7. MQC signs Qualifications Protocol with ITS

The first Qualifications Protocol was signed between the Institute of Tourism Studies (ITS) and the Malta Qualifications Council on the 29th November 2007. The Protocol confirms all the levels of qualifications within ITS within the National Qualifications Framework. This was the first Protocol in a series of Protocols which the Malta Qualifications Council will be signing with various public and private institutions in the near future.

The Protocol was signed at the ITS by the Chairman of the MQC Mr Charles Mizzi and the Executive Head of ITS Mr Reginald Abela. The Minister of Education, Youth and Employment the Hon. Louis Galea presided over the signing. The Minister praised this initiative which sets the ball rolling for the process which will enable the National Qualifications Framework to reach its goals. The Chairman of MQC Mr Charles Mizzi, as well as the CEO of the MQC Dr James Calleja also presented speeches before the signing.

Mr Reginald Abela said that from now onwards all ITS certificates will be recognised by the MQC and that from the following academic year all qualifications will be classified within the National Qualifications Framework. Other members of the ITS and the MQC were also present as well as representatives of the Students' Council at ITS. An Addendum to this Protocol will also be signed in November 2008.

In a Council meeting held on the 22nd October 2008, three other draft Protocols were approved for signing. The Protocols will be signed with:

- the University of Malta
- the Directorate for Quality and Standards in Education
- the Employment and Training Corporation