

Department of Contracts  
Notre Dame Ravelin  
Floriana

To Heads of Department  
and Parastatal Entities

3rd January 2006

### **Procurement Procedures**

Following Malta's entry into the European Union, the Department of Contracts continued using EU tendering procedures where EU funded tenders were concerned.

This gave rise to a twin track system of tendering - EU procedures for EU funded tenders and normal tendering procedures for locally funded tenders.

This state of affairs is undesirable and it has been decided that, as far as possible, there should be only one system of tendering and that this should be based on EU tendering procedures. Although these procedures are more bureaucratic, they are more comprehensive in terms of contractual formalities. For example, the Letter of Acceptance issued to date will be replaced by a formal contract signed by the successful tenderer and the Department of Contracts.

Consequently, as from the 1st January 2006, tenders with an estimated value of over Lm250,000 net of VAT will be processed using EU tendering templates. This will be extended to all tenders having an estimated value of over Lm58,000 net of VAT with effect from 1st June 2006. The EU templates are available for downloading from the Government Intranet.

Officers connected with EU funded projects are already familiar with EU tendering procedures but it is intended to organize training, through the Staff Development Organisation, for other public officers directly engaged in local procurement by tender.

Officers from the EU Unit of the Department of Contracts will also be available to make the transition as smooth as possible.

Edwin Zarb  
Director General (Contracts)