MULTI-ANNUAL PROGRAMME 2008- 2013 RETURN FUND

First draft for the period 2007 -2013

1. MEMBER STATE – THE REPUBLIC OF MALTA

This document represents Malta's Multi Annual Programme for 2008-2013 for the Return Fund, under the 'Solidarity and Management of Migration Flows' framework programme, intended for implementation between the programming period commencing 1st January 2008.

2. **RESPONSIBLE AUTHORITY**

Name:	Programme Implementation Directorate						
	Ministry for Justice and Home Affairs						
Address:	House of Catalunya, Marsamxetto Road Valletta CMR 02						
Name of per	Name of person responsible: Ms. Margaret Fenech/ Ms Daniela Baldacchino						
Contact person: Ms. Margaret Fenech / Ms. Daniela Baldacchin							
Function of	contact person: F	Funds Manager / Projects Officer					
	Р	rogramme Implementation Directorate,					
		Ministry for Justice and Home Affairs					
Tel.	+356 2295 7160 / 125						
Fax:	+356 2295 7128						
E-mail:	margaret.fenech@gov.mt / daniela.baldacchino@gov.mt						
Web:	www.mjha.gov.mt						

3. SITUATION IN THE MEMBER STATE

3.1 The national situation and the migratory flows affecting it

Malta's geographic situation as an island at the Southern-most border of the European continent places it astride the main migration routes. Indeed, the number of immigrants entering the islands illegally through the maritime border has increased exponentially since 2002. Malta's land size and high population density pose limitations on its capacity to absorb the high flow of arrivals each year.

Malta remains committed to express solidarity with those who are fleeing from their country due to persecutions of different forms and seeking asylum on the European continent. Asylum applications submitted by persons who entered Malta irregularly are investigated diligently and where justified, protection is granted. In cases where the claim for protection is not justified and the application is rejected, a removal order, issued upon arrival and left unexecuted pending the application for protection, is reactivated. Failed asylum seekers are informed of their illegal status and are kept in detention, awaiting return to their country of origin. Such persons may spend a maximum of 18 months in detention. If they are not returned within the 18-month timeframe they are released from detention.

Operations for the return of failed asylum-seekers have proved to be very challenging. Indeed, the Maltese Authorities are continuously facing massive difficulties, especially in relation to the exact determination of the country of origin and the procurement of documentation. Language barriers are a further hurdle to overcome, as in many cases failure to properly identify these persons' language/dialect hinder the acquisition of reliable information on and definite confirmation of the country of origin. In cases where the country of origin is identified, the procurement of documents has been and continues to be another massive challenge. Malta's limited representation in Sub-Saharan countries, from which the majority of failed asylum-seekers originate makes it extremely difficult to effect returns. In the past, Malta has relied on the voluntary assistance of States who have representation in these countries of origin, particularly with a view to obtaining the necessary documentation.

Malta's Embassies in North African countries and their counterparts on these islands have proved to be of assistance in returning illegally staying Third Country Nationals to countries such as Egypt and Tunisia. These channels are however not present in most of Sub-Saharan countries, and where contacts have been made, collaboration often turned out not to be very fruitful.

Apart from the indicated problems on the level of confirmation of country of origin and the procurement of documentation, Malta's situation in relation to flight connections to Africa limits its capability to perform direct flights to return irregular immigrants. As a result, Malta relies completely on the organization and execution of joint flights with other states for the removal of persons to Sub-Saharan Africa.

In view of the mentioned difficulties in executing returns, the process takes an extensive period of time, during which these potential returnees remain a burden on the financial resources of Malta. In fact, during this period the authorities continue to offer accommodation and basic needs, until returns can be made. Since the beginning of 2002, there have been 2231 rejected applications for asylum (as at 31st August 2007), which therefore qualified the third country nationals involved, for return. However, due to the length and the difficulties of the procedures, the greatest majority remained on these islands. Indeed, during 2007 only 17 persons, who had illegally arrived in Malta through the maritime borders, were deported and this following a long procedure. It should be noted that the substantial number of returns affected in 2006 (Vide Table 1 below), was possible due to the collaborative relations and consular representation that exist with the respective countries of origin, namely Egypt, Morocco, Tunisia, Algeria. In 2007, the trend of illegal immigration is, on the contrary, presenting the authorities with thirdcountry nationals originating from countries such as Nigeria, Somalia, Ghana, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Ivory Coast and Sudan with which the organization of returns is envisaged to be much more difficult.

