

Annual report 2011



Aapravasi Ghat Trust Fund

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ACRONYMS

AGTF	Aapravasi Ghat Trust Fund
AG WHS	Aapravasi Ghat World Heritage Site
AG WHP	Aapravasi Ghat World Heritage Property
BRIC	Beekrumsing Ramlallah Interpretation Centre
BZ	Buffer Zone
CM	Conservation Manual
DP	Development Plan
HMP	Heritage Management Plan
VMP	Visitor Management Plan

VISION AND MISSION

The mission and vision of the organisation is:

- to establish and promote the Aapravasi Ghat as a national, regional and international memorial site;
- to preserve and restore the aesthetic and architectural aspects of the Aapravasi Ghat ;
- to set up a museum at Aapravasi Ghat and create public awareness of the history of the site;
- to promote social and cultural aspects of the Aapravasi Ghat;
- to encourage and support projects and publications related to the Indentured Labour system;
- to establish links with appropriate national regional and international organizations; and
- to identify and acquire sites, buildings and structures linked with the history of the arrival of immigrants in Mauritius.

The Trust's guiding principles include:

- Support of activities related to indentured Labour immigration;
- Support projects that benefit all Mauritians and in which Mauritians from all walks of life can participate. This includes the conceptualization, planning and execution of projects;
- To restore the links with past and our origins that have been broken as a result of rapid modernization and to restore pride into our indentured Heritage;
- To carry out projects in a democratic spirit, in a historically accurate way and in full respect of the multi-cultural society in which we live;
- To promote excellence rather than be satisfied with basic minimum or the cheapest alternative.

AAPRAVASI GHAT WORLD HERITAGE SITE



The Aapravasi Ghat Trust Fund AGTF is a body corporate under the aegis of the Ministry of Arts and Culture. It was created in 2001 by the Government of the Republic of Mauritius through Act of Parliament to manage and promote the Aapravasi Ghat Site.

The site was declared National Monument under the National Monuments Act in 1987(GN31/87) and subsequently proclaimed National Heritage in 2003 under the National Heritage Act 2003.

The Aapravasi Ghat Site was inscribed on the World Heritage List under criteria (VI) in 2006 (Decision 30 COM 8 B.33). The concept of World Heritage was developed by UNESCO to define cultural and natural heritage that are irreplaceable, unique and authentic, not only for the nation to which they belong, but also for humanity as a whole. It is considered that the loss of this heritage through deterioration or disappearance would generate an impoverishment of the heritage of all the peoples of the world. As such, their significance is of Outstanding Universal Value¹ (OUV).

The World Heritage Status is defined by the *Convention concerning the protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage* (1972) of UNESCO and by the *operational Guidelines for the implementation of the World Heritage Convention* (2008).

The inscription of the Aapravasi Ghat recognizes the Outstanding Universal Value of the Site as a symbol of the Great Experiment initiated in 1834 by the British colonial Government to evaluate the viability of *indenture* as a system to recruit “free” labour after the abolition of slavery in the British Colonies in 1833.

“The first site chosen by the British Government in 1834 for the great experiment in the use of indentured rather than slave Labor, is strongly associated with memories of almost half a million indentured labourers moving from India to Mauritius to work on sugarcane plantations or to be transhipped to other parts of the World.”

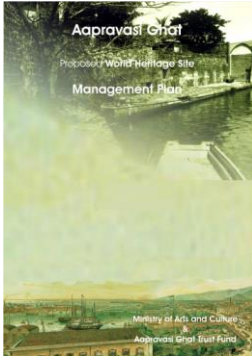
A Buffer Zone² (BZ) was delimited for Aapravasi Ghat (AG) World Heritage Site (WHS) to allow the full expression of the outstanding significance of the World Heritage Site as per UNESCO *Convention concerning the protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage*. In its Convention, UNESCO explains that the Buffer Zone is important as it represents the context in

¹ A definition is provided in the glossary.

² The concept of buffer zone is explained in the annex.

which the World Heritage Site has evolved through time. As such, it is a fundamental element supporting its cultural significance at national and international level. This is the reason why appropriate measures are enforced in the Buffer Zone to protect, preserve, enhance and promote the Outstanding Universal Value (OUV) of the World Heritage Site. The ultimate objective is to create a suitable environment supporting the retention of the heritage in the BZ, and also, its sustainable development.

MANAGEMENT PLAN 2006-2012



The Management Plan is a document required by the UNESCO World Heritage Convention³ to ensure the preservation and sustainability of the Outstanding Universal Value of the World Heritage Property. The Management Plan describes the World Heritage Site, its outstanding Universal Value and related significances, and analyses the issues affecting the conservation and management of the World Heritage Property.

The Management Plan is therefore a key document presenting a vision for the future along with key principles and objectives that guide the Aapravasi Ghat Trust Fund in its mission. The Management Plan is reviewed every five years to integrate changes in contemporary context and offer a proactive document speaking to current issues.

For the period from the inscription of the Aapravasi Ghat in 2006 to 2012, the objectives of the Management Plan were as follows:

1. HERITAGE PROTECTION AND MANAGEMENT

- To constitute an Aapravasi Ghat WHS management system;
- To clearly define basic physical, visual and historic linkages of Aapravasi Ghat with the Trou Fanfaron and the Port-Louis historic area;
- To create buffer zone to achieve a high quality environment for the AG surroundings so as to exemplify its status, dignity and character of the site and to provide buffer zone a statutory status;
- To take measures to reduce the impact of noise and air pollution on the Aapravasi Ghat and its environs;
- To ensure a unified approach by government departments, agencies and other statutory bodies who undertake activities that may have an impact on the Aapravasi Ghat and its environs;
- To adopt the Management Plan as Supplementary Planning Guidance for the Action area plan of local government through appropriate legislation.

³ Operational Guidelines for the implementation of the World Heritage Convention, UNESCO, WHC.08/01, January 2008, state that *“Each nominated property should have an appropriate management plan or other documented management system which should specify how the outstanding universal value of a property should be preserved, preferably through participatory means”* (Operational Guidelines, Ch.II.F /108, p.27).

2. CONSERVATION OF THE BUILT FABRIC

- To develop a comprehensive Conservation Plan for the Aapravasi Ghat and maintain the built fabric and archaeological excavations to the best international standards of conservation;
- To establish a research and conservation laboratory for understanding and preservation of artefacts;
- To promote adaptive reuse of the historic buildings in the buffer zone within the limits of conservation principles;
- To prepare the Risk Preparedness plan for the site and buffer area.

3. COMMUNITY WITHIN THE AAPRAVASI GHAT BUFFER ZONE

- To undertake an intensive survey to collect data on the socio-cultural and socio-economic status of the local community;
- To encourage local community participation and conduct community meetings and workshops to incorporate issues important to the local community in the management of the Area;
- To ensure the sustainability of traditional businesses in the buffer zone;
- To encourage stakeholders to retain their historic structures by offering incentives;
- To monitor visitor flows within the Aapravasi Ghat site and develop plans to improve visitor circulation patterns;
- To provide clear orientation, interpretation and signage for all visitors to the Aapravasi Ghat so they can maximise their understanding and appreciation of the site, its environs and on-going research and conservation;
- To provide visitor and staff infrastructure at the site;
- Introducing heritage walks/trails for tourists within the buffer zone.

4. RESEARCH AND INCREASED UNDERSTANDING OF THE SITE

- To create a documentation centre for research on the Aapravasi Ghat and indenture immigration;
- To promote institutional links both within and outside Mauritius to undertake joint multidisciplinary research on the Aapravasi Ghat and indentured immigration.

5. INFORMATION DISSEMINATION, TRAINING AND EDUCATION

- To raise national and international awareness about the significance of site;
- To encourage publications pertaining to the history of Aapravasi Ghat and the Culture related to Indenture labour immigration;

- Creating and publishing special children kits on History and culture of the site an Indentured Labour system.

PROFILE OF THE AGTF



i. CORPORATE GOVERNANCE

The Aapravasi Ghat Trust Fund is a statutory body set up under the Aapravasi Ghat Trust Fund Act No 31 of 2001 operating under aegis of Ministry of Arts and Culture.

ii. DIRECTORS' RESPONSIBILITY FOR THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

The Fund's Directors are responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in accordance with Accounting Standards issued by Financial Reporting Council in compliance with the requirements of prevailing statutes.

iii. RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

The fundamental statutory responsibilities of the Board of Directors are to lay down the overall policies regulating the various business/ activities of the Fund; it oversees the Fund's strategic direction and its organizational structure. The Board discharges the above responsibilities either or through Board Committees for more in-depth analysis and review of various issues while retaining its responsibility for all policy matters.

