



Opening Remarks by Ms Jenifer Sullivan
Second Deputy Governor of the Central Bank of Seychelles
Launch Event of The Guy Morel High Achievement Scholarship 2022
Thursday 23 September 2021
Virtual via MS Teams

Minister for Finance, Economic Planning and Trade – Mr Naadir Hassan,
Minister for Education – Dr Justin Valentin,
Principal Secretary for Education Services,
Members of the National AML/CFT committee,
Vice Chancellor of the University of Seychelles,
Management Team and Staff of the Central Bank of Seychelles,
Members of the Scholarship Committee,
Principal of the School of Advanced Level Studies,
Director of the Seychelles Business Studies Academy,
Members of the Public,

Good afternoon and thank you all for having joined us. We are pleased to welcome to you this ceremony to officially launch the Guy Morel High Achievement Scholarship programme for the year 2022.

This initiative has brought us immense pride in making a small contribution to the development of the Financial Services sector and despite the challenges of the past year, we are honoured to be in a position to once again offer this opportunity to our local talents.

The first pair of scholarships was offered in 2019 and since then, the first recipient of the postgraduate degree, Ms Hilary Baron, has graduated with a Master of Science in Forensic Accounting with Distinction. She was also awarded the Association of Certified Fraud Examiners Prize, for attaining the highest overall mark for the course. This achievement showcases the commitment of our scholars to the opportunity that they have been granted to making themselves and our country proud.

Meanwhile, the recipient of the undergraduate degree, Ms Clara Radegonde, will complete a BSc in Business Management next year, specialising in Financial Management. Her results so far have been commendable. We have also sent off two new scholars earlier this month: Ms Pria Chavda has begun her studies for a BSc in Banking and Finance and Mr Ryan Bradburn has embarked on a Master of Laws programme specialising in Governance, Risk Management and Compliance. We anticipate great things to come from both of them.

The Scholarship Committee annually reviews the scholarship policy to ensure it remains relevant to the needs of the financial sector. Last year, due to the impact of the COVID 19 pandemic, it was necessary to take on board feedback received, and address some of the challenges that were encountered, which resulted in the deferment of the scholarship offer, and suspension of the scholarship for 2021.

Effective this year, the fields of study for the scholarship will be announced upon the official launching of the scholarship, which will be presented to you shortly.

Furthermore, the deadline for applications by interested candidates has been revised to January 31st, instead of end of February as was the case for previous application periods. This revised timeline will allow the successful candidates more options when making their choices and ample time to complete the formalities to be admitted to a university.

In an attempt to be more inclusive, and recognising that a Cambridge Advanced Level Certificate - or A level as we know it - is not the only qualification being pursued locally, students who may have sat exams that are its equivalent, such as the Baccalauréat, are eligible to apply for the scholarship.

Moreover, the mode of study has been widened to also allow distance learning, provided it is on a full time-basis. We believe that this will allow applicants more choice and flexibility, especially for mature students who may have commitments

that they need to consider. Scholars who choose this path, will also receive a stipend, as well as allowances for textbooks and internet connection.

For those who opt to travel abroad, as usual the scholarship caters for costs associated with the university programme, living expenses and travel. Due to significant changes in travel requirements as a direct result of the pandemic, other travel-related costs such as PCR tests and quarantine are included. We continue to follow developments globally and react to these to ensure the safety of our scholars.

Considering public health requirements, provisions have also been made to allow interviews with applicants to be conducted either in person or virtually. This also extends to the scholarship award presentation, in instances where the prevailing conditions may prevent the ceremony from taking place in person.

It is good to note that in cases where a recipient opts to pursue an internship with the Central Bank while awaiting the commencement of their studies, they will receive an allowance similar to what is paid at the national level. Through this, they can familiarise themselves with the financial services sector.

The Guy Morel High Achievement Scholarship is offered on a competitive basis. Hence, we encourage you to take the time to put together a compelling application. For instance, ask for strong reference letters, and submit a powerful personal statement. All the relevant information are available on the CBS website and our HR team can be contacted for any further queries. Similar to 2019, the application process is being done electronically, through a designated online scholarship portal, on the CBS website.

I will conclude by encouraging you all to seize this opportunity, if you are passionate about developing our local financial sector. To echo the words of William Arthur Ward, “Opportunities are like sunrises. If you wait too long, you miss them”. With this, we look forward to receiving your application.

Thank you.