

MEMORANDUM FOR CABINET BY THE
HON. THE PRIME MINISTER

Membership of International Organizations

With the attainment of Independence it will be necessary to examine the question of seeking admission to certain International Organizations.

2. At the present time Malta enjoys full membership of the Inter-Governmental Committee for European Migration (I.C.E.M.), and associate membership of the Food and Agriculture Organization (F.A.O.) and of the World Health Organization (W.H.O.). As regards F.A.O. and W.H.O., Associate membership was accepted with a view to full membership on independence.

3. In addition, there has been for many years active association in the work of the International Labour Organization, including the sending of an Observer Delegation to the Organization's Annual Conference. Were it not for the fact that membership of I.L.O. is only open to fully sovereign states and that no provision exists for associate membership, some form of membership would no doubt have already been arranged.

4. The advantages derived from association with these specialized agencies (i.e. I.L.O., W.H.O. & F.A.O.), principally in the form of technical assistance, have been clearly demonstrated. It is accordingly proposed that Malta should apply for membership of one more specialized agency, namely the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (U.N.E.S.C.O.). The aims of U.N.E.S.C.O. are to contribute to peace by promoting international collaboration through education, science and culture in order to further universal respect for justice, the rule of law and fundamental human freedoms. The Hon. Minister of Education has strongly urged the case for Malta's admission to U.N.E.S.C.O., which is one of the more important specialized International Organizations and a channel for considerable technical assistance for Malta. U.N.E.S.C.O. may be considered as falling in the same category as W.H.O., F.A.O. and I.L.O. There is therefore a "prima facie" case for seeking membership.

5. Following independence, there is also the question of Malta's continued participation in the Universal Postal Union to consider. The aims of the U.P.U. are to secure the organization and improvement of postal services, thereby promoting international collaboration. At present Malta is represented on the Union by virtue of belonging to the so-called "Commonwealth Ensemble". Such representation will automatically cease on independence, and in view of the long years of fruitful international co-operation in the postal field which association with the U.P.U. has meant, there is little doubt but that direct membership of the Union following the attainment of independence should be sought. The Hon. Minister of Agriculture, Power and Communications concurs.

6. Finally, the attainment of independence will also give Malta an opportunity of direct participation in world politics through membership of such international forums as the United Nations Organization and the Council of Europe. Briefly, the aims and purposes of these two Organizations are as follows:

- i) United Nations Organization - to maintain international peace, to develop friendly relations between nations and to confront economic, social and other problems in a spirit of international co-operation.
- ii) The Council of Europe - the achievement of a greater unity of purpose between its members with the aim of safeguarding and realising the ideals and principles which are their common heritage, and facilitating their economic and social progress.

7. For obvious reasons, it will be necessary for Malta to apply for membership of both the Council of Europe and U.N.O. to enable her to take her rightful place within the European and World Communities of Nations.

8. The financial implications (on present bases of computation) of full membership in the above organizations (not counting the cost of maintaining a permanent delegation at U.N. Headquarters but including the expense of sending delegations to the Annual Conferences of the other Organizations listed) are estimated as follows:

	<u>Per Annum</u>
Inter-Governmental Committee for European Migration	£1,250 (Present costs)
Food and Agriculture Organization	£3,300 (Associate membership is costing £2,300)
World Health Organization	£5,500 (Associate membership is costing £3,000)
International Labour Organization	£8,000 (Present arrangements cost £700)
United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization	£3,700
Universal Postal Union	800 (Present contribution is £430)
United Nations Organization	£11,000
Council of Europe	2,200
	<hr/> £35,750 (Net additiona costs: £28,07

9. Hon. Ministers are invited -
- i) to confirm Malta's entry to F.A.O. and W.H.O. as full member on independence;
 - ii) to confirm that application for entry to I.L.O. should be made on independence;
 - iii) to consider whether membership to U.N.E.S.C.O. and U.P.U. is to be sought on independence; and
 - iv) to confirm that application for membership of U.N.O. should be made on independence and to consider whether membership of the Council of Europe should also be sought.

28th July, 1964.

L-Arkivji Nazzjonali ta' Malta

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