

INPUTS ON HUMAN RIGHTS RESOLUTION 27/23 ENTITLED
"MANDATE OF THE SPECIAL RAPPORTEUR ON THE IMPLICATIONS FOR HUMAN RIGHTS
OF THE ENVIRONMENTALLY SOUND MANAGEMENT
AND DISPOSAL OF HAZARDOUS SUBSTANCE AND WASTES"

Mauritius has developed environmental related policies and standards which cover the whole population including children. Some of the measures taken by the Government are as follows:-

(i) **Ministry of Environment, Sustainable Development, and Disaster and Beach Management**

- The Ministry of Environment, Sustainable Development, and Disaster and Beach Management is the enforcing agency for hazardous wastes in Mauritius and has the responsibility of ensuring that hazardous wastes generated in Mauritius are being managed and disposed of in an environmentally sound manner, in accordance with the Environment protection (standards for Hazardous Wastes) Regulations 2001.
- In this context, the Ministry is in the process of setting up an interim hazardous waste storage facility at La Chaumiere whereby hazardous wastes would be tested, collected, sorted, pre-treated if possible, regrouped, re-packed, labeled, stored and exported to licensed recovery/treatment/disposal facilities. The facility is expected to be operational by the end of 2016.

(ii) **Ministry of Health and Quality of Life**

- Mauritius also has a comprehensive legislation regarding Dangerous Chemicals namely, Dangerous Chemicals Control Act 2004. The main objection of the Dangerous Chemicals Control Act 2004 is to provide for the prevention of damage to health and to the environment caused by dangerous chemicals and for better protection of workers, members of the public and the environment against dangerous chemicals.

- The Ministry of Health and Quality of Life, through the Dangerous Chemicals Control Board is the regulatory body that, under the Dangerous Chemicals Control Act 2004, controls all dangerous and extremely dangerous chemicals throughout their different stages of import, export, manufacture, sale, distribution or trade in.

(iii) Ministry of Labour, Industrial Relations, Employment and Training

- It is to be noted that, child labour is prohibited in Mauritius as per the Employment Rights Act, part III: Section 12 - Minimum age for employment, and same is the case under section 8 of the Occupational Safety and Health Act 2005. Thus, protecting the rights of the child from child labour and being exposed to hazardous substances.

(iii) Ministry of Labour, Industrial Relations, Employment and Training

- With regards to the disposal of hazardous substances and wastes, the Radiation Protection Authority (RPA) is responsible for the management and disposal of radioactive material. If such materials are not properly disposed of, it could be a source of hazard to people in general, including children. As such, no person other than the RPA is authorized to dispose any radioactive material in the country.
- It is also noted that the addition of radioactive material to any consumer product is strictly prohibited.