

World Humanitarian Summit

23 to 24 May 2016, Istanbul, Turkey

Statement Republic of Mauritius

The Republic of Mauritius congratulates the United Nations for organising such a laudable event namely the World Humanitarian Summit in Istanbul. Saving humanity is inevitably a global concern, which solicits international solidarity.

The Republic of Mauritius is thankful for being given an opportunity to participate in this first meeting to address humanitarian issues. A special thanks also goes to the Government of Turkey for their warm hospitality. The Republic of Mauritius has been very active in supporting the humanitarian cause at national, regional as well as the international levels. A number of Humanitarian conventions has already been domesticated while others are in the pipeline.

Recently, we have acceded to the Arms Trade Treaty and the Convention on Cluster Munitions. The provisions of the Arms Trade Treaty have been integrated in our domestic law by amending the Firearms Act. The Government of Mauritius is also working on the domestication of the 1980 Convention on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Certain Conventional Weapons and the Convention on Cluster Munitions.

As a Small Islands Developing State, Mauritius is much concerned about the risks that natural disasters and climate change pose. We are pleased to announce that a National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Act has recently been passed by the National Assembly, which Act provides for the necessary legal framework to work towards the goals set up under the Sendai Framework which, englobes national preparedness strategies and partnerships to strengthen national emergency management systems for natural disasters including the setting up of a National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Centre.

We also take the opportunity to reiterate our commitment to empower women and girls in order to achieve gender parity by 2030. Mauritius equally reaffirms its commitment to increase women's participation in politics and decision-making in line with the SADC Decision to increase women's participation in politics and decision-making by 30%.

On a concluding note, the Government of the Republic of Mauritius wishes to align itself with the Common African Position on Humanitarian effectiveness, on Agenda for Humanity. We should like to emphasize the primary responsibility of the State to provide security to its population and guaranteeing humanitarian space. We strongly believe in shaping a new humanitarian Agenda together.