

Mauritius Council of Social Service (MACOSS), Mauritius

Mr. Suraj Ray

Organisation Profile

The Mauritius Council of Social Service (hereinafter “MACOSS) or the “Council”) was established in December 1970. As a not-for-profit independent charity institution recognized locally, regionally and internationally. MACOSS is the National Platform of Civil Society Organizations in Mauritius. MACOSS works with more than 100 grass root CSOs and community organizations in the country. As MACOSS is affiliated to several international organizations, such as the International Council on Social Welfare (ICSW), Africa Philanthropy Network (APN), FORUS International, Beijing NGO Association for International Exchange and SADC GNCO among others (www.macoss.mu), it has been closely engaged with implementing SDGs and a number of humanitarian and disaster and crisis management issues. These works have been carried out in Mauritius with community organizations at grassroots level through its well-established outreach network/programme. MACOSS has 70 members who are registered not for profit CSOs and works with roughly 200+ NGOs including trade unions, trusts and charities. The Council’s objects are “to promote an charitable purposes for the benefit for the community in. Mauritius”. The MACOSS works closely with various national institutions such as the Human Rights Commission of Mauritius where it organizes workshops and talks on rights of the citizen especially at the grass root community level. The MACOSS works very closely and / or partners with the academia (universities), the press (media trust), private sector and various institutions on the various facets of human rights, disaster /crisis management.

Nominee Information

Mr. Suraj Ray



Video presentation



Gender: Male

Job Title: Chairman of the MACOSS

Suraj Ray is the Chairperson of the Mauritius Council of Social Service (MACOSS), the National Platform of Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) in Mauritius, since 2018.

Suraj Ray is also President of AHEAD, a registered grassroots non-governmental organization (NGO), actively engaged in Human Rights, sustainable development, mainstreaming people, world of work, wellness, environment, education and living things; with gender and youth as cross cutting. AHEAD is also present in Rodrigues.

Suraj Ray is a rights activist and is fully engaged in defending the rights of people from Vulnerable and poor families, be it employment, property, or family issues.

Presently, Suraj Ray is conducting research under a PhD Programme (Social Work Practice). The findings and thesis will be published in 2026 (hopefully).

Fellow of the Chartered Governance Institute UK & Ireland, Suraj Ray is a governance and administration professional with expertise in corporate affairs, board administration, management of charities, associations and NPOs. Suraj Ray holds a Master of Business Administration (MBA) degree in Innovation and Leadership, A bachelor of Laws (LBLE) degree and a Graduate Diploma in Law (UK).

Among his many attributes, Suraj Ray chairs the National Governance Committee (APRM) facilitating the implementation of the APRM process in Mauritius. He has also played a key role in the finalization of the Voluntary National Review (VNR) Report. Presently Suraj Ray is engaged with a number of key international stakeholders (institutions and organizations) on issues of national interests in line with Agenda 2030 such as inclusive education (children with learning difficulties), youth, gender, freedom of expression and democracy.

Suraj Ray has also been the representative of the trade union movement in Mauritius as the official national workers' representative at the International Labour Conference (ILO 2013-20215). He has sound experience in Human resources, industrial relations, Counselling and Redundancy) Suraj Ray is a member of the Redundancy Board.

Suraj Ray is a human rights activist, public speaker, counsellor, negotiator, philanthropist, social worker and researcher.

Please indicate whether, if elected as a member of the Board, you would be willing to stand for election for

- ***Chair –yes***

If yes, what qualities would you bring to the position of Chair?

A new team spirit inspired from a Small Island Developing States (SIDS) perspective. With a combination of long-term practical engagement as a Rights activist, with people at grass root level, coupled with a strong professional expertise in governance and employment laws, laws relating to CSOs, workers and human rights, Constitution and advocacy, it will be a mix of new and fresh vision of human needs. Furthermore, a good command of French and English, and communication skills will be an advantage.