

# COURT OF MAGISTRATES (MALTA) AS A COURT OF CRIMINAL JUDICATURE

Magistrate Dr. Monica Vella LL.D., M. Jur.

The Police [Inspector Oriana Spiteri]

VS

Ali Muuse Igaale

Today, 18<sup>th</sup> August 2022

The Court,

Having seen the accusations brought against:

"Ali Muuse Igaale, holder of Somali Passport P00968354 and Maltese Passport MT901352;

Whereby he was charged with having:

In these Islands on the 22<sup>nd</sup> August 2021, at about 0945hrs, at the Malta International Airport, Gudja, failed to declare to the Commissioner for Revenue, that he was carrying a sum equivalent to Euro 10,000 or more in cash, whilst leaving Malta, in breach of Regulation 3 of the Cash Control Regulations (S.L 233.07);

The Court was also kindly requested that, in pronouncing judgement or in any subsequent order, sentence the person/s convicted, jointly or severally, to the payment, wholly or in part, to the Registrar, of the costs incurred in connection with the employment in the proceedings of any expert or referee, within such period and in such amount as shall be determined in the judgment or order, as per Section 533 of Chapter 9 of the Laws of Malta."

Having seen all documents exhibited by the Prosecution;

Having seen all the records of the case;

Having heard the submissions made by the Prosecution and by the Defence;

Having duly considered all the records of the case and all submissions made;

Having explained to the accused the charges brought against him;

Having heard the accused plead guilty to said charges in today's sitting, and this in the presence of Defence Counsels Dr. Arthur Azzopardi and Dr. Francesca Zarb;

Having warned the accused of the legal consequences of such guilty plea and having given the accused further time to reconsider his guilty plea and having heard the accused reconfirm his guilty plea during the same sitting before this Court and thus said guilty plea was registered in the acts of today's sitting, the 18<sup>th</sup> August 2022;

#### **Considered:**

### The Facts of the Case

That the accused has been charged with having on the 22<sup>nd</sup> August 2021, at about 0945hrs, at the Malta International Airport, Gudja, failed to declare to the Commissioner for Revenue, that he was carrying a sum equivalent to Euro 10,000 or more in cash, whilst leaving Malta.

### **Considered:**

That although in the first sitting the accused Ali Muuse Igaale declared himself not guilty, during the sitting of 18<sup>th</sup> August 2022, he registered a guilty plea.

That thus upon such guilty plea the Court can only find the accused guilty as charged;

That in pronouncing its judgement the Court is hereby taking into consideration the nature and gravity of the accusations with which he is charged and the clean conviction sheet of the accused<sup>1</sup>.

# **Considered:**

That the punishment prescribed by law, for breach of Regulation 3 of the Cash Control Regulations (S.L. 233.07) and as provided by the same Regulations, is a fine multa.

# **Decides:**

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> A folio 12 of the records of the case.

Thus, the Court, upon the said guilty plea, hereby finds the accused guilty as charged and after having seen Regulation 3 of the Cash Control Regulations (S.L 233.07), the Court hereby condemns the accused to a fine (multa) of eighty five thousand, six hundred and one Euro and forty cents ( $\in 85,601.40$ )<sup>2</sup>).

#### (ft) Magistrate Dr. Monica Vella LL.D., M.Jur

(ft) Angelo Buttigieg Deputy Registrar

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup>€85,511.40 – multa based on the excess which the accused was carrying at the time he was apprehended at rate of 55% as prescribed under subsidiary legislation 233.07 + €50 – additional multa as prescribed under the same legislation.