The Chairman of each Committee periodically places reports of its proceedings before the Board for approval/information, as may be relevant. The Board promotes openness, integrity and accountability to improve corporate behavior, strengthens control systems over business and reviews management performance on a regular basis. In addition the Board is committed to ensure as far as reasonably possible, and in accordance with legislation in force, the safety and health of its staff. To fulfill their responsibilities, Board members have unhindered access to accurate, relevant and timely information.

iv. INTERNAL CONTROL

Directors' responsibility includes designing, implementing and maintaining internal control relevant to the preparation and presentation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement; selecting and applying appropriate accounting policies and making accounting estimates that are reasonable in the circumstances.

Such systems should ensure that all transactions are authorized and recorded and that any material irregularities are detected and rectified within a reasonable time frame.

.....
Chairman

.....
Board Member

v. THE OBJECT OF THE FUND

The main objectives of the Fund is to establish and promote Aapravasi Ghat as a national, regional and international site, set up a museum at Aapravasi Ghat, create public awareness in the history of the site and depict the arrival, settlement and evolution of indenture in Mauritius. It also has to identify and acquire sites, buildings and structures linked with the history of the arrival of immigrants and promote the social and cultural aspects of Aapravasi Ghat.

vi. ADMINISTRATION

The Fund is administered by a Board comprising of a Chairperson, a Vice Chairperson and 13 members all appointed by the Minister of Arts and Culture under whose aegis the Fund operates.

vii. SOURCES OF INCOME

The main source of income of the Fund is derived from the Government. Hence the Fund has to depend entirely on government grant which are used for different projects and administrative purposes.

viii. THE MAIN DIVISIONS

For the execution of the policy of the AGTF Board and for the control and management of its day –o-day business, the Fund has the following main divisions:

- (a). The Administrative Section and
- (b). The Technical and Research Section

ix. TOP MANAGEMENT

In accordance with section No 21 of the AGTF ACT 2001 and subsequently amended in 2011.

- the Director shall be responsible for the execution of the policy of the Board for the control and management of the day to day business of the Fund.
- every member of the staff shall be render the administrative control of the Director

x. ADMINISTRATIVE SECTION

The Administrative Secretary is directly responsible for the general administration including the Personnel Division and acts inter-alia as Secretary to the Board. The Administrative Section is staffed by incumbents in the grades of Administrative Secretary, Accounting Technician,

Financial Operations Officer Clerk/Word Processing Operator, Accounts Clerk, Confidential Secretary and Office Attendant/Driver.

xi. TECHNICAL AND RESEARCH SECTION

This unit is responsible for the implementation of projects and activities defined by the Management Plan of the Aapravasi Ghat World Heritage Property as well as the projects defined in the strategic plan to meet the objects of the Fund.

The Technical and Research Section is composed of 30 members in the posts of WHS Manager (1), Researcher (3), Research Assistant (5), Field Guide (1), Heritage Guide/Public Outreach Officer (4), Site Conservation Worker (7), Watchman (4), Gateman (1) and General Worker (3). The unit is managed by the Head Technical Unit (1).

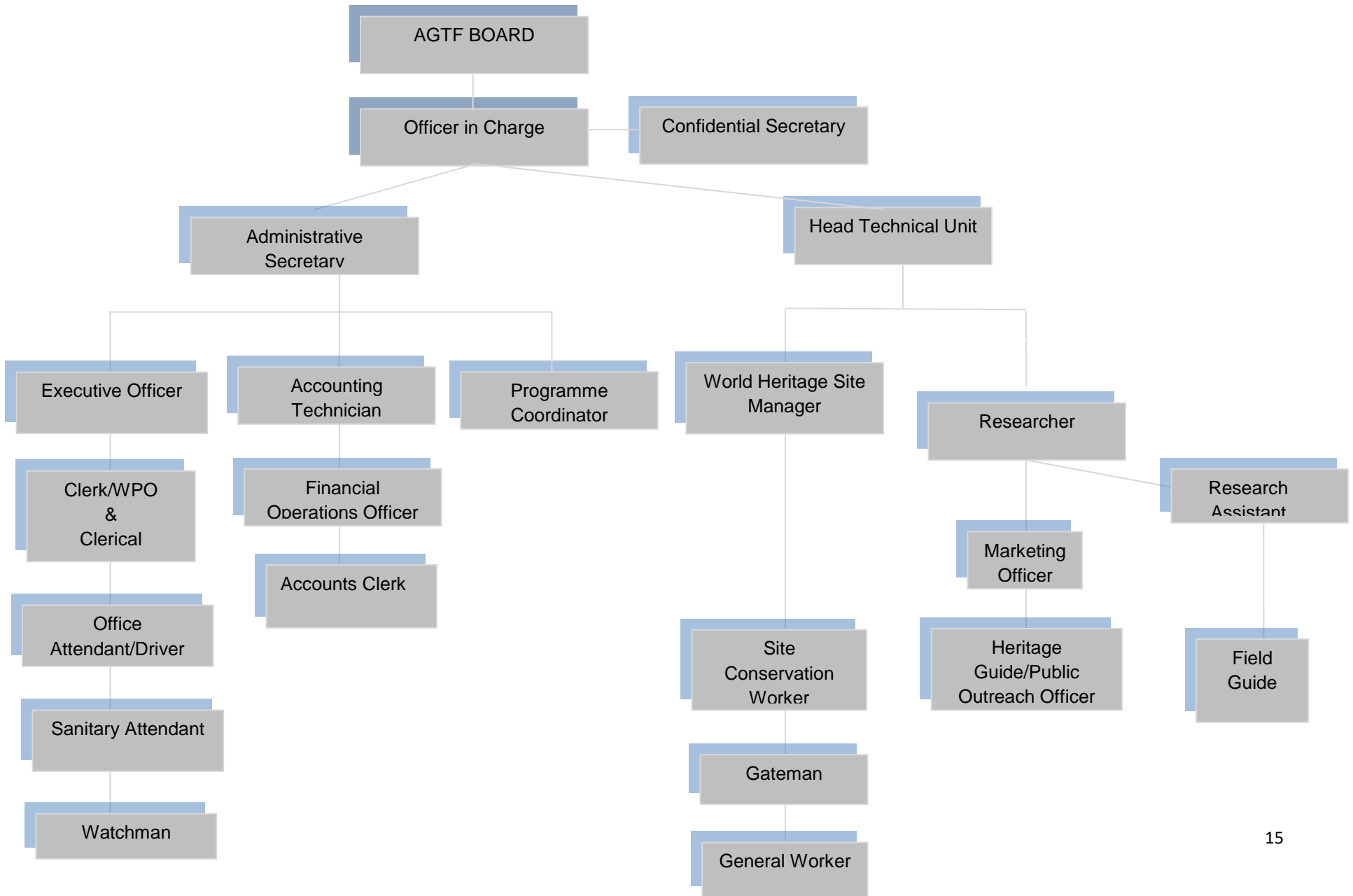
xii. RISK MANAGEMENT POLICY

Risk Management Policy has been disclosed at note 12 of the Financial Statement.

xiii. HEALTH AND SAFETY POLICY

With the coming into force of the Occupational Health and safety Act 2005, this organization recognizes the fundamental importance of Health and safety of its staff members and other persons who may be directly affected by its activities. This organization complies with all relevant Health and Safety legislation. Protective clothing and equipment are supplied to staff working on different sites. Firefighting equipment, first aid boxes are fixed in places to ensure rapid and easy use.

xiv. ORGANISATION CHART OF THE AGTF



COMPOSITION OF THE AAPRAVASI GHAT TRUST FUND BOARD

Composition of Board	Name
Mrs V Teelock	Chairperson
Mr A Hutchamah	Vice -Chairman
Mrs C Ramah Dr P S Boodhun	Rep from Ministry of Arts and Culture
Mrs J Rogbeer	Rep from Prime Minister's Office
Mr D Paligadu	Rep Min of Finance and Economic Development
Mrs M Thannoo	Rep. from National Heritage Fund
Ms N Gopauloo	Rep from Mahatma Gandhi Institute
Mrs M Jhugroo	Rep. from Ministry of Education & Human Resources
Mr P B Dwarka	Rep from Ministry of Tourism & Leisure
Mr Mimansak	Rep from High Com of India
Mr M Jhummun	Member
Mrs S Ramlallah	Member
Mr B P Dinand	Member
Mr R Thodda	Member
A S Rusmaully	Member
Mr D Ramloll	Member

PROFILE OF BOARD MEMBERS

- Dr Vijaya Teelock, G O S K

Chairperson of AGTF

Presently working at University of Mauritius as Associate Professor in the Faculty of Social Studies and Humanities.

- Dr Pushpawant Boodhun

Principal Assistant Secretary at the Ministry of Arts and Culture and representative of the Parent Ministry on AGTF Board.

