



Foreign Affairs Department
Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Tourism
Republic of Seychelles

Leko Diplomatik

PROMOTING A PROACTIVE FOREIGN POLICY

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Launching of Seychelles' National Diaspora Policy 2024-2029

On Monday 30th July, the Consular and Diaspora Affairs Division at the Foreign Affairs Department launched the Seychelles National Diaspora Policy 2024-2029 in a ceremony held at the Savoy Seychelles Resort and Spa.

The ceremony began with a video message by Ambassador Oskar Benedikt, Head of the European Union Delegation accredited to Mauritius and Seychelles. This was followed by remarks by Mr Justin McDermott, the Representative of the Office of the Regional Director for Eastern, Horn and Southern Africa of the International Organisation for Migration.



Minister Sylvestre Radegonde addresses the invitees during the launching of the Seychelles National Diaspora Policy 2024-2029

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The Minister for Foreign Affairs and Tourism, Mr Sylvestre Radegonde was next to deliver his speech on the occasion. In his speech, Minister Radegonde noted the importance of staying connected to our diaspora: "Our fellow Seychellois abroad play a crucial role in our national development. Scattered across the globe for various reasons—economic, political, educational, matrimonial

or the pursuit of "greener pastures" - they bring with them diverse forms of capital: cultural, economic, human, and social. They are not just contributors but integral parts of our national fabric. Their experiences, skills, and knowledge enrich Seychelles beyond mere economic terms. They are ambassadors of our culture, values, and Creole identity. This policy aims to strengthen these bonds, ensuring that the



diaspora remains connected and valued, regardless of where they are in the world.'

When speaking on how the policy would be implemented, Minister Radegonde noted that *'implementation will involve collaboration among various government departments and agencies, the private sector, civil society and international partners. The governance and operational frameworks outlined in this policy will ensure effective monitoring and evaluation. I am pleased to announce the forthcoming establishment of a multisectoral Governance Council, led by the office of the President with the Foreign Affairs Department as vice-chair, to oversee diaspora engagement and policy implementation.'*

Minister Radegonde also called on the support of our diaspora abroad and international organisations to help make this initiative a success: *'I call upon every Seychellois to actively participate in implementing this policy. Your involvement is crucial for its success. We value your insights and expertise for the continued development and progress of Seychelles. I also appeal to our international partners to assist us in our journey of diaspora engagement. With this policy, Seychelles is ready to contribute to the Global Diaspora Policy Alliance, reinforcing our commitment to global collaboration. These affiliations will enable us to learn from global best practices and share our experiences with the international community.'*

He ended his speech by thanking all the stakeholders involved in the conception of the policy, namely: The International Organisation for Migration, the European Union, local stakeholders as well as the Presidency for



ensuring that meetings with the diaspora are organised during overseas missions.

The Minister's speech was succeeded by a presentation of copies of the policy to President Ramkalawan, the IOM representative and French Ambassador Olivia Berkeley-Christmann who received a copy on behalf of Ambassador Benedikt. This was followed by a brief presentation on the contents of the policy by Second Secretary, Consular Affairs and Diaspora, Mr Travis Payet. Mr Payet then proceeded to screen a montage of videos of Seychellois living abroad explaining how they express and pay homage to their culture and love for their country in the country they now call home, an initiative greatly appreciated by the guests present.

The ceremony ended with a moving performance by local artist, Mr Ralph Amesbury, who sang 'Mon zil' and 'Anmenn mon dan lakour'.



Did you know?



Diaspora Unit Facebook page



Diaspora Unit FAD Website

The Foreign Affairs Department has a unit dedicated solely to Diaspora Affairs. The unit, which was created in 2021, became part of the Consular Affairs Division.

Diaspora Affairs has its own Facebook page which keeps the diaspora aware of new policies, posts local vacancies open to Seychellois living abroad as well as its own page on the FAD website where it encourages diaspora to register their details with the Foreign Affairs Department which will allow for a better understanding of what the diaspora has and are willing to offer and what they expect from the government, allowing for a sustainable engagement.

