

REPUBLIC OF MAURITIUS

MINISTRY OF LABOUR, HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND TRAINING Victoria House, Corner St. Louis & Barracks Streets, Port Louis Tel: 207 2600 Fax: 210 8154

My Ref: MLIRET/C/L/34/8

Date: 24 February 2020

Mr. Kevin RAMKALOAN, Chief Executive Officer, Business Mauritius MCCI Building Ebène Cybercity EBENE

Dear Sir,

Subject: Portable Retirement Gratuity Fund (PRGF)

Part VIII of the Workers' Rights Act 2019 pertaining to the **Portable Retirement Gratuity Fund** (PRGF) came into operation, by proclamation on 01 January 2020. As you are already aware, on 13 December 2019, Cabinet agreed for practical reasons to grant a moratorium of three months to private sector enterprises in respect of contributions to the PRGF.

- 2. However, in view of the fact that the PRGF has already come into operation, it has been considered more appropriate to implement the decisions of Cabinet administratively since any provision in a Regulations fixing a different date for the payment of contribution would be inconsistent with the relevant provisions in the Workers' Rights Act.
- 3. In that respect, a private sector enterprise can make contributions to the PRGF as from the month of April 2020. Unpaid contributions for period January to March 2020 shall be deemed, for that purpose, to be past services and shall be paid on exit of the worker or at any time before the exit. Furthermore, arrangements have been made by the Ministry with the *Mauritius Revenue Authority* (MRA) so that no surcharges be imposed on enterprises in respect of non-contributions for period January to March 2020.

4. We also wish to point out that the Workers' Rights (Portable Retirement Gratuity Fund) Regulations 2020 which has been published in the Government Gazette on 22 February 2020 shall not apply to workers employed in the Sugar Sector. The Sugar Industry (Agricultural Workers) (Remuneration) Regulations 2019 and the Sugar Industry (Non-Agricultural Workers) (Remuneration) Regulations 2019 are being amended to cater for specific provisions of the PRGF applicable to the sector in line with Cabinet decision of 27 December 2019.

Yours faithfully,

H. Jouan for Permanent Secretary