- Mr Adinarain Hutchamah is the Vice Chairman of the AGTF Board and also the president of Telegu Cultural Centre Trust and Advisor to the Minister of Education and Human Resources.
- Mr Bisham Dwarka is the Principal Tourism Planner at the Ministry of Tourism and Leisure and represent the said Ministry on AGTF Board.
- Ms N Gopauloo is a senior Lecturer at the Mahatma Gandhi Institute (MGI) and representative of the said institution on AGTF Board.
- Mrs Ramah is the Assistant Secretary at the Ministry of Arts and Culture and is the representative of the Parent Ministry.
- Dr Paligadu is a lead analyst at the Ministry of Finance and Economic Development and represents the said Ministry on AGTF Board.
- Mrs M Jhugroo is the Assisnat Secretary at the Ministry of Education and Human Resources and represent the said Ministry on AGTF Board.
- Mrs Rogbeer is the Principal Information Officer at the Prime Minister's Office and represents PMO on AGTF Board,
- Mrs M Thanoo is the Director at the National Heritage Fund and represent the Fund on AGTF Board
- Mr P Gujadhur is Principal Tourism Planner at the Ministry of Tourism and Leisure and represents the said Ministry on AGTF Board.
- Mr Mimansak is the Second Secretary of Indian High Commission and represents the High Commission on the AGTF Board.
- Mr Ahmed Suffick Rusmaully is a nominated member and is presently working at the State Bank of India(SBI).

- Mr Mukesh Jhummun is a nominated member and presently he is working as Education Officer in a Private School.
- Ms Sadhna Ramlallah is a nominated member and is working at the Edition Ocean Indien.
- Mr Bhuruth Prasad Dinand is a nominated member and is working as Education Officer in Secondary School.
- Mr Dravindranath Ramloll is a nominated member and presently he is working at the Central Water Authority.
- Mr Rajendra Thodda is a nominated member and presently he is working as Barrister at Law.

SENIOR MANAGEMENT PROFILE

- | | |
|----------------------|---|
| 1. Mr J. Mohit | Officer in Charge
Graduate in Maths /Statistics/Economics with Socio-Politico-Cultural background. |
| 2. Mr V. Ramoutar | Administrative Secretary
Post Graduate in Public Sector Management |
| 3. Ms C. Forest | Head Technical Unit
Post-Graduate in Museology and Anthropology |
| 4. Mrs D. Chuckowree | Accounting Technician
Graduate in Public Sector Financial Management |
| 5. Mr L. Andiapen | World Heritage Site Manager-
Post Graduate in Heritage Management |

CONSTITUTION OF SUB-COMMITTEES IN 2011

A. Finance Committee

Dr D. Paligadu	Chairperson Rep Min of Finance and Economic Development
Mrs C. Ramah	Rep from Ministry of Arts and Culture
Mr B. Dwarka	Rep from Ministry of Tourism & Leisure
Mr A. S. Rusmaully	Board Member
Mr B. Jhummun	Board Member
Mr B. P. Dinand	Board Member

(B). Staff Committee

Mrs C. Ramah	Chairperson Rep from Ministry of Arts and Culture
Mrs R. Ruchchan	Rep from Ministry of Arts and Culture
Dr D. Paligadu	Rep Min of Finance and Economic Development
Mrs M. Thannoo	Rep. from National Heritage Fund
Mr B. P. Dinand	Board Member
Mr D. Ramloll	Board Member

(C). Tender Department Committee

Mr Mohit	Chairperson Officer-in-Charge, AGTF
Mr Ramoutar	Administrative Secretary, AGTF
Ms Chuckowree	Finance Officer, AGTF

(D). Tender Evaluation Committee

Roofing for BRIC (1)	
Mr Khodabaccus	Chairperson Representative of MPI
Mr D. Bunjun	Project Manager, AGTF
Ms C. Forest	Head Technical Unit, AGTF
Mr Bissessur Lalitsingh	Engineer/ Senior Engineer MPI
Multimedia for BRIC (2)	
Ms C. Forest	Chairperson Head Technical Unit
Mr D. Bunjun	Project Manager, AGTF
Mr. Mugon	Researcher, AGTF
Mr Khemraz	Graphic Designer, Consultant

(E). Steering Committee (Beekrumsing Ramlallah Interpretation Centre Project)

Dr V. Teelock	Chairperson
Mrs S. Ramlallah	Board Member
Dr Boodhun	Board member Rep. of the Ministry of Arts and Culture
Dr Paligadu	Board Member Rep. of the Ministry of Finance and Economic Development
Mr Mohit	Officer-in-Charge, AGTF
Ms C. Forest	Head Technical Unit – AGTF
Mr V. Mugon	Researcher - AGTF

(F). Intangible Cultural Heritage Committee

Dr. S Ramdin	Rep from Ravindranath Tagore Institute
Dr. P Ramhotah	Rep from Mahatma Gandhi Institute
Dr. N Gopauloo	Rep from Mahatma Gandhi Institute
Mr R. Boodhoo	Historian
Ms C. Forest	Head of Technical Unit-AGTF
Mrs K. C. Jankee	Research Assistant-AGTF

(G). Editorial Committee 1 (publication on indenture)

Editorial Committee	
Dr. V. Teelock	Chairperson
Dr. S. Rivière	Member
Mrs S. Gayan	Member
Dr. G. Summers	Member
Ms C. Forest	Head of Technical Unit-AGTF
Mr S. Peerthum	Researcher-AGTF
Ms C. Miao Foh	Research Assistant-AGTF

(H). Scientific Technical and Advisory Committee (Buffer Zone)

Dr D. Paligadu	Rep Min of Finance and Economic Development
Mr Jhummun	Board Member
Mr Boodhun	Rep. of Ministry of Arts and Culture
Dr. P Ramhotah	Rep from Mahatma Gandhi Institute
Mr B. P. Dinand	Board Member
Ms Forest	Head Technical Unit - AGTF
Mrs M. Soodin-Runghen	Researcher-AGTF
Mrs N. Ramcharitar	Research Assistant-AGTF

(I). Editorial Committee 2 (Newsletter 2011)

Editorial Committee 2 (Newsletter 2011)	
Mrs C. Ramah	Chairperson
Mr B. P. Dinand	Board Member
Mr B. Jhummun	Board Member
Ms C. Forest	Head Technical Unit - AGTF
Mr S. Peerthum	Researcher - AGTF
Mr V. Mugon	Researcher - AGTF
Ms C. Miao Foh	Research Assistant-AGTF

(J). Drama Committee (2 November 2011)

Drama Committee	
Mr K. Seetul	Financial Operations Officer-AGTF
Mr R. Guttee	Rep from Hindi Speaking Union
Mrs S. Sunkur	Rep from Hindi Speaking Union
Mr B. Jhummun	Member

6. THE DEPARTMENTAL INJURY COMMITTEE

Recommended by the Personal Management Manual, the departmental injury Board (Committee) is set up to enquire and report on case/s of injury sustained by an employee while on duty.

One case of injury was reported in year 2011. Both cases were handled by the Committee and appropriate recommendations were made.

7. NUMBER OF MEETINGS

For the period under review, the main Board meeting of AGTF held 15 meetings and the holding of sub-committees meetings were as follows:

Staff Committee	: 5 times
PRB Committee	: 2 times
Finance Committee	: 4 times
Tender Department Committee	: 4 times
Tender Evaluation Committee	: 7 times
Steering Committee	: 6 times
ICH Committee	: 1 time
Scientific Technical and Advisory Committee (Buffer Zone)	: 1 time
Editorial Committee (1)	: 6 times
Editorial Committee (2)	: 5 times
Drama Committee	: 1 time

8. REGISTERED OFFICE

1, Quay Street
Ex-DWC Building
Port Louis

9. AUDITORS

Director of Audit
National Audit Office
14th Floor
Paille en Queue Court
Port Louis

FUNDS ALLOCATED FOR YEAR 2011

For the financial year 2011 government has allocated:

1. RECURRENT GRANT

MUR 12 Million Recurrent Expenditure (Govt Grant)

2. CAPITAL GRANT

- MUR 3.5 Million from Lottery Fund
- MUR 8 Million for Capital Projects

BUDGET PROPOSAL FOR YEAR 2012

S/N	Description	Total (MUR)
	Compensation of Employees	
1	<i>Basic Salary</i>	6,876,000.00
2	<i>Extra Remuneration</i>	504,000.00
3	<i>Allowances</i>	384,000.00
4	<i>Cash in Lieu of Sick Leave</i>	50,000.00
5	<i>Gratuity/Cash in Lieu of Leave</i>	405,280.00
6	<i>Passage Benefit</i>	300,000.00
7	<i>Extra Assistance</i>	0.00
8	<i>End of Year Bonus</i>	632,000.00
	Other Staff Costs	
9	<i>Wages</i>	204,000.00
10	<i>Travelling & Transport</i>	1,047,000.00
11	<i>Overtime</i>	160,000.00
12	<i>Staff Welfare</i>	50,000.00
13	<i>National Pension Fund</i>	264,000.00
14	<i>Pension to Sicom</i>	533,000.00
15	<i>Family Protection Scheme</i>	104,000.00
	Cost of Utilities	
16	<i>Electricity Charges</i>	760,000.00
17	<i>Telephone Bills</i>	280,000.00
18	<i>Water Charges</i>	64,000.00
	Fuel and Oil	
19	<i>Vehicles</i>	50,000.00
20	Rent	0.00