The Diplomatic Circle

Representatives of Foreign States Accredited to Seychelles



Ambassador-designate of the Kingdom of Spain, H.E Mr Guillermo Antonio Lopez Mac Lellan paid a courtesy call on Minister Sylvestre Radegonde ahead of the presentation of his Credentials.



High Commissioner-designate of the Republic of Mozambique to the Republic of Seychelles, H.E. Ms Maria Manuela dos Santos Lucas called on Minister Sylvestre Radegonde ahead of the presentation of her Credentials.



Chief of Mission of the International Organisation for Migration (IOM) for Mauritius and Seychelles, Ms. Alia Hirji presented her credentials to Minister Sylvestre Radegonde.



Ambassador-designate of the People's Republic of Algeria, H.E Mr Filali Ghouini, met with Principal Secretary Vivianne Fock Tave ahead of the presentation of his Credentials.

Farewell calls



High Commissioner of Canada to the Republic of Seychelles, H.E Kyle Nunas paid a farewell call on Minister Sylvestre Radegonde.



Ambassador of the Swiss Confederation to the Republic of Seychelles, H.E Mr. Rolf Stalder paid a farewell visit to Principal Secretary Vivianne Fock Tave.

Courtesy calls by Representatives of Foreign States



Rear Admirals from the visiting Chinese Floating Naval Hospital 'Ark of Peace' call on Minister Sylvestre Radegonde.



Strategic Advisor to the BADEA President, Mrs Fatima Elsheikh and the BADEA's Expert based in Seychelles, Mr Ebe Babah paid a courtesy call on Minister Sylvestre Radegonde.



Resident Ambassador of the Republic of France to the Republic of Seychelles, H.E Mrs Olivia Berkeley-Christmann signed an Agreement on mutual legal assistance in criminal matters with Minister Sylvestre Radegonde.



United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) Resident Representative to Seychelles Ms. Amanda Serumaga paid a visit to Principal Secretary Vivianne Fock Tave.



Minister Sylvestre Radegonde received the Regional Director of the French Development Agency, Ms. Laetitia Habchi for a courtesy call.



Ambassador of the Republic of Korea to the Seychelles, H.E Mr Jung Kang, met with Principal Secretary Vivianne Fock Tave.

Accreditation of Seychelles Ambassadors



The Foreign Commonwealth and Development Office Minister for Africa, H.E Lord Collins of Highbury was welcomed by Minister Sylvestre Radegonde at Maison Queau de Quinssy for a working visit.



Ambassador Ramcombo presented his Credentials to the Director General of the World Trade Organization, H. E Dr. Ngozi Okonjo Iweala, in Geneva, Switzerland.

Events hosted by FAD

The Ambassadors' Retreat

The biennial retreat for Seychellois Ambassadors was officially launched on Monday 7 October 2024 with a meeting with President Wavel Ramkalawan to discuss cooperation issues under their respective jurisdictions, as well as the strategic objectives of the country's foreign policy, amongst others.

Following this, work sessions were conducted over a span of two days, featuring a meeting with Mr. Sylvestre Radegonde, the Minister for Foreign Affairs and Tourism, to discuss administrative concerns. The sessions also included presentations from various representatives, including those from the Consular and Diaspora Division, the Public Service Bureau, the International Affairs Committee of the Seychelles National Assembly, the Seychelles Pension Fund, the Immigration and Civil Status Department, and the Electoral Commission of Seychelles.



Partial view of the Ambassadors during the retreat



Ambassadors attend a meeting with the Head of State, President Wavel Ramkalawan



The Honorary Consuls' Conference

The Honorary Consuls' Conference, an event held biennially, took place from Wednesday 9th to Friday 11th October at the Savoy Seychelles Resort and Spa.

Over 60 Honorary Consuls and Honorary Consuls General from all over the globe attended the event, which began with a reception hosted by the President of the Republic, Mr Wavel Ramkalawan on Tuesday 8th October.

