

ANNUAL REPORT



Broadcasting Authority Malta

2002

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Broadcasting Authority
Mile End Road, Hamrun HMR 02, Malta
Tel: 2122 12181, 2124 7908
Fax: 2124 0855
E-mail: info@ba-malta.org
Web: <http://www.ba-malta.org>

BROADCASTING AUTHORITY



MALTA

L - AWTORITA' TAX - XANDIR

The Hon. Dr Eddie Fenech Adami B.A., LL.D., M.P.
Prime Minister
Auberge de Castille
Valletta

19th May 2003

Prime Minister,

In accordance with sub-article (1) of article 30 of the Broadcasting Act, Chapter 350 of the Laws of Malta, we have pleasure in forwarding the Broadcasting Authority's Annual Report for 2002.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be 'J. Said Pullicino'.

Chief Justice Emeritus Dr Joseph Said Pullicino
Chairman

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be 'K. Aquilina'.

Dr Kevin Aquilina
Chief Executive

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BROADCASTING CHRONOLOGY 2002

- JANUARY** “It-Torċa” editor publishes an apology concerning an article offensive to the Authority
- Authority awards grant to Dr Joe Gixti to carry out research project on “The Effects of Broadcasting on the Young Consumer”
- FEBRUARY** Authority approves scheme for political broadcasts
- MARCH** Authority launches series of political broadcasts on the theme *Malta u l-Ewropa: Il-Futur*
- Draft Code on News and Current Affairs opened for consultation
- Authority launches courses for broadcasters on the correct use of the Maltese language on the media
- APRIL** Appointment of the Broadcasting Authority
- Broadcasting Authority visits H.E. the President of Malta
- Chief Executive attends Commonwealth Broadcasting Association 24th General Conference in Manchester, U.K.
- MAY** Court of Appeal finds in favour of John Bundy and Clyde Puli
- Authority approves in principle remedy to Malta Labour Party concerning Malta – E.U. Information Centre spots
- Chairman and Chief Executive attend 15th EPRA Meeting in Brussels
- Audience Survey Results announced for Second Quarter 2002
- JUNE** Authority decides to grant to Malta Labour Party one third of the time of spots broadcast by the Malta – E.U. Information Centre on TVM



Publication of Legal Notices re Correct Use of Maltese Language on the Broadcasting Media and Amendment to Third Schedule of the Broadcasting Act

JULY Chairman and Chief Executive attend European Broadcasting Union 53rd Ordinary Session of the General Assembly in Naples, Italy

SEPTEMBER Malta Labour Party and PBS Ltd. lose their cases against the Authority. Civil Court finds in favour of the Authority

Authority suspends scheme *Malta u l-Ewropa: Il-Futur*

OCTOBER Authority refuses to grant Nationalist Party / Alternattiva Demokratika / Moviment Iva Malta fl-Ewropa / Campaign for National Independence and Front Maltin Inqumu the right to broadcast free of charge spots on European Union on TVM.

Authority approves scheme for political parties on *Ir-Relazzjonijiet Futuri bejn Malta u l-Unjoni Ewropea*

Antoine Ellul, Board member, attends EPRA Meeting in Ljubljana, Slovenia

NOVEMBER Max Plus TV ceases broadcasting and closes down operations

Civil Court decides against the Authority and in favour of the Nationalist Party

Programme Awards and Gender Award Night

Audience Survey results announced for Fourth Quarter, 2002



1. MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIRMAN

Controversial decisions are rarely popular. They alarm the parts that feel aggrieved by them. They concern others who infer, from such willingness to be objective, a potential threat to their future interests. Some, therefore, will be annoyed by the decision, others by the ability to take it.



*Chairman
Chief Justice Emeritus
Dr Joseph Said Pullicino*

The Broadcasting Authority, as currently composed, embarks upon its first full calendar year of activity after an engaging nine months in office. As the Authority's chairman I see the need of carefully implementing its full role in society as prescribed by the Constitution. This is especially so now, because 2003 will long be remembered as the year at the crossroads for our nation and state. Some may consider the Authority to be past its sell-by date, ignoring the fact that fifty other civilised nations have similar structures. I disagree. The Broadcasting Authority is clearly charged with promoting democracy in the medium that probably defines it most. Indeed contemporary democracy and broadcasting are veritably a product of each other. There can be no real democracy without just broadcasting. There can be no fair broadcasting without just democracy. This is not to exclude the press, parliament or the other pillars of a democracy from the equation. Yet there is no doubt that the sheer reach and force of radio and television place them at the fulcrum of the social contract that civil societies like ours have entered into. As such I believe that they are to be protected as well as controlled. Protected, such that the meek and the voiceless may borrow our ears too. Controlled, such that those who sell the one-sided coin may be called to reveal the other face. When protection and control lapse, the truth is unlikely to be allowed to linger on. Our country knows this, has seen it close at hand and has acted to remedy it. It must now ensure that the remedy is effective and long lasting.

The remedy, of course, was pluralism. Like Mercury, winged messenger of the gods, information now moves swiftly in all directions. Like Mercury, the elusive element, information can now hardly be stamped under the finger of any one person. The phenomenon though, has its own aspects and consequences. These we cannot ignore but must contend with. To begin with, the supply demand relationship that existed prior to pluralism changed overnight. The need for a new breed and generation of broadcasters was admirably met by our tiny population. In its best form the requirement was satisfied by a crop of young people giving birth to investigative, stimulating and culture-based programming. These operated within the newly set-up structures or within small production cells which gradually became professional production organisations. The developments were undoubtedly positive except for the fact



that the national broadcaster has had to rely increasingly upon external acquisitions for even its domestic programming. This reliance has its perils as I am on record as having previously noted. Principally, it does not create the conditions to make long-term investments into the training of an in-house investigative unit which presents its efforts in prime time. This, quite simply, because there is no such team to train. The Broadcasting Authority has, annually, encouraged and recognised the producers of the so-called farmed out programmes acknowledging that their freshness and independence is vital. Their spread and prominence however in the national broadcaster's programming should be eased, some of their products repositioned. Space should be created for the work of a team with impeccable journalistic and editorial qualities operating from within and protected by security of tenure. This cell must provide what every man and woman of this country deserve in broadcasting: truth, representation and continuity. In this I speak after due reflection of my several experiences as a close and keen observer of this country over a roll of years. From the bar as well as the bench, but peering from the street too and looking into the classrooms and the workplaces as well. Mine is not a blinkered vision nor is it touched by economic or other interests. I augur only that our broadcasting may have the fixed points of reliability and truth that every democracy needs: sober voices which cannot be silenced or replaced regardless of the change in tides, or the hand upon the tiller of the vessel that rides them.

Chief Justice Emeritus

Dr Joseph Said Pullicino B.A. (Hons.), LL.D.



2. REVIEW OF THE YEAR

BY THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE

2.1 THE BROADCASTING AUTHORITY

During the year 2002, the Authority was composed as follows:

Chairman: Professor Joseph M. Pirotta B.A., Ph.D. (Reading)

Members: Mr Antoine J Ellul

Mr Alfred Mallia Milanes

Dr Reno Borg B.A. (Hons.), M.A., LL.D.

Mrs Rose Sciberras B.A., L.P.



*Chief Executive
Dr. Kevin Aquilina*

On 31st March 2002 Professor Joseph M Pirotta's appointment came to an end. He was replaced with effect from 1st April 2002 by the current Chairman, Chief Justice Emeritus Dr Joseph Said Pullicino B.A. (Hons), LL.D. Dr Joseph Pace Asciak B.A. (Hons), D.Litt. (Firenze) also replaced Mr Alfred Mallia Milanes as member of the Authority.

The Authority remains indebted to Prof. Pirotta's vital contribution in leading the Authority during his term of office which spanned from 1993 to 2002 and for his active participation and dedication in the Authority's workings. The Authority also thanks Mr Alfred Mallia Milanes for his sterling services as member of the Board.



March 28th 2002 – Prof. J. M. Pirotta Farewell Party together with the Authority's Staff



2. Review by the Chief Executive



*Chairman
Chief Justice Emeritus
Dr Joseph Said Pullicino
B.A. (Hons.), LL.D.*



*Member
Mrs. Rose Sciberras
B.A., L.P.*



*Member
Dr Joseph Pace Asciak
B.A. (Hons), D.Litt. (Firenze)*



*Member
Mr. Antoine J. Ellul.*



*Member
Dr. Reno Borg
B.A. (Hons.), M.N., LL.D.*



*Chief Executive
Dr. Kevin Aquilina
Dip. Phil., B.A., B.A. (Hons.),
M.A., LL.M., LL.D.,
Ph.D. (Lond) (L.S.E.)*



*Secretary
Mr. Edgar P. Cassar*



2.2 BROADCASTING AUTHORITY COMMITTEES

During 2002 the Authority had the following Advisory Committees in office:

2.2.1 Advisory Committee on Quality and Ethics in Broadcasting

2.2.1.1 Terms of Reference

- (i) to advise the Authority on programme standards on radio and television and, in particular, on measures which need to be taken to raise the level of programming on public service and on commercial broadcasting media;
- (ii) to consider and report to the Authority on the need for programme guidelines to ensure good taste in locally transmitted programming;
- (iii) to advise the Authority with regard to the appearance of particular trends that go against good taste and decency; and
- (iv) to make recommendations concerning the use of the Maltese language in the broadcasting media.

2.2.1.2 Composition

Chairperson: Prof. Dominic Fenech B.A. (Hons), D.Phil. (Oxon)

Members: Dr Mary Anne Lauri Ph.D., Mr Noel Agius B.A. (Hons.), M.A., Mr David Pace Dip. Jour., B.A. Comm., Mr Tarcisio Zarb B.A. (Hons.), M.A., Dip. Ar. P.G.C.E. and Mr Joe Psaila. Mr Joe Psaila resigned on 11th June 2002.

2.2.1.3 Code of Practice on Disability and its Portrayal in the Broadcasting Media

The Advisory Committee on Quality and Ethics of the Broadcasting Authority in consultation with the National Commission Persons with Disability discussed a draft paper entitled “Disability and its Portrayal in the Media - a Code of Practice” and after studying and closely following the recommendations made by the Commission presented the Authority with a document for its approval.

The Authority sought comments from all broadcasting stations and after concluding the consultation stage approved a final version of a code of practice on disability and its portrayal in the broadcasting media.



The Chairman of the Authority, Chief Justice Emeritus Dr Joseph Said Pullicino, presented this code to the public at a press conference held at the premises of the Broadcasting Authority during Disability Week in December 2002.

Professor Dominic Fenech introduced the Code of Practice emphasising that the preamble to the Code is as important as the Code itself as it puts in focus the spirit within which the Code was prepared.

Mr Joe Camilleri, Chairperson of the *Kummissjoni Nazzjonali Persuni b'Diżabilità*, stressed the importance of this Code of Practice preceding the European Year of People with Disability 2003 and prior to a period of festivities during which various fund-raising activities are held.

The Authority encourages stations to distribute a copy of this Code to all producers and to emphasise with presenters of fund-raising programmes to comply with the provisions of this Code. It is also advisable for such presenters to seek the guidance of the *Kummissjoni Nazzjonali Persuni b'Diżabilità* prior to producing such programmes.



6th December 2002: From Left to Right: Mr Joe Camilleri, Chairperson of the *Kummissjoni Nazzjonali Persuni b'Diżabilità*, Prof. Dominic Fenech, Chief Justice Emeritus Dr. Joseph Said Pullicino, and Chief Executive, Dr. Kevin Aquilina.

Broadcasting stations who televise fund-raising activities for charitable and philanthropic purposes are encouraged to use the services of *Kummissjoni Nazzjonali Persuni b'Diżabilità* who volunteered to assist stations in the production of such broadcasts in order to ensure the proper portrayal of disabled persons in the broadcasting media.

2.2.1.4 Sensitive Issues of a Personal Nature

In the year under review, the Committee's attention was again drawn to programmes that divulge sensitive issues of a personal nature on the media and to the damage such exposure could cause to the more vulnerable, in particular children and young persons who feature in

such programmes and acting on the Committee's recommendation, the Authority issued a circular advising stations on the correct treatment of such issues.

Later in the year the Committee discussed the subject further at a meeting called by the Maltese Association of Social Workers when it was agreed to evaluate further samples of such programming in order to advise the Authority on the guidelines required. At the end of the year the Committee was in the process of collecting these samples.

2.2.1.5 Plan of Action for Quality Programmes

Following a request by the Authority for suggestions on improving the quality of programmes, the Committee considered the adverse effect caused by the predominance of advertising interests, it sought the assistance of the Authority's Programme Awards Committee and examined its adjudicating panel reports on the criteria used for selection. It also examined reports of focus groups which had been conducted earlier on the quality of programming and with the help of the monitoring section set about compiling a compendium of shortcomings in local programme productions. The Committee has not yet concluded its work on the project.

2.2.2 Advisory Committee on News and Current Affairs

2.2.2.1 Terms of Reference

- (i) to draw up and submit for the Authority's consideration an overall plan designed to bring about an improvement in the present output of news and current affairs programming on public service and commercial radio and television stations;
- (ii) to revise and update the present codes of standards and practice in this specialised area of broadcasting; and
- (iii) to advise the Authority with regard to the appearance of particular trends those go against good journalistic practice and standards in news and current affairs programming.

2.2.2.2 Composition

Chairperson: Mr Charles Mizzi

Members: Mr Joe Vella, Mr Ray Bugeja, Ms Ariadne Massa B.A.A. (Toronto), M.A. and Mr Tonio Farrugia.



2.2.2.3 Code on News and Current Affairs

Following a period of detailed study and consultation, which included research on similar codes overseas and informal discussions with broadcasters on the subject, the Committee presented its latest version of the code to the Authority in February 2002.

The Code was then launched for public consultation at a press conference on 22nd March 2002 and during the following six weeks members of the public were invited to send in their comments and proposals for further evaluation by the Committee to be followed by a public seminar at a later stage.

A number of organizations and interested parties sent in written submissions on the subject. These included the Consumers' Union, the Public Broadcasting Services Ltd., Radio RTK, Mr. Joseph Flask and Ms Sylvana Debono with whom the Committee in turn held separate meetings to discuss their views and feedback on the subject.

The Committee expressed its disapproval and publicly disclaimed all responsibility for a clause in the Code which exempted political stations from the obligation to exclude all comment from their reports. This clause was a recurring theme in all discussions and became the subject of much debate until it was eventually removed by the Authority.

The Committee expects to complete its work on the final version of the Code after organising a public seminar on the subject early in 2003.



22nd March 2002: Presentation of the Draft Code on News and Current Affairs for public consultation.

2.2.2.4 Station Comment in News

The Authority's interpretation of admissible station comment in news broadcasts continued to be a major source of concern to the Committee which constantly made known to the Authority its preoccupation with the manipulation of news broadcasts on the political stations, urging the Authority to take into consideration recommendations made in a report submitted on the subject the previous year and to put a stop to what it considered to be a deteriorating situation.

2.2.2.5 Current Affairs Programmes

The Committee also expressed concern that current affairs topics featuring in discussion programmes were allowed to be classified as such and insisted with the Authority that such discussion programmes dealing with current affairs topics should be classified as current affairs programmes.

2.2.2.6 Shortcomings in News Bulletins

In conjunction with the Monitoring Department the Committee continued with its task of investigating news items singled out for station comment, fabrication of news, misreporting or lack of accuracy and to advise the Authority on these and other shortcomings.

2.2.3 Advisory Committee on Gender Issues in the Broadcasting Media

2.2.3.1 Terms of Reference

- (i) to advise the Authority on the adaptation of guidelines concerning gender images in programme content;
- (ii) the preparation of contact lists of experts for use by producers in the area of news and factual programming;
- (iii) the preparation of guidelines on the use of generic terms which include both sexes; and
- (iv) the introduction of equality of opportunity as a requirement in the granting or renewing of broadcasting licences.



2.2.3.2 Composition

Chairperson: Dr Brenda Murphy B.A. (Comm. Stds/Psych.), M.A. Comm. (Lond.), Ph.D.

Members: Dr Mario Felice LL.D., Ms Lorraine Mercieca Dip. Soc. Stud. (Women & Dev.), Ms Angela Callus M.Q.R., B.A. and Fr René Camilleri S.Th.D. (Greg.)

2.2.3.3 Initiatives of the Gender Advisory Committee

In 2002, the Advisory Committee focused mainly on the following initiatives:

1. the drafting of a policy and guidelines regarding the elimination of gender discrimination and the promotion of equal opportunities in the broadcasting media
2. the Award for Gender Awareness in the Broadcasting Media
3. the Diversity Database
4. international networking
5. research

2.2.3.3.1 Code of Practice on Gender Equality

The Advisory Committee prepared a first draft of a policy regarding gender equality in broadcasting. The policy will cover several areas, namely: the role of broadcasting media in the elimination of discrimination and in the promotion of gender equality; the need for guidelines to raise the awareness of broadcasters and advertisers on equality and gender issues; proposals on the non sexist portrayal of women and men; the use of non sexist language; and sanctions for the infringement of these policies and regulations.

The Committee considered the recommendations on the subject, made by international organisations, mainly the UN Commission for the Advancement of Women, and the Council of Europe. Regulations drawn up by other broadcasting authorities, such as those of Ireland, Australia and Canada, were also consulted.

The Committee took the opportunity of studying and discussing the White Paper on the Gender Equality Act, which also dealt with the issue of equality and the media. These particular provisions, however, were restricted mainly to employment advertisements, and did not deal with gender portrayal and representation.

In view of this lacuna, the Committee proposed that all advertisements, and not merely those related to employment, should not discriminate against either women or men. It was also proposed that the portrayal of degrading images or degrading treatment of women and men would be unlawful.



The Committee understands that the general aspect concerning broadcasting would continue to be regulated under the Broadcasting Act. Accordingly the wider proposal (to prohibit the portrayal of degrading images and the treatment in a degrading manner of women and men) will be the subject of a concrete proposal in a code of standards and practices, which the Committee will recommend for adoption in terms of the Broadcasting Act.

2.2.3.3.2 Sexist Remarks / Programmes

The Advisory Committee was consulted twice on complaints raised by individuals or the Authority's monitors on sexist remarks or sexist programmes.

One complaint concerned sexist remarks made by radio presenter, Martin Sapiano, during his programme "*Taħwid Garantit*", aired on PBS Radio on 8 March, the day dedicated to the celebration of World Women's Day when he referred to 'Women's Day' as 'Jum il-Hniezer' (Pigs' Day). The Committee considered that his remarks about women were offensive and showed gross insensitivity to gender issues; thus the Committee recommended that the Authority take the appropriate steps to warn the presenter concerned, and also PBS Ltd, the broadcasting station, against this kind of sexist remarks. Following that programme Mr Sapiano left PBS Ltd.

Another programme brought to the Committee's attention in January 2002 was "Smack the Pony", shown on PBS and was felt by the complainant to be offensive and degrading to women. The Committee considered this programme and researched responses to it. It concluded that some audiences may have been offended by some of the programme's material, but it could not be described as 'sexist'. Moreover, the programme was aired late in the evening and the red warning signal 'Adults Only' was put on throughout the programme.

2.2.3.3.3 Research Projects and Gender Equality

In December 2001, the Gender Advisory Committee recommended to the Authority that in the envisaged research on the qualitative survey *The Effects of Broadcasting on Young Consumers*, due importance be given to a balanced representation of female and male interviewees in its focus groups, and to consider 'gender' as a variable when designing the study. The Authority agreed to this recommendation.

In May 2002, three students from the Department of Communication Studies carried out research as part of a 'research practicum' and designed a 'follow-up' survey in order to ascertain percentages of men and women at every level in the broadcast industry (Appendix XXI).



2.2.3.3.4 Diversity Database

The development of the diversity database, that is, the compilation of lists of women and men who are experts in specific areas, continued during 2002.

At the end of the year, a new part-time researcher was engaged to continue with the compilation of mailing lists, direct mailing and data inputting. The objective of the Gender Advisory Committee is to launch a Database that is accessible to all journalists and programme makers and which represents women and men experts in a balanced manner.

The Broadcasting Authority was in the process of developing a diversity database for broadcasters. When complete the database will include names of women and men with specialisations or expertise in different spheres of Maltese society. The database will serve as a central resource:

- to cross boundaries created by gender, class, age and educational status; and
- to better reflect the full diversity of Maltese society.

The Broadcasting Authority encourages the widest possible participation in all areas of society from, among others: young people, the elderly, experts, and individuals with special interests in issues such as crafts, sciences, medicine, languages, music, the arts, archaeology, history, folklore, collections, etc. The Broadcasting Authority encourages, in particular, the potential contribution of Maltese women.

All television and radio stations in Malta will have access to the diversity database through the Internet.

The Broadcasting Authority is confident that Maltese producers will use the database wisely and ethically. It is not the Broadcasting Authority's role to decide who should be asked to participate in broadcasting programmes. It is up to the producers to decide whom to include in their programmes. The fact that an individual's name appears on the database does not guarantee that he/she will be invited to participate in programmes.

2.2.3.3.5 Report on the Global Media Monitoring Project 2000

In the international scene, the Gender Advisory Committee kept contact with the World Association for Christian Communication, the organisation which in 2000 had organised a worldwide survey on the broadcasting media. The Broadcasting Authority, through the Gender Advisory Committee, had participated in the project and had used the findings for its



training programmes. In 2002, the Committee reported to the World Association of Christian Communication on the use made of the survey in Malta.

2.2.3.3.6 Report on the Screening Gender Kit

The Equal Opportunities Network (EON), in conjunction with Margaret Gallagher, asked for a report from each country and organisation that used the 'Screening Gender Kit', in order to assess its use and usefulness.

2.3 COURTESY VISIT TO H.E. THE PRESIDENT OF MALTA

The Chairman of the Broadcasting Authority, in a speech delivered on the occasion of the courtesy visit to H.E. The President of Malta, Professor Guido De Marco LL.D., emphasised the Authority's dual role: that of guaranteeing freedom of expression and that of implementing pluralism in broadcasting. In its constitutional function, the Authority is obliged to ensure due impartiality in matters of a political or an industrial controversy or current public policy, and that broadcasting facilities and time are fairly apportioned between persons belonging to different political parties.

Although the Authority's constitutional functions date back to pre-pluralism times, there is no doubt that these functions are still valid today. Indeed, the Authority's obligation to ensure due impartiality is not restricted only to the public service broadcaster but to all stations, including the private ones, be they political, commercial or otherwise. In carrying out these functions the Authority is autonomous from the other organs of the State and its decisions are not reviewable. This in turn imposes a burdensome responsibility on the Authority that has to decide free from any exterior pressure or any direction or control by the person appointing the Authority's chairman and members.

The Authority has to be proactive in carrying out its aforesaid constitutional duties and to intervene promptly whenever this intervention is required.

2.4 THE BROADCASTING AUTHORITY'S ANNUAL REPORT

The current Authority's annual report has gone electronic and will no longer be published in book format. Thanks to the investments that the Authority had made in information technology, it is now possible to produce the Annual Report on a compact disk. Furthermore, the Authority will be making its annual report available on its webpage at www.ba-malta.org



The Authority's webpage contains a copy on line of all its Annual Reports for the years 1997, 1998, 1999, 2000 and 2001.

2.5 RECYCLING OF TAPES

The Authority adopted a new policy in terms of which all tapes containing broadcasts that are not of historical value are recycled. Such policy was necessitated in order to cut down on costs and on storage space. The Authority will continue to archive its own programmes and those tapes that are requested in connection with court proceedings until the latter are finally disposed of.

2.6 THE AUTHORITY'S STAFF

During the year under examination, the vacant posts of Senior Technical Officer, Senior Office Assistant, Charwoman and Monitoring Officer were filled. New job descriptions had been approved by the Authority prior to the issue of the relevant call for applications for the said posts.

The Authority has also received the UHM's proposals for a fresh collective agreement for the period 2003 - 2005. The Authority was still consulting the Office of the Prime Minister and the Ministry of Finance on the said proposals.



3. BROADCASTING REGULATION

3.1 ALLOCATION OF A NATIONAL RADIO LICENCE

The Authority has been receiving various requests over the years for the allocation of a broadcasting licence in so far as a national radio station is concerned.

The Authority has one frequency for allocation purposes due to the fact that the Master Antenna has only one port available that is currently not being used by any broadcasting station. Although there are a few other frequencies which are currently retained by the Government, it is not possible to allocate them in view of the fact that (a) the Master Antenna does not have the necessary capacity to accommodate additional frequencies; and (b) there are no more rooms at Gharghur which can be allotted to stations to place therein their broadcasting apparatus.

When the Master Antenna was upgraded in 1994 to cater for four new ports, the Authority had to invest Lm60,000 for this purpose. Presently the said expenditure is prohibitive unless the Government were to provide the necessary capital investment.

Bearing the above in mind, the Authority issued a call for expressions of interest prior to proceeding any further on this matter so that it would be in a position to know who would be interested to apply for a nationwide radio station.

It received eleven expressions of interest and decided to commission a business study on market research on national radio stations prior to requesting applications for the said frequency.

3.2 APPROVAL OF BROADCASTING LICENCES

During 2002 the Broadcasting Authority approved the following radio broadcasting licences:



STATION	DURATION	VALID FROM	FREQUENCY (MHz)	POWER IN WATTS	DATE OF ISSUE	TYPE
Radju Festa	12 days	31/7/02	104.9	3	18/3/02	Community
Radju Hompesch	2 yrs	20/3/02	90	3.8	18/3/02	Community
Lehen il-Belt Victoria	2 yrs	25/6/02	104	2	12/4/02	Community
Radju Pawlin	1 mth	8/6/02	97.2	5	24/4/02	Community
Radju Valentine Balzan	1 mth	15/6/02	99.2	3	21/5/02	Community
Christian Light Radio	2 yrs	17/6/02	105.4	2	28/5/02	Community
Radju Margerita	1 mth	1/7/02	96.1	2	4/6/02	Community
Radju Kottoner	2 yrs	29/7/02	98	2.8	15/7/02	Community
Radju 15 t'Awissu	18 days	30/7/02	98.3	3.5	29/7/02	Community
Radju Santa Katarina	12 days	21/8/02	90.6	4	20/8/02	Community
Radio Sacro Cuor	2 yrs	15/11/02	105.2	2	14/11/02	Community
DJ's Live FM	8 yrs	9/10/02	100.2	N/A	9/10/02	Nationwide
Radju Mhabba	1 mth	1/12/02	89.2	4.5	31/10/02	Community
Radju Luminaria	2 yrs	14/12/02	106.9	2.8	14/11/02	Community
Deejays Radio 956FM	2 yrs	23/11/02	95.6	3	22/11/02	Community
Radju Xodus	23 days	15/12/02	107	4	27/11/02	Community
Radju Ghall-Providenza	6 days	20/12/02	90.3	2.5	29/11/02	Community
Radju Katidral	2 yrs	01/12/02	90.9	6	29/11/02	Community
Radju Bambina	2 yrs	13/12/02	98.3	2	2/12/02	Community
Eden FM Radio	2 yrs	17/11/02	107.6		15/11/02	Community
Radju Prekursur	2 yrs	19/2/03	99.3	2	26/12/02	Community



During 2002, the Authority approved the following terrestrial television broadcasting licences:

- Super 1 TV granted to One Productions Ltd. in February 2002;
- Smash TV granted to Smash Communications Ltd. in October 2002.

3.3 CABLE TELEVISION TEleshopping Applications

The Authority decided to issue a call for expression of interests by persons who were interested to apply for a cable teleshopping channel. The closing date for receipt of such expressions of interest was set for Friday, 26th January 2001. In all, the Authority received six expressions of interest from different persons who were subsequently requested to submit a formal application in terms of law. The Authority had decided not to allocate terrestrial frequencies for teleshopping channels provided that the cable company could carry such channels. The Authority received only two applications for a teleshopping television cable licence and subsequently began to process the said applications. It also sought the advice of Melita Cable plc.

Both companies have approached Melita Cable and at first Melita informed them that there were no full channels available and subsequently the Authority informed Melita that arrangements could be made to suppress one or two Italian teleshopping channels from the cable system in favour of the Maltese companies. The Malta Communications Authority has agreed to support the Authority's request. A joint request by both authorities will be made to the Minister responsible for communications after both companies successfully conclude financial negotiations with Melita Cable.



