

Communiqué

“Honourable Adrien Charles Duval Engages with the 2023 National Youth Parliamentarians and Mentors in the Chamber of the National Assembly today, Friday 30 August 2024”

Hon. Adrien Charles Duval, Speaker of the National Assembly, engaged in a fruitful interactive session with the 2023 National Youth Parliamentarians (NYPs) and mentors in the Chamber of the National Assembly, today, 30 August 2024.

Welcoming the young participants, Ms. Urmeelah Devi Ramchurn, Clerk of the National Assembly, highlighted the pivotal role of young individuals for their continued commitment and contribution for further shaping the democratic processes. Presenting the newly elected Speaker, the Clerk stated that it is a matter of utmost pride for the Republic of Mauritius that the Inter Parliamentary Union, a global organization regrouping 180 member parliaments, has officially acknowledged Hon. Adrien Charles Duval as the world’s youngest Speaker of Parliament.

Addressing the distinguished gathering, Mr Speaker expressed his appreciation to the young Parliamentarians of the 2023 National Youth Parliament for their significant contributions and active engagement since their participation last year. He commended their advocacy on critical issues such as climate change and renewable energy, emphasizing the importance of their continued involvement in these areas for global sustainability. As an ardent supporter of the younger generation, Speaker Adrien Duval pledged to continue advocating for youth perspectives and to make their voices heard through his interventions on the various platforms available to him both at regional and international levels.

The Hon. Speaker underscored the National Assembly’s Digital Transformation and Engagement Strategy highlighting the aims of the initiative through the use of innovative digital tools and Artificial Intelligence programs in bridging the gap between parliament and the citizens. These include amongst others, abating language barriers with the use of English / French translation and sub-titling of broadcast of parliamentary proceedings, the fostering of awareness and education on parliamentary work and processes, the preservation and opening of public access to archives dating back to 1880 through digitalisation and the adoption of AI tools to streamline parliamentary processes and for instantaneous transcription of Hansard.

Building on the engagement between the citizenry and parliamentary processes, Mr Speaker informed the young participants of the programme for the opening of the parliament Chamber to the public, launched on 14 August 2024 and which is expected to reach at least 2500 visitors by the end of the Parliamentary Session.

On the subject of communication, Mr Speaker invited members of the NYP to participate in building a communication strategy for the dissemination of information related to Parliament to the press and the public at large through available media platforms, including social media.

On a concluding note, Speaker Adrien Duval emphasised the importance of the interactive session and reaffirmed the significance of the insights and experiences of

the young participants in ensuring that the National Youth Parliament remains committed to ensuring that the platform remains dynamic, relevant and responsive to the needs and aspirations of the youth and encouraged the youth to uphold the legacy of engagement.

The National Assembly
Parliament House
Port Louis
30 August 2024