

# Mauritius: an efficient gateway and hub for investment in Africa

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# Global Institutional Investors Forum

**The Global Institutional Investors Forum (“GIIF”) is a non-profitable, purpose trust set up to represent and promote the views and interests of global investors using Mauritius as an investment jurisdiction. GIIF is an industry body representing the major banks, institutional investors, law firms, accounting firms and management companies in Mauritius. It was established to promote the strengths of Mauritius as an international financial services centre that promotes clean and transparent international investment.**

# Huge potential in Africa

- **Abundance of arable land**
- **Huge amount of natural resources**
- **Strong economic fundamentals**
- **Improved socio political environment**
- **Young and urbanised population**
- **Investment and market opportunities in many sectors**
- **Huge base for demand of consumer products/services**
- **Expand existing business/enter new ventures**

# Two key questions for investors

- **Most efficient way to do business in/with Africa**
- **Optimal way to structure capital flows into Africa**

# The broad macro fundamentals of Mauritius

- **Dynamic, broad based and open economy.**
- **Political and economic stability. Social harmony. Vibrant democracy.**
- **Strong and supportive private sector.**
- **Strategically located in the Indian Ocean with good time zone.**
- **Established rule of law and strong governance.**
- **Ease of doing business and investment friendly climate. Top quartile in world for ease of tax administration**
- **Safe and pleasant living environment.**
- **Strong economic partnership with Africa. AU/SADC/COMESA/IOR.**

# The right enabling framework

- **Flexible, modern legal, regulatory and supervisory framework.**
- **Stringent anti money laundering legislations.**
- **OECD white listed jurisdiction.**
- **Network of 37 DTAA's. Extensive network with Africa.14 with Africa. 7awaits signature/ratification. More treaties in pipeline.**
- **36 IPPA including 17 with African countries.**
- **Skilled labour force and talents. Multi lingual.**
- **State of the art infrastructure for offices and businesses.**
- **Good infrastructure: banking, financial services, telecommunications/IT, technology.**

# Invaluable comparative advantages

- **No exchange controls : free repatriation of capital, income and other funds**
- **Flexible company and trust legislation and regulations geared towards specialised financial services**
- **Confidentiality provisions enshrined in law**
- **Hybrid legal system : common law and civil law**
- **Openness to foreign investment**
- **100 % foreign ownership allowed**
- **Quality and competitive cost of services**
- **Stock exchange open to foreign investors and listing of offshore funds**

# Tax efficient jurisdiction

- **Single flat 15% personal and corporation tax**
- **Maximum of 3 % in the global business sector with 80 % foreign tax credit**
- **Generous underlying tax credit in tax law**
- **No tax on dividends, interests, royalties**
- **No capital gains tax**
- **No inheritance tax**
- **No stamp duty on share capital**
- **Use of DTAA for tax planning purposes**



# Conclusions

- **Combines traditional advantages of an OFC with the distinct advantages of being a treaty-based jurisdiction**
- **Mauritius as a gateway for investment into Africa**
- **Mauritius as a hub for business with/into Africa**
- **A tried, tested and trusted international financial centre of substance**