheries;
- 5) a representative nominated by the Ministry responsible for Rodrigues;

- 1) 2 fishermen, each of whom shall be nominated by one of the 2 most representative organisations of fishermen and appointed by the Minister;
- 2) one fisherman from the banks fishermen community, appointed by the Minister;
- 3) one fisherman from Rodrigues nominated by the fishermen's associations of Rodrigues and appointed by the Minister;
- 4) one representative of the organisations of operators from the fishing industry, nominated by the organisation the members of which produce the highest tonnage of fish and appointed by the Minister.

On appointment, no specific training is given by Fishermen Welfare Fund to them as they are experienced and knowledgeable person on the conduct of Board meetings. They are provided with a comprehensive induction pack. The pack summarises all the relevant information pertaining to the organisation that will enable newly appointed members to have a good insight and knowledge about the organisation.

Principle 4: Director Duties, Remuneration and Performance

Fishermen Welfare Fund meetings are held at least once monthly at such time and place as the Chairman considers appropriate. The Secretary of Board prepares and circulates all Board papers in a timely manner to Board members prior to the meeting. The Directors are well aware of their duties and exert the ethical standard and strong ethical culture at the Fishermen Welfare Fund.

Each Director allocates sufficient time to discharge his/her duties effectively in the best interest of the Fishermen Welfare Fund. The Directors are required to attend Board meetings and have a duty to show the degree of skill which may reasonably be expected from a person of his/her knowledge and experience.

The Directors retain their freedom of action and not fetter their discretion by agreeing as some other person may direct. Besides, they do not obtain any personal advantage from their position as Director at the Fishermen Welfare Fund.

Remuneration and Performance

The fees of Board and Committee members are as determined by the recommendation of the Pay Research Bureau Report 2021.

The Chairman fee is determined by the Standing Committee of the Ministry of Public Service, Administrative and Institutional Reforms and approved by the Fishermen Welfare Fund Board.

The attendance of each Board member at Board meetings and Sub-Committees together with the Board member's fees for the year 2022-2023 and their respective appointment are provided in the next page .



S/No	Board meeting		Sub-Committees			Fees and Duration of Appointment		
			Staff & Scholarship	Finance	Technical	Total Fees paid (Gross)	Date of last appointment	Duration of Office
	Number of meetings held	11	6	6	1			
Meetings attended								
1	Mr. K. BEEMADOO	11				303,078	17 July 2020	2 Years
2	Mrs. D. RAMDHAREE	7	Chairman five times 5	Chairman four times 4	1	29,000	11 November 2022	2 Years
3	Mrs. S. BHEEKHOO	5	-	2	1	20,942	17 July 2020	2 Years
4	Miss Bibi Nawsheen Begum SAIRALLY	10	Co-opted member 1	Chairman two times 6	1	26,800	22 June 2022	2 Years
5	Mrs. Bimla GUNNUCK JEETUN	10	5	Co-opted member 5	-	28,500	21 June 2022	2 Years
6	Mr. Jean Noel LONFLE	10	6	Co-opted member 1	1	31,645	17 July 2020	2 Years
7	Mr. G. SOOKUN	-	-	-	-	2,320	17 July 2020	2 Years
8	Mr. J. E. CESAR	9	5	-	1	30,419	17 July 2020	2 Years
9	Mrs. Soonaina MURACHPERSAD	11	Co-opted member 5	5	1	37,936	31 August 2021	2 Years
10	Mrs Kesavadee Modely VYAPOOREE - PONIN	1	-	-	-	11,484	Retired in July 2022	
11	Mrs. Bibi Swaleha GUNGADEEN	4	Chairman one time 1	2	-	20,867	Retired in November 2022	

Principle 5: Risk Governance and Internal Control

The Board is responsible for Risk Governance and ensure that the organisation has identified the risk and taken measures to mitigate them.

The Board ensures that a solid internal control system exists, and same includes financial controls, operational controls, inventory controls and safeguards of the Fund's assets. The control measures are also subject to Board's review to strengthen its effectiveness.

Principle 6: Reporting with Integrity

The Fishermen Welfare Fund presents a fair, balanced and understandable assessment of the financial, environmental, social and governance position, performance and outlook.

The Annual Report is approved by the Fishermen Welfare Fund Board for submission for the annual audit to the National Audit Office.

As per section 15 of the Fishermen Welfare Fund Act, the Board shall not later than 6 months after the closure of every financial year furnish to the Minister an Annual Report, together with audited statement of accounts and statement of Financial Position on the operation of the Fund in respect of financial year ending 30 June of the same year.

The report of the Board is laid before the National Assembly.

The Annual Report of the Fishermen Welfare Fund for the financial year ended 30 June 2022 was submitted within the deadlines as set above.

Principle 7: Audit

The Fishermen Welfare Fund acknowledges the responsibilities of the Secretary to:

- Maintain adequate accounting records and maintenance of effective internal control system.
- The preparation of financial statements which fairly present the state of affairs of the Fishermen Welfare Fund as at the end of the financial year and the results of its operations and Cash Flow for the period and which comply with International Public Sector Accounting Standards (IPSAS) for each Financial Year.
- The selection of appropriate accounting policies supported by reasonable and prudent judgements.

i) Internal Audit

The Fishermen Welfare Fund has a Welfare Development Officer who, in addition to his routine duties carries out internal audit works on the financial activities of the Fund.

ii) External Audit

The External Auditor of the Fishermen Welfare Fund is the Director of National Audit Office.



Principle 8: Relations with Stakeholders and other Key Stakeholders

The Fishermen Welfare Fund engages with its stakeholders on a regular basis.

In this respect sensitisation campaigns are conducted across the Island.

World Fisheries Day is celebrated annually on the 21st of November, and Scholarship Award Ceremony is held around August every year.

The Fishermen Welfare Fund is committed to respond to the need and expectation of all its stakeholders.

