

MALTA CHAMBER OF SMES WELCOMES FURTHER GOVERNMENT ASSISTANCE FOR BUSINESSES TO MITIGATE THE COVID CRISES

Discussions with the various Ministries are continuously ongoing to respond to the needs of SMEs who are currently going through a very difficult time. We are very pleased that the government is continuing to respond positively to our calls for assistance as a Chamber of SMEs.

In particular we welcome what has been confirmed in this morning's MCESD meeting with the participation of Ministers Silvio Schembri, Edward Scicluna and Carmelo Abela. In particular:

- That the tax deferral scheme will be extended up until the end of June;
- The government is working on a nine month plan during which it will continue to support enterprises who require assistance in order to recover; and
- Sectors that will be given the green light to open up in accordance with the "exit plan" to be announced periodically by government, will continue to receive support from the government until their business picks up.

These are very important support measures and we appreciate the hard work from all those involved in order to respond to the needs of businesses as fast as possible.

ABOUT MALTA CHAMBER OF SMES

Malta Chamber of SMEs (Formerly known as GRTU) is the largest social partner in Malta representing over 7,000 SMEs from over 90 different sectors. The SME Chamber has been established for over 70 years and its aim is of safeguarding the interest of businesses at large.

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The Malta Chamber of SMEs further welcomes and endorses the initiative announced by the Hon Clayton Bartolo to once again launch the eBiznify scheme (www.ebiznify.com). This scheme may be very instrumental in the current Covid situation to help SMEs that are still not operating online to gain the necessary knowledge to successfully move their business online.

There are many schemes that the government has made available to help businesses survive Covid and businesses are encouraged to get in touch with the Malta Chamber of SMEs for any assistance they require in order to understand how they can benefit.

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