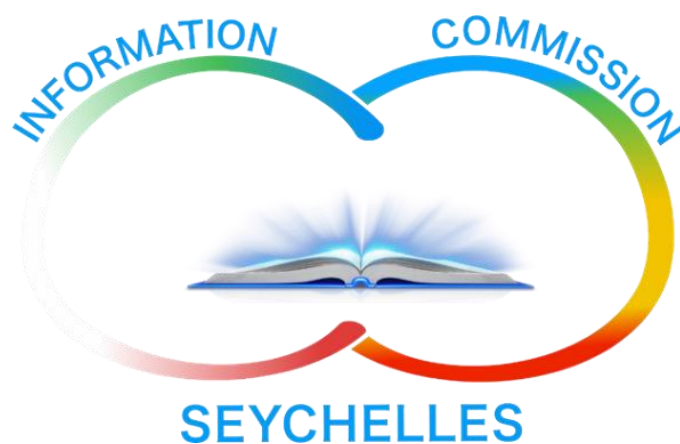


2024 Audit Report



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ABBREVIATIONS

ATIA	Access to Information Act 2018
ATI	Access to Information
HOIH	Head of Information Holder
IO	Information Officer
Info Com	Information Commission
MDA's	Ministries, Department, and Agencies

PART 1: BACKGROUND

1.1 Introduction

Since 2022, the Information Commission of Seychelles (InfoCom) has taken significant steps to audit and monitor the application of the Access to Information Act 2018 (ATIA) across various public bodies in line with its good governance mandate and statute requirements of Section 56 of the Act. The audit powers include conducting inspections, undertaking investigations, engaging with staff of public bodies, requesting, and accessing any information deemed necessary. For the year 2024, the InfoCom included standard compliance audits in a similar format to what was conducted in 2022 and 2023 and added new components to monitor the progress of Statutory Instrument (S.I) 18 of 2023 specifically for the proactive disclosure component, made on February 20th of 2023 in conjunction with the InfoCom's Directive 01 of 2023.

1.2 Objectives of Audit

1. To evaluate the progress of public bodies in implementing the ATIA, S.I 18 of 2023, and InfoCom Directive 01 of 2023.
2. To assess the extent of ATIA implementation and identify areas needing improvement.
3. To present findings that will support evidence-based decision making and drive practical improvements.
4. To strengthen the foundation for future ATIA compliance through continuous support, training, and awareness initiatives.

1.3 Audit Team

The audit was conducted by an internal team comprising of:

- Ms. Mina Accouche, Information Analyst, oversaw the audit process, gathering and analyzing data to support findings.
- Ms. Thereza Dogley, Chief Executive Officer, as the planner (January – May 2024)
- Mr. Alex Robert, Chief Executive Officer, as the reviewer (October – December 2024)
- Ms. Mumtaz Hassan Chaka, Mr. Antonio Lucas and Mr. Desire Payet, Chief Information Commissioner and Commissioners, as the steering committee (January to March 2024).
- Ms. Mumtaz Hassan Chaka, Mr. Egbert Rosalie and Mr. Peter Lalande, Chief Information Commissioner and Commissioners, as the steering committee (May to December 2024).

PART 2: AUDIT SCOPE

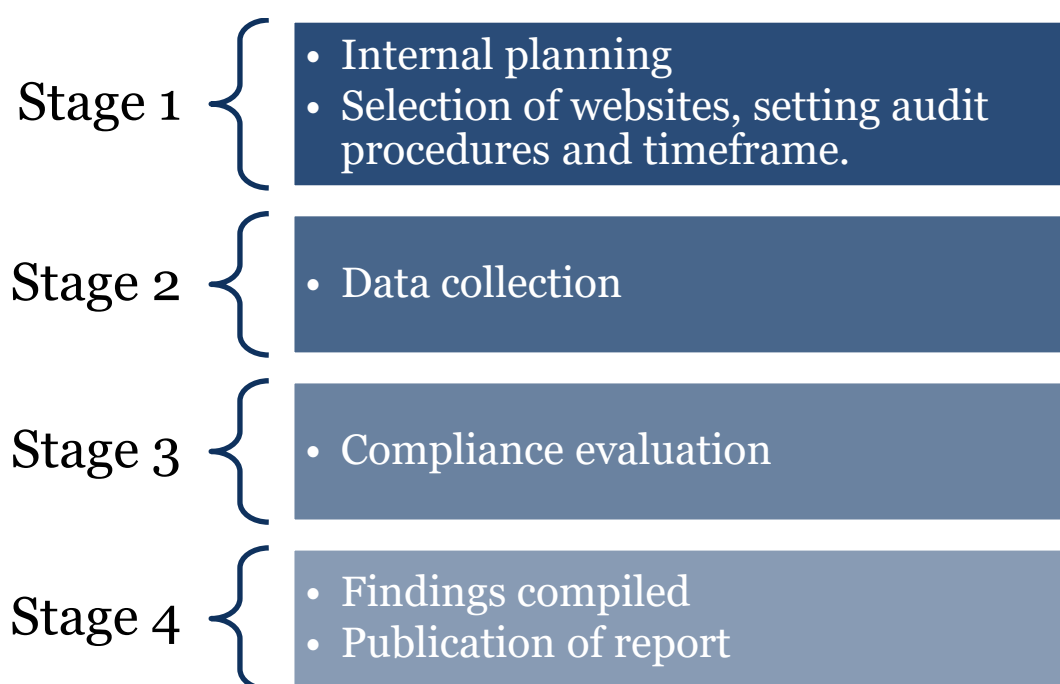
The following types, timeframe, and areas of audit were conducted:

1. The audit for standard compliance, in line with the ATIA and using previous years' format, encompassed a period-of-time audit from 2018 to mid-year 2024 and monitoring compliance of Section 4, 5, 7, 9, 11, 12, 13, 14, 33, 34 and others.
2. The audit for proactive disclosure, in line with the ATIA, Statutory Instrument 18 of 2023 and Information Commission's Directive 01 of 2023, encompassed a specific point-in-time audit in 2024 focused on monitoring compliance of Section 5(1-2).
3. The audit for annual reports, in line with the ATIA, encompassed a period-of-time for 2023 filed by 31st March 2024 focused on monitoring compliance of Section 54 (1).

PART 3: METHODOLOGY

The standard compliance audits extended to on-site evaluations. It involved engaging with public bodies staff in particular the Information Officer (IO) and Head of Information Holders (HOIH). It included desk reviews of policies, processes, procedures, files and documentation.