Year	2006	2007
Total Returns (including	780	233
persons who entered legally		
and overstayed)		
Return of Illegal	409	17
immigrants entering		
through maritime borders	292 – Egyptians	
	112 – Moroccans	
	4 - Tunisians	
	1 - Algerian	

List of returned Third Country Nationals (Table 1)

Apart from the return of illegal immigrants arriving by sea, return actions are also undertaken in relation to Third Country Nationals (TCN's) who arrive in Malta legally but who overstay once their visa expires. (Vide Table 1) Such operations are normally carried out quite effectively and swiftly. This results since the numbers of such returns is contained and the collaboration with the countries of origin, mainly East European, North African and Asian countries, is satisfactory. The existence of direct flights or connections to these countries of origin, together with the fact that these persons possess a travel document, further facilitates the repatriation.

It should be noted that presently the return of illegally residing Third Country nationals is the responsibility of the Ministry for Justice & Home Affairs. The Malta Police Force and the Ministry for Foreign Affairs constitute the other main national authorities involved in the programming and implementation of return programmes and actions. Malta has also been investing in assisted voluntary return programmes and in this regard, the International Organization for Migration (IOM) has been roped in due to its experience in the field.

In view of this situation, and of the much larger number and difficulties faced in addressing illegal migration from the maritime borders, Malta intends to prioritize the enhancement of its capacity to return rejected asylum-seekers, while concurrently, promoting Assisted Voluntary Return as a positive alternative to forced return.

3.2. The actions undertaken by the Member State so far

The return of migrants who entered the country illegally has consistently been allocated its due importance by the authorities. Indeed, as it can be understood, the major obstacles are faced in relation to forced returns. Various initiatives have been undertaken in the past years to improve the framework within which failed asylum-seekers in particular, can be returned. Discussions on a Readmission Agreement with Libya are also ongoing. Still, due to the inexistence of similar arrangements with and Malta's restricted diplomatic representation in the Sub-Saharan countries, attempts at a broad campaign for return of failed asylum-seekers have had very limited success.

Nevertheless, Malta has had some success with forced removal to North African countries particularly Egypt, Tunisia, Algeria and Morocco. This reflects the good diplomatic relations existent with such countries and direct air-routes. (Vide Table 1 above) The cost of deportation (whenever possible), always comes at a high price but despite this constraint, Malta has managed to keep doing its utmost to overcome this hurdle.

Information on voluntary return is also promoted among Third Country nationals who have not yet received a final negative decision in relation to their request for international protection. The target group concerns economic migrants who have little or no chance of being granted any form of protection. Indeed, following a recent project implemented under ERF 2005, in collaboration with International Organization for Migration (IOM), information about the possibility of voluntary return is being provided in form of leaflets to migrants upon arrival and those hosted in the closed and open centres. However the success of the promotion of Assisted Voluntary Return has left much to be desired. It has been realized that the success of a voluntary return policy depends to a high degree on the country of origin of the illegal immigrants who are being requested to return. The situation of these people in Malta is also particular, due to the fact that they originally did not even intend to reach these islands and so they consider Malta as yet another transit post.

It should be pointed out that IOM has been of invaluable assistance to the Maltese authorities in the execution of Assisted Voluntary returns, thanks to the spread of their offices on the African continent and the links with the authorities in the respective countries that it has established over years. IOM's expertise in the field of migration, coupled with the ground experience that its officers have garnered since their opening of an office in Malta, allows it to adapt the practices carried out in other countries to the specific needs and the situation of the country. IOM has also proved to be an important channel to increase the collaboration with the consular offices of these countries of origins.

