

## Seychelles' annual carnival to merge with Creole Festival

The newly set up Creative Industries and National Events Agency (CINEA) has submitted a proposal that the *Carnaval International de Victoria* - an annual feature on the Seychelles' calendar of events for the past six years - be incorporated into the Creole Festival, scheduled to take place in October.



Image Source: Ministry for Youth, Sports, and Culture

Says Lena Horeau, PR manager at the Seychelles Tourism Board in South Africa: "The advantage in combining the two festivals is that visitors can not only look forward to an event of higher quality, but it will also offer a more prominent display of the Seychelles culture. And, if I may add that the weather in October is also excellent."

Chief executive of CINEA, Gaelen Bresson adds that the Seychellois nation is made up of the first settlers - the slaves and their European masters, the Indian and Arabs spice traders, and the Chinese who came to trade.

"This is who we are as Creole, as Seychellois, a melting pot of cultures, so it is fitting that the carnival is held during the Creole festival, a time when we celebrate our identity, our rich, diverse culture," said Bresson.

Besson adds that with the two festivals combined, visitors and locals alike will still see a multi-coloured, multi-cultural facade on the streets of Victoria.

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