The proactive disclosure audits assessed the effectiveness of the public body's website within the requirements of the ATIA by reviewing the contents available and verifying several criteria such as accessibility, frequency of updates and completeness.



3.1 Selection Criteria:

The public bodies chosen for 2024 were diversified and had received a substantial portion of the government's yearly budget. A total of 38 public bodies were selected for the 2024 audit exercise. Of these, 5 were initially chosen for a standard compliance audit, while the remaining were included to monitor progress on proactive disclosure.

Out of the 5 selected for the standard compliance audit, only 2 public bodies - the Agriculture Department and the Department of Police were audited. The InfoCom was unable to initiate an entry meeting for the remaining 3 public bodies – the Department of Immigration and Civil Status, the Landscape and Waste Management Agency, and the Office of the Auditor General as they had not documented any ATI requests. As a result, the website was instead reviewed for proactive disclosure progress under SI 18 of 2023.

3.2 Proactive Disclosure Scoring System:

The audit methodically assessed and scored each public body on the following categories:

- 1. *Language and clarity: Scored between 1 to 10 and weighted 20%***
Assessed the readability and clarity of the information provided, including availability of multiple language options. Scores reflected whether information was heavily jargoned or exceptionally clear.
- 2. *Accessibility: Scored between 1 to 10 and weighted 30%***
Assessed how easily users could access the website and locate relevant information. This included testing the search functionality.
- 3. *Frequency of updates: Scored between 1 to 10 and weighted 15%***
Assessed how timely the information was updated on the website. This metric ensured that users are receiving timely information.
- 4. *Completeness: Scored at 1 to 10 and weighted 10%***
Assessed the extent to which mandatory information was made available.
- 5. *Availability of key information: Scored at 1 to 10 and weighted 25%***
Assessed the presence of key information made available.

Each category score was computed to produce a final score on a scale of 1 to 10, with 1 as the lowest measurement of performance and 10 as the highest.

Scores were clustered and interpreted as follows:

- **A score from 7 to 10** indicate mostly compliant; this means that these public bodies met most of the key requirements under the ATIA with a few areas for improvement.
- **A score from 4 to 6** indicate partially compliant; this means these public bodies have met some of the key requirements, but some key elements were missing.
- **A score from 1 to 3** indicate major gaps and non-compliant; this means these public bodies were missing significant key information.

PART 4: FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

4.1 Audit for Standard Compliance

4.1.1 Agriculture Department

a) Findings

The audit performed at the Agriculture Department revealed several areas of concern. A majority of records supplied to the InfoCom did not have its associated documentations, making it difficult to evaluate the responsiveness of the IO and casts doubts on the accuracy and completeness of the department's annual returns being submitted to the InfoCom.

General information which should not have been classified as ATI requests were included in the departments statistics. These also included requests made under other legislation, suggesting a lack of proper categorization and understanding of ATI requests. Proactive disclosure efforts appear to be lacking.

b) Recommendation(s)

- The department needs to adopt a more systematic approach to filing and organizing responses to support the figures reported in the annual return and ensure compliance with the Act.
- Documents should be filed in a systematic and methodical way to avoid any loss of documentation.

4.1.2 Department of Police

a) Findings

During the audit, we noted that while the Department of Police has made efforts towards compliance to the ATIA compared to previous years, there are areas that required improvement. The audit observed inadequate source documentation to support the statistics reported in the annual reports submitted to the InfoCom. Files and documents were somewhat disorganized, which affected the ease of access and retrieval of important information.

b) Recommendation(s)

- Digitalizing all records to prevent loss of information.
- Documents should be filed in a systematic and methodical way.
- Missing records should be updated as soon as reasonably possible.

4.2 Audit for Proactive Disclosure

The following websites were audited to monitor for proactive disclosure compliance as it pertains to the Act and regulations on a specific date. The table below provides an overview of the scores, findings, and recommendations.

Number	Public Body Name	Date Audited	Category Scores	Total Scores	Findings	Recommendations
1	The Agency for Social Protection (“ASP”)	28.05.24	1. Language and clarity: 6 2. Accessibility: 8 3. Frequency of updates: 8 4. Completeness: 7 5. Availability of key information: 6	7.0	The website is accessible. Some areas lacked clarity and completeness of information such as gaps in critical details such as how the ASP funds were allocated, lack of disclosure on the composition of the board, manuals, and annual reports amongst others.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Improve clarity by simplifying the presentation of services and eligibility requirements, ensuring they are easy to understand for users with varying literacy levels. Conduct regular content audits to ensure that all important documents are complete and accessible.
2	Air Seychelles	27.05.24	1. Language and clarity: 10 2. Accessibility: 8 3. Frequency of updates: 5 4. Completeness: 3 5. Availability of key information: 3	6.2	The website provided clear information on its services. Timeliness of updates and completeness was inconsistent in areas such as the particulars of the Information Officer, travel and hospitality expenses, details of board terms and appointment procedures.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ensure real-time updates on key documents such as budgets, audit and annual reports amongst others. Expand information related to instruments used by the officers of the organization and ensure they are prominently displayed on the homepage.
3	Anti-Corruption Commission	29.05.24	1. Language and clarity: 6	4.8	The website is moderately clear. Basic information such as how to	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Expand available resources, including past cases, statistics, and

			2. Accessibility: 7 3. Frequency of updates: 7 4. Completeness: 2 5. Availability of key information: 1		report corruption is available. It lacked important details such as where a requester can submit an information request and key policies were missing. Disclosure of certain mandatory items is incomplete and needs to be updated.	progress reports, to engage the public and enhance trust. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Publish the name and contact details of the Information Officer. • Review and update the website regularly. • Upload key policies and procedures to the website.
4	Constitutional Appointments Authority	30.05.24	1. Language and clarity: 6 2. Accessibility: 9 3. Frequency of updates: 3 4. Completeness: 7 5. Availability of key information: 8	7.1	The website is accessible. It lacked comprehensive information on procedures for how appointments are made and the criteria used. There is scope for improvement on regular and timely updates of key information.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide more comprehensive information on the appointment process, including the criteria used, the terms, power and the function. Ensure regular updates on key changes, making these details easily accessible to maintain public trust and transparency. Enhance clarity by simplifying legal or procedural language, making the information more approachable to the general public.
5	Department of Civil Aviation, Ports, and Marine	31.05.24	1. Language and clarity: 6 2. Accessibility: 6 3. Frequency of updates: 3 4. Completeness: 3 5. Availability of key information: 3	4.5	The website is moderately clear. Updates were noticed to be irregular, untimely and incomplete coverage.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase the timeliness of information provided and availability of critical documents such as operational manuals, making them more easily searchable and accessible.

