



UNIVERSITY OF MAURITIUS
SETTING UP OF A CONFUCIUS INSTITUTE AT THE UNIVERSITY OF
MAURITIUS

SPEECH by

Dr. Jean Claude Autrey, CSK, Chancellor

His Excellency, Mr Li LI, Ambassador of the People's Republic of China

**Mr R P RAMLUGUN, Ag Senior Chief Executive, Ministry of Education and
Human Resources, Tertiary Education and Scientific Research**

**Mrs N D GOORAH, Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Education and Human
Resources, Tertiary Education and Scientific Research**

Professor Romeela Mohee, Vice Chancellor of the University of Mauritius

Professor Hussein Subratty, Pro-Vice-Chancellor (Academia)

Assoc Prof Thanika Juwaheer, Pro-Vice-Chancellor (Planning & Resources)

Colleagues

Ladies and Gentlemen

Good morning

It is my pleasure and privilege to wish a very warm welcome to Your Excellency,
Mr Li LI, Ambassador of the People's Republic of China and to you all.

During its 50 years of existence the University of Mauritius has seen a lot of events. However, the one of this morning constitutes a landmark in the evolution of the University. I am going to recall the main steps leading to the ceremony of this morning before passing on to Prof. Romeela Mohee who will elaborate on the substance of the Agreement and its significance for the University and for Mauritius.

In early February 2015, the University of Mauritius was informed that it has been agreed between the Government of the People's Republic of China and the Government of the Republic of Mauritius that Mauritius would host a Confucius Institute and that the Confucius Institute would be set up on the UoM Campus in Réduit.

An Agreement between the Confucius Institute Headquarters located in Beijing and the University of Mauritius was prepared. Discussions were initiated between the two institutions through the support of the Embassy of the People's Republic of China in Mauritius.

All formalities for the Agreement between the Confucius Institute Headquarters and the University of Mauritius for the setting up of a Confucius Institute at the University have now been finalised. The Confucius Institute Headquarters have also approved the application made by the University of Mauritius for the setting up of the Confucius Institute

The Southeast University located in Nanjing, China has also been appointed as the Chinese Partner University in the establishment of the Confucius Institute at the University of Mauritius.

The signing of the Agreement between the University of Mauritius and local partners will take place this morning in the presence of His Excellency, Chinese Ambassador and thereafter, the originals will be sent to the Confucius Institute Headquarters (via diplomatic courier) to be signed by Ms Xu Lin, Chief Executive of the Confucius Institute Headquarters.

Your Excellency

Ladies and Gentlemen

Thank you for your attention

Jean Claude Autrey

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