

PRESS RELEASE 03/2020

05 March 2020

Reforming the building industry



K A M R A T A L - P E R I T I

To support members of the profession in achieving excellence in their practice of architecture and engineering in the interest of the community

Prime Minister Dr Robert Abela yesterday announced the setting up of a panel of experts tasked with reviewing the current suite of building and construction regulations, and to make its recommendations directly to him on the changes that are required to ensure that the construction industry is better regulated in the interest of public safety.

The *Kamra's* proposals for [A Modern Building and Construction Regulation Framework for Malta](#), which were published in May 2019 after two years of research, already present an in-depth analysis of the grossly inadequate building and construction regime currently in place in its first three chapters, including the absence of registration, licensing and training of contractors and labourers.

The document, which was formulated by a team of experts in the field appointed by the *Kamra*, constitutes a comprehensive and thorough review of the current situation, analyses the problems, and provides solutions which are also informed by research on systems which have been tried and tested in other countries. The *Kamra's* proposals were unanimously approved by the profession at an [Extraordinary General Meeting held in June 2019](#).

This document was subsequently presented to the key stakeholders, namely the Chamber of Engineers, the Chamber of Commerce, the Building Industry Consultative Council, the Building Regulation Board, the Building Regulation Office, the Building and Construction Agency, the Planning Authority, the Malta Developers' Association, and the Malta Insurers Association. All these entities and organisations endorsed the *Kamra's* proposals. There is industry-wide consensus that such proposals are both necessary and desirable.

The proposals were also presented to the European Commission and the Opposition, as well as to Government which, through a [Letter of Commitment](#) issued in August 2019, recognised the need for a comprehensive reform of the building and construction industry, and committed itself to implement the *Kamra's* proposals.

The *Kamra tal-Periti* therefore invites the panel to review its document to ensure that no time is wasted in proceeding with the necessary reforms.