



THE MALTA CHAMBER

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Proper consultation remains key for effective implementation of electrification of vehicles

This week, The Malta Chamber's Sustainable Mobility committee agreed on a pathway towards the electrification of the vehicle fleet. In view of the proposed national cut-off date for Malta to phase out fossil fuel vehicles, The Malta Chamber is emphasizing the need for an electric vehicle masterplan for the country to achieve its sustainability goals in a timely and ambitious manner.

Such a needed masterplan would extend to all sectors of the economy which would be affected by this change, and must therefore be underpinned by extensive stakeholder engagement.

The Malta Chamber urges government to hit the ground running in preparing for this transition. Aside from planning for charging infrastructure, which may in part be paired with adequate parking, The Malta Chamber is bringing to Government's attention the need to train people for the maintenance and repairs of electric vehicles, amongst other key skillsets. The Civil Protection Department must likewise be equipped, upskilled and given the proper know-how to be able to intervene in accidents involving electric vehicles.

The far-reaching impact of the electrification of the vehicle fleet will require extensive communication and information dissemination from government to stakeholders and society at large, ensuring that all are well equipped to meet their obligations and commitments, and are likewise positioned to benefit as much as possible from the transition.

While the path ahead will present many challenges, the electrification of the vehicle fleet offers increased quality of life, cleaner air and new economic opportunities. Handled correctly, it will position Malta as a pioneer and a leader. As a microstate and island-nation, Malta is well positioned to be one of the main success stories of this new chapter in mobility.

The Malta Chamber's Sustainable Mobility committee, which brings key industry leaders around the table, will continue to play its part to facilitate the successful electrification of the country's vehicle fleet, in close collaboration with government and all stakeholders.

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