4. PROGRAMME COMPLAINTS

During 2002 the Broadcasting Authority considered a number of programme complaints concerning accuracy and impartiality in news, one complaint regarding balance and impartiality in a current affairs programme, one request for a right of reply in a political broadcast, a complaint from the Malta Labour Party regarding Malta-EU Information Centre spots, one complaint from Malta-EU Information Centre regarding a Malta Labour Party political spot as well as complaints by the Nationalist Party and Alternattiva Demokratika regarding the Broadcasting Authority's decision to allow the Malta Labour Party to broadcast spots about the EU.

Table 1 - News & Current Affairs Programme Complaints Analysed by Source

SOURCE	NUMBER	ADJUDICATION RESULTS		
		Upheld	Partly Upheld	Rejected
Malta Labour Party	1	1		
CJP Tarmac Ltd	1	1		
Where's Everybody?	1		1	
Nationalist Party	2	1		1
Housing Authority	1			1
Tonio Fenech	1		1	

Table 2 - Other Programme Complaints Analysed by Source

SOURCE	NUMBER	ADJUDICATION RESULTS		
		Upheld	Partly Upheld	Rejected
¹ Malta Labour Party	1	1		
² Nationalist Party	1			1
³ Alternattiva Demokratika	1			1
Malta – E.U. Info. Centre	1	1		
Michael Fenech – AZAD Executive Director	1	1		

Table 3 - Complaints Analysed by Station

SOURCE	NUMBER	ADJUDICATION RESULTS		
		Upheld	Partly Upheld	Rejected
TVM	7	4		3
NET TV / Radio 101	1	1		
Super 1 TV / Super 1 Radio	4	1	2	1

¹ Complaint regarding MIC spots on EU

² Complaint regarding MLP spots on EU

³ Complaint regarding MLP spots on EU



5. BROADCASTING LEGISLATION

5.1 LEGISLATION

During 2002, no amendments were made by Parliament to the Broadcasting Act. However, the Authority and the Minister responsible for broadcasting issued the Broadcasting Code on the Correct Use of the Maltese Language on the Broadcasting Media, 2002 (Legal Notice 133 of 2002 as amended by L.N. 282 of 2002) and an amendment to the Third Schedule to the Broadcasting Act.

The Third Schedule to the Broadcasting Act was amended by Legal Notice 134 of 2002 to provide that the price of the product or service offered during a teleshopping window and the address from where business is conducted cannot be broadcast either orally or graphically. Moreover, the broadcasting station that broadcasts a teleshopping window has to keep a record of the identity and the address of the company or of the individual who sells products or services during a teleshopping window, should a viewer who has purchased such a product or service request such information.

Both the Code and the amendment to the Third Schedule aforesaid are reproduced in Appendices IX, X and XI of this Report.

5.2 CODE OF PRACTICE

Moreover, the Authority approved the Code of Practice on Disability and its Portrayal in the Broadcasting Media, a copy of which is contained in Appendix XII of this Report.

5.3 GUIDELINES

5.3.1 Programme Participants Speaking a Foreign Language in News Bulletins

Even during 2002, the Authority issued various guidelines to broadcasting stations. One such guideline concerned programme participants speaking a foreign language in news bulletins. In terms of this guideline, stations should ensure that where a non-Maltese speaking person participates in a news bulletin, a voice-over has to be made of the participant's contribution into the Maltese language for the benefit of the listeners and viewers following that programme. In addition, in the case of any other programme, stations have been advised by the Authority to, as far as is reasonably practicable, follow the above guideline.



5.3.2 Teleshopping

The Authority directed all stations on 9th September 2002 that during teleshopping programmes it was permissible for the presenter to refer to the telephone number which the viewer could call for a salesperson to visit the viewer at his/her home and explain how the product in question operated.

5.3.3 Programmes dealing with Matters of Privacy

The Authority's Advisory Committee on Quality and Ethics had occasion to view and discuss several television programmes that dealt with private and intimate affairs. It proposed a guideline to assist broadcasters in dealing with such delicate and sensitive matter that was approved by the Authority on 21st February 2002. The guideline provides that when a programme deals with a private or intimate matter, the programme should be produced in such a way as not to prejudice the person concerned, more so if such person happens to be a minor and the programme would be dealing with subjects that are considered to be extremely sensitive by the affected person. No programme should, without the consent of the affected person, identify, or expose such person.



6. INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

6.1 MEDITERRANEAN NETWORK OF MEDIA REGULATORY AUTHORITIES

The Mediterranean Network of Regulatory Authorities was established on 29th November 1997 in Barcelona on the initiative of the French Conseil Supérieur de l'Audiovisuel - CSA and of the Catalan Consell de l'Audiovisual de Catalunya - CAC. Its mission statement is to reinforce cultural and historical links between Mediterranean countries and identify common challenges against the backdrop of globalisation.

The Mediterranean Network of Media Regulatory Authorities provides a platform for discussion and exchange of information and research on issues regarding broadcasting regulation. The members of the network are the French CSA, the Catalan CAC, the Portuguese Alta Autoridade para a Comunicação Social (AACS), the Italian Autorità per le Garanzie nelle Comunicazioni (AGCOM), the Greek National Council for Radio and Television, the Maltese Broadcasting Authority, the Cyprus Radio Television Authority and the Radio and Television Supreme Council from Turkey.

The Network is open to membership of all independent regulators belonging to countries of the Mediterranean basin. During the year under review no meetings of the Network were held.

6.2 EUROPEAN PLATFORM OF REGULATORY AUTHORITIES

On 16th and 17th May 2002 the Authority participated in the 15th EPRA meeting in Brussels at the joint invitation of the Belgian regulatory authorities. The Chairman, Chief Justice Emeritus Dr Joseph Said Pullicino, and the Chief Executive, Dr Kevin Aquilina, represented the Authority. The plenary session of the first day was dedicated to the topic of the direct and indirect influence of politics on broadcasting in Western and Eastern Europe. Two simultaneous working groups discussed digital terrestrial television and advertising and programme windows. On the second day a discussion on current developments in European media policy took place.

Mr Antoine Ellul attended the 16th Meeting of EPRA held in Ljubljana, Slovenia on 24th and 25th October 2002 which brought together just over a hundred broadcasting regulators drawn from 43 European member countries. The latest addition to the list of members was Luxembourg.



The EPRA Chairman's report to the conference gave details, amongst other things, of the organisation's budget and the EPRA website. The conference included two working groups – one on Media Concentration and another on Political Advertising.

Other matters of interest reviewed during the conference included the regulation of public broadcasting services which are, practically in all European countries, controlled by special measures mainly due to their public funding nature. European media policy, a standard but very useful item on the agenda, attempted to bring delegates up to date with new studies on media developments such as cable and satellite transmissions, electronic pay services and possible provisions for the right of reply in an on-line environment compatible with the freedom of communication on the Internet.

6.3 MEMBERSHIP OF THE EUROPEAN BROADCASTING UNION

The Authority's position in the European Broadcasting Union was that of an active member. However, due to the fact that the Authority does not broadcast any longer following the transfer of Channel 12 to PBS Ltd., the matter was taken up with E.B.U. in the light of amendments made in July 2002 to the E.B.U.'s Statute.

Following an exchange of correspondence between the Authority and the E.B.U. and in view of the fact that the Authority is no longer a broadcaster, it decided to withdraw from the European Broadcasting Union with effect from 2003.

6.4 THE COMMONWEALTH BROADCASTING ASSOCIATION

The Commonwealth Broadcasting Association (CBA) is funded by subscription from members of the major public service broadcasters of the Commonwealth. The main objectives of the CBA are as follows:

- to secure funds for training in developing Commonwealth countries for management and broadcasting skills.
- to foster freedom of expression and the right to communicate.
- to extend the Association's database about members.
- to further the concept of public service broadcasting.
- to provide a point of contact and a forum for discussion.



Full membership is open to radio and television stations both public and private within the Commonwealth. Also, affiliate membership is open to radio and television stations, and any broadcast related organisation in any country. Existing members include most major public radio and television stations (some private). Membership is not open to individuals. The CBA has about 100 members in over 50 countries.

In April 2002 Dr Aquilina attended the CBA's 24th General Conference in Manchester, U.K.

6.5 THE EUROPEAN INSTITUTE FOR THE MEDIA

The European Institute for the Media (EIM) gives expression to the growing interdependence of European countries in the field of communications.

The EIM's main areas of research are the impact of convergence on the media, cross-border developments in the media and their role in the process of European integration; the public interest aspects of (new) media developments and the growth of the Information Society.

The EIM is a non-profit research organisation which acts independently and in the public interest. It makes an important contribution to the development of appropriate media policies on the basis of objective research and open discussion.

The EIM's Media and Democracy Programme is a media-oriented response to the political changes taking place in central and Eastern Europe. The aim of the programme is to assist in establishing and supporting media of high professional standards which are independent of government and vested interests. The main activity of the programme is monitoring the media coverage of elections on behalf of the EU Commission or the OSCE.

The European Television and Film Forum, organised by the EIM, has positioned itself as one of the leading meeting points for the entire European media industry, policy makers and researchers. High-ranking officials and important industry players have exchanged information and opinions on media-related issues at the forum since 1989.

6.6 INTERNATIONAL NETWORKING

In 2002, the Gender Advisory Committee continued its networking strategy, and attended two Equal Opportunities Network (EON) meetings. The Network, which comprises a number of



European broadcasting stations, meets twice a year, to share solutions and strategies, and discuss developments in equal opportunities in Broadcasting. In April 2002 the EON met in London at Broadcasting House, BBC. The Network discussed diversity issues and the benefits of diversity in the workplace and in programme output. In October 2002, the EON meeting was hosted by SR (Swedish Radio) in Gothenburg. The meeting addressed 'Diversity in Recruitment, in Programming and in Policies'. It also asked for an evaluation on the 'Screening Gender Kit', which was launched in 2000. Finally the participants discussed the agenda for the next EON meeting to be held in Malta in April 2003 and also discussed suggestions for the conference planned in Malta at that time, since a number of EON members would also be participating and actively contributing to the Conference.



7. GHARGHUR TRANSMITTING TOWER

The Authority has during the year under review continued to invest in the Gharghur transmitting tower by embarking on the following projects:

- (a) installation of barbed wire to beef up security;
- (b) installation of an earthing system;
- (c) installation of a security system;
- (d) maintenance works on the tower structure.

During 2003, the Authority will conclude the security system installation and the maintenance works on the tower structure.

The Authority would like to thank all tower users for their co-operation in carrying out the said works. Thanks to the co-operation of the technical staff of the Department of Wireless Telegraphy, the latter inspected the broadcasting equipment of all television stations and master antenna users in order to switch off, where possible, only the power output of the transmitter and not the actual equipment itself when works were being carried out on the upper part of the Tower.

Moreover, between 15th July and the end of September 2002 all broadcasting stations switched off the power output of their broadcasting equipment from 1.00a.m. to 6.00a.m. so as to enable the Authority's contractor to carry out the much required maintenance on the tower structure.

Finally, it is envisaged that during 2003 the Authority will embark upon a new project to overhaul the lighting system of the tower.



8. RADIO AND TELEVISION AUDIENCES IN MALTA



22nd November 2002: Presentation by Prof. Mario Vassallo of the Audience Survey, 2nd Quarter 2002, to the press at the Authority's Offices.

Since 1999, the Authority has been conducting two radio and television audience studies annually.

As in previous years the aims of the survey were twofold:

- (a) to conduct an audit of radio listeners and TV viewers; and
- (b) to investigate whether current attitudes towards a set of issues compare with those of previous years.

This survey is meant to detect seasonal trends when comparing data with that of previous studies. Like previous studies, this study provides data on:

- (a) audience size for all local radio and TV stations in Malta on a daily basis;
- (b) audience size for the following groups of foreign TV channels received in Malta: RAI, Mediaset, Other Italian Channels, and Satellite, so grouped on a daily basis;
- (c) the views and desires of the Maltese in general on aspects of current broadcasting and on types of additional services that ought to be made available in Malta.

As from the study conducted in the last quarter of 2001, three time-bands are being used for the presentation of summary statistics on audience share in respect of TV stations. These three time-bands are: Time band 1: 6.00 a.m. – Noon; Time-band 2: Noon – 7.00 p.m.; and Time-Band 3: 7.00 p.m. – Midnight. In this way time-bound comparison of the performance of different stations is easier and more precise, especially as narrowcasting increases in importance. This decision was published in June 2000 (Circular No 18/00).

The methodology used to collect the data for audience levels for each time-slot is identical to the used in previous studies. This makes the reports comparable, except in so far as the fact that the study this year was conducted during the second quarter of the year and not in the first quarter as was previously the case. In the case of audience share by station, the data for TV is based on Time-bands.

8.1 SAMPLE PROFILE

In conformity with previous studies, the same research techniques were used. The sample structure represents the demographic features of the resident population in Malta. The multi-stage probability sampling technique was used to draw the sample for those aged 18 and over, using the latest publication of the electoral register produced for the elections of Local Councils. A quota number of persons, of both genders, were included for each day of the week to cover those aged 12-17 in the Maltese population since a complete register for this segment of the population is not available.

The above procedure produces the sample distribution features in Table 1 below. This profile closely follows the figures for the resident population in Malta as given in the last population census taken in Malta.

TABLE 1 - SAMPLE PROFILE BY GENDER

AGE GROUP	TOTAL %	MALE %	FEMALE %
12-17	11.2	11.4	11.0
18-30	21.0	21.4	20.5
31-50	37.1	37.1	37.0
51-65	18.2	18.6	17.8
over 65	12.6	11.4	13.7
TOTAL	100	100	100
N=	1001	490	511
%	100	49.0	51.0



8.2 PART 1 – AUDIENCE SIZE FOR LOCAL RADIO & TV STATIONS

8.2.1 Radio Audience Shares

The study documents two important aspects of radio listening.

Firstly, it summarises comparative figures for the Daily Average Radio Audience computed both on the basis of all available time-slots for each station during the hours each individual station is on air for the whole 24 hours of the day, as well in respect of each station from 6:00 to midnight. As in previous studies, this means that in the computation of these figures a person who listens for two hours contributes four time slots while someone who listens for half an hour contributes only one time slot.

Secondly, this study also documents the popularity of the stations, based on the people's choice of their preferred station. In this section every individual contributes only one 'vote', irrespective of the length of time he/she listens to radio.

The daily average audience levels from 6.00 a.m. to midnight for the fourth quarter of 2002, is reproduced hereunder.

**FIGURE 1 – DAILY AVERAGE AUDIENCE RADIO LEVELS,
6.00 A.M. – MIDNIGHT, FOURTH QUARTER 2002**

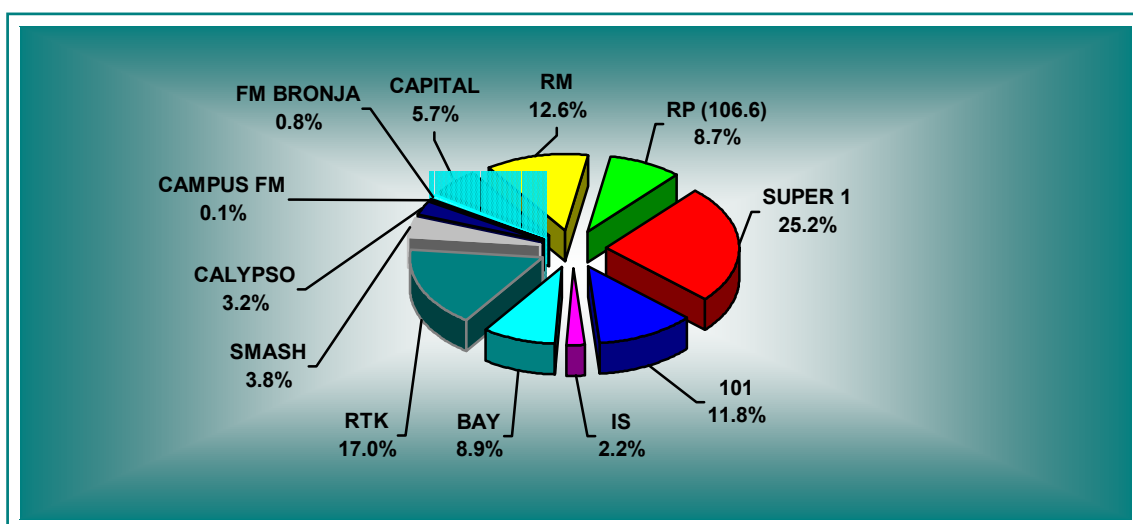
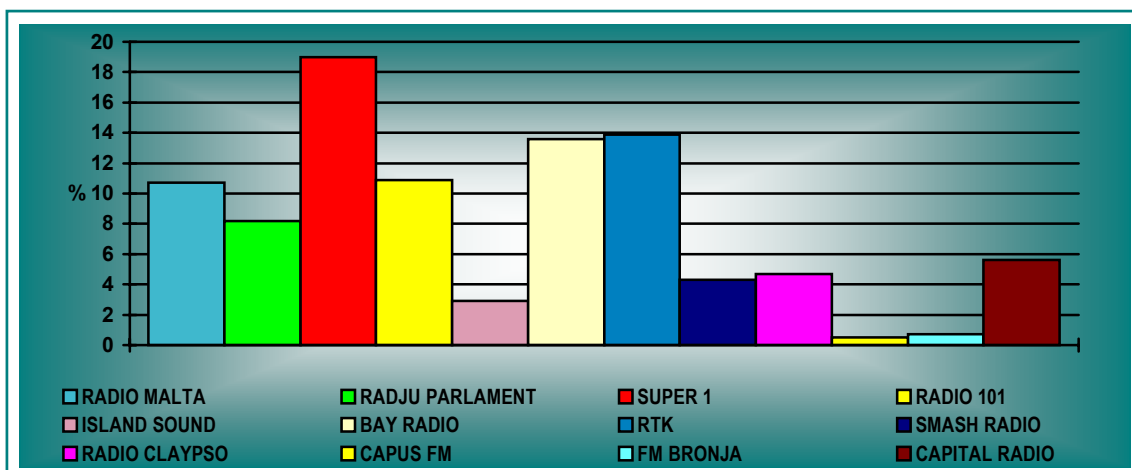


Figure 2 below presents the results for the overall preference for the 'best radio station'.



FIG 2: OVERALL PREFERENCE FOR 'BEST RADIO STATION'



8.2.2 Television Audience Share

Audience shares for TV are now being given by Time-Bands. Both the Tables and the Figures are worked on the basis of available time-slots for the stations during that time-band, and therefore ignores those time-slots when the station is no on air. It is important to note that the size of absolute audiences is different in the three time-band since many more people watch TV in the evening. As such 1% in time-band 3 represents a much higher audience size than 1% in time-band 2 or 1.

FIGURE 3: TIME BAND 1: TV AVERAGE AUDIENCE SHARE
SECOND QUARTER 2002 - 0600 HRS –NOON

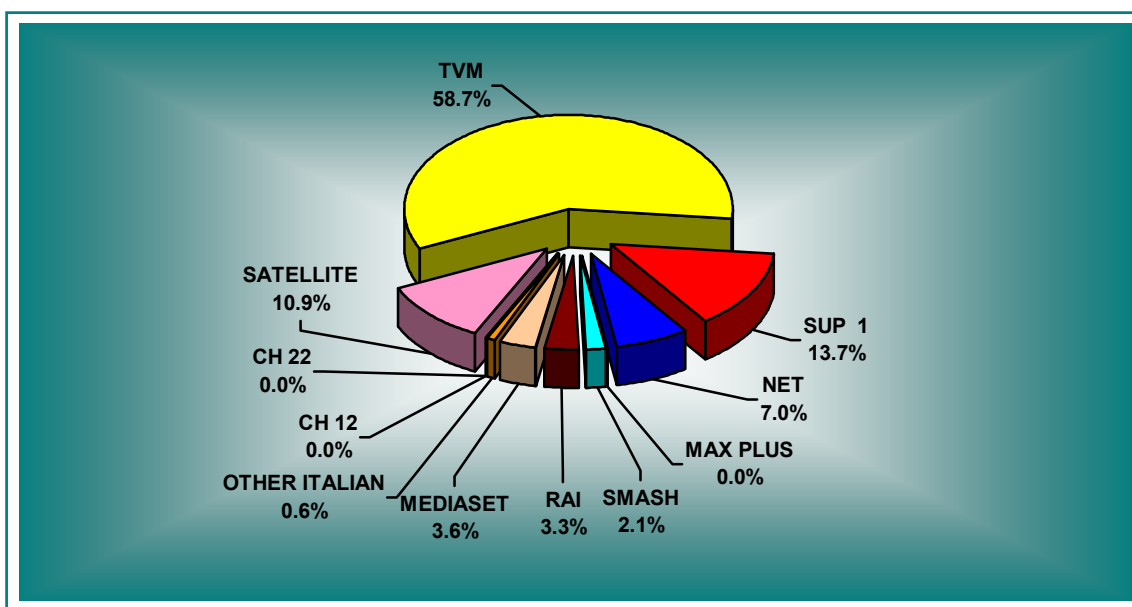
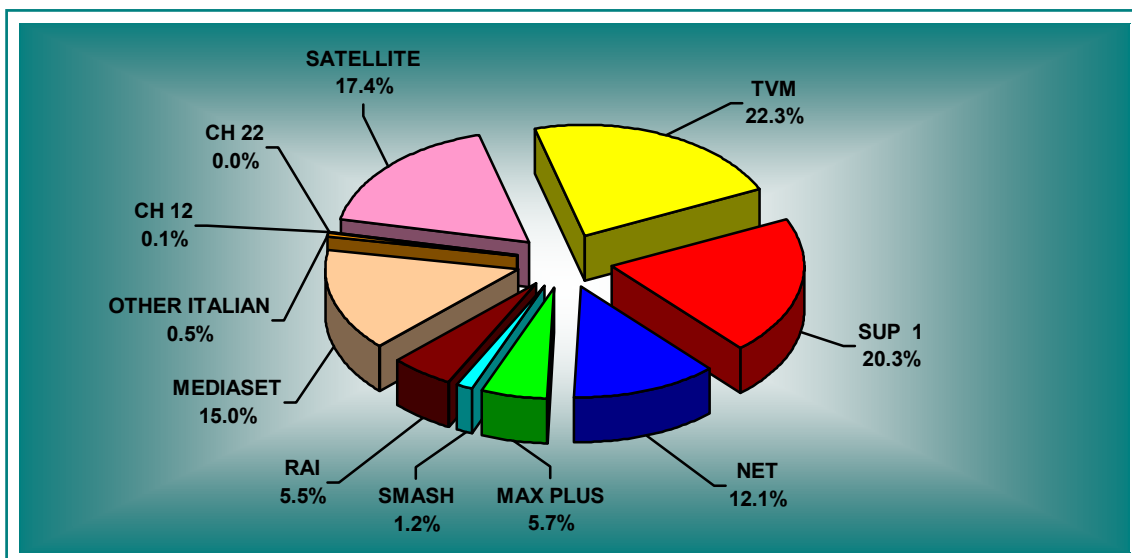


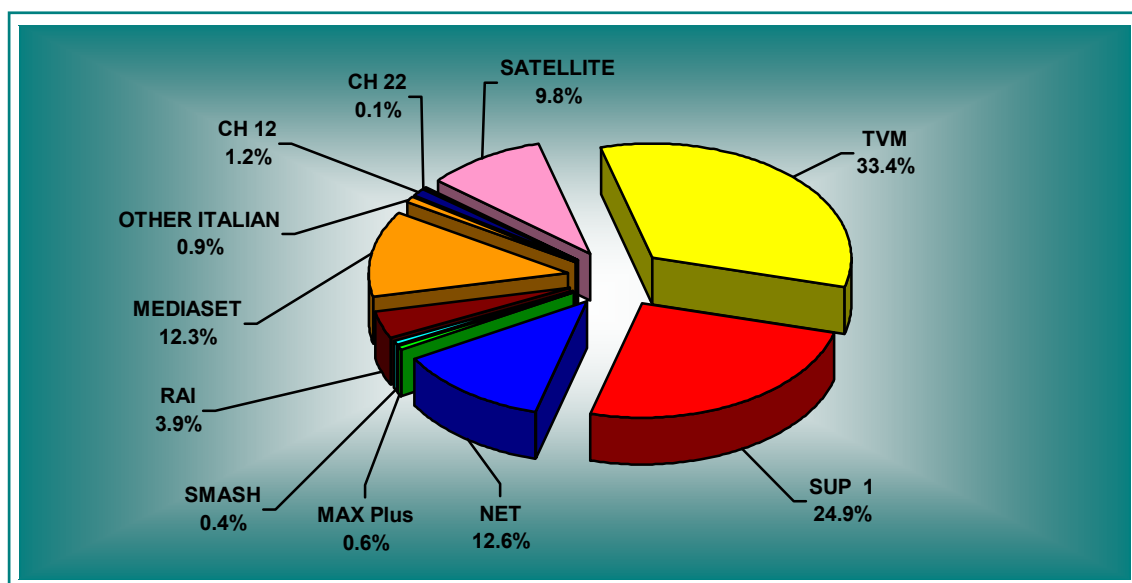
Figure 4 reproduces the data in respect of Time Band 2, which is longer than the other two because it extends from noon till 7.00 p.m.

**FIGURE 4: TIME BAND 2: TV AVERAGE AUDIENCE SHARE
SECOND QUARTER 2002 - NOON - 1900 HRS**



The third time band represents prime time for TV and extends from 7.00 p.m. until midnight. Figure 5 shows the results for this Time-Band.

**FIGURE 5: TIME BAND 3: TV AVERAGE AUDIENCE SHARE
LAST QUARTER 2002 - 1900 HRS – MIDNIGHT**



It is to be noted that the absolute size of TV audiences in the different Time-Bands is not the same, since as evening approaches, audiences increase. As such, 1% in Time-Band 1 is not



equivalent to 1% in Time-Band 3. But through this analysis the relative share of different broadcasters in different Time-Bands can be assessed. These are summarised in Table 2 below.

TABLE 2: AUDIENCE SHARE SUMMARY BY TIME-BAND – FOURTH QUARTER 2002

	TIME BAND 1 0600 HRS – 1200 HRS	TIME BAND 2 1200 HRS – 1900HRS	TIME BAND 3 1900 HRS – 2400 HRS
	%	%	%
TVM	58.7	22.3	33.4
Super 1 TV	13.7	20.3	24.9
NET	7.0	12.1	12.6
Max Plus	-	5.7	0.6
Smash TV	2.1	1.2	0.4
Channel 12	-	0.1	1.2
Channel 22	-	-	0.1
RAI	3.3	5.5	3.9
Mediaset	3.6	15.0	12.3
Other Italian	0.6	0.5	0.9
Satellite Stations	10.9	17.4	9.8

8.3 PART 2 – FOREIGN TV, CABLE TV AND SATELLITE AUDIENCES

Of all the respondents taking part in this study, 67.6% stated that they are connected to Cable TV. In turn, from all cable subscribers, 51.6% are served by the *Reception* level; 28.9% stated that they are served by the *Basic Level*; 11.6% are serviced by *TV Plus/Family Pack*. In addition, 8.3% stated that they are subscribed to the Flexipack system.



