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STQARRIJA GĦALL-ISTAMPA

L-Akkademja tal-Malti tifraħ lill-Kunsill tal-Malti għall-ħruġ ta' *Deċiżjonijiet 1* – ir-regoli l-ġodda tal-kitba Maltija. Il-ġabra tar-regoli li kellna sa issa ilha fis-seħħ mill-1924 bil-ħidma tal-aħjar kittieba tal-Malti ta' dak iż-żmien u fil-fatt għadha taqdina tajjeb ħafna. Persunaġġi kbar bħal Dun Karm, Ninu Cremona u Ġużè Muscat Azzopardi kienu ħadu l-interess jirregolaw il-kitba Maltija u għal dan il-għan ingħaqdu u waqqfu l-Għaqda tal-Kittieba tal-Malti. Kien żmien meta fl-Università ma kinitx tintgħallem il-lingwistika Maltija u meta l-kitba Maltija ma kellhiex importanza. B'nuqqasijiet bħal dawn, ix-xogħol tal-Għaqda tal-Kittieba tal-Malti jistħoqqlu kull foħrija u l-akbar konferma waslet mill-Kunsill tal-Malti nnifsu li fid-deċiżjonijiet il-ġodda straħ fuq ir-regoli ta' qabel u applikahom biex jiċċara l-kitba ta' xi każijiet dubjużi.

L-Akkademja tal-Malti tifraħ lill-Kunsill li mexa maż-żminijiet u nqeda bil-lingwisti kkwalifikati u b'nies oħra esperti fil-Malti. Issa li għandna għadd kbir ta' studjużi tal-ilsien Malti, fosthom anki studjużi barranin, nieħdu pjaċir naraw il-kollaborazzjoni tikber. L-Akkademja tifraħlu fuq kollox talli d-*Deċiżjonijiet 1* wasal għalihom wara konsultazzjoni sħiħa mal-pubbliku, partikolarment il-kittieba, it-tradutturi u l-għalliema. Kulħadd seta' jaqra l-fehmiet ta' dawn il-ħaddiema tal-Malti fil-ktieb li tqassam b'xejn fis-seminar ta' Jannar 2007.

L-Akkademja tinnota bi pjaċir li għadd ta' membri tagħha taw il-fehma meqjusa tagħhom waqt il-konsultazzjoni li saret u xi wħud kienu wkoll attivi b'mod dirett fil-proċess li wassal għal dawn id-deċiżjonijiet. Għaldaqstant, tħeġġeġ lil membri oħra biex jagħtu fehmithom qabel ma jittieħdu d-deċiżjonijiet li jmiss, li se jkunu fuq il-kitba tal-kliem li ġej mill-Ingliż.

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PRESS RELEASE

The Akkademja tal-Malti congratulates the National Council for the Maltese Language for the publication of *Deċiżjonijiet 1*, the new rules for Maltese writing. The body of rules we have had so far goes back to 1924 and came about as a result of the efforts of the best writers of Maltese: in fact the writing system still serves us well. Important figures such as Dun Karm, Ninu Cremona and Ġużè Muscat Azzopardi wanted to standardize Maltese writing, so they got together and set up the Għaqda tal-Kittieba tal-Malti. This was a time when Maltese linguistics was not taught at the University and when writing in Maltese was not regarded as important. In spite of such limitations the Għaqda's work is to be commended and the most important endorsement comes from the Council for Maltese itself: the new decisions are based on the rules which already exist and which were applied to clarify the writing of some dubious cases.

The Akkademja tal-Malti congratulates the Council for Maltese for keeping up with the times in utilising the services of qualified linguists and other experts in Maltese. Now that there is a large number of scholars of the Maltese language, including also foreign ones, it is gratifying to witness the development of such cooperation. Above all the Akkademja congratulates the Council for having published *Deċiżjonijiet 1* only after thorough public consultation, in particular with writers, translators and teachers. The opinions of these workers in Maltese could be read by all in the book which was distributed for free in the January 2007 seminar.

The Akkademja notes with pleasure that a number of its members gave their considered opinion in the consultation process which took place and some were also directly involved in the process leading up to these decisions. It therefore exhorts others of its members to make their opinion heard before the next set of decisions are taken, namely those having to do with the writing of loanwords from English.