6	Department of Environment and Climate Change	31.05.24	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Language and clarity: 6 2. Accessibility: 4 3. Frequency of updates: 4 4. Completeness: 3 5. Availability of key information: 5 	4.6	The website contained certain information, however, the clarity could be improved, particularly for explaining complex environmental policies to the general public. Additionally, some critical documents, such as contracts, reports, and surveys are missing.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide detailed project updates on ongoing environmental and climate initiatives, showcasing progress and impact to build public awareness and engagement. Ensure that key environmental reports and data are consistently updated and made available for public review, improving transparency and accountability.
7	Department of Foreign Affairs	03.06.24	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Language and clarity: 6 2. Accessibility: 10 3. Frequency of updates: 8 4. Completeness: 8 5. Availability of key information: 7 	8.0	The website showed commendable efforts in disclosing information, reinforcing transparency in the public sector. The website is accessible, however, information such as the amount allocated for service delivery, actual budgets and audit reports were not provided. There was also a gap in the organizational and procedural information, such as the travel and hospitality expenses per employees and the composition of boards if any.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Include detailed information on budget allocations, expenditures occurred and audit reports to enhance transparency.
8	Department of Immigration and Civil Status	03.06.24	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Language and clarity: 6 2. Accessibility: 4 3. Frequency of updates: 5 4. Completeness: 2 	3.6	The website lacked key financial information such as services implemented with public funds and the overall budget was not available. The directories of employees, vacancies and the system of compensation was not provided, as well as, board composition and terms and functions were also not accessible.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Enhance transparency and accessibility by providing clear and detailed guides on different processes in multiple language options. • Ensure that key forms and documents are easy to find and access, including necessary guidance on how to complete them and associated timelines.

			5. Availability of key information: 1			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Maintain timely updates on any changes to immigration laws or civil status procedures to ensure that both citizens and international visitors can stay informed.
9	Department of Youth and Sports	03.06.24	1. Language and clarity: 6 2. Accessibility: 6 3. Frequency of updates: 5 4. Completeness: 2 5. Availability of key information: 3	4.9	<p>The website provided a good overview of programs and initiatives but lacked detailed information on documents related to programs implemented with public funds, the list of categories of information and the contact details for submitting requests.</p> <p>Although the organization provided some proactively disclosed information, it can enhance financial transparency efforts.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provide more detailed program information by conducting regular reviews to identify and fill gaps in the information provided. Verify that all mandated information is included and not incomplete and enhance the frequency of updates and improve the website's accessibility. Provide detailed information on public programs and increase the frequency of updates on information such as annual reports to keep young people engaged. Enhance public access to resources making it easier for youth to find and participate in available programs, events, and opportunities.
10	Electoral Commission	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 04.06.24 	1. Language and clarity: 6 2. Accessibility: 5	4.7	The website had key gaps in the disclosure of mandatory information as required under Section 5 of the Act. The website did not adequately provide	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Conduct regular reviews to identify and fill gaps in the information provided. Implement a clear navigation structure and improving the search function will help to

			3. Frequency of updates: 8 4. Completeness: 5 5. Availability of key information: 1		comprehensive or timely information. The details of the designated Information Officer were absent. The composition of the board and governance-related information were not disclosed.	ensure that information is easy to find. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure real-time updates on all sections of the website and promptly delete any outdated contents. • Access to Historical Data, ensure that past election reports and statistical data are readily accessible. • Increased frequency of updates, regularly refresh website content to foster public engagement and encourage participation in electoral processes.
11	Employment Department	04.06.24	1. Language and clarity: 6 2. Accessibility: 9 3. Frequency of updates: 8 4. Completeness: 9 5. Availability of key information: 8	8.0	The website was being used as an effective medium for disseminating information. The website could benefit from timely updates regarding the disclosure of the terms, powers and functions of committee members and providing documents such as audit reports, budget, estimates, contracts and licenses.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure audit reports, contracts and other relevant information is publicly accessible to ensure transparency in operations and funding. • Improve access to key forms and documents, making them easier to find and understand, particularly for workers seeking information on grievance mechanisms.
12	Financial Intelligence Unit	05.06.24	1. Language and clarity: 6 2. Accessibility: 5 3. Frequency of updates: 7 4. Completeness: 6	5.9	The website demonstrated moderate compliance, with potential for further improvement in financial transparency. The website had incomplete details on its service delivery and financial information about programs implemented with public funds and the amounts allocated.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Enhance transparency by disclosing details about programs funded by public money. • Publish budget and financial reports to further increase transparency.

			5. Availability of key information: 6			
13	Financial Services Authority	07.06.24	1. Language and clarity: 6 2. Accessibility: 10 3. Frequency of updates: 7 4. Completeness: 9 5. Availability of key information: 8	8.2	The website strived to comply with proactive disclosure requirements. The website could benefit from disclosing information on the list of information categories under its control and information relating to service delivery.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure continued timely updates on new regulations, enforcement actions, and any changes to licensing requirements. • Increase transparency by publishing inspection reports and providing more information on the licensing process for financial institutions.
14	Ministry of Education and Human Resources Development	07.06.24	1. Language and clarity: 6 2. Accessibility: 4 3. Frequency of updates: 5 4. Completeness: 5 5. Availability of key information: 3	4.4	The website provided basic information on education policies and programs. It lacked detailed resources such as the instruments used by its officers in support of operations. There were signs of irregular and untimely updates versus to real-time updates on key information. The clarity of information was moderate, with certain areas, not being well-organized or easy to navigate.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Expand educational resources by providing detailed information on key information as per section 5 of the Act. • Ensure regular updates and improve navigation and access to key documents, ensuring that all-important educational resources are easy to find and regularly updated.
15	Ministry of Finance, Economic Planning and Trade	07.06.24	1. Language and clarity: 5 2. Accessibility: 4 3. Frequency of updates: 9	4.8	The website provided some information on economic policies, public budgets, and fiscal reports. It lacked information such as the contact details for submission of information requests. The staff directories and the details about	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conduct regular reviews to identify and fill any information gaps vis-à-vis Section 5 of the ATIA. Verify that all mandated information is included, accessible, clear, and complete.