- There was no members' agreement affecting the Governance of the Fishermen Welfare Fund by the Board.
- There was no agreement between third parties and the Fishermen Welfare Fund.

Chairman

Mr. BEEMADOO Kistnensamy

Date: 03 April 2024

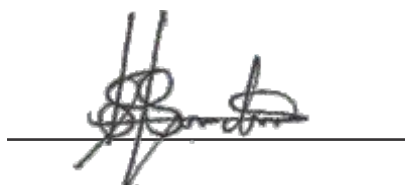
Member

Mrs. RAMDHAREE Dhanita

Date: 03 April 2024

STATEMENT OF COMPLIANCE

During the financial year from 01 July 2022 to 30 June 2023, the Secretary confirms that the Fishermen Welfare Fund has complied with the requirements of the National Code of Corporate Governance for Mauritius (2016) in all material aspect.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "B. Iswar", written over a horizontal line.

Secretary

Mr. BOODIA Tedj Iswar

Date: 03 April 2024



NATIONAL AUDIT OFFICE

REPORT FROM DIRECTOR OF AUDIT

TO THE BOARD OF THE FISHERMEN WELFARE FUND

Report on the Audit of the Financial Statements

Opinion

I have audited the financial statements of the Fishermen Welfare Fund, which comprise the statement of financial position as at 30 June 2023 and the statement of financial performance, cash flow statement, statement of changes in net assets/equity and statement of comparison of budget and actual amount for the year then ended, and notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies.

In my opinion, the accompanying financial statements give a true and fair view of the financial position of the Fishermen Welfare Fund as at 30 June 2023, and of its financial performance and cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with International Public Sector Accounting Standards (IPSASs).

Basis for Opinion

I conducted my audit in accordance with International Standards of Supreme Audit Institutions (ISSAIs). My responsibilities under those standards are further described in the 'Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements' section of my report. I am independent of the Fishermen Welfare Fund in accordance with the INTOSAI Code of Ethics, together with the ethical requirements that are relevant to my audit of the financial statements in Mauritius, and I have fulfilled my other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. I believe that the audit evidence I have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for my opinion.

Key Audit Matters

Key Audit Matters are those matters that, in my professional judgment, were of most significance in my audit of the financial statements of the current period. These matters were addressed in the context of my audit of the financial statements as a whole, and in forming my opinion thereon, and I do not provide a separate opinion on these matters.

I have determined that there are no key audit matters to communicate in my report.

Other Information

Management is responsible for the other information. The other information comprises the information included in the annual report of the Fishermen Welfare Fund, but does not include the financial statements and my auditor's report thereon.

My opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and I do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

In connection with my audit of the financial statements, my responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or my knowledge obtained in the audit or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If, based on the work I have performed, I conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, I am required to report that fact. I have nothing to report in this regard.

Responsibilities of Management and Those Charged with Governance for the Financial Statements

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of these financial statements in accordance with IPSASs, and for such internal control as management determines is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, management is responsible for assessing the Fishermen Welfare Fund's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless management intends to cease operations, or has no realistic alternative but to do so.

Those charged with governance are responsible for overseeing the Fishermen Welfare Fund's financial reporting process.

Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements

My objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes my opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with ISSAIs, will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

As part of an audit in accordance with ISSAIs, I exercise professional judgement and maintain professional scepticism throughout the audit. I also:

- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for my opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Fishermen Welfare Fund's internal control.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by management.

- Conclude on the appropriateness of management's use of the going concern basis of accounting and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the Fishermen Welfare Fund's ability to continue as a going concern. If I conclude that a material uncertainty exists, I am required to draw attention in my auditor's report to the related disclosures in the financial statements or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify my opinion. My conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of my auditor's report. However, future events or conditions may cause the Fishermen Welfare Fund to cease to continue as a going concern.
- Evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial statements, including the disclosures, and whether the financial statements represent the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.

I communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that I identify during my audit.

I also provide those charged with governance with a statement that I have complied with relevant ethical requirements regarding independence, and to communicate with them all relationships and other matters that may reasonably be thought to bear on my independence, and where applicable, related safeguards.

From the matters communicated with those charged with governance, I determine those matters that were of most significance in the audit of the financial statements of the current period and are therefore the key audit matters. I describe these matters in my auditor's report unless law or regulation precludes public disclosure about the matter or, when, in extremely rare circumstances, I determine that a matter should not be communicated in my report because the adverse consequences of doing so would reasonably be expected to outweigh the public interest benefits of such communication.

Report on Other Legal and Regulatory Requirements

Management's Responsibilities for Compliance

In addition to the responsibility for the preparation and presentation of the financial statements described above, management is also responsible to ensure that the Fishermen Welfare Fund's operations are conducted in accordance with the provisions of laws and regulations, including compliance with the provisions of laws and regulations that determine the reported amounts and disclosures in an entity's financial statements.

Auditor's Responsibilities

In addition to the responsibility to express an opinion on the financial statements described above, I am also responsible to report to the Board whether:

- (a) I have obtained all the information and explanations which to the best of my knowledge and belief were necessary for the purpose of the audit;
- (b) the Statutory Bodies (Accounts and Audit) Act and any directions of the Minister, in so far as they relate to the accounts, have been complied with;
- (c) in my opinion, and, as far as could be ascertained from my examination of the financial statements submitted to me, any expenditure incurred is of an extravagant or wasteful nature, judged by normal commercial practice and prudence;

- (d) in my opinion, the Fishermen Welfare Fund has been applying its resources and carrying out its operations economically, efficiently and effectively; and
- (e) the provisions of Part V of the Public Procurement Act regarding the bidding process have been complied with.

I performed procedures, including the assessment of the risks of material non-compliance, to obtain audit evidence to discharge the above responsibilities.

I believe that the audit evidence I have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for my opinion.

