



Extranet

Official Visit by Maltese Member at the European Court of Auditors, Mr Leo Brincat, to the National Audit Office

16-11-2020

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The Maltese Member at the European Court of Auditors (ECA), Mr Leo Brincat today paid another official visit to the National Audit Office (NAO) where he was welcomed by the Auditor General, Charles Deguara, and the Deputy Auditor General, Noel Camilleri.

The main objective of this visit was for Mr Brincat to officially present to the Auditor General a copy of the Court's Annual Report that has just been published.

When addressing the NAO's senior officials, Mr Brincat emphasised the importance that the National Audit Office and the European Court of Auditors continue to give high priority to their already excellent working relationship especially in those particular areas which are of mutual interest to both entities. He conveyed his appreciation for the excellent work being undertaken by the National Audit Office particularly considering the present challenges due to the COVID 19 pandemic.

Finally, he also conveyed his thanks to the National Audit Office for once again hosting the annual Joint ECA - NAO Seminar that will be held later on this week. He emphasised that these activities are so beneficial mostly because they offer a good opportunity to the NAO staff to keep abreast of the best practices and developments in the area of auditing, both external as well as internal, focusing especially on the European Union and public sector.

On his part, the Auditor General thanked Mr Brincat for managing to find the time to visit once again the National Audit Office notwithstanding his extremely tight schedule during his short visit in Malta. He reiterated that the NAO remains committed to extend its full cooperation to the ECA which has such an important role to provide assurance on the best use of the funds at the disposal of the European Commission and other related entities. Thus, the Court may be considered as the independent guardian of the financial interests of the citizens of the European Union, in a similar way as the NAO is the guardian of the public purse.

The Auditor General confirmed that notwithstanding the extensive challenges we had to face as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic, we still managed to finalise this year's Audit Plan. Thus, he conveyed his heartfelt appreciation to the Deputy Auditor General, management and all staff within the NAO for the dedication, competence and professionalism consistently shown in the work produced by the NAO. He concluded that without the resilience and determination of all the staff, who invariably showed strong team spirit, it would surely not have been possible for the National Audit Office to obtain once again such successful results in its efforts to enhance good governance across the public service.



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