

MEMORANDUM TO CABINET BY THE MINISTER OF COMMONWEALTH
AND FOREIGN AFFAIRS AND THE MINISTER OF JUSTICE
AND PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS

Accession to the Statute of the International Institute
for the Unification of Private Law (UNIDROIT)

The International Institute for the Unification of Private Law was established in Rome on 20th April, 1926 by an agreement between the Italian Government and the Council of the League of Nations.

2. The purpose of the Institute is to examine ways for harmonising and co-ordinating private law as between States or groups of States and to prepare for progressive adoption of uniform private law legislation by the various States.

3. To this end the Institute:

- (a) prepares drafts of laws and conventions with the object of establishing uniform internal law;
- (b) prepares drafts of agreements with a view to improving international relations in the field of private law;
- (c) undertakes studies in comparative private law;
- (d) participates in projects already undertaken in any of these fields by other organisations with which it may maintain relations as necessary;
- (e) organises conferences and publishes works considered worthy of a wide circulation.

4. The number of members of UNIDROIT up to 1966 was 45 including the greater part of the Mediterranean countries.

5. Malta's membership would cost Government about 2000 Swiss Francs (about £200) a year. Provisions for the required amount have already been made in next year's estimates.

6. The Crown Advocate-General strongly recommends that Malta should become a member of this Institute.

7. Honourable Ministers are invited to agree to the accession of Malta to UNIDROIT.

8. A copy of the Statute is with the Secretary to Cabinet.

2nd April, 1969.

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