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# Press Release

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**PRESS RELEASE BY THE OFFICE OF THE SPEAKER**

*Speaker Farrugia meets with Palestinian Deputy Foreign Minister Dr Amal Jadou*

Speaker of the House of Representatives Anglu Farrugia received a courtesy call by Director General and Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs and Expatriates of Palestine Dr Amal Jadou.

Speaker Farrugia welcomed Dr Jadou and her delegation and mentioned the close relationship between Malta and Palestine. He recalled that in 1974 a PLO Office was opened in Malta.

Speaker Farrugia highlighted his official visit to Palestine in March 2016 and his meeting with, inter alia, the Palestinian President Mahmoud Abbas, adding that he still cherishes the memories of this visit. He referred to the Maltese community who lives in the Holy Land, the majority of whom are members of religious orders.

Speaker Farrugia reiterated Malta's stand in favour of the Two-State Solution and mentioned that 50 Palestinian diplomats have received scholarships leading to M. Dip at MEDAC since 1991, apart from ODA Scholarships offered to Palestinian students at the University of Malta.

Dr Amal Jadou expressed her country's gratitude to Malta for its support towards the Palestinian cause and noted that, after seventy years, the Palestinian problem has not yet been resolved. She said that the Palestinian people want peace, education, good health and freedom of movement, adding that people should remember what the Palestinians went through in the past years. She acknowledged that the European Union was the biggest donor to Palestine.

Dr Amal Jadou was accompanied by Fadi Hanania, Ambassador of Palestine to Malta; Mustafa Barghouti, Director of Economic Department, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Expatriates of Palestine; Zuhair Hazouri, First Secretary at the Embassy of Palestine in Malta; and Roba Al Jamal, Malta Desk Office, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Expatriates of Palestine.