			4. Completeness: 7 5. Availability of key information: 2		board composition and committees were also lacking.	
16	Ministry of Health (Minister's Secretariat)	05.07.24	1. Language and clarity: 9 2. Accessibility: 7 3. Frequency of updates: 8 4. Completeness: 8 5. Availability of key information: 7	7.7	The website included some health-related resources such as information on disease outbreaks and vaccination schedules; however, the overall completeness of information was insufficient in compliance to Section 5 of the Act.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Expand access to healthcare guidelines and information on public health policies, making them more comprehensive and easier to navigate.
17	National Information Services Agency	10.06.24	1. Language and clarity: 4 2. Accessibility: 3 3. Frequency of updates: 3 4. Completeness: 1 5. Availability of key information: 1	2.5	The website had limited availability of key information being proactively disclosed.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Improve the website's structure, making it easier for users to navigate between different types of content. Verify that all mandated information in line with Section 5 of the ATIA is included and complete.
18	Entrepreneurship and Industry Department Seychelles	11.06.24	1. Language and clarity: 6 2. Accessibility: 7 3. Frequency of updates: 7	6.3	The website offered a moderate level of transparency and general information about business development and industry policies. It lacked key documents, such as the amounts of money spent and the contracts awarded. There was limited information on budgets,	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ensure key documents are easy to find by sharing details on projects being funded by the government along with any contracts and reports.

			4. Completeness: 7 5. Availability of key information: 5		financial audits, and whether there are any boards or committees, and their functions, if they exist.	
19	National Bureau of Statistics	11.06.24	1. Language and clarity: 6 2. Accessibility: 7 3. Frequency of updates: 6 4. Completeness: 5 5. Availability of key information: 1	5.0	The website provided some essential information on the country's economic and social indicators. It scored low on timely updates and ease of accessibility. Various key information was not provided.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure more frequent updates to key statistical reports to ensure the public has access to relevant data. • Improve the clarity of data presentation, offering user-friendly summaries and visualizations for the general public while maintaining detailed reports for expert users. • Share the information manual to help the public understand the range of information available.
20	National Council for Children	12.06.24	1. Language and clarity: 6 2. Accessibility: 7 3. Frequency of updates: 8 4. Completeness: 7 5. Availability of key information: 8	7.2	The website disclosed certain categories of information but lacked detailed information on governance information, publication of audit reports, and electronic addresses or contact details for submitting information requests.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide comprehensive information in line with Section 5 of the ATIA. • Ensure frequent updates on the website to demonstrate accountability and enhance public trust.
21	National Sports Council	13.06.24	1. Language and clarity: 6 2. Accessibility: 7	4.8	The website showed basic information about national sports programs and events. It scored low on transparency of programs conducted with public funds. There is little information on the details	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide comprehensive information in line with Section 5 of the ATIA. • Expand information on publicly funded programs to increase financial transparency.

			3. Frequency of updates: 6 4. Completeness: 1 5. Availability of key information: 2		of the IO, board members and staff directory.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Improve user engagement, offering more information on the particulars of the information officer.
22	National Tender Board	13.06.24	1. Language and clarity: 6 2. Accessibility: 8 3. Frequency of updates: 8 4. Completeness: 7 5. Availability of key information: 6	7.0	The website provided some information. It lacked detailed guidance service delivery, employee and governance information, budget, audit reports, comprehensive reports on awarded tenders, and procurement outcomes.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ensure timely updates on new tender opportunities and awarded contracts to promote transparency and competition. Expand access to the budget allocated, structure and responsibilities of the board or committees and ensure they are easily accessible.
23	Office of the Auditor General	03.06.24	1. Language and clarity: 6 2. Accessibility: 9 3. Frequency of updates: 4 4. Completeness: 4 5. Availability of key information: 4	5.9	The website provided incomplete information about the information officer, making it difficult for the public to submit information requests effectively. While some reports are available, there are inadequate details on service delivery and lack of employee and governance information. Expanding accessibility on the particulars of the information officer and the provision of its services would improve public understanding and oversight.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provide comprehensive information in line with Section 5 of the ATIA. Ensure regular publication of reports, making them accessible to the public. Expand the availability of information.
24	Public Service Bureau	28.06.24	1. Language and clarity: 6	4.1	The website provided some information. Key areas such as employee and governance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provide comprehensive information in line with Section 5 of the ATIA.

			2. Accessibility: 5 3. Frequency of updates: 5 4. Completeness: 1 5. Availability of key information: 2		information were lacking. The site was infrequently updated.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Expand information on operational documents and service delivery information. Ensure regular updates on public service policies and performance reports. Improve user access to resources, ensuring that all relevant documents and guides are easy to find and up-to-date.
25	Seychelles Broadcasting Corporation	14.06.24	1. Language and clarity: 7 2. Accessibility: 6 3. Frequency of updates: 7 4. Completeness: 5 5. Availability of key information: 5	6.0	The website did not provide clear information on the particulars of the information officer. It lacked comprehensive information and was observed to be infrequently updated.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provide comprehensive and timely information in line with Section 5 of the ATIA. Expand access and public engagement, offering clear channels for submitting feedback.
26	Seychelles Bureau of Standards	14.06.24	1. Language and clarity: 6 2. Accessibility: 6 3. Frequency of updates: 7 4. Completeness: 5	5.8	The website included some information and made an effort to disclose information but lacked comprehensive details required as per the ATIA.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Conduct regular reviews to identify and fill any information gaps and verify that all mandated information is included and not incomplete. Improve access to certification and testing services by making forms, guidelines, and inspection reports more easily accessible and user-friendly.

