

# PRESS RELEASE

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## The Chamber voices COVID-19 concerns with PM

During a meeting with the Prime Minister this morning, The Malta Chamber of Commerce, Enterprise and Industry voiced the concerns on behalf of Malta's business community on a number of issues relating to the COVID-19 situation currently unfolding.

The Malta Chamber stated that national health should remain an absolute and undisputable priority, as instructed by the country's public health authorities and Ministry of Health.

"Nevertheless, businesses must be assisted in this time of extraordinary circumstances" The Malta Chamber said. While underlining the fact that there was no need for panic, The Malta Chamber noted that several business sectors were already facing a downturn in orders and bookings.

The President of the Malta Chamber Perit David Xuereb, reiterated the call for an assistance package for businesses to mitigate any liquidity issues companies may face in the context of temporary loss of business due to COVID-19.

"Government is urged to have a set of assistance measures for businesses in place, that will help them weather the storm. The same will also ensure that our businesses can afford to retain all of their resources on board and stay in fighting shape to be able to bounce back and perform at top level, once the current situation is over" said Perit Xuereb.

The Prime Minister who was flanked by the Minister for the Economy, Investment and Small Businesses the Hon Silvio Schembri welcomed this proposal and said that Government was seriously considering it.

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