



**HIGH COMMISSION
FOR THE DEMOCRATIC SOCIALIST REPUBLIC OF SRI LANKA
VICTORIA, SEYCHELLES**

08th October 2019

Mr. Hamada Madi Bolero,
Secretary General,
Indian Ocean Commission,
BlueTower-3rd floor, Ruedel'Institut, Ebène,
Mauritius.

Dear Mr. Hamada Bolero,

Sri Lanka has endeavored to obtain the membership of the Indian Ocean Commission (IOC) during the period of last three years. On behalf of the Government of Sri Lanka, I very much appreciate the cooperation you have extended always. The permanent infrastructure for the Sri Lanka High Commission in Seychelles is now taking shape. Besides, the Government of Sri Lanka has identified the need to improve bilateral relations with African nations and taking steps toward that direction. Our membership in IOC also will provide a stimuli towards this objective and will definitely yield higher level of cooperation.

Measures are already taken to strengthen bilateral relations between Sri Lanka and Mauritius. The Honorary Consul representing Sri Lanka in Mauritius is appointed and he has already started functioning. We expect the development of relations in many a spheres with his work.

We consider the granting of IOC membership as a decisive factor in our movements to strengthen our relations with African nations. Therefore, I draw your attention to a fact mentioned in your letter. I very kindly request you to inform me as early as possible, the decision taken by the Executive Committee at its meeting held last September concerning our membership. From the perspective of the Government of Sri Lanka, we believe that our application for membership would have been positively treated.

Once again I place on record our appreciation on behalf of the Government of Sri Lanka for the cooperation extended by you in this regard.

Once you inform us of the decision taken at the Executive Committee, we will inform the Government of Sri Lanka.

Hoping to hear from you a positive response and with warm regards,

Tikiri Herath Gunathilake,

Sri Lankan High Commissioner,
Suite 3-01, Capital City Building, Independence Avenue, Victoria,
Mahe Island, Republic of Seychelles.

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