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Conscientiser le public aux problèmes écologiques. Promouvoir l'équilibre entre développement et protection de l'environnement.

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Appointment of the President of Mitsui OSK Lines as Honorary Consul of Mauritius in Japan

Following the recently published article in the media regarding the appointment of the President of Mitsui OSK Lines as Honorary Consul of Mauritius in Japan, Eco-Sud wishes to express its concerns and raise important questions regarding this decision. We believe it is crucial to address several critical points raised by this development.

Firstly, we pose the following questions: On what basis did the government choose to appoint the President of Mitsui OSK Lines as Honorary Consul of Mauritius in Japan? This decision is puzzling, considering that the Mauritian state has a damage claim against the parties responsible for the MV Wakashio shipwreck, including Okiyo, the vessel's owner, as well as Mitsui OSK Lines, the charterer of the ship.

This appointment raises concerns about potential conflicts of interest and the implications it may have on the rights of the Mauritian state to obtain compensation from all responsible parties. The need to preserve Mitsui OSK Lines as a defendant is crucial since the ship's owner, Okiyo, is insured only up to a limited amount, and beyond that, publicly available information alleges that Okiyo may no longer have assets and is an empty shell (we invite Okiyo to refute this information if it is found to be false). Excluding Mitsui OSK Lines as a defendant in any legal dispute would significantly limit the state's ability to be fully compensated for the damage suffered as a result of the shipwreck. We invite the Mauritian state to provide its version of events regarding its intentions concerning Mitsui OSK Lines.

Furthermore, despite the apologies offered by Mitsui OSK Lines and their charitable activities in the region, questions remain about their genuine willingness to assume their responsibilities in addressing the environmental and socio-economic consequences of the oil spill. Affected citizens of Mauritius demand justice and answers, and the recent announcement of the appointment of an individual closely associated with Mitsui OSK Lines as an honorary consul only adds to the uncertainty and doubts surrounding the MV Wakashio incident.

This also raises questions about the role of the Mauritian government in this complex matter!