



The President of the Republic of Mauritius

Message from His Excellency Mr Dharambeer Gokhool, G.C.S.K., President of the Republic of Mauritius

I extend my warmest congratulations to the Japan Karate Association (JKA) Mauritius, under the leadership of Dr. Didier Samfat, on the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding with the Kinouete Association, aimed at strengthening structured youth engagement, prevention, and social reintegration through sport-based discipline.

In November 2025, I had the pleasure to officially launch the JKA Mauritius “Manual for Instructors and Students: Preserving the Tradition and Spirit of Budo Karate”, an important milestone consolidating both the technical and philosophical foundations of karate-dō, and reinforcing its role in the transmission of discipline, respect, and personal development.

The present Memorandum of Understanding with the Kinouete Association builds on these engagements and seeks to support young persons in vulnerable situations, including those exposed to social exclusion, delinquency risks, and substance-related challenges, through structured karate training, mentorship, and guided developmental activities

In my further exchanges in December 2025 at the State House with Dr. Didier Samfat and Master Koichiro Okuma, Chief Instructor from Japan, we reflected on the importance of promoting wellness, discipline, and healthy living among the population, particularly through structured youth engagement.

Recent data in Mauritius indicate an increase in reported juvenile cases among adolescents aged 12 to 17 in 2023 compared to 2022, with offences largely centred on larceny, theft, and behavioural vulnerability. These trends underline that youth engagement and prevention are not only social priorities, but a national imperative.

As President of the Republic, I hold the view that responses to youth vulnerability must be holistic, preventive, and grounded in strong collaboration between institutions, civil society, and community actors.

In this context, structured sporting disciplines such as karate can play a constructive complementary role by provided a structured environment conducive to resilience-building, responsibility, and positive behavioural development through the principles of discipline, respect, self-control, and perseverance. Coaches and instructors, in this regard, serve not only as technical trainers but also as mentors and role models.

I commend the JKA Mauritius and its partners for their continued commitment to structured and value-based youth development. I encourage that such initiatives be sustained and developed in a coherent manner for broader national impact. I am confident that this initiative will contribute meaningfully to youth empowerment and social cohesion.

I wish the JKA Mauritius continued success and look forward to continued collaboration in our shared journey of nation-building.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Dharambeer Gokhool', written in a cursive style. The signature is positioned above a horizontal line that serves as a separator.

Dharambeer Gokhool, G.C.S.K.
President of the Republic of Mauritius