8.4 TELEVISION AUDIENCES – FOURTH QUARTER 2002

19:00 to 23:00

*(Rounded to the nearest 1000)**

MONDAY

TIME SLOT	TVM	SUPER 1	NET TV	MAX PLUS	SMASH TV
19.00	3000	12000	4000	0	0
19.30	3000	63000	5000	0	0
19:45	4000	38000	56000	0	0
20.00	97000	33000	26000	1000	0
20.30	51000	46000	62000	2000	0
21.00	36000	62000	69000	1000	1000
21.30	33000	48000	43000	1000	1000
22:00	18000	34000	16000	1000	1000
22.30	14000	20000	8000	0	1000

TUESDAY

TIME SLOT	TVM	SUPER 1	NET TV	MAX PLUS	SMASH TV
19.00	8000	15000	7000	1000	1000
19.30	9000	74000	10000	0	1000
19:45	8000	51000	53000	1000	1000
20.00	96000	40000	20000	1000	1000
20.30	88000	33000	32000	2000	1000
21.00	80000	33000	31000	0	1000
21.30	60000	34000	19000	0	1000
22:00	38000	26000	10000	0	1000
22.30	27000	20000	7000	0	0

WEDNESDAY

TIME SLOT	TVM	SUPER 1	NET TV	MAX PLUS	SMASH TV
19.00	2000	13000	4000	1000	0
19.30	2000	62000	3000	0	0
19:45	1000	42000	45000	0	0
20.00	84000	38000	14000	0	0
20.30	67000	50000	20000	1000	0
21.00	57000	58000	22000	1000	1000
21.30	48000	42000	20000	0	1000
22:00	40000	33000	11000	0	1000
22.30	26000	31000	5000	0	1000



THURSDAY

TIME SLOT	TVM	SUPER 1	NET TV	MAX PLUS	SMASH TV
19.00	3000	14000	3000	1000	1000
19.30	7000	60000	2000	0	0
19:45	9000	42000	43000	0	0
20.00	86000	39000	18000	0	0
20.30	49000	62000	19000	2000	1000
21.00	35000	83000	19000	2000	2000
21.30	16000	71000	15000	0	1000
22:00	8000	42000	12000	1000	0
22.30	4000	21000	9000	1000	0

FRIDAY

TIME SLOT	TVM	SUPER 1	NET TV	MAX PLUS	SMASH TV
19.00	2000	13000	1000	1000	1000
19.30	11000	45000	1000	0	0
19:45	13000	33000	32000	0	0
20.00	104000	24000	8000	0	0
20.30	131000	18000	7000	1000	0
21.00	165000	16000	8000	1000	0
21.30	150000	18000	5000	1000	0
22:00	138000	14000	1000	0	0
22.30	128000	11000	0	0	0

SATURDAY

TIME SLOT	TVM	SUPER 1	NET TV	MAX PLUS	SMASH TV
19.00	7000	10000	1000	0	0
19.30	7000	28000	1000	1000	2000
19:45	7000	25000	22000	1000	0
20.00	54000	12000	12000	1000	0
20.30	39000	10000	7000	1000	0
21.00	30000	11000	5000	1000	0
21.30	26000	10000	3000	1000	0
22:00	26000	9000	2000	1000	0
22.30	23000	10000	0	1000	0



SUNDAY

TIME SLOT	TVM	SUPER 1	NET TV	MAX PLUS	SMASH TV
19.00	8000	5000	3000	0	0
19.30	7000	42000	4000	0	0
19:45	7000	26000	42000	1000	0
20.00	75000	23000	20000	1000	0
20.30	84000	23000	22000	2000	2000
21.00	78000	25000	20000	2000	1000
21.30	56000	22000	13000	1000	0
22:00	22000	19000	7000	1000	0
22.30	15000	16000	2000	0	0

**Note: A zero (0) entry indicates that the station's audience is less than 1,000 viewers during that time slot, and a dash (-) indicates that the station was not transmitting.*



9. AUTHORITY AWARDS

9.1 PROGRAMME AWARDS 2002

9.1.1 Finalists

The following are the finalists in the respective radio and television categories that competed for the Broadcasting Authority's Programme Awards 2002 held at the Manoel Theatre on Saturday, 16th November 2002. These programmes were broadcast during the period of 1st October 2001 to 31st August 2002.



16th November 2002 – Manoel Theatre, Valletta



TV/ RADIO	PROGRAMME NAME	STATION	PRODUCER
DRAMA			
TV	<i>Madonna taċ-Ċoqqa</i>	Super 1 TV	Herman Bonaci
TV	<i>Wenzu u Rożi</i>	TVM	Charles Xuereb
TV	<i>L-Ispettur Lowell</i>	Super 1 TV	Mark Doneo
RADIO	<i>Jum fil-Ħajja ta' Nathalie Peltier</i>	Radio St. Vincent de Paul	Gorg Peresso
			Janet Aquilina
SPORT			
TV	<i>Total Sport</i>	TVM	Simon Farrugia
TV	<i>Varenne ... lkompli</i>	TVM	Kenneth Vella
TV	<i>Man Up Plus</i>	Net TV	Chris Micallef
CULTURE			
TV	<i>Meander</i>	TVM	Mariella Pisani Bencini
RADIO	<i>Dan X'Animal hu?</i>	FM Bronja	Gorg Peresso
RADIO	<i>Palermo - Mill-Hotel delle Palme</i>	FM Bronja	Patricia Salomone
RADIO	<i>Mill-garigori ta' Moħħi</i>	FM Bronja	Mario Vassallo
RADIO	<i>Zagħzugħ Mislub</i>	Radju Malta	Josef Buttigieg
CURRENT AFFAIRS/ DISCUSSION			
TV	<i>Focus: Twelid u Abort</i>	TVM	Reno Bugeja
TV	<i>Kurrenti</i>	Net TV	Rev. Fr. Charles Tabone O.P.
TV	<i>Kwarta</i>	Super 1 TV	Roberto Francalanza
RADIO	<i>Niġu għall-Punt</i>	Radju Malta	Reno Bugeja
RADIO	<i>Wirt Artna</i>	FM Bronja	Mario Farrugia
CHILRENS' PROGRAMMES			
TV	<i>Bugz@Net</i>	Net TV	Andrea Cassar
TV	<i>Kerser Quiz</i>	TVM	Geraldine Gouder
RADIO	<i>Ċama Ċama</i>	Radju Malta	Kathleen Mamo
			Daniel Buhagiar
RADIO	<i>Eco Kids</i>	Campus FM	Celaine Buhagiar
			Daphne Cassar
INVESTIGATIVE JOURNALISM			
TV	<i>Bondicini - Traffiku ta' Laħam Uman</i>	TVM	Lou Bondi
			Simone Cini
TV	<i>Team</i>	Super 1 TV	Miriam Dalli



TV/ RADIO	PROGRAMME NAME	STATION	PRODUCER
LIGHT ENTERTAINMENT			
TV	<i>Ġianni's Show</i>	Net TV	Jean Pierre Magro
			Engelbert Grech
			Gianni Zammit
			Dennis Mahoney
TV	<i>Kif għadda ż-Żmien</i>	TVM	Jason Micallef
TV	<i>The Beat</i>	Net TV	Jean Pierre Magro
			Engelbert Grech
TV	<i>Passaport</i>	TVM	Charles Xuereb
RADIO	<i>Snin tar-Rock N' Roll</i>	Radio 101	Noel Mallia
RADIO	<i>Elvis Presley - Minn diversi aspetti</i>	Campus FM	Eric Montfort
EDUCATIONAL			
TV	<i>L-Ulied</i>	Channel 12	Marion Caruana
TV	<i>Teknosphere: Is-sengħa ta' l-Inbid</i>	Super 1 TV	Mark Vassallo
TV	<i>Click</i>	Super 1 TV	Ray Abela
TV	<i>Qalb in-Nies</i>	TVM	Rev. Fr. Rene' Vella
TV	<i>E-Zone</i>	Net TV	Jordon Degiorgio
RADIO	<i>Kelma ta' Mara</i>	Radju Malta	Marion Caruana
RADIO	<i>Teżijiet</i>	Campus FM	Karsten Xuereb
RADIO	<i>L-edukazzjoni ta' Wliedna</i>	Radju Lehen il-Qala	Lelio Spiteri
			Horace Mercieca
DOCUMENTARY			
TV	<i>Għawdex Illum</i>	TVM	Alvin Scicluna
TV	<i>Karba mir-Russja</i>	Net TV	Roderick Agius
TV	<i>L-Invazzjoni tal-Kavallier</i>	TVM	Alvin Scicluna
			Mario Azzopardi
RADIO	<i>Is-Sena tal-Biża' - Malta 1942</i>	Radju Malta	Charles Caruana
RADIO	<i>Għall-Irdoss ta' l-Għorfa</i>	FM Bronja	Mario Vassallo
RADIO	<i>L-Ewwel Mara: Agatha Barbara</i>	Radju Malta	Joseph Flask
RADIO	<i>Stilisti</i>	FM Bronja	Patricia Salomone



9.1.2 Programme Awards 2002 Winners

The list of winners of the Broadcasting Authority's Awards 2002 was as follows:

CATEGORY	MEDIUM	PROGRAMME	CHANNEL
Drama	TV	<i>Il-Madonna taċ-Ċoqqa</i>	Super 1 TV
	Radio	<i>Jum fil-Ħajja ta' Nathalie Peltier</i>	Radju St Vincent de Paul
Documentary	TV	<i>Karba mir-Russja</i>	Net TV
	Radio	<i>Is-Sena tal-Biża' – Malta 1942</i>	Radju Malta
Light Entertainment	TV	<i>Ġianni's Show</i>	Net TV
	Radio	<i>Elvis Presley Minn Diversi Aspetti</i>	Campus FM
Culture	TV	<i>Meander</i>	TVM
	Radio	<i>Dan X'Animal Hu?</i>	FM Bronja
Education	TV	<i>Teknosphere</i>	Super 1 TV
	Radio	<i>L-Edukazzjoni ta' Uliedna</i>	Radju Lehen il-Qala
Sport	TV	<i>Varenne ... ikompli</i>	TVM
	Radio	-	-
Discussion / Current Affairs	TV	<i>Focus</i>	TVM
	Radio	<i>Niġu għall-Punt</i>	Radju Malta
Investigative Journalism	TV	<i>Team</i>	Super 1 TV
	Radio	-	-
Childrens' Programmes	TV	<i>Kerser Quiz</i>	TVM
	Radio	<i>Eco Kids</i>	Campus FM
Magazine	TV	-	-
	Radio	-	-
Proper Use of the Maltese Language	Radio	FM Bronja	
Overall Winner	TV	TVM	
	Radio	Campus FM & Radju Malta	



9.2 AWARD FOR GENDER AWARENESS IN THE BROADCASTING MEDIA



16th November 2002: Ms. Vicky Spiteri, Station Manager – Campus FM receiving the Award for Gender Awareness in the Broadcasting Media from Dr. Brenda Murphy, Chairperson Advisory Committee on Gender Issues in the Broadcasting Media at the Annual Awards 2002 ceremony held at the Manoel Theatre, Valletta.

For the third year running, the Authority invited broadcasters and broadcasting stations to nominate programmes for the Award for Gender Awareness in the Broadcasting Media. The Authority had launched this Award for the first time in 2000, as a first step in putting gender equality issues on the agenda for the media industry in a tangible way, and to raise the standards of equality within broadcasting.

The Award aims to encourage producers and directors to question their use of traditional images and stereotypes when portraying men and women. The Award is also designed to encourage the production of programmes that represent a balanced image of women and men in society, and that portray non-stereotypical images of each (see Broadcasting Authority's website <http://www.ba-malta.org> for a streaming commentary on the Criteria for the Award).

The Gender Award ceremony used to be held separately to the Annual Programmes Awards. However, in 2002, in response to the Gender Advisory Committee's request that the Gender Award be mainstreamed with the Annual Programme Awards, the Authority agreed, and the award ceremony was integrated with the Programmes Awards for the first time. This was a very positive step as it raised the profile of the Gender Award, giving it more publicity, and acknowledging the fact that 'gender' is not a marginal issue - rather it is an issue for everyone involved in the broadcasting industry.

In 2002 the Award was won by 'Campus FM', the University radio and the Juror's report is available online (see Broadcasting Authority's website <http://www.ba-malta.org>) and in Appendix XIV of this report.

This station competed with four other entries, from four different stations. These submissions were a mixture of programme genres for both television and radio. *Campus FM*, submitted 'itself', that is, as a station with good practice and good policy concerning gender equality in broadcasting.



10. POLITICAL BROADCASTING

10.1 PARTY POLITICAL BROADCASTS

This series of Party Political Broadcasts consisted of Press Conferences, Debates, Party Productions and Political Spots which were transmitted under the auspices of the Broadcasting Authority. It covered the period 25th February 2002 to 31st December 2002. No party political broadcasts were aired on Friday, 8th March and Saturday, 9th March 2002, the period of reflection for local council elections. Programmes were transmitted on TVM, on Radju Malta and on Channel 12. Transmissions normally took place on Thursdays at 8.30 p.m. approximately. Channel 12 broadcasted a repeat of the programme series.

This scheme of Party Political Broadcasts consisted of 925 minutes of airtime apportioned between the Malta Labour Party, the Nationalist Party and Alternattiva Demokratika. Airtime and programmes were distributed as follows:

	P.N.	M.L.P.	A.D.
Press Conferences	2 x 60'	2 x 50'	-
Debates	4 x 45'	4 x 45'	-
Party Productions & Political Spots	179'	154'	12'

10.2 LOCAL COUNCILS ELECTIONS

The Local Councils Elections were held on 9th March 2002. Once again the Authority was monitoring programmes broadcast on polling day. Although the Monitoring Department was kept busy on Election Day, no charges were issued by the Chief Executive concerning broadcasts which on that day infringed the Broadcasting Act. The Authority thanks all station managers for the co-operation extended to the Authority in fulfilling its constitutional and legal duties on that day and the preceding day.

10.3 BROADCASTS CONCERNING THE EUROPEAN UNION:

10.3.1 *Malta u L-Ewropa: Il-Futur*

This series of political broadcasts on the theme of *Malta u l-Ewropa: Il-Futur* consisted of a series of discussion programmes transmitted under the auspices of the Broadcasting Authority. It covered the period



21 March 2002 to 17 April 2003. Programmes were transmitted on TVM, on Radju Malta and on Channel 12 on Thursdays at 9.30 p.m. approximately. Channel 12 broadcasted a repeat of the programme series. Each discussion programme was of a duration of sixty (60) minutes.

This series of discussion programmes was made up of twenty-five programmes of 60 minutes each. Participation consisted of one representative from each political party, that is, the Labour Party, the Nationalist Party and Alternattiva Demokratika, a representative of the Campaign for National Independence and the Moviment IVA Malta fl-Ewropa (Moviment IVA), a Chairperson nominated by the Authority and a representative of other constituted bodies.

The Authority's scheme of "Malta u l-Ewropa: Il-Futur" was suspended by the Broadcasting Authority on 5th September 2002 to be replaced by two different schemes, one for political parties and one for campaign movements.



21st March 2002: From Left to Right: Dr. Harry Vassallo for Alternattiva Demokratika; Dr. Jason Azzopardi for the Nationalist Party; Chairperson Mr. Eucharist Abela; Dr. Karmenu Mifsud Bonnici for the Campaign for National Independence (C.N.I.); and Dr. Joanna Drake for Moviment IVA Malta fl-Ewropa

10.3.2 Broadcasts on "Ir-Relazzjonijiet Futuri bejn Malta u l-Unjoni Ewropea"

This series of programmes on the theme of "Ir-Relazzjonijiet Futuri bejn Malta u l-Unjoni Ewropea" consisted of a total of four discussion programmes on the said subject offered to the three political parties.

This series of discussion programmes covered the period 10th October 2002 to 14th November 2002. Programmes were transmitted live on TVM. Transmissions normally took place on Thursdays at 9.30 p.m. approximately. Channel 12 broadcasted a repeat of the programme



series on Fridays at 8.30p.m. Each programme was of duration of one hour. A participating presenter chosen by the Authority conducted discussion programmes. The Authority chose the subject to be debated.

10.4 ANNIVERSARY MESSAGES

Anniversary Messages:

- (a) must contain no reference to current public policy issues;
- (b) must exclude any form of propaganda in favour of the Government;
- (c) must avoid criticism of the previous administration.

Anniversary messages broadcast during 2002 were the following:

DATE	TIME	MESSAGE	DURATION	MESSAGE BY
15 th Mar	1800	International Consumer Day	6'57"	The Hon. Parliamentary Secretary Dr George Hyzler
30 th Sep	1848	World Day of the Elderly	8'24"	The Hon. Parliamentary Secretary Dr A. Mifsud Bonnici
16 th Oct	1911	World Food Day	9'03"	The Hon. Minister Ninu Zammit







10.5 MINISTERIAL BROADCASTS

No ministerial broadcasts were transmitted during 2002.







11. BROADCASTING CASE LAW

The Authority continued to be involved in court litigation in the year under review. The table hereunder provides a list of litigation in which the Authority was involved as a party. The court of justice of civil jurisdiction disposed of all these cases:

DATE OF DECREE / JUDGEMENT	COURT REFERENCE No.	PARTIES	COURT	REMARKS
08/01/02	2303/00JRM	Professur Joseph Pirotta vs Alfred Briffa & John C. Debattista	Civil Court First Hall	Court abstained from taking cognisance of cause after editor of 'It-Torċa' published an apology on 28/10/01
31/05/02 	Writ of Summons 2850/96RCP	John Bundy & Clyde Puli Vs BA	Court of Appeal	Court of Appeal confirmed Civil Court, First Hall's 3/10/01 judgement in favour of plaintiffs
28/06/02 	Application No. 2850/96	John Bundy & Clyde Puli Vs BA	Constitutional Court	Court abstained from taking cognisance of the appeal in view of its lack of jurisdiction
04/07/02 	658/98PV	Dr Eddie Fenech Adami nomine et Vs Director, Wireless Telegraphy Department	Civil Court First Hall (Constitutional Jurisdiction)	Broadcasting Authority was not a party to the suit.
12/07/02 	Citazz 296/02JRM	Karmenu Mifsud Bonnici pro et nomine Vs Anthony Tabone nomine et	Civil Court First Hall	Preliminary pleas of the Broadcasting Authority were rejected by the Civil Court
05/09/02 	711/02JRM	Chairman PBS et noe Vs B.A. et	Civil Court First Hall	Court decided in favour of B.A.
05/09/02 	738/02JRM	Dr Alfred Sant et noe Vs Chairman B.A. et	Civil Court First Hall	Court decided in favour of B.A.



DATE OF DECREE / JUDGEMENT	COURT REFERENCE No.	PARTIES	COURT	REMARKS
24/09/02 	Citazz. 296/02TM	Karmenu Mifsud Bonnici pro et nomine Vs Anthony Tabone nomine et	Civil Court First Hall	Attorney General was declared non-suited and case was narrowed down to ordinary remedy thereby excluding the Constitutional remedy.
15/11/02 	Citazz 1127/02GV	Nationalist Party Vs B.A.	Civil Court First Hall	Judgement was delivered in favour of the Nationalist Party
21/11/02 	Citazz 1692/00JRM	Public Broadcasting Services Ltd Vs B.A.	Civil Court First Hall	Preliminary pleas of the BA were rejected by the Civil Court, First Hall
03/12/02 	Citazz 1204/02GCD	Moviment Iva Malta fl-Ewropa Vs B.A.	Civil Court First Hall	Case was decided in favour of the Broadcasting Authority



<http://www.ba-mata.org/Language/Court/2002.htm>

11.1 ADMINISTRATIVE OFFENCES

During the year 2002 there were cases of administrative penalties inflicted upon broadcasting stations by the Broadcasting Authority for various infringements of the Broadcasting Act as per tables hereunder:

YEAR	NUMBER OF INFRINGEMENTS OF THE BROADCASTING ACT
2000	17
2001	64
2002	53



A breakdown of the figure for 2002 of infringements of the Broadcasting Act is as follows:

TV STATIONS	
STATION	AMOUNT
TVM	11
Super 1 TV	20
Net TV	9
Max Plus	4
Education 22	1
TOTAL	45

RADIO STATIONS	
STATION	AMOUNT
Radju Vilhena	1
Calypso Radio	3
Super 1 Radio	1
Capital Radio	2
Radju Parlament	1
TOTAL	8

11.2 COMPARATIVE TABLES:

Comparative tables for administrative offences which have been confirmed by the Authority for television and radio follow:

ADMINISTRATIVE OFFENCES 2001 - 2002

TV STATIONS		
STATION	2001	2002
Max Plus	1	4
TVM	11	11
NET TV	14	9
Smash TV	3	0
Super 1 TV	28	20
Education 22	0	1
TOTAL	57	45

RADIO STATIONS		
STATION	2001	2002
Super 1 Radio	1	1
Radju Parlament	1	1
RTK	1	0
Capital Radio	1	2
Bay Radio	1	0
Radio Calypso	1	3
Radio 101	1	0
Radju Vilhena	0	1
TOTAL	7	8



12. QUALITATIVE RESEARCH

The Authority approved a qualitative research project on 'The Effects of Broadcasting on the Young Consumer'. Following a selection process, Dr Joe Grixti's submission was selected. Dr Grixti is Senior Lecturer in the Media Studies Programme of the School of Social and Cultural Studies, Massey University, Auckland, New Zealand.

The qualitative research will primarily focus on the relations between broadcasting and consumerism in the lives and attitudes of young people in Malta. It will consider young consumers aged fourteen to twenty-five and explore the extents to which their beliefs, attitudes, values and modes of behaviour are influenced by the contexts and contents of broadcasting. This will include a consideration of: (i) their attitudes and responses to the images, messages and values which they encounter through the various media of communication, with special references to commercially driven broadcasting, advertising and entertainment; (ii) the nature and patterns of their uses of and engagement with broadcasting technology; (iii) their perceptions and understanding of the breaker and increasingly more globalised patterns of commercial broadcasting. It is envisaged that this study will be completed by June 2003.



13. MALTA – EUROPEAN UNION INFORMATION CENTRE SPOTS

During 2002, the Authority permitted the broadcast of information spots broadcast by the Malta – European Union Information Centre (M.I.C.).

Earlier in January 2002, the Authority had found in favour of the Malta Labour Party in a complaint that the latter had lodged before the Authority by directing the public service broadcaster to broadcast a regular series of programmes on the national television channel TVM where all the diverse options on the subject could be aired. However, the Authority did not agree that the Labour Party should be provided with free airtime to reply on the national station to the information spots produced by M.I.C. The Authority also decided to inform PBS Ltd. that it was going to produce a regular discussion programme on *Malta u l-Unjoni Ewropea: Il-Futur*. As the Labour Party was dissatisfied with the Authority's decision it filed a fresh complaint to the Authority on the issue of M.I.C. information slots and refused to participate in the said discussion programmes which were held in the absence of the Malta Labour Party's participation.

In June the Authority decided to grant to the Labour Party airtime equivalent to one-third of that of the M.I.C. spots so that the Labour Party would be in a position to air spots providing information on alternative arrangements to European Union membership, that is, on the partnership option.

As both the Labour Party and the Public Service Broadcasting Ltd. disagreed with the Authority's decision, they referred the matter to Court. The Civil Court, First Hall, on 5th September 2002, found in favour of the Authority. Although the Labour Party did not appeal both Court cases, Public Broadcasting Services Ltd. appealed but lost both cases.

In October the Authority refused to grant to the Nationalist Party and to Campaign Movements in favour and against European Union Membership a similar remedy to that granted to the Labour Party. Once again the Nationalist Party and one of the pro-European Union Campaign Movements took the Authority to Court. The Civil Court, First Hall found in favour of the Nationalist Party and against the Authority. The Authority has appealed the judgement and the Court of Appeal is due to deliver its judgement in May 2003. The other court case was instituted against the Authority by the *Moviment Iva Malta fl-Ewropa*. The Movement lost the court case in the Civil Court, First Hall, but appealed to the Court of Appeal. Once again the Court of Appeal is due to deliver its judgement in May 2003.



14. USE OF THE MALTESE LANGUAGE IN THE BROADCASTING MEDIA

The Authority in conjunction with the *Akkademja tal-Malti* organised three courses for broadcasters and Authority staff. Lectures were delivered by Mr Mario Serracino Inglott B.A. Econ., Mr Carmel Azzopardi B.A., M.A. Dip. Eduk, Dip Adm. Mgt., Dr Charles Briffa B.A., (Hons), M.A., PGCE, Dip. Gharbi, Ph.D. and Dr Anthony Aquilina B.A.(Hons) (Lond), M.es L., DI.M.A.V., D.E.S., D.es L. (Poit). These lectures dealt with orthography, the use of the language, translations, style and communication through the Maltese language. Each course consisted of 50 contact hours and was spread over the period March to July 2002.

The Authority in conjunction with the *Akkademja tal-Malti* is offering a consultancy service to all broadcasting stations on the use of the Maltese language on the broadcasting media.

The Akkademja tal-Malti has also produced the first part of the *Linji Gwida dwar l-Użu ta' l-Ilsien Malti fil-Mezzi tax-Xandir*. These guidelines have been distributed to all stations and can be download from the Authority's website: www.ba-malta.org.

The Authority has also sponsored the installation of a computer programme that provides Maltese fonts as well as a spell-check in Maltese on the character generator of all television stations. The said programme has been approved by the *Akkademja tal-Malti*.

Finally, the Authority has approved a Code on the Correct Use of the Maltese Language which Code has also been published as a Legal Notice, the text whereof is annexed in Appendix IX to this report.



6th March 2002: Launching of the courses in Maltese language for Broadcasters
 Left to right: Dr. Charles Briffa, Akkademja tal-Malti; Dr. Dominic Fenech, Advisory Committee on Quality and Ethics in Broadcasting; Prof. Joseph M. Pirotta, Chairman Broadcasting Authority; Mr. Mario Serracino Inglott, Akkademja tal-Malti; Mr. Antoine J. Ellul, Member Broadcasting Authority; and Mr. Carmel Azzopardi, Akkademja tal-Malti.





BROADCASTING LANGUAGE

L-ILSIEN MALTI FIX-XANDIR



AKKADEMJA TAL-MALTI

KUMMISSJONI LINGWA - Linji Gwida - L-Ewwel Parti

2002

09 ta' Jannar 2002	Korsijiet tal-Malti mfassla apposta għax-Xandara
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2001

16 ta' Ġunju 2001	DOKUMENT KONSULTATTIV
6 ta' Settembru 2001	KONFERENZA Għax-Xandara - L-ILSIEN MALTI FIX-XANDIR
	L-intervent ta' Dr. Charles Briffa, President ta' l-Akkademja tal-Malti.
	L-intervent ta' Mario Serracino-Inglott, Akkademja tal-Malti.
	GRUPP TA' HĊDMA: AĦBARIJĊET / ĠRAJĠĊET KURRENTI / TALK SHOWS / PHONS INS
	GRUPP TA' HĊDMA: SPORTS
	GRUPP TA' HĊDMA: PROGRAMMI TAT-TFAL
	GRUPP TA' HĊDMA: MAGAZINE PROGRAMMES / MUŹIKA / DIVERTIMENT
	DISKUSSJONI U GĤELUQ TAL-KONFERENZA
10 ta' Ottubru 2001	DOKUMENT FINALI

home

http://www.ba-mata.org/Language/m_language.htm



Appendices



APPENDIX I

THE POLITICAL CONTENT OF THE NEWS* ON TVM - JANUARY TO DECEMBER 2002

[illegible]

	TRADE UNION COVERAGES :	Total	%	G.W.U.	U.H.M.	G.R.T.U.	Other		
	Activities	195	44.12	83	61	17	34		
	Press Conferences	20	4.52	7	4.00	4	5.00		
	Press Releases	227	51.36	86	63	27	51		
557		442	100.00%	176	128	48	90		
7.20%		5.68%		2.26%	1.65%	0.62%	1.16%		
	PARLIAMENTARY COVERAGES :	Total	%						
	Parliamentary News	380	94.29						
	Activities	14	3.48						
	Press Releases	9	2.23						
		403	100.00%						
		5.18%							
3197	TOTAL POLITICAL CONTENT	3566							
41.35%		45.83%							
	OTHER LOCAL COVERAGES :	Total	%						
	Parliamentary News	10	0.24						
	Court Reports	271	6.43						
	Activities	2626	62.3						
	Press Conferences	214	5.08						
	Press Releases	1094	25.95						
		4215	100.00%						
		54.17%							
Total numbers of Coverages include multiple news items.									
* Based on Statistics Relating to the 8 p.m and late News Bulletins on TVM.									



