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Media Release

MEA calls for immediate measures to address a National Moral, Reputational and Political Crisis

The Malta Employers' Association has issued a request to the Malta Council for Economic and Social Development – the MCESD - to suspend its normal agenda and to call an urgent meeting to discuss the unprecedented moral, reputational and political crisis the country is passing through and its possible ramifications on our nation.

The Association reiterated its view that the avalanche of events of the past few days, including the fact that a senior and two ex-ministers are now facing a criminal enquiry can have serious repercussions on Maltese society. Besides the negative economic implications of the current situation, and its possible impact on investment and jobs, the mounting political tension has polarised the Maltese people and plunged the country into social unrest. The Association appealed for a return to normalcy, even if this means taking hard decisions to see justice done and to place the national interest above partisan and personal concerns. Malta's international reputation is severely damaged. The incident whereby Maltese and international journalists were locked in a room in the Prime Minister's premises, and watched over by thugs is reprehensible and betrays a degeneration of our democratic credentials. The contradictions, conflict of interest and lack of transparency are endless and add to the uncertainty that has been accumulating over the past months.

There is a growing lack of confidence in the political class among the general public that is equally shared by the business community. This disillusionment and distrust of politicians is dangerous and it is imperative for those who lead the country – both in government and in opposition – to live up to their responsibilities by setting an example of good governance, and guiding our society towards unity and prosperity.