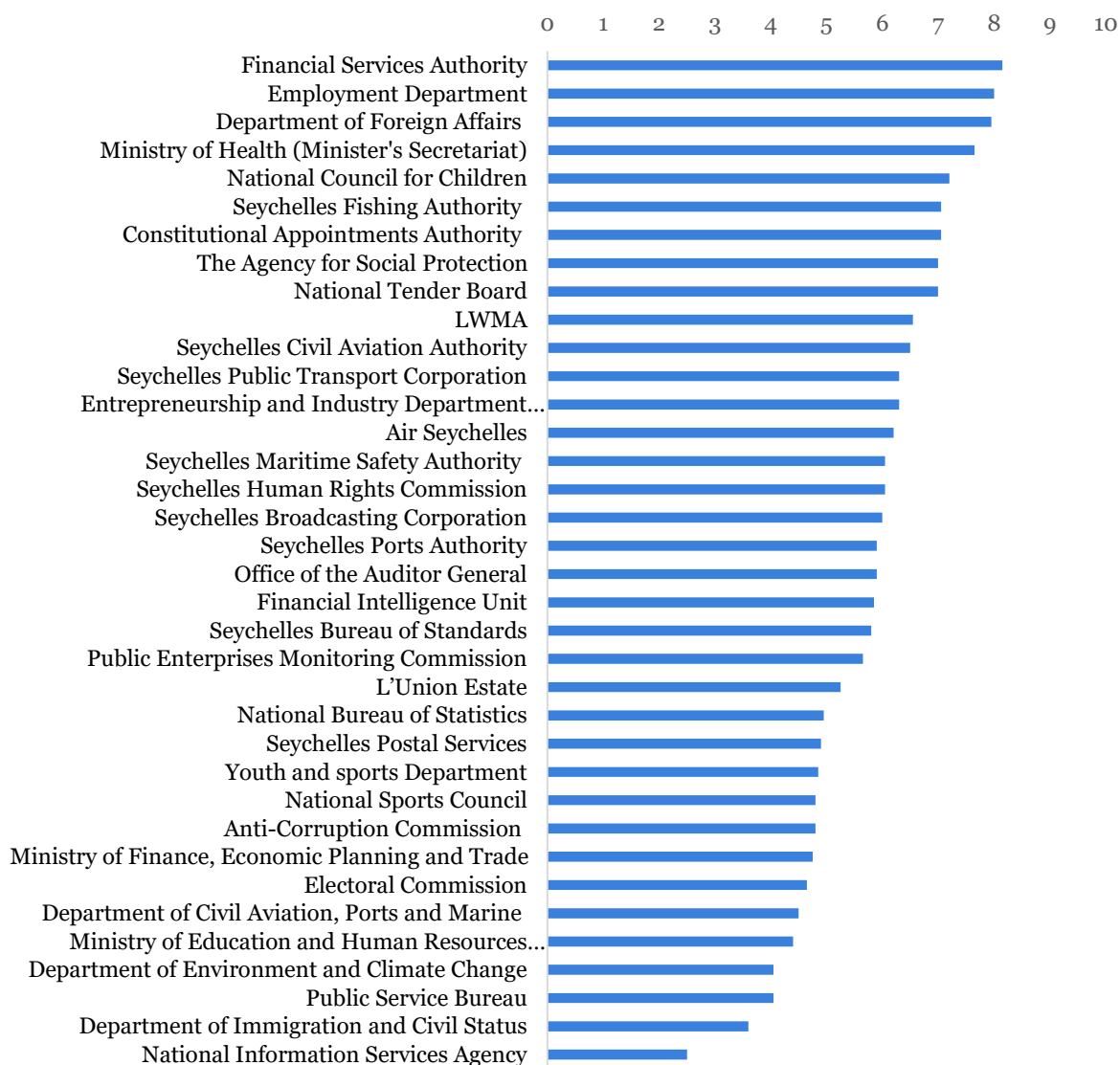
			5. Availability of key information: 5			
27	Seychelles Civil Aviation Authority	17.06.24	1. Language and clarity: 6 2. Accessibility: 6 3. Frequency of updates: 9 4. Completeness: 4 5. Availability of key information: 7	6.5	The website lacked comprehensive and timely information on various policies and content listed in the ATIA.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide comprehensive, timely, and clear information in line with Section 5 of the ATIA. • Expand public access to list of categories under its control to improve transparency.
28	L'Union Estate	11.07.24	1. Language and clarity: 6 2. Accessibility: 6 3. Frequency of updates: 8 4. Completeness: 3 5. Availability of key information: 3	5.1	The website lacked clarity and detailed information about various mandated information required to be publicly disclosed.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conduct regular accessibility reviews and audits to identify and rectify potential issues. • Implement a search function to enable users to access information quickly.
29	Seychelles Fishing Authority	19.06.24	1. Language and clarity: 7 2. Accessibility: 6	7.1	The website maintained a fair level of proactive disclosure, however, it did not provide comprehensive details in line with the ATIA and at time infrequent maintenance of information.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Inclusion of key information as per section 5 of the Act. • Continuously monitor the available information and promptly delete or update any outdated contents.

			3. Frequency of updates: 8 4. Completeness: 4 5. Availability of key information: 9			
30	Seychelles Human Rights Commission	20.06.24	1. Language and clarity: 6 2. Accessibility: 6 3. Frequency of updates: 7 4. Completeness: 5 5. Availability of key information: 6	6.05	The website had some proactive disclosure information. It lacked detailed information on programs, employee roles as well the contact information for submitting information requests. Key contact details for the IO was not available limiting public access to request for information. No information was found on financial matters and details on recruitment and compensation were not disclosed as per Section 5 of the ATIA.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provide comprehensive, timely, and clear information in line with Section 5 of the ATIA.
31	Public Enterprises Monitoring Commission	12.07.24	1. Language and clarity: 6 2. Accessibility: 6 3. Frequency of updates: 6 4. Completeness: 5 5. Availability of key information: 5	5.7	The website provided some proactive disclosure information. It lacked comprehensive details on operational delivery, employee functions as well as financial information.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provide comprehensive, timely, and clear information in line with Section 5 of the ATIA.

