

MEMORANDUM FOR CABINET BY THE MINISTER  
OF TRADE, INDUSTRY AND AGRICULTURE

Bill to amend the Agricultural Produce  
(Export) Ordinance

In order to minimize, as much as possible the exploitation of farmers it is proposed to amend the Agricultural Produce (Export) Ordinance so as to enable the Minister responsible for Agriculture through the Director of Agriculture and Fisheries to collect from the exporter the moneys due to farmers for the purchase of the produce and for the payment by the Minister through the Director of Agriculture and Fisheries to the farmer of the value of this produce as well as to effect the payment of the relative brokerage.

The Bill also incorporates an amendment so that the new provisions will also be applicable to horticultural products.

As the Government will be acting solely as an intermediary it will not be financially liable towards any grower or broker in respect of any moneys due unless such moneys have already been collected by Director of Agriculture and Fisheries.

In view of the fact that the export season has started Hon. Ministers are invited to approve the new procedure of payment and to agree that this Bill be passed in all its stages through the House of Representatives as a matter of urgency.

MTIA/13 4/69

**22 APR 1970**



A BILL

entitled

AN ACT further to amend the Agricultural Produce (Export) Ordinance (Cap. 131).

BE IT ENACTED by the Queen's most Excellent Majesty, by and with the advice and consent of the House of Representatives of Malta, in this present Parliament assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:-

Short title.

1. This Act may be cited as the Agricultural Produce (Export) (Amendment) Act, 1970, and shall be read and construed as one with the Agricultural Produce (Export) Ordinance, hereinafter referred to as "the principal law".

Amendment of section 2 of the principal law.

2. Section 2 of the principal law shall be amended by the insertion of the words "or any horticultural product" immediately after the words "derived from farming operations" in the definition of "agricultural produce".

Amendment of section 10 of the principal law.

3. Section 10 of the principal law shall be amended as follows:

- (a) paragraphs (p) and (q) of subsection (1) shall be renumbered as paragraphs (q) and (r) respectively;
- (b) immediately after paragraph (o) of subsection (1) there shall be inserted the following new paragraph:

"(p) the payment to the Director of any amount of money due by exporters as the price of agricultural produce and the repayment by the Director to the growers of such produce and to the brokers of their respective share;" and
- (c) immediately after subsection (2) there

shall/.....



shall be added the following new subsection:

"(3) No rule made under paragraph (p) of subsection (1) of this section and nothing done or omitted to be done thereunder shall render the Government liable towards any grower of Agricultural produce or towards any broker in respect of any money due to them by any exporter of agricultural produce unless such money has been collected by the Director."

Objects and Reasons

The object of this Bill is to amend the Agricultural Produce (Export) Ordinance so as to enable the Minister responsible for Agriculture to make rules for the collection by the Director of Agriculture of any amount of money due by the exporters of agricultural produce as purchase price and for the payment by him of such amount to the grower of the produce and to the broker.

Occasion has been taken to amend the said Ordinance so as to make it possible to apply its provisions to horticultural products.