### MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

ON

## **BILATERAL CONSULTATIONS**

## **BETWEEN**

# THE MINISTRY FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS OF THE REPUBLIC OF MALTA AND

### THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS OF THE KINGDOM OF BAHRAIN

The Ministry for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Malta and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Kingdom of Bahrain (hereinafter referred to as "the two Sides"),

Desiring to enhance the development of relations of friendship and cooperation between the two Sides;

Convinced that a sincere and constructive dialogue on bilateral as well as on regional and international issues of mutual interest will further promote the friendly relations which already exist between the two Sides;

Guided by the Vienna Convention on Diplomatic Relations of 18 April 1961;

## Have agreed as follows:

1. The two Sides shall hold regular consultations and exchange of views to discuss and consider modalities to strengthen cooperation at the bilateral, regional and international level on issues of mutual interest. These consultations and exchange

of views shall be held at the level of Ministers for Foreign Affairs, or at such level as may be agreed upon in advance between the two Sides.

2. The consultations shall be held on an annual basis, or more frequently as deemed necessary, alternately in Malta and in Bahrain, and/or between the two Sides' Permanent Missions to the United Nations and to International Organisations and/or Delegations to International Conferences.

The two Sides shall agree in advance and by mutual consent on the levels, agenda, date and venue of each consultation or meeting through diplomatic channels.

- 3. Consultations shall, in particular, focus on:
  - a. Enhancing cooperation between the two Ministries, as well as between the two Sides' Embassies and Missions in third countries with a view to establishing a strong and effective dialogue on issues of mutual interest including those relating to the Gulf and Mediterranean regions;
  - b. Enhancing bilateral relations with a view to deepening and widening cooperation in mutually agreed sectors as well as facilitating exchanges between Organisations and/or Institutions of the two countries that may lead to the signing of other Memoranda or Agreements;
  - c. Issues of common interest, including those dealt with by the United Nations and/or International Organisations of which both Sides are members.
- 4. The two Sides may establish Working Groups or meeting of experts in specific areas of common interest.
- 5. The contents and conclusions of the consultations shall not be made public, unless otherwise mutually agreed to by the two Sides.
- 6. This Memorandum of Understanding may be amended upon the mutual consent of the two Sides.
- 7. Any dispute, disagreement or difference concerning the interpretation or implementation of this Memorandum will be resolved through amicable consultations between the two Sides.

8. This Memorandum will come into effect on the date of signing, will remain valid for a period of two years, and will be renewed automatically for successive two year periods unless either Ministry notifies the other in writing of an intention to terminate the memorandum at least six months prior to the date of expiry.

MINISTRY FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS REPUBLIC OF MALTA

MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS KINGDOM OF BAHRAIN