Economic repercussions of COVID-19

Following meetings between the Malta Chamber of Commerce and Industry, the Malta Employers’ Association, the Malta Hotels and Restaurants Association and the Malta Chamber of SMEs, we have issued the following communication to the Prime Minister. There is an MCESD meeting scheduled for the 20th March where the matter will be raised and discussed with the social partners. We will keep you informed of any developments. Thank you.

STATEMENT ISSUED BY THE EMPLOYER BODIES:

- THE MALTA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE, ENTERPRISE AND INDUSTRY
- THE CHAMBER OF SMEs
- MALTA EMPLOYERS’ ASSOCIATION
- MALTA HOTELS AND RESTAURANTS ASSOCIATION

In the circumstances related to the economic repercussions of COVID-19, the four employer bodies are insisting for support to businesses as follows:

a) Support to retain staff on payroll by 50% of the basic wage paid by Government and 25% paid by the employer, capped at the average wage;
b) Support for self-employed persons in difficulty of 75% of basic income paid by Government, capped at the average wage;
c) Government guaranteed loans to assist businesses to retain staff and ensure continuity, with no collateral requirement;

The eligibility for support will be based on businesses suffering a loss of 25% or more in turnover in the January to June 2020 period relative to the same period in 2019.