



Malta-EU Steering & Action Committee

**280 Republic Street
Valletta VLT 1112
Malta**

*Svetlana R. Curmi
Media Officer
T: 2200 3307*

E: svetlana-rose.curmi@gov.mt

PRESS RELEASE

The Government, the European Commission and the European Parliament join forces to communicate Europe

An agreement was signed this morning at the Auberge de Castille by the Parliamentary Secretary for Public Dialogue and Information, the Hon. Dr. Chris Said, and Dr Vanni Xuereb, Head of MEUSAC, on behalf of the Malta-EU Steering and Action Committee and Mr Panayotis Carvounis, Deputy Director General DG Communications within the European Commission and Dr Joanna Drake, Head of the European Commission Representation in Malta appointing MEUSAC as the Intermediary Body for the purposes of implementing a Management Partnership between Malta and the European Commission, the aim of which is to better disseminate information on the European Union in Malta.

The Parliamentary Secretary said that Government has already initiated similar actions at a national level whereby through MEUSAC, it is succeeding to transmit to the community information relating to EU legislative and non-legislative issues. In November 2008 the Government nominated MEUSAC as the Intermediary Body to manage the implementation of a Joint Communication Plan between the Government, the Commission and the European



Malta-EU Steering & Action Committee

**280 Republic Street
Valletta VLT 1112
Malta**

*Svetlana R. Curmi
Media Officer
T: 2200 3307*

E: svetlana-rose.curmi@gov.mt

Parliament. The Commission agreed to such a proposal and thus Malta became the 10th Member State to sign such an agreement.

The Management Partnership will be allocated €800,000 over a four-year period and its implementation will fall within MEUSAC's remit. The European Commission will provide the financial assistance whereas the Government will provide the human resources and infrastructure. The main aim of the Partnership is that of strengthening synergies and initiatives undertaken by the various institutions within the EU and also by the respective Member States so as to ensure a better understanding of EU policies amongst citizens both on a regional, national and European level. Priorities to be tapped this year are the European Parliament Elections, energy and climate change, the 20th Anniversary of democratic change in Central and Eastern Europe, sustaining growth, jobs and solidarity (including the European Year of Creativity and Innovation), the future of a Europe for citizens and Europe in the World.

Mr Panayotis Carvounis said that through this agreement, the Government is bound to disseminate EU information to citizens and augured that the Partnership will lead to a maximization of efforts by the three main EU institutions so as to address concerns voiced by citizens as well as to ensure a better debate on EU matters locally. Dr Vanni Xuereb said that the Partnership will enhance synergies between MEUSAC and Commission and EP representations in Malta.



Malta-EU Steering & Action Committee

**280 Republic Street
Valletta VLT 1112
Malta**

*Svetlana R. Curmi
Media Officer
T: 2200 3307*

E: svetlana-rose.curmi@gov.mt

This year the project will embark on public awareness campaigns to the tune of €200,000, which will include road shows, whereby a minivan providing information on EU will visit all local councils' squares during market day; a 15-minute cartoon which will be realised and distributed via web and in DVD format to pupils in all schools in Malta and Gozo; training of teachers to provide more and better training on communicating Europe utilising a 'Train the Trainer' concept dealing with specific EU subject areas; inter generational camping, involving families and children with the objective of communicating and discussing European policies on climate change and the environment; and a television advertising campaign aimed at stimulating eligible electors to vote in the June 2009 EP elections.

The European Commission's target is to sign 16 Partnership Agreements by the end of this year.

MEUSAC - 03.03.2009



Malta-EU Steering & Action Committee

280 Republic Street
Valletta VLT 1112
Malta

Svetlana R. Curmi
Media Officer
T: 2200 3307

E: svetlana-rose.curmi@gov.mt

STQARRIJA GĦALL-ISTAMPA

Il-Gvern, il-Kummissjoni Ewropea u l-Parlament Ewropew jinghaqdu flimkien għall-komunikazzjoni ahjar dwar l-Unjoni Ewropea

Dalghodu fil-Berġa ta' Kastilja gie ffrimat ftehim bejn is-Segretarju Parlamentari għad-Djalogu Pubbliku u Informazzjoni, l-Onor. Dott. Chris Said u l-Kap tal-MEUSAC, Dott. Vanni Xuereb f'isem il-Malta *EU-Steering and Action Committee* u s-Sur Panayotis Carvounis, Deputat Direttur Ġenerali fi hdan id-Direttorat Ġenerali tal-Komunikazzjoni tal-Kummissjoni Ewropea u Dott. Joanna Drake, Kap tal-Uffiċċju tar-Rappreżentanza tal-Kummissjoni Ewropea f' Malta, li permezz tiegħu, il-MEUSAC se jkun l-entità intermedjarja li jimplementa *Management Partnership* bejn Malta u l-Kummissjoni Ewropea, bl-għan li jkun hemm titjeb fit-tixrid ta' informazzjoni f' pajjiżna dwar l-Unjoni Ewropea.

