



**Action Plan of the First Session**  
**Of the Joint Commission for Bilateral Co-operation**  
**Between the Republic of Malta and the State of Kuwait**  
24-25 May 2021, corresponding to 12-13 Shawwal 1442

Aiming to strengthen the long-standing friendly relations and cooperation, the Government of the Republic of Malta and the Government of the State of Kuwait held the First Session of the Malta-Kuwait Joint Commission for Bilateral Co-operation on 24-25 May 2021, corresponding to 12-13 Shawwal 1442 in a virtual format.

Several representatives of Ministries and relative sectors from the two countries participated in the work of the Joint Commission (Appendix no. 1 and Appendix no. 2).

The two sides emphasized the desire of their governments to pursue their efforts aimed at improving further the bilateral relations in the areas of cooperation relating to Trade, Investment, Education, Health, Information and Communication Technologies (ICT), Tourism, Youth and Sports, and Security as discussed in the Joint Commission.

The two sides reiterated their determination to build on the historic friendship between the Republic of Malta and the State of Kuwait, and work towards enhancing the existing excellent bilateral relations for the benefit of the two peoples and welcomed the recent high-level meetings that serve as a basis to deepen the bilateral relationship.

At the concluding session of the first Malta-Kuwait Joint Commission for Bilateral Co-operation, held in a virtual format on 24 and 25 May 2021 in accordance with the Memorandum of Understanding between the Government of the Republic of Malta and the Government of the State of Kuwait on the Establishment of a Joint Commission for Bilateral Cooperation of 13 April 2010, The two sides have agreed to pursue cooperation in the subjects included in these action plan as follows:

**1. Trade**

The two sides agreed on the importance of enhancing trade cooperation between the two countries. In the context of the strategic geographical location of Malta and Kuwait in the Mediterranean Sea and the Arabian Gulf respectively, the two sides expressed willingness to develop fruitful

collaboration between the respective entities to establish a Logistics Hub facility in Malta offering the option of customized infrastructure. This would serve to promote trade exchanges and investment opportunities including triangulation between Malta, Kuwait, and fast-growing neighbouring markets.

The two sides agreed on the importance of enhancing trade cooperation between the two countries in the following way:

1. Encourage organizing of specialized seminars, workshops, conferences, and exhibitions that shows the trade and investment opportunities in both countries.
2. Encourage of the visits of Trade & Business delegations from both countries.
3. Provide information to the respective and pertinent entities, regarding investment opportunities in both countries.
4. Exchange of information related to the economic laws and regulations with their updates in both countries.

## **2. Investment**

The two sides recalled the draft Memorandum of Understanding on Cooperation between the Kuwait Direct Investment Promotion Authority (KDIPA) and Malta Enterprise Corporation.

The two sides agreed to proceed with the finalisation of the draft Memorandum of Understanding with a view to signing it at the earliest opportunity.

## **3. Education**

### *- Higher Education*

The two sides reaffirmed their willingness to cooperate in the field of Education, within the framework of the existing Memorandum of Understanding on Academic Cooperation between Kuwait University and the University of Malta, which was signed on 20 April 2010.

The University of Malta expressed interest in collaborating with the Kuwaiti side in the following areas:

- Discussion on the awarding of scholarships for Kuwaiti students joining the University of Malta in October 2021.
- Consideration of other areas of study and specialisation.

### *- English language*

The two sides encourage Malta as a destination for English Language Training (ELT), for interested Kuwaiti nationals.

- *Vocational training*

The two sides acknowledged the scope to enhance cooperation in the vocational training sector, and encouraged the Malta College of Arts, Science and Technology (MCAST) and the Public Authority of Applied Education and Training of Kuwait to explore further collaboration. The Malta side proposed a Memorandum of Understanding concerning mutual recognition of vocational qualifications, which will be forwarded to the Kuwaiti side for their consideration.

- *Diplomatic training*

The two sides agreed to enhance cooperation between their respective diplomatic institutions.

