

MEMORANDUM FOR THE CABINET
BY THE HON. MINISTER OF INDUSTRIAL
DEVELOPMENT AND TOURISM

Exemption from payment of Customs duty on a
heater donated to the Catholic Relief Services

Section 13 of the Import and Export Duties Ordinance (Cap. 122) lays down that it shall be lawful for the Governor to admit the importation into these Islands of any goods, free from all duties of Customs whatsoever.

2. In virtue of this provision of the law Mr John Miles, the American Consul General who recently left the Island, was allowed to bring into Malta free of duty a new large capacity heater, which is still in its original shipping package. Before he left Mr Miles gave the heater in question to the Catholic Relief Services to be donated as a gift to some Maltese social institution.

3. As in terms of section 4a(2) of the Import and Export Duties Ordinance any dutiable article which is imported free of duty by any person by virtue of an exemption granted under section 13 of the same Ordinance or under any other law shall be deemed, if sold or disposed of by such person for use or consumption in these Islands, to be taken out of bond at the time of such sale or disposal for use or consumption in these Islands, it is necessary once again for an Exemption Order to be made by the Governor in respect of the importation of the said heater if the Catholic Relief Services are to take possession of it without having to pay the relative Customs duty.

4. The Hon. Minister of Industrial Development and Tourism recommends that exemption from duty be granted.

5. In the circumstances, Hon. Ministers are asked whether they agree:

- (a) that His Excellency the Governor be advised to authorize the importation of the heater by the Catholic Relief Services free of duty and to sign the relative Exemption Order;
- (b) that the Hon. the Prime Minister shall have the general authority of the Cabinet to submit similar applications for exemption from duty direct to His Excellency without the necessity of consulting the Cabinet as a whole in view of the number of such applications for exemption from Customs duty which are brought up for consideration by the Cabinet.