

MINISTERI TAS-SANJA
L-ANZJANI U
KLIRA FIL-KOMUNITA



MINISTRY OF HEALTH,
THE ELDERLY
AND COMMUNITY CARE

Il-Ministru

Marcos Kyprianou
European Health and Consumer Protection Commissioner
European Commission
B-1049 Brussels
Belgium

6 February 2006

CABINET of M. KYPRIANOU									
A/ 827					The Minister				
16. 03. 2006									
	MK	MS	PB	PP	AG	DS	EE	GG	GZ
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Green Paper - Promoting Healthy Diets and Physical Activity: a European dimension for the prevention of overweight, obesity and chronic diseases

Dear Mr Kyprianou

I warmly welcome the publication of this Green Paper in an effort to reduce the epidemic of overweight and obesity among European countries, in view of Malta's own particular problem of overweight and obesity among its citizens.

Over the past decades, the Maltese Governments have continuously worked at communicating sound nutritional advice as well as advice on the importance of regular physical activity to the public, through its health services and its various health promotional campaigns. These campaigns have contributed to increase the public knowledge on the relationship between diet, physical activity and health; however it is now recognised that more population-wide strategies and multi-sectoral interventions are needed to support individuals and educational campaigns to make healthy choices about diet and physical activity.

Malta agrees that the actions to prevent overweight and obesity must address the current social and economic inequalities, and the physical environment. In addition, health objectives must be pursued through other Community policies across the many sectors as described in the Green Paper.

The key areas for action, as referred to in the Green Paper, must be addressed in order to target overweight and obesity. However, priority could be given to issues such as banning aggressive advertising and marketing of foods high in fat, salt and sugars to children.

Yours Sincerely


Louis DeGruana
Minister of Health

Copy: Permanent Representative of Malta to the European Union

RAPPREŻENTANZA PERMANENTI
GHALL-UNJONI EWROPEA



PERMANENT REPRESENTATION
TO THE EUROPEAN UNION

MALTA

Ir-Rappreżentant Permanenti

The Permanent Representative

Mr Marcos Kyprianou
Commissioner
DG Health and Consumer protection
European Commission
B-1049 Brussels

PR 229/06

13 March 2006

Dear Commissioner

I have been asked by the Minister for Health, the Elderly and Community Care to forward to you the attached letter with regard to issues raised in the Green Paper on Promoting Healthy diets and physical activity: a European dimension for the prevention of overweight, obesity and chronic diseases.

Yours Sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Richard Cachia Caruana'.

Richard Cachia Caruana
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

Enclosures: Letter from the Minister for Health, the Elderly and Community Care

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