

# ANNUAL REPORT – 2005

The National Commission Persons with Disability commits itself to render Maltese society inclusive so that persons with disability can fulfil themselves as persons who enjoy a high quality of life by means of equal opportunities in all sections of society. In order to implement this commitment, KNPDP works for a society that eliminates all forms of direct or indirect discrimination against persons with disability or their families while providing them with the necessary help and support.

## Chapter 1 INTRODUCTION

### 1. Setting up of KNPDP

The National Commission Persons with Disability (KNPDP) was set up for the first time on the 3<sup>rd</sup> November 1987 when the then Minister for Social Policy made a parliamentary statement in which he appointed the first members of this Commission. On the 10<sup>th</sup> February 2000, KNPDP was officially constituted according to Act No. 1 of the year 2000, the Equal Opportunities (Persons with Disability) Act. This same law established the aims of KNPDP.

### 2. Aims

The aims of KNPDP, as set out in Section V, article 22 of the Equal Opportunities (Persons with Disability) Act are to:

- identify, establish and update all national policies which are directly or indirectly related to disability issues;
- identify the needs of persons with disability, their families and voluntary bodies working in the field of disability and to take all necessary steps or propose appropriate measures in order to cater for such needs as much as possible;
- ensure that all Government programmes concerning the affairs and interests of persons with disability, their families and voluntary bodies working in the field of disability, are implemented in accordance with national policies for disability issues;
- ensure that there is the necessary co-ordination between all Government departments and agencies in implementing measures, services or initiatives proposed by Government or proposed by KNPDP from time to time;
- keep direct and continuous contact with local and foreign bodies working in the field of disability, and with other groups, agencies or individuals as required;
- monitor the provision of services offered by Government or its agencies or by any other person or group of persons, where the clients of such services are persons with disability;
- work towards the elimination of discrimination against people with disability;
- carry out general investigations with a view to determining whether the provisions of this Act are being complied with;

- investigate complaints made to KNPD about individual non compliance with any provision of this Act and, where it seems appropriate, act as a conciliator in relation to such complaints;
- inquire into, and make determinations on, matters referred to it by the Minister;
- provide, where and as appropriate, assistance, including legal and financial assistance, to persons with disabilities in enforcing their rights under this Act;
- keep under review the enforcement of this Act and, when deemed fit by KNPD or so required by the Minister, draw up and submit to the Minister proposals for amendments to the Act;
- examine laws, and (when requested to do so by the Minister) propose laws, with the purpose of ascertaining whether the laws or proposed laws are or would be, inconsistent with or contrary to the objects of this Act, and to report to the Minister the results of any such examination;
- provide all such services that may be necessary or required for KNPD to attain its objectives;
- collate, analyse and publish statistics related to the disability sector which, among others, indicate the national level achieved in the policy regarding inclusion.

### 3. The Period of this Annual Report

This report covers the calendar year 2005 and is being drawn up according to Article 30 of the Equal Opportunities (Persons with Disability) Act. This report does not include the work carried out by KNPD with respect to the implementation of the Equal Opportunities (Persons with Disability) Act since this was published in a separate report which was posted on the website of KNPD: [www.knpd.org](http://www.knpd.org).

### 4. The Structure of the National Commission Persons with Disability

4.1 The members of KNPD were appointed by the Prime Minister on the advice of the Minister for the Family and Social Solidarity for a two year period and this is the second year of their appointment. This year, KNPD was composed of the members indicated in Table 1.

Composition of KNPD 2004		Table Number 1
Name	Status	
Mr Joseph M. Camilleri <sup>(a)</sup>	Chairman	
Dr Anthony Charles <sup>(a)</sup>	Vice-Chairman, Voluntary Sector	
Mr Jesmond Schembri	Ministry of the Family and Social Solidarity	
Ms Myriam Aquilina	Ministry of Education, Youth and Employment	
Dr Marvic Sammut	Ministry of Health and Community Services	
Mr Alfred Camilleri	Ministry of Finance	
Mr Noel Formosa	Ministry of Gozo	
Ms Sarah Cuschieri	Local Councils Association	
Dr. Marie Alexander	University of Malta	
Fr. Martin Micallef	Archdiocese of Malta	
Mr. Karl Borg <sup>(a)</sup>	Voluntary Sector	
Ms Rita Borg <sup>(a)</sup>	Voluntary Sector	
Mr. Wenzu Dalli <sup>(a)(b)</sup>	Voluntary Sector	

Ms Marthese Mugliette <sup>(c)</sup>	Voluntary Sector
Ms Pam Muscat <sup>(c)</sup>	Voluntary Sector
Mr John Peel <sup>(c)(d)</sup>	Voluntary Sector
Mr Fred Bezzina	Secretary

(a) These people are persons with disability in accordance with article 21 of the Equal Opportunities (Persons with Disability) Act.  
(b) Mr Dalli passed away on the 16<sup>th</sup> April 2005 when he was still a member of KNPD.  
(c) These persons are family members of persons with disability in accordance with article 21 of the Equal Opportunities (Persons with Disability) Act.  
(d) Mr Peel returned to his post as a member of KNPD as from the 1<sup>st</sup> of August 2005.

4.2 The Equal Opportunities Act (Article 21) stipulates that half the members of KNPD must be persons with disability or relatives of persons with disability. The present membership of KNPD satisfies this criterion because four out of fourteen members are persons with disability and three members are relatives of persons with disability.

4.3 At the beginning of this year, KNPD decided that it did not need an executive and for this reason no executive was appointed this year.

4.4 During this year KNPD held twelve meetings.

4.5 During this year, KNPD's Secretariat issued a report every two months to the Ministry for the Family and Social Solidarity, the members of KNPD and the general public. This report can be accessed on KNPD's website.

## 5. The Secretariat of KNPD

5.1 KNPD presented its **Annual Report** for the year 2004 during a press conference held in February 2005. This report was distributed among all those who work in this sector and can be obtained from KNPD, in Maltese or in English, Maltese audio version, large print, or from the website of KNPD, both in Maltese and in English.

5.2 At the moment, there are eighteen persons in the Secretariat of KNPD working full-time and three working part-time. Nine of these employees are persons with a disability. The Secretariat offers equal opportunities of work at all levels.

5.3 KNPD hired the services of fourteen **professionals** so as to be able to function more effectively. This included professional services about:

- (a) the Equal Opportunities Act;
- (b) vetting of various applications;
- (c) reports and home visits for the Social Assistance Service;
- (d) vetting by architects of applications for development made to MEPA;
- (e) its financial accounts;
- (f) data protection.

5.4 Every year, KNPD organises *Staff Development Day* with the aim of providing a training session and to develop the Secretariat's team members. This year, the intention was to provide training in relation to harassment in general but the training could only be offered in relation to gender. The speaker was Ms. Sina Bugeja, Director of the National Commission for the Promotion of Equality for Men and Women.

5.5 KNPD pursued a training programme for individual employees even through European Union Programmes. The following initiatives were taken in 2005:

- As part of the EU Leonardo Programme, Ms Marianne Debono, Manager of the Equal Opportunities Act Sector, made a study visit to the offices of the Disability Rights Commission (DRC) in Manchester, United Kingdom. The DRC is equivalent to KNPD and this visit focused on the process used by the DRC in analysing discrimination cases. Moreover, this visit also continued to strengthen the good relations already existing between the KNPD and the DRC, which also include sharing literature and advice between the two organisations.
- Ms Vickie Sciberras, the official of KNPD in charge of the Special Assistance Service, made a study visit in the United Kingdom through the EU Leonardo Programme. She visited the Disability Living Foundation and the Queen's Mobility Centre where, among other things, she could observe the functioning of apparatus used to test drivers with mobility impairment.
- This year, the officials of KNPD in charge of Data Protection finalised a report about the measures to be taken by KNPD in order for it to comply with the Data Protection Act. Some of the recommendations have already been implemented, while a number of measures were taken so that others can be implemented as soon as possible.

5.7 The following measures were taken this year with respect to the premises of KNPD:

- Works have been carried out to install a more efficient electricity system in the Centru Hidma Socjali. KNPD invested a substantial sum of money to provide the part of the building it occupies with an adequate electricity system;
- A sign system was installed in the Centre;
- The lift in the section occupied by KNPD is now being administered by KNPD;
- Works were carried out to convert the two rooms situated in the hall, which is found next to KNPD's offices, into a library for KNPD in order to host the Resource Centre of KNPD. The aim was to make the Resource Centre accessible to a greater number of persons.

## 6. Services of KNPD

6.1 The **services** offered by KNPD to persons with disability and their families are the following:

- The National Register of Persons with Disability;
- The Special Identity Card;
- Investigation of Complaints of Discrimination;
- The Special Assistance Service;
- The Resource Centre;
- Courses on Disability Issues;
- The PEKTUR Programme;
- Support Service for Persons with Disability with Challenging Behaviour

6.2 KNPD makes **recommendations** to the departments concerned regarding these benefits:

- The vetting of applications for development to MEPA;
- The exemption from customs duty on vehicles to the Ministry of Finance;
- The exemption from payment of road licenses to the Licensing and Testing Directorate;
- The Blue Sticker to KNPDer of Police;
- Work Permits for Personal Assistants to the Department of Citizenship;
- The Review of Decisions concerning Reserved Parking to the Malta Transport Authority.

6.3 Detailed reports of these services are given in this report in the respective sections.

## **Chapter 2**

### **Action Plan**

#### **1. The World Action Programme for Persons with Disability**

KNPD has to conform to the Equal Opportunities (Persons with Disability) Act. Moreover, KNPD, as it has done in the past, has continued to follow the recommendations and proposals established and recommended as a model by the United Nations to all Governments in the World Action Programme for Persons with Disability issued in 1983. This report is modelled on this programme. At the end of 1993 the United Nations also published the Standard Regulations for Equal Opportunities for Persons with Disability. This document complements and continues to develop the World Action Programme and, therefore, KNPD, during this period, also kept these Standard Regulations as an important reference in the execution of its work.

#### **2. Maltese Council for Economic and Social Development (MCESD)**

In order to ensure that the persons with disability sector is an integral part of Malta's economic and social development, the Government established that KNPD would form part of the Civil Council of the Maltese Council for Economic and Social Development. KNPD is represented on this Committee by its Chairman, Mr. Joe Camilleri.

