1. The title of these regulations is the Asylum Procedures (Means of Facilitating Identification of Applicant) Regulations.

2. In these regulations, unless the context otherwise requires, the meanings set out in article 2 of the Refugees Act, hereinafter referred to as "the Act", shall also be applicable in these regulations.

3. (1) A person seeking asylum in Malta, and, or any dependent member of his family, shall be required by the Immigration Officer, or his representative, on making an application in terms of article 8 of the Act, to be photographed or to have the impressions of his fingerprints or palms of his hands taken for the purpose of facilitating identification. The said photographs or impressions of his fingerprints or palms of his hands, shall be inserted in the person’s application form for the status of refugee, or in any other official personal record in connection with such application.

(2) The photographs or impressions of fingerprints or palms of hands provided by the asylum seeker, and, or any dependent member of his family, for the purposes of subregulation (1), shall not be divulged to any other person except with the consent of the person, or persons, to whom they refer or on the order of the Attorney General or of a court, or with the authorization of the Minister, or in fulfilling any international obligation assumed by the Government of Malta.

(3) An asylum seeker, or dependent member of his family, who refuses to provide a means of identification in terms of subregulation (1), may be denied further consideration of the application for refugee status, unless the Minister is of the view, after consulting the Refugee Commissioner, or any other competent person he may deem necessary, that cogent reasons exist to justify such refusal.

(4) When requiring an asylum seeker, and, or any other dependent member of his family, to provide a means of identification in terms of these regulations, the Immigration Officer, or his representative, shall inform him -

(a) that he, and, or any dependent member of his family, are being requested to provide a means of identification in connection with his application for refugee status in Malta and, or, that of a dependent
(b) that a refusal to provide such means of identification on his part, or that of a dependent member of his family, may lead to the suspension or termination of the asylum procedures on the application as provided for in the Act.