



GOVERNMENT OF MALTA

GOVERNMENT RESPONSE TO THE CONSULTATION ON

IVF LEGISLATION

Embryo Protection Act (Chapter 524 of Laws of Malta)

19th January 2016

*Ministry for Energy and Health
15, Palazzo Castellania,
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Valletta*

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Contents

CONTENTS

Contents	3
Executive Summary	4
Introduction and overview	4
Responses to the consultation and process used to seek stakeholder views	4
Summary of responses and decisions	5
Implementation.....	5
Contact Details	5
Detailed overview of responses and the Government’s reseponse	6
Conclusion and way forward.....	7

Executive Summary

Introduction and overview

1. An Inter-Ministerial Review Working Group was set up with its main remit to Review the Embryo Protection Act (Chapter 524 of Laws of Malta) and evaluate any necessary changes with special reference to new developments.

On 30th July 2015, a press release (PR151745) was issued inviting interested parties to send in their comments and requests for meetings. An online public consultation was also launched.

2. This consultation sought views on:
- Review of the Current IVF Legislation

3. An Internal report by the Inter-Ministerial Review Working Group has been submitted to Parliamentary Secretary (Health) and will be discussed at Cabinet level before an official government response to the consultation is issued.

Responses to the consultation and process used to seek stakeholder views

4. *The closing date of the public consultation. Which methods were used to receive the feedback. The total amount of responses. From whom you received the feedback.*

The consultation closed on 10th August 2015. The reply form was available online and responses were accepted electronically and on paper. In total, there were 25 responses. These were received from various stakeholders including local authorities, NGOs and individuals.

5. Include (if any) meetings with stakeholders and list who the stakeholders were.

Four meetings with stakeholders, including the private sector and individuals, were also held during the consultation period. Meetings were held with 'The Church in Malta', 'Nisa Laburisti', joint meeting with 'Gift of Life and Life Network' and a meeting with Ms Domenica Scicluna.

6. The following is a summary of the consultation responses received. We would like to thank all those who took the time to respond to the consultation and participate in stakeholder meetings around the consultation exercise.

Since the report is still internal, the outcome will be updated once document will be made official, in order not to undermine decisions to be taken in view of the sensitive nature of subject matter.

Summary of responses and decisions

7. *Insert statistics and results of feedback received.*

Since the report is still internal, the outcome will be updated once document will be made official, in order not to undermine decisions to be taken in view of the sensitive nature of subject matter.

8. *Your assessment and the Government's decision (list the Government's decisions).*

No final decision as yet taken

Implementation

9. *When you intend to implement the decisions*

Implementation is subject to Cabinet and Parliament approval.

Contact Details

If you have any questions regarding this response, please contact:
onlineconsultations@msdc.gov.mt

Detailed overview of responses and the Government's response

The following section provide a brief summary of the initial proposals and the responses received, before setting out the final decision that has been made. *(Standard text)*

Since the report is still internal, the outcome will be updated once document will be made official, in order not to undermine decisions to be taken in view of the sensitive nature of subject matter.

Conclusion and way forward

In this section include the way forward.

- Awaiting final response from Parliamentary Secretary (Health) after discussion at Cabinet level.



Dr Denis Vella Baldacchino
Chief Medical Officer
Chairperson of the Reveiw Working Group