#### **3. The National Register of Persons with Disability**

3.1 During this period, KNPD continued to build the National Register of Persons with Disability in order to be able to communicate with them, both through its own literature and the literature of other entities which wish to contact persons with disability. Moreover, this register is drawn up so that we can issue statistics on this sector. This year KNPD decided to limit the information contained in this register drastically. Every person who applies for a special identity card which is issued by KNPD is automatically inserted in the Registry.

3.2 KNPD receives a number of requests from different entities, such as, organisations of persons with disability, Local Councils, Chaplains, University students, and others, to use this information in order for them to be able to contact the persons listed in the registry or a number of them. Although KNPD cannot pass on this information because it is strictly bound by confidentiality, it has chosen to help. It asks persons who use this service to state which information they want to pass on so that KNPD can pass on this information itself. Over this year, KNPD provided this service to fourteen different entities.

3.3 Together with this report, KNPD is publishing statistics taken from the registry on persons with Disability in Malta and Gozo (Appendix A).

#### **4. The National Census**

KNPD held discussions about the national census with the National Statistics Office so that: Information about persons with disability is gathered;  
The publicity campaign on the census is accessible to everyone.

The two parties agreed on the two questions on disability which were included in the census and on the fact that some of the television advertisements on the census were to include an interpreter of the Maltese sign language.

## Chapter 3 Rehabilitation

### 1. New Support Service for Persons with Disability with Challenging Behaviour

At the end of last year, KNPD began a new service that had been on its agenda for a long time. One of KNPD's priorities for the last ten years has been the need of a holistic service for persons with disability with challenging behaviour. In order to offer this service, KNPD engaged the services of Ms Forough Hessabi M.A (Psych), Ed. S., educational specialist with a number of years of experience. Later on in 2005, this service continued to grow when KNPD engaged the services of a graduate, lent from SAPPOR Agency, in order to work in the provision of this service.

This new service is aimed for those persons with disability who have a challenging behaviour, their families and those who work with them in various sectors. The service provides direct training, consultation and individual therapy sessions. The statistics relating to this service for the year 2005 can be found in Table 2.

	<b>Table 2</b>
<b>Support Service for Persons with Disability with Challenging Behaviour</b>	2005
<b>Training Sessions</b>	<b>91</b>
SAPPOR Agency	36
Dar tal-Providenza	24
Day Centres	15
Mount Carmel Hospital	14
Others	2
<b>Individual Sessions</b>	<b>1140</b>
From the Community	521
SAPPOR Agency	302
Child Guidance Clinic	124
Mount Carmel Hospital	85
Dar tal-Providenza	51
Education Division	30
Nazaret House	24
Others	3
Clinical Supervision	<b>21</b>
Sessions with siblings	<b>12</b>

### 2. Special Assistance Service

2.1 During this period, the Special Assistance Service offered financial assistance and advice with regard to services aimed at helping persons with disability live a more independent life. The general statistics about this service are shown in Table number 3.

		<b>Table 3</b>	
<b>SPECIAL HELP SERVICE</b>			
	<b>2004</b>	<b>2005</b>	
New Applications	240	295	
Persons who benefited from the service	206	209	
On the waiting list	5	56	
Did not qualify	3	21	
Pending	2	9	
Returned apparatus given to other applicants	14	17	
Returned apparatus	13	26	
Total sum of grants	Lm65,053	Lm67,000	

These statistics show that although the number of beneficiaries this year was nearly the same as that of last year, the number of applications increased by 23% and therefore there was a substantial increase in the number of persons on the waiting list.

2.2 Tables number 4 and 5 provide an analysis of this service in terms of the age of the beneficiaries and the apparatus supplied respectively.

			<b>Table 4</b>	
Age	2004		2005	
0-5	9	4%	22	11
6-16	44	21%	50	24%
17-30	31	15%	35	17%
31-60	49	24%	38	18%
61+	73	35%	64	31%
<b>Total</b>	<b>206</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>209</b>	<b>100</b>

			<b>Table 5</b>	
Apparatus	2004		2005	
Wheelchairs & Walking Aids	80	35%	84	34%
Seating & Bedding	74	32%	65	26%
Personal Hygiene	32	14%	24	10%
Communication Aids	26	11%	33	13%
Lifting Aids	12	5%	31	13%
Others	6	3%	10	4%
<b>Total</b>	<b>230*</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>247*</b>	<b>100</b>
* The total is bigger than that of Table number 4 because some applicants benefit from more than one type of apparatus.				

2.3 Due to the lack of funds, KNPD cannot help every person who applies for the service. It can only subsidise 50% of the total price up to a maximum of Lm500 even in the case of objects which cost a lot more. For this reason, KNPD repeated its request to the Government to increase the funds made available to it. Unfortunately, this request was not granted.

2.4 This service continued to work more closely with the Community Chest Fund:

- (a) Mr. Joe Camilleri, the Chairman of KNPD is a member of this Fund;
- (b) Persons who have already benefited financially from this service can apply for more financial assistance from this fund. Very often, such requests are met.

- (c) The agreement between KNPD, the Foundation for IT Accessibility (FITA) and the Community Chest Fund has continued so that applications for financial assistance for the purpose of buying computers are accepted by this Fund. A substantial number of persons with disability have benefited from this agreement.

### 3. Refund for Apparatus for Persons with Disability

In the last budget the Government stated that it was going to establish a scheme aimed at giving refunds for extra expenses incurred by persons with disability when VAT started to be charged on special apparatus. The first measure was to reduce VAT from 18% to 5%. Subsequently, the government voted a sum of money so that these persons could be given refunds on the expenses incurred by them.

The Ministry for the Family and Social Solidarity put KNPD in charge of the administration of this scheme. Therefore, after the regulations which were published in the Government Gazette were announced, KNPD started receiving requests for refunds. Details of how this scheme worked in 2005 can be found in Table 6.

<b>Table 6</b>	
<b>Refund for Apparatus for Persons with Disability</b>	
2005	
Refund	Lm13,077
Number of Persons who benefited	162
Average assistance	Lm81

### 4. VAT Refunds

4.1 KNPD continued to refund VAT on the following objects:

- (a) computers and computer accessories only in those cases in which the person has not benefited from a grant by the Community Chest Fund;
- (b) batteries for wheelchairs.

3.2 Table 7 shows the statistics relevant to this benefit:

<b>Table 7</b>		
<b>REFUNDS OF VAT</b>		
	<b>2004</b>	<b>2005</b>
Refund of the VAT tax	Lm1233	Lm2214
Number of people who benefited	26	36
Average VAT refund	Lm47	Lm62

4.3 These statistics show that this year applications for the service increased by around 30% and therefore there was also an increase in the amount of money provided for this service.



## **Chapter 4**

### **EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES**

#### **1. Equal Opportunities (Persons with Disability) Act**

##### **1.1 Equal Opportunities Section**

One of the main aims of KNPD is to ensure that the Equal Opportunities (Persons with Disability) Act is to “investigate such complaints as may be made to them of failure to comply with any provision of” the Equal Opportunities (Persons with Disability) Act and “keep under review the working of this Act”. With this aim, KNPD established the Equal Opportunities Section which is in charge of this.

Due to the great importance given by KNPD to this work, a detailed report of the work carried out under this section is given to the general public some time after October since the Act entered into force in October 2000. This year KNPD launched its annual report on the fifth year of work (October 2004-October 2005) during a press conference held during the Persons with Disability Week. This press conference was attended by the Hon Dolores Cristina, Minister for Family and Social Solidarity, and the Hon Marie Louis Coleiro, chief spokesperson of the Opposition in this sector.

In order to avoid repetition, this report is not going to include the work carried out by KNPD in this sector. A copy of the Annual Report on the Equal Opportunities Act in Maltese or in English or in Maltese audio version, can be obtained from the offices of KNPD or from KNPD’s website: [www.knpd.org](http://www.knpd.org).

##### **1.2 The Board which Determines what is Reasonable**

During this year, KNPD continued with the work of the Board which determines what is reasonable in accordance with the Equal Opportunities (Persons with Disability) Act. The work of this Board is included in the annual report on the Equal Opportunities Act (mentioned above) and is therefore not included in this report.

##### **1.3 Revision of the Equal Opportunities Act**

In 2005, KNPD carried out a consultation and discussion programme in order to revise the Equal Opportunities (Persons with Disability) Act now that this Act has been in force for five years. For this purpose, KNPD organised a National Conference, with the main speaker being Mr Bert Massie, Chairman of the Disability Rights Commission (DRC), the equivalent of KNPD in the United Kingdom. The amendments proposed by the Equal Opportunities Section were presented during this Conference. KNPD is disappointed with the small number of persons who attended this Conference.

During his visit to Malta, Mr Massie met the Hon. Dr Lawrence Gonzi, Prime Minister of Malta. During this meeting, the proposed amendments to the law and the co-operation between KNPD and the DRC were discussed.

## 2. Special Identity card

2.1 KNPД continued to issue the special identity card to persons with disability in order to help them have equal opportunities. The statistics on this service for this period are shown in Table number 8.

<b>Table number 9</b>		
<b>Special Identity Card</b>		
	<b>2004</b>	<b>2005</b>
New Applications	842	1,101
Accepted	834	1,096
Not Accepted	8	5
Renewed	608	497
Withdrawn	642	236
<b>Total number of persons with disability in possession of the special identity card</b>	<b>6,795</b>	<b>7,655</b>

2.2 These statistics show that during this year the number of applications for this service increased by 31%.

2.3 Persons who have this special identity card are entitled to benefit from a number of services, a list of which can be obtained from the offices of KNPД, from the booklet Benefits and Services for Persons with Disability (pages 35-36) or from the website of KNPД: [www.knpd.org](http://www.knpd.org)

## 3. Pension Reform

During this year, KNPД examined the important White Paper issued by the Government on Pension Reform and also held a meeting with the Working Group which is taking care of this reform. KNPД gave its comments to this Group and to all the media.