Statutory Bodies (Accounts and Audit) Act

I have obtained all information and explanations which to the best of my knowledge and belief were necessary for the purpose of my audit.

As far as it could be ascertained from my examination of the relevant records:

- (a) the Fishermen Welfare Fund has complied with the Statutory Bodies (Accounts and Audit) Act; and
- (b) no direction relating to the accounts has been issued by the responsible Minister to the Fishermen Welfare Fund.

Based on my examination of the records of Fishermen Welfare Fund, nothing has come to my attention that causes me to believe that:

- (a) expenditure incurred was of an extravagant or wasteful nature, judged by normal commercial practice and prudence; and
- (b) the Fund has not applied its resources and carried out its operations economically, efficiently and effectively.

Public Procurement Act

In my opinion, the provisions of Part V of the Act have been complied with as far as it could be ascertained from my examination of the relevant records.



DR D. PALIGADU
Director of Audit

National Audit Office
Level 14,
Air Mauritius Centre
PORT LOUIS

18 April 2024



FISHERMEN WELFARE FUND ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2023

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION AS AT 30 JUNE 2023

	Notes	Year Ended 30 June 23 Rs.	Year Ended 30 June 22 Rs.
Assets			
Current assets			
Cash and cash equivalents	1	4,009,746	2,742,886
Receivables	2	12,145	38,482
Loan and Advances	3	-	114,286
		<u>4,021,891</u>	<u>2,895,654</u>
Non-current assets			
Property, plant and equipment	4	<u>148,967</u>	<u>258,790</u>
		<u>148,967</u>	<u>258,790</u>
Total assets		<u>4,170,858</u>	<u>3,154,444</u>
Liabilities			
Current liabilities			
Loans and advances	5	-	114,286
Payables	6	49,835	513,261
Employee benefits	7	<u>180,194</u>	<u>146,724</u>
Total current liabilities		<u>230,029</u>	<u>774,271</u>
Non-current liabilities			
Employee benefits	7	2,573,954	2,477,885
Retirement benefits obligation	8	<u>6,698,831</u>	<u>4,897,429</u>
Total non-current liabilities		<u>9,272,785</u>	<u>7,375,314</u>
Total liabilities		<u>9,502,814</u>	<u>8,149,585</u>
Net assets		<u>(5,331,956)</u>	<u>(4,995,141)</u>
Net assets/equity			
General Fund		<u>(5,331,956)</u>	<u>(4,995,141)</u>
Total net assets/equity		<u>(5,331,956)</u>	<u>(4,995,141)</u>

The amended Financial Statements were approved and authorised for issue by the Fishermen Welfare Fund Board at its meeting held on 03 APRIL 2024.

K. Beemadoo

Chairman

Mr. BEEMADOO Kistnensamy

Date: 03 APRIL 2024.

Ramdharee

Member

Mrs. RAMDHAREE Dhanita

Date: 03 APRIL 2024.

The notes 1-15 on pages 36 to 45 form an integral part of the these Financial Statements

**STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2023**

	Notes	Year Ended 30 June 23 Rs.	Year Ended 30 June 22 Rs.
Revenue from non-exchange transactions			
Government grant	9	8,000,000	8,147,804
Revenue from exchange transactions			
Other revenue	10	23,848	18,751
Total revenue		8,023,848	8,166,555
Expenses			
Staff costs	11	3,727,971	4,450,344
Administrative expenses	12	1,137,895	751,141
Event cost	13	107,313	30,300
Financial schemes	14	1,207,225	1,811,300
Depreciation and amortisation	15	231,627	219,472
Total expenses		6,412,031	7,262,557
Surplus for the year		1,611,817	903,998

The notes 1-15 on pages 36 to 45 form an integral part of the these Financial Statements

CASH FLOW STATEMENT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2023

	Notes	Year Ended 30 June 23 Rs.	Year Ended 30 June 22 Rs.
Receipts			
Government Grant		8,000,000	8,147,804
Other receipts		23,848	2,250
		8,023,848	8,150,054
Payments			
Compensation of employees		4,062,809	4,104,655
Social benefits		1,209,475	2,130,800
Supplies and consumables used		355,830	318,533
Other payments		1,007,070	592,236
Contribution for Pension Fund Deficit		-	2,000,000
		6,635,184	9,146,224
Net cash flow from operating activities		1,388,664	(996,170)
Cash flow from investing activities			
Purchase of Property, Plant and Equipment	4	(121,804)	(24,850)
Net cash flow used in investing activities		(121,804)	(24,850)
Net increase/(decrease) in cash and cash equivalents		1,266,860	(1,021,020)
Cash and Cash equivalents at beginning of year		2,742,886	3,763,906
Cash and Cash equivalents at end of year	1	4,009,746	2,742,886

The notes 1-15 on pages 36 to 45 form an integral part of the these Financial Statements

NOTES TO CASH FLOW STATEMENT

a) Cash and Cash Equivalents

Cash and Cash equivalents comprise of cash in hand and cash balances with bank.

Cash and Cash equivalents included in the Cash Flow Statement comprise the following Statement of Financial Position amounts:

	Year ended 30 June 2023	Year ended 30 June 2022
Cash in hand and balances with bank	<u>4,009,746</u>	<u>2,742,886</u>

The Fishermen Welfare Fund has no undrawn borrowing facilities.

b) Property, Plant and Equipment

During the period, the Fishermen Welfare Fund acquired property, plant and equipment with an aggregate cost of Rs. 121,804/-. All the acquisitions were financed by Capital Grants.

c) Reconciliation of Net Cash Flow from Operating Activities to Surplus/(Deficit)

