MEMORANDUM TO CABINET BY THE HON. MINISTER OF TRADE, INDUSTRY & AGRICULTURE.

Establishment of a Zoo in Malta

Hon. Ministers will recall that the establishment of a Zoo in Malta was discussed in September of last year and it was agreed in principle that a Zoo should be established in Malta on a site outside Valletta.

This decision was duly communicated to the promoter, Mr. Chipperfield, who although somewhat disappointed did not abandon his project but has asked to be supplied with alternative sites for possible inspection to decide on their suitability or otherwise.

Having inspected various sites Mr. Chipperfield, has now informed this Ministry that he is prepared to establish a zoological garden in Malta under the following proposals:-

- The zoological garden to be situated in Spencer Hill Gardens.
- 2. The Government to finance the erection of all permanent buildings including the restaurant, fences, roads, pathways, provision of drains, toilets and water and electricity services.
- 3. Mr. Chipperfield would supply all livestock, technical and other staff and design and supervise the construction of and manage the zoological garden.
- 4. Mr. Chipperfield would pay the Government 5% of the admissions for a lease of 30 years. At the end of that time, the lease would be re-negotiated and if Mr. Chipperfield were not to carry on with the management, the livestock could be bought at the cost by the Government.
- 5. All livestock and supplies for the zoo to be allowed duty-free importation into Malta.

Hon. Ministers are asked to agree to the establishment of a zoo in Malta under the above conditions to enable the early finalization of negotiations.