**European Volleyball Confederation Executive to meet in Malta**

Between the 21st and the 23rd of March, the Malta Volleyball Association and SportsMalta will be hosting the Executive Meeting of the Confédération Européenne de Volleyball (CEV), the European Volleyball Confederation. The CEV is European volleyball’s governing body, bringing together the 56 national federations throughout Europe.

The CEV, under President Aleksandar Boričić, is currently working on its mission to re-shape the governance of volleyball in Europe, to make sure the sport grows in terms of popularity, awareness, and draws increasing interest from sponsors and media alike.

This is the first time that the highest-ranking officials of European volleyball are visiting Malta for such a prestigious meeting.

The President of the Malta Volleyball Association, Jesmond Saliba, said that this event is the result of the Association’s strong relationship with the CEV, and the fruit of the collaborative environment the MVA enjoys in relation to the national sports authorities, particularly the spirit of partnership which exists with SportMalta. Saliba added this event has come at important juncture in the development of volleyball in Malta. “Various initiatives have been undertaken to ensure the growing popularity of the game and its development at various levels, while we have also worked at strengthening the role of sport in its various dimensions”, explained the MVA President.

SportMalta CEO Mark Cutajar said that it's an honour for Malta to host this meeting. He added that this event “comes during an interesting period for European Sports, and is linked to Malta’s Presidency of the EU. In fact, the CEV meeting is taking place a few days after Malta successfully hosted a number of high-level meetings with a European dimension in this regard. This meeting in Malta is also important as it shows how a Maltese sports association can successfully translate Malta's priorities at European and national level for the benefit of the sport."

***20th March 2017***