	Year Ended 30 June 23 Rs.	Year Ended 30 June 22 Rs.
Cash flow from operating activities		
Surplus for the Year	1,611,817	903,998
Profit on Trade in of Printer	-	(6,722)
Loss on disposal of Printer	-	1,678
Non-cash movements		
Defined benefit obligation	(1,948,632)	(1,005,672)
Depreciation	231,627	216,072
Amortisation	-	3,400
Increase/Decrease Employees Benefit	129,539	(177,002)
Increase/Decrease in Payables	(577,712)	40,598
Increase/Decrease in Receivables	140,623	(8,514)
Increase/Decrease Employees Retirement Benefit Obligation	1,801,402	(964,006)
Net cash flow from operating activities	<u><u>1,388,664</u></u>	<u><u>(996,170)</u></u>

The notes 1-15 on pages 36 to 45 form an integral part of the these Financial Statements

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN NET ASSETS/EQUITY

	Year Ended 30 June 22 Rs.
Balance at 1 July 2021 brought forward	(4,893,467)
Surplus for the year	903,998
Defined benefit obligation	(1,005,672)
Balance at 30 June 2022 carried forward	<u>(4,995,141)</u>

	Year Ended 30 June 23 Rs.
Balance at 1 July 2022 brought forward	(4,995,141)
Surplus for the year	1,611,817
Defined benefit obligation	(1,948,632)
Balance at 30 June 2023	<u>(5,331,956)</u>

Disclosure regarding net assets/Equity

For two consecutive years, the total liabilities exceed the total assets. The net assets/equity stood at a negative balance of Rs. 4,955,141/- and Rs. 5,331,956/ for financial year 2021-22 and 2022-23 respectively.

This mainly occurred following the recognition and provision made for Retirement Benefits Obligations, and Employees Benefit accruing over years which was not earlier recognised in the Financial Statements

STATEMENT OF COMPARISON OF BUDGET AND ACTUAL AMOUNT

RECURRENT BUDGET	Original Estimates 2022/2023	Revised Estimates 2022/2023	Actual Amount 2022/2023 Cash Basis	Difference Revised Estimates and Actual	Reason for Variances
Revenue					
Government Grant	10,500,000	8,000,000	8,000,000	-	1
Other Revenue	-	455,981	23,848	432,133	2
Total Revenue	10,500,000	8,455,981	8,023,848	432,133	
Expenditure					
Staff Costs	4,527,159	4,365,212	4,062,809	302,403	3
Goods and Services	2,610,897	1,020,519	1,125,111	(104,592)	4
Social benefits (Grants to fishers)	3,235,250	2,945,250	1,209,475	1,735,775	5
Total Expenditure	10,373,306	8,330,981	6,397,395	-	
Recurrent Surplus Balance	126,694	125,000	1,626,453		
Capital Expenditure					
Capital Balance	175,000	125,000	121,804	3,196	

1) **Other Revenue – Surplus of Rs. 432,133/-**

A total amount of Rs.455,981/- was kept as contingency to meet unforeseen expenditure of which Rs.23,848/- was adjusted for stale and cancelled cheque.

2) **Staff Cost - Rs. 302,403/-**

This represents provision made for Vacation Leave, Bank Sick leave and Passage Benefits.

3) **Goods and Services - Rs. 104,592/-**

This represents increase in Board member fee increase in air tickets, Chairman fees and allowances.

4) **Social Benefits (Grant to fishers) - Rs. 1,735,775/-**

There is a difference in the amount for the following reasons:-

- Reduction in applications received for Financial Assistance as not many cases of natural calamities were registered during the financial year.
- The applications for Scholarship received were less than the numbers of Scholarship available despite additional new fishers were registered during the year.

SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

A. Principal Activities

Reporting Entity

The Fishermen Welfare Fund as per its Act No. 28 of 2000, is a Corporate body under the aegis of the Ministry of Blue Economy, Marine Resources, Fisheries and Shipping. It is engaged in managing social Schemes set up by the Government for the welfare of registered fishers' community of both Mauritius and Rodrigues. It is a non-profit making organisation.

The address of its registered office and place of business is at the Ground Floor, Wing A, LIC Centre, President John Kennedy Street, Port Louis

B. Adoption of New and Revised International Standards

i) Standards adopted in the Current Period

The Fishermen Welfare Fund has adopted the International Public Sector Accounting Standards (IPSASs) issued by the International Public Sector Accounting Standard Board (IPSASB) as from the year ended 30 June 2021 in line with amendments made in the Statutory Bodies (Accounts and Audit Act).



Reconciliation of budgeted figures with financial statements

	Notes	As per Statement of Financial Performance Accrual Basis Rs.	Comparison of Budget & Actual Amount Cash Basis Rs.	Difference Accrual over Cash Rs.
Staff costs	1	3,727,971	4,062,809	(334,838)
Goods and Services	2			
Administrative Expenses		1,369,522	1,125,111	244,411
Event Costs		107,313	107,313	-
Financial Schemes	3	1,207,225	1,209,475	(2,250)
		6,412,031	6,504,708	(92,677)

Notes:
Note 1 - Staff Costs

	As per Financial Statement Accrual Basis Rs.	Actual Amount Cash Basis Rs.	Difference Rs.
Salaries, wages and travelling	3,153,902	3,664,449	(510,547)
Pension Contribution	398,360	398,360	-
Provision For Bank Sick Leave at Retirement	41,839	-	41,839
Provision for Passage Benefits	115,332	-	115,332
Provision for Vacation Leaves	18,538	-	18,538
	3,727,971	4,062,809	(334,838)

The difference of Rs.510,547 in salaries, wages and travelling has been a result of revision in salaries and changes in travelling and also an amount of Rs.380,090, which represents retirement benefits, payable in the previous financial year, were paid to a retired employee in this actual financial year. The remaining amounts are provisions made for employee benefits payable in the future.