Conclusively, notwithstanding the difficult experiences in this field, Malta further reiterates that a Return policy remains an essential component of a sustainable migration policy and it will continue to do its utmost to enhance collaboration in this field, both amongst Member States and with Sub-Saharan countries.

3.3. The total national resources allocated

The cost of repatriations conducted by the Police Immigration Section between the years 2002 and 2006 read as follows:

Year	Amounts in Maltese Lira	Equivalent amounts in		
		Euros		
2002	167,305	374 658.29		
2003	112,520	251 974.24		
2004	50,534	113 164.51		
2005	96,471	216 034.55		
2006	98,598	220 797.69		

These costs were incurred in respect of all repatriations, that is of failed asylum-seekers and over-stayers. Indeed it has to be noted that the already overstretched resources of the Police Immigration Section are placed under strain by the processes to arrive at and the effecting of the returns themselves. A number of police officials have been trained in return matters, including on matters as escorting, legislation and handing –over procedures. Apart from these indirect costs, it should be noted that while still on the island, rejected asylum-seekers continue to be provided with accommodation, food and a daily financial assistance. Although difficult to quantify, these national resources allocated to potential returnees are quite substantial and they continue to impose a burden on the finances of Malta.

4. ANALYSIS OF REQUIREMENTS IN THE MEMBER STATE

4.1. The requirements in the Member State in relation to the baseline situation

The determination of country of origin and the procurement of travel documents are turning out to be the major obstacles vis-à-vis successful return actions and return policy in general, especially in relation to third country nationals entering the country illegally and undocumented through the maritime borders, who by far constitute the majority of cases.

Indeed, closer cooperation with the third countries remains a sine qua non for the success of return initiatives, both at the national and European level, and as part of a complete integrated plan for the management of migration. In view of the difficulties indicated above, only a proactive policy design, on a national and European level, will ensure preparedness and better management of the migration flows.

Readmission Agreements concluded so far between the European Union and third countries are of very limited assistance to the Maltese Authorities. This results from the fact that such Agreements have not been concluded with the countries which are generating the most cases of irregular migrants landing on our shores. Therefore, Malta considers the negotiation of Community readmission agreements with African countries of utmost importance. Readmission clauses included in the trade and cooperation agreements with such countries as Algeria, Syria and Uzbekistan are, in view of the Maltese Authorities, a positive step. Similar measures and tools for arriving at such arrangements should be extended to the widest span of African countries possible. While acknowledging that this is a longer-term process, Malta aims at underlining how crucial such measures are towards the success of its return policy. On its part, Malta continues to strengthen its efforts in enhancing collaboration with Sub-Saharan countries as an initial step towards arriving at formal Readmission Agreements, or other forms of agreements.

It is understandable that Malta's size and its limited resources constrain the extent of its consular representation in the African countries. In view of this and in line with the aim of increasing the operational collaboration between Member States, Malta will seek the assistance of its European partners through their network of diplomatic representation, in the procurement of documents and in the operation of returns. Furthermore, Member States can assist with their know-how and exchange of best-practices acquired through experience. Indeed, it has to be highlighted that the absence of direct flights from Malta to Sub-Saharan African countries is another stumbling block for its return policy. The operation of joint flights, in collaboration with Member States, is a constant requirement to finalise the process of deportation of irregular immigrants.

Initiatives for return have up to now turned out to be lengthy and generally unsuccessful. The effective implementation of removal orders of failed asylum-seekers and other illegal residents strongly depends on addressing the above mentioned requirements.

4.2. The operational objectives of the Member State designed to meet its requirements

In view of the baseline situation and the aforementioned challenges and requirements, Malta's operational objectives for the programming period 2008-13 will be focused on improving the capacity of returning mainly failed asylum-seekers. Enhancement of cooperation avenues with countries of origin and transit, as well as with the consular networks of other Member States of the European Union, will be sought in order to facilitate and hasten the process of procurement of documentation. This operational objective is key to successful implementation of return programmes. Therefore Malta's top priority in this area would be to develop a strategic approach to return management and seek an urgent solution to the difficulty of effecting returns.

