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EUROPEAN SOCIAL CHARTER

Addendum to the
6th National Report on the implementation of
the European Social Charter
submitted by

THE GOVERNMENT OF MALTA

(Article 23 for the period
01/01/2008 – 31/12/2011)

Report registered by the Secretariat on
11 April 2013

CYCLE 2013

Question addressed to Malta

Article 23 (Right of elderly persons to social protection)

Please specify what additional cash benefits/allowances are available for recipients of minimum old age pension (or guarantee pension for low income elderly persons, as the case may be). Please indicate the exact amounts of such benefits and all applicable eligibility conditions. With consideration to such additional benefits/allowances, please indicate the applicable minimum income guarantee for low income elderly persons.

Reply by Malta

Persons falling in the mentioned group are also entitled to a supplementary allowance (SPA) as cash and energy benefit (EB) in the form of a voucher. Both benefits are means tested and all recipients of the minimum old age pension normally qualify for such benefits.

The SPA maximum rate for a married person is €8.13 per week whereas that for a single person is €4.57 per week. The EB assessment depends also on the electricity consumption and on an annual basis is €75 per eligible person per household.

Therefore in a household composed of two married persons where the annual income comprises of a minimum old age pension they will benefit also from the maximum rate of SPA of €422.76 annually and from a possible maximum of €150 annually as EB.

The applicable minimum income guarantee for low income elderly persons claiming SPA is €10573 for a married couple and €8405 for a single person. The applicable minimum income guarantee for low income persons claiming EB is €8401 for both married and single person households.

NB: Incomes as at 31 December 2012.