

NEWS RELEASE

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Statement on assistance to patients requiring treatment overseas

Air Mauritius has been providing facilities to patients requiring treatment overseas as well as to one accompanying person for many years. These facilities have been provided within the Corporate Social Responsibility Scheme (CSR) of the national airline well before legislation passed recently on CSR. These are offered upon presentation of a certificate from the Ministry of Health, who is responsible for the screening process. In this context thousands of passengers have benefitted from these facilities over the years.

Air Mauritius has taken note that in the Budget speech, Government made additional efforts for patients requiring treatment overseas by increasing the allocation from Rs200,000 to Rs500,000 (for treatment costs) and by providing one FREE ticket for the patient and one FREE ticket for an accompanying person. As Air Mauritius will continue to provide the usual facilities to the patient and one accompanying person under this scheme, the airline therefore feels it is doing its fair share in good corporate citizenship.

The issue of a third ticket for a second accompanying person is not included in the new scheme and any discussion to that effect can only be held with the competent bodies/authorities. Health Authorities are the sole bodies to decide on Policies in relation to Public Health. This is why Air Mauritius maintains that it remains open for discussions with the Authorities for any review of its current Policy while being equally very sympathetic to the difficulties which may be encountered by patients requiring treatment overseas.

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Air Mauritius is the national carrier of the Republic of Mauritius. Created in 1967, it currently operates a fleet of four A340-300, two A340-300E, two A330-200, two A319-100 and two ATR72-500. Air Mauritius presently flies to twenty-six destinations in Europe, Asia, Australia, Africa and the Indian Ocean