Malta, as a country facing practically one of the difficult illegal immigration scenarios, cannot rely solely on a border-oriented strategy to curb immigration. Border security without effective improvement in removal opportunities will remain just an operation mainly focused on intercepting irregular migrants at sea. International criminals and their victims need to realize that Malta is not a gateway to Europe, but a point of turnaround with effective and efficient repatriation strategies. In this context, return procedures should be an integral part of Malta's response to illegal immigration, as they constitute a crucial factor for a credible migration policy, in line with the developments in the field on the European level.

5. STRATEGY TO ACHIEVE THE OBJECTIVES

Priority no. 1: Support for the development of a strategic approach to return management by member states

Malta agrees that Return management should be strengthened and better managed, as an integral part of migration policy. An all-encompassing approach on the policy and the operational level will be taken, as this holds the key to results that are more successful than those yielded so far.

Malta concurs that the option of Voluntary return is preferable over forced return, as it provides for a dignified return for returnees and is also more cost-effective. Indeed Malta intends to promote Assisted Voluntary Return in a more determined and systematic manner among migrants. Preparatory actions to voluntary return need to be intensified, especially in relation to the reintegration component, as the opportunity and assistance given has the potential of drawing a higher participation rate. Nevertheless, the strengthened capacity for the execution of forced returns remains a prerequisite for ensuring that voluntary return schemes are not undermined. If forced return policy is not credibly implemented, voluntary return is less likely to become an effective alternative option. Indeed, it is believed that voluntary and enforced return are interlinked and mutually reinforcing, and in view of this Malta envisages to step up its efforts, as much as possible, on both fronts.

With the collaboration of international organizations, Malta will set up an Assisted Voluntary Return Programme, including the reintegration component, to encourage and support migrants. To enhance its feasibility, the AVR option envisages a reintegration component, including support upon return. The reintegration project has to be developed in cooperation with the returnees, based on their skills and taking into consideration the situation and possibilities in the country of origin. Better and continuous information and a planned reintegration plan will contribute to the sustainability of return. Furthermore, this component will ultimately contribute to reduce some of the push factors of illegal immigration. This programme intends to build on experience and studies conducted so far, which has shown the need to be more targeted, for instance to specific age-groups, if the programmes are to be successful. Furthermore, the specific situation of potential vulnerable returnees will be taken care of. Overall, the target is to assist some 60 cases over the period 2008-13. The success rate of this initiative remains however highly difficult to foresee as it depends on various and changing factors. Previous experience are admittedly, not very encouraging. A strong effort will be made to achieve a success rate of 35%, in the minimum, of the identified potential candidates for the AVR programme. Despite the limited success of AVR so far, the Government of Malta remains committed to make this option more effective.

However, as the requirements, based on the situation above make amply clear, gaps on the operational level are blocking the way to consistent and successful implementation of returns, both voluntary and forced. The difficulty in the enforcement of removals is the result of various factors which Malta aims to address. In view of Malta's limited consular representation overseas it is critical that cooperation with third countries be This is a key component, as lack of such cooperation is heavily strengthened. undermining the procurement of documents of potential returnees. With the assistance of the European Refugee Fund, and in collaboration with the International Organization for Migration, Malta has been working, to enhance the cooperation avenues with African Countries (ERF II - 2007). Building upon this initiative, further steps will be undertaken to enhance cooperation with third countries. Structured collaboration with other Member States and International Organisations is also envisaged in this respect. (refer to Priority 2). The target is to improve the cooperation with third countries, which would be measurable by a speedier process in procuring documentation for the returnees. This indicator should show a gradual improvement, i.e. shorter and less complicated procedure to reach the end results.