# Chapter 5

## Physical Access

### 1. Access for All

1.1 In 2005, KNPD continued working on the implementation of the principles of Access for All. Its work in this sector can be divided into three categories:

- a) The application of the Equal Opportunities Act (which was discussed in the annual report which is issued by KNPD every year)
- b) the vetting of applications for development on behalf of the Malta Environment and Planning Authority (MEPA);
- c) consultancy and other activities.

1.2.1 This year, KNPD continued to vet applications for development submitted to **MEPA** for public buildings which are of major use. Table number 9 shows the statistics about this service:

<b>Table 9</b>		
<b>Vetting Applications for Development</b>		
	<b>2004</b>	<b>2005</b>
Applications	436	531
Recommended subject to certain conditions	208(48%)	233(44%)
Not recommended	181(42%)	232(44%)
More information requested	14(3%)	47(9%)
Pending	33(8%)	19(4%)

1.2.2 These statistics show that there was an increase of 22% in the number of vetted applications. Unfortunately the lever of recommended applications, which was already low (47%), continued to decrease by 3%.

1.2.3 KNPD makes inspections so that MEPA issues the Clearance/Compliance Certificate for water and electricity to the applicants. KNPD's work in this sector is presented in Table number 10:

<b>Table 10</b>		
<b>Vetting for the Clearance/Compliance Certificate</b>		
	<b>2004</b>	<b>2005</b>
Applications	32	41
Recommended subject to certain conditions	12 (38%)	21(51%)
Not recommended	17 (53%)	16(39%)
Pending	3 (9%)	4(10%)

1.2.4 Once again, KNPD feels that the figures in this table are very worrying despite the fact that the number of buildings (41) which were vetted for this certificate increased from that of last year. However, the number is very low when compared to the number of new applications (531) that were vetted by KNPD. On a positive note, the number of applications which were recommended increased by 13%.

### **1.3 Access for All – Design Guidelines**

1.3.1 This year, KNPD concluded the wide consultation process aimed at reviewing the guidelines published in 2000 in the booklet, Access for All- Design Guidelines. This was done by the publication of a new version of this booklet which was presented to the public during the Persons with Disability Week. A copy of this publication can be obtained from KNPD's offices or from KNPD's homepage [www.knpd.org](http://www.knpd.org).

KNPD obtained funds from the European Union Community Action Programme to Combat against Discrimination in order to publish these guidelines.

1.3.2 This publication, which is organised in a different way, also has new guidelines which KNPD developed during the five years of operation of the Equal Opportunities Act and others which were recommended during the consultation process. The most important new guidelines are about:

- a) industrial buildings
- b) bus shelters
- c) commercial and entertainment buildings
- d) buildings open to the public
- e) bays and swimming pools
- f) offices.

### **1.4 Large Governmental Projects**

KNPD complained on various occasions that large Government projects are not following the principles of Access to All. This criticism was also made in discussion of the Government Budget of 2006. The Government committed itself that large projects which do not follow this principle in practice shall be fined. KNPD received this news positively and has followed it by drawing up a memo on the serious deficiencies found in the following projects:

- a) St George's Bay;
- b) the Pinto Waterfront;
- c) the Italian Protocol Roads;
- d) the renovation of the Mediterranean Conference Centre.

KNPD will continue to follow this initiative which was announced in the budget with special reference to these projects.

### **1.5 Lift installations by voluntary entities and small businesses**

For the second year running, KNPD recommended the Government to help in the practical implementation of the principles of Access to All in the budget by taking practical financial measures. As a practical measure, KNPD recommended the removal or reduction of VAT on lift installations of voluntary organisations and small business entities. KNPD showed its appreciation to the Government publicly for having accepted this recommendation.

### **1.6 The Malta Standard Authority**

KNPD continued to work closely with the Malta Standards Authority to ensure that the principle of Access for All is respected even by means of the standards set. For this reason, KNPD is represented on the board of this Authority.

## 2. The Blue Sticker Service

2.1 KNPD also continued to make recommendations to Commissioner of Police for persons with mobility impairment to receive the Blue Sticker service. This benefit primarily entitles persons with a mobility impairment to park in public parking places reserved for them.

2.2 During this period, KNPD worked in this sector as shown in Table number 11.

<b>Table 11</b>		
<b>BLUE STICKER</b>		
	<b>2004</b>	<b>2005</b>
New Applications	472	824
Recommended	461	806
Not Recommended	11	18
Number of persons who renewed the Blue Sticker	4165	454
Withdrawn	656	306

As can be seen from these statistics, there was a huge increase of 75% in the number of applications received by KNPD for this service. Moreover, the number of recommended applications (806) was by far greater than the number of Blue Stickers which were withdrawn in the same period (306). This means that the total number of blue stickers increased substantially from that of last year.

During this year, KNPD concluded the exercise which it had started in order to change the Blue Sticker and make it similar to that designed by the European Union so that this can also be used in all European Union Member States.

## 3. Reserved Parking Areas

3.1 This service is still being provided by the Malta Transport Authority, but as agreed by the parties, KNPD is administering the Review Panel for this service. This Panel is composed of a representative of the Local Council's Association, who acts as Chairman, and representatives of KNPD, the Malta Transport Authority and the Health Division, as members.

3.2 This year, the Review Panel functioned as shown in Table Number 12:

<b>Table 12</b>		
<b>REVIEW PANEL OF RESERVED PARKING</b>		
	<b>2004</b>	<b>2005</b>
Applications examined	91	77
First decision confirmed	36 (40%)	44(57%)
First decision changed	55 (60%)	31(40%)
Pending	0	2(3%)

3.3 This service which is administered by KNPD, had a reduction of 15% in the number of applications during this year.

## 4. Exemption from Registration Tax

4.1 KNPD continued to make recommendations to the Ministry of Finance to exempt persons with disability (and, in certain circumstances, their families) from the registration tax and/or customs duty on the cars they need. Table number 13 shows statistics about this service:

<b>Table 13</b>		
<b>Exemption from Registration Tax</b>		
	<b>2004</b>	<b>2005</b>
New applications	130	181
Recommended by the OHU*	94 (72%)	157(87%)
Not recommended by the OHU*	16 (12%)	9(5%)
Still have not used the exemption	6 (5%)	9(5%)
Pending applications	14 (11%)	6(3%)*
*These are waiting for the medical report from the Occupational Health Unit of the Health Division		

4.2 KNPD continued with the procedure of referring the recommendation to the Ministry of Finance for its approval when the applicant produces evidence that he is going to buy a car. The number of applicants (9) who have not yet made use of this exemption is very low and indicates that the system is working.

4.3 This year there was a substantial increase of about 39% in the number of applications for this service as well as in the number of recommended applications. This is due to the fact that KNPD is informing clients before they submit their application. There was also a reduction in the number of applications pending before the Occupational Health Unit.

## 5. Exemption from Road License Payment

5.1 KNPD continued to make recommendations to the Licensing Directorate to exempt drivers with disability according to the Social Security (1987) Act or who have a modified vehicle because of their disability from paying the Road License. The statistics for the year 2005 can be seen in Table Number 14.

<b>Table 14</b>		
<b>Exemption from Road Licence Payment</b>		
	<b>2004</b>	<b>2005</b>
New applications	98	104
Recommended by OHU*	62 (63%)	80 (77%)
Not recommended by OHU*	20 (21%)	14(13%)
Withdrawn Applications	0	6(6%)
Pending	16 (16%)	4(4%)*
* These are waiting for the medical report from the Occupational Health Unit of the Health Division		

5.2 Here too there was a marginal increase of 6% from the previous year in the number of applications received by KNPD. Moreover, the percentage of recommended applications continued to increase. There was also a substantial reduction in the number of applications pending before the Occupational Health Unit.

## **6. Accessible Transport**

6.1 Towards the end of 1994, KNPD and the Foundation of Homes for an Independent Living established the Transport for an Independent Living Foundation with the aim of providing accessible transport to persons with disability. This Foundation is managed by an autonomous board from which KNPD nominates three members.

6.2 As was reported last year, this Foundation had serious financial problems which could not be solved. Therefore, KNPD opened talks with the Ministry for the Family and Social Solidarity and the Foundation for Respite Care Services so that the latter could start providing the service itself. An agreement was reached and, in the middle of 2005, KNPD, by means of the NGO Liaison Committee, started giving the funds which it had voted for this service to the Foundation for Respite Care Services instead of the Foundation for Transport for an Independent Living.

## **Chapter 6 Access to Information**

### **Collaboration with the Foundation for IT Accessibility (FITA)**

1.1 KNPD and MITTS joined in 1998 to establish the Foundation for Information Technology Accessibility (FITA) with the primary aim of providing persons with disability with full access to information technology. KNPD has continued to offer its full support to this Foundation by nominating two persons in the Foundation's administrative board.

1.2 KNPD also collaborated with FITA by:  
developing a section of journals, books and CDs in the Resource Centre on this subject which can be used by everyone who is interested;  
implementing the agreement with the Community Chest Fund that assists persons with disability financially when buying a computer;  
offering a service which enabled persons with disability to benefit from Websave and financial aid given by Go Mobile.

### **2. Relay Service for Textelefon**

In the last few years, the National Commission has provided the Relay service to persons with a hearing impairment who have a Textelefon so that they can have access to the whole telephony system. This service used to be provided by the company Dial-It, through a financial agreement, 24 hours a day.

At the end of last year, KNPD carried out a study on the practical use of this service. It was found that this service had not worked for a number of months because of technical problems and that this service was rarely used. This was due mostly to the fact that there had been technological advancements which made the apparatus used, old, unreliable and very limited. This was mostly due to the fact that persons with a hearing impairment started using SMS services on their mobile phones.

After consultations with the National Deaf People Association, it was decided that KNPD would stop this service which was done at the beginning of this year.

## **Chapter 7**

### **Education**

#### **1.1 Revision of Inclusive and Special Education**

At the end of 2003, the Ministry of Education announced that it was going to revise the system of special and inclusive education in our country. KNPD was in favour of this exercise. At the end of the year 2005, the Minister for Education appointed a Working Group to provide a detailed report on this revision. This Group consisted of Mr. Lino Spiteri (Chairman), Mr. George Borg, Ms. Anne-Marie Callus, Mr. Joseph Cauchi and Ms. Micheline Sciberras.