	Office Equipment & Furniture	
21	<i>Office Equipment</i>	0.00
22	<i>Office Furniture</i>	0.00
23	<i>IT Equipment</i>	35,000.00
	Office Expenses	
24	Postage	29,000.00
25	Office Expenses & Incidentals	147,000.00
	Maintenance	
26	<i>Building</i>	0.00
27	<i>Plant & Equipment</i>	5,000.00
28	<i>Vehicles & Motorcycles</i>	36,000.00
29	<i>IT Equipment</i>	57,000.00
30	<i>Furniture, Fixtures and Fittings</i>	0.00
31	<i>Maintenance on Site</i>	80,000.00
32	Cleaning Expenses	68,000.00
	Publications & Stationery	
33	<i>Printing & Stationery</i>	133,000.00
34	<i>Books & Periodicals</i>	1,500.00
35	<i>Advertisement (Public Notices)</i>	5,000.00
36	<i>Publications/Newspapers</i>	104,000.00
	Fees	
37	<i>Fees to Chairman & Board Members</i>	411,000.00
38	<i>Training of Staff</i>	0.00

	Other Goods and Services	
39	<i>Uniforms</i>	65,000.00
40	<i>Service Charges (Bank Charges)</i>	4,000.00
41	<i>Group Personal Insurance</i>	24,500.00
42	<i>Insurance (BRIC & Public Liability)</i>	150,000.00
43	<i>Overseas Mission</i>	0.00
44	<i>Miscellaneous Expenses</i>	795,000.00
45	<i>Membership Fee</i>	0.00
46	<i>Workshops/Seminars</i>	0.00
	Total	14,817,280.00

ATTENDANCE RECORDS & REMUNERATION AND BENEFITS OF MEMBERS

In total, 12 Board Meetings, 3 Special Board Meetings, 4 Staff Committee meetings and 6 Finance Committee meetings were held during the year 2011.

Name	Board	Special Board	Staff	Finance
	12	3	4	6
Dr V. Teelock	9	3	1	
Mr A. Hutchmah	3	3	-	
Dr P. S. Boodhun	3	1	1	
Mrs C. Ramah	8	1	5	4
Mrs J Rogbeer	5	-	-	
Mr O. P. Seebaluck	2	-	-	
Mr D. Paligadu	6	1	5	3
Mrs M. Thannoo	4	1	-	
Mr Dowlutrao	6	1	5	
Ms N. Gopauloo	7	1	-	
Mrs M. Jhugroo	7	1	-	
Mr Ramjuttun	1	-	-	
Mr P. B. Dwarka	4	1	-	3
Mr P. Gujadhur	4			1
Mr Mimansak	4	1	-	
Mr M. Jhummun	9	3	-	3

Name	Board	Special Board	Staff	Finance
Mrs S Ramlallah	5	3	-	
Mr B P Dinand	10	1	5	2
Mr R Thodda	2	-	-	
A S Rusmaully	10	3	-	4
Mrs R Ruchchan			4	
Mr D Ramloll	12	3	6	
Mrs Hasowa	1			
Ms L Persand	1			
Mrs N Mothoor	1			

REMUNERATION OF DIRECTORS OF BOARD

The Chairperson is entitled to a monthly allowance of MUR 21,000.

All other Board members receive an allowance of MUR 625 as per Board meeting and any member sitting on a sub-committee receives an allowance of MUR 575 per meeting.

The Chairperson of sub-committees receives an allowance of MUR 860 per sitting.

The total remuneration paid amounts to MUR 404,575.

RECRUITMENT OF STAFF

During the year 2011, additional staff grades were recruited to enable the Fund to cater for the needs of the Trust Fund. These are:

Accounting Technician	1
Accounts Clerk	1
Financial Operations Officer	1
Executive Officer	1
Research Assistants	2

TRAINING AND CAPACITY BUILDING FOR AGTF

Two members of the Research Unit Staff followed a 5-day training on “Conservation, Gestion et Valorisation des Sites du patrimoine mondial de la République de Maurice et de Madagascar” provided by L'école du patrimoine Africain in collaboration with UNESCO and the Ministry of Arts and Culture of Mauritius. The training was held between 5th and 9th December 2011 in Mauritius and aimed at developing management skills for preservation of heritage. It also provided a platform for the sharing of ideas and skills among site managers of World Heritage Site in the African region

APPOINTMENT OF STAFF

For the Financial Year 2011 the services of following staff were retained on contract by AGTF

Name of Employees	Designation	Date
Mrs C. Miao Foh	Research Assistant	04/01/11-On Contract
Mr K. Seetul	Financial Operations Officer	02/02/11-On Contract
Mrs O. Aumeer	Executive Officer	10/03/11-On Contract
Mrs D. Chuckowree	Accounting Technician	22/06/11-On Contract
Mr L. Couacaud	Anthropologist	25/07/11-On Contract
Mr P. S. Boodhun	Accounts Clerk(Temporary)	01/07/11-On Probation
Mr A. Nemchand	Research Assistant	22/11/11-On Contract



As per the vision and missions statements, the AGTF is required to prepare and restore the aesthetic and architectural aspects of the Aapravasi Ghat, to identify and acquire sites, building and structure linked with the history of the arrival of immigrants in Mauritius.

In this context, the AGTF undertakes the following projects to meet its objectives:

BEEKRUMSING RAMLALLAH INTERPRETATION CENTRE

AIM: set up a high standard and interactive interpretation centre at World Heritage Site

As per AGTF ACT and objective 16 of the AG WHS Management Plan, Beekrumsing Ramlallah Interpretation Centre project is a prerequisite for the promotion of the Outstanding Universal Value of the WHS recommended in the World Heritage Convention. This project was defined as a major priority to improve visitor management and to mitigate the impact of tourism at site. It will also be revenue generative to support expenses at WHS.

The project value is MUR 56.7 Million.

The project was defined in two phases:

- (a) Phase I –the opening of a display area, that would present the history and function of the Immigration Depot and the experiences of immigrants at the Depot; and
- (b) Phase II- consists in the development of temporary and permanent exhibition areas, the setting up of a documentation centre, services for visitors and a cafeteria.

MAINTENANCE OF THE AAPRAVASI GHAT WORLD HERITAGE SITE AND THE MONITORING AND DOCUMENTATION OF HERITAGE IN THE BUFFER ZONE

AIM: Conservation and maintenance of the Aapravasi Ghat World Heritage Site; and enable the protection and monitoring of the Aapravasi Ghat World Heritage Property (AGWHP) Buffer Zone (BZ)

Following the completion of the Conservation Project in May 2010, the maintenance plan has been initiated to preserve the World Heritage Site as per the best international standards. The conservation of the World Heritage Site is a pre-requisite to respond to the criteria of integrity and authenticity to World Heritage Site as per the convention of UNESCO.

An inventory of heritage was initiated in 2007 and completed in 2008. Heritage in the buffer zone is being documented and monitored in collaboration with the National Heritage Fund.

TRIANON HERITAGE SITE

AIM: To undertake an integrated Development of the Trianon Heritage Site

Trianon heritage site located at Trianon was the former accommodation of indentured labourers working on Trianon sugar estate established in 1803. The barracks are one of the rare remaining structures constructed in stone where indentured immigrants were housed. For this reason, it was listed as a National Monument in 1974.

Since March 2005, the site was vested to the Aapravasi Ghat Trust Fund which undertook historical research on the site. The site was in a state of dereliction and urgent cleaning was required. AGTF team undertook urgent cleaning and preventive conservation measures to maintain the site before initiating the conservation project. The conservation project was initiated in May 2011 and is scheduled to be completed in 2013.

On completion of the conservation project, it is proposed to initiate projects to allow access of the public and promote the site in line with the national cultural tourism policy.

VAGRANT DEPOT HERITAGE SITE

AIM: To undertake an integrated Development of the Vagrant Depot Heritage Site

The Vagrant Depot Conservation Project was initiated in January 2010 to restore a former place of incarceration of vagrants. As part of the conservation project, the conservation of the Gateway listed as a National Monument was completed in April 2011.

The phase 1 of the Conservation Project consisted in the restoration of the Entrance Gateway and also includes the consolidation of the other historical features in the medium term. When the complete restoration of the site will be effective, a maintenance plan will be prepared in order to safeguard the Heritage Site and to provide basic preventive conservation measures to maintain the building in the best possible manner. The phase one is scheduled to be completed in the next five years.

Phase Two will consist of the preparation and implementation of a development Plan of the Vagrant Depot Heritage Site. This will include the development of visitor infrastructure, visitor management, landscaping and the setting up of an interpretation space. The phase two will be initiated on completion of the phase one and was estimated at three years duration.

THE RESEARCH PROGRAMME

AIM: To promote and encourage research on Aapravasi Ghat WHP, other indenture sites, locally and globally, as well as the history of indentured labour and their legacy as a whole.

