

The Honourable Ivan Collendavelloo, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Energy and Public Utilities,

Excellencies here present,

The Representative of AfDB and all other Cooperating Partners,

CEOs and Staff of Operators in the Utility Sector,

CEO Business Mauritius

The representatives of the Consumer Advocacy Groups

The URA Board and Colleagues from the URA Secretariat

The Press and Media representatives

All Distinguished guests,

Ladies and gentlemen,

All protocols observed

On behalf of the URA Board and staff, I would like to warmly

welcome you all to this auspicious and historical occasion of launching the first strategic business plan for the first Utility Regulatory Authority created by the Government.

Your presence Honourable Deputy Prime Minister demonstrates the Government's Commitment in implementing the reforms in the utility sector which gave birth to the URA.

Our various stakeholders present shows the interest, expectations, and the commitment that you have on this process that will allow us to move forward together in the implementation of the 3 year road map for regulating the utility business with each one of us assuming our respective roles in the process.

The URA is pleased and encouraged by the interest shown, and, support given by all our stakeholders ever since the

Government announced the setting up of the independent regulatory body for Public Utilities.

Your significant contributions by way of comments and suggestions on the document during the consultations we held on the draft Strategic Plan have helped to shape and enrich the URA strategic road map for the coming three years. Today, we are very proud and encouraged to have you witness the historical launch of the first strategic plan for the URA.

The URA is pleased to inform you that the preparation of the URA business plans and budget for the 2019-2020 financial year have been guided by this strategic plan that we are launching today. And subsequent to that, a six months road map to December 2019, has been developed and briefing meetings with key stakeholders on the road map have started and are ongoing. This process will lead to the operationalization of the URA Licensing framework which is one of the key and critical activity of the Strategic plan.

As you will notice, we are now entering into an exciting phase in the regulation of utility businesses, we can only count on you to do your part so we can achieve and win it together.

With these few remarks, I would like to invite the Chairperson of the URA Board to make his remarks.

Presented by Eunice Harris Potani

Chief Executive Officer, URA