1.2 KNPD gave its full support to this Working Group mostly by the fact that:

- one of its members, Ms Anne-Marie Callus is a high official of the Secretariat of KNPD;
- a meeting was held between KNPD and this Group during which the Members of KNPD were given the opportunity to make recommendations;
- the Chairman of KNPD had continuous contact with the Group.

1.3 In the middle of 2005, this Group presented its report to the Ministry of Education. KNPD, after studying this report, expressed its opinion that it agreed in principle with the majority of the recommendations made in the report and therefore it gave its full support.

1.4 KNPD also worked in circulating this report among interested persons, with special reference to persons with disability, their families and their organisations. For this reason, KNPD:

- translated this report into Maltese;
- prepared an easy-to-read summary of this report;
- published the English, Maltese and easy-to-read version on its website;
- prepared a version of the summary of the report in Sign Language on DVD and audio cassette;
- organised a national conference on this report.

All that was stated during this conference was presented to the Minister of Education and was also published on the website of KNPD.

1.5 KNPD notes with satisfaction that the Minister for Education has already started implementing some of the recommendations made in this report. The Education Division appointed Mr George Borg in order to co-ordinate the work. KNPD is providing its full support to this official.

## **2 The Statementing Moderating Panel and the Appeals Board**

The Ministry of Education has again selected the Statementing Moderating Panel and the Appeals Board as indicated by the policy document, “Inclusive Education – Support to Students with Disability”. KNPD is contributing to this exercise through its representative in the Appeals Board, the Chairman of KNPD. The main aim of this policy and of these entities is to make sure that every student with disability has an individual educational programme according to his individual needs.



### **3 The Giving of Medicine in Regular Schools**

One of the major problems faced by a number of parents of students with disability attending regular schools is the giving of medicine to students who need it. Very often, parents have to go to school everyday to give the medicine to their children. This notwithstanding the fact that some of these have a full-time facilitator. KNPD understands that this is a complex issue and for this reason, last year it established a working group to make recommendations to the Ministry. This group was made up of Mr. John Camilleri (KNPD), Ms. Micheline Sciberras (Ministry of Education) and Dr. Simon Attard Montalto (Ministry of Health). After a number of meetings, this group finalised its report and presented it to the Ministry of Education at the end of the year 2005.

The Ministry is currently evaluating this report and is receiving advice, especially legal advice, on the implementation of the recommendations made in the report. KNPD will continue to work in order to find a solution to this problem.

### **4. The University**

4.1 KNPD continued to keep very close contact with the Authorities at the University to ensure that the Authorities and the students at the University are conscious of issues related to persons with disability. This contact can function on a more direct level because Mr Joe Camilleri, Chairman of KNPD, is also a member of the University Senate.

KNPD also gave its contribution through its Chairman in the committee which examines requests by students with disability who ask for special provisions during examinations so as to have equal opportunities. In relation to this there were a number of problems because some students did not know exactly what these provisions are and also because the document issued by the Ministry of Education on this subject is not recognised by University. Consequently, KNPD made a number of recommendations so that:

- a) this document is reviewed, mainly because of huge developments in informatics;
- b) there is one document which is drafted, recognised and published by both the University and the Ministry of Education.

KNPD will continue to work towards the implementation of these recommendations.

### **5. A Pilot Study at Maria Assumpta Secondary School**

KNPD continued to work in the pilot project at Maria Assumpta Secondary School, which started in 2004. The aim is to provide students with disability at this school an individual educational programme and to make sure that their facilitators provide them with the necessary support to implement these programmes. This programme will last for three years and is being carried out with the financial support of the HSBC Care for Children Fund.

## **Chapter 8**

### **Services offered to Adults with Disability**

#### **1. The Employment and Training Corporation**

1.1 KNPD kept in touch with the Employment and Training Corporation for this to provide specialised services to persons with disability in both vocational training and employment. This contact could be made in a direct way because Mr Joe Camilleri, Chairman of KNPD, is also a director of this Corporation.

1.2 This year, KNPD held a number of meetings with the high officials of the Employment and Training Corporation, such as, the new CEO, Ms Sue Vella, about the Supported Employment Scheme. KNPD is recommending the ETC to give more support to this scheme and to utilise all the available funds and possibly enlarge the scheme.

#### **2. Day Services**

2.1 KNPD continued to work to continue to improve the Day Services for adults with disability. At the beginning of this year, this was done mainly through the task force led by the Permanent Secretary in the Ministry for the Family and Social Solidarity, whose aim was to prepare a plan for the development of these services. Through its Executive Director, KNPD gave its contribution both in this task force as well as in the preparation of this plan.

One of the decisions made was that these services would fall within the functions of the Agency SAPPOR. The Ministry decided that, at least for the time being, the function of this Task Force had been completed and there was no need for it to continue to meet.

The work of KNPD within the Task Force and even by other means was primarily directed towards the acquisition of the necessary funds to:

- a) provide a proper managerial structure for the provision of these services;
- b) improve the services, mainly by training personnel and engaging professionals;
- c) make these services accessible to those who need them, meaning that there would not be a waiting list.

2.2 KNPD received a number of complaints that persons with disability, especially those who were to leave the special schools, were not going to be given the day service they need because of a lack of resources. KNPD brought up the issue in a number of ways:

- a) Task Force meetings about this Service;
- b) Public statements about the Government's budget;
- c) Interventions with the Minister for Education and the Minister for the Family.

After several discussions, this problem was solved for the year 2005 by the fact that a small number of students from San Miguel School started receiving the Day Services from the Ministry for the Family, while others continued to attend these special schools. Although reference was made to this problem in the budget speech, there was no increase in the Government Budget for these services. It therefore appears that the situation in the year 2005 will be repeated in 2006. KNPD believes, as declared in a public statement, that these services need more funds both in order to see an improvement in the service as well as providing this service to those who need it but are still not benefiting from it.

# Chapter 9

## Residential Services

### 1. SAPPOR Agency

1.1 KNPD continued to give its full backing to the SAPPOR Agency within the Social Services Foundation. This Agency has the responsibility of developing community services to help persons with disability continue to live in their own home and, when this is no longer possible, to provide them with small houses in the community and the necessary support. KNPD gave its full support to the Agency by:

- a) working to ensure that it is given the funds it needs;
- b) being represented on the Committee for the Allocation of Services, which is a committee which examines applications for the services provided by this Agency.

1.2 KNPD believes that this Agency does not have the necessary funds to provide the community services to persons who need them so much so that it has a very long waiting list. KNPD requested the Government to increase the Budget for this Agency in the 2006 Budget. However, this request was, unfortunately, not accepted.

1.3 In the 2006 Budget Speech, the Government declared that it was going to introduce a new strategy whereby funds used for these services are transferred with the person if the relevant services are offered by different entities. KNPD is in favour of this initiative and discussions have already started between KNPD, SAPPOR Agency and Mount Carmel Hospital in order to implement this initiative.

### 2. The Legal Framework

KNPD continued discussing with representatives of the Ministry for the Family and Social Solidarity about the Bill regarding Guardianship. Its aim is to improve in a substantial way the procedures used to ensure that persons who cannot administer their wealth and who cannot completely look after themselves will have legal protection about whoever provides them with the support they need. The draft of this law is complete and it is now being studied by the Attorney General.

### 3. Personal Assistance Scheme

3.1 A small number of persons with disability are hiring personal assistance services from people abroad. For this purpose these assistants need a work permit from the Employment and Training Corporation, (before this was issued by the Citizenship Department). After an agreement reached between KNPD and the Authorities, it was decided that this permit would be granted if the applications are recommended by KNPD. Consequently, KNPD now makes these recommendations after its professional people visit the applicants in their home. KNPD's work in this sector is illustrated in Table number 15.

<b>Table 15</b>		
<b>Personal Assistance Scheme</b>		
	<b>2004</b>	<b>2005</b>
New Applications	20	32
Recommended	17 (85%)	27(84%)

Not eligible	2 (10%)	2(6%)
Pending	1 (5%)	3(9%)

3.2 The number of applications received by KNPD for this service have increased in a substantial way (60%).

#### **4. Wens Foundation and Respite Care Services Foundation**

KNPD joined forces with the Association of Youths with Disability and with the Society of Parents of Persons with Disability in order to establish the Wens Foundation and the Respite Care Services Foundation, respectively. The former provides residential services in the community to a small number of persons with disability while the latter provides temporary residential services to persons with disability as to give some relief to the families taking care of them. KNPD has been giving its support to these initiatives throughout the years in particular by nominating a number of members to be part of the managing boards of these Foundations (two for the Wens Foundation and three for the Respite Care Services Foundation).

#### **5. Improvements in Homes of Persons with Disability**

5.1 The Housing Authority has a scheme by which it provides financial assistance to persons with disability with the aim of helping them modify their homes in accordance with their specific needs. The manager who directs the Special Assistance Service represents KNPD in the committee which examines these requests.

5.2 KNPD recommended the Government to extend this scheme in the next budget in order to include lifts in private homes. KNPD publicly showed its appreciation that this recommendation was accepted by the Government.

## **Chapter 10 Action in the Community**

### **1. Social Work with Persons with Disability**

KNPD continued to work with the Unit within the Agency SAPPOR which provides social work services to persons with disability and their families. KNPD provided premises at the Centru Hidma Socjali in Santa Venera for the operation of this Unit, and it also offered administrative assistance.

### **2. Subsidy on Postage to Voluntary Organisations**

KNPD again allocated a sum of money from its funds to subsidise the postage used by voluntary organisations which work in the field of persons with disability. This subsidy amounts to 50% of the total expense. During this period, the eleven organisations which benefited from this service were:

- Down Syndrome Association
- Fund for the Rehabilitation of the Physically Handicapped
- Arka Foundation
- Equal Partners Foundation;
- Respite Care Services Foundation;
- The National Association of Parents of Persons with Disability;

- National Deaf People Association;
- Caritas Group Persons with Epilepsy;
- Friends of Support Agency;
- KNPD for the Sick and Persons with Disability of the Catholic Action Movement;
- The Muscular Dystrophy Group;

The sum employed by KNPD for this purpose increased from Lm1,000 during the year 2004 to Lm2,500 during the year 2005. This means that these organisations were given an average of Lm 225.