Apart from the procurement of documentation, improved access to **information on the countries of origin** will be sought as this would assist both with voluntary and forced return programmes. Indeed, Malta – within the voluntary return component - has already committed itself as a partner in an EU-wide project that has been submitted by IOM (Brussels) under the Preparatory Actions "Solidarity in Action". Such endeavours are

strongly supported by Malta as they provide a necessary tool for improving the management of returns.

The Government of Malta, in line with its aim of strengthening its strategic approach to Return Policy, envisages to set up over the programming period, a Repatriation Committee. This will bring together the authorities involved in repatriations, in order to better coordinate and manage the procedures involved. Furthermore the Committee will strive to gain experience by participating in fora, conferences and other means for exchange of knowledge and good practices in the field of return. A similar set-up for the management of return will provide a platform for developing and furthering a coherent and common policy line, avoiding overlapping of actions and coordinating actions. The target is thus to set-up a functioning structure to manage the Return Policy of Malta which should result in more coordinated and fruitful policy.

The limited consular representation of Malta, as indicated, has up to date limited the success of Return actions. Inter-ministerial consultations, between the Ministry for Justice & Home Affairs and the Ministry for Foreign Affairs, will be intensified over the coming years, in order to explore the possibilities for increasing the consular representation in countries which are producing the higher amounts of illegal immigrants. Acknowledging that on the ground local representation is essential for truly successful return programmes, the Ministry for Justice and Home Affairs would fully support such actions. The target is to increase the number of Ambassadors or Honorary Consuls in the relevant countries of the African Continent, while also appointing a roving ambassador responsible for Migration Matters.

Furthermore, collaboration with other Member States will be sought on all dimensions of return, as is indicated more in detail under Priority 2. The Maltese authorities commit themselves to striving towards achieving a sustainable return policy, where voluntary return is preferred to forced return. However, the limited resources imply the need to call upon the assistance of our European partners.

Priority no. 2: Support for the Cooperation between Member- States in return Management

Cooperation with other Member States in the field of return is of the utmost importance, if Malta is to increase the success rate of its return policy. Due to its limitations on the operational and financial level, **Malta aims to seek collaboration with its partners in relation to consular representation and readmission agreements** with Third Countries, especially on the African Continent. In view of the lack of consular representation on the continent, the assistance of EU Member States consular networks would be helpful in the procurement of documentation and eventually in effecting returns. In practical terms, collaboration in this direction could be strengthened by, for instance, calling a conference, bringing together consular representations in Malta, also having representations in countries of origin. Discussions could be held on the possibilities of collaboration on repatriation matters, including assistance in procurement of documentation. Collaboration arrangements could be drafted, which would be a valuable practical assistance by EUMS. Such collaborations would hopefully lead in increased success in the procurement of documents and therefore in more repatriations of illegal TCN's.

Cooperation between Member States is also envisaged on the level Assisted Voluntary **Return Programme**. Such programmes would be designed jointly, in collaboration with other EU Member States, targeting specific common countries/areas of origin. In line with the specific priorities of the Commission, such a cooperative approach will contribute to pool efforts and resources together and maximise the results, while reducing the burden on single EU Member State. Information on countries of origin, to be used in the counselling phase and the elaboration of reintegration projects, as well as returnee documentation procedures would be shared among partner countries. Malta will thus strive to participate (as it is already doing) or where possible initiate such joint ventures in these important areas of return.

Such collaboration could then be extended to the organization and implementation of **joint- flights**, as the apex of return programmes. The latter is in fact another crucial area where cooperation in the past has been successful, also under the umbrella of the Return Preparatory Actions Programmes 2005 and 2006, and Malta envisages to further beef up efforts in this respect. Joint-flights are the only way forward for Malta, as an island lacking direct flights to most of the African continent, to affect returns and hence cooperation on this level will be continuously sought. The target is to perform with other member states a number of joint flights over the programming period.

Similar synergy in this area will, as already indicated, will be sought with international organizations, which can be of great assistance, in view of their experience and wide-range of presence on the African continent.

Priority 3: Support for specific innovative (inter) national tools for return management.

