

**MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING BETWEEN  
THE GOVERNMENT OF MALTA  
AND  
THE GOVERNMENT OF AUSTRALIA  
RELATING TO WORKING HOLIDAY VISAS**

**THE GOVERNMENT OF MALTA  
AND  
THE GOVERNMENT OF AUSTRALIA,**

(THE PARTIES)

IN A SPIRIT of promoting closer co-operation between Malta and Australia;

DESIROUS of providing wider opportunities for citizens, particularly the youth, of Malta and Australia to appreciate the culture and general way of life of the other for the purpose of promoting mutual understanding between the respective countries;

WISHING to provide reciprocal arrangements in relation to working holidays which are intended to make it possible for citizens of Malta to enter Australia, and for citizens of Australia to enter Malta, primarily for a holiday for an extended period and also to engage in employment as an incidental aspect of that holiday in order to supplement their travel funds;

HAVE REACHED the following understandings:

**1. GENERAL**

This Memorandum of Understanding expresses the understandings and intentions of the Parties in relation to the grant of working holiday visas from 1 July 1996.

**2. TERMS OF ISSUE OF VISAS**

2.1 From 1 July 1996, each Party will issue a multiple entry visa for a working holiday valid for a period of one (1) year from the date of issue to persons who satisfy each of the following requirements:

- (i) in the case of applications by Australians for visas to Malta, are Australian citizens who are resident in Australia, and in the case of applications by Maltese for visas to Australia, are Maltese citizens who are resident in Malta;
- (ii) intend primarily to holiday in Malta or Australia, as the case may be, for a specified period;
- (iii) are aged between eighteen (18) and twenty-five (25) years inclusive at the time of application for the visa, except in those cases where the competent authorities of the Government of Malta in respect of Australian applicants and the competent authorities of the Government of Australia in respect of Maltese applicants decide to extend the limitation of age up to thirty (30) years;
- (iv) are persons who are not accompanied by dependent children;

- (v) possess a valid passport and a return ticket or sufficient funds with which to purchase such a ticket;
- (vi) possess reasonable funds for their maintenance during the period of initial stay in Malta or Australia as the case may be; and
- (vii) have good health and a sound background.

2.2 Applications for working holiday visas as referred to in paragraph 2.1 will be required to be made, in the case of Australian applicants to a diplomatic or consular mission of the Government of Malta in Australia and, in the case of Maltese applicants, to a diplomatic or consular mission of the Government of Australia in Malta, and when necessary, applicants will be interviewed by representatives of the mission to which application is made, to determine their eligibility.

2.3 Applicants will not be refused a visa solely on the grounds of their lack of the Maltese language (in the case of Australian applicants for a Maltese visa) or their lack of the English language (in the case of Maltese applicants for an Australian visa).

2.4 Each Party will grant to holders of the visas as referred to in paragraph 2.1 permission to stay in Malta or Australia as the case may be for an initial period of up to twelve (12) months. Any extension will be subject to the discretion of the competent authorities of the Government which granted the visa.

2.5 Persons who have entered Malta or Australia on a working holiday visa will be required to comply with the respective laws and regulations of Malta and Australia and not to engage in employment that is contrary to the purpose of the working holiday arrangements. The holders of working holiday visas will not undertake any formal course of study other than a Maltese language course in respect of Australian citizens during their stay in Malta or an English language course in respect of Maltese citizens during their stay in Australia.

2.6 The Government of Malta will encourage youth, cultural and community organizations in Malta, and the Government of Australia will encourage youth, cultural and community organizations in Australia, to provide appropriate counselling facilities for Australian citizens and Maltese citizens respectively who have entered Malta or Australia as the case may be on working holiday visas.

### **3. SUSPENSION**

Subject to paragraph 5.2, either Party may temporarily suspend the foregoing provisions in whole or in part for reasons of public policy. Any such suspension will be notified immediately to the other Party through the diplomatic channel.

### **4. AMENDMENT**

Amendments to this Memorandum may be made at any time by a written arrangement between the Parties.

## 5. COMMENCEMENT AND DURATION

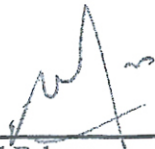
5.1 This Memorandum will take effect from the date of its signature and will continue in effect until terminated by either Party by three months written notice to the other Party.

5.2 Notwithstanding any termination or any suspension of this Memorandum or of any provisions of this Memorandum, unless otherwise agreed by the Parties, any person who at the date of such termination or suspension already holds a valid working holiday visa will be permitted to enter and/or remain in such country and to work in accordance with such visa until such visa expires.

SIGNED at *Malta* on the *31st* day of *July* 1995 in in two originals in the English language.

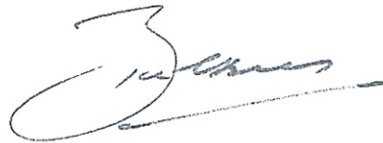
FOR THE GOVERNMENT OF MALTA

FOR THE GOVERNMENT OF AUSTRALIA



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Hon. Michael Falzon  
Minister of Education and Human  
Resources



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Senator Nick Bolkus  
Minister for Immigration and  
Ethnic Affairs