APPENDIX II

NEWS ON TVM: COVERAGES – POLITICAL CONTENT 2002

MONTH	TOTAL COVERAGES	POLITICAL PARTIES			UNIONS				MINISTERIAL PARLIAMENT	OTHERS				TOTAL POLITICAL	%
		N.P.	M.L.P.	A.D.	G.W.U.	U.H.M.	G.R.T.U.	OTHER		M.I.C.	C.N.I.	F.M.I.	IVA		
Jan	606	16	62	9	26	14	3	17	81	31	1		1	261	43.1
Feb	771	68	107	18	16	9	5	6	108	38	1	2		378	49.0
Mar	641	37	67	14	7	11	8	6	79	31	2	1	3	266	41.5
Apr	683	36	75	2	13	12	3	8	117	24		1	1	292	42.8
May	708	31	67	8	35	12	3	6	120	37	2	2	2	325	45.9
Jun	585	30	52	7	10	12	1	7	102	37			1	259	44.3
Jul	612	19	58	5	10	11	10	8	119	48	2	1	1	292	47.7
Aug	517	9	44	7	10	8	2	2	101	7	1	5	3	199	38.5
Sep	575	43	70	5	7	5	5	4	104	21	1	9	5	279	48.5
Oct	798	35	97	9	11	5	5	7	154	48	1	5	7	398	49.9
Nov	732	31	90	4	13	19	1	18	151	19	2	3	3	358	48.9
Dec	553	15	37	6	18	10	2	1	100	62		3	1	259	46.8
	7781	370	826	94	176	128	48	90	1336	403	13	32	11	3566	45.83



APPENDIX III

**NEWS ON TVM:
COVERAGES – MINISTERIAL ACTIVITIES 2002**

MONTH	TOTAL COVERAGES	TOTAL MINISTERIAL	PERCENTAGE %
Jan	606	81	13.4
Feb	771	108	14.0
Mar	641	79	12.3
Apr	683	117	17.1
May	708	120	16.9
Jun	585	102	17.4
Jul	612	119	19.4
Aug	517	101	19.5
Sep	575	104	18.1
Oct	798	154	19.3
Nov	732	151	20.6
Dec	553	100	18.1
	7781	1336	17.2



APPENDIX IV

**NEWS ON TVM:
COVERAGES – POLITICAL ACTIVITIES 2002**

MONTH	TOTAL COVERAGES	POLITICAL PARTIES			OTHERS				TOTAL UNION	PERCENTAGE %
		N.P.	M.L.P.	A.D.	M.I.C.	C.N.I.	F.M.I.	IVA		
Jan	606	16	62	9	1			1	89	14.7
Feb	771	68	107	18	1	2			196	25.4
Mar	641	37	67	14	2	1		3	124	19.3
Apr	683	36	75	2		1		1	115	16.8
May	708	31	67	8	2	2		2	112	15.8
Jun	585	30	52	7				1	90	15.4
Jul	612	19	58	5	2	1		1	86	14.1
Aug	517	9	44	7	1	5		3	69	13.3
Sep	575	43	70	5	1	9		5	133	23.1
Oct	798	35	97	9	1	5	7	14	168	21.1
Nov	732	31	90	4	2	3	3	4	137	18.7
Dec	553	15	37	6		3	1	4	66	11.9
	7781	370	826	94	13	32	11	39	1385	17.8



APPENDIX V

**NEWS ON TVM:
COVERAGES - TRADE UNION ACTIVITIES 2002**

MONTH	TOTAL COVERAGES	UNIONS				TOTAL UNION	PERCENTAGE %
		G.W.U.	U.H.M.	G.R.T.U.	OTHER		
Jan	606	26	14	3	17	60	9.9
Feb	771	16	9	5	6	36	4.7
Mar	641	7	11	8	6	32	5.0
Apr	683	13	12	3	8	36	5.3
May	708	35	12	3	6	56	7.9
Jun	585	10	12	1	7	30	5.1
Jul	612	10	11	10	8	39	6.4
Aug	517	10	8	2	2	22	4.3
Sep	575	7	5	5	4	21	3.7
Oct	798	11	5	5	7	28	3.5
Nov	732	13	19	1	18	51	7.0
Dec	553	18	10	2	1	31	5.6
	7781	176	128	48	90	442	5.7



APPENDIX VI

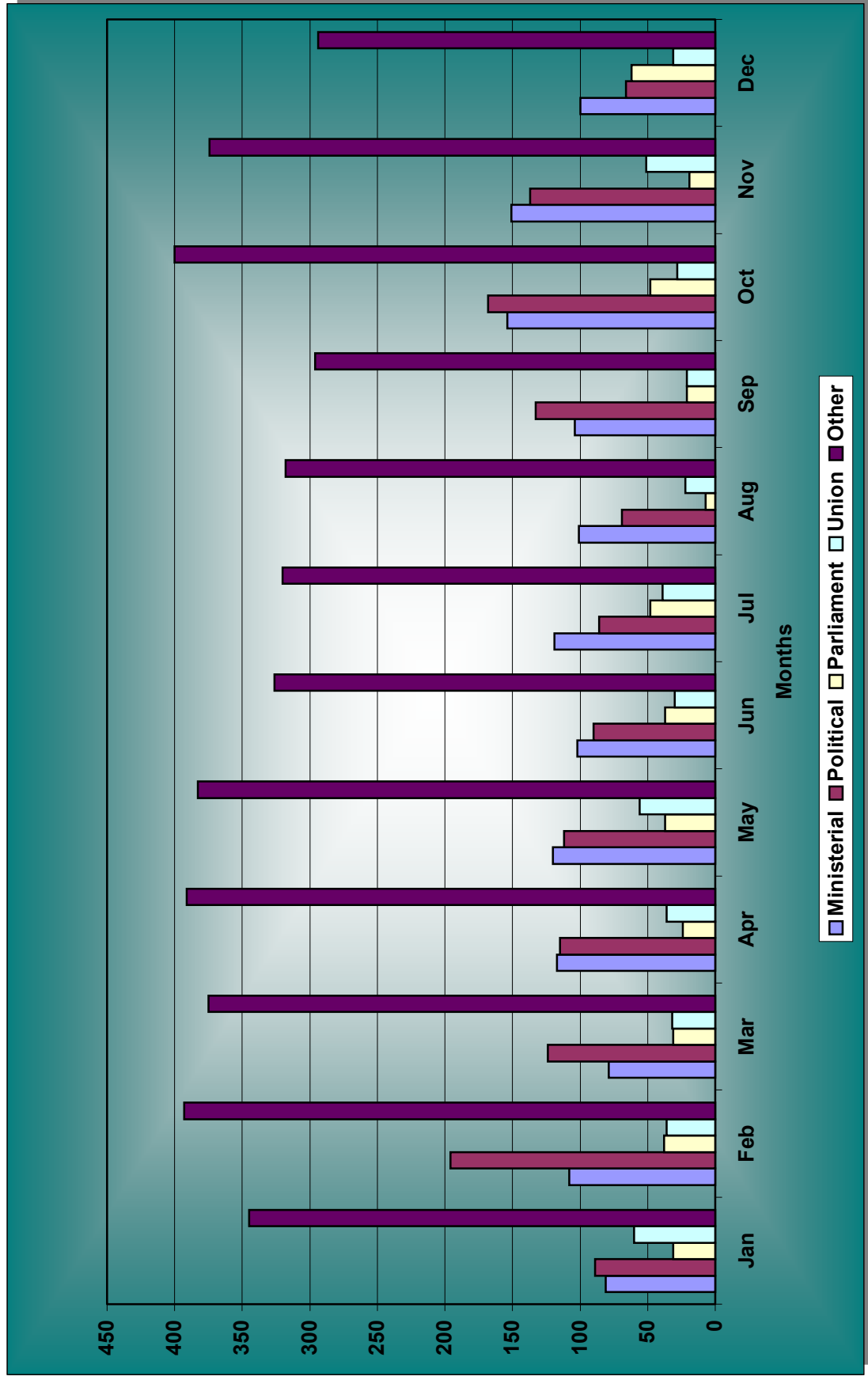
**NEWS ON TVM:
COVERAGES – PARLIAMENTARY ACTIVITIES 2002**

MONTH	TOTAL COVERAGES	TOTAL PARLIAMENTARY	PERCENTAGE %
Jan	606	31	5.1
Feb	771	38	4.9
Mar	641	31	4.8
Apr	683	24	3.5
May	708	37	5.2
Jun	585	37	6.3
Jul	612	48	7.8
Aug	517	7	1.4
Sep	575	21	3.7
Oct	798	48	6.0
Nov	732	19	2.6
Dec	553	62	11.2
	7781	403	5.2



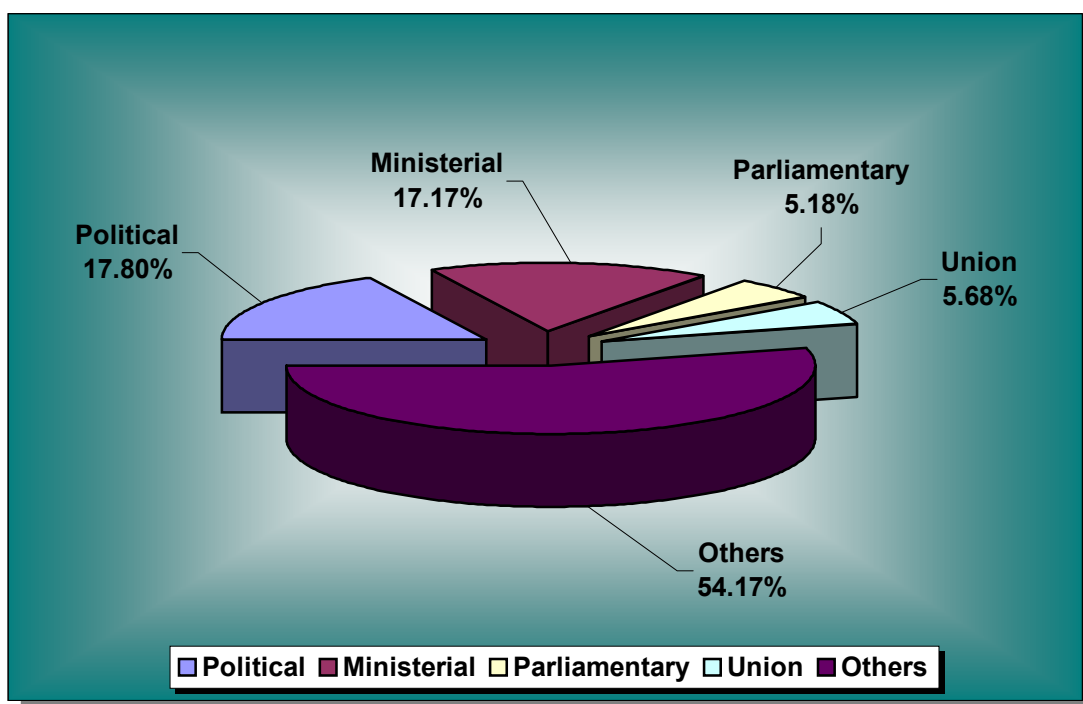
APPENDIX VII

NEWS ON TVM: GENERAL PICTURE BAR GRAPH – BY COVERAGES 2002



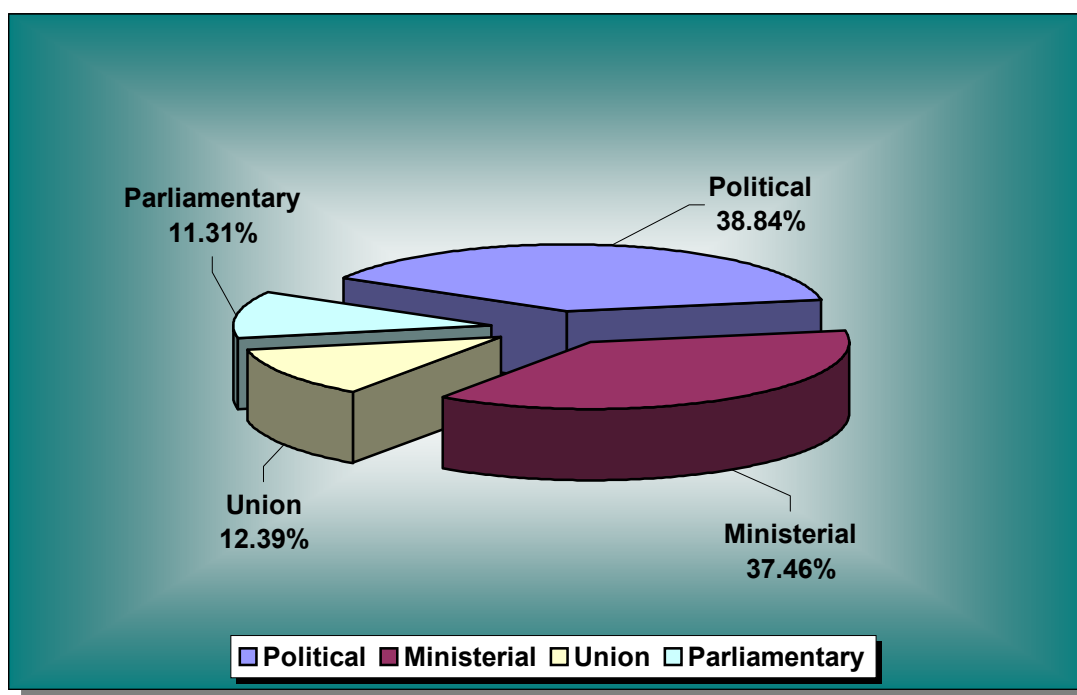
APPENDIX VIII

GENERAL PICTURE – TOTAL COVERAGES 2002



APPENDIX IX

POLITICAL CONTENT – TOTAL COVERAGES 2002



APPENDIX X: L.N. 133 OF 2002**BROADCASTING ACT
(CAP. 350)****BROADCASTING CODE
ON THE CORRECT USE OF THE MALTESE LANGUAGE
ON THE BROADCASTING MEDIA, 2002**

IN exercise of the powers conferred by article 19 and paragraph (b) of subarticle (1) of article 20 of the Broadcasting Act, the Broadcasting Authority, in conjunction with the Minister of Education, has made the following Code: -

1. (1) The title of this Code is Broadcasting Code on the Correct Use of the Maltese Language on the Broadcasting Media, 2002. ***Citation and entry into force.***

(2) This Code shall come into force on 1st October 2002.

2. Broadcasters shall have the duty to use the Maltese language correctly by: ***Broadcasters' duties.***

- (a) being aware of their responsibilities in safeguarding the Maltese language;
- (b) especially in the case of journalists, keeping abreast of developments taking place in the Maltese language, whether written or spoken;
- (c) being conversant with other languages so that proper translations and adjustments can be made;
- (d) assisting those persons who participate in a programme as well as to stop a participant who abuses the language;
- (e) being on the look out, especially in the case of educational, informative and children's programmes;
- (f) ensuring that the Maltese language used is of a high level as to diction, semantics, grammar, syntax, morphology and content;
- (g) being aware of all the aspects of the language so that the final result



will be a unified one, well linked and comprehensible;

- (h) using with due care all neologisms which make way into the Maltese language and where this is possible according to the existing morphology of the Maltese language;
- (i) using Maltese words according to their roots at least in those cases where such words do not sound to be excessively archaic; and
- (j) using words which are clear and easy to understand.

3. Each station shall be responsible:

Stations' responsibility.

- (a) to have its own consultant who is qualified in the Maltese language and who is well informed in broadcasting. The said consultant is to be approved by the Broadcasting Authority following consultation with the *Akkademja tal-Malti*. The Broadcasting Authority shall also publish the name of such consultant in the Government Gazette;
- (b) to follow the rules and directives issued by the *Akkademja tal-Malti* in so far as the use of the Maltese language is concerned;
- (c) for the correct use of the Maltese language in every broadcast;
- (d) to observe such condition imposed in the broadcasting licence requiring that the Maltese language be used in a proper manner; and
- (e) to broadcast at least one programme in each schedule of programmes to advance in a proactive manner the Maltese language. The station shall inform the Authority of the date and time of such broadcast and shall forward to the Broadcasting Authority a beta tape of the transmission not later than seven days from the date of its transmission.

4. The Broadcasting Authority shall be responsible:

Responsibility of the Broadcasting Authority.

- (a) to commission the *Akkademja tal-Malti* to prepare a handbook to contain all the main elements, including a glossary which is required to guide broadcasters. Moreover, the Authority shall commission the



preparation of Guidelines as to the proper use of the Maltese language in programmes on subjects such as sports, sociology, economy and other specialised fields;

- (b) when Programme Monitors are employed with the Broadcasting Authority, the Broadcasting Authority shall ensure that they possess a high level of understanding of the Maltese language;
- (c) from time to time to organise courses on the Maltese language for broadcasters;
- (d) request the *Akkademja tal-Malti* to forward a list of persons knowledgeable in Maltese who can be consulted by broadcasting stations should any need arise;
- (e) to publicise its language policy;
- (f) to award good practice by means of a special prize for the use of the Maltese language;
- (g) from time to time to prepare and publish reports on the situation of the Maltese language in the broadcasting media; and
- (h) to assist the Press Club to achieve its aims to be an auto-regulatory body in so far as language is concerned.



APPENDIX XI – L.N. 282 OF 2002**BROADCASTING ACT
(KAP. 350)****BROADCASTING CODE
ON THE CORRECT USE OF THE MALTESE LANGUAGE
ON THE BROADCASTING MEDIA, 2002
(AMENDMENT) REGULATIONS, 2002**

IN exercise of the powers conferred by article 19 and paragraph (b) of subarticle (1) of article 20 of the Broadcasting Act, the Broadcasting Authority, in conjunction with the Minister of Education, has made the following regulations:

1. (1) The title of these Regulations is the Broadcasting Code on the Correct Use of the Maltese Language on the Broadcasting Media, (Amendment) Regulations, 2002, and they shall be read and construed as one with the Broadcasting Code on the Correct Use of the Maltese Language on the Broadcasting Media, 2002, hereinafter referred to as “the Code”. *Citation and entry into force.*

(2) These regulations shall come into force on the 1st October 2002.

2. The Code shall be amended as follows: *Amends the Code.*

- (a) for the words “a beta tape” in sub-paragraph (e) of paragraph 3 of the Code there shall be substituted the words “an electronic copy”;
and
- (b) for the words “the Press Club” in sub-paragraph (h) of paragraph 4 of the Code there shall be substituted the words “The Malta Press Club”.



APPENDIX XII: L.N. 134 OF 2002

**BROADCASTING ACT
(CAP. 350)
(AMENDMENT OF THIRD SCHEDULE)
REGULATIONS 2002**

IN exercise of the powers conferred by paragraph (b) of subarticle (2) of article 19 of the Broadcasting Act, hereinafter referred to as “the Act”, the Broadcasting Authority, in conjunction with the Minister of Education, made the following regulations:

1. The title of these regulations is the Broadcasting Act (Amendment of Third Schedule), Regulations 2002. **Citation**

2. Paragraph 34 of the Third Schedule to the Act shall be substituted by the following: **Substitutes paragraph 34 of the Third Schedule to the Act**

“34. The price of the product or service offered shall be provided during a teleshopping offer and the address from where business is conducted shall not be broadcast either orally or graphically. The station which broadcasts a teleshopping window shall keep a record of the identity and the address of the company or of the individual who sells product or service during a teleshopping window, should a viewer who has purchased such a product or service request this information.”



APPENDIX XIII

DISABILITY AND ITS PORTRAYAL IN THE BROADCASTING MEDIA A CODE OF PRACTICE

PREAMBLE

1. There is no doubt that persons with disabilities are persons first and foremost, who have full human and civil rights, and are entitled to dignity and respect. The social exclusion of persons with disabilities by the majority is an example of social intolerance. The frank acknowledgement of differences is an important step in the attainment of an inclusive society. When disabled people seek to be addressed as persons, they are not negating their disability, but placing it in its context. The “news value” of disabled persons is their overcoming of the hurdles society puts in front of them. In so doing, they are making themselves less disabled, and also contributing directly to the mainstream of society.
2. A major contributory factor to disability is prejudice, stereotyping or ‘institutional discrimination’ against disabled people. In this respect the media has a major part to play in either perpetuating stereotyping and prejudice, or in educating the public towards a more understanding, positive attitude vis a’ vis disabled people.
3. It is the commonly accepted myths and stereotypes about disabled people that make disability an extraordinary thing. The common assumptions about disability focus on the disabled person’s lack of abilities. Indeed, the negative terms most frequently used to describe disabled people as: ‘crippled’, ‘handicapped’, ‘less fortunate’, all accentuate the disabled individual’s biological (or medical) imperfections. All these negative terms compare disabled persons less favourably with their (presumably) more ‘fortunate’ peers.
4. Even more ‘politically correct’ designations, such as, ‘differently challenged’, impaired, persons with special needs, etc, accent the disabled person’s apartness, the disabled individual’s dislocation from the group and the community.
5. Many of the definitions of disabled people and Disability have been created by non-disabled people who tend to equate disability with the individual’s physical and/or intellectual impairments. That is, they focus on the biological, or medical aspect. So widespread is this belief that it is biological impairment and lack of function which creates disability, that the World Health Organisation (in the early 1980s) based its own definitions on these



assumptions. The whole focus of this viewpoint is on the individual and their perceived inadequacy.

6. However, over the last twenty years this viewpoint has been systematically and widely rejected, by disabled people and their organisations. They argue that by focusing on individual, medical inadequacies the so called 'medical model' of disability holds disabled people themselves responsible for any difficulties they may encounter during the course of their daily lives. At the same time it totally ignores the restrictive environments and disabling barriers created, not by the disabled persons, but by a society in general.

MISREPRESENTATION OF DISABLED PEOPLE

1. It is difficult to overestimate the damage caused by negative terms and the resultant negative images of disabled people. Disabled people often feel they are misrepresented by the way in which they are portrayed in words, pictures and sound on the mass media.
2. Representation of disabled people as 'different' or 'special' simply because of their disability; imagery is used which portrays them in extreme terms, such as the 'hero' or 'victim' approach:
 - VICTIMS are portrayed as tragic helpless and pathetic;
 - HEROES are portrayed as eternally cheerful, superhumanly good and tremendously courageous;
3. The patronising attitude towards disabled people reinforces stereotypes even when they are presented positively. This happens, for example, when disabled persons are praised for achieving something that would be unremarkable if done by others;
4. The frequent use of particular phrases and terms in daily language which may be purely subjective and result in inaccurate, patronising and ultimately damaging imagery. This includes the use of emotive terms like 'afflicted', 'stricken', 'sufferer' and 'victim', the use of phrases such as 'confined to a wheelchair', the treatment of disabled people as if they were a homogenous group instead of a diverse group of individuals and the making of assumptions or generalisations about how disabled people feel;
5. The portrayal of impairment, especially when evident, by focusing on the individual's impaired condition at the expense of the person's other attributes;



6. Lack of consultation with disabled people and their organisations about issues affecting their lives;
7. The undignified portrayal of disabled people during broadcasts of fund-raising events and charity campaigns depicting them as uni-dimensional stereotypes;
8. The ridiculing of the disabled in productions, especially teleserials exploiting disability for humour;
9. Failure to check accuracy of information before it is broadcast; and
10. The portrayal of disabled people in a sensational manner.

BROADCASTERS RESPONSIBILITIES

1. It is the responsibility of all Broadcasters to be sensitive to problems outlined above and to avoid them;
2. Moreover broadcasters should take positive steps in order to ensure a more inclusive representation of disabled persons in programming;
3. Broadcasters should aim to recruit disabled persons to work among their staff and in particular the portrayal of disabled persons in drama should wherever possible be carried out by disabled actors;
4. Broadcasters are in duty bound to minimise common problems such as those of physical access which impede the participation of disabled persons in broadcasting activity;
5. Broadcasters should be guided by such policy which may from time to time be officially adopted regarding the portrayal of disabled persons in the media;
6. Each station shall be responsible for the way disabled persons and disability issues are portrayed in every broadcast, including the responsibility to refer to the competent organisations and authorities on matters relating to disability;
7. Where a licence is issued the broadcaster will be expected to portray disabled persons and disability issues in a proper way;



8. Overall, the guiding principle of broadcasters should be to deal with disabled persons without dwelling on their disability, unless the topic being presented is specifically that of disability; when the latter is the case to treat the subject with due dignity and fairness;

MEASURES TO BE TAKEN BY THE BROADCASTING AUTHORITY

1. To commission the Kummissjoni Persuni b'Diżabilità to prepare a handbook to contain all the main elements including a glossary which is required to guide broadcasters;
2. To adopt the recommendations of this report as a code which binds broadcasters and to publicise its policy on the problems of disabled and disability issues;
3. When Programme Monitors are employed, the Authority should ensure that they possess a level of understanding of Disability Issues;
4. Request the Kummissjoni Nazzjonali Persuni b'Diżabilità to forward a list of persons knowledgeable in Disability Issues who can be consulted by broadcasting stations should any need arise;
5. To reward good practice;
6. From time to time to prepare and publish reports on the portrayal of disabled people in the broadcasting media; and
7. To assist the Malta Press Club to achieve its aims to be an auto-regulatory body in so far as the portrayal of disabled persons in the media is concerned.



APPENDIX XIV

BROADCASTING AUTHORITY PROGRAMME AWARDS

ADJUDICATING PANEL REPORT OCTOBER 2001 - AUGUST 2002

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I am submitting a report compiled by the co-ordinators of the various panels namely: Drama; Current Affairs and Discussion; Investigative Journalism; Documentaries; Cultural Programmes; Educational Programmes; Magazine Programmes; Children's Programmes; Light Entertainment Programmes and Sports.

It has to be pointed out that programmes in breach of Broadcasting Authority regulations were not eligible for the awards.



1. DRAMA

TELEVISION

For TV drama, six entries were received and the panel itself nominated one drama series - ***Il-Madonna taċ-Ċoqqa***. The final shortlist came down to just three productions: ***Wenzu u Rożi*** two episodes (from TVM), ***L-Ispettur Lowell*** (Super One) and the aforementioned ***Il-Madonna taċ-Ċoqqa*** from Super One.

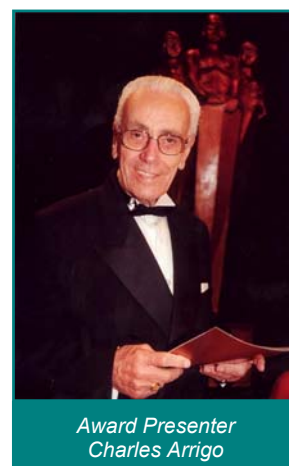
In the final analysis the actual winner of the Broadcasting Authority TV Drama Award was a very close run thing between ***Il-Madonna taċ-Ċoqqa*** and ***L-Ispettur Lowell***; the former just tipping the scales in its favour, by dint of the extra production values and some very fine performances ... particularly by John Suda. However, the panel was very much impressed by the economy of style and format that the producers of ***L-Ispettur Lowell*** used to get across their playlets in just 17 minutes or so. Brevity is not a quality we Maltese are renowned for. ***Wenzu u Rożi*** was nominated as a finalist because all three members of the panel liked the stylised approach used. It was felt that the episode that included the scene set in the railway station was something of a technical triumph.

It should be remarked that there is a growing trend in 'soap-type' drama series in our islands. This is fine if it equates quantity with quality. Unfortunately this is rarely, if ever, the case, and this upsurge has spawned very poor quality stuff. It's an extremely worrying trend.

SHORT LISTED PROGRAMMES

***Il-Madonna taċ-Ċoqqa* - (Super 1 TV)** - This popular drama series just shaded victory, by the narrowest of margins. The production values were overall very high. One remembers particularly the feast scene, in this regard. Many of the performances, particularly with John Suda, were above average, but again ... some of the smaller parts were weakly cast. Not an outstanding series by any means, but just about deserves this year's award.

***Wenzu u Rożi* - (TVM)** - The panel all liked the stylised approach of the producers of this period comedy. It was also well shot and always looked good. Technically, we felt that the railway station sequence in one of the episodes cleverly shot ... mostly very tight. We were less happy with the performances. While acknowledging that stylisation also extends to the acting, a little more subtlety would have been appreciated.



Award Presenter
Charles Arrigo



DRAMA TV – *Madonna taċ-Ċoqqa*
– Super 1 TV
Producer: Herman Bonaci;
Script By: John Suda



L-Ispettur Lowell - (Super 1 TV) - These were a series of very short stories. Mark Doneo, the writer/director has done a good job with these very unpretentious little playlets. His imaginative use of camera angles impressed the panel and went some way to making up for some stiff performances.

RADIO

As far as radio drama was concerned, this year was a very poor year, the main reason being the fact that PBS have largely ceased to produce any drama on radio.

The panel actually received only three entries in this section. Fortunately, one of these, **Jum Fil-Hajja ta' Nathalie Peltier** from the community radio station Radju St. Vincent de Paule, was of a high standard, and deservedly won the Broadcasting Authority award.



DRAMA Radio – Jum fil-Hajja ta' Nathalie Peltier
- Radju St. Vincent de Paule Residence
Producer: Gorg Peresso and Janet Aquilina

It is to be hoped that the dearth of this form of drama is only a temporary measure and that PBS and other major radio stations will see their way to allocating a budget for radio drama again soon.