Due to Malta's insularity and limited resources, it is understandable that it relies heavily on means of communication and innovative ways to maximise its capacities. Considering this situation and one of the main difficulty in return programmes being that of the high costs and procedural difficulties in identification of individuals and procurement of their documents, Malta intends, with the collaboration of IOM, to launch a pilot programme which will try to address this problem in a cost-effective and efficient way. The objective is to set up a system making use of the latest technologies. The combined results of the research carried out within the REPOLMED project (Return Preparatory Actions 2005) in terms of origin areas of potential returnees and the cooperation avenues to be developed under the ERF 2007 project "Enhancement of the relations with third countries" will help select a number of African origin countries – three/five – to test an innovative "documentation service". IT equipment facilities for teleconferencing will be installed in IOM offices or, at the immigration and-or consular authorities of the selected countries of origin so as to get in contact with the potential returnee, while in Malta, where the IT equipment will be set up as well at IOM. Such IT-based working methods will help overcome one of the biggest challenge in effecting returns, as it would speed up the process of document acquisition. This would prove an innovative way for Malta to co-operate with consular/ immigration services of third countries and gaining information on undocumented Third-Country Nationals.

Supplementing the strengthened thrust envisaged for AVR, ways will be considered for improving counselling, including information on the advantages of this option in the form of reintegration assistance. This could be done through an information campaign using successful case-studies of returns from Malta as well as from other countries. Based on the studies carried under RE.Pol.Med (Return Preparatory Actions 2005) in conjunction with IOM and Italy, the AVR programme will be focusing on specific groups to enhance its success. On an operational level, and considering the characteristics of migrants residing in Malta, special focus will be directed towards adult men (>35 years) who have left their family back home. Intensive information sessions and preparation for return, including training of basic skills, to help in reintegration, will be carried out on a personalised level. Filtering the target audience will increase the success rate, as special attention will be given to those who potentially have interest in returning. Another element that would be considered in relation to AVR programmes, would be that of setting up of a periodical forum, in coordination with involved NGO's and IO's, to establish a standard common procedure for the referral and assistance of AVR cases. In this way maximum assistance will be given to those considering taking up AVR, leading to an increased participation rate.

Priority 4: Support for developing a broader base in the Community on standards, ways and means of improving return management and best practices

It is realised that the experience of Malta in return procedures is limited, hence it will seek assistance from the Return Fund to enhance the know-how of the authorities and officials involved in rules, procedures and best-practices in preparation and execution of return programmes. This strategy will be implemented by improving the cooperation and exchange of best-practices with other Member States who have gained experience in the field. Collaboration with countries which most closely resemble the Maltese situation, in respect to countries of origins of potential returnees as well as other possible common factors will be sought. Such exchange of best practices and transfer of know-how could be effected through organisation of joint seminars, conferences and even exchange programmes with authorities responsible for return in other Member States. Furthermore, practical training for officers involved in return, in topics covering legal competencies, treatment of returnees; management of incidents, intercultural understanding and negotiation techniques would be beneficial to enable officers to conduct removals in a legally correct and humane manner. The indicated and other similar initiatives within this strategy, aim at developing and exchanging standards, ways and means of operating return policies with the aim of enhancing their effectiveness and management. Malta seeks to contribute to the development of a broader base on the Community level in this respect and considers transfer of experiences and know-how as important steps in this direction.

6. COMPATIBILITY WITH OTHER INSTRUMENTS

Malta has been making use of Community instruments to develop and enhance its capacities for returning illegal third country nationals.

Malta has been implementing, in collaboration with International Organization for Migration and Italy, in the framework of the Return Preparatory Actions 2005, the project "Return Policy in the Mediterranean – RE.POL.MED" (October 2006-September 2007), aimed at testing an integrated return approach in the Mediterranean. Among the activities envisaged, research has been carried out to assess the feasibility and conditions for Assisted Voluntary Return to be offered to irregular migrants. The aim has been to provide empirical data for fine-tuning the return management policy in both countries. It is envisaged that such studies further enhance the formulation of adequate promotion methods for Assisted Voluntary Return and the success thereof and assist in building a more comprehensive return policy.

