

Press Communiqué

H.E. Mr Madhusudan Ganapathi, Secretary (West), Ministry of External Affairs, Government of India, handed over a cheque of US \$ 1 million to H.E. Ambassador K. V Bhagirath, Secretary General of IOR-ARC in a ceremony held in the IOR-ARC Secretariat today on 26th June, 2012, in the presence of H.E. Mr. A. P. Neewoor, Secretary for Foreign Affairs, Government of Mauritius and H.E. T. P. Seetharam, High Commissioner of India in Mauritius. India had announced a contribution of USD \$1 Million to the Special Fund during the last Council of Ministers' Meeting held in Bengaluru in November 2011.

The function was attended by the Heads of Missions and International Organization and many other distinguished personalities..

Speaking on the occasion H.E. Mr. T. P. Seetharam, the High Commissioner of India said that any organization needs resources to run its projects and hoped that the contribution from India will help IOR-ARC in achieving its goals.

H.E. Mr. Ganapathi reaffirmed the commitment of Government of India to IOR-ARC and expressed the full support of Government of India to the Secretariat.

H.E. Ambassador Neewoor in his speech described the history of the formation of IOR-ARC and reiterated the commitment of Government of Mauritius as the host country for the Secretariat. He urged the Member States to have a Trade and Investment promotion in the region.

Earlier, Ambassador K.V. Bhagirath welcomed the dignitaries present.

The Secretariat is constantly in close consultation with the Chair, Vice Chair and other Member States to propose new projects that meets the objectives of the organization and that can be funded by the Special Fund.

IOR-ARC Secretariat

26th June, 2012