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	Questions raised by United Nations for Human Rights	Views
1.	<p>What conflicts exist in your country between different types of water uses (e.g agriculture, industry, tourism, among others)?</p> <p>What are the main challenges in your country concerning water resources and wastewater management that impact on the realization of human rights?</p>	<p>There is generally no conflict between the different types of water uses in Mauritius as each sector is supplied with adequate supply of safe water and in adequate quantity.</p> <p>It is also worth highlighting that 99.9 % of the population has access to potable water supply and 100% have access to basic sanitation facilities. Also, currently 22 % of the population is connected to the public sewerage network and it is expected to increase to some 80 % by the year 2033, in line with the general objectives of the National Sewerage Master Plan.</p>
2.	<p>How are different water uses prioritized in national legislation and policies?</p> <p>How are these priorities implemented in practice?</p> <p>Are there any implementation challenges? If yes, please elaborate on them and on measures taken to overcome them.</p>	<p>It has been a historical practice to favour domestic uses first, followed by industrial and agricultural uses.</p> <p>Currently, a National Water Policy for Mauritius is under preparation wherein the water allocation to the different sectors will be prioritised.</p> <p>The main implementation challenge is the cost factor. The Government is actually implementing the Water Sector Reform whereby the four main institutions operating in the water sector will define one Strategic Master Plan in a holistic way.</p>
3.	<p>What strategies, approaches and mechanisms guide water resources and wastewater management?</p> <p>How do these ensure that the basic needs of the entire population are met?</p>	<p>The strategy for water resources management is to develop new sources of supply and modernise infrastructure while at the same time manage the water resource planning and allocation on both the demand and supply sides.</p> <p>The strategy for wastewater management is to provide sewerage connection in densely populated areas and where there are risks of pollution. Wastewater projects are also carried out in these areas to protect our aquifers and the environment.</p>

4.	How does your organisation or Government ensure transparency, access to information and participation in decision-making regarding water resources and wastewater management?	<p>The Government is committed to carry out projects in an ethical manner and in line with good governance. For each project which is being implemented, there are transparent procurement procedures.</p> <p>To ensure access to information, the National Environment Action Plan (NEAP) and the Mauritius Wastewater Master Plan Study have been drafted following extensive consultation with primary and secondary stakeholders.</p> <p>Long term plans have also been devised for additional water mobilization to meet future demands for water in general.</p> <p>Capital projects are financed by international agencies and the Government ensures that the Key Performance Indicators (KPI) of those agencies are met and that the projects are regularly reviewed by the funding agencies.</p>
5.	In your view, should water resources and wastewater management be reflected in the Sustainable Development Goals/post 2015 development framework?	<p>Yes, as water demand is increasing and the recycling/re-use of treated wastewater is becoming an important issue worldwide.</p> <p>The only way to ensure sustainable development is by treating wastewater in a systematic way. The treated water can be re-used for irrigation and other purposes.</p>

Ministry of Energy and Public Utilities
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