#### **4. Health**

The two sides expressed interest in cooperation between the Ministries for Health of the respective countries in exploring the creation of an educational programme on Hyperbaric Medicine, ranging from formal introductory medical training courses to specialist training. It was noted that such exchanges between corresponding hyperbaric centres would serve to enhance professional development, for the broader benefit of such medical facilities.

The Ministry for Health of the Republic of Malta also offered the Kuwait side a number of training opportunities dedicated to hyperbaric nurses and technicians and expressed interest in facilitating joint research opportunities in Baromedicine, for the mutual benefit of both countries.

The two sides expressed interest in exploring avenues of cooperation in the field of Medical Genetics, such as the increasing application of genetics and genomics in medical care. The Malta side informed that collaboration in the area could include specialised training and exchange of specialists, specialist trainees and expertise.

The two sides agreed to continue bilateral contacts at the technical level outside of the Joint Commission, relating to the health sectors mentioned above in order to identify and agree on areas of common cooperation.

#### **5. Information and Communication Technologies (ICT)**

The two sides reiterated their commitment to promote and strengthen the ICT sector, within the framework of the Malta National Strategy on Technology and Innovation, and the Kuwait Vision 2035 strategy. In this regard, The two sides agreed to explore avenues of cooperation between the two countries in this field, including sharing of best practices in Cyber Security.

The Malta side represented by Tech.mt. delivered a presentation outlining its role in the provision of services to promote Malta's Digital Innovation Technology Strategy and highlighting opportunities for cooperation and support within the ICT sectors of both countries.

The Malta side expressed further interest in cooperation in this sector, particularly in terms of business opportunities for Maltese tech companies to venture out into new markets, including the Kuwaiti market.

The two sides agreed to facilitate enhanced collaboration through Research and Development by academic institutions, as well as skills-based training and employment opportunities in ICT, within both countries.

## **6. Tourism**

The two sides look forward to the signing of the Memorandum of Understanding on Tourism Cooperation between the Government of the Republic of Malta and the Government of the State of Kuwait and will henceforth seek to engage in events and activities that will continue to assist their enhanced cooperation in the field of Tourism.

## **7. Youth and Sports**

The two sides recalled the draft Memorandum of Understanding on cooperation in fields of sports and Youth between the Ministry of state for Youth Affairs of the state of Kuwait and the Ministry for Inclusion and Social wellbeing.

The two sides agreed to proceed with the finalisation of the draft Memorandum of Understanding with a view to signing it at the earliest opportunity.

## **8. Security**

The two sides agreed to explore the importance of enhancing security cooperation between the two countries in the field of cyber security and cooperation in the identification of threat actors, including in the exchange of information and intelligence, operational cooperation, legislative and regulation, and training fields. The two sides agreed to hold further bilateral technical discussions outside the framework of the Joint Commission to identify specific areas of cooperation in these fields.

The two sides also agreed to enhance bilateral cooperation in the field of civil protection including in the areas of exchange of best-practices and information on emergency planning, risk assessment, training and exchange of visits. The two sides agreed to commence bilateral technical discussions outside the framework of the Joint Commission on the draft Memorandum of Understanding between the State of Kuwait and the Republic of Malta in the field of civil protection.

## Conclusion

The two sides expressed their full satisfaction with the friendly and open discussions that prevailed during the first session of the Malta-Kuwait Joint Commission for Bilateral Co-operation. The two sides agreed that such high-level meetings serve as a platform for the strengthening of future cooperation and reflects the depth of the longstanding, historic relations between the Republic of Malta and the State of Kuwait.

The two sides agreed to hold the second session of the Malta-Kuwait Joint Commission for Bilateral Co-operation in Malta on a date to be agreed upon through diplomatic channels.

Signed in New York on Monday 20 September 2011 in two original copies, in the English language.

On behalf of the  
The Government of the  
Republic of Malta



**Hon. Evarist Bartolo**

Minister for Foreign and  
European Affairs of the  
Republic of Malta

On behalf of the  
The Government of the  
State of Kuwait



**H.E. Dr. Ahmed Nasser  
Al-Mohammed Al-Sabah**

Minister of Foreign Affairs and Minister of  
State for Cabinet Affairs of the  
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