Research is an ongoing process and was defined as an object of the Trust Fund in AGTF ACT and was also a recommendation made by UNESCO at the time of the inscription of the site on the World Heritage List *“undertake research on indentured labour to consider the extent, scope and impact of the indentured labour Diaspora around the world”*.

The research programme also responds to the objectives 21, 23 of the AG WHS Management Plan.

Conducting research is a prerequisite at WHS as per the convention for the safeguarding of World Cultural and Natural Heritage Sites. Our institution is focusing on responding to the recommendation of UNESCO to continue research.

The research programme is therefore an ongoing process complementing the projects of AGTF. The research programme includes sub-projects such as publications of research results, the setting up and the implementation of the indenture labour route project and the consolidation and the documentation of an inventory of elements of Intangible Cultural Heritage.

THE OUTREACH PROGRAMME

AIM: To deliver creative, stimulating and innovative awareness-creating programs in about the Aapravasi Ghat WHP, other indenture sites and the global phenomenon of indenture through the exploration and understanding of history and other sciences thanks to technological means.

The Outreach programme is part of the objectives of the UNESCO World Heritage Convention and defined as objectives in the AG WHS Management Plan. It includes the implementation of the Visitor Management Plan (VMP). The VMP comprises of several sub-projects aiming at enhancing visitor experience and implement visitor strategy. The Visitor Management Plan defines orientation and strategies for visitors at WHS with a view to offering appropriate experience to them and also to mitigate the impact of tourism on site (measures required by UNESCO World Heritage Center).

At present, the permanent public programme includes guided visits of the World Heritage Site, educational activities for children comprising of storytelling (3-6 yr old), archaeological excavations and technical of construction for children aged between 7 and 14 years old. On several occasions, AGTF organized guided visits of the buffer zone and also, during the International Day for Monuments and Sites, a heritage trail between Le Morne and Aapravasi Ghat. This is part of the Visitor Management Plan stating the need to set up a permanent public programme to offer activities to all type of audiences. This also responds to the recommendations of UNESCO to develop educational programmes at World Heritage Site.

ACHIEVEMENTS IN 2011



THE SETTING UP OF AN INTERPRETATION CENTRE AND LANDSCAPING WORKS AT THE AAPRAVASI GHAT WORLD HERITAGE SITE

The project is divided in two phases. The objective is to set up a display area, including the archaeological features, in AGTF warehouse and also includes the landscaping works at World Heritage Site. This phase was defined as Beekrumsing Ramlallah Interpretation Centre – phase 1 or BRIC 1.

i. PREVENTIVE ARCHAEOLOGICAL EXCAVATIONS

The preventive archaeological excavations were completed in January 2011. Plans are set to undertake the conservation of the features in April 2012.

ii. BRIC TEAM

BRIC 1 was initiated in July 2010 by the recruitment of a local professional team consisting of an Architect, a Mechanical and Electrical Engineer, an Interior Designer and a Quantity Surveyor to conduct the project. The team was consolidated in January 2011 with the enlistment of the services of a Landscape Architect, a Graphic Designer and an Artist/Sculptor. To present, the local team has finalized all designs for:

- Interiors including all details of the display area, the reception area, office and store together with visitor facilities;
- Landscaping of the World Heritage Site, of the entrance and the façade of the interpretation centre.

The local team is now finalizing the tender document for the execution of designs. It is planned to launch the tender including interiors, soft and hard landscaping in 2012.

iii. ROOFING OF THE WAREHOUSE

A **first tender exercise** took place as follows to identify professionals to restore the roof:

- The tender exercise for roofing was launched on 21 February 2011 and closed on 21 March 2011;
- The bids were evaluated on 21 April 2011 and bids were not responsive.

A **second tender exercise** for roofing was launched on 11 July 2011 as per Board approval of 8th July 2011. The closing date for the tender for roofing was scheduled on 1st August 2011. The date was extended to 15th August 2011. The bids were open on 15th August 2011 and evaluated by an evaluation committee which recommended to award the contract to the sole responsive bidder namely Power Contractors Ltd.

- A letter of acceptance was sent on 5th October 2011 to Power Contractors Ltd. On 7 October 2011, a meeting with Power Contractors Ltd, Project Manager and AGTF staff was held to sign the contract.
- The contract stipulates the starting date of the works as 24 October 2011 and the completion date as 6 February 2012.
- However, on 23rd November 2011, Power Contractors Ltd were not in a position to provide the materials as per the specifications stated in the Bid document therefore the Company submitted an alternative material which was accepted by the Board on 28th December 2011.
- The works at warehouse consisting of the restoration of metal trusses as per the plans of the civil and structural Engineer are currently underway and completed at 70%. The next step will be the removal of existing metal sheeting and the installation of new metal sheeting.
- The completion is expected in March 2012.

iv. CONSOLIDATION OF BRIC TEAM

1. Enlist the services of a civil and structural Engineer *Nuzeebun Project Consultant Ltd* appointed through a tender exercise on 8 July 2011.
2. Tender was launched for multimedia:

The tender process for multimedia launched on 4 July 2011 was completed on 21 December 2011. The tender document included 7 items for which AGTF reserved to right to consider separately. Out of 7 items, 3 have to be relaunched in January 2012.

Four items were awarded to:

- Animacode Ltd for items 2 and 6;
- Jean-François Rebeyrotte, Patrimoine & musées for items 3 and 4;
- Items 1, 5 and 7 will be re-launched.

The multimedia is in process of elaboration.

v. INTERIORS AND LANDSCAPING

INTERIOR DESIGN

Morphos Architects Ltd completed the detailed designs for the interior of the Interpretation Centre. The team is preparing tender document to launch the tender in 2012.

LANDSCAPING

The Landscape Architect, Land Concept Ltd, finalized all designs good for execution and completed his part to be included in the tender document which is scheduled in 2012.

CONSERVATION OF ARCHAEOLOGICAL FEATURES

The services of a professional Archaeologist were retained to undertake the conservation and consolidation of archaeological features in collaboration with the Architect, Museologist and Engineer. The intervention is scheduled on completion of the roofing.

FAÇADE DESIGN

Nirveda Alleck, Artist from Arts Initiatives Ltd, has submitted final designs for the facade.

vi. REVISED FINANCIAL ESTIMATE FOR THE PROJECT

Based on the final designs, the consultants submitted three proposed cost estimates. Several meetings were held to finalize the final cost estimate for the interior works and the landscaping works. The Consultants submitted a final proposal on 23 September 2011.

On 14 October 2011, the AGTF Board approved the increase in the project value. The tender process will provide clear final cost estimation.

vii. STORYLINE

Several meetings were held in June 2011 to finalize all details of the storyline and its final implementation. Final text is completed and translated in French and English. The selection of visuals was also completed.

Research Assistants conducted research and produced reports to sustain BRIC storyline and propose further information in the multimedia. Each of the four Research Assistants completed the first phase of research and submitted a final report.

viii. DISPLAY

In July 2011, the complete list of proposed artefacts on display was completed.

On 13 June 2011, completion of the restoration of 10 coins and 10 buttons by a professional Restorer.

On 25 and 26 July 2011, finalization of selection of objects for the part 3 of Beekrumsing Ramlallah Interpretation Centre.

ix. CONSERVATION OF ARTEFACTS

The services of a professional Restorer were retained to undertake the restoration of 50 ceramics to be presented in the Interpretation Centre.

x. GRAPHIC DESIGNS

The graphic designs to be included in the display are under elaboration and 30% were completed at date. Weekly meetings are taking place to finalize the graphic designs.

xi. BUST OF BEEKRUMSING RAMLALLAH

The bust of Beekrumsing Ramlallah – a bronze sculpture - was completed.

xii. TOURISM STRATEGY

Team has started working on tourism strategy for BRIC and three STAC were held with stakeholders.

xiii. BRIC 2

The business plan for BRIC 2 together with the project request form were completed and submitted to the Ministry of Finance for consideration. BRIC 2 project was included in the Public Sector Investment Programme (PSIP).

IMPLEMENTATION OF PLANNING POLICY GUIDANCE (PPG) AND MONITORING OF WORLD HERITAGE SITE BUFFER ZONE (WHS BZ)

As per objective 3 of the AG WHS Management Plan, the PPG was devised to give a legal status to the AG WHS BZ as required by UNESCO for WHS. The final version of PPG was submitted on 28 January 2011 to Cabinet to proceed to the issue of the PPG. Following the setting up of a planning tool for the monitoring of heritage in the buffer zone, the preparation of a development plan in consultation with all stakeholders, individuals and other parties was initiated to respond to the aspirations for the development of the buffer zone to guide development and revitalize the area.

i. AMENDMENT TO AGTF ACT AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT

The amendment to the Aapravasi Ghat Trust Fund Act 2001 was gazetted on 04 May 2011. It was one of the requirements listed by the State Law Office for the implementation of the Planning Policy Guidance for the Aapravasi Ghat World Heritage Property Buffer Zone.