SHORT LISTED PROGRAMMES

Jum fil-Hajja ta' Nathalie Peltier - (Radju St Vincent de Paule) - This was a very well executed monologue, detailing a day in the life of a lonely, and apparently housebound woman. It featured Ninette Micallef as the eponymous Nathalie, and she contributed greatly to the success of the piece, with her understated performance and clarity. Technically the piece was also a triumph and the various effects worked well - a worthy winner.



DRAMA TV – Madonna ta' Ċoqqa – Super 1 TV
Winning Team Members



2. EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMMES

This category was contested by a total of 18 submissions, the majority of which were television programmes, while only 5 were radio programmes. From the outset, this data is significant, since it shows that although radio programmes are relatively inexpensive to produce, there is little emphasis on putting together material which is clearly instructional even though the medium easily lends itself to this aim.

TELEVISION

Overall, both the standard and the chosen format of the programmes varied considerably. The panel favoured those programmes which were clearly laid out pedagogically, irrespective of the subject matter or target audience. Formats included a variety of styles: documentaries, discussion programmes, magazine programmes and even 5-minutes shots. Generally, since educational material may prove difficult to present, those programmes which technically were tight and could retain an audience's attention were favoured.

SHORT LISTED PROGRAMMES

Teknosphere - (Super 1 TV) - While three programmes in this series were submitted for consideration, the episode dealing with wine production in Malta emerged as a clear winner in this category. Presented in documentary format the programme takes the viewer from the planting and care of the vine, right to the production process to the final consumption of the product. The programme is well shot and makes good use of archival documents, lithographs and explanatory flow-charts. The editing is well paced and the programme is wide in its scope, possibly retaining a potential vine grower, every day wine consumer or even connoisseur as audience: overall a commendable winner.



E-Zone - (Net TV) - Informative programme on current issues in information technology, utilising a variety of styles and material, including interviews, original material and also some lifted footage. Overall the programme selects interesting topics such as 'bar-coding' and the notion of a computer driving licence', which is important information for a developing society moving into the 21st century.

Click - (Super 1 TV) - Studio production also on the subject of information technology. While technically the programme had some room for improvement, a few original ideas helped it reach the final round. A feature utilising two personalities to demonstrate the assembling of a



computer was interesting as was the 'kids corner', directing younger people to international educational websites. The programme was also supplemented by a well developed website of its own, to further the reach and continuity of the programme.

Qalb In-Nies - (TVM) - Studio discussion programme, utilising also recorded interviews, promoting Christian values. This episode, amongst other things, clearly illustrates some psychology theory (Maslow's Hierarchy of Needs), through the use of charts and then follows this through very sensitively through discussion and interviews.

L-Ulied - (Channel 12) - A programme dealing with a variety of issues facing young people in today's world. This particular episode deals with four different issues briefly yet informatively, thus sustaining the pace and attention required.

RADIO

With only five submissions in this category, only three made the grade to the final round. Producers should be further encouraged to utilise the medium for educational purposes.

SHORT LISTED PROGRAMMES

L-Edukazzjoni ta' Wliedna - (Radju Lehen il-Qala) - A discussion programme on the subject of the National Minimum Curriculum. A simple programme technically, yet both the host and the invited guest are well versed on the subject. Although this is a daunting topic for the lay person to understand, complex jargon is clearly explained, facilitating further dialogue. Phone-ins are sensitively handled and both the host and guest render the topic approachable. A commendable winner for newcomer to the broadcasting arena, *Radju Lehen il-Qala*.



Kelma ta' Mara - (Radju Malta) - Provocative and interesting discussion programme on the subject of *Vjolenza Barra mid-Dar*. The topic is dealt with from various angles including a technical legal analysis as well as the addition of the human element through pre-recorded first-hand experiences. It is interesting to note that the latter are originally treated through interviews with a former 'aggressor' rather than the 'victim'.

Teżijiet - (Campus FM) - Programme where chosen guests are invited to discuss a recent academic thesis they have completed. The episode under consideration dealt with the subject of 'Drama Therapy'. Generally the programme uses an interesting concept that could be further developed.



3. CHILDREN'S PROGRAMMES

Fourteen children's programmes were submitted to the Broadcasting Authority on tape for consideration for awards. Apart from the above, many more episodes were viewed live on television.

Compared with past years, children's programmes on local television and radio have improved quite significantly. The chronic patronisation that was more or less universal in this genre is almost absent save for a few glaring examples. It is also comforting to note that the intellectual level of the questions used in children's quiz programmes has been raised and parochialism seems to have been almost eliminated.



However, although most programmes promote positive behaviour or attitudes towards the environment, education and proper civic or social behaviour, a few are conspicuous by being almost totally devoid of any "value-added" content of the above virtues. Moreover, a few programmes still lack imagination and technical competence.

Presenters' delivery - Some programmes still contain very lengthy monologues and dialogues. Children's attention is notoriously difficult to keep yet presenters sometimes talk amongst themselves for minutes on end completely ignoring their audiences. Such programmes end up becoming "talking heads" only. Having said this, we have noted that a few programmes have improved and seem to be on the right track.

Pronunciation - The pronunciation of English and other foreign words is still a problem.

Audience participation - This varies greatly between programmes. The few good examples involve and encourage the audience to talk and participate, but some still just use children as a backdrop. One can notice sidelined children quickly losing interest.

Shot length - Although shots should last no more than a few seconds, shot duration in local children's programmes are improving and across the board shot length is becoming shorter.

TELEVISION: SHORT LISTED PROGRAMMES

Bugz @ Net - (NET TV) - A lively and engaging programme. The presenter is smart, bubbling with natural talent and manages to keep the audience's attention. There is good use of





CHILDRENS' PROGRAMMES TV
Kerser Quiz – TVM
 Producer – Geraldine Gounder

cameras and the shots are usually shorter than other similar programmes. However, the programme uses very long intros that end up being used as fillers.

This programme is immensely popular, so much so that the panel felt *Bugz@Net* is slowly becoming more of a cult programme that is gradually moving away from being a children's programme. Regarding social issues the programme has made a vast improvement over last year and has done a lot to promote animal welfare and the plight of the poor in Africa. However, the latter subject was tackled in a light and unprofessional manner

and did not result in good television. The panel felt that at times the programme is too scattered and improvised without a structured order or execution and was "technically-challenged" at times. This programme was just beaten into second place by a very narrow margin.

Kerser Quiz - (TVM) - This is a quiz programme that asks intelligent and wide-ranging questions that are neither parochial nor patronising in nature. The set and audience participation are good.

Angela Cauchi is a good presenter and never talks down to the children. She speaks clearly and so do most of the children ... which is a bonus. The competitive element adds an edge to this nice little programme.

RADIO

The improvements in Children's radio programme are even more evident. Although there were fewer contestants, the overall quality was better than that of television.

In fact competition was much tougher than that found in television and the differences between the winner and runner-up were minimal. Producers must bear in mind that at times, they still have a tendency to make use of false-sounding



CHILDRENS' PROGRAMMES TV
Eco Kids – Campus FM
 Producers – Celaine Buhagiar and Daphne Cassar



and sometimes silly voices, which must be avoided.

Most of the programmes assessed were found to be high in social-value content and almost devoid of patronisation apart from couple of examples.

SHORT LISTED PROGRAMMES

Ċama Ċama - (Radju Malta) - A children's radio storytelling programme that uses very vivid imagery. The producers managed to come up with a well-researched product that was interesting to listen to without being patronising. Occasionally silly voices were used which tended to jar and irritate.

Ċama Ċama was a very good radio production and was beaten by the very narrowest of margins.

Eco Kids - (Campus FM) - This programme is a dramatisation of a discussion between two friends who go on imaginary trips and excursions. *Eco Kids* has heavy ecological, environment and social overtones and is very educational. The storytelling combined with the sound effects create a strong impact although the latter are sometimes exaggerated and overbearing at times. A very good production.



Soprano Denise Mulholland accompanied by pianist Rosetta Debattista



Pianist Rosetta Debattista

4. LIGHT ENTERTAINMENT



Presenter
Carmen Azzopardi

The Light Entertainment Category is this year characterised by programmes that provide the TV audiences with various forms of light television viewing, namely one-to-one interviews, features about village feasts, local bands and personal grooming, light chatting about time gone by, film reviews, comic sketches and satire.

Although all the programmes started off with the right dose of enthusiasm, not many have managed to sustain it half way into the production and with only a few actually prolonging it until the end. The ability to maintain interest, combined with professional presentation, innovative ideas and last, but definitely not least, the amount of research that has been carried out in the initial stages of a production, has been a deciding factor in selecting those programmes that this year are successful in their attempt to entertain.

Last year's standard has been kept and at times improved upon. There is evidence of a will to come up with fresh ideas and to know what works with an audience that seeks to be lightly entertained, and what doesn't. In fact, the programmes that have achieved clean-cut distinction in this year's Light Entertainment Category have all been developed from a carefully selected basic theme / idea. In the process, the effort made on the part of the producers to render their product different and not similar to that of what has been or is being produced by others in the local television scene is a sure factor that has made them stand out from the lot.

TELEVISION: SHORT LISTED PROGRAMMES

Kif Ghadda ż-Żmien - (TVM) - The outstanding element in this production is the amount of research that has been carried out. Jason Micallef, apart from being an able and likable host who conducted the programme with confidence and ease, has obviously gone through the *PBS Ltd.* archives with great care and deep insight into what the viewers are eager to see - or remember. The preliminary work for this production is impressive and should be encouraged. Other productions would do well to follow Mr. Micallef's example, for thorough preparation of content raises the standard of the production. Producers should never underestimate an audience by prematurely concluding it will be lightly entertained by just about anything under the sun. The technical quality of the programme is definitely above average and the studio setting has been kept simple but effective. Mr. Micallef did not shy off in the face of the considerable amount of work involved. The impact of his programme is strong in that it succeeds to entertain without being banal.

Gianni's Show - (NET TV) - Three episodes of this programme have been entered and all are



well above standard. *Gianni* has the potential to be an excellent presenter / interviewer. He asks the questions that very few, if any, dare to ask and strikes the right balance between curiosity and insolence. The technical quality of the programme is of high standard and the unusual camera visuals make for an interesting perspective to what may otherwise be a flat interaction between two people. The Ali Bubaker character has been a hit with many viewers and provides more than just a giggle or two. At times Bubaker's victims end up chatting to him well aware of who is beneath the make-up. This could have been avoided by filming the Bubaker interviews within a limited period of time as not to allow word to spread. Nevertheless, the interviews provide a pleasant variation. Although this idea had been taken by other foreign stations as well, in Malta it is a first. Thus, the impact created is notable.



Passaport - (TVM) - A quiz programme has the right formula for entertaining lightly if it does not render itself banal by asking trivial questions or playing games that risk insulting the viewer's intelligence. Passaport manages to strike the right balance. Apart from personality, the guests chosen for the show also have a brain that is put to good use by the production team. It is pleasant to see young faces and fresh attitudes on the show. The graphics used in the show are of very high standard and very original. Camera work is slick and the show succeeds in providing moments of suspense.

The Beat - (NET TV) - An interesting and well-paced programme which combines light entertainment with a magazine format. It is informative and well presented by its female host. The unusual camera shots provide extra punch that is renewed every time the programme skips from one subject to another. A good overall effort we would like to see more of.

RADIO: SHORT LISTED PROGRAMMES

Snin tar-Rock n Roll - (Radio 101) - Again, another light entertainment programme that has used researched material to make it stand out. The presentation flows well as it bridges one musical number to another. The information itself is interesting at all times and the songs seem to be purposely chosen as to comment on the events that have occurred during the particular year in review.



Elvis Presley - Minn Aspetti Differenti - (Campus FM) - A good programme that goes beyond its limits to provide listeners with an overview of the singer's career complete with the political events that shaped it. The guests on the show were very knowledgeable and spoke with great ease. The programme's technical quality was above average and the impact strong due to the many angles and perspectives that the 'discussion' managed to give. The format of this programme, giving that extra bit of information to complete the picture, is another example of light entertainment that works first and foremost on stimulating the mind.



5. INVESTIGATIVE JOURNALISM

In general very few programmes would qualify as Investigative. The nature of investigative journalism, which requires immediacy together with in-depth exploration, makes the production of such programmes rather problematic. For this reason this category is always in very short supply of submissions or panel nominations.

Whereas local television seems fraught with “discussion and current affairs” programmes verging on, or attempting to be “investigative” programmes that genuinely qualify under this category are scarce. The line between these two categories is not as fine as producers seem to think by submitting different episodes of the same series under either category. As explained last year, as well researched as a programme might be, investigative journalism is not simply good research. Just like in other media, there may be various journalistic styles but only a few stories qualify as



investigative.

From radio only one “Investigative Journalism” programme was submitted for consideration and two were submitted from television. The panel also nominated another, *Bondićini* (TVM).

TELEVISION: SHORT-LISTED PROGRAMMES

The submissions for television were **TEAM** and **KWARTA**, two separate programmes both Super 1 TV productions. Given the political agenda of the station, both programmes had obvious propagandist undercurrents. Though very well done and definitely above average in its entirety, it was decided that **KWARTA** is more of Current Affairs programme. In fact another two episodes of this series were submitted under Current Affairs.

TEAM (Super One) on the other hand is an excellent example of an original, well-produced, investigative television programme. Not only did the panel find it highly informative and exploratory but also very original in style. Most investigative programmes tend to go in depth of one particular story, digging out past, present



and future, but sticking to one topic. **TEAM** on the other hand tackles as many as nine topics in one programme. Some topics are heavy and of high topical interest, others are used to balance the intensity of the whole programme. **TEAM** rated above average and even exceptional in all the elements that the panel takes into consideration for awarding programmes. **TEAM** deserves the little of “the best investigative journalism programme this year”.

The panel-nominated programme - **Bondićini** - (TVM) was found to be very well done, fitting the Investigative category perfectly. Most elements that are taken into consideration for the awards were rated above average but **TEAM** just was found to be slightly superior overall.

RADIO: SHORT LISTED PROGRAMMES

In radio the submitted programme “**Niġu Għall-Punt**” (*Radju Malta*) would have made a better candidate under “Current Affairs”. The presenter in fact introduces the programme as “programm ta’ ġrajjet kurrenti”. Additionally another episode of the same series was later submitted under “Current Affairs”. The panel decided that no radio programme stood out from the rest and was of exceptional investigative quality.

6. MAGAZINE PROGRAMMES

Throughout this year's evaluation process the very definition of the Magazine Category revealed itself to be extremely limiting. By definition a magazine programme is one that deals with a host of different themes in short snippets of time. The themes may be related or unrelated in nature but the whole programme must be a varied one. The "magazine category" is also in conflict with the "light entertainment" category, which strictly speaking is wide enough to include magazine programmes within it. This problematic situation led the panel to the conclusion that it would be far more practical to expand this category to include lifestyle programmes. The panel therefore suggests that in future this category is renamed "Magazine/Lifestyle".

Moreover none of the programmes submitted under this category were found to be up to standard. It seems like in both radio and television, magazine programmes are treated as time-fillers and are therefore low budget, slow moving and repetitive. Most of the programmes' content is improvised and dependent on the presenter's or guest's improvisation to elongate each and every element.

The only TV programmes that were carried all the way to the final stages did not fit the category's definition, and even if they did they were not rated exceptional. It was in fact **C'est La Vie** (*Max Plus TV*) that really and truly fit the definition of a magazine programme and also made the grade. Unfortunately this programme was in breach of the Broadcasting Authority's regulations and was therefore disqualified from the programme awards.

In radio, two programmes were carried to the final stages but still did not reach an exceptional standard.



Compere
Josef Bonello



Musical Interlude by
Etnika



7. SPORT

As far as sport on radio was concerned this was a totally blank year, there being no entries whatsoever.

In television, we received nine entries; three of these were for different editions of one programme, **Total Sport**.

The standard overall was quite good, and the winning programme, **Varenne ... Ikompli** from TVM, was actually outstanding. We will go further and state that it's one of the best sports programmes to have been produced locally. Of the short-listed finalists, we were also impressed by Net TV's **Man Up Plus** and some editions of **Total Sport**, which is, in the panel's opinion, by far the best of the 'autopsy' sports programmes. We feel it offers probably the best regular sports coverage, concentrating mostly on local football. However, it is now trying to diversify and cover some minority interest sports, which must be encouraged and developed further. Waterpolo is not the most televisual of sports, but we felt that the presenter of **Man Up Plus**, Christian Micallef is very promising and exudes an enthusiasm for the sport that is infectious.

TELEVISION: SHORT LISTED PROGRAMMES

Varenne ... Ikompli - (TVM) - The panel were very impressed with this entry. It was cleverly edited, well shot and held the viewer from first to last. The interviews were brief and informative and the dubbing under of Varenne's song was inspired. It's obviously something of a labour of love. The producer/presenter Kenneth Vella has produced one of the best sports programmes seen on Malta TV for a long time.



Man Up Plus - (Net TV) - This waterpolo series is a cut above any that we've seen recently. The edition entered for the awards had plenty of variety and never lingered for too long on one aspect of the sport. Waterpolo is difficult to shoot, so we got a fair mix of comment, interview and clips. A special word about the young presenter, Christian Micallef, who was both competent and enthusiastic. He is clearly one to watch.

Total Sports - (TVM) - This particular edition was, in the opinion of the panel, pretty representative of this programme 's average output.



On a general note the diversification away from just football, football, football is welcome. Particularly in view of the fact that so few people actually see the local matches under discussion. Simon Farrugia is an excellent anchor, confident and always in charge.

RADIO

There were no radio programmes submitted or considered in this category.

8. CULTURE

The judging panel received 18 entries in this category, split up in 17 radio programmes and 1 television programme. This has created an imbalance between the two media that has not been experienced in previous editions of the Awards. The same can be said for the number of entries, which by comparison falls far short of the usual turnout. Suffice it to say that for the 2001 Awards there were no less than 33 entries.



Presenter
Charles Abela Mizzi

From the very first meeting of the Awards Committee, a number of programme titles were submitted by the panel as programmes worthy of consideration for the final selection. Some of these panel-nominated programmes were later received as official entries, whilst others were never submitted but continued to form part of the pool of nominations up to the final selection.

In television **Meander** - TVM - the TV programme nominated by the panel and not received as an official entry, went on to win the category which was only contested by one other entry; **X'Inhu Ghaddej**, a *Max Plus* production.

The latter, was a pale imitation of the former. The similarity is that it too is a programme that takes a look at what cultural activities are going on in the country. The approach however, lacks the depth and dignity of **Meander**. For example, a section on the return of Ira Losco from the Eurovision Festival at Malta International Airport was covered more for the effect of mass hysteria and jubilation than for reflection and critical analysis. The same can be said for the section covering the World Cup fever, with the ubiquitous vox pop and the accompanying inane comments.

Redeeming features in **X'Inhu Ghaddej** were the features on the ceramist Sina Farrugia and the *Bir Miftuħ* concert. **Meander**, on the other hand, has retained its ever-high standard in all



departments of TV production. Mariella Pisani Bencini does an excellent job of presentation; good voice, diction and preparation of the script. Camera technique and picture quality are excellent throughout the series, even when the cameras leave the studio and work has to be done on location. Sound quality is consistently good as is the editing, lighting and graphic design of the programme.



RADIO

The radio entries were of a generally good standard, but no groundbreaking programmes were experienced. Most producers seem to prefer to stay within the perimeters of traditional broadcasting, like tackling a topic, inviting as guest an expert on the subject, and basically let the show run itself. There are notable exceptions to this attitude, and seasoned broadcasters like Charles Abela Mizzi and Joyce Guillaumier prepare themselves thoroughly before presenting any topic, so that they can be in a position to ask pertinent questions and help draw out salient aspects of the subject in a structured way. *Mużika u Letteratura* and *Kull Bidu mill-Ħsieb* were panel-nominated programmes in the radio section, which proved to be good programmes, but did not make it to the final placings.

The programme selected by the Jury as that being the best in this category was a production by Gorg Peresso called ***Dan X'animal Hu?*** (FM Bronja) The programme is original in that it looks at animals and how these creatures were an inspiration for music and other arts. The programme is made up of Peresso's personal vision of animals and their relationship with man, description of animals in painting, for example St Francis of Assisi taming the wolf, and poetry readings. A short story in the form of a parable also features. It is a light and at times deep, but always an intriguing programme which is greatly enhanced by Peresso's commentary; informative, at times playful, and always sustaining the listener's interest.

Pat Salamone's ***Palermo – Mill Hotel Delle Palme*** (FM Bronja) was an above-average programme. Year in year out this producer churns out quality programmes and this is no exception. Her good clear voice makes it a pleasure to follow the programme. The programme deals with Sicilian Culture and historical figures as recounted to her by the hotel staff The segment on the language similarities between Sicilian and Maltese were particularly interesting

and certainly hit closer to home. A well-paced programme with good recording techniques and clear sound.

Another programme that made it to the final five was **Mill-Garigori ta' Moħħi** (FM Bronja) indicated as a potential finalist by the panel in the early stages of the Awards Panel meetings. The use of Maltese language is of a commendable standard, and this could be evidenced throughout the entire series. The presenter (a young and relatively newcomer to the scene) has

obviously made a special personal effort to boost the standard of spoken Maltese in radio programmes, and the trend is carried over to other programmes handled and presented by the same producer, namely, **Moviola** and **Għall-Irdoss ta' L-Għorfa**, which should serve as an example to aspiring broadcasters.



The fourth finalist is **Żgħażuġ Mislub** (Radju Malta) that was well written and scripted for radio. It drew the parallel between Christ's crucifixion and modern day crucifixion. The programme had good sound, balance and pace and made the Passion relevant to the present day experience.

The panel's general view is that this year was not a vintage year in so far as programme originality, quantity of entries and impact were concerned. Overall, we can say that it was disappointing to register that only one TV entry was received. Is it because cultural programmes on TV are being pushed aside to make way for more popular productions in light entertainment or drama and which attract a larger audience? Whilst advertising and commercial interests obviously determine certain programming criteria, these pressures are relieved from stations like FM Bronja, whose mission statement is to be a cultural channel. To a lesser extent so is Campus FM, which does accept some advertising, but only in a measure that alleviates some of the station's running costs.

In view of this, the panel encourages these stations and others, to increase their effort and strive to bring to the listenership a wider variety of cultural programmes. They should set no limits on subject or methods of presentation, but rather, they should dare to be different and engaging, to challenge and win over a fresh audience.



9. DOCUMENTARY PROGRAMMES

In the television section fifteen programmes were submitted by the various stations. It was decided that the programme **Għawdex Illum** be included in this category. Permission to do so was sought from the director. It is to be noted that the final assessment of the three nominated programmes was very close.

TELEVISION: SHORT LISTED PROGRAMMES

Għawdex Illum - (TVM) - Seven editions

of this programme were submitted: the level of these was uniformly high, especially as far as the technical quality and presentation are concerned. Their interest, however, depends very much on the topics treated: of particular interest were the ones on the mission in Mudarras, Albania, the one on local food and the one on the Gozo Channel which



DOCUMENTARY PROGRAMMES – TV
Karba mir-Russja – NET TV
Producer: Roderick Agius

took the cameras into areas of the ferries that are not normally visited by passengers. However sometimes the programme tends to be too much of a PR exercise for the place.

L-Invażjoni tal-Kavalier - (TVM) - A one off programme celebrating the first anniversary of the cultural centre was particularly good and two members of the panel recommended that it be considered for the award in the use of the Maltese language. It has a high creative flair and is technically excellent and well balanced, apart from one or two interviews that tend to be just a little too long.

Karba mir-Russja - (NET TV) - Also a high quality programme. The research is excellent and very well used to produce a well structured programme in which the well-being of modern day Moscow, with the advantages of a market economy gradually giving way to the problems which this same 'democratisation' has brought along with it. The photography is good and the emotional impact is extremely high, particularly because of the way the children in the home are treated. Although technically this programme is not quite up to the standard of **L-Invażjoni tal-Kavalier** and may not have the same artistic flair, it wins hands down on impact.

RADIO

Nine radio programmes were submitted. The standard of these programmes was lower: Most of



them tended to be rather dull and a poor presentation.

SHORT LISTED PROGRAMMES

***Is-Sena tal-Biża* - (Radju Malta)** - The only really outstanding programme. It commemorates 1942 considered as the darkest year of the war, a subject that was tackled by a number of other programmes. In this case, however, the material is used in an original way and this particular programme had a lively presentation, the narration making it easy for the listener to picture the scenes. Good use is made of music and of sound effects.

***Stilisti* - (FM Bronja)** - Is a good lively programme but its relevance to, and hence its impact on, the local scene is limited.

***Għall-Irdoss ta' l-Għorfa* - (FM Bronja)** - A programme about folk medicine, is varied and not without interest. The contents are well linked. One can note some inaccuracies, possibly resulting from a not quite accurate use of the language. Audio levels are well mixed.

***L-Ewwel Mara* - (Radju Malta)** - A programme that makes good use of documentary material. It had some variety but the presentation needed to be more lively.



10. CURRENT AFFAIRS / DISCUSSION

As in past editions, these sections tend to be inundated with mediocre standard of discussion on current affairs. As the careful scrutiny progresses one finds that one is being faced with a number of productions of discussions on current affairs that are hackneyed. Little or no flair or novelty is instilled into this category of programmes and the way the subjects are tackled, with producers/presenters apparently believing that throwing together a handful of subject specialists (or just one in some cases), is enough to make for a good programme, invariably fails.



CURRENT AFFAIRS / DISCUSSION PROGRAMMES
TV – Focus: Twelid u Abort – TVM
Radio – Niġu Għall-Punt – Radju Malta
Producer: Reno Bugeja

Standards have to be reached in the idealization and production of this category of programme. Because of the category's very nature, i.e. evolving circumstances, more than a little effort needs to be ploughed into the production and this means that much thought has to go into it even before ensuring objectivity, accuracy and factuality. Sometimes within the Discussion category, the guests/debaters chosen are not the best choice of representative on the given subject - in fact, at times little thought is given to the presenters' / guests' erudition on a given theme or whether they are attuned to the rules of the discussion game - i.e. speakers who complement each other's intervention by knowledgeably stimulating the discussion and the viewers, or at least by the originality of their opinions.

In addition, it often happens that the same 'personalities' are balanced around from one station to another to discuss the same subject with the result that the said person's opinion becomes worn-out. Here too, I sincerely believe that more energy ought to be ploughed into the assembling of all elements that go into a good production ... including the choice of presenter/interviewer. Not everyone can do this job, yet everyone seems to think they can.

That said, it must be admitted that some effort is perceptible on the TV stations, though some radio productions need much more exertion to rise above the run-of-the mill category. Of these, this year's outright winner in the TV and Radio categories must be commended for the maturity with which discussions are handled, where a levelheaded yet lively debate is encouraged and where speakers who avoid giving direct answers to specific questions are not easily left off the hook. This level of preparation and presentation is commendable.

This category was not only open to discussion programmes only but also to the Current Affairs sphere - which is what discussion usually entails after all. However it is amazing how little effort is placed locally on the development of this particular area in the media. Although in all fairness it has to be said there have been some commendable efforts this summer which with a bit more effort and impartiality may yet prove to be laudable viewing for all.

However creativity and novelty are often lacking here, and audacity is rarely shown, even though in the past years on a few rare occasions there have been award winners who have dared and won. The misfortune in Malta is that sometimes a good effort is seen to dwindle down through lack of perseverance. Another particular feature in the discussion category that one sometimes chances upon, even in past years, is the way producers suddenly depart from type and fly off at a tangent from the original genre of their programme, often resulting in unique features on interesting subjects which may not necessarily tie in at all with current affairs and which definitely cannot fall under discussion programmes. Though often interesting this departure from type can be detrimental to final classification purposes especially when programmes have been registered under a particular category. It could be an idea to have such one-off programmes under a totally different title to be produced as special features or documentaries apart from the long-term series.

In saying this one has to acknowledge the fact that awards are given to those productions which best meet a standard of excellence in creativity, content and presentation. The Code on News and Current Affairs is rather detailed and this, maybe serves as a deterrent to some, rather than a guideline. This is a pity. There is so much that goes on in our world, so much to inform our listeners/viewers, so much to be said and commented upon in a professional manner. Surely some more daring individuals out there are capable of taking up the challenge?

Television: Short listed Programmes

Focus - (TVM) - A very well handled discussion programme where the presenter is well versed on his chosen subject and hence follows the argument of the day through from beginning to end presiding over the discussion with professionalism without attitude or flamboyance. In this discussion programme the presenter poses interesting questions insisting in an agreeable manner that answers are given. In this production it is the theme that has prominence not the personalities debating it.

