

PRESS RELEASE

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MCESD Employers' Bodies – “Government needs to practice what is preached re MCESD role”

The Malta Council for Economic and Social Development (MCESD) holds an important advisory role in the governing and policy making structures of the country. This is publicly recognised by Government and the country's Social Partners. It is therefore discouraging to note that despite the various reports, recommendations made and discussions held over the past years to ascertain the appropriate status of this important national institution, Government has not consulted MCESD members in a suitable manner in the latest appointment of the new Chairman.

Irrespective of the person chosen for the post, the Employer Bodies feel duty bound to comment on the procedure adopted. In the opinion of the Bodies, by simply informing them about fait accompli decisions, Government shows it does not share the same spirit of a consultation process. The MCESD Employers Bodies assert that by taking such approach Government is in principle demoting the important role which structures like MCESD have in democratic societies, especially across the European Union. Indeed, the appointment of the MCESD chairperson should mirror the appointment process of the European Economic and Social Committee (EESC).

If Government really wants to uphold the principles of good governance it needs to start practicing what is preached by first abiding to expected procedural practices in important decisions such as the appointment of the MCESD Chairman whose role is critical to ensure the appropriate functioning of the Council.

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