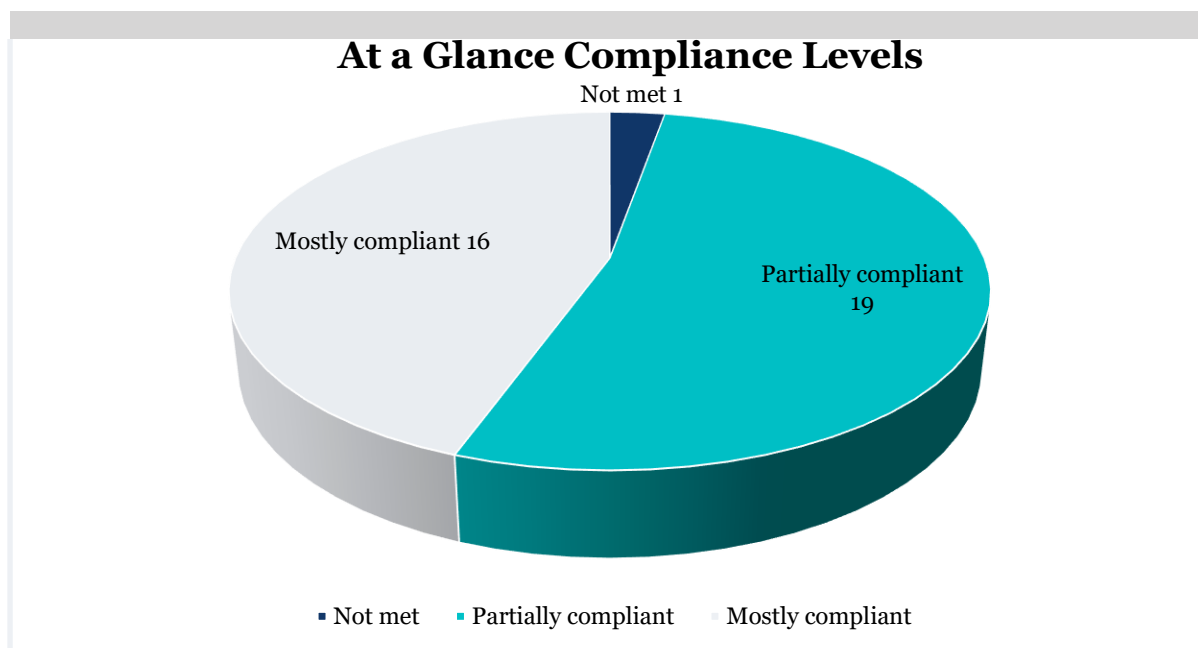
32	Seychelles Maritime Safety Authority	21.06.24	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Language and clarity: 6 2. Accessibility: 5 3. Frequency of updates: 7 4. Completeness: 3 5. Availability of key information: 8 	6.1	The website provided some proactive disclosure information. It lacked comprehensive details on key areas.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide comprehensive, timely, and clear information in line with Section 5 of the ATIA. • Gather feedback from stakeholders on what additional contents may be needed that is currently unavailable.
33	Seychelles Ports Authority	21.06.24	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Language and clarity: 6 2. Accessibility: 6 3. Frequency of updates: 6 4. Completeness: 5 5. Availability of key information: 6 	5.9	The website provided some proactive disclosure information. It lacked up-to-date information on service details and information on board or committee functions and appointment procedures. There was insufficient information on the particulars of IO as well as availability of financial records.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide comprehensive, timely, and clear information in line with Section 5 of the ATIA. • Release budgets, information manuals and a list of available information under its control.
34	Seychelles Postal Services	25.06.24	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Language and clarity: 6 2. Accessibility: 5 3. Frequency of updates: 5 4. Completeness: 2 	4.9	The website provided some proactive disclosure information on postal services. It lacked real-time updates on certain essential information mandated for disclosure under the ATIA.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide comprehensive, timely, and clear information in line with Section 5 of the ATIA. • Expand information on service delivery ensuring that businesses and individuals can easily understand the options and procedures.

			5. Availability of key information: 5			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Improve customer service resources, offering more detailed tracking systems and contact options for users to resolve issues quickly.
35	Seychelles Public Transport Corporation	26.06.24	1. Language and clarity: 6 2. Accessibility: 7 3. Frequency of updates: 5 4. Completeness: 3 5. Availability of key information: 5	5.6	The website had some proactive disclosure information. It lacked comprehensive details as mandated by the ATIA.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provide comprehensive, timely, and clear information in line with Section 5 of the ATIA. Introduce expanded digital services such as a live transportation tracking system.
36	Land Waste Management Agency	02.07.24	1. Language and clarity: 6 2. Accessibility: 8 3. Frequency of updates: 5 4. Completeness: 2 5. Availability of key information: 8	6.1	The website had made some proactive disclosure effort; certain key information was available and easily accessible. However, the information disclosed was incomplete as per the requirements of Section 5 of the ATIA.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ensure timely, clear, and full disclosure of key information in line with Section 5 of the ATIA such as service delivery procedures, powers and duties of employees and governance structures are readily accessible to the public. The agency would benefit from a consistent approach to updating information and that the content remains current and relevant.

At a Glance Compliance Score of Public Bodies



The above graph shows how well various organizations are performing in compliance with proactive disclosure requirements vis-à-vis the Act and Statutes. Public bodies with higher scores from 7 to 10 demonstrated strong adherence to standards; meeting the criteria on content, accessibility, clarity, timeliness and completeness. Public bodies with mid-range scores from 4 to 6 demonstrated moderate adherence to standards and those with scores low scores from 1 to 3 demonstrated weak adherence.



The above chart indicates that by and large, most organizations made efforts in proactively disclosing information despite challenges encountered such as lack of resources and budget limitations.

4.3 Audit for Annual Reports

Summary of Main Points

- 4.3.1 A total of 126 public bodies were registered with the Information Commission in 2023 as per conditions stated in Schedule Section 2 of the ATIA with mandatory annual report submissions for Section 54 (1) of the Act.
- 4.3.2 A total of 81 public bodies submitted reports on time by 31st March 2024.
- 4.3.3 A total of 39 public bodies submitted reports late.
- 4.3.4 A total of 2 public bodies did not submit reports.
- 4.3.5 A total of 2 public bodies ceased operations.
- 4.3.6 A total of 2 public bodies have merged with other government organisations.
- 4.3.7 The table in **Annex 2** illustrates the details of submission compliance for each public body.

PART 5: CONCLUSION

In conclusion, public bodies have a duty to make information readily available and easily accessible to the public, rather than waiting for time-consuming and complex processes for requests for information. The findings from the Information Commission's audit exercises conducted for the year 2024 reflected progress by various public bodies in awareness of proactive disclosure and taking steps towards enhancing proactive disclosure. Many public bodies are making diligent efforts to engage and comply with the requirements of the Act and Statutes given the current resources at their disposal. The results highlight a public sector-wide need for investment in digital accessible technology such as websites, enabling policies, and dedicated staff to manage online information effectively for successful proactive disclosure practices. In line with section 56 (3) (c) of the Act, we will continue to assess and monitor the implementation of recommendations in support of improvements and furthering transparency and accessibility.

The Information Commission would like to express its sincere appreciation to the various public bodies that have made a conscious effort to comply with and advance access to public information as mandated by the Access to Information Act 2018 and envisaged in Article 28 of the Seychelles Constitution.