The opening ceremony of the conference, on the 9th, was marked by a minute of silence for the Consuls who passed away since the last conference and saw remarks made by the Dean of the Honorary Consuls, Mr Juan Gaspard Solves and the Minister for Foreign Affairs and Tourism, Mr Sylvestre Radegonde. This was followed by a Long Service Award ceremony where 5 Honorary Consuls were awarded for their years of dedication to their role. The ceremony was succeeded by a presentation on the recently launched National Diaspora Policy 2024 – 2029 as well as presentations by Seychellois Heads of missions abroad on how they are implementing the issuance of biometric passports in their missions. The first day ended with a comprehensive overview on how Seychelles deals with the issue of Maritime Security — through visits to the Seychelles Coast Guard Headquarters in Ile Perseverance, and the National Information Sharing Coordination Centre (NISCC) and the Regional Coordination Centre (RCOC) at the REFLECS 3 Building in Bois de Rose.

Day two of the conference was held mostly outdoors, where Honorary Consuls had the opportunity to visit the districts they had adopted through the 'Adopt a District' project; an initiative introduced by Minister Sylvestre Radegonde during the last edition of the conference in 2022. This was followed by a cultural event hosted by the Department of Tourism at Domaine Val des Pres followed by a Creole lunch at Maison Marengo. The Honorary Consuls had the opportunity to learn more about how local crafts such as coconut leaf hats, and snacks and desserts like 'nougat koko' among others, are made.

The third and final day of the conference was marked by an intervention by regulators in the Financial Sector, the Financial Services Authority (FSA), followed by an interactive session and panel discussion by the Seychelles Investment Board (SIB). The Minister for Investment, Entrepreneurship and Industry, Mrs Devika Vidot was present and made her remarks prior to the session. The second part of the programme was a lively feedback session on the 'Adopt a District' visits conducted the day before, the Q&A session which followed was led by Minister Radegonde and the Minister for Local Government and Community Affairs, Mrs Rose-Marie Hoareau. The programme ended with an Administrative issues session led by the team of the Consular Affairs and Diaspora Division. Closing remarks were made by the Dean of the Honorary Consuls, Mr Solves as well as the Principal Secretary for Foreign Affairs, Ambassador Vivianne Fock Tave.

A special and lively Creole Soiree held at the Kafe Kreol in Anse Royale, hosted by Minister Sylvestre Radegonde closed this year's Honorary Consuls' Conference.



Events attended by FAD Overseas

Seychelles' Ambassadors in action



Ambassador Claude Morel participated in the 26th Ordinary Meeting of the Ministerial Committee of the Organ (MCO) on Politics, Defence, and Security Cooperation, held from 11 to 12 July 2024 in Lusaka, Zambia.

Discussions primarily focused on peace and security, as critical factors in fostering a conducive environment for regional cooperation and integration. Seychelles informed the MCO that it had nominated Ambassador Joseph Nourrice, former Deputy Executive Secretary of SADC, as its representative to the SADC Electoral Advisory Council (SEAC).



Permanent Representative of the Republic of Seychelles to the African Union, Ambassador Conrad Mederic, headed the Seychelles delegation to the 45th Ordinary Session of the African Union Executive Council, from 18th to the 19th of July 2024 in Accra, Ghana.

During the meeting, the Ambassador stressed the importance of advocating for financial commitments under the Paris Agreement and for the allocation of funds for loss and damage.

He further proposed that the “Blue Economy” is added as part of a sub-component of the issue of the “Development of Bio-economy” as it similarly seeks to conserve marine and freshwater environments while using them in a sustainable way to develop economic growth.



Ambassador Georges Tirant invited, on Friday, July 12, 2024, the Ambassadors of the Member States of the Indian Ocean Commission (IOC) in France to a meeting. The meeting is part of Seychelles' Presidency of the IOC.

Ambassador Georges Tirant took the opportunity to present to his counterparts in the region the theme chosen by the Seychelles Presidency.

The discussions focused mainly on the initiatives that the sister Embassies can take to contribute to the implementation of the chosen priorities, particularly through activities and projects of common interest relating to Small Island Developing States (SIDS), the fight against climate change, maritime insecurity, advocacy for the multidimensional vulnerability index (MVI), all of which aim to promote the visibility of the IOC within international institutions such as the International Organization of the Francophonie (OIF) and the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO).



The Honorary Consulate of Seychelles in Istanbul was formally opened in the presence of Minister Sylvestre Radegonde on August 6th.

