

## 27th February 2020

## Media Release

## **MEA calls on Prime Minister to intervene in Malta Film Commission Issue**

The Malta Employers' Association stated that ensuring a level playing field among competitors is one of the fundamental tenets of good governance. The decision by the Malta Film Commission to establish a selective list of film production companies which excludes many eligible local producers with years of experience in the sector from participating is scandalous and should be reversed with immediate effect.

The decision to shortlist is even more inexcusable given that foreign production companies will only be eligible for tax incentives if they choose their suppliers from the official MFC list. Therefore, the privileged few will have a substantial unfair competitive advantage over the ones which have been left out. In effect, the list is a barrier to entry to many eligible companies. This is clearly immoral and contributes to the deteriorating reputation of the entire business environment in Malta in international circles.

The Association is asking the Prime Minister's intervention to rectify the situation, so that all local producers will have an equal chance of winning business, and also to send a message that such practices are no longer tolerated in Malta.