Note 2 - Components of Goods and Services

	As per Financial Statement Accrual Basis Rs.	Actual Amount Cash Basis Rs.	Difference Rs.
Board and Committee Fees	294,912	290,702	4,210
Chairman fee and Allowance	401,563	398,263	3,300
Utility Charges	51,814	55,404	(3,590)
Professional fees	65,000	65,000	-
Bank Charges	3,716	3,716	-
Motor Vehicle Running Expenses	103,824	98,310	5,514
Printing Publicity and Press Advertisement	57,629	57,629	-
Stationery and Office Requisites	123,096	123,096	-
Paper and Periodicals	7,200	3,850	3,350
Refreshment for Office	9,936	9,936	-
Repairs, Renewal and Maintenance of Office Equipment	7,605	7,605	-
Allowances paid to relocation of Office	9,600	9,600	-
Transport for Rodrigues Board Member	2,000	2,000	-
Provision for Depreciation	231,627	-	231,627
	1,369,522	1,125,111	244,411

	As per Financial Statement Accrual Basis Rs.	Actual Amount Cash Basis Rs.	Difference Rs.
Scholarship Stipends	972,000	974,250	(2,250)
Winter Allowance	-	1,000	(1,000)
Financial Assistance for damaged boat	50,000	50,000	-
Interim assistance for family in distress	10,000	10,000	-
Sickness Allowance	59,225	59,225	-
Special assistance - Hardship Cases	-	10,000	(10,000)
Funeral Grant	90,000	95,000	(5,000)
Maternity allowance	10,000	10,000	-
Contribution from fishing operator	16,000	-	16,000
	1,207,225	1,209,475	(2,250)

The differences in the above items represent accrual of previous year settled during the current year.

ii) *Standard issued but not yet effective*

At the date of authorisation of the Financial Statements, the following standards were in issue but not yet effective.

IPSAS 41 Financial instrument

IPSAS 42 Social Benefits

IPSAS 43 Leases

IPSAS 44 Non-Current Assets Held For Sale And Discontinued Operations

IPSAS 45 Properties, Plant, and Equipment

IPSAS 46 Measurement

IPSAS 47 Revenue

IPSAS 48 Transfer Expenses

The above standards apply to Financial Statements beginning on or after 01 January 2023.

Adoption of the standards which are relevant to Fishermen Welfare Fund operations will require additional disclosures and affects presentation.

C. Accounting Policies

The principal accounting policies adopted by the Fishermen Welfare Fund are as follows:-

i) Reporting Period

The reporting period for these financial statements is the year ended 30 June 2023.

ii) Authorisation date

These amended financial statements were authorized for issue on Friday, 06 October 2023 by the Fishermen Welfare Fund Board.

iii) Basis for preparation

The financial statements have been prepared on a historical cost basis.

Comparative figures have been amended to conform to changes in presentations or in accounting policies in the current year, where necessary. The Statement of Cash Flow has been prepared on the direct method.

The financial statements are presented in Mauritian rupees (MUR) and all values rounded to the nearest rupee.

iv) Statement of Compliance

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with and comply with the International Public Sector Accounting Standards (IPSAS).

v) Basis of Budget Preparation

The annual budget figures are included in the Cash Flow for the Fishermen Welfare Fund.

The budget and the accounting bases differ. The Fishermen Welfare Fund is an extra budgetary unit of the Ministry of Blue Economy, Marine Resources, Fisheries and Shipping.

The statement of comparison of budget and actual amounts are prepared on cash basis.

The approved budget covers the financial period 01 July 2022 to 30 June 2023.

The total amount of the revised budget was approved by the National Assembly.

vi) Cash and Cash equivalent

Cash and Cash equivalents comprise of cash in hand and cash balances with banks which are readily convertible to known amounts of cash and are subject to insignificant risk of changes in value.

vii) Property, Plant and Equipment**a) Measurement on initial recognition**

Property, Plant and Equipment are stated at cost, and net of accumulated depreciation. Cost includes expenditure that is directly attributed to the acquisition of the items.

When significant part of Property, Plant and Equipment are required to be replaced at intervals, the Fishermen Welfare Fund recognizes such parts as individual assets with specific useful lives and depreciates them accordingly.

b) Depreciation

Depreciation is charged so as to write off the cost of assets over their estimated useful lives using the straight line method as follows:-

Equipment	-	20%
Furniture and Fixtures	-	10%
Computer and Software	-	20%
Motor Vehicles	-	20%

c) Derecognition

Property, Plant and Equipment and/or any significant part of an asset are derecognized upon disposal or when no future economic benefits or service potential is expected from its continuous use. Any gain or loss arising on de-recognition of the asset is included in the surplus or deficit when the asset is derecognized.

viii) Intangible Assets

Intangible assets are initially recorded at cost. Following initial recognition, intangible assets are carried at cost less accumulated amortisation.

The useful life of the intangible asset is assessed as finite. The intangible asset of the Fishermen Welfare Fund is computer software which is amortised using straight-line method over their useful lives. Typically the estimated useful life of the intangible asset is 5 years.

ix) Receivables

This includes Trade and other receivables which are recognized as assets when payment for goods or services has been made in advance of obtaining a right to access those goods or services.

x) Loan and Advances

Asset classified as loans and advances are measured at cost. It relates to car Loan given to employee of the Fund.

xi) Employee Benefits**a) Short-term Employee Benefits**

Short-term employee benefits are benefits which are expected to be settled wholly before twelve months after the reporting period in which the employee renders the related service.

The short-term employee benefits of the Fishermen Welfare Fund consist of salaries, salary compensation, overtime, travelling and transport, end of year bonus, pension contributions and passage benefits.

Passage benefits represent the estimated liability of the Fishermen Welfare Fund in respect of passage benefits accrued to employees on permanent and pensionable establishment drawing a minimum salary of Rs. 25,525/- or reckoning at least five years service. Passage benefits are earned at the rate of 5% of the gross salary annually.

Short-term employee benefits are expensed in the period the employee renders the service and a liability is recognized in respect of amount not paid at the end of the financial year.

b) Short-term Paid Leaves

Non-accumulating paid leave portion of sick leave is expensed in the period the leave is taken and is measured at the rates paid or payable.