Minister Radegonde pointed out that *“the opening of the Honorary Consulate in Istanbul is a strategic move by my Government to enhance Seychelles' visibility on the global stage and to foster even closer cooperation with friendly nations. It represents our aspirations for the future. By building stronger bridges between our societies, we can create a more vibrant and dynamic partnership that benefits both our nations.”*

The Minister proceeded to congratulate the newly appointed Honorary Consul in Istanbul, Mr Orhan Karadeniz on his appointment in his new role and described this occasion as a pivotal moment in the history of the bilateral relations between Seychelles and Türkiye.

Events attended by FAD Overseas

Seychelles' Ambassadors in action



Seychelles filed its response, on August 09th, on the written statements transmitted by States, groups of States and international organisations to the International Court of Justice (ICJ) in the advisory proceedings regarding the “*Obligations of States in respect of climate change*”.

This was done by Seychelles’ resident Ambassador in Brussels, Mr. Kenneth Racombo.

As the country continues to face the negative effects of climate change, and whilst these events significantly threaten not only the country’s land territory and infrastructure but also the Seychellois people and their livelihoods, the country finds it important to establish legal consequences for the non-performance of the obligations of States which leads to causing significant harm to the climate system and other parts of the environment.

The written comments convey Seychelles commitment and stance in prioritising environmental responsibility and adherence to international norms and laws in addressing global challenges.



The Republic of Seychelles and Turkmenistan officially established diplomatic relations following the signing of a Protocol at a ceremony held on Tuesday 13 August 2024, at the Embassy of Turkmenistan in Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates.

The Protocol was signed by the Ambassador of the Republic of Seychelles in the United Arab Emirates with jurisdiction over Turkmenistan, Mr. Gervais Moumou, and the Ambassador of Turkmenistan, H.E. Mr. Serdarmämmedt Garajayew. This signing ceremony marks a significant milestone in the bilateral relations between the two countries, paving the way for a new era of cooperation and mutual benefits.

In a brief meeting after the ceremony, the Ambassadors discussed initiatives to promote tourism between their countries, including encouraging travel by Turkmen tourists to Seychelles and vice versa. This would facilitate cultural exchange and strengthen people-to-people connections. They agreed on the importance of enhancing cultural ties through events and exchanges, which would help both Seychelles and Turkmenistan preserve their cultural heritage and deepen their mutual understanding, thereby further solidifying their bilateral relationship.

Ambassador Claude Morel attended the 44th Ordinary Summit of the Southern African Development Community (SADC) Heads of State and Government, along with the preceding Senior Officials and Council of Ministers meetings, as Special Envoy. The meetings took place in Harare, Zimbabwe from 8th to 17th August 2024.

The meetings were an opportunity for Member States to evaluate progress made on the region’s flagship integration initiative, the Regional Strategic Indicative Development Plan (RISDP) 2020-2030. Discussions also focused on regional peace and security, underscoring the importance of addressing security challenges to ensure a stable and secure environment for sustainable development across the SADC region.

In his interventions during the Council of Ministers, Ambassador Morel highlighted the need to incorporate specific modalities for island and coastal states into SADC regional programmes and projects, and emphasised the importance of improving maritime connectivity among its Member States.



Minister Sylvestre Radegonde takes part in TICAD Ministerial Meeting

The Minister for Foreign Affairs and Tourism, Mr. Sylvestre Radegonde, engaged in bilateral talks with the Minister of Foreign Affairs of Japan, H.E Ms. KAMIKAWA Yoko, on the sidelines of the TICAD Ministerial Meeting taking place in Tokyo, Japan from 24th to 25th August.

