

“The Minister for Environment, Energy and Enterprise, Miriam Dalli was not able to join us today due to other commitments. However, she wished for us to share this message with you:

“I thank you all for attending today’s event.

Economic circularity is becoming an increasingly mainstreamed concept, which is being ushered in by new goals and standards through the European Green Deal and the corresponding Circular Economy Action Plan.

On the ground this will translate into: the reuse of materials for as long as feasible, further use of renewable materials, and changes to production techniques amongst others. Malta’s main influence will lie with the later stages of the life cycle of products, thus focused attention is required on the later stages of reusability, repairability, collecting, and recycling. An example of this is the REUSE centre just launched last week, with more planned to be launched in due time.

Further progress towards the Circular economy will continue to be made through the implementation of Long Term Waste Management Plan and work on the National Strategy for the Environment for 2050 which recognises efforts to push waste management up the waste hierarchy as a critical component of the country's transition to a circular economy, supporting continual improvements in responsible and efficient resource use until 2050.

This is in synergy with the Circular Economy Malta Strategy, which seeks the introduction of seed financing programmes, which will encourage innovative ideas and help them become commercially viable activities.

businesses, researchers, technological centres, users, NGOs, and civil society have a critical role to play to contribute to the successful transition to circularity.

I truly believe that standards and specifications offer significant potential for increasing sustainability due to their widespread acceptance and applications, and are thus also crucial to the circular economy.

I wish you fruitful talks ahead.”