



MALTA EMPLOYERS' ASSOCIATION

35/1, South Street, Valletta VLT 11, Malta.

Tel: (+356) 21 237585, 21 222992

Fax: (+356) 21 230227

E-mail: mea@maltanet.net

Web Site: <http://www.maltaemployers.com>

4th July 2005

Media Release

MEA calls on Government not to discriminate against Private Sector Employees

In a reaction to the General Workers Union's press release regarding employees at Interprint who face redundancy, the Malta Employers' Association stated that it disagreed with the practice that employees who lose their employment with a government controlled company expect government to automatically provide them with alternative employment.

The Association stressed that this discriminates against employees in the private sector who may also face redundancy after years of productive employment, but who do not have the privilege of being automatically employed with the government. Instead, they have to find new employment themselves or through ETC.

The MEA said that there is no denying the hardships faced by workers who lose their job, especially after long years of working with the same company. However, the solution lies only in creating productive jobs in the private sector to absorb persons seeking employment.

The MEA stated that the state cannot squander its resources on financing loss making parastatal enterprises indefinitely, and supported the Government in taking hard but necessary decisions to restructure or close down such companies when there was no profitable alternative. On the other hand, the Association agrees that every effort should be made to offer re-training and to find suitable employment to workers who are affected through these exercises. This applies both to employees in the private and public sectors.