



**PUBLIC OFFICERS' WELFARE COUNCIL**  
Promoting the welfare of Public Officers and their families

**Our ref: POWC/PS/23**

**Date: 28<sup>th</sup> March 2023**

**From: Organising Secretary, Public Officers' Welfare Council**  
**To: Supervising Officers i/c Ministries/Departments**

**POWC PUBLIC SPEAKING COMPETITION 2023**

*With artificial intelligence, we are summoning the demon – Elon Musk*

The Public Officers' Welfare Council (POWC), a body corporate operating under the aegis of the Ministry of Public Service, Administrative and Institutional Reforms, is organising a Public Speaking Competition (in English) on the following theme:

**“The Challenges of Artificial Intelligence”**

2. Interested Public Officers wishing to participate may do so by filling in the participation form at Annex B and submitting same to the **Organising Secretary, Public Officers' Welfare Council (POWC) Level 12, SICOM Building II, Cnr Chevreau & Reverend Jean LeBrun Streets, Port Louis, by Friday 14<sup>th</sup> April 2023 at 1500 hours latest.**
3. Kindly note that a photocopy of a recent payslip or top part of the payslip indicating the name, paysite code or any other document certifying that the participant is a serving public officer will have to be submitted together with the participation form.
4. A training session based on the technicalities of public speaking will be conducted by appropriate resource persons for all participants. During the session, participants will also be briefed about the rules and regulations (Annex A) governing this competition.
5. A drawing of lots will be carried out on the day of the training session and each participant will be allotted titles on the above theme to prepare for the preliminaries. The date, time and venue for the training session as well as the holding of the competition will be communicated to participants shortly after the deadline for submission of participation forms. Please note that only 6 best candidates will be qualified for the final.
6. A cash prize of Rs 10,000 will be awarded to the winner and cash prizes of Rs 7,000 and Rs 5,000 would be awarded to the second and third prize winners respectively. The remaining 3 finalists will each receive a cash prize of Rs 2,000. All participants will receive a token and a certificate of participation.



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7. It would be appreciated if the contents of this circular could be brought to the attention of all public officers serving your Ministry/ Department/ Division.
8. The Public Officers' Welfare Council reserves the right not to organise the competition in case of unforeseen circumstances.
9. This circular is available on the Council's Website: <http://powc.govmu.org>.
10. For any additional information, please call on 2086658 or 2080157.

**S. Bundhoo**  
**Organising Secretary**

**Copy to: Presidents of Staff Welfare Associations**

**PUBLIC OFFICERS' WELFARE COUNCIL**  
**Public Speaking Competition 2023**  
**Rules and Regulations**

1. All participants should speak in English only.
2. Any quotation or copyrighted material cited in the speech must be stated verbally during the presentation of the speech with the original author's name.
3. The time allotted **will** be neither **less than 4 minutes 30 seconds** nor **more than 7 minutes 30 seconds**.
4. Participants going over or under the allotted time will not be cautioned and will be penalized one point for each 15 seconds or fraction of over or under allotted time.
5. The penalty will be determined by the official timekeeper.
  - A green light will be displayed at five minutes to the allotted time and will remain displayed for one minute.
  - A yellow light will be displayed at six minutes to the allotted time and will remain displayed for one minute.
  - A red light will be displayed at seven minutes to the allotted time and will remain displayed until the conclusion of the speech.
6. Timing will begin after the official topic is expressed. Timing will stop when the participant ends his speech.
7. Protests at any level (Originality, Plagiarism, Eligibility) should be lodged to the chief judge prior to the announcement of prizewinners. **The decision of the adjudicating panel will be final and binding.**
8. Participants will be assessed on the following criteria:
  - 8.1 Content**
    - Speech development (20 marks)
    - Effectiveness (15 marks)
    - Speech value (15 marks)
  - 8.2 Delivery**
    - Physical (10 marks)
    - Voice (10 marks)
    - Manner (10 marks)
  - 8.3 Language**
    - Appropriateness (10 marks)
    - Correctness (10 marks)
9. Participants who fail to appear on time as per the scheduled date and time according to the fixtures will be deemed to have withdrawn from the competition.
10. The Council shall reserve the right to propose any amendments to the present rules and regulations that might be necessary in the best interest of the competition.

**PUBLIC OFFICERS' WELFARE COUNCIL**

**Public Speaking Competition 2023**

**Participation Form**

**Name: (Mr./Mrs./Miss)**.....

**Ministry/Department/Division:**.....

**Designation:** .....

**Residential Address:** .....

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**Phone No: (Mob)**..... **(Res)**.....**(Off)**.....

**Email Address:** .....**Fax No:** .....

**Signature:** .....

**Date:**.....

**To be certified and sealed by Supervising Officer of the Ministry/Department/Division**

<b>Name</b>	..... .....	
<b>Post Held</b>	.....	
<b>Telephone No</b>	<b>Office:</b> .....	<b>Mobile:</b> .....
<b>Signature:</b>	.....	<b>Date:</b> .....