



# **THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY OF SEYCHELLES**

## **MEDIA YOUTH SPORTS AND CULTURE COMMITTEE**

### **REPORT ON THE**

### **VISIT TO SPORTING FACILITIES FOR THE CJSOI GAMES, JULY 2025**

**Seventh Assembly**

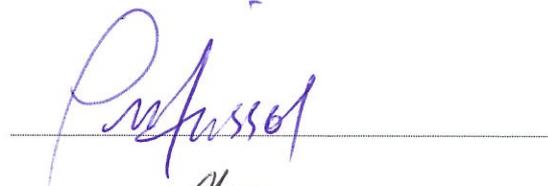
**The Chairperson of the Media, Youth, Sports and Culture Committee submits, on behalf of the Committee its Report on its visit to Sporting Facilities for the CJSOI Games, July 2025:**

Hon. Wavel Woodcock  
**Chairperson**

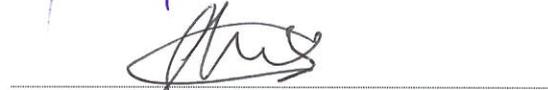


**Other Members:**

Hon. Philip Arissol  
**Vice-Chairperson**



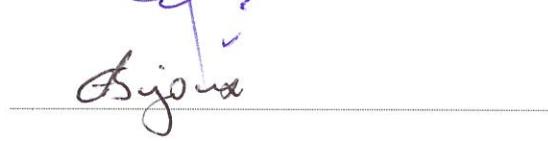
Hon. Conrad Gabriel  
**Member**



Hon. Georges Romain  
**Member**



Hon. Gerard Bijoux  
**Member**



Hon. Valdana Sultan  
**Member**



Hon. Louissette Tamboo  
**Member**

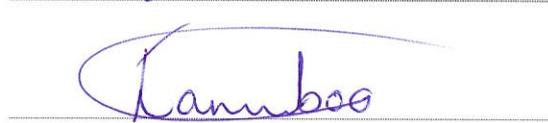


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## CHAPTER ONE

### INTRODUCTION

On Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> July 2025, the Media, Youth, Sports and Culture Committee (MYSCC) conducted a site visit to various Sporting Facilities which are currently undergoing the final phases of preparation for the *Commission de la Jeunesse et des Sports de l'Océan Indien* (CJSOI) Games which will be held in Seychelles from July 28<sup>th</sup> to August 10<sup>th</sup> 2025.

The visit was led by Chairperson of the MYSCC Hon. Wavel Woodcock, MNA, who was accompanied by the CEO of the National Sports Council (NSC) Mr. Marc Arissol, NSC Senior Project Officer Mr. Aldo Rose, and *Chef-Commissaire General* of the CJSOI Secretariat Mr. Georges Lucas. Other MYSCC Members present included:

- Vice-Chairperson Hon. Phillip Arissol, MNA
- Hon. Georges Romain, MNA
- Hon. Gerard Bijoux, MNA
- Hon. Valdana Sultan, MNA

The MYSCC conducted such site visits to assess the ongoing works and status of completion of the renovations. This provided an opportunity for the Committee to evaluate the quality of renovations, set-up of relevant structures and resources, and extent of developments completed to date. Updates were provided by the NSC delegation on the budget and general scope of work, including delays and observations from CJSOI athletes so far.

This report aims to detail the observations and findings from the visits, highlighting the positive aspects of the renovations and developments, and the areas where improvements may be required.

## CHAPTER 3

### VISIT TO THE VICTORIA GYMNASIUM

#### 3.1 Victoria Gymnasium

The visit to the Victoria Gymnasium was brief, as the main renovation was the replacement of the flooring. The typical wooden flooring used for basketball courts has been replaced by a plastic-based floor system made of modular tiles that are interlocked together and drilled securely to the ground. This plastic-based flooring system takes **one day** to be fully assembled and installed, which was done on the day of the visit (**Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> July 2025**). Its benefits include:

- Superior ball bounce and shock absorption
- Improved player safety and injury prevention
- UV-resistant, weather-proof and “all-season” use
- Seamless finish once fully installed

The flooring system is being used in the Victoria Gymnasium as a trial, before a national roll-out is conducted. Athletes have already provided feedback to the NSC, with positive remarks on the playability. It was noted that the lighting fixtures in the gymnasium remained the same but had been checked for any defects. Seating also remained the same, with some efforts to clean and prepare for spectators. While the delegation did not visit the changing room and other facilities, it was noted that developments had been made.

The Committee expressed their satisfaction with the new flooring system, and took the opportunity to test it.

#### **Costing:**

Total costing for the refurbishment of the Victoria Gymnasium was confirmed to be 956,000 rupees. The costing for the newly installed floor system was confirmed to be between 150,000 to 160,000 rupees.



## 4.2 CJSOI Sports Village

The visit to the CJSOI Sports Village began with an introduction by CEO Arissol who detailed how the living arrangements were divided. It was noted that accommodations had been prepared for a total of 704 athletes and additional trainers, coaches and medical staff. Each living quarters would house 6 athletes per container, while trainers/coaches/medical staff would be housed separately in groups of 4. Upon entry, the CEO confirmed that additional works would be done to prevent the spread of mud and dust by laying gravel and small rocks on the ground. Additionally, beautification works such as potted plants and flowers, as well as tree felling for safety was ongoing by the Landscape & Waste Management Agency (LWMA).