Annex 1: Public Bodies Compliance Overview

Public Body	Particulars of the Information Officer	Particulars of the organisation	Instruments used by the officers of that body	Service delivery	Power & duties of employees	Boards, Councils & Committees	Budget allocated to each MDA's	Manual/Handbook available
The Agency for Social Protection	-	-	-	-	×	×	×	×
Air Seychelles	×	-	-	-	×	×	×	×
Anti-Corruption Commission	×	-	×	×	×	×	×	×
Constitutional Appointments Authority	-	✓	✓	×	×	-	✓	-
Department of Civil Aviation, Ports and Marine	×	-	-	×	×	×	×	×
Department of Environment and Climate Change	×	-	-	-	×	×	×	×
Department of Foreign Affairs	-	✓	-	-	-	-	×	-
Department of Immigration and Civil Status	✓	-	-	×	×	×	×	×
Electoral Commission	×	-	-	×	-	×	×	×
Employment Department	✓	-	-	-	-	×	-	-
Financial Intelligence Unit	×	✓	-	-	-	×	×	-
Financial Services Authority	✓	✓	✓	-	-	✓	×	-
Ministry of Education and Human Resources Development	✓	-	-	×	-	×	×	-
Ministry of Finance, Economic Planning and Trade	×	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Ministry of Health (Minister's Secretariat)	×	✓	-	×	-	×	×	-
National Information Services Agency	×	-	×	×	×	×	×	×
Entrepreneurship and Industry Department Seychelles	✓	✓	-	×	×	×	×	-
National Bureau of Statistics	×	-	-	-	-	-	×	×
National Council for Children	-	✓	-	-	-	✓	-	✓
National Sports Council	×	-	-	×	×	×	×	×
National Tender Board	✓	-	-	×	×	-	×	×
Office of the Auditor General	×	-	-	×	×	×	-	✓
Youth and sports Department	×	-	-	×	×	×	×	×
Public Service Bureau	-	✓	-	×	-	×	×	-
Seychelles Broadcasting Corporation	×	-	-	-	-	-	×	-
Seychelles Bureau of Standards	×	-	-	×	-	-	×	-
Seychelles Civil Aviation Authority	✓	-	-	×	-	×	×	-
L'Union Estate	-	-	-	×	-	×	-	-
Seychelles Fishing Authority	×	-	-	×	-	-	×	-
Seychelles Human Rights Commission	×	-	-	×	×	-	×	-
Public Enterprises Monitoring Commission	✓	-	-	×	-	-	×	-
Seychelles Maritime Safety Authority	-	-	-	-	-	-	×	-
Seychelles Ports Authority	×	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Seychelles Postal Services	×	-	-	×	-	×	-	×
Seychelles Public Transport Corporation	×	-	-	×	-	-	×	-
Land Waste Management Agency	×	✓	-	×	-	×	-	×

Annex 2: Annual report submissions for 2023

NO	PUBLIC BODIES	SUBMISSION DATE	COMPLIANCE STATUS	REMARKS
1	Agency for Social Protection (ASP)	17.01.2024	✓ Compliant	—
2	Agriculture Department	28.03.2024	✓ Compliant	—
3	Air Seychelles	28.03.2024	✓ Compliant	—
4	Anti-Corruption Commission	02.04.2024	✗ Late Submission	2 days late
5	Central Bank of Seychelles	16.03.2024	✓ Compliant	—
6	Seychelles Judo Federation	No submission received	✗ Non-compliant	Outstanding
7	Cleaners Corporative	22.12.2023	Early submission	Ceased operations
8	Constitutional Appointments Authority	02.04.2024	✗ Late Submission	2 days late
9	Curatelle Office	12.03.2024	✓ Compliant	—
10	Department Information Communication and Technology (DICT)	19.03.2024	✓ Compliant	—
11	Department of Blue Economy	15.01.2024	✓ Compliant	—
12	Department of Civil Aviation, Ports and Marine	08.01.2024	✓ Compliant	—
13	Department of Environment and Climate Change	18.04.2024	✗ Late Submission	18 days late
14	Department of Fisheries	28.03.2024	✓ Compliant	—
15	Department Of Foreign Affairs	05.03.2024	✓ Compliant	—
16	Department of Immigration and Civil Status	10.04.2024	✗ Late Submission	10 days late
17	Department of Investment	N/A	Merged with MIEI since February 2023	—
18	Department of Land Transport	18.03.2024	✓ Compliant	—
19	Citizens Engagement Platforms Seychelles	16.08.2024	✗ Late Submission	4.5 months late
20	Department of Local Government	27.03.2024	✓ Compliant	—
21	Department of Legal Affairs	05.06.2024	✗ Late Submission	66 days late
22	Department of Youth and Sports	30.01.2024	✓ Compliant	—
23	Development Bank of Seychelles (DBS)	29.01.2024	✓ Compliant	—

24	Disaster Risk Management Division	23.01.2024	✓ Compliant	—
25	Electoral Commission	30.01.2024	✓ Compliant	—
26	Employment Department	08.03.2024	✓ Compliant	—
27	Enterprise Seychelles Agency (ESA)	29.03.2024	✓ Compliant	—
28	Fair Trading Commission (FTC)	28.03.2024	✓ Compliant	—
29	Family Department	28.03.2024	✓ Compliant	—
30	Financial Intelligence Unit	26.02.2024	✓ Compliant	—
31	Financial Services Authority (FSA)	17.04.2024	✗ Late Submission	17 days late
32	Department of Police	24.05.2024	✗ Late Submission	54 days late
33	Health Professionals Council (Seychelles)	01.04.2024	✗ Late Submission	1 day late
34	Home Care Agency	17.05.2024	✗ Late Submission	47 days late
35	Housing Financing Company(HFC)	16.02.2024	✓ Compliant	—
36	Indian Ocean Tuna Ltd	31.03.2024	✓ Compliant	—
37	Industrial Estate Authority (IEA)	26.03.2024	✓ Compliant	—
38	Information Commission	16.01.2024	✓ Compliant	—
39	Institute of Early Childhood Education (IECD)	06.03.2024	✓ Compliant	—
40	Island Development Company Ltd (IDC)	09.12.2023	Early submission	Submitted before EOY
41	Judiciary(Registrar of the Supreme Court)	31.01.2024	✓ Compliant	—
42	L 'Union Estate	30.01.2024	✓ Compliant	—
43	Lands Department	28.03.2024	✓ Compliant	—
44	Landscape and Waste Management Agency (LWMA)	09.04.2024	✗ Late Submission	9 days late
45	Linyon Demokratik Seselwa	01.02.2024	✓ Compliant	—
46	Ministry of Education and Human Resources Development	21.03.2024	✓ Compliant	—
47	Ministry of Finance,National Planning and Trade	25.03.2024	✓ Compliant	—
48	Ministry of Health(Minister's Secretariat)	29.04.2024	✗ Late Submission	29 days late
49	Ministry of Investment, Entrepreneurship and Industry	28.03.2024	✓ Compliant	—

