
PRESS RELEASE

SRC Long Service Award Ceremony

MONDAY 06TH MAY 2019, Victoria, Seychelles: In a ceremony that was held on Friday 3rd May 2019 at the Coral Strand Hotel, Beau Vallon, 69 employees of the Seychelles Revenue Commission (SRC) were recognized and rewarded for their loyalty, dedication and active service towards the organization.

Being the first of its kind to be organized under the SRC umbrella (previously Tax Division and Customs Division - two separate entities under the Ministry of Finance), SRC honored 69 of its staff; 24 for their 15 years of service, 24 for their 20 years of service, 9 for their 25 years of service, 8 for their 30 years of service and 2 for their 35 years of service. The longest serving awardees with 40 years of service are Mrs. Winsia Pool from SRC's Customs Division and Ms. Marie- France Fanchette from Tax Division.

As prize, all awardee received a certificate, prize money as well as roses.

The ceremony itself began at 4pm sharp with a welcoming speech by the master of ceremony, followed by a speech by the Acting Commissioner General – Mr. Morel. Mr. Morel, explained that since its establishment in 2009, SRC has achieved so much which includes;

- Continuously meeting revenue collection targets
- Detection of drugs, illicit goods and other contrabands
- Facilitating business transactions nationally and across borders
- Increased training and capacity building for our staff
- Increased participation in international forums such as ATAF, WCO, World Bank, IMF, OECD etc.

Mr. Morel acknowledged the effort that each staff contributes toward making the organization move forward and towards making a stronger Seychelles. He acknowledged that this is nothing less than a symbol of passion, dedication and perseverance which should serve as a model for other uprising colleagues. Mr. Morel also recognized that like all other organizations, we too have also faced our share of trials and difficulties which includes:

- Staff shortages
- Having to work long hours, and very often, without monetary rewards
- Working in harsh and dangerous environmental conditions
- Lack of adequate and efficient technologies and ICT infrastructure

As we all know, the challenges within the SRC have over the years become more complex; with increased trade flows, increased in the number of registered businesses and international obligations have all contributed to this complexity we face today. These challenges have had their toll on both working and service conditions. As a result, there have been compromises on the welfare of our staff. Those who joined Tax or Customs one or two decades ago will testify that the conditions under which we joined have tremendously changed over the years. It is therefore very heart-warming to note that many staff remained with us for all these years (15 plus years).

The ceremony was then followed by presentation of certificates as well as entertainment by local artists Rosalette and Oliver.

To conclude the ceremony, thank you gifts were presented to Mr. Ronald Cafrine for his time of service as the Commissioner General of SRC, and it was Mrs Maria-Luisa Woodcock the Director for Taxpayers Education- an awardee of 20 years of service who had the honor of delivering the vote of thanks on behalf of her colleagues. During her speech she expressed her deepest gratitude towards her colleagues and the SRC support team - "It has been long time coming and I also want to take this opportunity to thank Mr. Ronald Cafrine who pushed to have this ceremony as one of his last acts as the Commissioner General of SRC. At times we do not fully realize the key role that SRC plays is as not only an organization that collect revenue on behalf of the Government, but we are also one of the key players in protecting and safeguarding the country's borders"

For the ceremony, apart from the awardees and the SRC management team, attending the ceremony was:

- the Ambassador Maurice Loustau-Lalanne - the Minister for Finance, Trade, Investment and Economic Planning
- Mrs. Myriam Telemaque - the Minister of Employment, Immigration & Civil Status
- the Principal Secretary for Trade Division – Ms. Cillia Mangroo
- the Chairman of the Governing Board of SRC - Mr. Chrystold Chetty
- Board members
- and representatives of the local media.

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