## **2. Work with Other Organisations**

This year, KNPD worked closely with a number of non governmental organisations in order to reach its aims. Among those which are not directly mentioned in this report one can find:

- ADHD Group
- Social Workers Association
- Broadcasting Authority
- Foundation for the Development of the Maltese Sign Language
- Foundation for an Independent Living
- Eden Foundation
- The Spina Bifida Association
- The Maltese Bible Association
- General Workers Union
- Gozo Association for the Visually Impaired
- Heritage Malta
- The Newspapers
- Chamber of Architects and Civil Engineers
- Commissioner for Children
- Commission of the Family
- Euro Changeover Committee
- EQUAL Programme Evaluation Committee
- Maltese Council of Disabled Persons
- Maltese Women Council
- Radio Stations
- Television Stations
- Malta Employers' Association
- Malta Labour Party
- Malta Lifts Association
- Malta Professional Bodies
- Malta Union of Teachers
- Media Consulta- Campaign against discrimination
- Nationalist Party
- Park of Friendship
- Union Haddiema Maghqudin

### **3.2 Community Chest Fund**

The Chairman, the Director and the Head of the Special Assistance Service had a meeting with His Excellency Dr E Fenech Adami as chairman of the Community Chest Fund. During this meeting,

discussions on the manner in which these two entities can work together so as to ensure that resources are used in the best way possible continued. Eventually, the President of Malta appointed Mr Camilleri, a member of the same Fund, to ensure continuity in this co-operation.

### 3.3 Federation of Organisations for Persons with Disability

This year, KNPD worked more closely with this Federation. The Chairman and Director of KNPD held a meeting with the new officials of the Federation, Messrs Waldemar Beck, Olaf Attard and John Peel, so as to enhance the effectiveness of this co-operation. The Federation now has a new statute which conforms to the criteria of the European Disability Forum. The Council which manages this Federation is made up completely of persons with disability or parents of persons with disability who cannot represent themselves. Moreover, Mr Peel has returned to his post within KNPD and the two parties co-operated in order to organise a common conference during the Persons with Disability Week.

### 3.4 Dar il-Kaptan Contract

In 1990, KNPD entered into an agreement with the Housing Authority in order for the latter to sell Dar il-Kaptan to KNPD at a nominal price and rent the surrounding land at a nominal price. The lease has now expired and, therefore, KNPD and the Authority renewed this agreement for a period of 50 years. KNPD has continued to trust the Respite Care Services Foundation with the administration of this house and land. Since the agreement is now valid for a long period of time, the Foundation can plan its administration of the land in a better way.

## Chapter 11 Research and Training

### 1. Courses on Disability Issues

1.1 KNPD continued to give a series of lectures on issues related to disability to various students and employees in order to broaden their knowledge about this field, especially from the social aspect. Table number 16 shows the work of KNPD in this respect:

<b>Table 16</b>		
<b>Lectures on Disability Issues</b>		
<b>Client</b>	<b>Course</b>	<b>Number of Participants</b>
University of Malta	Faculty of Education	250
	Faculty of Medicine	100
	Social Work	90
	Institute of Health Care	60
Education Division	Schools	490
Employment and Training Corporation	Support workers	50
	Child Carers	30
Police Academy		100
HSBC		15
Vodafone		45
Seminary		12
<b>Total</b>		<b>1,242</b>

- 1.2 The number of participants in these lectures increased substantially. There were around 38% more than the number of participants last year.
- 1.3 KNPD has been trying, with little success, to organise this course formally and regularly and to introduce this course in other faculties, especially those of Medicine, Architecture and Theology.

## **2. PEKTUR (Continuous Education, Training and Research Programme)**

2.1 This programme was established in 1998 with the aim of offering limited financial support in continuous education, training and research in the field of disability. This year, PEKTUR once again issued two calls for application for training and research in the field of persons with disability. The programme received eight applications and the board which administers this programme decided that:

- A person with disability wanted to continue his studies at a post-tertiary level in the field of disability. This request was accepted and this programme offered a grant of Lm1,000.
- A theatre group of persons with disability requested support in order to continue organising activities in this field. The Group was requested to give more information before a decision could be made.
- The Foundation for Care Respite Services made an application for support to be give so that persons with intellectual disability can participate in exchange programmes organised under the Youth Programme of the European Union. This request was accepted and a financial grant of Lm546 was given.
- The Grupp Flimkienaslu, which is run by persons with intellectual disability, made a request to organise a seminar in order to discuss those sections which they feel are important to them. This request was accepted and a financial grant of Lm150 was given.
- A person without disability made a request for a distance learning programme leading to a diploma in the United Kingdom on a subject which was not related to disability. This request could not be accepted.
- A person with disability who is studying for a diploma with a high educational institution in Malta made a request for an increase in the grant already being received in order to be able to carry out research. Discussions are still being held on this request.
- The Deaf Persons Association has made a request for financial help so that an interpreter of the Maltese sign language can assist a representative of the Deaf Persons Association to attend a conference which was being held abroad. This request was accepted and this association was granted Lm400.
- The Malta Caritas Epilepsy Association made a request for financial assistance for a number of publications which it wished to produce. This request was not accepted because the subject of the material was of a medical rather than a social nature.
- The programme received requests for persons to attend conferences related to disability issues in Malta and abroad. The policy of this programme is not to accept such requests unless the request is for the reimbursement of extra expenses that a person with disability has in attending these conferences.

## **3. A Visit by Professor Barnes**

As part of the PEKTUR Programme, KNPD invited Prof. Colin Barnes to give lectures while he was in Malta to attend a workshop of a project organised by the Universities of Leeds and Malta. Prof. Barnes, who is a director of the Centre for Disability Studies of the University of Leeds and the author of a number of book, had meetings with:

- members of the Faculty of Education of the University of Malta;

- researchers in this sector during a public meeting- this activity was organised together with the Maltese Council for Persons with Disability;
- activists with disability who act as speakers during lectures organised by KNPD.

#### **4. Research of KNPD**

##### **4.1 Ways of Mainstreaming Disability Policy**

This year, KNPD, together with SAPPOR Agency, started taking part in a project financed by the European Union which is being co-ordinated by Leonard Cheshire International. This project is aimed at studying ways in which the disability sector can become an integral part of the national policy in various spheres by developing the European Disability Action Mainstreaming Assessment Tool (EDAMAT). Organisations from the United Kingdom, Ireland, Portugal, Spain, Morocco and Greece are also taking part in this project. This project is being co-ordinated in Malta by Anne-Marie Callus from KNPD and Agnes Bezzina from SAPPOR Agency. After consultation with persons with disability, it was decided that this project should focus on Inclusion in the Community, Independent Living and Health Services.

The work done so far in relation to this project consists of:

- Three meetings held by different entities participating in this project;
- A short study of the number of policies in Malta. It was found that very few policies in the various ministries mention in a specific way persons with disability;
- There was the establishment of the Project Advisory Group (PAG) formed by persons with disability, a parent of a person with disability who cannot represent herself and representatives of the Malta Transport Authority, the Department of Social Security, the Church, the Local Councils and the Health Division;
- Two meetings, one in Malta and another in Gozo, for focus groups made up of persons with disability and parents of children with disability;
- The drafting of the interview to be used in this study.

This project is going to continue in 2006.

##### **4.2 Inclusive Sport Activities and Facilities**

In 2004, KNPD began to co-ordinate a project funded by the European Union Grundtvig Programme, which was aimed at understanding how sport facilities and activities can be made accessible to persons with disability. This theme was chosen mainly because 2004 was dedicated to Sports by the European Union. The Maltese participants were Ms. Angela Agius, Mr. Kevin Attard, Mr. Eugenio Calleja and Mr. Clayton Vella together with Ms. Helen Attard, and Ms Rosanne Fenech who led and supported the Maltese Group. Groups from Romania and Italy also participated in this project.

This project continued in 2005 with the following activities:

- KNPD sent questionnaires about the involvement of persons with disability in sports activities to two groups: persons with disability registered with KNPD and other agencies, organisations and entities which organise sports activities.
- The results of this Maltese study were presented in two public seminars, one in Malta and one in L'Aquila, Italy.
- Guidelines about the inclusion of persons with disability in sports facilities and activities were drafted.



Unfortunately, a request for funding the continuation of this project and specifically the consultation about these guidelines and their publication was not accepted by the partners of KNPD. Nonetheless, KNPD will keep working towards the publication of these guidelines.

#### **4.3 Good Practice to Ensure Reasonable Access in Buildings to Persons with Disability**

In 2005, KNPD took part in a project with the aim of establishing criteria upon which to decide what is reasonable in terms of physical access - "Good Practice for Providing Reasonable Access to the Physically Built Environment for Disabled Persons". This project is being carried out by the University of Malta and the University of Leeds with the active participation of KNPD and the Centre for Disability Studies of the University of Leeds. This year the project continued in the following way:

- There was a preparatory meeting at the University of Leeds for the managerial team organising this project. KNPD was represented by Mr Joe Camilleri and Mr Fred Bezzina.
- There was a workshop held in Malta which was attended by 12 delegates from Leeds and 13 delegates from Malta. The Maltese delegates invited by KNPD were the members of the Board which determines what is Reasonable, the architects working for KNPD, and KNPD's lawyer. In this workshop, there were small-group discussions of typical cases.
- There was another workshop at the University of Leeds which was attended by nineteen delegates from Leeds and 15 from Malta. During this workshop, the discussions continued including on what the procedure to establish what is reasonable should be and the procedure used in Malta by the Board which Determines what is Reasonable.

This project is going to continue in 2006.

#### **Access to Professional Training**

In 2005, KNPD was involved in a pilot project, Access to Professional Training, aimed at giving persons with disability the opportunity to train in social work. This project is financed by the Leonardo Programme of the European Union and co-ordinated by De Montfort University of Leicester in the United Kingdom. The Marie Curie Association of Bulgaria will also take part in this project which will span over two years. Ms Rosanne Fenech, a high official of KNPD, will co-ordinate the Maltese side to this project and there will also be the involvement of the Social Work Department of the University of Malta.

