## Commitment on Confidence in Statistics

## On 17th May 2018 the Government of the Republic of Malta:

- Considering the contents of the Malta Statistics Authority Act 2000 and of Regulation (EC) No 223/2009 on European Statistics as amended by Regulation (EU) No 2015/759;
- Recognising that independent, objective, reliable and good-quality official statistics constitute a public good, enabling decision makers in public administration, business and society, as well as the people of Malta, to make informed decisions;
- Recognising that European statistics are developed, produced and disseminated in line with the principles laid down in Article 338 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union, Regulation (EC) No 223/2009 on European statistics, and further elaborated in the European Statistics Code of Practice (the Code);
- Acknowledging that the quality of European statistics could be strengthened and the confidence of users reinforced, by involving the Government in the responsibility of applying the principles of the Code;
- Valuing the roles of the Malta Statistics Authority Board and the National Statistics Office in providing strategic direction and further development to the Maltese Statistical System;

## **Reconfirms its commitment:**

 to respect international principles for the collection, compilation and dissemination of official statistics;

- to continue to guarantee the professional independence of the National Statistics Office;
- to support the National Statistics Office in maintaining or improving the conditions for the implementation of the Code;
- to provide appropriate and sufficient resources which will enable the National Statistics Office to maintain and improve the quality and relevance of its statistical output;
- to provide conditions for access by the National Statistics Office to data from administrative and other sources, towards developing and producing high-quality statistics in all domains and, at the same time, reducing the burden on respondent individuals, households and enterprises;
- to continue to aid the development of the broader Maltese Statistical System under the direction of the Malta Statistics Authority Board and the National Statistics Office;
- to ensure the protection of information given by data providers in the context of the data collection activities of the National Statistics Office, and the use of such information exclusively for statistical purposes.

Prime Minister

Government of the Republic of Malta

Valletta, 17th May 2018