Kurrenti - (Net TV) - This programme offers viewers an interesting discussion programme with a receptive debate on themes of a mostly moral nature.

Kwarta - (Super One) - An informative 15-minute feature which succeeds in covering a number



of issues of specific and generic public interest.

RADIO: SHORT LISTED PROGRAMMES

Niġu għall-Punt - (Radju Malta) - A radio programme that offers a lively, mature debate between the guests, the host and the callers. A programme where speakers are not easily let off the hook and where, thankfully, callers are handled with great professionalism.

Wirt Artna - (FM Bronja) - An interesting discussion programme on our heritage utilizing professionals in the field.

11. SPECIAL PRIZE FOR THE PROPER USE OF THE MALTESE LANGUAGE

A special prize for the proper use of the Maltese language has been included with effect from October 2001. The aim of this special prize is to give full recognition and to show our appreciation to that station achieving a high level of excellence in Maltese throughout the year. The following programmes have been considered to have met the above criteria:



AWARD FOR THE PROPER USE OF THE MALTESE LANGUAGE –
Dr. Charles Briffa from the Akkademja tal-Malti presenting the Award to Ms Sylvana Cristina, Station Manageress of FM Broinja

- | | |
|---|--------------------------------|
| • Mill-Garigori ta' Moħħi | - (FM Bronja) |
| • Għall-Irdoss ta' l-Għorfa | - (FM Bronja) |
| • Kull Bidu mill-Ħsieb | - (FM Bronja) |
| • L-Invażjoni tal-Kavaliier | - (TVM) |
| • Jum fil-Ħajja ta' Nathalie Peltier | - (Radju St. Vincent de Paule) |

The overall winner for the promotion of the Maltese language is FM Bronja.

Lino Bugeja
Chairman
16th November, 2002



APPENDIX XV

**BROADCASTING AUTHORITY
AWARD FOR GENDER AWARENESS
IN THE BROADCASTING MEDIA
2002**

**ADJUDICATING PANEL REPORT
1ST OCTOBER 2001 - 31ST AUGUST 2002**

**BACKGROUND**

The Broadcasting Authority, in conjunction with the Gender Advisory Committee, first launched the Award for Gender Awareness in the Broadcasting Media in 2000. The Award, and the applicants' engagement in the preparation process for submitting their entries, aims to serve as a learning experience and ultimately as a catalyst for change. The Advisory Committee acting as Jury hopes to see change in the way women and men are represented both in TV and radio and change in the way women and men work within the media industry's structure and culture. The philosophy behind the Award is to encourage producers and directors to address traditional images and stereotypes used when portraying men and women. It is also designed to encourage production companies and broadcast stations to address their own internal structures and management and adopt equal opportunities in the organisation.

Last year, the Award was presented to Joyce Guillaumier as Producer and Presenter of *Il-Mara fil-Kotba Mqaddsa* (PBS Radio) during the Broadcasting Authority's celebrations around its 40th Anniversary. This year the Committee recommended to the Board that the Award should be *mainstreamed* and included in the main Programmes Awards event held annually in November.

The Committee is aware that a continued and concerted effort is required in order to continue the process of *awareness raising* for the Broadcasting Industry. It intends to generate further awareness and understanding of this complex issue through continued training and exposure, and specifically through a forthcoming conference in April 2003. This conference will target decision makers in the industry and clarify the concept of gender sensitive broadcasting and equal opportunities in the industry, and will outline the gains for putting 'gender' on the agenda.

The Committee is encouraged by the improved standards in this year's entries and sees them as a positive step towards gender awareness and towards having better programming, better representation and better equality in gender portrayal. Producers and programme makers are clearly beginning to move along the learning curve with regard to gender sensitivity and the



Committee is confident that the existence of this Award will continue to fuel new thought and new action.

THE JUDGING PROCESS

When judging the programmes, the Committee, as Jury, was concerned with the balance in programme content, balance in production, and balance in portrayal of values and non-stereotypical images of social life in Malta. The Jury is not commenting on the creative or aesthetic aspects of the programmes. It is concerned, for example, with programmes which strive to counter negative gender stereotyping in programmes, in efforts of producers to strive for a fair and representative balance in panels, expert interviewees and audiences, in programmes which break out of traditional gendered roles and feature women achieving in male dominated areas and men achieving in female dominated areas. The Jury is also concerned with stations Human Resources policies regarding gender equality in the work place.

The Jury considered the programme entries from TV and Radio, and from the station that entered 'the station itself' as an example of good employment practice and equal opportunities in action.

The Jury felt that while several of the programmes were successful in portraying an element of equality, or displayed an element of awareness and sensitivity to the issue of equality in portrayal; the entry of 'the station' was innovative and the Jury was impressed by that application for the station and its gender sensitive approaches.

2002 ENTRIES

The Authority received five (5) programme submissions from four different stations; and these were a mixture of programme genres for Television and Radio. One (1) station submitted 'itself' for consideration.

Entries

Television

Eva Illum – P. Salamone – PBS

Radio

Kelma ta' Mara – M. Caruana – Radju Malta

Lifestyle – Various – Campus FM

Newspaper Analysis – Various – Campus FM

Muzika u Letteratura – J. Guillaumier – FM Bronja

Station

Campus FM



The Winner

The Jury was encouraged to note that following a year of awareness raising and training in the form of sensitising seminars and workshops regarding gender in the broadcasting sector - for monitors, producers, journalists, station managers - and Leonardo placements in gender training for fourteen (14) broadcasters in Ireland; one of the stations has started translating their experiences and exposure into concrete action.

The Jury awards the **2002 Gender Awareness Award** on behalf of the Broadcasting Authority to **Campus FM** for its submission of 'the station' as an example of good practice and good policy.

This entry presented a station

- that demonstrates that its management is aware of gender issues in the organisation.
- is aware of the consequence of addressing issues regarding *equality policies* and good *gender sensitive practice* in the workplace and in the output at the station.

The Jury was impressed with elements such as the Contributors Agreement (excerpt below) whereby contributors were informed that:

3.10 Language which is discriminatory in respect of gender, race, sexual orientation and belief is strictly forbidden. Any such discrimination would automatically exclude the production from going on air and any content which is deemed as being gender biased would be in breach of contract.

The Jury noted that the Agreement is evidence of gender-sensitive management and staff and by consequence the output of the station and the working environment within the station would reflect this positive element.

Through the specific provisions regarding non-discrimination included in the contract, the station in question has taken the first concrete steps to raise awareness regarding gender and discrimination for the broadcasters in its employ. Although these initiatives could be improved upon, and given more publicity, they are evidence that the Committee's work is having an impact. The Jury urge more broadcasting stations and production houses to follow this positive example and produce written policies regarding *equal opportunities*, *non discrimination*, *sexual harassment* and *diversity* and implement them in their company or station.

The Jury suggests that these policies should be given the greatest publicity - not only to the regular contributors at the station, but also to other guests on the programmes. Mechanisms should also be put in place regarding the enforcement of the policies.



The Jury noted that the Station is in its first year and so this innovative policy, which could serve as a working model for other stations, has not, as yet recorded any incidents where enforcement was necessary. However, enforcement procedures in such circumstances should be outlined.

Commendation

The Jury would like to give a special commendation to 'Eva Illum' (PBS TV) for its lively and refreshing treatment of a selection of women and their role and contributions to Maltese society.

Conclusion

The Jury would like to encourage programme makers to consider alternative approaches. Gender issues address men's issues as well as women's issues. For example programmers are asked to strive to *highlight the role of fathers* and *increase the reference to fathers*, especially in children's programmes and programmes about Children's issues. It would like to encourage programme makers to depict girls and boys as active rather than passive, and to avoid scripting children in stereotypical roles. And finally it encourages programme makers to resist the traditional use of 'women as victims' and 'women as objects', and avoid clichéd and stereotypical images of men and women when producing future programmes.

It would also like to encourage broadcasting companies to submit their 'Company', for making positive changes in its structure and policy, e.g. if the company has introduced family friendly policies such as flexitime, paternity leave, or childcare facilities, or if they have addressed issues such as sexual harassment, or issues around equal representation of women and men on Boards and at decision making level in their organisation.

Chair:
Members:

Dr Brenda Murphy
Ms Angela Callus
Fr Rene Camilleri
Dr Mario Felice
Ms Lorraine Mercieca



Appendix XVI

IN-NATURA TAL-PROGRAMMI TA' L-MALTA-E.U. INFORMATION CENTRE

1. Jidher li dawn il-programmi ma jidhlux fid-definizzjoni ta' "reklamar" in kwantu m'humiex xi forma ta' tħabbira fit-terminu tad-definizzjoni ta' l-artikolu 2 tal-Kap 350.
2. Huma essenzjalment programmi ta' informazzjoni li kienu jikkwalifikaw bħala edukattivi kieku ma kienx għall-mument partikolari storiku li fih qed jixxandru.
3. Konsegwentement ma humiex applikabbli għall-każ id-dispożizzjonijiet u l-limitazzjonijiet fir-rigward ta' reklamar fit-Tielet Skeda tal-Kap 350.
4. Konsidrat il-fatt indiskuss illi l-kontenut ta' dawn il-programmi jirreferu għal tħwejjeġ ta' *policy* pubblika kurrenti u li dwarhom hemm kontroversja politika, il-programmi ta' l-M.I.C. li essenzjalment jistgħu jitqiesu - kif tissottometti hi - apolitiċi, kellhom neċessarjament jiġu kunsidrati fid-dawl ta' l-obbligu ta' l-imparzjalità mpost fuq l-Awtorità fl-artikolu 119 tal-Kostituzzjoni u fl-artikolu 13(2)(f) tal-Kap 350.

L-Awtorità tqis inoltre li kull soluzzjoni kellha allura tiġi nkwadrata f'eżerċizzju ta' assigurazzjoni ta' imparzjalità fejn l-Awtorità kellha tikkunsidra *inter alia*:

1. li gvern demokratikament elett għandu d-dritt, u f'ċerti ċirkostanzi wkoll l-obbligu, li jispjega fuq il-mezzi tax-xandir il-politika dikjarata tiegħu li skond il-mandat elettoralu kien tenut li jattwa.
2. li jispjega fattwali ta' dik il-politika - a differenza mill-fehma politika - u kif dik se tolqot liċ-ċittadin fit-tajjeb u fil-ħażin, fiha nnifisha ma tivvola l-ebda provvediment tal-Kostituzzjoni u tal-Liġi tax-Xandir.
3. mhux il-kompitu ta' l-Awtorità li tivverifika l-verità tal-fatti jew tgħaddi ġudizzju fuqhom. Sakemm ma jsirx abbuż ovvju f'dan ir-rigward il-fatti proposti għandhom jittieħdu li huma sostanzjalment korretti. L-Awtorità kellha pero' mhux biss tiddistingwi bejn fatti u opinjoni imma wkoll jekk il-fatt mogħti kienx in effetti jaħbi opinjoni.



4. li l-fatt li tiġi mxandra informazzjoni ma kellux bħala regola jkun relevanti għal ġudizzju dwar l-imparzjalità fix-xandir. It-tixrid ta' l-informazzjoni ta' kull xorta kellu jiġi nkoraggjit, jiġi mil-liema sors jiġi, għax dan kien il-bażi tal-libertà ta' l-espressjoni.
5. dan ma jfissirx pero' li t-tixrid ta' informazzjoni li jinpingi fuq materja ta' kontroversja politika u / jew *policy* pubblika kurrenti ma jistax f'ċerti ċirkostanzi joħloq żbilanċ f'sitwazzjoni fejn ikun hemm disparità qawwija fl-għoti ta' l-informazzjoni relevanti għall-kontroversja. Dan speċjalment f'mument meta din l-informazzjoni tkun meħtieġa biex il-konsumatur (semmejgħ / telespettatur) jintalab jagħmel għażla. Dan l-iżbilanċ materjali jista' jwassal għan-nuqqas ta' imparzjalità.
6. li f'din l-eventwalità kellu jiġi identifikat sa fejn sewwa u f'liema mument kien jirriżulta l-iżbilanċ. Mument li għandu jkun lil hinn minn dak li fih l-ispjega fattwali tal-politika dikjarata tal-Gvern elett tiġi kontestata b'fatti li jikkontrastawha minn persuni ta' fehma politika differenti.

Applikati dawn il-linji gwida għall-kwistjoni tar-relazzjonijiet bejn Malta u l-Unjoni Ewropea u anke fid-dawl ta' insenjament tal-Qrati li għalihom l-interessati rreferew, jidher li:

- a) ma jistax ikun kontestat li din hi l-lum materja ta' kontroversja politika u ta' *policy* pubblika kurrenti. Hu obligu ta' l-Awtorità li allura tiżgura sa fejn ikun possibbli f'dawk is-servizzi ta' xandir ta' smiġh u televiżjoni li huma provduti f'Malta li tiġi miżmuma imparzjalità xierqa u li l-hin ta' xandir f'dawk is-servizzi jkun maqsum b'mod xieraq bejn persuni li jkunu ta' partiti politiċi differenti. Din il-funzjoni l-Awtorità kellha dover teżerċitaha mhux biss fir-rigward tax-xandir pubbliku.
- b) fl-aħjar ipoteżi għal dawk b'veduti opposti għal dik tal-Gvern, il-programmi ta' l-M.I.C., ex admissis finanzjati mill-Gvern, jagħtu informazzjoni fattwali dwar l-istadju tan-negozjati għal sħubija sħiħa u fattwalment x'għie konkluz b'indikazzjoni ta' x'ikunu l-konsegwenzi tajbin u ħżiena, ta' tali sħubija.

Wagt li hu minnu li hemm kontestazzjoni dwar il-kontenut ta' ċerti aspetti ta' din l-informazzjoni, indubbjament l-eżerċizzju hu wieħed informattiv dwar il-politika dikjarata ta' gvern elett b'dak il-mandat. Sa hawn il-programmi huma leġittimi speċjalment konsidrat illi kienu ntiżi biex jinfurmaw liċ-ċittadin dwar il-kontenut ta' dak li dwaru jrid jivvota. Hu kjarament proċess demokratiku essenzjali u inevitabbli li ċ-ċittadin jingħata dan it-tagħrif fattwali.



- c) il-problema allura hi mhux jekk il-programmi informattivi ta' I-M.I.C. kinux jew le legali imma jekk persuni li huma ta' partiti politiċi differenti kellhomx aċċess għall-faċilitajiet u l-ħin tax-xandir biex huma wkoll jipprezentaw liċ-ċittadin il-fatti dwar il-kontroversja politika li dik l-informazzjoni mogħtija minn aġenzija governattiva, anke jekk awtonoma, tqanqal.

L-Awtorità hi biss konċernata bit-tqassim b'mod xieraq tal-faċilitajiet u l-ħin ta' xandir. Mhix konċernata bil-finanzjament ta' programmi u kull kwistjoni dwar dan kellha tiġi deċiża f'sede oħra.

- d) hu nnotat illi l-programmi ta' I-M.I.C. jagħtu informazzjoni dwar x'timplika sħubija sħiħa fl-Unjoni Ewropea. Ma jgħaddux għudizzju favur jew kontra sħubija. Jekk jirriżulta żbilanċ fattwali r-rimedju kellu neċessarjament ikun limitat għall-opportunità li jingħataw fatti rilevanti dwar in-nuqqas ta' sħubija anke jekk fid-dawl ta' alternattiva proposta għal sħubija. Dan peress illi fatti dwar l-alternattiva jistgħu jkunu rilevanti għall-formazzjoni ta' l-opinjoni pubblika fil-kontroversja politika jew fid-diskussjoni dwar il-*policy* pubblika kurrenti.

Id-*Chairman* allura jipproponi għall-kunsiderazzjoni ta' l-Awtorità illi l-kwistjoni tiġi dibattuta fid-dawl tal-premessi appena magħmula biex twassal għas-segwenti konklużjonijiet:

- a) li huwa opportun li fuq materja ta' kontroversja politika u ta' *policy* pubblika kurrenti u f'mument meta l-poplu kien qed jiġi mitlub jiżen biex jiddeċiedi, jiġi assigurat illi jkun hemm tqassim xieraq ta' faċilitajiet u ħin fil-limiti traċċati fis-sentenza tal-Qorti ta' l-Appell "Fenech Adami vs Pirotta" tal-Qorti ta' l-Appell tas-17 ta' Lulju 1997. F'dik is-sentenza ġie konsidrat li l-Qorti ma kinitx taqbel illi t-tqassim kellu neċessarjament f'kull każ ikun ekwiparat:

"... m'hemmx dubbju li parti sostanzjali tax-xandiriet kienu verament informattivi ta' aspett tekniku tal-liġi (aqra: ta' sħubija fl-Unjoni Ewropea) u l-iżbilanċ li ndubbjament inħoloq għandu jiġi arginat fil-parametri tal-kunsiderazzjonijiet li għamlet dik il-Qorti ..."

Dawn il-parametri, kif fuq aċċennat, ifissru l-għoti ta' ħin u faċilitajiet xierqa biex persuni ta' partiti politiċi diversi jkunu jistgħu jxandru l-fatti rilevanti għall-kontroversja politika.

L-Awtorità tifhem li, stante li ma kellhiex talba f'dan is-sens, il-Partit Nazzjonalista m'għandux oġġezzjoni dwar il-kontenut fattwali kif espost fil-programmi ta' I-M.I.C. kif lanqas jidher li għandha l-Alternattiva Demokratika. Fir-rigward ta' dawn, il-pożizzjoni tagħhom tibqa' riservata. Il-kontestazzjoni hi da parti tal-Partit Laburista li jsostni li hemm fatti fil-



programmi ta' I-M.I.C. li m'humiex korretti u / jew li kellhom id-dritt illi jxandru fatti oħra li huma relevanti għall-mertu minnhom kontestat.

- b) L-Awtorità allura tqies illi biex tiġi osservata l-imparzjalità hu sewwa li l-Partit Laburista jingħata l-opportunità li jxandar dawn il-fatti bħala eżerċizzju ta' informazzjoni.

Konformament mat-talba tiegħu, l-Awtorità tqis illi jkun ġust li jingħata rimedju billi l-Partit Laburista jkollu fakultà li fi programm / programmi li jixxandru f'hin simili għal dak/dawk oriġinati mill-M.I.C. u li jipproduċi hu stess jagħti l-fatti li jixtieq iġib a konjizzjoni tal-pubbliku relevanti għall-kontroversja politika u għall-*policy* pubblika kurrenti. Dawn il-programmi m'għandhomx komplessivament jeċċedu terz tal-hin tal-programmi oriġinati mill-M.I.C. u għandhom jiġu mxandra fuq il-mezzi tax-xandir pubbliku b'ordni ta' l-Awtorità biex tiġi assigurata l-imparzjalità fit-termini tal-Kostituzzjoni u tal-liġi.

Illi fir-rigward tal-programmi ta' diskussjoni inizjati mill-Awtorità hu notat illi l-Partit Nazzjonalista wkoll iħoss li jista' jkun hemm lok ta' titjib f'dan il-programm li jista' jirrendih aktar ħaj billi jkun hemm *cross debate*. Jirrelewa ukoll li waqt il-programm ikun possibbli jintwerew produzzjonijiet ippreparati mill-partecipanti biex b'mod viżiv iwasslu dak li jkunu se jgħidu. L-Awtorità taqbel ma' dan. Tifhem ukoll li format ġdid ta' dan il-programm jista' jagħti l-opportunità biex l-informazzjoni fattwali taż-żewġ naħat titwassal b'mod bilanċjat lit-tele spettatur. F'dan ir-rigward l-Awtorità hi mistiedna li tfassal format ġdid għall-programmi li fil-fehma tiegħi għandu jpoġġi fuq pjan differenti l-kontestazzjoni bejn il-partiti; is-C.N.I. u l-Moviment IVA; u korpi kostitwiti interessati. Dawn ta' l-aħħar għandhom jingħataw l-opportunità li jagħtu fehemthom dwar il-materja taħt eżami. Ma kellhomx però jitqiesu bl-istess mod bħall-partiti politiċi.

Chief Justice Emeritus Joseph Said Pullicino B.A. (Hons.), LL.D.

Chairman

29 ta' Mejju 2002



APPENDIX XVII

DECISION OF THE BROADCASTING AUTHORITY
REMEDY TO M.L.P. (CONCERNING M.I.C. SPOTS)

L-Awtorità tax-Xandir ikkunsidrat l-ilment tal-Partit Laburista datat 24 t'April 2002 fejn il-Partit ġab a konjizzjoni ta' l-Awtorità illi l-Partit Laburista ilu għal dawn l-aħħar snin jipprotesta ma' l-Awtorità tax-Xandir dwar ix-xandir ta' programmi u r-reklami fuq materja ta' kontroversja politika li jsiru miċ-Ċentru ta' l-Infommazzjoni dwar l-Unjoni Ewropea (M.I.C.) fuq il-mezzi tax-xandir lokali, u fejn talab dan li ġej:

“illi l-Awtorità tax-Xandir tassigura li l-programmi kollha ta' natura politika, ġrajjet kurrenti, u li jitrattaw suġġetti dwar materja ta' kontroversja politika u fl-istess ħin tirreferixxi għal *policy* pubblika kurrenti, għandhom jirrispettaw b'mod reali u effettiv dak li tgħid il-Kostituzzjoni;

illi kull reklam li l-kontenut tiegħu huwa dwar materja ta' kontroversja politika għandu jkun meqjus bħala spot politiku u għalhekk ix-xandir tiegħu għandu jkun projbit fuq kull stazzjon lokali, kemm tar-radju u tat-televiżjoni;

illi jekk l-Awtorità tax-Xandir tifhem li huwa fl-interess pubbliku li jkun hemm spazju fuq il-media pubblika biex tinholq diskussjoni dwar l-għażliet li għandu l-poplu Malti u Għawdx i dwar l-Unjoni Ewropea, dan l-ispazju għandu jkun organizzat mill-Awtorità tax-Xandir kif jipprovdi l-artikolu 19 tal-Pjan Nazzjonali għax-Xandir, magħmul parti mil-Liġi tax-Xandir bħala t-Tieni Skeda bis-saħħa ta' l-Art. 11 (1)(c) ta' l-Att, u fejn jieħdu sehem ir-rappreżentanti tal-partiti politiċi.”

Wara li qiset is-sottomissjonijiet tal-partijiet interessati, l-Awtorità ddeċidiet fis-seduta tad-29 ta' Mejju 2002 li taddotta nota għad-diskussjoni proposta lilha miċ-*Chairman* li twassal għas-segwenti konkluzjonijiet:

“a) li huwa opportun li fuq materja ta' kontroversja politika u ta' *policy* pubblika kurrenti u f'mument meta l-poplu kien qed jiġi mitlub jiżen biex jiddeċiedi, jiġi assigurat illi jkun hemm tqassim xieraq ta' faċilitajiet u ħin fil-limiti traċċati fis-sentenza tal-Qorti ta' l-Appell “Fenech Adami vs Pirota” tas-17 ta' Lulju 1997. F'dik is-sentenza ġie konsidrat li l-Qorti ma kinitx taqbel illi t-tqassim kellu neċessarjament f'kull każ ikun ekwiparat:



“ ... m’hemmx dubbju li parti sostanzjali tax-xandiriet kienu verament informattivi ta’ aspekk tekniku tal-liġi (aqra: ta’ sħubija fl-Unjoni Ewropea) u l-iżbilanċ li ndubbjament inħoloq għandu jiġi arġinat fil-parametri tal-kunsiderazzjonijiet li għamlet dik il-Qorti ...”.

Dawn il-parametri, kif fuq aċċennat, ifissru l-għoti ta’ ħin u faċilitajiet xierqa biex persuni ta’ partiti politiċi diversi jkunu jistgħu jxandru l-fatti rilevanti għall-kontroversja politika.

L-Awtorità tifhem li, stante li ma kellhiex talba f’dan is-sens, il-Partit Nazzjonalista m’għandux oġġezzjoni dwar il-kontenut fattwali kif espost fil-programmi ta’ l-M.I.C. kif lanqas jidher li għandha l-Alternattiva Demokratika. Fir-rigward ta’ dawn, il-pożizzjoni tagħhom tibqa’ riservata. Il-kontestazzjoni hi da parti tal-Partit Laburista li jsostni li hemm fatti fil-programmi ta’ l-M.I.C. li m’humieks korretti u / jew li kellihom id-dritt illi jxandru fatti oħra li huma rilevanti għall-mertu minnhom kontestat.

b) l-Awtorità allura tqies illi biex tiġi osservata l-imparzjalità hu sewwa li l-Partit Laburista jingħata l-opportunità li jxandar dawn il-fatti bħala eżerċizzju ta’ informazzjoni.

Konformament mat-talba tiegħu, l-Awtorità tqis illi jkun ġust li jingħata rimedju billi l-Partit Laburista jkollu fakultà li fi programm / programmi li jixxandru f’hin simili għal dak/dawk oriġinati mill-M.I.C. u li jipproduċi hu stess jagħti l-fatti li jixtieq iġib a konjizzjoni tal-pubbliku rilevanti għall-kontroversja politika u għall-*policy* pubblika kurrenti. Dawn il-programmi m’għandhomx komplessivament jeċċedu terz tal-ħin tal-programmi oriġinati mill-M.I.C. u għandhom jiġu mxandra fuq il-mezzi tax-xandir pubbliku b’ordni ta’ l-Awtorità biex tiġi assicurata l-imparzjalità fit-termini tal-Kostituzzjoni u tal-liġi.

Illi fir-rigward tal-programmi ta’ diskussjoni inizjati mill-Awtorità hu notat illi l-Partit Nazzjonalista wkoll iħoss li jista’ jkun hemm lok ta’ titjib f’dan il-programm li jista’ jirrendih aktar ħaj billi jkun hemm *cross debate*. Jirrelewa ukoll li waqt il-programm ikun possibbli jintwerew produzzjonijiet ippreparati mill-partecipanti biex b’mod viżiv iwasslu dak li jkunu se jgħidu. L-Awtorità taqbel ma’ dan. Tifhem ukoll li format ġdid ta’ dan il-programm jista’ jagħti l-opportunità biex l-informazzjoni fattwali taż-żewġ naħat titwassal b’mod bilanċjat lit-tele spettatur. F’dan ir-rigward l-Awtorità hi mistiedna li tfassal format ġdid għall-programmi li fil-fehma tiegħi għandu jpoġġi fuq



pjan differenti l-kontestazzjoni bejn il-partiti; is-C.N.I. u l-Moviment IVA; u korpi kostitwiti interessati. Dawn ta' l-aħħar għandhom jingħataw l-opportunità li jagħtu fehemthom dwar il-materja taħt eżami. Ma kellhomx però' jitqiesu bl-istess mod bħall-partiti politiċi.”

L-Awtorità tqis:

(1) din id-deċiżjoni in kwantu toloqt l-*ispots* konformi ma' oħra deċiża minnha (allura diversament komposta) fuq ilment simili meħuda fl-4 ta' Jannar 2001 li biha l-Partit Laburista kien ġie nfurmat:

“ ... illi l-Awtorità kienet iddiskutiet dawn l-*ispots* u ddeċidiet li in vista tal-fatt li l-kwistjoni dwar id-dħul jew le fl-Unjoni Ewropea hija waħda li dwarha hawn talba kbira għall-informazzjoni, u in vista tal-fatt li l-pubbliku għandu dritt li jkollu informazzjoni dwar l-aspetti kollha li jolqtu din il-*policy*, l-Awtorità għandha tippermetti li tiġi mxandra informazzjoni mill-angoli kollha dwar dan is-suġġett biex il-poplu jkun hekk infurmat.”

(2) illi din id-deċiżjoni m'hijiex maħsuba biex tgħaddi ġudizzju dwar l-operat ta' l-M.I.C. jew il-korrettezza tal-kontenut ta' l-*ispots*.