Accumulated paid bank of sick leave and vacation leave are expensed in the period the employee renders the service and a liability is recognised in respect of amount not paid at the end of the financial year.

xii) Post-Employment Benefits**(a) Defined Benefit and Contribution Plan**

Provision for retirement benefits for the Fishermen Welfare Fund employees are made under the Statutory Bodies Pensions Funds Act 1978 as amended and in accordance with IPSAS 39 (Employee Benefits). The Fund provides retirement benefits for its employees through a defined plan called "Fishermen Welfare Fund Staff Pension Fund".

The Fishermen Welfare Fund Staff Pension Fund is a defined contributions and benefit plan. Its assets are managed by SICOM Ltd. The rate of contribution is 18%. The cost of providing the benefit is determined in accordance with actuarial review undertaken every five years.

The net liability at date of Statement of Financial Position is determined as at the present value of funded obligations after adjusting for the fair value of planned assets, any unrecognized actuarial gains/losses and any unrecognized past service cost.

The current service cost and any recognized past service cost are included as an expense together with the associated interest cost, net of expected return on plan assets. The total contribution made in plans for the present financial year was **Rs. 433,539/-**.

(b) National Saving Fund

Contributions to Mauritius Revenue Authority (MRA) for National Saving Fund (NSF) are expensed to the statement of financial performance in the period in which they fall due.

xiii) Payables

This includes Trade and Other Payables which are stated at their nominal amount.

xiv) Contribution (Winter Allowance)

Contributions are recognized in the period to which they relate to.

xv) Government Grant

Grant received to meet Recurrent and Capital expenditure is treated as Revenue in the Statement of Financial Performance in the year of receipt.



D. Key Assumptions and Judgements

The preparation of Fishermen Welfare Fund financial statements in accordance with IPSAS requires Management to make judgements, estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of revenues, expenses, assets and liabilities, at the end of the reporting period. However, uncertainty about these assumptions and estimates could result in outcomes that require a material adjustment to the carrying amount of the asset or liability affected in future periods.

i) Judgements

In the process of applying the accounting policies, Management has made judgments, which have the most significant effect on the amount recognised in these Financial Statements.

Provisions were raised and Management determined an estimate based on the information available.

ii) Estimates and Assumptions

The key assumptions concerning in future and other key services of estimation of uncertainty at the reporting date, that have a significant risk of causing a material adjustment to the carrying amounts of assets and liabilities, within the next financial year, are based on parameters available when the Financial Statements were prepared.

E. Financial Risk Management

The Fishermen Welfare Fund is exposed to a variety of financial risk:

i) Interest Rate Risk

The Fishermen Welfare Fund interest rate risk arises from Loan and Advance Receivable and Payable.

This risk is the fair value or future Cash Flow of a financial instrument which fluctuates because of changes in market interest rate.

ii) Liquidity Risk

Liquidity Risk is the risk of not being able to meet its obligations as they fall due. The Fishermen Welfare Fund approach to managing liquidity risk is to ensure that sufficient liquidity is available to meet its liabilities when due, without incurring unacceptable losses or risking damage to the Fishermen Welfare Fund reputation.

The Fishermen Welfare Fund ensures that it has sufficient cash on demand to meet expected operating expenses through the use of Cash Flow forecast.

iii) Credit Risk

Credit Risk is the risk of financial loss to the Fishermen Welfare Fund if an employee fails to meet his contractual obligations and it arises principally from Fishermen Welfare Fund Car Loan.

Credit Risk is managed on accounts receivable balances. Management does not expect any losses from non-performance.

The specific control and mitigating measures taken is to create a lien on the car purchased with Car Loan.

iv) Fair value measurement

The carrying amounts of financial assets and liabilities are included at their fair value due to the short-term nature of the balances involved.

F. Events After Reporting date

There have been no other material events after Statement of Financial Position date which would require disclosures or adjustments to the 30 June 2023 Financial Statements.

G. Related Party Transactions

Related Parties are individual and Companies where the related party or the authority has the ability directly or individually to control the other party or exercise significant influence over the other party in making financial and operating decision.

All transactions undertaken with related parties are at commercial terms and condition.

For the period of 12 months payment effected to key management personnel have been as follows:-

i) Chairman :-

Fees paid **Rs 303,078/-**

The Chairman is appointed by the Minister as per Fishermen Welfare Fund Act.

ii) Secretary:-

Emolument paid **Rs. 1,024,564/-**

The Secretary is the Officer in Charge and is an employee of the Fishermen Welfare Fund.

H. Going Concern

On basis of negative Accumulated fund amount of Rs. 5,331,956/- the going concern of the Fishermen Welfare Fund is dependent on the support of the Parent Ministry.

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

1. Cash and cash equivalents

	Year ended 30 June 23	Year ended 30 June 22
	<i>Rs</i>	<i>Rs</i>
Petty Cash	1,523	434
Cash at Bank	4,008,223	2,742,452
	<u>4,009,746</u>	<u>2,742,886</u>

2. Receivables

	Year ended 30 June 23	Year ended 30 June 22
	<i>Rs</i>	<i>Rs</i>
Contribution from Bank Operators for the Winter Allowance	-	16,000
Insurance Motor Vehicle prepaid	12,145	12,300
Passage Benefits in excess	-	10,182
	<u>12,145</u>	<u>38,482</u>

3. Loan and Advances

	Year ended 30 June 23	Year ended 30 June 22
	<i>Rs</i>	<i>Rs</i>
Current Asset	-	114,286
Non-Current Asset	-	-
	<u>-</u>	<u>114,286</u>