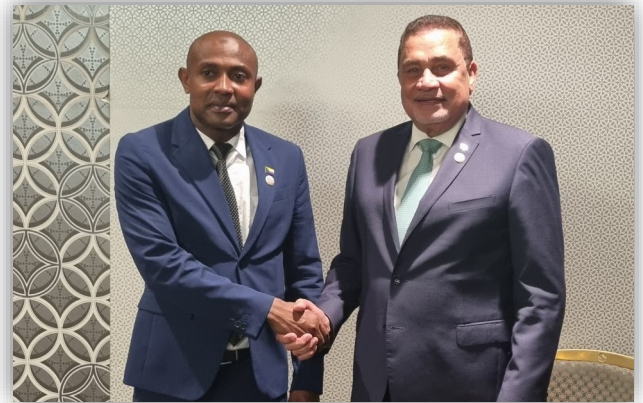
Minister Radegonde took the opportunity to thank the Japanese Government for all the technical and financial assistance provided to Seychelles over the years. Minister Kamikawa re-affirmed Japan's commitment to strengthen cooperation with Seychelles and confirmed the upgrading of the Japanese Embassy in Seychelles which will mean that Japan will have a resident Ambassador in Victoria.

Discussions between the two diplomats centered on shared interests, particularly in the areas of Maritime Security, Blue Economy, Fisheries and Connectivity. Minister Radegonde called on the Japanese Government to continue to support Seychelles' capacity building through scholarships. Minister Radegonde emphasized the importance of Japan's support for Seychelles in the areas of Climate adaptation and resilience and requested Japan's assistance in advocating for the plight of Small Island Developing States (SIDS).

In his capacity as the President of the Council of Ministers of the Indian Ocean Commission, Minister Radegonde held discussions with the newly appointed Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Union of Comoros H.E Mr. Mbae Mohamed. The two Ministers reviewed the status of the bilateral relations between the Comoros and Seychelles and agreed to work together to continue to enhance those relations.



Minister Radegonde holds bilateral discussions with his Japanese counterpart, H.E Ms KAMIKAWA Yoko



Minister Radegonde meets his Comorian counterpart, H.E Mr. Mbae Mohamed

Minister Radegonde attends Commonwealth Foreign Affairs Ministers' Meeting



Minister Radegonde and delegation at the CFAMM

The Minister for Foreign Affairs and Tourism, Mr. Sylvestre Radegonde, participated in the Commonwealth Foreign Affairs Ministers' Meeting (CFAMM) on 23 September 2024, held on the sidelines of the United Nations General Assembly in New York.

Chaired by Rwanda as the current Commonwealth Chair-in-Office, the meeting provided an opportunity to update member states on the progress made in implementing the mandates set at the 2022 Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting (CHOGM) in Rwanda.

Ministers also finalised the CHOGM outcome documents and received briefings on preparations for the upcoming CHOGM, which is taking place in Samoa from October 21st to 26th – marking the first time CHOGM will be hosted by a Pacific Small Island Developing State.

Seychelles forges diplomatic ties with three countries on the margins of the UNGA

Seychelles has formalised diplomatic relations with three countries as part of its commitment to proactively enhance its bilateral engagement across the globe.

Minister Sylvestre Radegonde, Minister for Foreign Affairs and Tourism, has signed three Joint Communiqués on the Establishment of Diplomatic Relations, namely with the Republic of Suriname, Antigua and Barbuda, and the Republic of Uzbekistan, which will pave the way for deepening of bilateral relations and to promote exchanges in various fields of mutual interest between Seychelles and the three countries respectively.

The signing ceremonies took place in the margins of the 79th Session of the United Nations General Assembly in New York.



From left to right: Establishing diplomatic ties with Suriname, Antigua and Barbuda and Uzbekistan

Designated Minister represents Minister Radegonde in swearing in ceremony of new IOC Secretary General

The new Secretary General of the Indian Ocean Commission (IOC), Mr Edgard Razafindravahy, officially took office on Monday, September 30 in Mauritius.

The inauguration ceremony was held at the Hilton Hotel in Wolmar, in the presence of many high-ranking personalities. Mr. Jean-François Ferrari, Principal Minister of Seychelles, responsible for Fisheries and Blue Economy represented the Minister for Foreign Affairs, Mr. Sylvestre Radegonde, current President of the IOC Council of Ministers.

Mr. Razafindravahy has thus become the 10th Secretary General of the IOC and the third Malagasy to hold this position, succeeding the Reunionese, Professor Vêlayoudom Marimoutou, in office since 2020.

At the ceremony, Mr. Jean-François Ferrari praised Mr. Razafindravahy's extensive experience in management, politics and media, stressing that this was a major asset in guiding the IOC towards new perspectives. He also paid tribute to the work carried out by Professor Marimoutou, whose dedication enabled the organization to overcome many challenges.