# Chapter 12

## Information and Public Education

### Persons with Disability Week

The 3<sup>rd</sup> December is the International Day of Persons with Disability. Every year, KNPD organises a National Disability Week in an effort to raise awareness about this sector. Apart from organising a number of activities, KNPD invites a number of organisations to organise activities in order to reach this aim. The theme of this week chosen by the European Union is “Living Together in Society”. This year, the week was organised between the 27<sup>th</sup> November 2005 and 4<sup>th</sup> December 2005. Most of the activities organised during this week were sponsored by the European Union Community Action Programme to Combat against Discrimination. The following were the activities organised by KNPD:

#### 2.2 Press conference inaugurating the Persons with Disability Week

KNPD organised this conference on Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> November 2005 in the offices of KNPD. During this conference, the following was presented to the public:

- A poster with this Week’s theme. This was distributed around Malta and Gozo to be exhibited in public places.
- A message to the general public that KNPD issues during this week.
- A message aimed at children which was circulated around all the schools in Malta and Gozo with the aim of being read on the international day or a date close to it.
- A short audio advert that was broadcast regularly on all the radio stations during this Week;
- A short television advert that was sent to all television stations to be broadcast during this Week;
- The full programme for this Week.

#### 2.3 Presentation of the second edition of Access for All-Design Guidelines

This booklet was presented to the media, architecture students, the Faculty of Architecture, the Chamber of Architects and Civil Engineers, the Works Division, MEPA, BICC, and the Occupational Therapist Association. This activity was held at Students’ House, the University of Malta. The day was also used to inaugurate the lift which was installed by the University to make the building accessible after KNPD had instituted proceedings against the University. This activity was attended by a large number of students from the Faculty of Architecture. In this meeting, there were speeches by the Chairman of KNPD, Mr Joe Camilleri, the Dean of the Faculty of Architecture, Prof. Joseph Falzon, Dr Joseph Spiteri (Co-editor of this booklet) and Ms Vicki Sciberras, who explained why persons with disability need these guidelines.

A free copy of this booklet can be obtained from the offices of KNPD or from KNPD’s website, [www.knpd.org](http://www.knpd.org).

#### 2.4 Presentation of the Equal Opportunities Act Annual Report

Since the Equal Opportunities Act came into force in October 2000, KNPD presents a yearly report to the general public in which it details the work it carried out during that year (from October 2004 to September 2005) in relation to the safeguarding of the provisions stipulated in the Equal Opportunities (Persons with Disability) Act. This report was presented in a press conference by Mr

Joe Camilleri, Chairman of KNPD and Ms Marianne Debono, Manager of the Equal Opportunities Section. The Hon. Mary Louise Coleiro, main speaker of the Opposition for Solidarity issues, and the Hon. Dolores Cristina, Minister for the Family and Social Solidarity, gave their comments. A copy of this report is available from the Offices of KNPD and from KNPD's website: [www.knpd.org](http://www.knpd.org).

## **2.5 Courtesy visit to His Excellency Dr Eddie Fenech Adami, the President of Malta**

The members of KNPD paid a courtesy visit to His Excellency Dr Eddie Fenech Adami, the President of Malta. Apart from the fact that KNPD wanted to show its appreciation for the work done in collaboration with the Community Chest Fund, KNPD also used this occasion to present the Head of the Maltese State with a version in various media of the booklet "Benefits and Services for Persons with Disability". In fact, KNPD has published this booklet in the following formats:

- A printed version in Maltese;
- A printed version in English;
- A printed version in Maltese in large type;
- A Maltese audio version;
- An easy-to-read printed version;
- A DVD in Maltese Sign Language.

At the end of this meeting, His Excellency Dr Eddie Fenech Adami accompanied the members of KNPD to see and use the recently installed ramp leading from the lift of the Palace to the corridor of the halls of the Palace. The president commented that this ramp, which is made of glass in order to allow the underlying pavements to be seen, shows that with good will, access is possible even in sensitive and historical places like the Palace.

## **2.6 Training for HSBC Employees**

Following a request by HSBC, KNPD began a course during this Week to train HSBC employees in how to deal with clients with disability. This course is offered by KNPD with the help of persons with disability and parents of persons with disability who cannot represent themselves.

## **2.7 Presentation of the Self-Advocacy Report**

Earlier this year, KNPD presented a self-advocacy report for persons with intellectual disability during a seminar given by Mr Andrew Lee, chairman of the People First of the United Kingdom. This report has now been prepared in an easy-to-read format. A consultation process about this report will now begin with the aim of forming the official policy of KNPD for this sector. During Persons with Disability Week there was an important meeting in which the report in an easy-to-read format was discussed. Persons with intellectual disability and their organisations were well represented in this consultation. This meeting was introduced by Mr Joseph Camilleri, Chairperson of KNPD, the Hon. Joseph Abela, opposition speaker for this sector, and the Hon. Clyde Puli, Chairperson of the social committee of the Maltese Parliament.

## **2.8 Parliament for persons with disability**

As in previous years, KNPD organised the Parliament of Persons with Disability with the participation of the speaker, Hon. Anton Tabone, Hon. Marie Louise Coleiro, Hon. Dolores Cristina, Mr Joseph Camilleri, chairperson of KNPD, Mr Waldemar Beck, president of the Federation of Organisations for Persons with Disability and Ms Nicolette Aquilina, representative of the Maltese Council of Persons with Disability. This parliament discussed the proposal made in the Spiteri Report that states that a permanent committee of the House of Representatives about the

disability sectors should be established. The main objectives of this committee are to monitor and evaluate how the existing legal provisions about persons with disability, including education, are being implemented and to recommend to the House of Representatives new legal provisions that the committee considers to be necessary. Mr Lino Spiteri presented this proposal himself. This parliament was broadcast live on TVM.

## **2.9 Blood Donation with the Blood Bank of the Knights of St. John**

As a sign that persons with disability want to be part of society by giving their contribution, there was a half day in which a good number of persons with disability and their friends donated blood to the blood bank of the Knights of St John, which set up a mobile clinic in the offices of KNPD.

## **2.10 National Conference with the Theme “Living Together in Society”**

The principal activity of this week was a national conference that KNPD organised together with the Maltese Federation of Organisations for Persons with Disability. The theme of the conference was the same as that of the International Week for Persons with Disability. The main speakers at this Conference, which was held on the International Day of Persons with Disability, the 3<sup>rd</sup> of December, were Ms. Mandi Glover, chairperson of the Scope Cymru (Wales) and Ms Rita Borg, chairperson of the Service Allocation Committee of SAPPOR Agency. In the conference, there were also speeches by Hon. Marie Louise Coleiro and the Minister Dolores Cristina. There were also contributions by a panel of organisations that provide services. This panel consisted of Dr. Doriette Soler, from the Health Division, Mr George Borg, from the Education Division, Mr Charles Cassar, from the Employment and Training Corporation, Mr Marcel Pisani, from the SAPPOR Agency, and Ms Audrey Testaferrata de Noto, from the Malta Transport Authority. KNPD is working to publish these contributions together with a summary of the discussions and to make these available on the website of KNPD shortly.

## **1.11 Ministerial Message on TVM by the Minister Dolores Cristina and Sarah Cassar**

As in previous years, the Minister responsible for this sector gave a message to the Maltese public on TVM together with a person with disability on the International Day for Persons with Disability. This year, Minister Dolores Cristina gave this message together with Ms Sarah Cassar. Since Ms Cassar cannot speak clearly, the message was given in English with the use of a speech synthesiser (the technology to do this in Maltese has not yet been developed). The message was also subtitled in Maltese and there was sign language interpretation too.

## **Diversity Strengthens Campaign and Awareness Raising Days**

The National Commission Persons with Disability is fully committed to a continuous campaign to raise awareness against discrimination due to disability. For this reason KNPD acquired funds from the European Union Community Action Programme to Combat against Discrimination. These funds were needed to organise:

- a) a year long campaign in 2004/2005, entitled ‘Diversity Strengthens’, which was done in collaboration with the Jesuit Refugee Services;
- b) awareness raising days in 2005.

In 2005, the following activities were organised in relation to these initiatives:

### **Seminar on the Equal Opportunities Act and the European Union Directive About Race Discrimination**

This seminar, which was primarily aimed at the legal profession, was addressed by Ms Marianne Debono, manager of the Equal Opportunities Section of KNPD, and by Dr Doreen Clarke, the legal consultant of KNPD. The seminar was chaired by Mr Joseph M. Camilleri, chairman of KNPD.

### **Seminar on the European Union Action Plan on Disability**

KNPD organised a seminar in mid May on the European Union Action Plan on Disability for the years 2004-2010. This plan was a direct result of the European Year of Persons with Disability which was in 2003. The main speaker at this seminar was the Hon. Richard Howitt, a member of the European Parliament and chairman of the European Parliament inter-parliamentary group on disability. Other speakers at this seminar, which was chaired by Ms Vicki Sciberras, were the Hon. Dr Jason Azzopardi, chairman of the Committee for Foreign and European Affairs of the Maltese Parliament, who introduced the seminar, Mr Gordon Cardona, who gave his views on this plan as seen by a person with disability, and Mr Joseph M. Camilleri, chairman of KNPD, who explained how this plan can be implemented at a local level.

KNPD has provided a Maltese translation of this action plan. Copies of this plan in Maltese and in English are available from the offices of KNPD and from the website of KNPD: [www.knpd.org](http://www.knpd.org)

### **The Parliament of Persons with Disability**

In mid-May 2005, KNPD organised the Parliament of Persons with Disability for which all the Maltese members of Parliament and some representatives of persons with disability and their organisations were invited. This parliament was directed by Hon Antoine Tabone, the speaker of the Maltese Parliament. The main speaker was once again, the Hon. Richard Howitt, a member of the European Parliament and chairman of the European Parliament inter-parliamentary group on disability. Other speakers were Mr George Vella, who spoke about education, Ms. Marthese Mugliette, who spoke about work and day services, Mr Leon Sciberras who spoke about leisure, and Ms Rita Borg, who spoke about independent living. These are all persons with disability or parents of persons with disability who cannot represent themselves. Among the members of parliament who spoke in this session were Hon Dolores Cristina and Hon Mary Louise Coleiro. This session was broadcast live by the Public Broadcasting Services on TVM.

### **Seminar on Self-Advocacy for Persons with Intellectual Disability**

In May, KNPD organised a seminar on self-advocacy for persons with intellectual disability. The main speaker at this seminar was Mr Andrew Lee, chairman of People First, which is a British organisation of persons with intellectual disability led by themselves with the necessary support. Other speakers were Ms Rita Formosa and Ms Marthese Deguara from the Group, Flimkienaslu, that is a Maltese group of persons with intellectual disability led by themselves with the necessary support. A draft report on the situation of persons with intellectual disability in Malta was presented by Ms Anne-Marie Callus and Ms Helen Attard. For this seminar, KNPD prepared an easy to read leaflet about self-advocacy. This leaflet is available from the offices of KNPD and from the website of KNPD: [www.knpd.org](http://www.knpd.org)

### **In-service Course on Diversity for Social Studies Teachers**

As part of this campaign, an in-service course was organised for teachers of Social Studies at secondary schools. During this course, there was also the presentation of a book with the same theme, focusing on racial discrimination and discrimination against persons with disability. Moreover, KNPD visited various schools in Malta and Gozo and Mr. Charles Borg talked to students in order to raise awareness about disability issues. During these talks, KNPD distributed the educational package, Holoq, which includes a set of lessons about persons with different disabilities and information for teachers.

## 2.6 Art Exhibition and Competition

An art exhibition for secondary school children with the theme, ‘Fighting Discrimination through Art’, was organised. 25 paintings were exhibited with the winner being Mr. Norbert Brincat, a student at St. Michael’s Secondary School, St. Venera. The pictures which placed first, second and third were also exhibited in an art exhibition with the same theme at St. James Cavalier. A number of established artists also contributed to this exhibition with their works.

## CHOGM

As part of the activities organised during the CHOGM of November 2005, the Commonwealth Foundation set up an exhibition of stands by various entities from around the Commonwealth. This was part of the People’s Forum that was held in the Mediterranean Conference Centre exactly before the meeting of the leaders of the Commonwealth. KNPD, with the full backing of the Foundation for IT Accessibility (FITA) set up a stand with the theme “Networking Commonwealth People Including Persons with Disability”. This stand was taken care of by persons with disability and members of staff of KNPD and FITA. Some publications of KNPD were distributed from the stand in which there was also a demonstration of how persons with disability, especially those with visual impairment, can use the computer if they have the necessary apparatus. Despite the fact that a number of people visiting this fair was small, KNPD feels that the presence of persons with disability in this important activity was necessary.

## Website

4.1 KNPD continued in its efforts to update its website ([www.knpd.org](http://www.knpd.org)) particularly in relation to KNPD’s work and to make sure that it is completely accessible to everyone.

4.2 The statistics related to the website for the year 2005 is shown in Table 17.

<b>Table 17</b>		
<b>KNPD Website</b>		
	<b>2004</b>	<b>2005</b>
New visitors	289	323
Visitors who accessed the Website more than once	172	1,165
Pages Used	4,355	10,847

4.3 These figures clearly show that KNPD is being used in a substantial way since there have been some important increases, for example, 34 new visitors, about 1000 visitors who used the website more than once, and an increase of almost 6,500 in the number of pages used.

## 5. Resource Centre

5.1 In 2005, KNPD has continued to provide a Resource Centre which is found in its offices at the Centru Hidma Socjali, Santa Venera. Everyone can make use of it during office hours, including Saturday mornings.

5.2 Table number 18 illustrates the resources of this Centre and the work done in 2005:

<b>Resource Centre</b>	<b>Borrowed</b>	<b>New</b>	<b>Total</b>
Books	461	255	3992
Periodicals	45	0	32*
Videos	12	9	440
Audio Cassettes	7	14	119
Educational Aids	218	0	218
CDs	5	8	71
Persons who used the Centre in 2005			127
Persons registered with the Centre			1189
<i>*KNPD is a subscriber of 34 different periodicals</i>			

5.3 There was a substantial decrease (from 484 to 127) in the number of persons (with disability, students, professionals, etc.) using the Centre. The first indications are that this decrease was due to the fact that the figures for the year 2004 were significantly higher than average. However, the Secretariat of KNPD will do its utmost to discover the reasons for this decrease and to explore possible corrective measures. On the other hand, there was a substantial increase in the resources in this Centre.

## 6. KNPD Publications

### 6.1 New Publications

This year, KNPD published the following:

The second edition of the **Access for All - Design Guidelines**;

A report of the National Conference about the **European Union Council Directive for Equality in Employment** – versions in Maltese, English and audio;

A report on the **Equal Opportunities for Persons with Disability Seminar: European Union Action Plan**– versions in Maltese, English and audio;

A report on the **Self-Advocacy Seminar** – versions in Maltese, English and audio;

A leaflet on the **Services of KNPD** – an easy to read version;

An easy to read version of **Self-Advocacy**;

A DVD version in Maltese Sign Language of the book, **Services and Benefits to Persons with Disability**;

**The Annual Report on the Equal Opportunities Act- fifth edition (2004-2005);**

**The Annual Report of KNPD for the year 2004.**

These publications, except for the Annual Report of KNPD and the Equal Opportunities Act were financed by funds from the Diversity Strengthens Campaign as part of the European Union Community Action Programme to Combat against Discrimination.

## **The booklet, “Benefits and Services”**

Apart from providing a DVD version in the Maltese Sign-Language of this important booklet, KNPD also prepared an Easy-to-Read version. Since the content of this booklet is being revised, the edition provided is a limited one in view of providing a full edition once the revision exercise is completed.

### **6.3 Indaqs**

During the year 2005, KNPD continued to publish its newsletter “Indaqs” every six months, in May and November 2005. This newsletter, of which 8,000 copies are circulated, is distributed among all persons with disability who are registered with KNPD and all those involved in this sector. The newsletter can also be obtained in English, in Maltese audio format, and from KNPD’s website.

### **6.4 Clients with Disability and You**

HSBC, in collaboration with KNPD, published this booklet in English by the Employers’ Forum on Disability of the United Kingdom with the aim of making entities which provide services more aware of how to assist clients with disability. The first edition of this booklet has already been distributed and following a request by KNPD, HSBC accepted to publish a second edition. KNPD takes care of the distribution of this booklet.

### **6.5 Publications in Different Media**

In order to make its information as widely accessible as possible, KNPD is offering all of its 2005 publications as well as some others for free from the Secretariat of KNPD, as shown in Table number 19.





Table 19

	Maltese	English	Easy -to- Read	Audio	Maltese Sign Language	Website	
						Maltese	English
Equal Opportunities (Persons with Disability) Act	•	•		•		•	•
Indaqs	•	•		•		•	•
Benefits and Services for Persons with Disability	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Access for All-Design Guidelines		•					•
Fact Sheet- Services of KNPD	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Holoq	•					•	
Self-Advocacy Report	•	•	•	•		•	•
Seminar: Equal Opportunities for Persons with Disability: EU Action Plan	•	•		•		•	•
Conference on the EU Directive on Equal Treatment in Employment	•	•		•		•	•
Annual Report 2005- KNPD	•	•		•		•	•
Annual Report 2004-2005- Equal Opportunities Act	•	•		•		•	•
Self-Advocacy Leaflet			•			•	
Leaflet on The Major Concerns of Persons with Disability and their Families	•			•	•	•	•
Clients with Disability and You	•			•			

## **Chapter 13: International Activities**

### **1. Working with the United Nations**

#### **1.1. International Convention**

The United Nations decided to draft an International Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disability. For this reason, there were discussions at the General Headquarters of the United Nations in New York.

The European Union member states have agreed to adopt a common stance. In fact, before every meeting in New York, there is a meeting in Europe to agree on a common position.

Malta is represented by KNPD in these discussions. Due to limited human and financial resources, KNPD decided to attend only those meetings organised by the European Union. This year, there were three sessions in total, one session in London and two sessions in Brussels. The first meeting was attended by Mr Joe Camilleri, chairman of KNPD. Ms Anne-Marie Callus, a high official of KNPD, attended the second meeting while no one could attend the third meeting because it was held during the Persons with Disability Week.

#### **1.2 Standard Regulations**

The United Nations has a *rappporteur* who investigates how the Governments are implementing the Standard Regulations for Equal Opportunities for Persons with Disability issued by the United Nations itself. This *rappporteur* asked KNPD to fill in a detailed questionnaire at the beginning of the year. KNPD was asked to consult the non-Governmental Sector while doing this. For this reason, KNPD organised a meeting with these entities, carried out the necessary consultation and eventually sent the completed questionnaire to the United Nations.

### **2. Working with the European Union**

#### **2.1 A Group of High Officials on Disability**

The European Union has a group of High Officials on Disability which is formed by representatives from the Member States. This Group is aimed at keeping the Member States informed of what is happening in this sector at a European level. Moreover, the officials share ideas and experiences. KNPD represents Malta in this Group. This year, the Group met once in Brussels. Mr Fred Bezzina, executive director of KNPD attended this meeting. Some of the issues discussed were:

- The European Strategy on Employment;
- Anti-discriminatory policies and the Year 2000 as the European Year for Equal Opportunities;
- Gathering statistics on persons with disability;
- The International Day of Persons with Disability 2005.

#### **2.2 Report on the Status of Persons with Disability**

The European Union committed itself to produce a report in 2005 on the status of persons with disability in its Member States. KNPD contributed in the drafting of this report which was presented to the public on the International Day of Persons with Disability. For this occasion, a conference with the theme, 'Living Together in Society', was organised. Mr Charles Borg, an official in the Secretariat of KNPD, represented KNPD in this conference.

### **2.3 Directive on Persons with Disability and Air Transport**

The European Parliament has just passed a directive which is meant to ensure that persons with disability are not discriminated while travelling by air and that they are given the necessary support at no extra cost. During the discussions for this Directive, KNPD gave its comments and it was backed by the Maltese Government.

### **2.4 Community Action Programme to Combat against Discrimination**

Similarly to last year, KNPD was successful in its application for funds (100,000 euros) to organise a year long awareness campaign about disability. The theme of this campaign is “The Right to Choose”. Various activities planned for this year will be financed by these funds.

Moreover, KNPD employed an official to be in charge of this campaign and other activities, mostly those related to the European Union programmes.

