



Memorandum of Understanding (MOU)
Between
The Ministry for Inclusion and the Voluntary Sector
of the Government of Malta
and
The Ministry of Social Solidarity of the Arab Republic of Egypt
On
The Mutual Co-operation in the Field of Social Affairs

The Government of Malta as represented by the Ministry for Inclusion and the Voluntary Sector and the Government of the Arab Republic of Egypt as represented by the Ministry of Social Solidarity, aim to promote and strengthen relations between the two countries, on the basis of the need for promoting and developing mutual cooperation in various fields of social work based on reciprocity and mutual benefit.

- Therefore, both parties after they have acknowledged their legal standing and capacity to enter into this MOU and have agreed upon the following:

Article 1
Autism Support

Both parties agreed on the following:

- Malta would like to facilitate and assist Egypt in carrying out a Pilot Project emulating the ‘Autism Friendly Spaces’ concept, a project which has been a success in Malta;
- Exchange visits, to share experiences in promoting the rights and wellbeing of autistic people, and exchange related documents and studies, aiming to benefit these persons and develop relevant capacity;
- Exchange experiences in the field of social rehabilitation to support vocational rehabilitation, economic and social empowerment of people on the autism spectrum, and support their participation and inclusion in the community;
- Share experiences through seminars, forums and exhibitions in both countries, in the field of social rehabilitation of people on the autism spectrum;
- View the curricula and programmes used with autistic children, from diagnosis to vocational rehabilitation; and
- In particular, focus joint efforts within the wider framework of the Valletta Declaration, adopted following the conclusion of the EU-Arab High-Level Meeting on Disability Rights in April 2019, and to which both Malta and Egypt are signatories.

Article 2
Visually Impaired Support

Both parties agreed on the following:

- Engage in exchanges in relation to rehabilitation programs for people with visual impairments, also leading to capacity-building in classifying visual impairments;
- Engage in exchanges in relation to the services of support services, including rehabilitation centres, for the visually impaired, with a particular focus on community support;
- Share expertise regarding the latest aids and technology used to assist visually impaired individuals; and
- In particular, focus joint efforts within the wider framework of the Valletta Declaration, adopted following the conclusion of the EU-Arab High-Level Meeting on Disability Rights in April 2019, and to which both Malta and Egypt are signatories.

Article 3
Youth Exchange

1. Youth Volunteering Exchange – This exchange can be undertaken annually starting with an initial pilot project where a number of young persons between the age of 16 and 24 (ages can be discussed) would visit mutual voluntary organisations in the respective countries. The sending entity would be responsible for the training of the young volunteers prior to mobility and financing the actual mobility. The host entity shall be responsible for the accommodation and volunteer experience within local voluntary organisations. Through, the Malta Council for the Voluntary Sector (MCVS), Malta can financially support our Youth Volunteers under the existing Youth Voluntary Service named ‘Overseas’. Mobilities may also be supported under the European Solidarity Corps Quality Label with which the MCVS is accredited.

2. Voluntary Organisation Twinning – The official entities can facilitate collaborative twinning between recognised Voluntary Organisations in the Various fields of the sector.

Article 4

Financial Provisions

For visits:

- The delegation shall consist of three members at the most.
- The visit duration shall be one week at the most.
- Each visiting party shall bear round trip tickets expenses in addition to full expenses of accommodation and medical treatment in case of sudden illness during the visit.
- The hosting party shall bear the expenses of local transportation.

Article 5

Confidentiality of Data and Information

The two parties are obliged to maintain the strictly confidentiality of the data and information obtained as a result of implementing the articles of this MOU and may not be disclosed to any third party without a prior written consent of the other party, nor may it be used for purposes other than those stipulated in this MOU.

Article 6

Preserve the Property Rights of Both Parties

Each party is obliged to preserve the intellectual property rights of the other party.

Article 7

Effective Date and Duration

This MOU shall enter into force upon signature and shall remain valid for three years, it is automatically renewable for a similar period or periods unless one of the two parties informs the other in writing and through diplomatic channels, of its desire to terminate or renew at least six (6) months before the date of expiry.

Article 8

Settlement of Disputes

Disputes that may arise between the two parties when interpreting or implementing the provisions of this MOU shall be settled amicably through consultation between them through diplomatic channels.

Article 9

Amendment

This MOU may be amended in writing by mutual agreement between the two parties through diplomatic channels, and these amendments shall enter into force in accordance with the same procedures for the entry into force of this MOU.

Article 10


Termination

Either party may notify the other party, in writing and through diplomatic channels, of its desire to terminate the operation of this MOU, in this case this MOU shall be terminated after six (6) months from the date of the notification. The termination of this MOU shall not affect the implementation of any programme, activity or project that is ongoing under it, unless the parties agree otherwise.

Article 11
Language / Interpretation

This Memorandum of Understanding is produced in two original copies in English and Arabic with the same authenticity. In case of divergence in interpretation of the provisions of the present Memorandum, the English text shall prevail.

Issued and signed on:



3/8/2024

Ministry for Inclusion and the Voluntary
Sector of the Government of Malta



3/8/24

Ministry of Social Solidarity
Of the Arab Republic of Egypt