

MEMORANDUM FOR THE CABINET BY THE
HON. THE PRIME MINISTER

Extension to Malta of Visa Abolition Agreement
between the United Kingdom and the
Dominican Republic

With effect from the 26th June, 1961, the Government of the Dominican Republic abolished visas in respect of British subjects holding valid passports. As from the 1st June, 1961, the U.K. Government had decided unilaterally to abolish visas for the United Kingdom for nationals of all Latin American countries subject to the visa requirement provided that they held valid national passports.

2. The Dominican Republic has now proposed that these visa concessions should be recorded by means of a formal Visa Abolition Agreement with the United Kingdom, and that such Agreement should be extended to as many British overseas territories as possible. The Government of Malta has been asked whether it is desired that Malta be included in this Agreement on a reciprocal basis.

3. Although it is not stated, such Agreements do not normally affect the liability of the nationals of countries which are party to the Agreement to comply with the laws and regulations regarding entry, temporary or permanent residence, and the employment or occupation of foreigners, obtaining in the country of entry. The right is also reserved to the competent authorities of each country to refuse leave to enter or stay in the country in any case where a person is considered to be undesirable or otherwise ineligible under the general policy of the respective Governments relating to the entry of aliens.

4. The effect of the extension of such an agreement to Malta would be that Dominican subjects holding valid passports would be able to visit Malta for a stay not exceeding three months, without having to obtain a visa beforehand, and all British subjects holding valid passports issued in Malta would be able to enter the Dominican Republic, likewise without the prior necessity of obtaining a visa.

5. The Immigration Officer sees no objection to the extension of this agreement to Malta, and Hon. Ministers are kindly requested to say whether they agree that it should be so extended, assuming that the provisions referred to in paragraph 3 above will be included in the agreement as is usually the case. It is to be noted that any Maltese British subjects who may be resident in the Dominican Republic would still require an entry permit to come into Malta.

22nd March, 1963.