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STQARRIJA MILL-UFFIĊĊJU TAL-PRIM MINISTRU: Se jibda l-proġett ta' bini ta' madwar 260 dar għal akkomodazzjoni affordabbli frott kollaborazzjoni bejn il-Gvern u l-Knisja

Il-Prim Ministru Robert Abela ħabbar li ħierġa s-sejħa biex jibda l-bini fuq il-proġett t'akkomodazzjoni affordabbli, li se jkun qed joħloq mal-260 dar biex jinxtraw minn persuni li ma jikkwalifikawx għal post mill-Awtorità tad-Djar iżda jeħtieġu għajnuna biex isiru sidien ta' darhom. B'hekk se jkunu jistgħu jixtru dar bi 30% inqas il-prezz tas-suq permezz ta' inizjattiva mill-Fondazzjoni għall-Akkomodazzjoni Affordabbli, li hi kollaborazzjoni bejn il-Gvern u l-Knisja.

Dan il-proġett hu immirat għall-individwi u koppji bi dħul baxx sa medju, li jaqilgħu sa €33,000 fis-sena fil-każ ta' individwi, u €38,000 fis-sena fil-każ ta' koppji. Il-Fondazzjoni għall-Akkomodazzjoni Affordabbli qed tniedi espressjoni t'interess għad-disinn u l-iżvilupp ta' dawn id-djar ġodda f'Ħal Kirkop, il-Fgura, San Ġiljan u Wied il-Għajn. Fl-erba' lokalitajiet kien hemm artijiet pubbliċi li l-Gvern għadda lill-Fondazzjoni, liema wħud mill-artijiet fil-passat kienu għaddew mill-Knisja għand il-Gvern. Is-sejħa hija mmirata għal dawk l-iżviluppaturi li jistgħu joffru soluzzjonijiet t'akkomodazzjoni innovattivi u sostenibbli fost oħrajn bi standards għolja.

F'konferenza tal-aħbarijiet, il-Prim Ministru Robert Abela saħaq kif permezz ta' dan il-proġett qed jintlaħaq għan soċjali importanti li bih se jingħata futur aħjar lil 260 familja. Il-Prim Ministru nnota kif dan huwa mudell innovattiv li jagħti garanzija biex il-missjoni tal-Gvern, li jaċċerta li kulħadd ikollu dar, tista' tibqa' tiġi mwettqa. Filwaqt li nnota b'sodisfazzjon kif ċifri uffiċjali juru li 85% tal-Maltin u l-Għawdxin huma sidien ta' darhom, huwa sostna li l-Gvern se jibqa' impenjat jaħdem favur akkomodazzjoni affordabbli għal kulħadd.

Dr Abela semma kif dan il-proġett qed jibni fuq diversi inizjattivi u għajnuniet oħra li qed jagħti l-Gvern biex aktar nies jsiru sidien ta' darhom. Fosthom il-first-time buyers, li issa mhux biss qed jiffrankaw miż-żieda tal-iffrankar tat-taxxa tal-boll u jirċievu l-għotja ta' €10,000 fuq medda ta' għaxar snin imma qed igawdu wkoll minn skema li tagħti lill-ewwel xerrejja tal-proprjetà sa massimu ta' €9,000 meta jinvestu fi propjetà sostenibbli. B'hekk b'kollox il-first-time buyers, li fil-maġġoranza assoluta huma żgħażagħ, qed igawdu f'madwar €30,000 għajnuna mill-Gvern.

Fakkar kif il-Gvern wettaq riformi kbar fis-settur tal-akkomodazzjoni fejn qed tingħata assistenza lil min jikri, kif ukoll qed issir ġustizzja mas-sidien. Fil-fatt bosta familji li kienu f'riskju li jiġu żgumbrati minn kirjiet ta' qabel l-1995 issa qed jiġu megħjuna. Huwa rrefera ukoll għall-iskema New Hope li qed tagħti l-possibbiltà lil dawk li kellhom kundizzjoni ta' saħħa biex huma wkoll

ikunu jistgħu jsiru sidien ta' darhom. Il-Prim Ministru temm jgħid li permezz ta' dawn l-inizjattivi, il-Gvern qed jagħti tama u futur aħjar lill-familji u jagħtihom kwalità ta' ħajja aħjar.

Fl-istess konferenza tal-aħbarijiet tkellem ukoll l-Arċisqof ta' Malta Charles Scicluna, li laqa' l-fażi li jmiss tal-Fondazzjoni u ddeskriviha bħala, “espressjoni tanġibbli tal-impenn dejjiemi tas-soċjetà tagħna lejn ġustizzja soċjali u ekonomika. L-aċċess għal akkomodazzjoni sikura u dinjituża mhuwiex biss tħassib materjali, iżda wkoll morali. Kull persuna, irrispettivament mid-dħul, ħaqqha post li tista' ssejjaħlu dar." L-Arċisqof enfasizza li permezz tal-irwol attiv tagħha fil-Fondazzjoni u d-donazzjoni ta' art li kienet tat biex tintuża għal skopijiet soċjali, il-Knisja qed tikkontribwixxi b'mod konkret u sinifikanti billi tagħti ġustizzja soċjali lil dawk li tħallew barra mis-suq tal-proprjetà.

