

# PRESS RELEASE

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## Minister Brincat praises Malta Chamber's proactive approach

In a meeting with the Malta Chamber of Commerce, Enterprise and Industry's Board of Management, the Minister for Sustainable Development, the Environment and Climate Change the Hon Leo Brincat praised the way the Malta Chamber took a positive and proactive approach by proposing an Economic Vision that would sustain economic growth, promote Environmental issues while ensuring the country's competitiveness. He said that the Malta Chamber provided invaluable feedback during the consultation process related to the WEEE reform, rendering the process so successful he proposed it should be taken as an exemplary blueprint of how consultation should be carried out.

The Board of Management met Minister Brincat as part of a series of meetings the Malta Chamber is holding with leading authorities and decision makers of the country, in order to advocate the implementation of the 52 recommendations within the Economic Vision for Malta 2014-2020. In the past weeks, the Malta Chamber went through an exercise of establishing the key players involved in the implementation of the recommendations of the vision, in order to facilitate implementation.

Malta Chamber President Mr Anton Borg told Minister Brincat that the Malta Chamber was satisfied with the way discussions about the WEEE reform had progressed, and said that the Malta Chamber would continue to collaborate with the relevant authorities in order to bring the reform into effect in the shortest time possible, for the benefit of affected companies and the public.

Focusing on the Economic Vision for Malta 2014-2020, Mr Borg said that the Malta Chamber was proposing three recommendations that would fall within the responsibilities of Minister Brincat's portfolio as follows:

**Recommendation 45.** The undertaking of an urban regeneration programme should become Malta's strategic focus towards which the building and construction sector should be directed, channelling investment in regeneration as against the continued, and unnecessary development of green field sites.

**Recommendation 46.** In designing and adopting a strategic approach to urban generation, Government should take the central leading role through the restructuring of the Grand Harbour Regeneration Corporation into a Malta Urban Development Corporation that would also incorporate the private sector and potentially public shareholding and in such a way as to ensure improved balance between retro-fitting and new buildings and between open spaces and built up areas.

**Recommendation 48.** A vibrant green economic sector will only emerge once the Government stops acting as the economic operator and assumes the proper role that it should hold: that of the regulatory authority in waste management, etc. with the private sector becoming the economic operator.

In conclusion, Mr Borg said that the Economic Vision was a document that proposed a number of recommendations that would ensure economic growth for Malta. The Vision however required the political will in order to move from the vision stage to the implementation stage.

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