

27<sup>th</sup> October 2023

## Media Release

### **Minimum Wage increases will be paid by Employers, not Government - MEA**

The Malta Employers' Association expressed its satisfaction that a consensus was reached by the social partners, through the Low Wage Commission, to revise the minimum wage. The agreement reached, projects an increase in the minimum wage by €12 per week spread over the coming four years, and the staggered increase of €6 per week which was part of the 2017 agreement will be incorporated in the base minimum wage with effect from January 2024. The Association stated that this agreement was reached through the goodwill of the social partners but stressed that it is employers who will primarily shoulder the responsibility for this arrangement. It's important to note that the government is not contributing to cover any portion of the agreed wage increases. As such, any increase in the minimum wage and COLA will entail additional expenses for companies' payroll during challenging times of high inflation and unprecedented COLA increases.