



## LINYON DEMOKRATIK SESELWA

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### LDS ENGAGEMENT IN REGIONAL COUNCILS

The engagement of LDS on the Regional Councils will enable us to participate in district affairs and in the work of the District Administration offices. This will allow us to deal more directly with the problems and concerns at the local level and make the District Administration more responsive and impartial.

The Regional Councils will be our first engagement in Local Government. It will be part of our system of Government and as such it is appropriate that it is the political parties which represent the people which have this responsibility.

Local Government in democratic countries is normally set up as part of the electoral process and we expect that this will be the case in our system. The present Councils are also based on an electoral process because they are based on the results on the National Assembly elections of 2016. The allocation of seats on the Councils are in proportion of the votes cast in those elections.

LDS agreed for the Regional Councils to be based on the previous election because of its concerns for the financial burden of a new election solely for this purpose.

The two political parties involved received 99% of the eligible votes and therefore have the endorsement of the people. The third political party and the independent candidates which stood in that election carried no more than 1% of the votes and therefore would not qualify by democratic standards to be part of Local Government.

The representatives of LDS on the Regional Councils will be open to all citizens and residents in their region. They will be sensitive to all district concerns without political consideration and will seek to serve all equally with fairness.

We value the role that civil society can play in national affairs and we believe that they can interact with the Regional Councils as they choose on matters concerning their area of involvement.

The District Administration offices in the past have been perceived as being politically affiliated in their work even to the extent of its officers taking part in political campaigning. With the creation of the Regional Councils as their supervisory bodies, we aim that this will change and that the District Administration will work more independently and impartially.

We also aim that all financial resources allocated to the districts will be utilised properly for the purposes for which they are intended and completely accounted for.

LDS looks forward to this new opportunity to engage in public affairs and counts on the support of the people of Seychelles for each Regional Council to be an effective body to serve their interests.

Roger Mancienne  
Party Leader.

July 13th, 2018