Principal Minister Jean-Francois Ferrari representing Minister Sylvestre Radegonde during the swearing in ceremony

Minister Radegonde participates in the 45th Ministerial Conference of the Francophonie

The Minister of Foreign Affairs and Tourism, Mr. Sylvestre Radegonde, participated in the 45th session of the Ministerial Conference of the Francophonie which was held at the Ministerial Conference Center at the Ministry of Europe and Foreign Affairs in Paris.

Minister Radegonde discussed the crises related to insecurity at sea in the Indian Ocean region and the efforts made by the Indian Ocean Commission (IOC), including Seychelles, since 2008 in the fight against Somali piracy, while calling for a multidimensional approach based on maritime governance to prevent the escalation of these crises.

Aside from the Ministerial meeting, Minister Radegonde participated in the 19th Summit of the Francophonie which was held in Villers-Cotterets within the Cité internationale de la langue française and at the Grand Palais in Paris.

This Summit, which is the highest body of the International Organization of the Francophonie (OIF), brought together several heads of state and government of French-speaking countries to discuss important issues such as international cooperation, sustainable development and crisis situations in the French-speaking world, in particular the crisis in Lebanon, Haiti and the Democratic Republic of Congo.

Minister Sylvestre Radegonde, accompanied by Mr. Georges Tirant, Ambassador of Seychelles to France and Representative of the President of the Republic to the OIF, hosted a round table where he shared the experience of Seychelles by presenting certain initiatives led by the Indian Ocean Commission, as well as regional political projects from which Seychelles has benefited, aimed at improving the employability and entrepreneurship of young people, while promoting the French language as a tool for economic and social integration.

This Summit was also an opportunity for Minister Sylvestre Radegonde to hold several bilateral meetings with his counterparts and to sign a historic agreement with the Republic of Benin on reciprocal visa exemption, thus allowing Seychellois nationals to travel more easily in Benin without the need for a visa to enter the territory.

At the end of this Summit, Heads of state adopted the Villers-Cotterêts Declaration and the resolution on crisis situations, crisis exit and peacebuilding in the French-speaking world. They also launched the “Villers-Cotterêts Appeal” inviting major digital players to “build a safer and more diverse space and to fight against all these hate speeches”. Two new countries joined the organization as full members; Ghana and Cyprus and four others, namely, Angola, French Polynesia, Saarland and Nova Scotia were welcomed as new observer members.



From left to right: Minister Radegonde exchanging with OIF Secretary General, Mrs Louise Mushikiwabo; Summit group photo, Minister Radegonde greets Malagasy President, H.E Mr. Andry Rajoelina



From left to right: Minister Radegonde signing a visa waiver agreement with Benin; view of the summit set up, Ambassador Georges Tirant participates in a working session

Five minutes with a Diplomat

This quarter, we have knocked on Ambassador Selby Pillay's door for an interview and he has happily obliged.

Can you tell us a bit about yourself?

I grew up in the district of Anse Royale where I also attended primary school. Upon completion of my secondary education at the then Seychelles College, I received a scholarship to study at the Berlin University of Economical Sciences, where I was awarded a Master of Science (MSc) in Political Economy in the Summer of 1991.

My studies were preceded by a one-year intensive German language course from September 1985, in the quaint historical city of Weimar. I'm married and have two children. During my pastime I gravitate towards nature / outdoors; cuisine; art and music.

How long have you been with the FAD and what sparked your interest in diplomacy?

On 16th December 1991, I joined the then Ministry of External Relations as an Economic Cooperation Officer. During the last 33 years, I have occupied various junior and senior positions, until I was appointed Ambassador on 1st October 2014.



My interest in diplomacy started while I was studying in Berlin. During the period prior to the fall of the Berlin Wall in November 1989, and the reunification of Germany in October 1990, I was fascinated by the trending discourse and geopolitical discussions. At this juncture, the interpersonal and people's skills of Hans-Dietrich Genscher - who was the Vice Chancellor and Federal Foreign Minister, piqued my interest. Although he was an advocate of *Realpolitik*, he was regarded as the

architect of German reunification, and he played a pivotal role in international diplomacy.