The objective of this amendment was to legally delimit the Aapravasi Ghat World Heritage Property Buffer Zone. The major amendments brought are as follows:

- The definition of the Buffer Zone was inserted;
- A section was inserted to make the application of PPG for the AG WHP mandatory when making any development in the BZ; and
- The existing Schedule to the Act was repealed and replaced by two Schedules as follows:
 - First Schedule
 - Part A Description of the boundary of the AG WHP
 - Part B Description of the boundary of the AG WHP BZ
 - Part C Plan and coordinates of the AG and its BZ
 - Second Schedule
 - Related sites being sites linked to indenture and having outstanding cultural value.

Consequential amendments were also made to the Local Government Act 2003 as follows:

- Provision was made for the setting up of a Technical Committee under the Municipal Council of Port Louis to assess all applications for Building and Lands Use Permits in the Buffer Zone including the Cultural Heritage Impact Statement, Heritage Impact Assessment and Visual Impact Assessment;
- The Building and Lands Use Permit was made mandatory not only for the erection of new buildings but also for any demolition and change to any building or structure in the Buffer Zone; and

- The limit of 15 days for the determination of Building and Lands Use Permits applicable for the whole of Mauritius was removed for the World Heritage Property Buffer Zone.

ii. THE PROCLAMATION OF THE PLANNING POLICY GUIDANCE 6

The Planning Policy Guidance for the Aapravasi Ghat World Heritage Property Buffer Zone also known as PPG6 Urban Heritage Area – Buffer Zones of the Aapravasi Ghat World Heritage Property was enforced as from 10 June 2011.

AGTF team has conducted several consultations with stakeholders since 2007 and also undertook the editing of the document. In total, nine drafts PPG were elaborated before its formal approval.

The aim of the PPG6 is to ensure that development in the Aapravasi Ghat World Heritage Property Buffer Zone will be governed by international principles of conservation for heritage buildings and for Historic Urban Landscapes.

The objectives of the PPG6 are to:

- protect and sustain the Outstanding Universal Value for which the Aapravasi Ghat World Heritage Property was inscribed under the World Heritage Convention and also the inherent qualities, urban character and cultural significance of the Buffer Zone
- respond to the requirements of the Operational Guidelines and international guidelines of conservation;
- ensure retention and sustenance of the fabric and qualities of the historic core of the City of Port Louis as a national treasure for future generations and for the creation of an urban area with a historic character;
- allow guided development and change in a heritage friendly environment enhancing the physical context in which the World Heritage Site has evolved;
- prevent further uncontrolled demolition of the important heritage fabric and to promote adaptive reuse of historic buildings in the buffer zone; and
- protect key view corridors and landmarks that are functionally important as a support to the Core Zone and Buffer Zone.

iii. TRAINING IN IMPACT ASSESSMENT FOR MEMBERS OF THE TECHNICAL COMMITTEE AND STAFF FROM OTHER RELEVANT INSTITUTIONS

Training in Impact Assessment was organised from 22 to 26 August 2011. The aim of the training was to provide training in Impact Assessment to members of the Technical Committee set up under the Local Government Act 2003 (amended 2011).

The trainers introduced the concepts of impact assessment to the participants and explained the principles that are applied in its implementation. The types of assessment were the Cultural Heritage Impact Statement, Heritage Impact Assessment and Visual Impact Assessment. The training was based on presentations through which trainers outlined the principles and which also included examples that were discussed.

The training session also provided participants with the opportunity to ask questions about and discuss the new provisions of the Local Government Act 2003, AGTF Act 2001 and PPG6.

iv. HERITAGE MANAGEMENT PLAN – FIRST DRAFT RECEIVED AND PRELIMINARY EDITING

The Heritage Management Plan is one of the documents accompanying PPG6. Its aim is to guide the management of the area while respecting the heritage significance of the area.

The first draft was received from the Consultant in January 2011. First editing of the document took place prior public consultation.

A consultative committee took place on Saturday 23 April 2011. It was conducted by Prof. Karel Bakker, AGTF Consultant to:

- Present the Heritage Management Plan to the local community.
- Collect the views of various stakeholders on the provisions proposed in the Heritage Management Plan.

A revised version was elaborated in April 2011. The comments of the various institutions involved in its preparation and implementation were sought and their comments were integrated in the final document.

The next phase is to circulate the final HMP for final comments and further editing prior the finalization of the document for onward transmission to the Cabinet.

v. DEVELOPMENT PLAN

PPG6 promotes the protection of the Outstanding Universal Value of the Aapravasi Ghat World Heritage Property through the preservation of its Buffer Zone. In order to facilitate the process and stimulate heritage friendly sustainable development in the area, the AGTF initiated the preparation of a Development Plan for the area.

In the course of the year 2011, consultations took place with the MCPL, the Ministry of Housing and Lands and the consultants preparing the Outline Planning Scheme of Port Louis, it was agreed that the latter would also integrate the recommendations of the Development Plan.

In this context, AGTF team conducted several consultations:

Consultative Committee on 21 January 2011 conducted by Dr François Odendaal, AGTF Consultant

- to inform the members of the Consultative Committee of the latest development on the Planning Policy Guidance (PPG) for AGWHS; and
- to discuss the various ways of looking at the Buffer Zone while preparing the DP.

Consultative Committee on Thursday 17 March 2011 conducted by Dr François Odendaal, AGTF Consultant

- to elaborate a common vision for the Buffer Zone;
- to discuss the development opportunities in the Buffer Zone in the context of the preparation of the Development Plan;
- to collect and discuss the views of the local population on their vision of the development in the Buffer Zone;
- to discuss the way forward for the elaboration of the Development Plan.

The Research and technical team also undertook a survey among the hawkers and the shopkeepers in the buffer zone to complement research data to be included in the development plan. The survey was completed in August 2011. The team also compiled key information to allow the elaboration of the development plan.

A concept paper to introduce the contents of the Development Plan and a first outline of the Plan were received in December 2011.

vi. MONITORING

Regular monitoring in the buffer zone took place to assess and monitor the changes affecting the heritage component. Regular reports were submitted. The following table gives an overview of changes and alterations that affected the heritage component in the buffer zone during the year 2011:

CHANGES RECORDED DURING MONITORING IN THE AGWHP BUFFER ZONE FOR THE YEAR 2011

S/N	AGTF ID	Building Name	Intervention Details	2008 Grading	Previous Height	Actual/proposed Height	Street Name
1	20/E5	Central Market	Minor alterations to interior windows and walls. Part of market building at top floor which was unused was renovated to accommodate Pride Mark Shop	1	Ground + 1	Ground + 1	Queen St
2	23/N2	Location of ex-Merchant Navy Club	Construction of new building on the plot of ex-Merchant Navy Club.	1	Ground + 3	Ground + 2	Dr Joseph Rivière St
3	25/W1	Dragon d'Or Ah Chow Li Tung Sang Co Ltd	Previously used as wood store and was closed for nearly 3 years. Building was emptied for renovation work. Roofs presently made of iron sheets were replaced with concrete cement and a separation wall was added inside. As per information obtained the building would be rented for offices.	2	Ground floor	Ground Floor	Farquhar St
4	17/SE	Soobadar Bldg	Previously used as cold storage. The interior and back part of old building was pulled down except for the facade. A first floor was added.	1	Ground Floor	Ground + 1	Farquhar St
5	34/b/E1	Parking space	Addition of a "grille" from the road to the entrance of the parking area in order to facilitate the coming and going of vehicles	No Grade	Not Applicable	Not Applicable	Royal St
6	34/b/E3	Parking space	Addition of a "grille" from the road to the entrance of the parking area in order to facilitate the coming and going of vehicles	No Grade	Not Applicable	Not Applicable	Royal St
7	27/E1	Unicorn House	Computer showroom converted into restaurant. Exterior and interior décor modified completely	No Grade	Not Applicable	Not Applicable	Royal St
8	32(Jumma Mosque)	Jumma Mosque	Refurbishment of wooden door and windows of Jumma Mosque	1	Not Applicable	Not Applicable	Royal St

PPG6 promotes the conservation of historic structures in the Aapravasi Ghat World Heritage Property Buffer Zone. To assist private owners and promoters in development projects, the AGTF completed a draft Conservation Manual for the Aapravasi Ghat World Heritage Property Buffer Zone in September 2011. The aim of this document is to explain the principles of heritage conservation and provide practical guidance.

The draft is complemented by drawings currently elaborated by an Architect. It is proposed that a Consultant evaluates the final document in the course of 2012.

RESTORATION AND CONSERVATION OF THE WORLD HERITAGE SITE AND OTHER INDENTURED SITES

As per AGTF Act 2001, our institution was entrusted “to identify and acquire sites, buildings and structures linked with the history of the arrival of immigrants in Mauritius” and “to preserve, restore and manage the sites specified in the Schedule”. The AGTF has undertaken actions to preserve, conserve and promote the Vagrant Depot and the Old Labourers’ Quarters at Trianon, both National Heritage Sites.