4. Property, plant and equipment (P.P.E)

	Equipment	Furniture and Fittings	Computer and Printers	Motor Vehicle	Total
Cost	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
At 01 July 2022	225,433	125,180	325,441	925,865	1,601,919
Additions	18,480	-	103,324	-	121,804
At 30 June 2023	243,913	125,180	428,765	925,865	1,723,723
Depreciation					
At 01 July 2022	209,810	105,293	287,334	740,692	1,343,129
Charge for the year	8,454	5,020	32,980	185,173	231,627
At 30 June 2023	218,264	110,313	320,314	925,865	1,574,756
Net Book Value 30 June 2023	25,649	14,867	108,451	-	148,967
Net Book Value 30 June 2022	15,623	19,887	38,107	185,173	258,790

5. Loans & advances

	Year ended 30 June 23	Year ended 30 June 22
	Rs	Rs
Current Liabilities	-	114,286
Non-Current Liabilities	-	-
Total	-	114,286

6. Payables

	Year ended 30 June 23	Year ended 30 June 22
	Rs.	Rs.
<u>Board, Committee Fee & Other Allowance</u>	4,210	-
<u>Staff Costs</u>		
Salaries, Wages and Travelling	-	60,764
CSG & NPS	20,453	-
<u>Administrative Expenses</u>		
Utility Charges	3,663	7,253
Motor Vehicle Running Expenses	5,359	-
Chairman's Fee	3,300	-
<u>Papers & Periodicals</u>	3,350	-
<u>Financial Schemes</u>		
Winter Allowance	-	1,000
Harship	-	10,000
Damaged Boats	-	5,000
Funeral Grants	5,000	5,000
Scholarship Stipend	2,250	4,500
<u>Stale Cheque</u>	2,250	2,250
<u>Payable at Retirement</u>		
Sick Leave Bank and Cashable	-	179,436
Vacation Leave	-	194,600
Passage Benefits	-	43,458
	49,835	513,261

7. Employee benefits

	Year ended 30 June 23	Year ended 30 June 22
	Rs.	Rs.
Non Current Liabilities		
Provision for Sick Leave more than one year at Retirement	1,206,252	1,164,413
Provision for Passage Benefit	107,682	71,990
Provision for Vacation Leave	1,260,020	1,241,482
Total Non Current Liabilities	2,573,954	2,477,885
Current Liabilities		
Provision for Cashable Sick Leave	132,194	120,182
Provision for Passage Benefit	48,000	26,542
Total Current Liabilities	180,194	146,724
Total Employees Benefits	2,754,148	2,624,609

Employee leave entitlement

Employee entitlements to bank sick leaves and vacation leaves as defined in the PRB 2021 Report (the regulatory body for determining remuneration of FWF employees) are recognised when they accrue to employees

8. Retirement benefits obligation

The pension plan is a final salary defined benefit plan for the staff and is wholly funded. The assets in the funded plan are held independently and are administrated by the SICOM Ltd.

The following employees benefits information is based on the report submitted by the SICOM Ltd .

**FIGURES FOR IPSAS 39 ADOPTION FOR:
Fishermen Welfare Fund for the Year ended 30 June 2023**

	Year ended 30 June 23 Rs.	Year ended 30 June 22 Rs.
Amounts recognised in statement of financial position at end of year		
Defined benefit obligation	15,746,677	13,261,019
Fair value of plan assets	(9,047,845)	(8,363,590)
Liability recognised in statement of financial position at end of year	6,698,832	4,897,429
Amounts recognised in statement of financial performance:		
Service cost:		
Current service cost	288,240	274,880
(Employee contributions)	(144,513)	(165,696)
Fund Expenses	8,671	10,660
Net Interest expense/(revenue)	245,962	241,889
P&L Charge	398,360	361,733
Remeasurement		
Liability (gain)/loss	1,966,262	608,187
Assets (gain)/loss	(17,630)	397,485
Net Assets/Equity (NAE)	1,948,632	1,005,672
Total	2,346,992	1,367,405
Movements in liability recognised in statement of financial position:		
At start of year	4,897,429	5,861,435
Amount recognised in P&L	398,360	361,733
(Past Service liability contribution)	-	(2,000,000)
(Asset transferred in)	(256,563)	-
(Contribution paid by employer)	(289,026)	(331,411)
Amount recognised in NAE	1,948,632	1,005,672
At end of year	6,698,832	4,897,429

The plan is a defined benefit arrangement for the employees and it is a funded plan.

The assets of the funded plan are held independently and administered by The State Insurance Company of Mauritius Ltd.



FISHERMEN WELFARE FUND ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2023

	Year ended 30 June 23 Rs.	Year ended 30 June 22 Rs.
Reconciliation of the present value of defined benefit obligation		
Present Value of obligation at start of period	13,261,019	12,206,745
Current service cost	288,240	274,880
Interest cost	684,308	610,337
(Benefit paid)	(453,152)	(439,130)
Liability (gain)/loss	1,966,262	608,187
Present value of obligation at end of period	15,746,677	13,261,019
Reconciliation of fair value of plan assets		
Fair value of plan assets at start of period	8,363,590	6,345,310
Expected return on plan assets	438,346	368,448
Employer contributions	289,026	331,411
Employee contributions	144,513	165,696
Actuarial reserves in	256,563	-
Past Service liability contribution	-	2,000,000
(Benefit paid and other outgo)	(461,823)	(449,790)
Asset gain/(loss)	17,630	(397,485)
Estimated Fair value of plan assets at end of period	9,047,845	8,363,590
Distribution of plan assets at end of period		
Percentage of assets at end of year	June 2023	June 2022
Government securities and cash	53.9%	58.0%
Loans	2.8%	2.9%
Local equities	14.0%	13.6%
Overseas bonds and equities	28.8%	25.0%
Property	0.5%	0.5%
Total	100%	100%
Additional disclosure on assets issued or used by the reporting entity	June 2023	June 2022
Percentage of assets at end of year	(%)	(%)
Assets held in the entity's own financial instruments	0	0
Property occupied by the entity	0	0
Other assets by the entity	0	0
Components of the amount recognised in NAE		
Year	2023	2022
Currency		Rs.
Asset experience gain/(loss) during the period	17,630	(397,485)
Liability experience gain/(loss) during the period	(1,966,262)	(608,187)
	(1,948,632)	(1,005,672)
Year	2023/2024	
Expected employer contributions	307,355	
(Estimate to be reviewed by Fishermen Welfare Fund)		
Weighted average duration of the defined benefit obligation	14 years	

FIGURES FOR IPSAS 39 ADOPTION FOR: **Fishermen Welfare Fund for the Year ended 30 June 2023**

The plan is exposed to actuarial risks such as: investment risk, interest rate risk, longevity risk and salary risk. The risk relating to death in service benefits is re-insured.

