

Business Breakfast

SMEs from the Employers' point of view...



Friday, 6th December 2013
Corinthia Hotel St George's Bay, St Julian's, Malta

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The Business Breakfast

The Malta Employers' Association has embarked on a new project aimed at SMEs. An SME helpdesk has been set up.

This business breakfast will enable existing companies to share their experience and develop further themselves.

Malta Employers' Association

The MEA is a multisectoral association dedicated to the promotion of healthy industrial relations by providing members with a range of advisory services enabling them to be better informed about their rights and obligations regarding their employees. Our association provides numerous services to its members, and all these are included in the membership fee. These services include:

- Representation on Government bodies;
- Representation on International bodies;
- Consultancy services in industrial relations;
- Collective bargaining, representation on the Industrial Tribunal, and assistance in human resources management issues;
- The MEA is also formally registered as an employers' union, and this provides our members with the same rights as unions, including the right to lock out.
- The Malta Employers' Association is *the* leading lobby group for employers in Malta on issues related to Industrial Relations and Human Resources.



The Hon. Dr. Michael Falzon

LL.D. A.C.I.B., M.P.
Commissioner for Simplification and Reduction of Bureaucracy



Mr. Arthur Muscat

B.A. (Hons)
President
Malta Employers' Association



Mr. Joseph Farrugia

B.A. (Hons) (Econ), M.A. (Marketing)
Director General
Malta Employers' Association



Mr. Anton Vella

SME Helpdesk Executive
Malta Employers' Association



Dr. Charlotte Camilleri

Executive in EU & Legal Affairs
Malta Employers' Association



Mr. George Francalanza

B.A. (Hons)
Head-Relationship Management
Malta Enterprise



Mr. Lorenzo Mulè Stagno

Managing Director
Allied Consultants Ltd.



Mr. Alex Scicluna

CEO
Jubilee Group of Companies



Ms. Angèle Giuliano

Managing Director
AcrossLimits



Mr. Mario Duca

MSc (Ang), Dip. Lab., M.I.M.
Managing Director
2M Management Consultancy Ltd



Mr. Albert Frendo

Chief Officer, Credit
Bank of Valletta plc



Mr. Euchar Sultana

BSc (Melit.), BCom Hons. (Melit.)
CEO
Young Business Entrepreneurs

PROGRAMME

8.00am	Registration / breakfast / video intro / networking
8.50am	Opening address <i>Mr. Arthur Muscat – President, MEA</i>
8.55am	Official Launch of MEA's SME Helpdesk <i>Mr. Anton Vella – SME Helpdesk Executive, MEA</i>
9.00am	Intervention <i>Mr. George Francalanza – Head-Relationship Management, Malta Enterprise</i>
9.15am	"Developing your business is exciting and fulfills a dream" – Internationalisation <i>Mr. Alex Scicluna – CEO, Jubilee Group of Companies</i>
9.30am	"You are what you make of yourself" – Entrepreneurship <i>Mr. Lorenzo Mule' Stagno – Managing Director, Allied Consultants Ltd.</i>
9.45am	"Live when alive and sleep when you're dead!" – Networking in the EU <i>Ms. Angèle Giuliano – Managing Director, AcrossLimits</i>
10.15am	"Protecting the wealth of Family Business through better Governance Structures" <i>Mr. Mario Duca – Managing Director, 2M Management Consultancy Ltd</i>
10.30am	"Access to Finance can make the difference - the case for Risk Sharing Mechanisms" <i>Mr. Albert Frendo – Chief Officer -Credit, Bank of Valletta plc</i>
10.45am	Discussion: "What do SMEs employers expect, and what are they really getting?" Chairperson: <i>Mr. Joseph Farrugia – Director General, MEA</i> Panel: <i>Hon. Dr. Michael Falzon -Commissioner for SRB</i> <i>Mr. Euchar Sultana – CEO, Young Business Entrepreneurs</i> <i>Mr. George Francalanza – Head-Relationship Management, Malta Enterprise</i> <i>Mr. Mario Duca – Managing Director, 2M Management Consultancy Ltd</i> <i>Dr. Charlotte Camilleri – Executive in EU & Legal Affairs, MEA</i>
11.30am	Concluding remarks and closure by Chairperson



MEA TV programme is broadcasted as follows:

First transmission	Sunday	TVM2	7.30 pm
repetition	Wednesday	TVM	11.30 am
repetition	Thursday	TVM2	6.00 pm
repetition	Thursday	TVM2	11.10 pm
repetition	Saturday	TVM2	9.30 pm
last repetition	Sunday	TVM	10.00 pm

A series of 13 TV programmes focusing on labour market issues. Some of the matters already featured are Education & Employment, SMEs, Women on boards, Whistleblowers Act, Disability and Green jobs. The next programmes shall focus on Young Entrepreneurs, Subcontracting, Making Work Pay, Christmas & Business, The Sales Period.





What is the European SME Week?

The official European SME Week 2013, coordinated by the European Commission took place in 37 countries in November 2013. The campaign promoted enterprise across Europe in line with the Small Business Act for Europe. The majority of the events – national, regional or local – were as close as possible to existing and potential entrepreneurs. These events – organised by business organisations, business support providers and national, regional and local authorities – enabled existing companies to share their experience and develop further themselves.

The aims of the European SME Week are to:

- provide information on what the EU and national, regional and local authorities are offering as support to micro, small and medium-sized businesses;
- promote entrepreneurship so that more people, and in particular younger ones, seriously consider becoming an entrepreneur as a career option;
- give recognition to entrepreneurs for their contribution to Europe's welfare, jobs, innovation and competitiveness.



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The MEA's SME Helpdesk

MEA is officially inaugurating an SME Helpdesk. This helpdesk is going to be administrated by Mr. Anton Vella. Mr. Vella joined MEA a few months ago, but has been working close to the SMEs sector for the past eleven years. Through the SME Helpdesk, the MEA will be adding a new service to its portfolio. It will be focusing at SMEs and Micros needs. Amongst the first initiatives, the SME Helpdesk is introducing a 24/7 telephone helpline (tel: 21 222 006), which is going to be a direct line open to SMEs, to communicate with MEA, whenever they need to do so. SMEs can call at any time and leave a message when our offices are closed. Mr Vella will then return the call on the next working day. Another initiative is the setting up of MEA's Facebook page www.facebook.com/maltaemployers. You're invited to LIKE our page so that we keep you informed with all developments, and news which concerns SMEs in particular.



The Helpdesk, besides giving advice and important information on how an SME can be fully compliant with all local employment legislation, and other regulatory bodies, is going to offer also handholding services when entrepreneurs, decides to apply to benefit from any existing grant schemes, or other EU funded programmes. The SME Helpdesk intend to keep on organising seminars, courses and information sessions whenever the need arise in order to keep SMEs aware of all eventual changes in policies and regulations, and guide them accordingly. For further information, contact Mr Anton Vella at anton.vella@maltaemployers.com.

In a nutshell the MEA's SME Helpdesk, is going to be another tool in the hands of small business entrepreneurs, which can be used to empower their skills to achieve success in their business. Now it's up to SME and Micro employers to take this opportunity to join in the MEA's family, and make use of all services offered especially those which from now on are going to be available through the SME Helpdesk.

Malta Employers' Association

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