



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*

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### No time for further delay

This morning, yet another worker lost his life on a construction site following the collapse of a wall within the site. While the details of the incident are still emerging, one thing is amply clear: ***the construction industry is rife with systemic and fundamental deficiencies that must be addressed without further delay.***

While the *Kamra tal-Periti* is fully cognisant of Government's efforts in the past months to draft legislation that will bring about the much needed changes, it is evident that the lack of focus and resources is severely hampering progress in this respect. The outcome of the recommendations by the Committee appointed by the Prime Minister have still to be made public, and despite several lengthy meetings with the various stakeholders in the industry we are still far off from seeing significant results.

This situation is no longer tenable. Further delay is not an option.

On its part, after urging successive governments to bring about significant changes to the industry since 2007, the *Kamra tal-Periti* had published its draft proposals for A Modern Building and Construction Regulation Framework in May 2019. These were presented to all industry stakeholders, including 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 and there is therefore 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, finally recognised the need for a comprehensive reform of the building and construction industry, and committed itself to implement the *Kamra's* proposals.

After having taken on board all the feedback received, the *Kamra tal-Periti* published the [final version of its proposals](#) in June, and were positively received by the industry

The *Kamra tal-Periti* urges the Prime Minister and the Ministers responsible for the industry in all its aspects to fulfil Government's [commitments of last August](#) without further delay. It is unacceptable that a country which aspires to portray itself as "*the best in Europe*" remains complacent to these tragedies which have become all too common. The country deserves better.