



Din I-Art Helwa

PATRON: His Excellency, The President of Malta

The Hon Joseph Muscat
Prime Minister
Auberge de Castille
Valletta

10th December 2013

Dear Prime Minister

As you are aware, on Saturday 7th December a public rally was organised in Valletta by 12 environmental NGOs including Din I-Art Helwa, a number of resident associations and youth organisations.

During the rally, among other concerns, the government was requested to put on hold the new policies and changes to the local plans that are currently being put forward, until adequate studies have been carried out which will enable better informed decisions to be made on these issues.

As Din I-Art Helwa has already outlined in various submissions to the government, in particular to MEPA, we request that the full new strategic plan to replace the Structure Plan including all required public consultation is completed before revising the local plans, or introducing new policies regulating ODZ land use and building heights, or embarking on land reclamation projects.

It is only once a strategic plan is completed, together with all necessary supporting studies, that the government should propose changes to the local plans and to other planning policies, including the recent proposed policies regulating the use of land in the countryside and building heights, and building up the coastline through reclamation projects. All new policies and plans must be presented with supporting studies detailing why they are necessary and giving adequate information on the sustainability of the proposals.

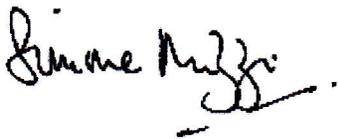
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On behalf of Din l-Art Helwa I would now like to make this recommendation to you formally and also trust that you will consider the genuine concerns of the public which were highlighted in the rally of 7th December, 2013. We look forward to your reply.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Simone Mizzi', with a horizontal line underneath.

Simone Mizzi
Executive President

cc.

The Hon. Leo Brincat, Minister for the Environment, Sustainable Development and Climate Change

The Hon. Michael Farrugia, Parliamentary Secretary for Planning and Simplification of Administrative Processes

Mr Vincent Cassar, Chairman, Malta Environment and Planning Authority