

✓ Sitting No. 16/69.

Cabinet Meeting held at the Amburge d'Angon, Valletta, on Thursday, 20th February, 1969, at 11 am.

Presents: The Hon. Prime Minister
 The Hon. Minister of Justice and Parliamentary
 Affairs
 The Hon. Minister of Trade, Industry and
 Agriculture.
 The Hon. Minister of Health
 The Hon. Minister of Education, Culture
 & Tourism.

~~Also~~

Absent: The Hon. Minister of Finance, Customs
 & Ports,
 The Hon. Minister of Public Building
 & Works, and
 The Hon. Minister of Labour, Employment
 & Welfare, who were
 indisposed.

The minutes of meeting No. 15/69
 were read and confirmed.

OPM 559/68

Setting up of an industry in Malta by a
Czechoslovak firm.

Refs 1 and 2 and minute
 (5) in file were read out. It was the view
 of Ministers that for security reasons persons
 from Iron Curtain countries should be discouraged
 from taking up residence in Malta.

Local Development Loan.

(The Secretary, Ministry of Finance, Customs & Port was in attendance)

It was agreed that a local loan of £500,000 be floated to cover the current development programme. The loan was to be for five years at £99 at 5% rate of interest.

Development Local Loan Act, 1965.

Ministers agreed that the ceiling of £4.1 m. provided in the Development Local Loan Act, 1965, be raised to £5.6 m. instead of £5.1 as shown in the Bill already presented to the House of Representatives. They agreed also that the overdraft facility to the Malta Drydocks for the current year be raised from £200,000 to £400,000.

CAG 282/68. Draft Bill on Mandatory Standards.

Minute 11 in file was read out. It was agreed that the Crown Advocate General should consult again the Hon. Minister of Trade, Industry and Agriculture and the Hon. Minister of Health on the Draft Bill on Mandatory Standards.

OPM. 133/68. Allocation of Government-owned sites for the construction of hotels and tourists projects
(Memo. No. 961A)

Ministers deferred consideration of Memorandum No. 961A to another meeting of the Cabinet when the views of the Commissioner of Land would be heard.

With regard to Red 38 in file, Ministers agreed ^{to} ~~accept~~ the recommendation of the standing committee that interested parties should submit their projects to the Commissioner of Land as Chairmen of the ad hoc Committee and not to the Tourist Board as it was proposed in paragraph 5 a) of Memorandum No. 961.

OPM. 215/62.

Extension of Income Tax Holiday in respect of projects under the Aids to Industries Ordinance (Memo. No. 1146)

Ministers considered Memorandum No. 1146 and agreed to the enactment of the proposed amendment to the Aids to Industries Ordinance, as shown in the Draft Bill which accompanied the Memorandum.

OPM. 1122/64.

Building of a Paraplegics Centre (Memo. No. 1183)

Ministers agreed that the Building of a Paraplegics Centre at the King George V Playground, Floriana, would encroach on, and would therefore restrict the playing area. The Public Works Department should in the circumstances propose to the Infertile Paralysis Rehabilitation ^{Trust} ~~Locales~~ an alternative site for the building of a Paraplegics Centre.

OPM. 967/55.

Establishment of a Duty-Free Shop at
Luga Airport.

Letter from the General Retailers
Union at Ref 139 in file was read out.
Ministers agreed to the establishment of a
duty-free shop at Luga Airport for the sale
of not only tobacco, wines and spirits but also
of perfumery, cosmetics, etc.

24th February, 1969.

Robert Dimech
Prime Minister

Edg. Dimech
Secretary to Cabinet
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