50	Health Care Agency	24.05.2024	× Late Submission	54 days late
51	National AIDS Council (NAC)	N/A	Ceased operations since June 2023	—
52	National Assembly	31.01.2024	✓ Compliant	—
53	National Bureau of Statistics (NBS)	13.03.2024	✓ Compliant	—
54	National Council for Children (NCC)	28.02.2024	✓ Compliant	—
55	National Information Services Agency (NISA)	23.01.2024	✓ Compliant	—
56	National Sports Council (NSC)	19.04.2024	× Late Submission	19 days late
57	National Tender Board (NTB)	02.04.2024	× Late Submission	2 days late
58	Nouvobanq	31.03.2024	✓ Compliant	—
59	Office of the Auditor General	09.04.2024	× Late Submission	9 days late
60	Office of the Mayor	10.05.2024	× Late Submission	40 days late
61	Ombudsman Office	29.01.2024	✓ Compliant	—
62	Petro Seychelles	07.03.2024	✓ Compliant	—
63	President's & Vice President's Office	15.02.2024	✓ Compliant	—
64	Property Management Corporation (PMC)	27.03.2024	✓ Compliant	—
65	Public Enterprise Monitoring Commission (PEMC)	15.05.2024	× Late Submission	45 days late
66	Public Health Authority	04.03.2024	✓ Compliant	—
67	Public Service Appeal Board	28.03.2024	✓ Compliant	—
68	Public Service Bureau	18.03.2024	✓ Compliant	—
69	Public Utilities Corporation	31.01.2024	✓ Compliant	—
70	Ministry of Lands and Housing	27.05.2024	× Late Submission	57 days late
71	Seychelles Badminton Association	27.03.2024	✓ Compliant	—
72	Seychelles Broadcasting Corporation (SBC)	07.03.2024	✓ Compliant	—
73	Seychelles Bureau of Standards (SBS)	21.03.2024	✓ Compliant	—
74	Seychelles Chess Federation	28.03.2024	✓ Compliant	—
75	Seychelles Civil Aviation Authority (SCAA)	04.04.2024	× Late Submission	4 days late
76	Seychelles Commercial Bank (SCB)	28.03.2024	✓ Compliant	—

77	Seychelles Creole Academy	N/A	Merged with NICHA since February 2023	—
78	Seychelles Cricket Association	10.04.2024	× Late Submission	10 days late
79	Seychelles Athletics Federation	24.05.2024	× Late Submission	54 days late
80	Seychelles Defence Forces	17.01.2024	✓ Compliant	—
81	Seychelles Energy Commission	05.01.2024	✓ Compliant	—
82	Seychelles Fire and Rescue Services	28.03.2024	✓ Compliant	—
83	Seychelles Fishing Authority (SFA)	06.02.2024	✓ Compliant	—
84	Seychelles Darts Association	22.05.2024	× Late Submission	52 days late
85	Seychelles Golf Federation	24.05.2024	× Late Submission	54 days late
86	Seychelles Hockey Federation	17.05.2024	× Late Submission	47 days late
87	Seychelles Human Right Commission	05.03.2024	✓ Compliant	—
88	Seychelles Infrastructure Agency	09.04.2024	× Late Submission	9 days late
89	Seychelles Intelligence Service	03.01.2024	✓ Compliant	—
90	Seychelles Investment Board (SIB)	20.05.2024	× Late Submission	50 days late
91	Seychelles Handball Federation	No submission received	× Non-compliant	Outstanding
92	Seychelles Karate Federation	18.03.2024	✓ Compliant	—
93	Seychelles Karting Association	28.03.2024	✓ Compliant	—
94	Seychelles Land Transport Agency (SLTA)	31.01.2024	✓ Compliant	—
95	Seychelles Licensing Authority (SLA)	11.03.2024	✓ Compliant	—
96	Seychelles Maritime Safety Authority	29.01.2024	✓ Compliant	—
97	Seychelles Media Commission	29.02.2024	✓ Compliant	—
98	Seychelles Medical & Dental Council	28.03.2024	✓ Compliant	—
99	Seychelles Meteorological Agency (SMA)	26.01.2024	✓ Compliant	—
100	Seychelles National Institute for Culture, Heritage and the Arts	09.04.2024	× Late Submission	9 days late
101	Seychelles National Youth Council (SNYC)	02.04.2024	× Late Submission	2 days late
102	Seychelles Netball Association	19.03.2024	✓ Compliant	—
103	Seychelles News Agency	05.01.2024	✓ Compliant	—

104	Seychelles Nurses & Midwives Council	10.07.2024	× Late Submission	3 months & 11 days late
105	Seychelles Parks and Gardens Authority	29.03.2024	✓ Compliant	—
106	Seychelles Pension Fund (SPF)	05.04.2024	× Late Submission	5 days late
107	Seychelles Petroleum Company (SEYPEC)	30.01.2024	✓ Compliant	—
108	Seychelles Planning Authority	02.04.2024	× Late Submission	2 days late
109	Seychelles Port Authority	28.03.2024	✓ Compliant	—
110	Seychelles Postal Services (SPS)	26.03.2024	✓ Compliant	—
111	Seychelles Prison Service	02.04.2024	× Late Submission	2 days late
112	Seychelles Public Transport Corporation (SPTC)	30.04.2024	× Late Submission	30 days late
113	Seychelles Qualifications Authority	14.02.2024	✓ Compliant	—
114	Seychelles Red Cross Society	16.02.2024	✓ Compliant	—
115	Seychelles Revenue Commission (SRC)	30.01.2024	✓ Compliant	—
116	Seychelles Squash Association	22.03.2024	✓ Compliant	—
117	Seychelles Tennis Association	04.04.2024	× Late Submission	4 days late
118	Seychelles Tourism Academy	15.05.2024	× Late Submission	1.5 months late
119	Seychelles Trading Company (STC)	20.03.2024	✓ Compliant	—
120	Seychelles Yachting Association	01.02.2024	✓ Compliant	—
121	Social Affairs Department	10.01.2024	✓ Compliant	—
122	The Guy Morel Institute	28.03.2024	✓ Compliant	—
123	Tourism Department	14.04.2024	× Late Submission	14 days late
124	Truth, Reconciliation and National Unity Commission	N/A	Ceased operations since March 2023	—
125	United Seychelles	27.05.2024	× Late Submission	57 days late
126	Weightlifting Federation	25.04.2024	× Late Submission	25 days late