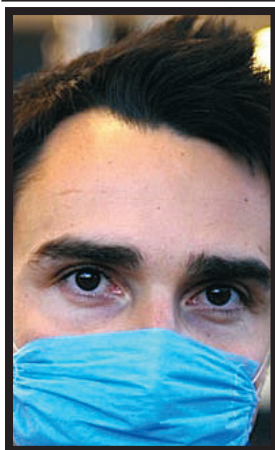


ECOFIN TO TONIO FENECH:

Control deficit by next year – or else!

Ahead of an already tough budget next November, Brussels binds the Finance Minister to reduce the deficit by 1.7% in two years, or face the possibility of further procedures - **Full story page 3**



Swine Flu: 15 new cases in 24 hours

CHARLOT ZAHRA

THE swine flu outbreak in Malta took a turn for the worse yesterday with the confirmation of 15 new cases of swine flu in the past 24 hours, mostly concentrated in Gozo.

Ten new cases of swine flu were confirmed by Tuesday at noon, eight in Gozo and two in Malta, all

involving females of Maltese nationality.

Three new cases were reported in Gharb, involving a 38-year-old woman and two girls aged eight and 10, bringing the total number of confirmed cases in this locality to 10 following the celebration of the Gharb village feast, which sparked the outbreak in Gozo.

Another two cases each were reported in the neighbouring Gozi-

tan villages of Xaghra and Ghasri – an 18-year-old woman and a 21-year-old woman were infected in Xaghra, while a 44-year-old woman and an eight-year-old girl were reported as infected in Ghasri.

A 17-year-old girl from Sannat was also reported as infected with swine flu. None of the cases reported in Gozo so far were travel-related.

The other two cases that were

confirmed yesterday involved a 24-year-old woman from Luqa and a 21-year-old woman from Mosta. In both cases, the origins of the infection still had to be determined.

Three more cases were confirmed in Gharb on Monday night – three men aged 18 years, 20 years and 16 years respectively. As with the other cases diagnosed till now in Gharb, all of them were not travel related. **pg 3 ▶**

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