To this end, an ERF 2007 funded initiative, soon to be implemented by the Malta Police and supported by IOM, envisages the piloting of cooperation with consular offices and immigration services in third countries, including toaddress the difficulties in documentation of returnees. In many occasions of AVR, IOM offices' networking and good relations with local partners have eased this process.

Malta is also participating in another project financed by the Return Preparatory Actions 2005, namely 'Joint organisation and execution of Charter flights in return of TCN's", in collaboration with Germany and other 11 Member States. Furthermore two projects are being implemented under the RETURN Preparatory actions 2006. One of the projects, named DAR is being carried out by the Ministry for Foreign Affairs, and the other is being jointly carried out with the UK.

7. FRAMEWORK FOR IMPLEMENTATION OF THE STRATEGY

7.1. The publication of the programme

The approved Multi-Annual Programme will be published on the website of the Ministry for Justice & Home Affairs (<u>www.mjha.gov.mt</u>). Potential beneficiaries will be also informed individually by email/post about this facility, which will help them to develop their actions for the annual programmes.

7.2. The approach chosen to implement the principle of partnership

The Principle of partnership has been put in practice as from the initial stages of the drafting of this document. Authorities involved in return of illegally residing persons were consulted. The International Organisation for Migration was also invited in view of its cooperation with the local authorities in the past in the field of assisted voluntary return and of their expertise in the field.

Consultation meetings with these stakeholders where held in advance, during which the importance of the document and its structure was explained. A written input from each was requested, in order to have a clear picture of the situation and requirements of all parties involved. After being considered on a policy level, their comments were incorporated in the strategic document. The multi-annual programme was submitted again to the stakeholders for final consultation before submitting to the Commission. In this way the Responsible Authority has ensured that the partners that have interest in the field of the Fund, had their say in the development of the strategy for the next 6 years and the process to arrive to the final draft was as transparent as possible.

These stakeholders will continue to be involved in the implementation of this Multi-Annual Programme through the Annual Programmes

8. INDICATIVE FINANCING PLAN

Multi-Annual Programme : Draft Financial Plan Table 1 : Community Contributions							
Fund : European Return Fund							
(in 000'euros-current prices)	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	Total
Priority 1	242,587.48	257,365.00	279,220.00	310,535.00	387,100.00	425,000.00	1,901,807.48
Priority 2	242,587.48	257,365.00	279,220.00	310,535.00	387,100.00	425,000.00	1,901,807.48
Priority 3	50,000.00	50,000.00	50,000.00	60,535.00	50,000.00	50,000.00	310,535.00
Priority 4	50,000.00	50,000.00	50,000.00	60,535.00	50,000.00	50,000.00	310,535.00
Technical Assistance	44,045.42	46,270.00	49,560.00	55,860.00	65,800.00	77,000.00	338,535.42
Total	629,220.37	661,000.00	708,000.00	798,000.00	940,000.00	1,027,000.00	4,763,220.37

Multi-Annual Programme : Draft Financial Plan								
Table 2 : Overall Financing Plan								
Member State: Republic of Malta								
Fund: European Return Fund								
(in 000'euros-current prices)	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	Total	
Community Contributions	629,220.37	661,000.00	708,000.00	798,000.00	940,000.00	1,027,000.00	4,763,220.37	
Public Co-financing	78,652.54	82,625.00	88,500.00	99,750.00	117,500.00	128,375.00	595,402.54	
Private Co-financing	78,652.54	82,625.00	88,500.00	99,750.00	117,500.00	128,375.00	595,402.54	
TOTAL	786,525.45	826,250.00	885,000.00	997,500.00	1,175,000.00	1,283,750.00	5,954,025.45	
Community Contribution	75.00%	75.00%	75.00%	75.00%	75.00%	75.00%	75.00%	

Date:

Signature of person responsible: