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PRESS RELEASE BY THE OFFICE OF THE SPEAKER

Speaker receives Ambassador of the Lao People's Democratic Republic

Speaker of the House of Representatives of Malta Anglu Farrugia today received H.E. Daovy Vongxay, Ambassador of the Lao People's Democratic Republic to Malta, following the presentation of his credentials.

During the meeting, both sides reaffirmed the cordial relations that exist between Malta and the Lao People's Democratic Republic since the establishment of diplomatic relations in 2011. The meeting also coincided with the 15th anniversary of diplomatic ties between the two countries, providing an opportunity to reflect on past engagement and explore avenues for enhanced cooperation.

Speaker Farrugia welcomed the Ambassador and conveyed Malta's readiness to strengthen bilateral and multilateral engagement. Discussions focused on opportunities to develop cooperation in areas of mutual interest, including trade, sustainable development, education, cultural exchange, and people-to-people contacts. Both parties also exchanged views on broader regional and international developments. The importance of multilateral cooperation, respect for international law, and the role of international organisations, particularly the United Nations, in promoting peace, stability, and sustainable development were emphasised.

The Speaker highlighted Malta's growing engagement with the Asian region, including through its forthcoming Asia-Oceania Framework Policy and its expanding cooperation with ASEAN, of which Lao PDR is a member. He expressed appreciation for Laos' support for Malta's engagement with ASEAN and underlined Malta's commitment to constructive inter-regional cooperation.

H.E. Ambassador Vongxay reaffirmed Lao PDR's commitment to strengthening relations with Malta and expressed his country's willingness to explore practical areas of cooperation for the mutual benefit of both peoples.