



**IN THE COURTS OF MAGISTRATES (MALTA)
AS A COURT OF CRIMINAL JUDICATURE**

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

**The Malta Police
(Inspector Hubert Gerada)**

vs

Wezam Hailmariam

Compilation Number 4553/2025

Today, the 29th April 2025

The Court;

Having seen the charges brought against:

Wezam HAILMARIAM of 41 years of age, daughter of Hailmariam & Gibena, Ethiopia national, born in Adis Ababa, Ethiopia on 05-Oct-1983, residing at 61, Flat 2, Santa Venera Street, Msida and holder of Police Number 11D-013 and expired Maltese residence permit Number 75541A;

Accused with having on 31st March 2025 or previous days in these islands or somewhere else, forged, altered or tampered with, being a Maltese passport bearing number 9032983 and forged residence permit bearing number MT9396638, for used or had in her possession same forged documents, which she knew to be forged, altered or tampered with (Chap. 61, Sec. 5 of the Laws of Malta);

And charge her also with having on same date, time and circumstances committed any other kind of forgery, or have knowingly made use of any other forged documents at Malta International Airport (Chap. 9, Sec. 189 of the Laws of Malta);

And charge her also with having on same date, time and circumstances forged any document or true copy of a document or an entry made in pursuance of this act (Chap. 217, Sec. 32 (1d) of the Laws of Malta).¹

Having seen that the accused informed the Court that she does not understand the Maltese Language but understands the English Language. Thus, the Court ordered that the proceedings are conducted in the English language.²

Having seen that the prosecuting officer presented and read the charges brought against the accused under oath in the sitting of the 03rd April 2025.³

¹ Folio 2 of the acts of the proceedings.

² Folio 3 of the acts of the proceedings.

³ Folio 3 of the acts of the proceedings.

Having seen that the accused pleaded guilty to the charges presented against her and this in the presence of Defence Counsel Dr. Nadia Fiott and after consulting with the same.⁴

Having warned the accused of the legal consequences of such guilty plea and having given the accused further time to reconsider his guilty plea;

Having heard the accused reconfirm his guilty plea during the same sitting and thus said guilty plea was duly registered in the acts of these proceedings;

Having seen all the acts of the proceedings.

Having seen and considered all the documents and evidence brought forward.

Having heard the final submissions of the parties during the same sitting of the 03rd April 2025.⁵

Having seen that the case was put off for judgement for today.

Considered:

Facts in Brief

The case relates to an allegation that the accused used a forged Maltese passport and a false Maltese residence permit. The accused was stopped

⁴ Folio 3 and 4 of the acts of the proceedings.

⁵ Folio 5 of the acts of the proceedings.

in Fiumicino Airport, Rome, Italy after exhibiting the said documents with altered issue and expiry date.

Considered:

That in the first sitting upon her arraignment the accused Wezam Hailmariam declared herself guilty.

That said guilty plea was reaffirmed by the accused after the Court duly explained to her the consequences of such guilty plea including the relative punishment prescribed by law;

That therefore such guilty plea was duly registered in the minutes of the case;

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

Considered:

That in pronouncing its judgement, the Court is hereby taking into consideration the fact that the accused registered an early guilty plea, that the accused collaborated with the Police, and the nature and gravity of the charges brought against her.

Decides:

Thus, the Court, after having seen Article 5 of Chapter 61 of the Laws of Malta, Article 189 of Chapter 9 of the Laws of Malta, and Article 32(1) (d) Chapter 217 of the Laws of Malta hereby finds the accused

WEZAM HAILMARIAM GULTY as charged and thus condemns the accused Wezam Hailmariam to a term of effective imprisonment of six (6) months from which the time she has already spent in preventive arrest is to be deducted.

The Court orders that a copy of this judgement is sent immediately to the Commissioner of Police in his capacity of Principal Immigration Officer so that if he deems opportune, immediately commences the necessary procedures so that the guilty party is sent back to Ethiopia after she has served her sentence.

The Court explained the judgement and its consequences to the accused in clear and simple language.

The Court orders that the parties be given a copy of this judgment and that this judgement be immediately put online on the website of the court services agency.

Pronounced today the 29th April 2025, in Court, in Valletta, Malta.

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

Annalise Mifsud
Deputy Registrar