1. THE VAGRANT DEPOT CONSERVATION PROJECT

The Vagrant Depot at Grand River North West is located in Port Louis district. It played a key role in enforcing the vagrancy laws, a form of labour control, in British Mauritius during the second half of the 19th century.

The Vagrant Depot Conservation Project was launched by the Aapravasi Ghat Trust Fund in February 2005. The Conservation Project consists of three phases. The first phase consists of archival documentation of the site and the restoration of the entrance gateway.

The second phase consists of the consolidation of the main features of the Vagrant depot and the third phase consists of the development of the Vagrant Depot site into a major heritage attraction.

Between 2005 and 2008, the Aapravasi Ghat Trust Fund undertook various projects such as the historical study and land surveys of the site. In 2010, an architectural documentation of the Entrance Gateway was carried out prior to the start of the conservation Project.

During the year 2011, the following actions were achieved:

- A stone-by-stone documentation of the Entrance Gateway prior to the start of the restoration of the roof was undertaken;
- This item was followed with the removal of modern materials and structural additions which were made during the course of the 20th century to the exterior and interior of the Entrance Gateway and Guard Room;
- A new roof made of teak wood and shingles was fixed as per plans from MPI dating 19th century;
- The main door as well as 12 windows were restored as per drawings in archival documents of the Vagrant Depot;
- The conservation of the gateway started in September 2010 and was completed in April 2011.

2. RESTORATION, CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT OF TRIANON HERITAGE SITE

Trianon heritage site located at Trianon was the former accommodation of indentured labourers working on Trianon sugar estate established in 1803. The barracks are one of the rare remaining structures constructed in stone where indentured immigrants were housed. It was listed as a National Monument in 1974.

Since 2003, the site was vested in AGTF. The restoration and conservation of the Trianon Barracks started in August 2011. The objective is to restore the indentured labourers' barracks and consolidate its structure to preserve it for future generations. The Conservation Project will be in two phases. The first phase consists of the architectural documentation of the Barracks and the consolidation of the vaulted barracks.

During the year 2011, the following actions were achieved:

- The architectural documentation of the 15 chambers was completed;
- A fencing was set up on the land vested to the AGTF to act as protection to the Barracks;
- A conservation plan was prepared by Mr. Pandit, Consultant for AGTF, and is being implemented;
- A Concept Plan for the development of the site was submitted in November 2011 and is currently being developed further;
- A workyard for preparation of lime is being set up at Trianon and will be completed in January 2012;

- Amenities such as water and electricity supplied were set up on site;
- The first phase of the Conservation Project of the Trianon Barracks started in August 2011 and is expected to be completed in December 2012.

3. NEXT STEP

The second phase of the Conservation Project is expected to start in 2013. This will consist of the development of the area into a heritage attraction and of the feasibility study of an open-museum at Trianon Heritage Site.

RESEARCH PROGRAMME

- i. THE INTERNATIONAL SCIENTIFIC CONFERENCE AND THE INTERNATIONAL AND THE INDENTURED LABOUR GLOBAL DATABASE INITIATIVE (MARCH-DECEMBER 2011) :
 - Between Monday, 5th December and Thursday, 8th December 2011, an International Scientific Conference entitled 'New Perspectives on Indentured Labour, 1825-1925' was held at the University of Mauritius. It was organized by the Aapravasi Ghat Trust Fund with the collaboration of the Ministry of Arts and Culture and the University of Mauritius. The Mauritius Research Council made a donation of MUR 65,000 for the conference.
 - The Conference fulfills the requirement of Mauritius as State-Party of UNESCO as recommended by the World Heritage Committee to undertake research on indentured labour in Mauritius and different parts of the world. It also fulfilled some of the objectives of the AGTF Act and of its Management Plan regarding research. There were 41 international scholars/historians and researchers, 28 foreigners from more than a dozen countries and 13 Mauritians, who presented academic papers on a wide range of subjects and topics dealing with various aspects of indentured labour and the indentured workers during the 19th and early 20th centuries and after.
 - All the scholars and those in attendance agreed that the Conference was a success. New themes of research were explored and proposed, papers on new themes of research were presented, the AGTF researchers, research assistants successfully presented their papers after months of research and a network of international scholars was gradually established.

- Two regional activities were organized for the conference participants; one on Tuesday 6th December 2011 at Bon Accueil and on Friday, 9th December 2011 at Rivière du Rempart. The objectives of these activities were for the foreign scholars taking part at the Conference to meet the descendants of Indo-Mauritian workers who lived in the above-mentioned villages. A 1-day visit on Friday, 9th December 2011 was also organized for the international scholars at the Mauritius National Archives, MGI Immigration Archives, the Vagrant Depot site, the Aapravasi Ghat site and l’Aventure du Sucre. All the regional and side events of the International Conference may be qualified as a success. A closing ceremony was also organized on the evening of Thursday, 8th December 2011 for the conference participants and others interested individuals.
- At the Conference, a resolution was adopted which called on the Aapravasi Ghat Trust Fund and the Ministry of Arts and Culture to set up an international network of scholars and institutions to support the implementation of the International Indentured Labour Route Project (IILRP) with a view to develop the Indentured Labour Global Database Initiative (ILGDI). The ILGDI will be supported and monitored by an International Scientific Committee which will be based at the Aapravasi Ghat Trust Fund and have members from countries which experienced indentured labour. It also called for the establishment of a permanent secretariat for this network in Mauritius at the Aapravasi Ghat Trust Fund which will also ensure the successful implementation and expansion of the IILRP.
- Almost all the papers for the conference were collected and will be edited and published. It was the first conference of its type since 1984, this publication will be first of its type in almost 3 decades and after five years, AGTF finally to organize an international conference.

ii. THE 3 VOLUMES ON THE HISTORY OF INDENTURED LABOUR IN MAURITIUS (MARCH-DECEMBER 2011):

It is for the first time that AGTF has embarked on such a large scale and multi-disciplinary publication. An editorial committee was established, the terms of reference of the editors and most of the contributors were signed, abstracts were submitted and approved and a time table approved. Several final drafts were submitted and the next to final draft of the 3 volumes are expected to be ready for early February for design and layout and for final publication in 2012. This publication will fulfill the recommendation of the World Heritage Committee, the objectives of the AGTF Act and the Management Plan with regards to research.

Research Assistants conducted research in the course of 2011 to elaborate articles for the publication. They also presented papers on their research during the International Conference on Indenture in December 2011.

iii. INSCRIPTION OF THE INDENTURE ARCHIVES ON THE MEMORY OF THE WORLD REGISTER (JANUARY-AUGUST 2011):

In the context of the MOW Register, the original report on archival sources dealing with the history of indentured labour and the indentured workers and their descendants at the Mauritius National Archives was revised and resubmitted earlier this year. Over and above the 1300 archival volumes surveyed at the National Archives, an additional 740 volumes, which dealt with indentured labour, were also examined, analyzed and recorded.

A total of more than 2,000 archival volumes dealing with the history of indentured labour in Mauritius have been recorded and analyzed. Another 100 volumes dealing with indentured labour were also identified at the National Library. AGTF has contributed extensively to the research and historical importance of the dossier as well as in the write up of the report for the MOW Register through the several meetings which AGTF research unit members attended between January and August 2011.

iv. RESEARCH REPORT FOR BRIC (MARCH-MAY 2011):

During the first half of 2011, the 4 Research Assistants at AGTF undertook research at the Mauritius National Archives, MGI Archives and the National Library. After several weeks of research, they produced several research reports dealing with such themes as the ship experience of the indentured workers, working and living conditions on the sugar estates, immigrant life at the Aapravasi Ghat during the mid-19th century.

Their reports also covered in-depth other topics such as the history of Trou Fanfaron and its environs, sugar production and land use in Mauritius, the origins of the indentured workers and overview of the political history of Mauritius during the 1800s and after. Some of the information from these research reports was used for the permanent exhibit of BRIC.

v. RESEARCH UNDERTAKEN AT THE MGI IMMIGRATION ARCHIVES (JUNE-OCTOBER 2011):

In the context of the three volumes on indentured labour, BRIC Project and the International Scientific Conference, AGTF staff carried out research over a period of several weeks at the MGI Archives. Hundreds of photos of archival documents and immigrant photos from the different archival series collection were taken and organized which cover various aspects of the history of indentured labour and indentured workers in Mauritius.

Archival documents and photos dealing with the early immigrants, vagrants, Liberated Africans and non-Indians, ship arrival list/distribution list, vagrant registers and indenture contracts were taken. More than 200 archival volumes were consulted and some of them partially digitalized. A copy of these pictures as well as the genealogies of some of the Indo-Mauritian families were reconstructed partially through information from the MGI Archives and were deposited at AGTF.

