



**MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING**

**ON**

**BILATERAL CONSULTATIONS**

**BETWEEN**

**THE MINISTRY FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS OF THE REPUBLIC**

**OF MALTA**

**AND**

**THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS AND**

**INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS OF THE KINGDOM OF**

**LESOTHO**

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Malta and the Ministry for Foreign Affairs and International Relations of the Kingdom of Lesotho (hereinafter referred to as "Parties");

Desiring to enhance the development of relations of friendship and cooperation between the Parties;

Convinced that a constructive dialogue on bilateral, regional and international issues of mutual interest will further promote the friendly relations which already exist between the Parties;

Guided by the Vienna Convention on Diplomatic Relations of 18 April, 1961;

Have agreed as follows:

#### **ARTICLE 1 - CONSULTATIONS**

1. The Parties shall hold regular consultations and exchange of views to discuss and consider modalities to strengthen cooperation at the bilateral, regional and international level on issues of mutual interest. These consultations and exchange of views shall be held at the level of Ministers for Foreign Affairs, or at such level as may be agreed upon in advance between the Parties.
2. The consultations shall be held on an annual basis or more frequently as deemed necessary, alternately in the Kingdom of Lesotho and in Malta, and/or between the Parties' Permanent Missions to the United Nations and to International Organisations and/or Delegations to International Conferences.
3. The Parties shall agree in advance and by mutual consent on the levels, agenda, date and venue of each consultation or meeting through diplomatic channels.
4. Consultations shall, in particular focus on:
  - a) Enhancing cooperation between the two Ministries, as well as between the Parties' Embassies and Missions in third countries with a view to establishing a strong and effective dialogue on issues of mutual interest including those relating to the African and Mediterranean regions;

- b) Enhancing cooperation between the two Ministries, relevant Governmental structures and civil society organisations, through dialogue on issues of mutual interest on matters relating to small states, focusing in particular on institution building, institutional reform and good governance, as well as other developmental processes.
- c) Facilitating exchanges between Organisations and/or Institutions of the Parties that may lead to the signing of other Memoranda or Agreements, including provision of scholarships for students of both Parties in mutually agreed fields of study;
- d) Issues of common interest, such as on Climate Change and matters relating to the Commonwealth including those dealt with by the United Nations and/or International Organisations of which both Parties are members.

## **ARTICLE 2 - ESTABLISHMENT OF WORKING GROUPS**

The Parties may establish Working Groups and/or a meeting of experts in specific areas of common interest.

## **ARTICLE 3 – CONFIDENTIALITY**

The contents and conclusions of the consultations shall not be made public, unless otherwise mutually agreed to by the Parties.

## **ARTICLE 4 – AMENDMENTS**

This Memorandum of Understanding may only be amended upon the mutual consent of the Parties.

## **ARTICLE 5- SETTLEMENT OF DISPUTES**


Any dispute, disagreement or difference concerning the interpretation or implementation of this Memorandum of Understanding will be resolved through amicable consultations between the Parties.



**ARTICLE 6 - ENTRY INTO FORCE**

This Memorandum of Understanding will enter into force on the date of signature, will remain in force for a period of two years, and will be renewed automatically for successive two year periods unless either Party notifies the other in writing through diplomatic channels of an intention to terminate the Memorandum of Understanding at least six months prior to the date of expiry.

Signed at Malta.....on this 25<sup>th</sup>.....day of November of the year Two Thousand and Fifteen in two originals in the English language.

  
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**Ministry of Foreign Affairs  
Republic of Malta**

  
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**Ministry of Foreign Affairs  
and International Relations  
Kingdom of Lesotho**