



THE PRESIDENT OF MALTA

17th June 2018

Dr Miriam Sciberras, Chairman, Life Network Foundation Malta
Mr Paul Vincenti, President, Gift of Life Foundation
Mr Anthony Mifsud, Malta Unborn Child Movement

I have taken note of the points raised in the letter presented to me earlier today by the Life Network Foundation Malta, Gift of Life Foundation, and Malta Unborn Child Movement. I am taking this opportunity to forward these points to the Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Health, who is the Minister in the House of Representatives piloting the Bill to amend the Embryo Protection Act, for his due and proper consideration.

As you are aware, the Constitution does not confer upon me legislative functions except that of assenting to Bills when these are already adopted by the House of Representatives. Moreover, I am bound to act on the advice of the Government of the day or of a Minister of Government and, in the case of Bills approved by the House of Representatives, to assent thereto without delay. However, in the light of the serious content and submissions you raise in connection with the constitutionality of the said Bill, as guardian of the Constitution, I am duty bound to refer the matter to the said Minister so that he can, on his part, seek and obtain advice from the Attorney General in order to be loyal to the oath of office when performing his Ministerial duties in accordance with the Constitution of Malta.

As you have rendered the contents of our meeting of today and points discussed and addressed to me public, it is more than fair that I should also render this statement public so that the latter is informed of the action being taken and so that Members of Parliament to whom your points are addressed would also be aware of the action taken from this end.

Marie-Louise Coleiro Preca