Is-Segretarju Parlamentari qal li l-Gvern diġà qiegħed iwassal informazzjoni dwar żviluppi legislattivi tal-UE u oħrajn li mhumiex ta' natura legislattiva permezz tal-MEUSAC, u għalhekk f' Novembru tal-2008 l-MEUSAC gie nominat bhala l-entità intermedjarja għall-ġestjoni tal-Pjan Kongunt ta' Komunikazzjoni bejn il-Gvern, il-Kummissjoni Ewropea u l-Parlament Ewropew. Il-Kummissjoni laqgħat il-proposta tal-Gvern, u b' hekk Malta saret l-għaxar pajjiż membru li ffirmat dan il-ftehim.

Tel. 2590 9101 Fax 2122 7580 Email: info.meusac@gov.mt



Malta-EU Steering & Action Committee

**280 Republic Street
Valletta VLT 1112
Malta**

*Svetlana R. Curmi
Media Officer
T: 2200 3307*

E: svetlana-rose.curmi@gov.mt

Il-Management Partnership se jkun allokati €800,000 u se jkun mifrux fuq erba' snin. Ir-responsabbiltà għall-implimentazzjoni ta' sħubija ta' ġestjoni tal-proġett se tkun f'idejn il-MEUSAC. Il-Kummissjoni Ewropea se ttipprova għajna finanzjarja, filwaqt li l-Gvern se jipprova r-riżorsi umani u l-infrastruttura. L-għan tal-*Partnership* huwa li tissahħa is-sinergija bejn l-attivitajiet imwettqa mill-istituzzjonijiet differenti tal-UE u mill-Istati Membri, biex joffru liċ-ċittadini aċċess aħjar dwar l-impatt tal-politiki tal-UE fil-livell Ewropew, nazzjonali u lokali. Il-prijoritajiet għal din is-sena huma l-elezzjonijiet għall-Parlament Ewropew, l-enerġija u t-tibdil fil-klima, l-20 Anniversarju minn meta seħħet il-bidla għad-demokrazija fil-pajjiżi ta' Ċentru u l-Lvant tal-Ewropa, it-tkabbir sostenibbli, l-impjiegi u s-solidarjetà inkluż is-Sena Ewropea għall-Kreattività u l-Innovazzjoni, il-futur ta' Ewropa għaċ-ċittadini u l-Ewropa fid-dinja.

Is-Sur Panayotis Carvounis qal li permezz ta' dan li-ftehim il-Gvern huwa kommiss li jwassal informazzjoni dwar l-UE liċ-ċittadini u awgura li s-sħubija twassal biex jingħaqdu l-isforzi mit-tliet istituzzjonijiet ewlenin tal-UE biex jindirizzaw il-preokkupazzjonijiet tal-pubbliku u jgħinu biex jittjeb id-dibattitu dwar l-UE f'Malta. Il-Kap tal-MEUSAC, Dott. Vanni Xuereb qal li dan il-proġett se jwassal għall-koperazzjoni aħjar bejn il-MEUSAC u r-rappreżentazzjonijiet tal-Kummissjoni Ewropea u l-Parlament Ewropew f'Malta.

Din is-sena se jsiru diversi attivitajiet li se jswew madwar €200,000, fosthom *Road Show*, fejn mini van se jżur il-pjazez tal-kunsilli lokali fil-ġranet tal-monti; animazzjoni ta' 15-il minuta għall-istudenti li se titqasem f'format DVD fl-iskejjel kollha f'Malta u Ghawdex kif ukoll



Malta-EU Steering & Action Committee

**280 Republic Street
Valletta VLT 1112
Malta**

*Svetlana R. Curmi
Media Officer
T: 2200 3307*

E: svetlana-rose.curmi@gov.mt

permezz tal-internet; taħriġ għall-ghalliema għall-komunikazzjoni aħjar dwar l-Unjoni Ewropea, liema taħriġ se jkun qed jagħmel użu mill-kunċett *'Train the Trainer'*; kampanja pubbliċitarja fuq it-televisin dwar l-Elezzjonijiet għall-Parlament Ewropew; kif ukoll *Inter generational camping*, fejn il-familji jiddiskuti l-politika tal-UE dwar il-bidla fil-klima u l-ambjent, fost oħrajn.

Sal-aħħar ta' din is-sena il-Kummissjoni Ewropea se tkun iffirmit 16-il ftehim ta' dan it-tip.

MEUSAC - 03.03.2009