

Meeting No. 1 of 1971.

Cabinet Meeting held at the Auberge d'Aragon, Valletta, on Tuesday, 5th January, 1971, at 11 a.m.

Present: The Prime Minister and Minister of Commonwealth and Foreign Affairs
The Minister of Finance, Customs and Post.
The Minister of Public Building and Works.
The Minister of Justice and Parliamentary Affairs
The Minister of Health
The Minister of Education, Culture and Tourism
The Minister of Labour, Employment and Welfare

Absent: The Minister of Trade, Industry and Agriculture (Indisposed)

OPM. 345/68. Emergency Stand-by Party for Accident and Disaster Relief

Ministers considered the recommendations contained in Memorandum No. 1666 regarding an emergency stand-by party for accident and disaster relief and agreed in principle that the Army should be given the task of providing a stand-by rescue squad, to be available for any emergencies occurring when the Civil Defence Corps is not normally on duty. It was also agreed that the details would be worked out administratively.

OPM.516/55 III Wastes Disposal and Water Supply Project.

Ministers considered the recommendations contained in Memorandum No. 1248 on the wastes disposal and water supply project and agreed to reconsider further such recommendations after that the Minister of Public Building and Works, the Minister of Trade, Industry and Agriculture, and the Minister of Health had a chance to discuss between them the merits of the recommendations.

The Minister of Labour, Employment and Welfare then joined the meeting.

O.P.M. 27/70 Malta Union Club, Sliema

Ministers considered the recommendations contained in Memorandum No. 1468 regarding the renewal of the lease at the beach at Tigne jointly used by the Malta Union Club and the United Services Sports Club and agreed that, subject to the carrying out by the two clubs of the measures referred to in paragraphs 3 and 4 of the Memorandum, the whole area on the beach actually occupied by both clubs should be given on a regular basis for a period of 4 years renewable for a further period of 4 years at the option of each party. The lease to be subject to a rental to be assessed by the Lands Department and to the admission of a number of hotel guests as temporary members of the Clubs.

OPM. 1252/63 Amendment of the National Assistance Act.

Ministers considered Memoranda Nos. 1306 and 1660 and agreed that the revised rates described in the draft Bill amending the National Assistance Act, 1956. (Pd 29a in file) should be introduced on or about the 15th February, 1971, and that steps should be taken by the Minister of Justice and Parliamentary Affairs to bring the draft Bill before the House of Representatives at the appropriate time.

Confirmation of Written Opinion.

The files mentioned below were circulated to Ministers whose written opinion was as follows:-

Land 191/68 II H.E. the Governor-General was advised to sign Declaration for the acquisition of four plots of land at San Gwann required for the construction of a Bypass.
(Memorandum No. 1682)

Land 29/66 II H.E. the Governor-General was advised to sign Declaration for the acquisition of one plot of land at Rabat, Malta, required for the construction of a school.
(Memorandum No. 1683)

OPM. 116/67. H.E. the Governor-General was advised to sanction the mortgage of the m.v. Tita (1098.05 gross tons)

owned by the Malta Star Navigation Co. Ltd. of 11/11 Strait Street, Valletta, in favour of Barclays Bank D.C.O. of 54, Lombard Street, London, E.C.3.

OPM. 915/64 Ministers agreed that Malta should become a signatory to the "Agreement on Implementation of Article VI" of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade and that G.A.T.T. be informed of the Malta Government's acceptance of the provisions of the Agreement.

OPM. 447/70. Ministers approved the implementation of the Recommendation concerning the International Standardisation of Educational Statistics by the General Conference of U.N.E.S.C.O. at its Tenth Session, 3rd December, 1958, subject to the reservations set out in paragraph 2 of Memorandum No. 1573.

OPM. 857/70. Ministers agreed to the accession to the "Convention Relating to the Status of Refugees" adopted in 1951, and to the "Protocol" done at New York in 1967, subject to the reservations set out in Paragraph 9 of Memorandum No. 1628.

L-ARKIVJI NAZZJONALI
TA' MALTA

Secretary to Cabinet

Prime Minister.