

THE PRESIDENT'S REPLY  
TO THE REMARKS OF THE  
NEWLY APPOINTED AMBASSADOR  
OF THE REPUBLIC OF MAURITIUS  
SOOROOJDEV PHOKEER  
UPON THE OCCASION OF THE PRESENTATION OF  
HIS LETTER OF CREDENCE

Mr. Ambassador:

It is with great pleasure that I accept your Letter of Credence, which establishes you as Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Republic of Mauritius, and I acknowledge receipt of the Letter of Recall of your predecessor, Ambassador Somduth Soborun. I extend to you a warm welcome, and I look forward to working with you to deepen the already close relations between our countries.

Mauritius and the United States share a long history of friendship, one that is based on a shared commitment to freedom and democracy. The succession of transparent, democratic elections gives Mauritius the political stability to focus on sound economic development, which will enable the country to reach its goal of becoming a high income country in the near future.

Mauritius is a valued partner of the United States, and we have many shared goals, including advancing human rights and improving the lives of our countries' citizens through free trade. Our shared commitments to good governance, maritime security, and trade and investment benefit our own countries as well as our neighbors. The United States admires Mauritius' dedication to sustainable development of its ocean economy. Through this commitment, Mauritius will improve economic opportunities for the people of Mauritius, while preserving the natural environment.

Mr. Ambassador, I look forward to working with you to advance our common agenda and deepen the strong and abiding friendship our countries enjoy. It is a pleasure to welcome you to Washington.

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