### **2.5 European Disability Forum**

KNPD is an observing member of the European Disability Forum (EDF), which is the principal organisation within the European Union in this sector. KNPD keeps itself adjourned on what happens in Europe with respect to this sector by means of this Forum.

### **2.6 European Conferences**

KNPD receives various invitations, mostly those related to the European Union, to participate in seminars, conferences and other activities abroad. KNPD decides whether to accept to participate on the basis of financial means and the importance of the event because it believes that KNPD, persons with disability, their families and their organisations should be up-to-date with what is happening in the disability sector both in Malta and abroad. This year KNPD participated in the following conferences:

- As part of its European Union presidency, the United Kingdom organised a European Conference in London. The Conference, Improving the Life Chances to Disabled People, was meant for ministers responsible for the disability sector in European Union Member States. Minister Dolores Cristina represented Malta at this conference and she was accompanied by Mr. Joseph Camilleri and Mr Fred Bezzina, chairman and director of KNPD respectively. This conference was presided by the United Kingdom Minister for Persons with Disability, Anne McGuire, who emphasised the need for co-ordinated efforts in bringing about the necessary changes for persons with disability to have equal choices. Minister Cristina talked about the Equal Opportunities Act and the efforts to address disability issues in every aspect of Maltese policy. She also argued that in Malta there are eighty non governmental organisations working in this sector and this fragmentation often reduces their effectiveness.
- Following a nomination by KNPD, Mr Mario Borg, a youth with disability, was chosen by the National Agency of the Youth Programme of the European Union to take part in the European Union conference about the participation of youths in this project. The Conference with the theme “Please Do Disturb” was held in Hanover, Germany.

### **2.7 European Voluntary Service**

In 2005, KNPD was chosen as a host organisation by the European Voluntary Service within the European Programme, Youth. This means that those youths with disability who would like to do some voluntary work in the European Union can apply to do so in Malta. In fact, the Hungarian student, Szilvia Nyusti, who is visually impaired, showed interest in this project. She applied with

KNPD to carry out voluntary work in Malta. This application was accepted and Ms Nyusti carried out voluntary work in the Day Centre for Visually Impaired Persons in Santa Venera and the Resource Centre in Cottonera. She also had the opportunity to visit various Maltese organizations that offer services for persons with disability.

## **2.8 Assistance to Other Entities**

KNPD also gave its support to some entities working in this sector in order for them to benefit from European Union Programmes. This year the secretariat of KNPD helped:

- The Foundation for Respite Care Services in managing a networking project which was accepted by the European Programme, Youth. The theme of this project is “Empowering Young Europeans with Intellectual Disability” and it is aimed at giving the opportunity to youths with intellectual disability or challenging behaviour to learn more about their rights. The Agency SAPPOR, the Maltese Day Services as well as groups from Poland, Greece, the United Kingdom, Germany and Sweden, are other partners in this project. KNPD has been giving and will keep on giving its administrative support to this project in 2006.
- A group of five persons who work with SAPPOR Agency and in the Day Centres went on a one week study visit to Sweden where they became acquainted with the work done in the organisation called Foreningen Salta By, which offers residential and day services to persons with disability. This visit was made possible by the funds of the European Union Programme, Leonardo.

<b>Table number 1</b>						
<b>Statistics according to Age and Gender</b>						
<b>Age</b>	<b>Women</b>	<b>Men</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>%</b>		
				<b>2005</b>	<b>2003</b>	<b>Diff</b>
0-4	37	53	90	0.99	5.40	-4.41
5-9	97	147	244	2.69	4.48	-1.79
10-14	128	183	311	3.43	4.15	-0.72
15-19	115	195	310	3.42	5.03	-1.61
20-24	132	216	348	3.85	4.07	-0.22
25-29	158	225	383	4.21	3.61	0.60
30-34	143	202	345	3.81	5.27	-1.46
35-39	153	183	336	3.71	4.91	-1.20
40-44	170	254	424	4.68	5.98	-1.30
45-49	212	321	533	5.89	5.99	0.10
50-54	236	347	583	6.44	5.97	0.47
55-59	281	430	711	7.88	6.2	1.68
60-64	236	380	616	6.79	6.95	-0.16
65-69	288	361	649	7.14	8.11	-0.97
70-74	368	372	740	8.15	8.61	-0.46
75-79	441	385	826	9.11	7.94	1.17
80-84	435	324	759	8.43	4.3	4.13
>85	453	345	798	8.76	3.02	4.61
Unknown			57	0.61		
<b>Total</b>	<b>4083</b>	<b>4923</b>	<b>9063</b>			

<b>Table number 2</b>								
<b>Statistics based on Age over the years</b>								
<b>Year</b>	<b>0 - 16</b>		<b>17 – 59</b>		<b>60+</b>		<b>Unspecified</b>	<b>Total</b>
	<b>No.</b>	<b>%</b>	<b>No.</b>	<b>%</b>	<b>No.</b>	<b>%</b>		
1994	815	24.5	1839	55.2	651	19.5	25	<b>3330</b>
1999	1089	17.2	2961	46.7	2286	36.1	4	<b>6340</b>
2003	1260	16.6	3388	44.5	2962	38.9	0	<b>7610</b>
2005	764	8.4	3854	42.5	4388	48.4y	57	<b>9063</b>

<b>Table number 3</b>			
<b>Statistics Based on Impairment</b>			
	<b>Total</b>		<b>%</b>

Type of Impairment	2005	2003	2005	2003	Difference
Physical	5338	3819	58.98	50.18	8.80
Intellectual	1895	1314	20.91	17.27	3.64
Psychological	849	493	9.37	6.48	2.89
Sight	1127	757	12.44	9.95	2.49
Hearing	986	636	10.88	8.36	2.52
More than one	1767	1166	19.50	15.32	4.18
Unspecified	1484	2025	16.37	26.61	-10.24

Note: The totals are larger because there are a number of persons with more than one impairment.

<b>Table number 4</b>	
<b>Prevalence of Disability in relation to Population</b>	
<b>Year</b>	<b>Prevalence (%)</b>
1994	0.9
1999	1.6
2003	1.9
2005	2.3

Table nur

Statistics based on Age and Type of Impairment												
	Physical	%	Psychological	%	Intellectual	%	Hearing	%	Sight	%	More than One Impairment	
0-4	37	0.69	43	2.27	12	1.41	8	0.71	8	0.81	19	
5-9	101	1.89	119	6.28	28	3.30	19	1.69	27	2.74	56	
10-14	123	2.30	159	8.39	39	4.59	23	2.04	31	3.14	71	
15-19	125	2.34	153	8.07	44	5.18	37	3.28	38	3.85	74	
20-24	147	2.75	151	7.97	49	5.77	30	2.66	45	4.56	82	
25-29	148	2.77	152	8.02	59	6.95	50	4.44	49	4.97	84	
30-34	135	2.53	136	7.18	52	6.12	41	3.64	37	3.75	76	
35-39	161	3.02	125	6.60	41	4.83	23	2.04	20	2.03	60	
40-44	206	3.86	112	5.91	53	6.24	57	5.06	52	5.27	90	
45-49	288	5.40	129	6.81	74	8.72	61	5.41	47	4.77	100	
50-54	343	6.43	115	6.07	66	7.77	65	5.77	62	6.29	99	
55-59	440	8.24	127	6.70	68	8.01	91	8.07	59	5.98	124	
60-64	431	8.07	77	4.06	46	5.42	84	7.45	52	5.27	105	
65-69	481	9.01	60	3.17	41	4.83	76	6.74	51	5.17	100	
70-74	549	10.28	57	3.01	39	4.59	86	7.63	74	7.51	119	
75-79	629	11.78	50	2.64	35	4.12	108	9.58	80	8.11	146	
80+	994	18.62	130	6.86	103	12.3	268	23.79	254	25.76	362	
<b>Total</b>	<b>5338</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>1895</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>849</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>1127</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>986</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>1767</b>	



**Table number 6**

<b>Prevalence according to Locality</b>								
<b>Locality</b>	<b>Number</b>	<b>%</b>	<b>Locality</b>	<b>Number</b>	<b>%</b>	<b>Locality</b>	<b>Number</b>	<b>%</b>
Attard	172	1.90	L-Iklin	27	0.30	Rabat	379	4.18
Balzan	97	1.07	L-Isla	75	0.83	Safi	34	0.38
Birgu	73	0.81	Luqa	112	1.24	St. Julian's	195	2.15
Birkirkara	512	5.65	Marsa	206	2.27	San Gwann	200	2.21
Birzebbuga	161	1.78	Marsascala	137	1.51	San Lawrenz	14	0.15
Bormla	162	1.79	Marsaxlokk	60	0.66	San Pawl il-Bahar	243	2.68
Dingli	51	0.56	Mdina	11	0.12	Sannat	35	0.39
Fgura	236	2.60	Mellieha	166	1.83	Siggiewi	246	2.71
Floriana	85	0.94	Mgarr	61	0.67	Sliema	460	5.08
Fontana	21	0.23	Mosta	322	3.55	Santa Lucia	77	0.85
Ghajnsielem	56	0.62	Mqabba	33	0.36	Santa Venera	185	2.04
Gharb	33	0.36	Msida	152	1.68	Swieqi	93	1.03
Gharghur	30	0.33	Mtarfa	37	0.41	Ta'Xbiex	41	0.45
Ghasri	10	0.11	Munxar	17	0.19	Tarxien	179	1.98
Ghaxaq	79	0.87	Nadur	95	1.05	Valetta	223	2.46
Gudja	46	0.51	Naxxar	186	2.05	Victoria (Gozo)	165	1.82
Gzira	159	1.75	Paola	263	2.90	Xaghra	74	0.82
Hamrun	354	3.91	Pembroke	40	0.44	Xewkija	61	0.67
Kalkara	52	0.57	Pieta'	104	1.15	Xghajra	14	0.15
Kercem	26	0.29	Qala	38	0.42	Zabbar	293	3.23
Kirkop	38	0.42	Qormi	416	4.59	Zebbug	221	2.44
Lija	64	0.71	Qrendi	56	0.62	Zebbug (Gozo)	45	0.5
						Zejtun	280	3.09
						Zurrieq	175	1.92