

Financial Services Commission Mauritius

FSC will host the 2014 IOSCO GEM Committee Annual Meeting and Conference

The Financial Services Commission (FSC) will host the 2014 International Organization of Securities Commissions (IOSCO) Growth and Emerging Markets (GEM) Committee and Annual Meeting from 23 to 25 April. This international event will regroup a high level delegation of 88 participants from 39 jurisdictions of Latin America, North America, Europe, Asia and Africa, including Mauritius. The IOSCO Secretary General - Mr. David Wright, the Vice Chair of the IOSCO Board who is also the Chairperson of the GEM Committee – Mr. Ranjit Singh, as well as, the Vice Chairperson of the GEM Committee - Mr. Cuthbert Chanetsa will attend the event.

This Meeting, according to Ms. Clairette Ah-Hen, the Chief Executive of the FSC, "will be an opportunity for the GEM Committee to successfully make advancements towards achieving the goals set by IOSCO, and at the same time, reinforce the existing cooperation and friendship between its members". The hosting of this event is an opportunity for the FSC to increase the visibility of Mauritius on the international front, and FSC participants will benefit from high caliber technical expertise on capital markets.

On 23rd April, IOSCO members will discuss on 'Demutualisation and its Impact on Exchange Regulation and Supervision'. They will review the issues and considerations for demutualisation, including maintaining the balance between an exchange's commercial and regulatory objectives. Key speakers will include representatives of the *Comissão de Valores Mobiliários* of Brazil, L'*Autorité des Marchés Financiers* of France, the Bombay Stock Exchange of India and the Financial Services Agency of Japan.

The second topic on the agenda will be on 'Improving Financial Access and Capacity through Investor/Consumer Education'. Given the increasing move towards market based financing, financial literacy and investor education play a crucial role to enable consumers and investors make better informed decisions. Discussion will pertain to the various approaches to improve financial awareness, particularly within emerging markets, with a view to achieving more confident and informed investor participation. Key speakers from the Securities and Exchange Board of India, the International Forum for Investor Education, the Consultative Group to Assist the Poor, as well as, the Chief Executive of the Financial Services Commission, Ms. Clairette Ah-Hen will address the subject. Members of the IOSCO GEM Committee will meet on 24th April.

A Public Conference under the theme of 'Long-Term Financing through Capital Markets' will be held on 25th April. The Conference will comprise two panel discussions:

- The first one on access to long-term financing and investments through capital markets. This session will focus on strategies, key issues and challenges faced by issuers and investors in relation to long-term financing. The panel discussion will be moderated by Mr. Cuthbert Chanetsa, the Vice Chairperson of the IOSCO GEM Committee.
- The second panel discussion will focus on the role of intermediaries in facilitating long-term financing through capital markets. Recent global trends, developments and cross-border issues that impact long-term financing in both growth and emerging, as well as developed markets will be addressed. This session will be moderated by Mr. Bryan Stirewalt Managing Director, Supervision of Dubai Financial Services Authority.

IOSCO is the global standard setting body for securities regulation, and regroups more than 95 per cent of the world's securities market regulators in more than 115 jurisdictions. The Growth and Emerging Markets Committee is the largest Committee within IOSCO, representing 75 per cent of the IOSCO membership. The Committee endeavours to promote the development and greater efficiency of emerging securities and futures markets as well as provides training programmes and technical assistance to its members.

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