

## Ministry of Finance, National Planning and Trade Liberty House, P.O Box 313/Victoria/ Mahé, Seychelles

## **Press Release**

## Monday 04th December, 2023

The Minister for Finance, Naadir Hassan, has expressed his appreciation to the National Assembly following the approval of the Appropriation Bill, 2024, which the house voted in favour of, on Monday 04<sup>th</sup> December.

"Upon the approval of the Appropriation Bill, 2024, I want to express my heartfelt thanks to the Members of the National Assembly who voted for the bill. The Budget is an important document which lays out the government's vision and plan for the short and medium term, in relations to spending, collection of revenue, policy and investment."

The 2024 budget, he said continues to lay the foundation for success, ensuring investment and spending remain sustainable, subsequently resulting in a decrease in the country's debt to GDP ratio.

"As a responsible government, we will continue to invest in the country's infrastructure, and our people, as and when the fiscal space allows. The government understands the need to be prudent because of external shocks which Seychelles remains vulnerable to."

Minister Hassan presented the 2024 Budget speech on Friday 03<sup>rd</sup> November, followed by the response of MNAs. On 13<sup>th</sup> November, the National Assembly convened into a committee, where budgets dependent entities defended their allocation.

"The Committee Stage in the National Assembly is very significant, being a platform providing transparency and allowing for further understanding of the budget process, in particular allocation, expenditure, and revenue collection."

In conclusion, Minister Hassan once again expressed a special thank you to all staff of the Ministry of Finance, National Planning and Trade for their professionalism and commitment.

"Preparing a national budget is a very long process which involves a lot of discussions and drafting, and exchanges prior to the final budget being presented and approved. Our staff have year in and year out, proven to be resilient, flexible and hardworking. For that, I want to say thank you for your professionalism which you continue to show at all times."

**END**