

## **Date:** 10/06/2019

Finance Minister Ali Hassan Khalil clarified the issue of contributions due to associations through his twitter account:

I would like to indicate that the main problem in executing the joint contracts with the associations in the Ministry of Social Affairs is that they were signed at the end of 2018, while they should have been signed in the first month of the year in order to proceed with liquidation and make periodical payments.

The Ministry of Social Affairs has duly paid the amounts of the 1<sup>st</sup> and 2nd quarter, whereas the amounts of the 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> quarters were held due to the delay that took place.

I have followed closely this file to ensure its completion and provide the required amounts according to the available liquidity. The funds will be transferred in the next two days to the concerned associations, including SESOBEL.

In my statement today before the Finance and Budget Committee, I stressed on the rightful demands of the associations that cover the essential needs of persons with disabilities in the absence of specialized public centers. I also pledged to commit to what was agreed on in the Council of Ministers in terms of determining those benefiting from associations that are not fulfilling their duties and, accordingly, cancel their contracts or benefits.

I would like to stress today on the need to finish the 2019 contracts that have not been signed yet, in order to prevent the same delay in the payment of contributions from happening again.