



Bord tal-Inginiera

Ing. Arthur Ciantar
President
Malta Association of Professional Engineers

31st July 2024

Dear Ing. Ciantar,

With reference to the Statement issued by MAPE on the 15th July 2024 and sent to the Board tal-Inginiera's Secretary, the Board tal-Inginiera would like to clearly state that contrary to what is being stated by MAPE, the Board tal-Inginiera at no time wanted to restrict the voting rights of all the members of the profession who are entitled to vote.

The Board tal-Inginiera, had unanimously agreed to explore the possibility that the forthcoming elections for the 3 elected Board members be undertaken through an electronic system. This was agreed, first and foremost, to enable more warranted Inginiera to cast their vote and do away with them having to physically come to the polling station to personally cast their vote. The Board tal-Inginiera's ultimate objective, since the work on such a system began, was to be sure to have a sustainable paperless system having all the necessary security features to ensure amongst other things the anonymity of those voting and against any possibility voting being made by one person on behalf of others.

It is to be noted that at present the manual system means that the Commission responsible for the conducting of the voting process must verify the identity of the eligible voter from the list when he/she personally comes to vote before allowing him/her to cast their vote. The electronic system which was being explored would have ensured anonymity of all voters. This is contrary to the incorrect information given by MAPE in its statement.

The request for all warranted inginiera on the published list, to provide an email was not to restrict or stifle their voting rights as MAPE wrongly wanted to imply but on the contrary was to ensure that all listed inginiera will be directly and more efficiently informed of the electoral process. The use of the postal services has hitches such as happened in the recent sending of the letter and the fact that some were returned due to non-delivery is testament of the importance of communicating via electronic mail. The wording in the letter sent might have not been clear to recipients but MAPE's statement was purposely made to cast doubts in the work being done to hold the election in an electronic manner with all security features in place.

The system which was being studied not only ensured a higher level of security and anonymity of all those voting but ensures that the system will retain all information secure without the Commission even knowing the identity of persons who voted. This was requested by the Board



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in order to increase the level of anonymity of those voting and not what MAPE gratuitously alluded that elections will not be free.

The Board wants to point out that although, in its statement MAPE made some misleading remarks and comments on the process, it still correctly advised all Inġiniera to send the data requested as it knows that the Board's request was made in good faith for the benefit of the profession.

Finally the Board would like to inform all warranted Inġiniera, that due to various technical and financial constraints, the electronic election system that was being examined, will, however, not be implemented for the forthcoming elections but it was agreed that the election process will be carried out manually as in previous editions with the same high level of integrity and scrutiny exercised by the Commission responsible for the process.

The Board tal-Inġiniera

c.c. Hon. Chris Bonett – Minister for Transport, Infrastructure & Public Works

Mr. Godwin Mifsud – Permanent Secretary, Ministry for Transport, Infrastructure & Public Works