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## **2<sup>nd</sup> edition of MTB - Renewed success for the Mauritius Tour Beachcomber**

**The second edition of the Mauritius Tour Beachcomber, which was held from the 18<sup>th</sup> to the 20<sup>th</sup> of May, has once again met success. Around a hundred experienced mountain bikers, breathtaking tracks and landscapes, 5-star catering and service, all the elements were present for this competition to become a key sporting event in Mauritius.**

Over a hundred cyclists, among whom seasoned competitive mountain bikers, participated in the second edition of the Mauritius Tour Beachcomber. Quentin Soubadou, Gregory Maillot (the representative of MTB 2017), Mathieu Desserprit of Reunion Island, Yannick Lincoln and Aurélie Halbwachs, who represented Mauritius, were among those present. During the different stages, the participants raced along tracks that were as hard as they were spectacular, notably by cycling from Le Morne Mountain, in the south-west of Mauritius, through sugar cane fields and along cliffs in the south-east. The mountain bikers crossed the forest of Ferney, the slopes of Camisard, the fields of Sans-Souci and the paving stones of the old Chemin Français as part of the final stage.

The Mauritian, Yannick Lincoln, won the men's race in a time of 7 hours 22 minutes and 40 seconds, securing first place in front of Quentin Soubadou and Gregory Maillot from Reunion Island. Aurélie Halbwachs-Lincoln secured first place in the women's race. She completed all four stages in an overall time of 8 hours 22 minutes and 36 seconds.

The second edition of Mauritius Tour Beachcomber was a great success and met the expectations of mountain biking fans. *"We can say that the 2017 edition of MTB was an overall success. The routes, the markings, the 5-star catering provided by Beachcomber hotels, we also had very good sponsors and impeccable service from Beachcomber Resorts & Hotels. We were lucky because the weather played its part this year. The participants thoroughly enjoyed the beautiful landscapes."*, explains Arianne Devienne-Bellepeau, Leisure & Events Manager at Beachcomber.

Arianne Devienne-Bellepeau added that this edition of MTB achieved its goal of attracting those passionate about mountain biking and aims to turn this competition into a key sporting event. *"We welcomed several participants from Mauritius, Reunion Island and from South Africa. This further motivates us to prepare the third edition in 2018. Congratulations to the champions Aurélie Halbwachs-Lincoln and Yannick Lincoln. I would like to thank all those who made this event a success. See you next year!"*, she said.

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## About Beachcomber

Beachcomber Resorts & Hotels is the pioneer and leader of the Mauritian tourism industry. Since the creation of Park Hotel in 1952, a collection of 11 resorts have emerged over the years, including the mythical RoyalPalm Mauritius in 1985, considered by everyone as the reference in hospitality for luxury holidays in Mauritius.

Beachcomber has exported the tradition of Mauritian hospitality beyond the shores of the island, with the launching of Sainte Anne Resort & Spa in Seychelles, in 2002.

The Group is presently expanding its collection, with the integration of the Beachcomber French Riviera Resort & Spa, situated on the Côte d'Azur, in France.

The collection of 10 resorts affords a choice of accommodation options ranging from rooms and apartments to suites and villas. Each hotel is imbued with a particular history and cachet, embodying an image of discrete luxury.

### *Social responsibility – Fondation Espoir Développement (FED), by Beachcomber*

Set up and financed by Beachcomber since 1999, with the participation of hotels and employees, this foundation takes care of these main projects:

- Projet Employabilité Jeunes (PEJ): professional insertion of school drop-outs through a training programme and industrial attachments.
- Collaboration with NGOs, schools and associations
- Regional projects – youth mentoring: the “Amour et Espoir” NGO; IT initiation; youth monitoring via the “Duke of Edinburgh International Award” programme, participation of regional sports clubs in the organisation of the Beachcomber UTRB Trail 2015

### *Social responsibility – Local Hands*

Programme launched in 2006 to support small local artisans by providing them with training and guidance as they embark upon the process of creation, production, marketing and sales.

### *Sustainable development – our environmental actions – EarthCheck label*

Sustainable development and environmental protection constitute real considerations within the Group, which has set up, amongst other initiatives, practices that ensure energy savings and favour renewable energy sources. These initiatives in favour of sustainable development have been recognised and rewarded, with two of our hotels recently obtaining the EarthCheck Benchmarked Bronze accreditation for their ongoing commitment to environmentally responsible practices.