Announcement – Sitting of Tuesday 11 April 2023

Honourable Members,

Further to my announcement on Tuesday last with regard to Dr the Honourable Boolell for having uttered outrageous and contemptuous words and expressions to my address during an interview on the radio in the course of the programme "Au Coeur de l'info" on Radio Plus on Tuesday 28 March 2023, I have to announce the following –

I reiterate my view that those words and expressions are in fact outrageous and contemptuous of the Chair and constitute a contempt of the Assembly and a serious breach of its privileges.

I have to draw the attention of the House that so far, I have not received any privilege complaint and therefore, the Chair is not in a position to act under the provisions of the law relating to contempt of the Assembly.

However, the absence of such notice does not undermine my position to take action to protect the House from the invasion of its privileges.

In this context, I wish to draw the attention of the House to the provisions of Standing Order 49(8) which provides that, I quote –

"Nothing in this Order shall be deemed to prevent the Assembly from proceeding against any Member for any breach of order not specified herein or from proceeding in any other way it thinks fit in dealing with the breaches of order herein mentioned.",

Honourable Members,

In line with the provisions of Standing Order 49(8) and the powers conferred upon me under Standing Order 77, I leave the matter in the hands of the House for any action it may deem appropriate.
