Verżjoni Elettronika

L.N. 16 of 2023

MALTA FILM COMMISSION ACT
(CAP. 478)

Malta Film Commission Act (Substitution of Schedule) Regulations, 2023

IN EXERCISE of the powers conferred by article 33 (2) of the Malta Film Commission Act, the Minister responsible for the film industry has made the following regulations:-

Citation and commencement.

1. (1) The title of these regulations is the Malta Film Commission Act (Substitution of Schedule) Regulations, 2023, and these regulations shall be read and construed as one with the Schedule to the Malta Film Commission Act, hereinafter referred to as "the Schedule".

Cap. 478.

(2) These regulations shall be deemed to have come into force on the 1st January 2023.

Substitutes the Schedule.

2. The Schedule shall be substituted by the following new Schedule:

"Schedule

(Articles 25 and 33)

An audiovisual production shall be deemed to be a "qualifying production" as mentioned in article 25 if it satisfies the following conditions:

(a) the audiovisual work concerned is partially or wholly carried out in Malta (including works related to animation and visual effects activities together with post-production); and

(b) processed to commercial release standards, for local and, or international distribution for theatrical release, TV Broadcast and video on demand and subscription video on demand platforms; and

(c) makes a valid contribution to the expression of creativity and culture through the development of production capability skills in the audiovisual sector; and

(d) the audiovisual work concerned is categorised as:

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(i) "feature film" means a film which includes those shot direct-to-video, where the film is commonly screened as the main attraction in commercial cinemas, and is of a duration of not less than sixty (60) minutes, or in the case of a large format (IMAX) film of not less than forty-five (45) minutes;

(ii) television, video on demand or subscription video on demand production (including film, series or mini-series including pilots):

(aa) "television, video on demand or subscription video on demand film" means a drama (meaning a composition which tells a story through the development of any theme and plot, by means of dialogue and action and the portrayal of characters, settings, and life situations) of a like nature to a feature film capable of being exhibited on television where the television movie is not less than one (1) commercial television hour in length, or in the case of a programme predominantly utilising cell, stop motion and, or computer animation not less than one half (½) commercial television hour, and is shot and processed to commercial release standards, for cinema exhibition or domestic and international television broadcast; or

(bb) "television, video on demand or subscription video on demand series" or "television, video on demand or subscription video on demand mini-series" means an episodic television drama, including animation, which is either an extended but self-contained drama made for television wherein the key dramatic elements of character, theme and plot are introduced, developed and concluded so as to form a narrative structure (similar to that of a novel) which features a major continuous plot enhanced by minor plots and there is the expectation of an ending that resolves the major plot tensions and is arranged into consecutive episodes for screening purposes; or an anthology of drama works for television where the key dramatic elements of character, theme and plot are introduced, developed and concluded so as to form a narrative structure within each episode (similar to that of a novel or a short story) and is made to be broadcast under one generic title, and is shot and processed to commercial release standards,

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for domestic and international television broadcast;

(iii) "creative documentary" means a project based on an original theme which contains a certain "timeless" element so that there is no loss of interest when the event with which the theme is linked has passed and contains significant original filming and is not limited to the reporting of information;

(iv) "reality programmes (scripted or unscripted)" means programmes which may be live or recorded and directly or indirectly promote the Maltese Islands and its culture;

(v) "game or competition shows" means shows which may be live or recorded and directly or indirectly promote the Maltese Islands and its culture;

(vi) "short film" means an original motion picture that has a running time of forty (40) minutes or less, including all credits.".

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