



PRESS RELEASE

Her Excellency Marie Louise Coleiro Preca, President of the Republic of Malta meets OHSa and GPA participants

1st December 2014

OHSa Officials and participants for the European Good Practice Awards 2014/2015 held a cordial meeting with Her Excellency Marie Louise Coleiro Preca, President of the Republic of Malta at The Palace, Valletta.

The meeting was held to raise awareness on the importance of addressing stress and other psychosocial risks, and in recognition of the local efforts being made by organisations to achieve healthier and safer workplaces.

OHSa Chairperson Hon. Dr. Deo Debattista and OHSa CEO Dr. Mark Gauci gave an overview of the Good Practice Awards, both on a local level as well as on EU level. The Good Practice Awards is form an important element of the Healthy Workplaces Campaign which is organised by the European Agency for Safety and Health at Work (EU-OSHA). The Healthy Workplaces Campaign is organised by EU-OSHA in cooperation with the Member States and the Presidency of the European Union. The European Good Practice Awards Scheme is organised with the aim of recognising contributions to workplace health and safety and to demonstrate the benefits of managing occupational health and safety. The 2014/2015 theme is, *“Healthy Workplaces Manage Stress”*.



Her Excellency Marie Louise Coleiro Preca, President of the Republic of Malta with the OHSa Officials and participants for the European Good Practice Awards 2014/2015

The Good Practice Awards 2014/2015 is a two-stage process where entries are first judged at national level following which the two winning categories are then submitted to EU-OSHA to be judged at European level. On the 17 October 2014, two Maltese organisations were given the OHSa Award for Good Practise for their contribution in managing stress and psychosocial risks at work. The awards were given during the Good Practice Awards Ceremony 2014. The two Maltese submissions were later submitted to EU-OSHA to participate in the European Good Practice Awards 2014/2015.

The Good Practice Awards consisted of two categories; the first category comprised organisations employing more than one hundred workers, whilst the second category comprised of organisations employing less than one hundred workers. There were four participants in total. These were: (i) The Public Administration HR Office, (ii) Multigas Ltd, (iii) Sedqa Agency, and (iv) Richmond Foundation.

The category employing more than 100 workers was awarded to PAHRO, whilst the second category employing less than 100 workers was awarded to Multigas Ltd.

Her Excellency reiterated the importance of such initiatives in order to raise awareness on stress and psychosocial risks. The President also expressed her appreciation towards the continuous work being carried out by OHSa to achieve healthier and safer workplaces.

Media Contact:

Melhino Mercieca

Senior Manager (Communications & PR)

Focal Point Manager – European Agency for Safety and Health at Work

Email: melhino.mercieca@gov.mt

Tel: 21247677 / 8.