The cost of providing the benefits is determined using the Projected Unit Method. The principal assumptions used for the purpose of the actuarial valuation were as follows:

	Year ended 30 June 2023	Year ended 30 June 2022
Discount rate	5.96 %	5.25 %
Future salary increases	4.50 %	3.50 %
Future pension increases	3.50 %	2.50 %
Mortality before retirement	Nil	
Mortality in retirement	PA (90) Tables – rated down by 2 years	
Retirement age	65 Years	

The discount rate is determined by reference to market yields on bonds.

Significant actuarial assumptions for determination of the defined benefit obligation are discount rate, expected salary increase and mortality. The sensitivity analyses below have been determined based reasonably on possible changes of the assumptions occurring at the end of the reporting period.

- If the discount rate would be 100 basis points (one percent) higher (lower), the defined benefit obligation would decrease by Rs 2.0 million (increase by Rs 2.5 million) if all other assumptions were held unchanged.
- If the expected salary growth would increase (decrease) by 1%, the defined benefit obligation would increase by Rs 1.1 million (decrease by Rs 1.0 million) if all assumptions were held unchanged.
- If life expectancy would increase (decrease) by one year, the defined benefit obligation would increase by Rs 429,000/- (decrease by Rs 427,000) if all assumptions were held unchanged.

In reality one might expect interrelationships between the assumptions, especially between discount rate and expected salary increases, given that both depends to a certain extent on expected inflation rates. The analysis above abstracts from these interdependence between the assumptions



FISHERMEN WELFARE FUND ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2023

9. Government grant

	Year ended 30 June 23	Year ended 30 June 22
	Rs.	Rs.
Revenue grant	7,878,196	8,122,954
Capital grant	121,804	24,850
	8,000,000	8,147,804

10. Other revenue

	Year ended 30 June 23	Year ended 30 June 22
	Rs.	Rs.
Revenue from exchange transaction		
Stale cheques re-banked	8,125	12,029
Cancel cheque	15,723	-
Profit on Trade in of Printer	-	6,722
	23,848	18,751

11. Staff costs

	Year ended 30 June 23	Year ended 30 June 22
	Rs.	Rs.
Salaries, Wages and Travelling	3,153,902	3,716,862
Pension Contribution	398,360	361,733
Provision for Bank Sick Leave at Retirement	41,839	188,496
Provision for Passage Benefits	115,332	127,520
Provision for Vacation Leave	18,538	55,733
	3,727,971	4,450,344

12. Administrative expenses

	Year ended 30 June 23 Rs.	Year ended 30 June 22 Rs.
Board & Committee fees and other allowances	294,912	74,141
Chairman fees and allowances	401,563	318,385
Utility Charges	51,814	47,131
Professional fees	65,000	72,900
Bank Charges	3,716	10,187
Motor Vehicle Running Expenses	103,824	58,553
Printing, Publicity & Press Advertisements	57,629	34,411
Stationery & Office Requisites	123,096	110,671
Papers and periodicals	7,200	3,370
Refreshment for Office	9,936	18,679
Repairs, Renewal and Maintainance of Office Equipment	7,605	1,035
Loss on Disposal of Printer	-	1,678
Allowances paid for relocation of office	9,600	-
Transport for Rodrigues members	2,000	-
	1,137,895	751,141

13. Event cost

Event Costs relate to expenses incurred in organising the following events:

- .. World Fisheries Day
- .. Scholarship Award Ceremonies

Breakdown of event expenses is as follows:-

	Year ended 30 June 23 Rs.	Year ended 30 June 22 Rs.
Catering & Refreshment	27,740	25,900
Flowers & wreaths	5,800	1,400
Allowance	750	3,000
Fees paid to Guest speakers	5,500	-
Transport	4,500	-
Rent of Tents, Chairs, Tables and Podium	60,000	-
Overtime	1,123	-
Purchase of Electrical filling	450	-
Electricity	700	-
Cleaning of Momument	750	-
	107,313	30,300

14. Financial schemes

	Year ended 30 June 23 Rs.	Year ended 30 June 22 Rs.
Scholarship & Stipends	972,000	1,425,000
Winter Allowance paid to bank fishermen	-	68,000
Financial Assistance for Damaged Boats	50,000	90,000
Interim Financial Assistance to the fishermen's Families in Distress	10,000	-
Sickness allowance paid to fishers	59,225	13,300
Special Assistance Hardship Cases	-	30,000
Funeral Grant	90,000	185,000
Maternity Allowance	10,000	-
Contribution from Fishing Operator write-off	16,000	-
	1,207,225	1,811,300

**15. Depreciation and amortisation expense**

	Year ended 30 June 23	Year ended 30 June 22
	Rs.	Rs.
<u>Depreciation charged for the year :</u>		
Equipment	8,454	4,758
Furniture and Fittings	5,020	5,020
Computer and Printers	32,980	21,121
Motor Vehicle	185,173	185,173
<u>Amortisation charge for the year :</u>		
Intangible Asset: Computer Software Written off	-	3,400
	<u>231,627</u>	<u>219,472</u>