Malta-EU Steering & Action Committee

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PRESS RELEASE

MEUSAC ISSUES CALL FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST BY CIVIL SOCIETY ORGANISATIONS

The Malta-EU Steering and Action Committee (MEUSAC) is requesting Civil Society Organisations to express their interest to participate in the MEUSAC consultation process on the formulation of EU legislation. As part of this process MEUSAC is establishing nine Sectoral Committees dealing with: General Affairs; Economic and Financial Affairs; Justice and Home Affairs; Employment, Social Policy and Health; Competitiveness and Consumer Affairs; Transport, Telecommunications and Energy; Agriculture and Fisheries, Environment; and Education, Culture and Youth. These Committees, widely shadowing the EU Council formations, will be composed of representatives of the Government and government entities, Core Group members and Civil Society Organisations operating within the area of responsibility of that particular Committee.

The Committees will provide a forum for the analysis of legislative proposals, discussion among parties and the gathering of reactions for the use of relevant public officials. This is an

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opportunity for civil society to participate in the formulation of Malta's position on legislative developments in the European Union.

By means of the Sectoral Committees and the Core Group, MEUSAC seeks to manage a consultation process that attempts to engage the social partners as well as civil society in the EU decision-making process. The Core Group, chaired by the Parliamentary Secretary for Public Dialogue and Information, includes representatives of Government, constituted bodies, political parties, civil society and independent experts.

Civil Society Organisations are invited to express their interest in participating in the initial stages of the consultation process on European legislation. The eligibility criteria for the participation of Civil Society Organisations in the Sectoral Committees were agreed upon by the Core Group last September.

Application forms as well as the eligibility criteria may be downloaded from the MEUSAC website: www.meusac.gov.mt. Duly filled applications are to be submitted at the MEUSAC offices, at 280, Republic Street, Valletta by **Friday 12 December 2008**. Such application may also be submitted by email on consult.meusac@gov.mt. Civil Society Organisations should clearly indicate which Sectoral Committee they would like to contribute to when compiling their application.

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Applications received after this deadline will be considered, however it may not be possible to process such applications before the initial meetings of the Sectoral Committees. Therefore, it is recommended that those organisations that want to contribute to this process from its initial stages should submit their application at their earliest. The Sectoral Committees are due to start meeting during the first weeks of 2009.

More information may be obtained from the website or by contacting Julian Micallef, A/Head, Consultation - MEUSAC on tel. 2590 9101 or by email.

MEUSAC - 25.11.2008

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STQARRIJA GĦALL-ISTAMPA

IL-MEUSAC JOĦROĠ SEJĦA GĦALL-ESPRESSJONI TA' INTERESS MINN ORGANIZZAZZJONIJIET TAS-SOĊJETÀ ĊIVILI

Il-*Malta-EU Steering and Action Committee* (MEUSAC) ħareġ sejħa għall-espressjoni ta' interess minn organizzazzjonijiet tas-soċjetà ċivili biex jipparteċipaw fil-proċess ta' konsultazzjoni tal-MEUSAC dwar il-leġislazzjoni tal-Unjoni Ewropea. Bħala parti minn dan il-proċess, il-MEUSAC se jwaqqaf disa' Kumitati Settorjali li r-responsabbiltajiet tagħhom huma varji: Affarijiet Ġenerali u Relazzjonijiet Esterni; Affarijiet Ekonomiċi u Finanzjarji; Ġustizzja u Affarijiet Interni; Impjiegi, Politika Soċjali u Saħħa; Kompetittività u Affarijiet tal-Konsumatur; Trasport, Telekomunikazzjoni u Enerġija; Agrikoltura u Sajd; Ambjent; Edukazzjoni, Żgħażagħ u Kultura. Il-kompożizzjoni tal-Kumitati tixbaħ lil dik tal-Kunsill tal-Unjoni Ewropea, u kull Kumitat huwa magħmul minn rappreżentanti tal-Gvern u entitajiet governattivi, membri tal-*Core Group*, u u organizzazzjonijiet tas-soċjetà ċivili li joperaw fil-qasam li jkunu qegħdin jirrappreżentaw fil-Kumitati partikolari.

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Il-Kumitati se jagħtu spazju għall-forum li janalizza l-proposti leġislattivi, jqajjem diskussjoni bejn il-partijiet ikkonċernati u jiġbor reazzjonijet għall-użu ta' uffiċjali pubbliċi relevanti. Din hija opportunità għas-soċjetà ċivili biex tipparteċipa fil-formulazzjoni tal-pożizzjoni Maltija dwar żviluppi leġislattivi fi ħdan l-Unjoni Ewropea.

Il-MEUSAC qiegħed jikkoordina l-proċess ta' konsultazzjoni u d-dibattitu kollu dwar l-Unjoni Ewropea mal-imsieħba soċjali u s-soċjetà ċivili permezz ta' *Core Group* u disa' Kumitati Settorjali. Is-Segretarju Parlamentari għad-Djalogu Pubbliku u Informazzjoni huwa ċ-*chairperson* tal-*Core Group*. Il-*Core Group* iħaddan fih rappreżentanti tal-Gvern, il-partiti politiċi, l-imsieħba soċjali, is-soċjetà ċivili u esperti indipendenti.

Organizzazzjonijiet tas-soċjetà ċivili huma mistiedna biex jissottomettu l-espressjoni ta' interess tagħhom biex jipparteċipaw mill-bidu tal-proċess ta' konsultazzjoni dwar il-leġislazzjoni tal-Unjoni Ewropea. Qbil dwar il-kriterji ta' eliġibilità għall-parteċipazzjoni minn organizzazzjonijiet tas-soċjetà ċivili fi ħdan il-Kumitati Settorjali intlaħaq fil-laqgħa tal-Core Group tal-MEUSAC ta' Settembru li għadda.

Il-formoli tal-applikazzjoni u l-kriterji ta' eliġibilità jistgħu jinkisbu mis-sit elettroniku tal-MEUSAC: www.meusac.gov.mt. L-applikazzjonijiet għandhom ikunu mogħdija lill-MEUSAC fl-uffiċċji tagħhom f' numru 280, Triq ir-Repubblika, il-Belt Valletta sal-Ġimgħa 12 ta' Diċembru 2008. L-applikazzjoni tista' wkoll tintbagħat permezz ta' *email* fuq

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consult.meusac@gov.mt. Organizzazzjonijiet tas-soċjetà ċivili għandhom jindikaw b'mod ċar fl-applikazzjoni liema Kumitati jixtiequ jipparteċipaw fihom.

Applikazzjonijet mibgħuta wara t-12 ta Diċembru xorta se jkunu kkunsidrati, ma dan kollu dawn jista' ma jkunux ipproċessati qabel l-ewwel laqgħat tal-Kumitati Settorjali. Għalhekk, organizzazzjonijiet tas-soċjetà ċivili li jixtiequ jagħtu kontribut mill-bidu tal-proċess huma mħeġġa jibgħatu l-applikazzjonijiet mill-iktar fis. Il-Kumitati Settorjali ħa jibdew jiltaqgħu fl-ewwel ġimgħat tas-sena d-dieħla.

Iktar informazzjoni tista' tinkiseb mis-sit elettroniku jew billi dawn l-organizzazzjonijiet jagħmlu kuntatt mas-Sur Julian Micallef, Aġent/Kap, Konsultazzjoni – MEUSAC, fuq in-numru tat-telefon 2590 9101 jew permezz tal-*email*.

MEUSAC - 25.11.2008