

**MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT AND CLIMATE  
CHANGE**

**Communique with regard to FV Ruey Chien Tsai 112**

1. The Ministry of Environment, Solid Waste Management and Climate Change hereby informs the public that following the fire outbreak onboard the fishing vessel (FV) Ruey Chien Tsai 112 on Tuesday 24 August 2021 at around 18.30 hrs, the vessel has been moored to a safe location within the Port Area, as per the instructions of the Ports Master. The Ministry wishes to reassure the public that various precautionary measures have been taken to prevent any environmental pollution from the vessel, including the following:
  - i. the Port Louis Harbour Oil Spill Response Plan was immediately activated following the incident,
  - ii. the Mauritius Ports Authority and the National Coast Guard have deployed booms around the vessel to confine any eventual pollution within the area whereby the vessel is currently moored and
  - iii. daily monitoring of air and water quality is being undertaken by the National Environment Laboratory of this Ministry and the Ministry of Blue Economy, Marine Resources, Fisheries and Shipping.
2. With regard to air quality, except for a mild intermittent odour of plastic smell detected near the casualty, volatile organic compounds were below detectable limits.

3. With respect to water quality, the samples of seawater collected revealed the absence of hydrocarbons, while results of samples collected near the vessel inside the booms indicated the presence of hydrocarbons.
  
4. The Ministry is following the situation closely and the monitoring of water and air quality is being continued by the National Environment Laboratory and the Ministry of Blue Economy, Marine Resources, Fisheries and Shipping.

**Ministry of Environment, Solid Waste Management and Climate Change**  
**27 August 2021**