

2024 Pre-Budget Document Proposals by

The Malta Chamber of Commerce, Enterprise and Industry on:

YACHTING

- 1. Conduct a comprehensive **economic impact assessment** of the yachting industry to understand its significance and identify areas for improvement bearing in mind a long-term vision and plan.
- 2. Subject berthing and visiting yachts in Malta's marinas to 7% VAT instead of 18% for berthing services, agency fees, provisioning and expenses relating to the preparation of yachts embarking on charters.
- 3. Make Malta's registration fee structure more competitive by offering discounted registration fees for green yachts.
- 4. Adapt **loan policies** to cater to the maritime industry including longer repayment periods and interest rates, recognizing the extended return on investment in this sector.
- 5. Amend highly qualified rules in respect of the Key Employment Initiate to extend the 15% tax benefit to officers on board yachts, incentivizing crew members to become tax residents in Malta.
- 6. Invest in facilities and infrastructure that support the creation of a "**crew island**" close to refit yards including office spaces, shops, high-end facilities and hospitality amenities for crew.
- 7. Devise a scheme to attract FDIs to (a) support 2nd hand superyacht owners subject to undertake a refit project in Malta flying the Maltese flag through **tax rebates** (b) familiarisation trips to Malta and (c) foster partnerships with leading superyacht refit companies and yacht builders, encouraging their presence and collaboration in Malta.
- 8. Grants designed specifically to support the modernization and operation of refit yards and to encourage the use of greener technologies, more specifically, building a technical cluster of contractors that can install or retrofit the machinery required for yachts to become compliant with TIER III compliance for engines and emissions.