Indirizza ukoll il-konferenza tal-aħbarijiet, il-Ministru għall-Akkomodazzjoni Soċjali u Affordabbli Roderick Galdes, li sostna li permezz ta' dan il-proġett se jkomplu jbiddlu l-ħolm ta' bosta familji f'realtà. Il-Ministru aċċenna għal diversi skemi li dan il-Gvern fassal fosthom l-iskema ta' Depożitu ta' 10%, Equity Sharing, Social Loan, New Hope u Sir Sid Darek, li permezz tagħhom l-Awtorità tad-Djar mill-2017 'l hawn għenet madwar familja kull jumejn issir sid ta' darha. Il-Ministru spjega li minkejja dawn ir-riżultati sbieħ, dan il-Gvern se jibqa' jaħdem favur miżuri ta' akkomodazzjoni affordabbli u kien għalhekk li għamel pass hekk importanti meta ttrasferixxa erba' siti ta' artijiet lill-Fondazzjoni sabiex jitwettaq il-proġett Djar Affordabbli. “Permezz ta' dan il-proġett se nkunu qegħdin inwieżnu l-bżulija tal-familji tagħna u nkunu ta' spalla għalihom sabiex jilħqu l-aspirazzjonijiet tagħhom u jsiru sidien ta' dar," ikkonkluda l-Ministru Galdes.

Min-naħa tiegħu, il-Kap Eżekuttiv tal-Fondazzjoni għall-Akkomodazzjoni Affordabbli, Dr Jake Azzopardi, iddeskriva l-inizjattiva bħala innovattiva u sostenibbli li tassigura li kull min jaħdem f'Malta jista' jkun jiflaħ jixtri dar. Dr Azzopardi żied jgħid kif dan il-mudell ġdid joffri triq ċerta u affordabbli lin-nies biex isiru sidien ta' darhom waqt li jassigura qligħ xieraq lil min jibni mingħajr lok għall-ispekulazzjoni.

Għal aktar informazzjoni dwar din l-inizjattiva tinsab fuq is-sit affordablehousing.mt. Dettalji dwar kif tista' tgawdi minn din l-inizjattiva se jkunu fuq is-sit imsemmi, iżjed 'il quddiem

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PRESS RELEASE BY THE OFFICE OF THE PRIME MINISTER: A new project for the construction of approximately 260 homes for affordable accommodation, made possible through a collaboration between the Government and the Church

Prime Minister Robert Abela has announced that a call for proposals will be issued to commence construction on a new affordable accommodation project. The initiative will lead to the development of approximately 260 residential units, aimed at individuals who do not qualify for Housing Authority assistance but still require support to become homeowners. Through this scheme, beneficiaries will have the opportunity to purchase property at prices approximately 30% below market value. The project is being implemented by the Foundation for Affordable Accommodation, a collaborative initiative between the Government and the Church.

This project is aimed at individuals and couples with low to middle incomes, specifically individuals earning up to €33,000 annually and couples earning up to €38,000. The Foundation for Affordable Accommodation is launching an expression of interest for the design and development of new housing units in Ħal Kirkop, Fgura, St Julian's, and Marsaskala. In each of these four localities, the Government has transferred public land to the Foundation, some of which had originally been passed from the Church to the State in previous years. The call is targeted at developers capable of delivering innovative and sustainable housing solutions that meet high-quality standards.

During the press conference, Prime Minister Robert Abela noted that this project fulfils an important social objective by providing a better future for 260 families. He described the initiative as an innovative model that reinforces the Government's mission to ensure that everyone has access to a home. While expressing satisfaction that official statistics indicate that 85% of Maltese and Gozitans are homeowners, the Prime Minister reaffirmed the Government's ongoing commitment to making housing more affordable and accessible for all.

Dr Abela noted that this initiative builds upon a series of other Government measures aimed at supporting homeownership. These include assistance for first-time buyers, who are now benefiting from increased stamp duty savings, a €10,000 grant spread over a ten-year period, and an additional scheme offering up to €9,000 for those investing in sustainable property. In total,

first-time buyers, the majority of whom are young people, can receive up to €30,000 in support through various Government schemes.

The Prime Minister also referred to other major reforms that the Government has implemented in the housing sector, providing support to tenants while also ensuring fairness for property owners. Many families who were at risk of eviction due to pre-1995 rental agreements are now receiving assistance. He also referred to the New Hope Scheme, which is offering individuals with health conditions the opportunity to become homeowners. The Prime Minister concluded by stating that, through these initiatives, the Government is offering families renewed hope, greater security, and an improved quality of life.

Archbishop Charles Scicluna welcomed the launch of the Foundation's next phase, describing it as a "tangible expression of our society's enduring commitment to social and economic justice. Access to safe and dignified housing is not just a material concern, but a moral one. Every person, regardless of income, deserves a place to call home". The Archbishop emphasised that, through its active role in the Foundation and its previous donation of land intended for social purposes, the Church is contributing in a concrete and meaningful way to advancing social justice for those priced out of the property market.

Addressing the press conference, the Minister for Social and Affordable Accommodation Roderick Galdes stated that this project marks another important step in turning the dreams of many families into reality. He highlighted a number of Government schemes, such as the 10% Deposit Scheme, Equity Sharing, Social Loan, New Hope, and Sir SID Darek, through which the Housing Authority has supported nearly one family every two days in becoming homeowners. Minister Galdes emphasised that, despite these encouraging results, the Government remains firmly committed to expanding affordable housing initiatives. He noted that this commitment is reflected in the decision to transfer four public land sites to the Foundation for Affordable Accommodation to enable the development of this project. "Through this initiative, we are recognising the hard work of our families and supporting them in fulfilling their aspirations to become homeowners," the Minister concluded.

Foundation for Affordable Housing CEO Dr Jake Azzopardi stated that this is an innovative and sustainable initiative which ensures that whoever works in Malta can afford a home. Dr Azzopardi added that the model guarantees buyers an affordable path to homeownership and builders a fair return on their investment without room for speculation.

Further information about this initiative is available at affordablehousing.mt. Full details on eligibility and how to benefit from the scheme can be found on the same website.