Biex tagħti effett għal din id-deċiżjoni l-Awtorità tinfurmak illi:

- a) ir-rimedju għall-ilment għandu jingħata b'effett mill-10 ta' Ġunju 2002;
- b) il-ħin li għandu jiġi allokat skond id-deċiżjoni tad-29 ta' Mejju 2002 għall-ġhoti ta' informazzjoni mill-M.L.P. fuq ix-xandir pubbliku jkun komputat mill-Awtorità kull ġimgħa b'effett mis-17 ta' Ġunju 2002. Il-Partit Laburista jkun liberu li juża dak il-ħin li jirriżulta hekk komputat kif jidhirlu soġġett li:
 - a. jiġi wżat biss għal produzzjoni u xandir ta' *information spots* fattwali rilevanti għall-alternattiva għas-sħubija fl-Unjoni Ewropea bla ma jingħataw opinjonijiet;
 - b. dawn l-*ispots* bhal tal-M.I.C. jiġu sottomessi għall-approvazzjoni ta' l-Awtorità skond it-termini tad-deċiżjoni fuq espressa;
 - c. ikunu ta' durata ta' bejn 5 u 60 sekonda u għandhom jiġu *rounded off* għall-fini ta' kalkolu *f'multiples* ta' ħames sekondi;



- d. dawn *I-spots* prodotti mill-M.L.P. ikunu mxandra fuq l-istazzjonijiet tax-xandir pubbliku f'hinijiet magħżula mill-M.L.P. iżda f'intervalli diġà riservati mill-PBS Ltd. għar-reklami;
- e. ix-xandir pubbliku jipprovdi faċilitajiet u l-ħin skond kif hawn fuq għax-xandir ta' dawn *I-spots* prodotti mill-M.L.P. b'dan li jkun hemm intervall ta' ħin ta' mhux anqas minn kwarta bejn ix-xandir ta' *spots* ta' fehmiet differenti;
- f. dawn *I-spots* għandhom ikunu jidentifikati sewwa fuq *I-iscreen* tat-televiżjoni bil-*logo* tal-Partit Laburista;
- g. dawn *I-spots* iridu jixxandru minn PBS Ltd. b'ordni ta' l-Awtorità tax-Xandir;
- h. dawn *I-spots* għandhom jaslu għand l-Awtorità jumejn tax-xogħol qabel id-data tat-trasmissjoni fuq beta tape u VHS tape.

L-Awtorità ttrisserva d-dritt li tirregola x-xandir ta' *I-spots* kollha jekk u meta hekk jidhirlha li ċ-ċirkostanzi jirrikjedu. F'kull każ *I-spots* kollha, joriginaw minn fejn joriginaw, jieqfu immedjatament li jiġihbar il-bidu ta' kampanja referendarja jew elettorali jew minn meta jibdew iseħħu arrangamenti oħra.

6 ta' Ġunju 2002



APPENDIX XVIII

**DEĊIŻJONI DWAR L-ILMENTI
TAL-P.N., A.D., MOVIMENT IVA, C.N.I. U F.M.I.**

L-Awtorità jeħtiġilha issa tikkunsidra t-talbiet tal-Partit Nazzjonalista u ta' l-Alternattiva Demokratika biex jiġu mogħtija l-opportunità li jxandru b'xejn spots dwar Malta u l-Unjoni Ewropea fuq PBS Ltd. Huma jsostnu li kien inħoloq żbilanċ li jippreġudikhom wara d-deċiżjoni ta' l-Awtorità tas-6 ta' Ġunju 2002 konfermata bħala valida b'sentenza tal-Prim'Awla tal-Qorti Ċivili tal-5 ta' Settembru 2002, issa fl-istadju ta' l-appell.

Qed jitolbu ukoll formalment l-istess faċilità l-Moviment IVA u s-C.N.I. - dawn ta' l-aħħar istitwew proċeduri ġudizzjarji li għadhom pendenti - u informalment u indirettament il-*Front Maltin Inqumu* li qed jesiġi l-istess trattament bħall-movimenti l-oħra. Wieħed jifhem illi l-partiti politiċi għandhom jiġu trattati b'mod divers mill-movimenti, dan anke għax japplikaw għalihom kunsiderazzjonijiet differenti fit-termini tal-Kostituzzjoni u ta' l-Att dwar ix-Xandir.

It-Talbiet tal-P.N. u l-A.D.

1) Jiġi sottolinjat illi r-rimedju li ngħata lill-Partit Laburista bid-deċiżjoni tas-6 ta' Ġunju 2002 kien sugġerit mill-ħtieġa li l-Awtorità tosserva l-obbligu tagħha li tassigura sa fejn hu possibbli imparzjalità dovuta f'materja ta' kontroversja politika u li jirrigwardjaw *public policy* kurrenti. Mhux kontestat u hu illum stabbilit ġudizzjarjament li d-dibattitu dwar sħubija ta' Malta fl-Unjoni Ewropeja hu materja ta' din ix-xorta. L-artikolu 119 (1) tal-Kostituzzjoni fl-ewwel parti tiegħu li in osservanza tiegħu ngħata r-rimedju, jesiġi imparzjalità dovuta mingħajr ebda kwalifika. Dan ifisser li xejn u ħadd ma kien eżenti mill-osservanza ta' dan l-obbligu kostituzzjonali. Ifisser ukoll li l-imparzjalità dovuta kellha testendi mhux biss għal dak li hu espressjoni ta' opinjoni imma wkoll għal dak li hu enunċjazzjoni ta' fatt. Kien għalhekk id-dover tal-PBS li fl-ewwel lok tosserva dan l-obbligu meta aċċettat l-iskema dwar spots bi hlas li jirrigwardjaw materja tax-xorta taħt eżami.

2) Hi skorretta l-fehma li f'materja fattwali ma setax ikun hemm żbilanċ. Dan ġie ampjament spjegat fid-deċiżjoni ta' l-Awtorità tas-6 ta' Ġunju 2002 kif ukoll fis-sentenza fuq ċitata. Fatti assolutament korretti jistgħu jiġu esposti b'mod parzjali u dan mhux neċessarjament volutament. Biżżejjed jingħad per eżempju li l-fatti rilevanti - pożittivi u negattivi - għal min iqis jekk sħubija sħiħa kinitx vantaġġjuża jew le għal Malta ma kinux eżattament ko-estensivi u l-istess bħal dawk ta' min ma kienx iqis sħubija sħiħa bħala għażla għal Malta għax kien konvint li kien hemm



alternattivi għal tali shubija. Il-fatt li l-ispots tal-M.I.C. kienu iqisu biss l-ewwel ipotezi - dan għustament għax kienet din biss li taqa' fit-termini tal-funzjonijiet tagħha - kien fih innifsu potenzjalment joħloq parzjalità fattwali għax kien jiskarta l-fatti li fuqhom kienet ibbażata l-alternattiva proposta għal shubija shiħa. Din il-pożizzjoni ta' l-Awtorità għet avvalata mis-sentenzi fuq citati;

3) L-eżerċizzju korrettorju magħmul bid-deċiżjoni ta' l-Awtorità kien allura wieħed prettament intiż biex sa fejn possibbli jirripristina bilanċ fil-kamp tal-fatt u mhux fil-kamp ta' l-opinjoni. Kif sewwa osservat il-Qorti fil-materja ta' shubija fl-Unjoni Ewropea hemm żewġ kampi distinti u netti: dak favur shubija shiħa u dak kontra shubija shiħa - ara sentenza citazz 711/02 pp 28-29.

Id-domanda referendarja kjarament kellha tinvesti propriu dan il-kweżit: min kien favur shubija shiħa u min kien kontra. Ma jistax ikun hemm triq tan-nofs. Il-fatti rilevanti għall-formazzjoni ta' l-opinjoni pubblika kellhom bil-fors jestendu għal dawk il-fatti pożittivi u negattivi li jimmilitaw favur is-shubija - ukoll fid-dawl ta' dak li kien qed jiġi negozjat ma' l-Unjoni Ewropea - (dawn kienu qed jiġu proposti mill-M.I.C. fl-ispots tagħha) - imma wkoll għal dawk il-fatti li huma l-baži tal-programm alternattiv oppost għal shubija shiħa. Kien għalhekk li l-Awtorità ipprovdit rimedju.

4) Hu sintomatu li kull naħa qed tallega li l-ispots tal-parti l-oħra għandhom ineżattezzi jekk mhux addirittura skorrettezzi fattwali. Mhux il-kompitu ta' l-Awtorità li tippronunzja ruħha dwar dawn l-allegazzjonijiet reciproċi. Wieħed jistenna illi fid-dibattitu opinjonistiku bilanċjat bejn il-partiti fuq il-fatti kif proposti dawn il-konflitti jiġu ventilati u ċ-ċittadin ikun f'qagħda jasal għal konvinċiment tiegħu. Lanqas hu korrett li jingħad li filwaqt li l-ispots tal-M.I.C. huma ovvjament fattwali għax ibbażati fuq dak li kien qiegħed jiġi negozjat u konkluz ma' l-Unjoni Ewropea in eżekuzzjoni ta' mandat elettorali li kellu l-gvern, dawk tal-Partit Laburista ma setgħu jkunu qatt fattwali għax kienu bbażati fuq ipoteżijiet li ma setgħux illum jiġu attwati. Apparti l-fatt li tezi simili kienet essenzjalment anti-demokratika għax teskludi a priori d-dritt li ċ-ċittadin ikollu l-opportunità li jqis programm avanzat mill-partit li ma kienx fil-gvern bħala alternattiva valida għall-politika dikjarata tal-gvern meta kien qed jiġi mitlub jiddeċiedi u li allura l-elettorat kellu jiddeċiedi biss fuq jekk dak li ġie negozjat kienx vantaġġjuż għall-pajjiż bla ma jqis ebda alternattiva oħra, hu wkoll fatt li dak li kien qed jiġi negozjat u provvisorjament konkluz għadu sugġett għall-proċess ta' ratifika mhux l-anqas permezz ta' l-istess *referendum*. Jidher għalhekk li l-għażla proposta quddiem il-poplu f'din il-materja ta' kontroversja politika kellha bażikament titqiegħed fit-termini ta' min hu favur dak li ġie negozjat u konkluz ma' l-Unjoni Ewropea mill-gvern - u dan hu fatt - u min hu kontra. Kemm min kien kontra kemm min kien favur seta' jkollu l-għudizzju tiegħu format mill-fatt illi l-partit fl-Oppożizzjoni kien qed jipproponi alternattiva li għalih kienet aħjar minn shubija shiħa u anzi kienet teskludiha. Il-kontenut ta' din l-alternattiva kien fatt rilevanti. Finalment l-għażla kienet



fidejn iċ-ċittadin li kellu jiżen mhux biss liema proposta kienet l-aktar vantaġġjuża għall-pajjiż imma wkoll liema waħda kienet l-aktar taṅġibbli u fattibbli.

5) F'dan ix-xenarju għandu jkun ovvju illi - limitat għal dak li jirrigwardja l-bilanċ fattwali a differenza ta' l-opinjoni dwarhom - m'hemmx lok għall-għoti ta' informazzjoni fattwali li tmur oltre dik prodotta miż-żewġ kampi opposti - dak li huwa favur sħubija sħiħa u dak li huwa kontra tali sħubija. Jiġi sottolineat illi safien jista' jiġi assigurat kemm l-ispots tal-M.I.C. kif ukoll dawk ta' l-M.L.P. ma jesprimu l-ebda invit lit-tele spettaturi biex jaqblu jew ma jaqblux mal-kontenut tagħhom. L-Awtorità tesigi li ma jkunux direttament maħsuba biex iħajru lit-tele spettatur biex jabbraċċja tezi u mhux oħra anke jekk mhux eskluż li dan jagħmluh b'mod indirett. L-Awtorità kellha f'diversi okkażjonijiet tintervjeni biex sa fejn possibbli tassigura li l-ispots ta' naħa u ta' oħra jkunu fattwali.

6) Mill-premess toħroġ il-konklużjoni illi jidher li ma hemm ebda fteigħa li l-P.N. u l-A.D. jingħataw ir-rimedju li qed jitolbu għax fir-rigward tagħhom ma kien qed jinħoloq l-ebda żbilanċ kif minnhom pretiż. Jingħad infatti:

- a) ir-rimedju li ngħata lill-M.L.P. hu maħsub biex jagħmel tajjeb għal żbilanċ fattwali li rriżulta mix-xandir ta' l-ispots tal-M.I.C. liema spots effettivament jesprimu proprju dawk li huma l-fatti rilevanti għal kull min iqis sħubija sħiħa bħala t-triq li kellu jabbraċċja l-pajjiż. Din hi proprju l-politika dikjarata ta' dawn iż-żewġ partiti;
- b) ma kien hemm qatt ilment la mill-P.N. u lanqas mill-A.D. li l-ispots tal-M.I.C. ma kinux fedelment jesponu l-fatti dwar din il-politika. Dan lanqas ġie sottomess lill-Awtorità wara li ngħatat id-deċiżjoni kontestata;
- c) Għalkemm il-M.I.C. hu enti awtonomu mill-Gvern u jirrispondi lill-MEUSAC ma jista' jkun hemm l-ebda dubbu li l-operat tiegħu hu approvat mill-Gvern u jirrifletti fedelment dak li eventwalment se jitqiegħed għall-approvazzjoni ta' l-elettorat. Diffiċilment jista' wieħed isostni li l-P.N. għandu politika li tiddistingwi ruħha sostanzjalment minn dik tal-Gvern almenu fuq bażi strettament fattwali;
- d) Ir-rimedju li ngħata mill-Awtorità lill-M.L.P. kien fil-konfront ta' l-ispots tal-M.I.C. L-Awtorità ma tarax li tali rimedju seta' joħloq żbilanċ fil-konfront taż-żewġ partiti politiċi l-oħra li ċertament ma kienu bl-ebda mod preġudikati mill-ispots tal-M.I.C.;
- e) L-A.D. hu wkoll dikjaratament favur sħubija sħiħa. Ma tipprospetta l-ebda alternattiva għaliha. M'għandha l-ebda riżerva dwarha anke jekk hi tal-fehma li dak li kien qed jiġi



negozjat seta' taht ċerti aspetti ġie negozjat mod ieħor jew aħjar. Din materja ta' opinjoni li għandha tkun oġġett ta' dibattitu in sede propria. L-Awtorità infatti tqis illi kellha tipprowdi programmi ta' diskussjoni adegwati f'dan ir-rigward u kien għalhekk li qed thejji skemi li jagħtu l-opportunità kemm lill-partiti politiċi kif ukoll lill-movimenti u persuni oħra interessati biex iwasslu l-fehma tagħhom. Skedi li għandhom jirrispettaw in-normi ta' bilanċ imposti fuq l-Awtorità mit-tieni parti ta' l-artikolu 119(1) tal-Kostituzzjoni.

It-Talbiet tal-Movimenti IVA, C.N.I. u F.M.I.

Jekk l-Awtorità tqis li m'hemmx lok għal għoti ta' rimedju lill-P.N. u l-A.D. - partiti politiċi rikonoxxuti mill-Kostituzzjoni u mill-Att dwar ix-Xandir bħala intitolati bi dritt li f'ċerti ċirkostanzi jingħataw lehen fuq il-mezzi tax-xandir - wisq anqas m'huma intitolati għal rimedju dawn il-movimenti. It-talbiet tagħhom ma jistgħux jiġu milqugħa billi żgur ma jistgħux jippretendu li jiġu ekwiparati ma' u ttrattati bħal partiti politiċi. Ċertament l-Awtorità tirrikonoxxi l-eżistenza tagħhom u tagħtihom l-opportunità li jsemmgħu l-fehma tagħhom bl-istess mod li tagħti opportunità lill-entijiet u organizzazzjonijiet oħra. Dan tagħmlu in eżekuzzjoni tal-funzjoni propja tagħha li tiffavoroxxi l-pluraliżmu fix-xandir, kemm pubbliku kif ukoll privat, u biex tassigura li f'dibattitu dwar materja ta' kontroversja politika u ta' *public policy* kurrenti tagħti spazju lil espressjoni ta' *spectrum* wiesa' ta' ideat u opinjonijiet. Dan mhux pero' bi dritt, imma b'eżerċizzju ta' diskrezzjoni tagħha. Naturalment meta hekk tagħmel l-Awtorità hi intenzjonata titratta l-movimenti kollha interessati li jesprimu fehemthom f'din il-materja fuq ix-xandir pubbliku bl-istess mod *on a level playing field*. Anke hawn l-Awtorità qed thejji skeda ta' programmi biex dan il-għan jintlaħaq. F'dan ir-rigward tajjeb jingħad li s-C.N.I. pproċediet ġudizjarjament biex il-Qorti tiddefinixxi d-drittijiet minnha pretiżi f'dan il-kuntest. Ikun allura prudenti li anke f'dan l-Awtorità tiegħu konjizzjoni ta' eventwali ġudikat fil-kawża li l-eżitu tagħha ikollu bilfors rifless fuq it-talbiet tal-movimenti l-oħra.

1 t'Ottubru 2002



APPENDIX XIX

**SPEECH DELIVERED BY CHAIRMAN
DURING AUTHORITY'S VISIT TO
H.E. THE PRESIDENT OF MATA**



Eċċellenza,

Hu doveruż li l-ewwel impenn uffiċjali ta' l-Awtorità tax-Xandir riċentement kostitwita tkun vista ta' kortesija lilek, bħala President tar-Repubblika, bħala l-garanti tal-Kostituzzjoni, bl-impenn li tassigura dawk il-provvedimenti tagħha essenzjali għat-tħaddim tal-proċess demokratiku fir-rispett sħiħ tad-drittijiet fundamentali, fosthom dak tal-libertà ta' l-espressjoni. Kif hu magħruf, l-Awtorità għandha funzjoni duppliċi. Dik primarja bħala strument kostituzzjonali, propju biex tassigura dan id-dritt fundamentali tal-libertà ta' l-espressjoni fl-isfond ta' ekwità, imparzjalità u ugwaljanza ta' opportunità, u dik sekondarja, iżda xejn anqas importanti, li hi dik il-funzjoni organizzattiva mmirata lejn l-implimentazzjoni fil-prattika tal-politika salutari tal-pluraliżmu fix-xandir. Fl-eżerċizzju tal-funzjoni kostituzzjonali tagħha, l-Awtorità kienet obbligata li tiżgura li, sa fejn ikun possibbli, f'dawk is-servizzi ta' xandir ta' smiġ u televiżjoni li jistgħu jkunu provduti f'Malta tiġi miżmuma mparzjalità xierqa dwar hwejjeġ ta' kontroversja politika jew industrijali jew li jirreferixxu għal *policy* pubblika kurrenti u illi l-faċilitajiet u l-ħin tax-xandir huma mqassma b'mod xieraq bejn persuni li jkunu ta' partiti politiċi differenti. Dan l-artikolu tal-Kostituzzjoni, miktub allura fi żmien meta kien jeżisti biss servizz tax-xandir ta' l-Istat u meta l-pluraliżmu kien għadu biss holma ta' xi whud, għadu validu llum u kull kelma tiegħu kellha tiġi valorizzata fid-dawl tar-realtà taż-żieda mpressjonanti ta' stazzjonijiet tar-radju u televiżjoni li qiegħdin iservu s-soċjetà u li tagħhom ilkoll allura l-Awtorità hi bil-Kostituzzjoni u bil-liġi regolatur.

Sewwa jingħad illi f'Malta hawn illum seba' stazzjonijiet tat-televiżjoni u tlettax-il stazzjon tar-radju li joperaw fuq territorju nazzjonali. Hemm wieħed u għoxrin stazzjon tar-radju tal-komunità jxandru fuq bażi permanenti u numru dejjem jiżdida ta' stazzjonijiet li joperaw okkażjonalment għal skop partikolari. L-obbligu kostituzzjonali ta' l-Awtorità li tiġi miżmuma mparzjalità xierqa mhuwiex



limitat għall-mezzi tax-xandir pubbliku imma jestendi għal dawk is-servizzi ta' xandir ta' smiġ u televiżjoni kollha f'Malta, nkluzi allura l-istazzjonijiet privati, kemm dawk kummerċjali, kemm dawk tal-partiti politiċi jew xort'oħra.



L-Awtorità ma tistax tabdika għal din il-funzjoni kostituzzjonali. Dan propju għaliex il-Kostituzzjoni tesiġi illi fl-eżerċizzju ta' din il-funzjoni l-Awtorità ma kellhiex tkun soġġetta għad-direzzjoni jew kontroll ta' xi persuna jew awtorità oħra. Eċċellenza, dan qed ngħidu propju għaliex għandu jiġi sottolinjat illi l-Kostituzzjoni, b'għaqa kbir, ipprovdiet illi l-Awtorità tax-Xandir ikollha awtonomija sħiħa fl-eżerċizzju tal-funzjonijiet kostituzzjonali tagħha u li l-operat u ġudizzju tagħha biex, fejn meħtieġ, tassigura mparzjalità u bilanċ xieraq, ma jkunu sindakabbli minn ħadd. Din l-awtonomija tagħti saħħa u responsabbiltà kbira lil kull wieħed u waħda mill-membri ta' din l-Awtorità li huma obbligati jaġixxu skond il-kuxjenza tagħhom, skond il-konvinzjonijiet personali tagħhom, b'mod oġġettiv, realistiku u mparzjali u mingħajr ma jhossuhom suġġetti għad-direzzjoni jew kontroll ta' xi persuna jew awtorità oħra. L-anqas allura suġġetti għad-direzzjoni jew kontroll tal-persuna li nnominathom jew ħatritom. Hu propju minn din l-awtonomija illi l-Awtorità takkwista statura u awtorevolezza fid-direttivi tagħha.

Eċċellenza, l-Att ta' l-1991 dwar ix-Xandir ipprospetta Awtorità tax-Xandir b'saħħitha u proattiva b'responsabbiltajiet li timmotiva xandir ħieles u pluralistiku, fir-rispett ukoll tal-kriterji ta' bilanċ u mparzjalità sanciti fil-Kostituzzjoni. L-Awtorità hi allura mgħobbija bid-dover li tintervjeni tempestivament biex tipprevjeni li jinholoq żbilanċ jew parzjalità. Bilanċ u mparzjalità jistgħu jiġu, bla wisq diffikultà, assicurati meta kull min hu nteressat jipproffessa u jwettaq il-prinċipju tat-tixrid ta' l-informazzjoni fid-dawl tal-verità u fid-dibattitu għal kolloxx ħieles u miftuħ, onest u korrett mal-kontro-parti.

Dan, Eċċellenza, hu l-awgurju tiegħi għas-snin ta' ħidma li l-Awtorità għandha quddiemha, imma aktar u aktar f'mument meta l-pajjiż riesaq lejn mument ta' deċiżjoni li tista' tkun storika għall-futur politiku tiegħu. F'mument allura meta ma jistax ma jkunx fl-interess tal-partijiet soċjali kollha li jassiguraw li l-għażliet li l-poplu kien ser jiġi msejjaħ jagħmel, jitqieghdu quddiem iċ-ċittadin b'mod fattwalment korrett u lealment, anke jekk b'saħħa, dibattuti f'ambjenti politiċi kontrastanti fir-riċerka ta' dak li hu fil-veru ġid tal-pajjiż. Proċess demokratiku dan li wieħed jawgura li jsir lil hinn mill-interessi settarji tal-partiġjanizmu politiku. Proċess demokratiku li fih l-Awtorità għandha rwol vitali x'taqdi u li jien ċert li mhux ser tabdika għalih.



APPENDIX XX

SPEECH BY CHAIRMAN CODE ON NEWS AND CURRENT AFFAIRS SEMINAR



From Left to Right: Mr. Tonio Bonello; Mr. Gino Cauchi; Mr Charles Mizzi, Chairperson of Advisory Committee; Dr. Joseph Said Pullicino, Chairman Broadcasting Authority; Mr. Pierre Portelli, and Fr. Noel Grima.

L-Awtorità tax-Xandir hasset il-~~hija~~ ^{hija} li tirrevedi ż-żewġ Linji Gwida li hija għandha, wieħed dwar il-bulletin ta' l-aħbarijiet u l-iehor dwar programmi ta' ġrajjet kurrenti u għalhekk bdiet konsultazzjoni mal-pubbliku u max-xandara bl-għan li jtfassal kodiċi ġdid dwar l-aħbarijiet u l-ġrajjet kurrenti.

L-aħħar revizjoni għall-Linji Gwida ta' l-Awtorità tax-Xandir dwar l-Aħbarijiet tmur lura għal Diċembru 1994 mentre l-aħħar revizjoni tal-Linji Gwida dwar programmi ta' ġrajjet kurrenti saret f'Jannar 1993. M'hemmx dubbju li bil-pluraliżmu fix-xandir li kellna f'dawn l-aħħar snin wara li ġiet fil-sehħ il-ligi tax-Xandir fl-1991 kien hemm hteġa li dawn iż-żewġ linji gwida jiġu aġġornati sabiex jirriflettu l-mezzi tax-xandir tal-lum.

Bizżejjed jingħad illi wara li ġie introdott il-pluraliżmu fix-xandir, l-*ispectrum* tal-media inbidel totalment. Illum il-ġurnata hemm sitt stazzjonijiet tat-televizjoni (*TVM, Channel 12, Channel 22, Super 1 TV, Net TV u Smash TV*) bi tnejn minnhom jingarru biss fuq il-*cable* (l-istazzjon tal-Komunità u *Education 22*) filwaqt li l-erbgha l-oħra jingarru kemm fuq il-*cable* kif ukoll b'mod terrestri.

Fejn jidhul ir-radju, b'kollox hemm 14-il stazzjon tar-radju nazzjonali, tlettax minnhom liċenzjati mill-Awtorità u wieħed minnhom liċenzjat mill-Gvern (*Voice of the Mediterranean*). Dawn it-tlettax ir-radju jinqasmu fi tliet kategoriji prinċipali, dawk kummerċjali, dawk ta' servizz pubbliku u dawk politiċi.



Innovazzjoni ġdida bil-liġi tax-xandir kienet ir-radji tal-komunità. Bhalissa l-Awtorità lliċenzjat 21 radju tal-komunità. Dawn ir-radji jiet ixandru għal perjodu ta' sentejn u, apparti dawn il-21 radju, l-Awtorità tagħti liċenzji wkoll għal radji oħra tal-komunità li jxandru għall-perjodu ta' anqas minn xahar.

Fl-aħħarnett, ta' min jinnota li bl-emendi ta' l-2000 għall-Att dwar ix-Xandir jistgħu jiġu liċenzjati wkoll stazzjonijiet televiżivi tat-*teleshopping* kif wkoll stazzjonijiet li jxandru permezz tas-satellita.

Dan kollu juri kif f'perjodu ta' kwazi tlettax-il sena, ix-xenarju ta' xandir inbidel.

Konxja minn dawn it-tibdiliet kollha, l-Awtorità f'asset li wasal il-bżonn li tirrevedi l-linji gwida ta' l-aħbarijiet u tal-ġrajjet kurrenti fil-dawl ta' l-esperjenza ta' dawn l-aħħar tnax-il sena. Għal dan il-ghan, l-Awtorità waqqfet sotto-kumitat taħt il-presidenza tas-Sur Charles Mizzi, ġurnalist professjonista u ex-membru ta' l-Awtorità tax-Xandir sabiex bl-assistenza tas-Sinjuri Joe A. Vella, Ray Bugeja, Tonio Farrugia u Ariadne Massa jippreparaw kodiċi dwar l-aħbarijiet u l-ġrajjet kurrenti. Il-membri ta' dan is-sotto-kumitat intagħżlu fuq il-bażi ta' esperjenza li huma kellhom jew għandhom kemm bħala ġurnalisti tal-*print media* kif ukoll ġurnalisti tax-xandir.

Il-proċess biex jiġu riveduti dawn il-linji gwida ma kienx wieħed qasir. L-Awtorità tat struzzjonijiet ċari u preċizi lis-sotto-kumitat tagħha biex jikkonsulta b'mod mill-aktar wiesgħa ma' kulhadd, speċjalment mal-ġurnalisti involuti fix-xandir. Kull membru tas-sotto-kumitat beda jiltaqa' mal-kapijiet tal-kmamar ta' l-aħbarijiet u ġrajjet kurrenti sabiex jieh u l-*feedback* tagħhom kemm dwar il-kontenut tal-linji gwida dwar l-aħbarijiet u l-ġrajjet kurrenti li għandhom applikabbli sal-lum kif ukoll biex jara x'suġġerimenti huma għandhom għall-aġġornament ta' dawn il-linji gwida.

Wara li saru dawn il-laqgħat kollha tnejja l-ewwel abbozz ta' Kodiċi dwar l-Aħbarijiet u l-Ġrajjet Kurrenti mis-sotto-kumitat. Għall-konvenjenza ġie deċiż li jkun aktar prattiku li l-linji gwida ma jibqgħux aktar żewġ dokumenti separati imma jiġu nkluzi f'dokument wieħed kif ukoll li d-dokument ma jkunx fi forma ta' linji gwida imma fi forma ta' Kodiċi halli b'hekk ikollu s-saħħa ta' liġi.

