



PR230569

21.04.2023

3



PRESS RELEASE BY THE OFFICE OF THE SPEAKER

The High Commissioner of Rwanda Johnston Busingye pays a courtesy visit to Mr Speaker

On Friday, 21st April 2023, the High Commissioner of Rwanda Johnston Busingye paid a courtesy visit to Hon. Speaker Anġlu Farrugia.

During the discussion, the Speaker stated that Malta is looking forward to deepening the bilateral relations with Rwanda on a multitude of avenues. Malta's will to seek improved relations with Rwanda and the whole African continent stems from its eagerness to fulfill the "Malta/Africa Strategy for Partnership 2022-2025". This strategy is in line with the European Union's vision to focus on strengthening the Union's partnership with Africa. In this context, Malta is looking forward to concrete and fruitful discussions at the forthcoming 6th EU-AU Summit to be held in Brussels.

Speaker Farrugia stated that openness should be the default principle driving Malta's and the EU's engagement with Africa and augured that the engagement will be holistic, forward-looking, and all-encompassing to include issues like climate change, peace and security and job creation. It is equally important to explore ways how to address mobility and all aspects of migration, including legal migration and combatting irregular migration.

The Speaker and the High Commissioner recognised the importance of having a mutually beneficial partnership covering common interest based on solidarity and shared responsibility.