



**Ministry of Finance, Economic Planning, Trade, and Investment  
Seychelles**

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**Press Release**

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**Brief for Social Media/Newsletter**

**Australia Awards Africa Short Course Enhancing Continental Trade Facilitation in Africa**

**Ms. Veronique Brutus, and Mr. Krishnasamy Naidoo, Senior Trade Officers** participated in a short three (3) weeks course on Enhancing Continental Trade Facilitation in Africa, in Nairobi, Kenya from 9<sup>th</sup> to 27<sup>th</sup> March 2026, under the Australia Awards Africa Programme.

In partnership with the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA) Secretariat, sponsored by the Australian Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade and delivered by the Adelaide University Institute for International Trade, this short course brought together mid-career officials from relevant government departments/agencies from 13 African Countries for an intensive three weeks of learning and collaboration focused on strengthening continental trade integration, implementing the AfCFTA, modernizing customs and border procedures with particular emphasis on regional integration and implementation of trade agreements.

The program aimed to strengthen participants' knowledge, skills, and institutional capacity to facilitate trade. It further provided participants with opportunities to share knowledge and learn from Australian academics, policy makers and those responsible for designing and implementing Australia's free trade agreements, so that they can maximise their trade potential through the AfCFTA.

The course provided engaging and insightful discussions on institutional cooperation, the World Trade Organization (WTO) Trade Facilitation Framework, Digital Trade Systems, Single Windows, Women and Youth in trade, Services trade and Trade facilitation, Small and Medium Enterprise (SME) capacity building for international trade, AfCFTA and its role in enhancing continental trade intelligence, supply chain, value chain, Non-Tariff Measures (NTMs), Non-Tariff Barriers (NTB's) and WTO reform, blended with site visits and panel discussions.

**The End-**