Wara li s-sotto-kumitat lesta l-abbozz tal-Kodiċi, dan għadda għand l-Awtorità u l-istess sotto-kumitat spjega lill-Awtorità l-ħsieb wara l-varji artikoli f'dan il-Kodiċi. L-Awtorità approvat il-Kodiċi bħala Abbozz u ċċirkulatu fil-mezzi tax-xandir u ma' l-istampa għall-kummenti mill-pubbliku.



Sfortunament, ir-rispons tal-pubbliku kien wiehed fqir. Madankollu, is-suġġerimenti li waslu, għalkemm f'it, kienu ta' sustanza. L-Awtorità rċeviet proposti studjati u dettaljati ħafna mingħand l-Għaqda tal-Konsumaturi, il-*Public Broadcasting Services Limited*, *Radju RTK*, Ms. Sylvana Debono u s-Sur Joseph Flask. Peress li dawn il-kummenti kienu lkoll magħmulin bil-ħsieb u li eżaminaw bir-reqqa kollha dak li kien qed jiġi propost fl-abbozz tal-kodiċi, l-Awtorità tat struzzjonijiet lis-sotto-kumitat biex jiltaqa' ma' kull wiehed minn dawn il-ħames persuni biex flimkien miegħu jew magħha jiddiskuti s-suġġerimenti li saru. Wara li spiċċaw dawn il-laqqgħat kollha, is-sotto-kumitat ippreżenta l-aħħar verżjoni ta' l-abbozz tal-Kodiċi dwar Ġrajjet Kurrenti u l-Awtorità ddeċidiet illi qabel ma tgħaddi biex tapprovah, bi jew mingħajr emendi, tisma' r-reazzjoni kemm ta' l-istazzjonijiet kollha kif ukoll ta' erba' persuni b'esperjenza fil-qasam tal-ġurnalizmu biex jagħtu r-reazzjoni tagħhom għal dan id-dokument. Għalhekk qed isir dan is-seminar tal-lum.

Bħala *Chairman* ta' l-Awtorità tax-Xandir ma nistax ma nirringrazzjax fl-ewwel lok is-Sur Charles Mizzi u l-erba' membri tas-sotto-kumitat tiegħu għax-xogħol siewi li wettqu biex seta' jsir dan il-Kodiċi, lill-ħames persuni li għamlu sottomissjonijiet eruditi dwaru; lill-erba' kelliema li aċċettaw li jagħtu r-reazzjoni tagħhom għal dan il-Kodiċi kif ukoll lilkom hawnhekk preżenti li aċċettajt tipparteċipaw f'dan is-seminar biex tressqu s-suġġerimenti tagħkom.

Wara li jispiċċa dan is-seminar, is-sotto-kumitat se jerġa' jevalwa mill-ġdid dak kollu li jkun gie diskuss hawnhekk u jagħmel it-tibdiliet kollha meħtieġa fl-abbozz. Kif huma jtemmu dan ix-xogħol, il-Kodiċi jgħaddi għand l-Awtorità biex hija stess tiddiskuti u tapprovah.

Issa għalhekk ngħaddi biex nintroduċi lis-Sur Charles Mizzi, *Chairman* tal-Kumitat Konsultattiv ta' l-Awtorità tax-Xandir dwar l-Aħbarijiet u l-Ġrajjet Kurrenti sabiex ikun jista' jintroduċi l-kontenut ta' l-abbozz tal-Kodiċi dwar l-Aħbarijiet u Ġrajjet Kurrenti.



22nd January 2003 - The Halland Hotel, Tal-Ibraġġ, St. Andrews



APPENDIX XXI

BROADCASTING INDUSTRY SURVEY 2002

During May 2000, a questionnaire was sent to all broadcasting stations requesting a breakdown of personnel employed, by nationality, by type of employment and by grade. Quite a number of interesting factors surfaced; among which are the following:

- While 45% of all foreigners employed were female only 25% of all employees were female;
- Broadcasting stations rely heavily on outside contributors 77%
- [2.7 Male : 1 Female];
- While the highest percentages in employment for females were in the clerical and ancillary services category [31% and 34%], only 1% of all employees were females in the administration category.

	Male %	Female %	Total %
Administration	84	16	15
Technical	78	22	80
Clerical	19	81	3
Ancillary	86	14	2
Total	77%	23%	100%
Part-time	68%	32%	46%

During 2002 a similar survey was again conducted during the month of May 2002. From the respondents received, 23% of all employees were females, with the highest percentage of female employees being in the Clerical Category-81%. Female representation achieved a slightly higher percentage with regard to part-time employees [32%].

Of interest, however, are the top posts: where the station was directed by an organizing committee the percentage of females to males was that of 40% to 60%; on the other hand only 12.6% of board directors were females – see Table 1.

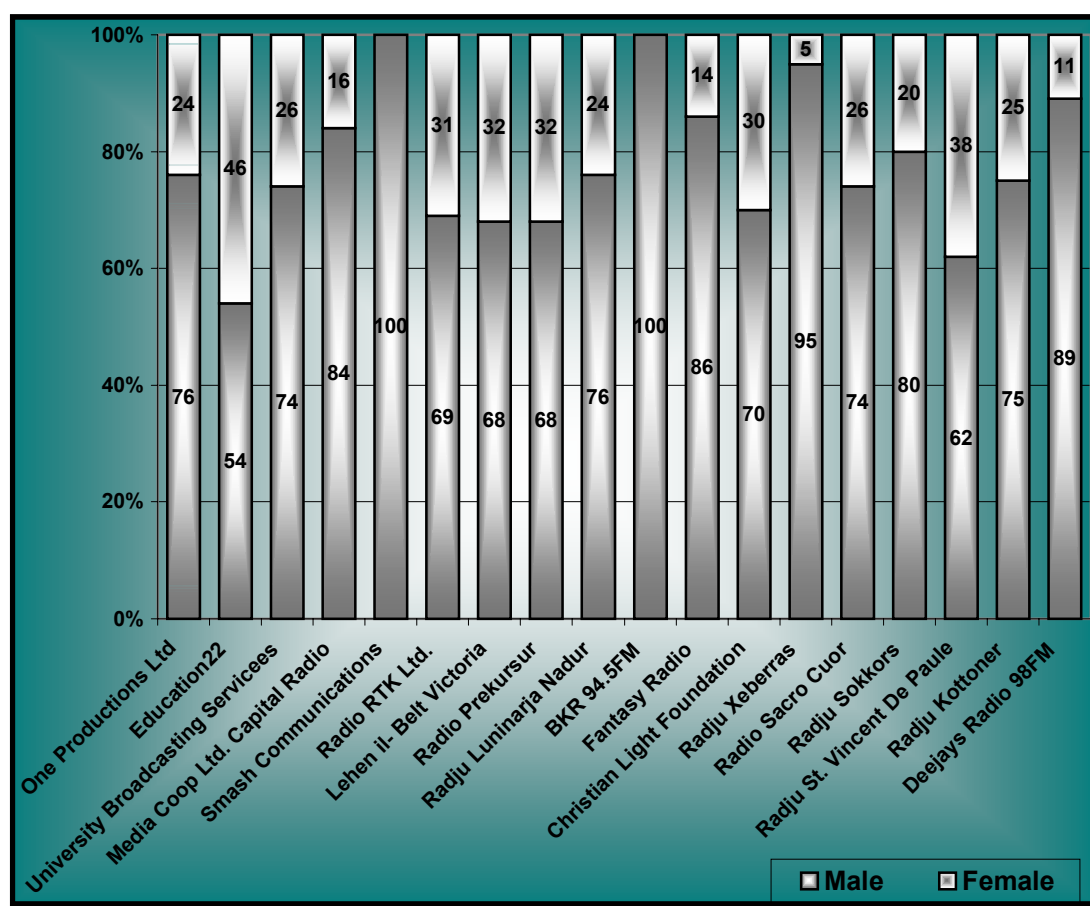
Nearly all of the respondents had a female complement; with the exception of Smash Communication with a staff of 4 and BKR Radio, a football club with a complement of 85 voluntary male supporters. The highest percentage achieved is that of Education 22 [46%F : 54%M] followed by Radju St. Vincent de Paule [38%F : 62%M]. Figure 1 below represents the percentage spread of each respondent.



In reply to the question “How many people received pre-job training in 2001?” only 4.5% received such training and of which 23.5% were females. During the year, 6.7% were currently receiving training while working, of which 37.7% were females. With regard to the level of education of the workforce, 45.8% of all employees have a secondary level of education [26.8% females and 73.2% males]; 15.6% have tertiary education [34% females and 66% males]; and 8.2% have post-graduate education [21.5% females and 78.5% males]. On the other hand, promotions were not in the pipeline during the last year: only two females received a promotion from their employers.

To the question “How many are under 35 years”, 33.5% of all employees are in this age bracket: of these 28.5% are females and 71.6% are males.

During the year, 20 employees have left their organisation: of these 25% were females and 75% were males. None of these have abstained their employment neither for maternity leave nor for paternity leave. While 55% of all employee withdrawal was for an alternative job in the same industry [27% females and 73% males], 40% were for another job outside broadcasting [12% females and 88% males]. The rest gave no reason.





BROADCASTING AUTHORITY REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2002

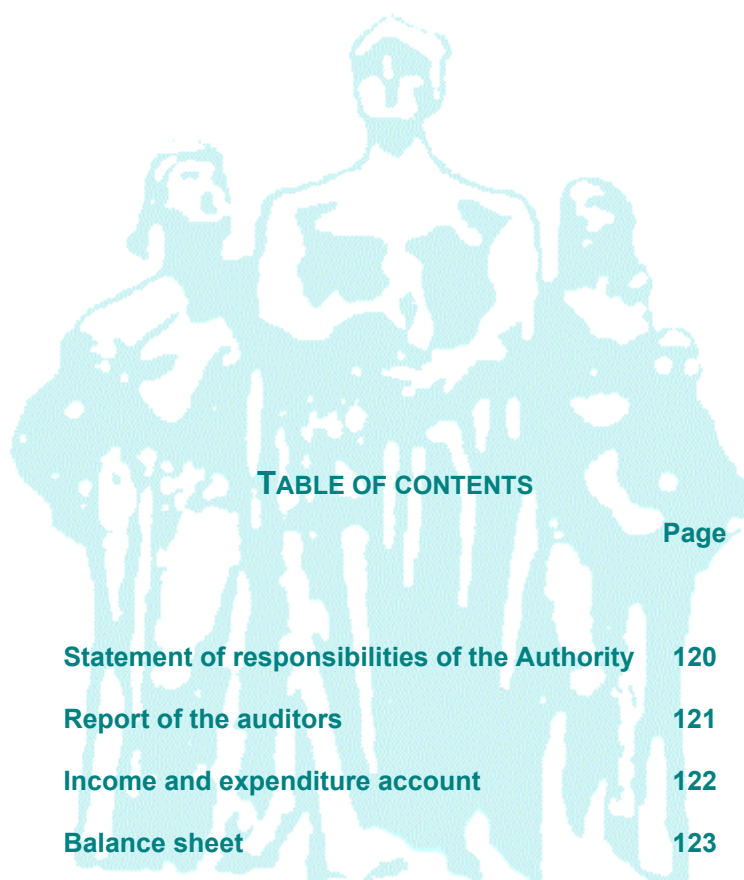


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STATEMENT OF RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE AUTHORITY

The Broadcasting Act, 1991 requires the Authority to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of its state of affairs as at the end of the financial year, and of its surplus or deficit for that year. In preparing those financial statements, the Authority is required to:

- adopt the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that it will continue in business;
- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- account for income and charges relating to the accounting period on the accruals basis;
- value separately the components of asset and liability items; and
- report comparative figures corresponding to those of the preceding accounting period.

The Authority is responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time its financial position and to enable it to ensure that the financial statements comply with the relevant legislation. The Authority is also responsible for safeguarding its assets and for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.



REPORT OF THE AUDITORS TO THE MEMBERS

We have audited the financial statements on pages 122 to 132. These financial statements are the responsibility of the Authority's members. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statement based on our audit.

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing. Those Standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. An audit also includes assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by the members, as well as evaluating the overall financial statement presentation. We believe that our audit provides a reasonable basis for our opinion.

In our opinion, the financial statements give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the Authority as at 31 December 2002 and of its surplus, changes in equity and cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with International Accounting Standards and have been properly prepared in accordance with the Broadcasting Act, 1991.



Mark A. Bugeja

f/Grant Thornton

Certified Public Accountants and Auditors

Ta' Xbiex

Malta

1 April 2003



INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT

	Note	2002 Lm	2001 Lm
Income	3	439,242	464,113
Expenditure		(520,498)	(521,615)
Deficit for the year before exceptional income		(81,256)	(57,502)
Exceptional income	4	339,723	-
Surplus/(deficit) for the year		258,467	(57,502)



BALANCE SHEET AT 31 DECEMBER

	Note	2002 Lm	2001 Lm
Non-current assets			
Tangible assets	5	1,043,116	1,057,622
		<hr/>	<hr/>
Current assets			
Debtors	6	93,843	59,688
Cash at bank and in hand	7	270,042	350,302
		<hr/>	<hr/>
		363,885	409,990
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	8	(125,380)	(104,735)
		<hr/>	<hr/>
Net current assets		238,505	305,255
		<hr/>	<hr/>
Total assets less current liabilities		1,281,621	1,362,877
		<hr/>	<hr/>
Provision for liabilities and charges	9	-	(339,723)
		<hr/>	<hr/>
Net assets		1,281,621	1,023,154
		<hr/>	<hr/>
Capital and reserves:			
Capital fund		1,104,476	1,104,476
Revaluation reserve		126,085	126,085
Reserve fund		16,000	16,000
Accumulated reserve		35,060	(223,407)
		<hr/>	<hr/>
		1,281,621	1,023,154
		<hr/>	<hr/>

The financial statements on pages 122 to 132 were approved by the members of the Authority on 1 April 2003 and signed on its behalf by:

Chief Justice Emeritus J. S. Pullicino
Chairman

Dr. K. Aquilina
Chief Executive



STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN EQUITY

	Capital fund Lm	Revaluation reserve Lm	Reserve fund Lm	Accumulated reserve Lm	Total Lm
At 31 December 2000	1,104,476	126,085	16,000	(165,905)	1,080,656
Deficit for the year	-	-	-	(57,502)	(57,502)
At 31 December 2001	1,104,476	126,085	16,000	(223,407)	1,023,154
Surplus for the year	-	-	-	258,467	258,467
At 31 December 2002	1,104,476	126,085	16,000	35,060	1,281,621

Notes -

(a) The capital fund has been set up in accordance with Section 26 of the Broadcasting Act, 1991.

(b) The revaluation reserve has arisen from a valuation carried out on fixed assets in 1991.

CASH FLOW STATEMENT

	Note	2002 Lm	2001 Lm
Operating activities			
Cash (used in)/generated from operations	13(a)	(60,546)	37,330
Investing activities			
Proceeds from disposal of tangible fixed assets		278	-
Payments to acquire tangible fixed assets	13(b)	(60,139)	(99,021)
Interest received		13,305	17,118
Net cash used in investing activities		(46,556)	(81,903)
Net decrease in cash and cash equivalents		(107,102)	(44,573)
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of year	13(c)	332,218	376,791
Cash and cash equivalents at end of year	13(c)	225,116	332,218



NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

1 PRESENTATION OF FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with International Accounting Standards (IAS).

These financial statements are presented in Maltese Liri (Lm).

2 SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

The financial statements have been prepared on the historical cost basis except for the revaluation of land and buildings. The principal accounting policies are set out below.

Revenue recognition

- Income from Government is recognised on a receipt basis.
- Income from licences and application fees is recognised on an accruals basis.
- Interest income from investments is accrued on a time basis, by reference to the principal outstanding and at the interest rate applicable.
- Income from franchise fees, Master Antenna fees and rental fees is recognised on an accruals basis.

Borrowing costs

- Borrowing costs are dealt with in the profit and loss account in the period in which they are incurred.

Tangible fixed assets

- Tangible fixed assets are stated at cost less accumulated depreciation.
- Depreciation is charged so as to write off the cost of assets over their estimated useful lives, using the straight line method, on the following bases:

	%
Buildings	1
Furniture, fittings and equipment	10 - 20
Technical equipment	25
Studio equipment	20
Motor vehicles	20
Transmitting antenna	4

- No depreciation is provided on land.



NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

2 Summary of significant accounting policies (continued)

Impairment

At each balance sheet date the Authority reviews the carrying amounts of its tangible assets to determine whether there is any indication that those assets have suffered an impairment loss. If any such indication exists, the recoverable amount of the asset is estimated in order to determine the extent of the impairment loss (if any).

If the recoverable amount of an asset is estimated to be less than its carrying amount, the carrying amount of the asset is reduced to its recoverable amount. Impairment losses are recognised as an expense immediately.

Where an impairment loss subsequently reverses, the carrying amount of the asset is increased to the revised estimate of its recoverable amount, but so that the increased carrying amount does not exceed the carrying amount that would have been determined had no impairment loss been recognised for the asset in prior years. A reversal of an impairment loss is recognised as income immediately.

Financial instruments

Financial assets and financial liabilities are recognised on the Authority's balance sheet when the Authority has become a party to the contractual provisions of the instruments.

Debtors

Debtors are stated at their nominal value as reduced by appropriate allowances for estimated irrecoverable amounts.

Bank borrowings

Interest-bearing bank overdraft is recorded at the proceeds received. Finance charges are accounted for on an accrual basis and are shown with accruals to the extent that they are not settled in the period in which they arise.

Creditors

Creditors are stated at their nominal value.



NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)**3 Income**

Income is made up as follows:

	2002 Lm	2001 Lm
Government contributions	270,000	270,000
Application fees for broadcasting licences (note)	6,100	13,100
Licence fees for nation-wide broadcasting services (note)	72,250	76,550
Franchise fees	30,000	30,000
Other income	24,542	38,113
Rental fees receivable	12,350	12,350
Master Antenna facilities fees	24,000	24,000
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	439,242	464,113
	<hr/>	<hr/>

Note -

Technical assistance

Twenty per cent of radio and T.V. station application and licence fees received by the Authority are automatically paid to the Ministry responsible for Wireless Telegraphy in terms of section 18(5) of the Broadcasting Act, 1991.

4 Exceptional income

	2002 Lm	2001 Lm
Provision for liabilities and charges no longer required (refer to note 9)	339,723	-
	<hr/>	<hr/>



NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

5 Tangible fixed assets

	Freehold Land Lm	Buildings & improvements Lm	Fixtures, fittings & equipment Lm	Technical equipment Lm	Studio equipment Lm	Motor vehicles Lm	Transmitting antenna Lm	Total Lm
Cost/valuation								
At 1 January 2002	68,804	788,782	188,445	57,430	66,557	23,760	181,048	1,374,826
Additions	-	7,875	31,595	3,396	12,046	-	1,020	55,932
Disposals	-	-	(17,029)	(2,930)	-	-	-	(19,959)
At 31 December 2002	68,804	796,657	203,011	57,896	78,603	23,760	182,068	1,410,799
Depreciation								
At 1 January 2002	-	49,211	101,586	44,382	51,063	14,647	56,315	317,204
Charge for the year	-	7,966	29,849	5,780	10,223	3,038	10,654	67,510
Released on disposal	-	-	(14,926)	(2,105)	-	-	-	(17,031)
At 31 December 2002	-	57,177	116,509	48,057	61,286	17,685	66,969	367,683
Net book value								
At 31 December 2002	68,804	739,480	86,502	9,839	17,317	6,075	115,099	1,043,116
At 31 December 2001	68,804	739,571	86,859	13,048	15,494	9,113	124,733	1,057,622



NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)**5 Tangible fixed assets (continued)**

Land and buildings at Gharghur were revalued on the basis of an open market valuation for existing use on 25 March 1991 by Mangion & Mangion Partners, Architects, Civil Engineers & Consultants.

The transmitting antenna at Gharghur was revalued on the basis of an open market valuation for existing use on 28 August 1991 by C. Busuttil, Architect and Civil Engineer.

If the above assets had not been revalued they would have been included at the following amounts:

	2002 Lm	2001 Lm
Cost	655	655
Aggregate depreciation on cost	-	-

6 Debtors

	2002 Lm	2001 Lm
Amounts falling due within one year:		
Licences receivable	20,000	5,000
Other debtors	35,806	44,836
Prepayments and accrued income	38,037	9,852
	93,843	59,688

7 Cash at bank and in hand

	2002 Lm	2001 Lm
Cash at bank	269,799	350,062
Cash in hand	243	240
	270,042	350,302



NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)**8 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year**

	2002 Lm	2001 Lm
Bank balance overdrawn	44,926	18,084
Other creditors	31,919	36,126
Accruals and deferred income	48,535	50,525
	125,380	104,735

9 Provision for liabilities and charges

The Authority was contractually obliged to spend Lm 35,000 annually for the prescription and improvement of programmes on radio and television. The income of the Authority was not always sufficient to enable it to meet this commitment. Consequently, the Authority had accumulated the following shortfall:

	2002 Lm	2001 Lm
Balance at 1 January/31 December	-	339,723

The agreement expired on 28 September 1991. During the current year this amount has been written back to surplus for the year since the provision is no longer required.

10 Commitments

	2002 Lm	2001 Lm
Capital expenditure that has been authorised by the Authority but has not yet been contracted for	-	143,700
Capital expenditure that has been contracted for but has not been provided for in the financial statements	6,003	20,000

11 Contingent liabilities

	2002 Lm	2001 Lm
Legal disputes with third parties	-	600



NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

12 Financial instruments

Financial assets include debtors and cash held at bank and in hand. Financial liabilities include creditors and bank balance overdrawn. At 31 December 2002 and 2001, the Authority had no unrecognised financial instruments.

Risk management policies

- (a) Credit risk on amounts receivable is limited through the systematic monitoring of outstanding balances and the presentation of debtors net of allowances for doubtful debts, where applicable. Cash is placed with reputable banks.
- (b) Liquidity risk is limited as the Authority has sufficient funding resources and the ability to raise finance to meet its financial obligations as these arise.

Fair values

At 31 December 2002 and 2001, the fair values of financial assets and liabilities were not materially different from their carrying amounts.

13 Notes to the cash flow statement

(a) Cash (used in)/generated from operations

	2002 Lm	2001 Lm
Surplus/(deficit) of income over expenditure	258,467	(57,502)
Adjustments for:		
Interest receivable	(12,597)	(17,078)
Depreciation	67,510	63,056
Loss on disposal of tangible fixed assets	2,650	162
Decrease in provision for liabilities and charges	(339,723)	-
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Operating deficit before working capital changes	(23,693)	(11,362)
(Increase)/decrease in debtors	(34,863)	57,509
Decrease in creditors	(1,990)	(8,817)
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	(60,546)	37,330
	<hr/>	<hr/>

(b) Tangible fixed assets

During the year, the Authority acquired fixed assets with an aggregate cost of Lm55,932. Total payments of Lm60,139 were made to acquire tangible fixed assets.



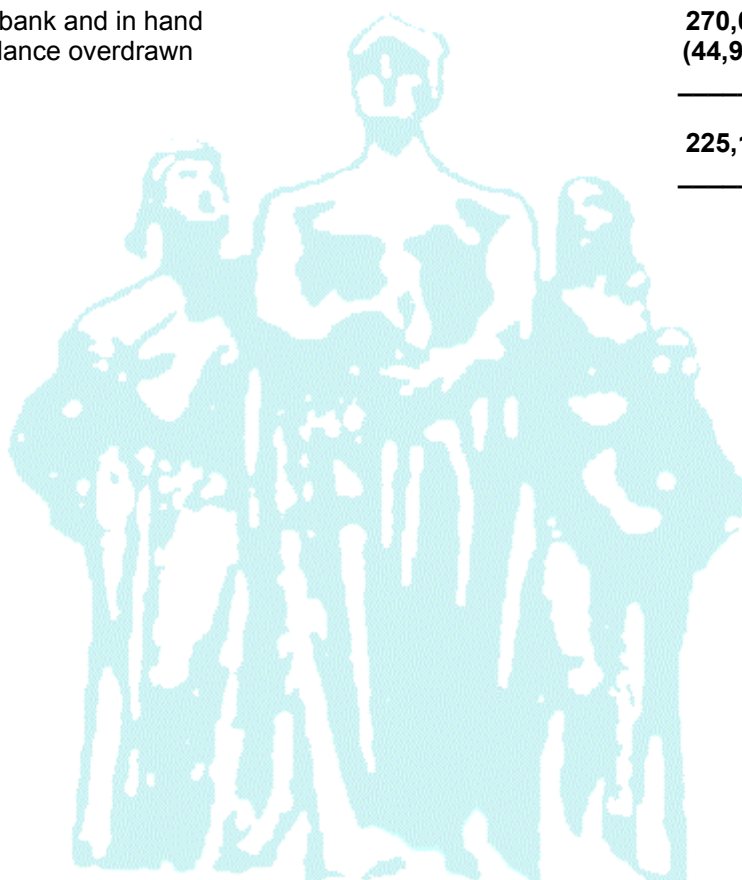
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

13 Notes to the cash flow statement (continued)

(c) Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents consist of cash in hand and balances with banks. Cash and cash equivalents included in the cash flow statement comprise the following balance sheet amounts:

	2002 Lm	2001 Lm
Cash at bank and in hand	270,042	350,302
Bank balance overdrawn	(44,926)	(18,084)
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	225,116	332,218
	<hr/>	<hr/>



INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2002

	2002 Lm	2001 Lm
Income		
Government contributions	270,000	270,000
Application fees	6,100	13,100
Licences	72,250	76,550
Franchise fees	30,000	30,000
Other income	24,542	38,113
Rental fees receivable	12,350	12,350
Master Antenna facilities fees	24,000	24,000
	439,242	464,113
Expenditure		
Technical assistance	14,670	15,730
Administrative - Pg. 134	296,590	287,427
Research and communications - Pg. 134	38,187	76,569
Production - Pg. 135	15,934	13,279
Monitoring - Pg. 135	121,937	118,485
Technical - Pg. 135	33,180	10,125
	520,498	521,615
Exceptional Income	339,723	-
Surplus/(Deficit) for the year	258,467	(57,502)



PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT SCHEDULES

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2002

	2002 Lm	2001 Lm
Administrative expenses		
Members' honoraria	23,472	23,472
Legal adviser's honoraria	2,500	2,500
Salaries	101,372	99,011
Staff training	2,389	1,909
Telecommunications	9,441	8,032
Water and electricity	4,629	5,022
Insurance	4,126	4,234
Ground rent	6	6
Stationery	3,889	5,185
Subscriptions and publications	1,659	1,690
International organisations membership fees	9,595	12,243
Repairs and maintenance	7,593	8,244
IT maintenance and support	11,436	3,824
Duty visits abroad	5,065	7,261
Transport	3,914	3,086
Rentals of radio & T.V. sets	3,496	3,737
Sundry expenses	7,045	6,338
Auditors' remuneration	661	634
Legal and professional fees	6,152	3,167
Programme Awards	24,865	29,608
Gharghur site running costs	12,165	12,660
Loss on disposal of fixed assets	2,650	162
Depreciation	48,470	45,402
	<hr/>	<hr/>
- to page 133	296,590	287,427
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Research and communications expenses		
Wages and salaries	14,978	15,392
Audience and qualitative research study	11,111	16,085
Seminars and conferences	-	32,309
Public relations	1,668	7,703
BA reports and publications	2,936	2,925
Advertising	159	2,155
Broadcasters' Maltese language support	7,335	-
	<hr/>	<hr/>
- to page 133	38,187	76,569
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PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT SCHEDULES (continued)

	2002 Lm	2001 Lm
Production Department		
TV Political and EU broadcasts	3,879	2,828
Depreciation	12,055	10,451
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- to page 133	15,934	13,279
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Monitoring Department		
Wages and salaries	103,256	98,911
Purchase of audio tapes	2,856	2,675
Repairs and maintenance	11	77
Sub-committee research costs	9,006	9,929
Sundry	433	300
Depreciation	6,375	6,593
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- to page 133	121,937	118,485
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Technical Department		
Wages and salaries	10,829	9,345
Repairs and maintenance	21,731	51
Sundry	10	119
Depreciation	610	610
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- to page 133	33,180	10,125
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