



REPUBLIC OF MAURITIUS

World Humanitarian Day 2024

Message of Hon. Maneesh Gobin, Minister of Foreign Affairs, Regional Integration and International Trade

The World Humanitarian Day is observed every year on 19th August to honor humanitarian workers and acknowledge their courage and commitment to support the most vulnerable in times of need and distress.

Unfortunately, the last two years, we have seen an upsurge of attacks on humanitarian workers and humanitarian assets in blatant violation of International Humanitarian Law. These gross violations must stop and the safety and security of humanitarian workers should be respected and guaranteed.

Mauritius is a peaceful country. However, we are very vulnerable to the climate change emergency and we are witnessing its unprecedented and devastating effects on our country. Humanitarian assistance is needed whenever we face these new challenges such as flash floods and cyclones.

I seize this opportunity to extend my deepest gratitude to the brave men and women who serve as our first responders from the National Emergency Operations Command Team, the Mauritius Police Force, the Mauritius Fire and Rescue Services, the Special Mobile Force, the Special Support Unit, the National Coast Guard, the Traffic Branch, and all other Officers operating across Ministries /Departments who attend to emergencies as and when required. Your unwavering commitment to protecting and serving people in need is a testimony of your sense of duty and commitment.

On this World Humanitarian Day, let us honor the heroes among us, acknowledge the challenges they face, and pledge our continued support to their noble cause.

I invite you all to strive to be humanitarians every day, not just today or in times of crisis. Whether by helping a neighbour, an elderly person, volunteering, or simply showing empathy and understanding, we all have a role to play in building a more compassionate and resilient society.

Together, let us continue to uphold the values of humanity, kindness, and solidarity. Let us work towards a world where everyone can live in safety, dignity, and peace.

Hon. Maneesh Gobin

**Minister of Foreign Affairs, Regional
Integration and International Trade
19 August 2024**