

PRESS RELEASE**AWARD OF CERTIFICATE CEREMONY: TRAINING PROGRAMME FOR SURGICAL/OPERATING ROOM TECHNICIANS**

The Human Resource Development Council (HRDC) conferred a certificate of participation to 20 trainees who had successfully completed a surgical/operating room technician course. The Award of Certificate ceremony was held on Wednesday 13 February 2013 at HRDC Lecture Theatre, 4th Floor, NG Tower, Ebène.

The function was graced by the presence of Dr. Vasant Kumar Bunwaree, Minister of Education & Human Resources.

The training programme is a joint collaboration between Hopitaux Universitaires de Geneve (HUG) in Switzerland, the Ministry of Health & Quality of Life, the Mauritius Institute of Health and the Human Resource Development Council. The HRDC has also benefitted from the support of the Ministry of Labour, Industrial Relations & Employment.

The programme, which targeted school leavers, is in line with the Government's vision to promote Mauritius as a Medical Hub. The main objectives are to improve the quality of service offered in the local operating theatres, promote capacity building and training, and foster the transfer of know-how at professional and medical levels. The programme also aims at further strengthening cooperation ties with Switzerland in the medical field.

Training was conducted at the Mauritius Institute of Health by experts from HUG with the support of local mentors and comprised both theory and practical sessions. The trainees also benefitted from hands on experience in operating theatres in five Regional Hospitals across the island and at Apollo Bramwell Hospital through placement programmes.

Mr Bernard Gruson, Director of HUG, and Mr Alain Fong, one of the high officials from HUG, were in Mauritius for the Awards of Certificate Ceremony.