



media release

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New Collective Agreement Signed for MTA Employees

The Malta Tourism Authority is pleased to announce that a new collective agreement has been approved by the concerned unions and employees, and has subsequently been signed this morning.

Mr Paul Bugeja, the MTA's CEO, together with the MTA's management team, hosted meetings between the Authority, the General Workers' Union and Union Haddiema Magħqudin, during which procedures for a new collective agreement started being negotiated. The previous agreement had expired in 2010. Negotiations started in 2016, when the unions were granted joint recognition to represent MTA employees.

The new collective agreement is valid between 2017 and 2021 and is a joint agreement between both unions. MTA's employees included in the collective agreement range from housekeepers to assistant manager, covering seven grades in total.

As a result of the new agreement, Tourist information Officers will earn a capped, yearly allowance for every foreign language besides Maltese and English. The Enforcement Directorate will be transformed into the Compliance and Regulatory Directorate. Furthermore, the new collective agreement ensure more flexible working hours for all employees at the Malta Tourism Authority.

The MTA's Chairman, Dr Gavin Gulia, and Tourism Minister Dr Konrad Mizzi expressed satisfaction at the signing of the new collective agreement and held that optimum work conditions are key for the smooth operation of an Authority. They also thanked all those involved in the negotiations.

On behalf of the General Workers' Union, Mr Charles Galea spoke positively on the way the agreement was reached in collaboration with the two unions representing the workers. He held that such a compromise is very positive, when considering the fact that the workers are the ones that stand to gain.

Mr Jesmond Bonello and Ms Antoinette Aquilina on behalf of the UHM *Voice of the Workers*, said that the union worked incessantly in order for the collective agreement to be renewed, for employees to have better working conditions and for them to have adequate increases in their wage for the next five years.

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Ftehim Kollettiv Ġdid Iffirmat Għall-Ħaddiema tal-MTA

L-Awtorità Maltija għat-Turiżmu bi pjaċir tħabbar li ftehim kollettiv ġdid gie approvat mill-unjins konċernati u l-impjegati, u sussegwentament kien iffirmat dalgħodu.

Is-Sur Paul Bugeja, CEO tal-MTA, flimkein mat-tim maniġerjali, ospita l-laqgħt li saru bejn l-Awtorità, il-General Workers' Union u Union Ħaddiema Magħqudin, fejn kienu negozjati proċeduri għal ftehim kollettiv ġdid. Il-ftehim preċedenti kien skada fl-2010. Il-ftehim preċedenti skada fl-2010. Negozjati dwaru bdew fl-2016, meta ż-żewġ unjins kienu rikonoxxuti biex b'mod kongunt jirrapprezentaw lill-ħaddiema tal-MTA.

Il-ftehim kollettiv ġdid huwa validu mill-2017 sal-2021 u sar b'mod miftiegħem minn żewġ unjins. L-impjegati li jikkonċernahom il-ftehim kollettiv ivarjaw fuq total ta' seba' gradi; minn housekeepers għal assistant managers.

Riżultat tal-ftehim il-ġdid, Tourist Information Officers se jaqilgħu ammont kull sena ta' kull lingwa barranija (jiġifieri mhux Malti jew Inġliż) li jafu jitekllmi. Id-direttorat tal-inforzar se jinbidel f'żewġ direttorati: wieħed tal-compliance u ieħor regolatorju. Barra minn hekk, ftehim kollettiv ġdid se jiżgura aktar flessibilità fil-ħinijet tax-xogħol għal kull ħaddiem tal-Awtorità Maltija għat-Turiżmu.

Iċ-chairman tal-Awtorità Maltija għat-Turiżmu, Dr Gavin Gulia, flimkien mal-Ministru għat-Turiżmu Dr Konrad Mizzi, esprimew sodisfazzjon għall-iffirmar tal-ftehim kollettiv ġdid, u qalu li kundizzjoni tajba tax-xogħol huma neċessarja għal operat tajjeb. Irringrazzjaw lil dawk kollha involuti fin-negozjar.

F'isem il-General Workers' Union, is-sur Charles Galea tkellem b'mod pożittiv dwar il-mod li bih il-ftehim intlaħaq bejn iż-żewġ unjins li jirrapprezentaw lill-ħaddiema. Qal li dan it-tip ta' kompromess huwa pożittiv ħafna, meta wieħed jikkonsidra l-fatt li l-ħaddiema huma dawk li l-aktar li għandhom x'jiggrawdanjaw.

Is-sur Jesmond Bonello u s-sinjura Antoinette Aquilina f'isem il-UHM *Voice of the Workers qal li l-unjin* ħadmet bi sħiħ biex permezz ta' dan t-tigdid tal-ftehim kollettiv ma' l-Awtorità Maltija għat-Turiżmu, il-ħaddiema jkollhom kundizzjonijiet tax-xogħol aħjar, b'garanzija ta' żidiet fil-pagi għall-ħames snin li ġejjin.

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