Part of this research data has already been used for the 3 volumes on indentured labour, the International Scientific Conference and the BRIC Project. It should be noted that TJC provided AGTF with a copy of all the 175,000 indentured immigrant photos and a modified version of the MGI Archives database which will help with some of the AGTF research projects.

vi. INTANGIBLE CULTURAL HERITAGE PROJECT

UNESCO approved our request and AGTF started the inventory of elements of intangible heritage on 1st March 2010. The final report was submitted to UNESCO in March 2011. However, further research was undertaken on the elements of intangible cultural heritage with a view to propose the inscription of elements on the representative list.

The Aapravasi Ghat Trust Fund has currently catalogued 60 elements of intangible heritage related to indenture and conducts further research to complement their documentation. In total, the AGTF has conducted 125 interviews as part of this project. The AGTF is also assisting the National Heritage Fund to prepare a nomination form for the inscription of elements of intangible cultural heritage on the Representative List of UNESCO.

vii. ORAL HISTORY PROJECT

This year, the oral history project focused on:

- a. the heritage value of the buffer zone (13 interviews and 10 transcriptions);
- b. Clemencia temple;
- c. Conditions of labourers on sugar estates.

A full inventory with transcriptions of interviews was also completed. The year was also devoted to a first analysis of data.

An E-Book on Mauritian heritage tales was also published on 2nd November 2011 to promote intangible cultural heritage.

In July 2011, archaeological excavations took place at Trianon Heritage Site under the supervision of Dr Krish Seetah, Research Fellow, MacDonald Institute, University of Cambridge, UK. The excavations aimed at collecting samples for analysis: the ultimate objective is to further study the dietary habits of the labourers working at Trianon Sugar Estate and to understand the occupation pattern before comparing archaeological data to historical and anthropological data. The objective is to combine all inputs of disciplines to produce mutli-disciplinary research on Trianon. Ultimately, the research results would be presented in the exhibition space.

PROMOTION AND OUTREACH PROGRAMME AND THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE VISITOR MANAGEMENT PLAN (VMP)

1. GUIDED VISITS AT WORLD HERITAGE SITE

The number of visitors has increased this year from 19,000 in 2010 to 24,800 in 2011. In total, the four Heritage Guides conducted 1,560 guided visits of the World Heritage Site during the year 2011. During the peak season extending from April to August, the number of guided visits per day has reached sixteen to twenty.

2. OUTREACH EVENTS

In 2011, the AGTF outreach team conducted 37 outreach activities in educational institutions, Day Care Centres, Senior Citizen Associations, and Socio Religious Institutions, besides guided visits of the World Heritage Site.

The outreach activities consist of a power-point presenting Aapravasi Ghat World Heritage Site and indenture and storytelling when the outreach activity targets pre-primary school children.

The outreach team also organised and conducted punctual events as follows:

3. CEREMONIES

i. 12TH MARCH 2011-PARTICIPATION OF THE AGTF TO FLOAT DEFILE IN CONTEXT OF 43RD INDEPENDENCE DAY

The AGTF participated to a float defile in collaboration with the NHF and the LMHTF, organized in the context of the 43rd Independence Anniversary of Mauritius, by the PMO. The Float Defile was held at the Champ de Mars on the 12th March 2011.

ii. 18TH APRIL 2011-INTERNATIONAL DAY FOR MONUMENTS AND SITES

To mark the international day for monuments and sites several activities were organized by the AGTF namely;

- Guided visits of the site and the Buffer Zone
- Pedagogical activities
- Film projections

The promotion was very limited therefore very little visitors came to visit the site: 54 in total.

iii. 21ST APRIL 2011-COMMEMORATION OF THE OPENING OF THE RESTORED ENTRANCE GATEWAY OF THE VAGRANT DEPOT

The restored entrance gateway of the Vagrant Depot was inaugurated by the Hon. Minister of Arts and Culture in the presence of several other distinguished guests and members of the Local Community. Presentations were made on the restoration works as well on the history of the site. School children had the opportunity further to learn about conservation techniques through demonstrations by the Conservation workers of the AGTF. An exhibition on the Vagrant Depot and its surroundings was further launched.

iv. 16TH JULY 2011 -5TH ANNIVERSARY OF INSCRIPTION OF THE AAPRAVASI GHAT SITE ON WORLD HERITAGE LIST

A function was organized to hand over participation certificates to young people from the local community to a three-day practical training in conservation. Furthermore, the AGTF worked in collaboration with the Mouvement pour le Progres de Roche Bois and La Comédie Mauricienne to present the audience with a play entitled ' ZispuennMinit'. Power-point presentations were made on the contribution of Port Workers in the development of Port Louis as well as about the upcoming interpretation Centre at the Aapravasi Ghat World Heritage Site.

v. 17TH & 18TH SEPTEMBER 2011-JOURNEES DU PATRIMOINE

In the context of the 'Journées du Patrimoine" organised under the aegis of the Prime Minister's Office the Aapravasi Ghat Trust Fund organised several activities such as guided visits, heritage walks, and film projections were proposed. A new pedagogical namely a puzzle on the Aapravasi Ghat was proposed for young audiences. Some 625 visitors were received during the two open days.

vi. 2ND NOVEMBER 2011- COMMEMORATION OF THE ARRIVAL OF THE FIRST INDENTURED LABOURERS

To commemorate the 178th Anniversary of the arrival of indentured labourers, a national ceremony was organised by the Ministry of Arts and Culture and AGTF. After the traditional wreath laying ceremony and the speeches of the eminent personalities present, a cultural program consisting of slams, plays and songs revolving around the theme of 'Nu leritaz nu fierte' were presented. Furthermore, an annual award was launched to reward researchers and aspirant Historians in the field of research on indenture.

vii. THE AGTF NEWSLETTER OF 2011 (AUGUST-OCTOBER 2011) :

For the first time ever in seven years that the Newsletter has been published, AGTF produced a 38-page newsletter which contained several articles which dealt with the history of indentured labour such as the vagrants and Indian Christians, the genealogy, oral history and intangible cultural heritage of the descendants of indentured labourers. The 2011 Newsletter also took an in-depth look at AGTF activities and projects, the history and conservation of indenture sites, history of Aapravasi Ghat site, the history and management of the Aapravasi Ghat Buffer Zone. The articles and contents of the AGTF Newsletter were multi-disciplinary and had a popular appeal. In terms of contents of the articles, presentation and style it was a clear departure and difference from previous newsletters and it was well received. In all, 4000 newsletters were printed and more than 3000 have so far been distributed.

viii. REGIONAL ACTIVITIES 2011

In context of 2nd November 2011, The AGTF associated itself with a number of organizations and institutions to commemorate the Arrival of the Indentured labourers. Thus the following regional activities were held at Barlow, Arya Samaj of CheminGrenier, SwagatBahwan of Bon Accueil, Hare Krishna Preaching Center of Vallée des Pretres, CLAC of Cottage, Heen Foh Pagoda of Caudan, and the Indian Diaspora and World Bhojpuri Centre at Grand Bassin

ix. 8TH DECEMBER 2011- CLOSING CEREMONY OF INTERNATIONAL SCIENTIFIC CONFERENCE ON INDENTURE

A cultural programme cum closing ceremony to the International Scientific Conference on Indenture was organized on 8th December at Trianon. This was the opportunity to promote the heritage site of Trianon Old Labourer's Quarters as well as to promote the intangible heritage pertaining to the indenture system

VISIT OF EMINENT PERSONALITIES AT AGWHS

1. Mrs Pratibha Patil- President of India
2. Mr M Denis Sassou N'guesso-President of the Republic of Congo
3. 20 Eminent personalities of the African Community and representative of UNESCO and FAO
4. Mr Walse Patil- Speaker of the Maharashtra Legislative Assembly.
5. Mr Guy Palmer-Consultant from UNESCO

VISITS OF CONSULTANTS

The AGTF enlisted the services of consultants to work in collaboration with the Trust Fund on specific projects.

Name	Position	Month/Year of arrival	Project assigned
M.Pandit	Conservation Architect	16-22 Jan 2011	Concerning the setting up of an Interpretation Centre/Museum at the AGWHS
		7-13 Aug 2011	Trianon Project
Dr F.Odendaal	Heritage professional	17-25 Jan 2011	Development plan for Buffer Zone.
		16-24 March 2011	Continue the production of a development plan for Buffer zone.

CONCLUSION

The year 2011 has marked the achievements of major steps in our projects that we intend to continue in 2012. Our major project, the Beekrumsing Ramlallah Interpretation Centre, will progress significantly during the year 2012 and we also hope to meet the established targets for the restoration of Trianon Old Labourers' barracks which is one of the key indentured site in Mauritius after Aapravasi Ghat Ghat

In 2012, further research will also be conducted on indenture to better appreciate the scope and extent of indenture. We hope to share our research and knowledge through the outreach programme that is traditionally the vector through which our institution is recreating a link to the past with the present.

These achievements would not have been possible without the support of our parent Ministry and also, without the dedication of our staff that we wish to deeply thank for their precious contributions.