THE GOZO BUSINESS CHAMBER

The Brokerage, Level 4A, St Marta Street, Victoria VCT 2551, Gozo, Malta
Tel: (+365) 21550305
E-mail : info@gozobusinesschamber.org
Website : www.gozobusinesschamber.org

===============

Data: 17/04/2019

Stqarrija: Reazzjoni għall-istqarrija tal-Partit Demokratiku dwar il-mina bejn Għawdex u Malta

Il-Kamra tan-Negozju għal Għawdex tinnota b'dispjaċir l-istqarrija tal-Partit Demokratiku li ppruvat tqanqal dubji fuq il-validita' ta' l-istudju li hi kienet nediet fl-2015 flimkien ma' Transport Malta dwar il-proġett tal-konnettivita' bejn Għawdex u Malta. Il-Kamra hija iddiżappuntata speċjalment għaliex l-istess stqarrija ipprovat titfa' dell ikrah fuq ix-xogħol siewi bla ma tat ebda raġuni valida għal dan. Għaldaqstant l-istqarrija tonqos mir-responsabilita' u r-rispett lejn dawk kollha li ħadu sehem f'din il-ħidma u lejn l-Għawdxin u l-Maltin kollha li qed jistennew b'ħerqa kbira dan il-proġett.

Mill-banda l-oħra, l-istudju tal-Kamra tan-Negozju għal Għawdex kien imħejji minn esperti ewlenin fil-pajjiż, li bnew fuq il-kontributi ta' esperti oħra barranin b'esperjenza twila fis-suġġett, u fuq studji imħejjija minn ditti kbar internazzjonali. Dan l-istudju ikkunsidra numru ta' għażliet għall-konnettivita' bejn il-gżejjer, u ikkonkluda li l-mina toffri l-aħjar potenzjal ekonomiku flimkien ma' sostennibilta' finanzjarja. Dan kien pass importanti li wassal lill-Gvern biex jikkumissjona studji oħrajn dwar il-vijabilita' teknika u l-impatti soċjali tal-proġett tal-mina, li wassalna fl-istat avvanzat tal-lum.

Il-Kamra tan-Negozju għal Għawdex tħeġġeg lill-partijiet kollha li qed jieħdu sehem fid-dibattitu dwar dan il-proġett importanti biex ikunu objettivi fil-kontributi tagħhom, u biex jagħmlu dan b'mod kostruttiv ibbażat fuq fatti minflok fuq biżgħat u dubji bla sustanza. Ikun ferm iktar produttiv li nitħaddtu dwar kif se niżguraw li l-proġett ta' konettivita' bejn il-gżejjer jintuża bl-aħjar mod għall-iżvilupp sostenibbli tal-pajjiż u għall-ġid tal-popolazzjoni li trid tgħix u taħdem kemm f'Għawdex kif ukoll f'Malta.

Incorporated by Public Deed on 20th December 1999

Member of the Network of Insular Chambers of Commerce and Industry of the EU (Insuleur)
Member of the Observatory on Tourism for Islands Economy (OTIE)

===============

Date: 17/04/2019

Press Release: Reaction to the statement by the Democratic Party on the tunnel between Gozo and Malta

The Gozo Business Chamber notes with regret the statement by the Democratic Party that doubts the validity of the study prepared in 2015 in conjunction with Transport Malta on the connectivity project between Gozo and Malta. The Chamber is especially disappointed because the same statement casts a shadow on this valuable work without giving any valid reason for the position adopted. Therefore the statement does not do justice to those who took part in this initiative and to all Gozitans and Maltese that are waiting in earnest for this project to be implemented.

On the other hand, the study by the Gozo Business Chamber was prepared by leading experts in the country, who built on the contribution of other foreign experts who have had long experience in the subject, and on studies conducted by large international firms. The study considered a number of options for connectivity between the islands, and concluded that the subsea tunnel would deliver the best economic results while ensuring the financial sustainability of the project. This was an important step that led the government to commission other studies on the technical viability and social impacts of the subsea tunnel project, which led to the present advanced state of affairs.

The Gozo Business Chamber urges all the parties participating in the debate on this important project to be objective in their contributions, and to do so in a constructive manner based on facts rather than unsubstantiated fears and doubts. It is more productive that we talk about how to ensure that the connectivity project between the islands is used in the best way for the sustainable development of the country and for the welfare of the population that wants to live and work both in Malta and in Gozo.