I assent.

(L.S.)

AGATHA BARBARA
President

23rd September, 1983

ACT No. XVIII of 1983

AN ACT further to amend the Telemalta Corporation Act, 1975.

BE IT ENACTED by the President, by and with the advice and consent of the House of Representatives, in this present Parliament assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:—

Short title.

1. This Act may be cited as the Telemalta Corporation (Amendment) Act, 1983 and shall be read and construed as one with the Telemalta Corporation Act, 1975, hereinafter referred to as "the principal Act".

Amendment of section 20 of the principal Act.

2. Section 20 of the principal Act shall be amended as follows:

(a) in subsection (1) thereof for the words "after the end of each such year" there shall be substituted the words "before the end of each such year"; and

(b) for subsection (4) thereof there shall be substituted the following:

"(4) The Minister shall, at the earliest opportunity and not later than the first sitting of the House after four weeks from the receipt of the copy of the estimates of Telemalta referred to in subsection (3) of this section, cause such estimates to be laid before the House of Representatives together with a motion that the House approve the said estimates. Not more than two sittings shall be allotted for the debate in the House on such a motion; and both the motion and the approval of the estimates by the House may be with or without amendments to the estimates.".

Amendment of section 21 of the principal Act.

3. For section 21 of the principal Act there shall be substituted the following:

"Accounts and audit.

21. (1) Telemalta shall cause to be kept proper accounts and other records in respect of its operations, and shall cause to be prepared an interim statement of account for the first period of six months and a statement of account for the second period of six months in respect of each financial year, together with a statement of account covering the whole financial year.

(2) The accounts of Telemalta shall be audited by an auditor or auditors to be appointed by it and approved by the Minister:

Provided that the Minister may require the books and accounts of the Corporation to be audited or examined by the Director of Audit who shall for this purpose have power to carry out such physical checking and other verifications as he may deem necessary.

(3) The interim statement of account in respect of the first period of six months of each financial year, duly audited, shall be adopted by the Board not later than six weeks after the end of such period and shall be transmitted forthwith to the Minister together with a copy of any report made by the auditor or auditors on that statement or on the accounts of the Corporation.

(4) The statement of account in respect of the second period of six months of each financial year, together with the statement of account in respect of the whole financial year, both duly audited, shall be adopted by the Board not later than ten weeks after the end of the financial year, and shall be transmitted forthwith to the Minister together with a copy of any report made by the auditor or auditors on those statements or on the accounts of the Corporation.

(5) Before the end of each financial year, the Minister shall cause to be laid on the Table of the House of Representatives, together with the motion laid before the House under section 20, a copy of the following:

(a) the interim statement of account and any report in respect of the first six months of the current financial year;

(b) the statement of account and any report in respect of the second six months of the immediately preceding financial year; and

(c) the statement of account and any report in respect of the immediately preceding full financial year:

Provided that this subsection shall not apply in respect of the financial year ending on the 30th September, 1983.".

4. In subsection (1) of section 23 of the principal Act for the words "not later than six weeks after the end of each financial year" there shall be substituted the words "not later than four weeks before the end of each financial year". Amendment of section 23 of the principal Act.

5. In respect of the financial year beginning on 1st October, 1983, section 2 of this Act shall apply as if it required the Board to adopt the estimates for such year not later than the 21st day of September, 1983 and the Minister to cause to be laid before the House the copy of such estimates not later than the 26th day of September, 1983. Estimates for financial year commencing on 1st October, 1983.

Passed by the House of Representatives at Sitting No. 122 of the 20th September, 1983.

DANIEL MICALLEF
Speaker

C. MIFSUD
Clerk to the House of Representatives

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