The Committee were greeted by the Village Management staff at the reception area, before visiting a container to view the sleeping arrangements. Each container has 3 bunk beds (6 beds in total), 1 AC unit, 6 lockers, a desk, and accessible wall sockets. At the beginning and end of each block of containers are the dedicated shower facility blocks and toilet facility blocks.

- Each toilet facility container is equipped with 5 toilet cubicles, 4 sinks, and 4 mirrors.
- Each shower facility container is equipped with 5 shower cubicles, 4 sinks, and 4 mirrors.



#### 4.4 Dojo Arena

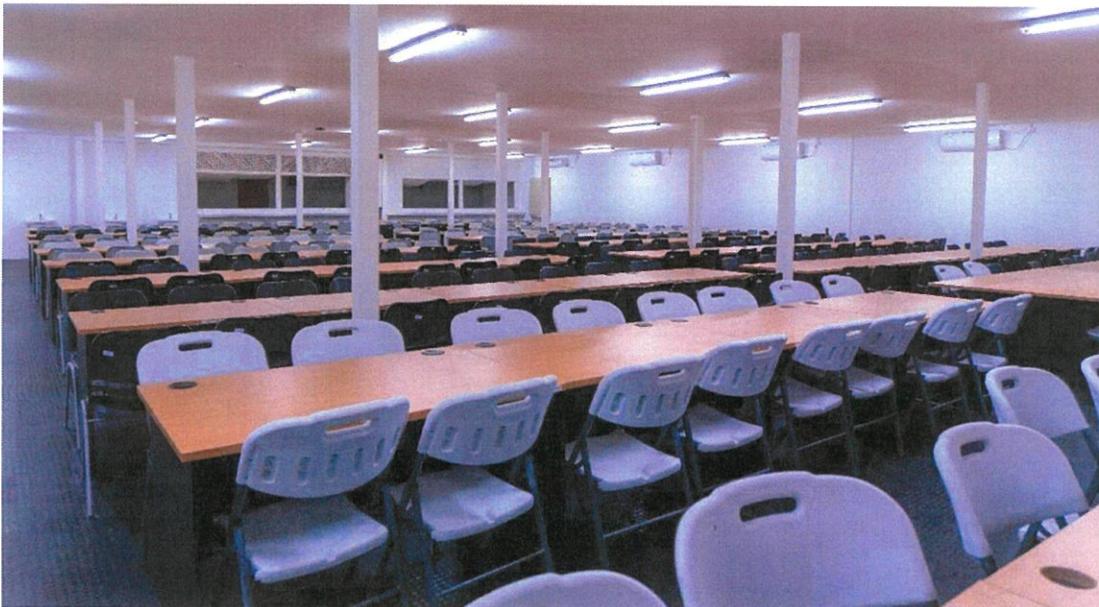
The Committee then visited the Dojo Arena where the space will be used for the CJSOI Games, first for the Weightlifting competition followed by the Boxing competition. Improvements to the facility included:

- Outdoor repairs and installation of new roofing panels
- **New ventilation fans:** The space is now adequately cooled and fresh air can circulate
- **New flooring:** It was confirmed that sections of the previous tartan track had been repurposed as flooring

Previous renovations and developments to the facility were also viewed by the Committee, including the new judo tatami mats and seating areas in the Dojo itself. The Committee expressed its satisfaction with the works done, noting that conditions had significantly improved since the previous visit.

#### 4.5 NSC Hall

CEO Arissol led a visit to the NSC Hall, where the space had been previously utilised during the FIFA Beach Soccer World Cup Games as the dedicated Headquarters. The space has now been repurposed as the CJSOI Secretariat Office and is an open-plan air-conditioned room. Within this space there is adequate office space and facilities such as conference tables and chairs, desks, a fridge, microwave, vending machine, water dispenser, and rice cooker. This indicates a conducive working environment for the staff assisting with and coordinating the CJSOI Games. The space is also being used to prepare the official uniforms, medals, sporting clothing, and other resources to be used by all athletes. It was confirmed that the uniform designed for team Seychelles would be standardised and used in all official international games.



## CONCLUSION

The series of site visits conducted by the Media, Youth, Sports and Culture Committee (MYSCC) provided valuable insights into the readiness of key sports and accommodation facilities ahead of the 2025 *Commission de la Jeunesse et des Sports de l'Océan Indien* (CJSOI) Games.

The Committee commends the National Sports Council (NSC), project teams, and supporting agencies for their significant efforts in preparing Seychelles to host this regional event. As quoted from an interview given to 'TODAY In Seychelles', Chairperson Hon. Woodcock stated that *"From our last visit, we have seen a lot of progress, and we are satisfied. I think that Seychelles will do well in sports such as volleyball and basketball"*.

The Committee was generally satisfied with the scope and quality of renovations observed across the sites. Notable improvements include enhanced ventilation, upgraded flooring, modernised athlete accommodations, and better-equipped competition venues. These upgrades reflect not only Seychelles' commitment to the CJSOI Games but also its broader aspirations to position itself as a regional hub for youth sports development. However, the Committee notes that a few logistical and infrastructural challenges persist, including minor delays in materials delivery, ongoing mitigation of environmental concerns such as pigeon control, and the finalisation of aesthetic and safety improvements. It is imperative that these outstanding matters are addressed with urgency and care in the days leading up to the Games.

The estimated total costs of redevelopment in preparation for the CJSOI games is broken down as follows:

Facility	Cost (SCR)
La Promenade Gymnasium	3,000,000
Victoria Gymnasium	1,116,000
Palais Des Sports	7,000,000
CJSOI Sports Village	48,000,000
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>59,116,000</b>