



Convening of the Tenth Monitoring Committee Meeting

14 March 2025

On the 10th March 2025, the tenth meeting of the Monitoring Committee set up to watch over the workings of the legal provision regarding the process of the granting of Maltese Citizenship by Naturalisation for Exceptional Services (GCES), which came into force at the end of 2020 and in terms of the previous programme, namely the Individual Investor Programme (IIP), which programme it can now truly be said as practically reaching its closure following the legal termination of such by the same legal provisions of 2020, and which has remained on solely for applications received by the Community Malta Agency before the coming into force of the above-mentioned provisions.

The 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 who was regrettably indisposed for this particular meeting, the Leader of the Opposition Dr Bernard Grech, and Mr Carmel L. De Gabriele (Regulator GCES), who, as always, was asked to attend the meeting by the Prime Minister. Also present for this Meeting were Mr Tony Sultana, Principal Permanent Secretary who is the Head of the Public Service and Mr Joseph Mizzi, Chief Executive of the Community Malta Agency.

During the meeting, Mr De Gabriele delivered a resumé of the activities carried out by his Office during the period under review in conjunction with such role and functions, together with a quick overview of what went on in practice on the part of the Community Malta Agency, with regards to the above-mentioned legal provisions during the twelve-month period coming ending on 31 December 2023. He also made reference to those parts in the same Report which gave a clear and concrete picture of the substantial increase in every aspect but mostly with regards to the direct monetary income in the National Social and Development Fund as well as in the Government Consolidated Fund through the direct contribution from various applicants (with a substantial increase in number and quality, particularly from the North American region) and the global effect on the various spheres of the Maltese economy.

The Annual Report 2023, regarding which the aforesaid meeting was held, should be published in the coming days, following the official handing of the said Report by the Regulator to the Minister responsible for Maltese Citizenship so that the latter may lay the Report on the Table of the House of Representatives as required by sub-Article (9) of Article 25 of the Maltese Citizenship Act, following which it will officially be made public and reproduced online on the portal of the Office of the Regulator.