How did it feel when you were appointed as an Ambassador? Tell us a bit about your posting.

As you know, any promotion has to be on a meritorious basis. And each promotion comes with added responsibilities. I was looking forward to taking up the new challenges.

My first posting, as Principal Counsellor, and Deputy Permanent Representative was at SMUN in New York, from March 2011 to August 2014.

In January 2015, I was posted to Brussels, and was subsequently accredited as Seychelles Ambassador to the Kingdom of Belgium and the EU, from March 2015 to January 2018; and a host of other countries and organisations under the jurisdiction of Belgium: Germany, Luxembourg, the Netherlands, Czech Republic, Hungary, Slovenia, the Swiss Confederation, the Vatican, Sovereign Military Hospitaller Order of St John's of Jerusalem of Rhodes and Malta; as well as to the World Trade Organisation, and United Nations Office in Geneva as Seychelles Permanent Representative.

Upon completion of my tour of duty in Brussels I was posted to New Delhi, where I was accredited in March 2019; and on a non-resident basis to the People's Republic of Bangladesh and Nepal. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, a few other countries initially slated for accreditation had to be cancelled. I completed my tenure in New Delhi in January 2023.



What is your favourite part of your job as an Ambassador?

Meeting people and cultural diplomacy.

What type of duties do you undertake now that you are back at headquarters?

I am attached to the Secretariat of the Principal Secretary, and have been assigned special duties, such as drafting of the Handbook for Seychelles Diplomatic Missions; Revision of the Scheme of Service for Heads of Mission and other Staff of Seychelles Diplomatic Missions; and Review of the FAD Manual, amongst others.

I am also assisting with the review of letters and messages of importance, Note Verbale, Reports and other documents.

What advice would you have for aspiring and up and coming diplomats?

I believe that we should endeavour to be passionate in the work we undertake. This applies not only to diplomats, but to any other profession. One has to be disciplined and committed in order to attain the objectives set forth. I encourage you to sharpen your oral, written communication and analytical skills. There is a lot to learn in diplomacy, and you need to be devoted and unrelenting in your pursuit to acquire the technical competency and desirable proficiency level.

Training Sessions and FAD's Social Engagements

Careers Week 2024

On the 8th of July, 2024, representatives from the different divisions of the Foreign Affairs Department engaged in the Launching of the Careers Week Exhibition. This event served as an informative platform for students and the public to discover more about the Department and the diverse career opportunities it presents.



As part of the initiatives to celebrate Careers Week, an Open Day was organized for primary and secondary school students at Maison Quéau de Quinssy on July 10, 2024. This event offered students the opportunity to engage with staff from different divisions within the Foreign Affairs Department and gain insight into the daily responsibilities of their roles.



Protocol and Etiquette Training

During the third quarter of 2024, the Protocol and Public Diplomacy Division facilitated two Protocol and Etiquette Training sessions with employees from the Ministry of Local Government and Community Affairs, as well as students from Pointe Larue, Mont Fleuri, Plaisance, English River Secondary Schools and the School of Advance Level Studies (SALS).



Social Committee activities - Clean up the World

To honor the Clean Up the World Campaign, staff of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Tourism came together to participate in a cleanup event at the Grand Police beach on Saturday, September 21st 2024. The beach was chosen for its frequent use by both visitors and the local community.



In continuing with the Clean Up the World initiative, the personnel of the Foreign Affairs Department united on September 27, 2024, staff members from the Foreign Affairs Department gathered to undertake a cleaning of the offices and communal areas at Maison Quéau de Quinssy. This collaborative effort not only contributed to a cleaner environment but also fostered teamwork and reinforced connections among the different Divisions and Units within the Department.



Our Most Valuable Asset - Our Staff

New Faces, Postings and Promotions:

We are thrilled to welcome the following new staff and announce the following promotion:



Ms. Ashanti Pillay
*Accounts Technician in
the Accounts Section*



Ms. Jenelly Ya-ahsing
*Accounts Technician in
the Accounts Section*



Mr. Jonathan Pool
*Promoted to Second Secretary in the
Bilateral Affairs Division*