



## LINYON DEMOKRATIK SESELWA

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### **LDS OBJECTS TO APPOINTMENT OF POLITICALLY CONNECTED SPF BOARD CHAIRMAIN**

LDS objects to the appointment of Mr. Jacquelin Dugasse as Chairman of the Board of Trustees of the Seychelles Pension Fund (SPF).

As the recent CEO of the James Michel Foundation, Mr. Dugasse has been a political figure who is not appropriate as chairman for the SPF which should maintain no political connections whatsoever.

Mr. Dugasse is also a former Minister in a government that has been discredited for its poor record in financial management and tolerance of corruption. He did not demonstrate any better judgement or ability to avoid these failures while he was Minister for Health, when a case involving improper handling of payments for medical imports was brought to light. As a result, Mr. Dugasse does not inspire confidence in leadership of the SPF.

LDS finds that the change of chairmanship of the Board after only a few months is unfortunate and not in the interests of the organisation. The President, in the name of the transparency which he often claims, must give a clear and credible explanation for it. The outgoing chairman, Mr. Edwin Palmer, was appointed in March of this year for a period of three years. The public, in particular the Seychellois workers who are the stakeholders in the SPF, must know if this is a result of any conflict over policy or management of the Fund.

LDS is always concerned about the viability of the SPF because it is a key to the well-being of our workers after retirement. Its policies and management must be sound and transparent, and this calls for a Board that is independent of political considerations. LDS regrets that the appointment of Mr. Dugasse departs from this principle and can lead to undue political influence in the direction of the SPF.

Roger Mancienne  
Chairman

September 21, 2018