



Convening of the Seventh Monitoring Committee Meeting

25 January 2022

The seventh meeting of the Monitoring Committee set up to monitor the workings for the process of the granting of Maltese citizenship by naturalisation for exceptional services, and in terms of the previous programme, namely the Individual Investor Programme was held on the 25 of January 2022. Such Committee is set up as per provisions of Article 25B of the Maltese Citizenship Act (Cap 188) and is composed of the Prime Minister the Hon Dr Robert Abela (who presides over this Committee), the Minister responsible for matters relating to Maltese Citizenship, the Hon. Dr Byron Camilleri, and the Leader of the Opposition Dr Bernard Grech. The Hon Alex Muscat, (Parliamentary Secretary for Citizenship and Communities) as well as Mr Carmel L. De Gabriele (Regulator GCES) also attended this meeting.

During the meeting, Mr De Gabriele delivered a comprehensive presentation on matters relating to his role and functions as laid down in the Maltese Citizenship Act along with a resumé of the activities carried out by his Office specifically during the period under review in conjunction with such role and functions together with a quick overview of how the Programme itself had fared during the eighteen-month period between July 2019 – December 2020

Mr De Gabriele's presentation, as delivered during the Monitoring Committee Meeting, in essence was based on his Annual Report which will be published in the coming days and which will be the 7th in the series of such Annual Reports. This is the first time since the start of the Programme that the Regulator's Annual Report covers an 18-months' period. In point of fact, as from the year 2022 onwards, such Annual Report will be covering a full **calendar** year and not a year starting from the 1st of July of a particular year and ending on the 30th of June of the following year as has been the case till the 6th Annual Report.

Considering the fact that on the date of the Meeting of the Monitoring Committee a little more than a whole year had passed since the end-date of the Report under reference, Mr De Gabriele also very briefly updated the Committee with certain vital statistics appearing in the said Report which updates pertained to the period January 1, 2021 - November 30, 2021 which will eventually and officially form part of the 8th Annual Report which hopefully will see the light of day towards the end of the first quarter of 2022 or thereabout.

It is expected that, in the short term, a copy of this Seventh Annual Report will be laid on the Table of the House of Representatives as required by sub-Article (9) of Article 25 of the Maltese Citizenship Act.