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# Press Release

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

*New British High Commissioner pays courtesy visit to Mr Speaker*

Ms Cathy Ward LVO OBE, the new British High Commissioner, paid a courtesy visit to the Speaker Anġlu Farrugia.

Speaker Farrugia welcomed High Commissioner Ward and highlighted the excellent and very cordial relations that exist between Malta and the United Kingdom.

Speaker Farrugia referred to the importance of enhancing parliamentary relations with the UK Parliament and noted the recent formation of a Malta-UK Parliamentary Friendship Group to interact with the UK All-Party Parliamentary Group for Malta.

He recalled his Chairmanship of the Small Branches of the Commonwealth and said that, in the last week of last month, the Maltese Parliament organised an online Conference for the British Isles and Mediterranean Region of the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association.

The two dignitaries discussed issues of mutual interest, particularly the need to continue to explore all possible options to strengthen business relations in view of Brexit. Migration and the Constitutional reform also featured in the discussion.

The British High Commissioner was accompanied by Mr Michael Howes, Political Officer at the British High Commission in Malta.