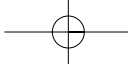
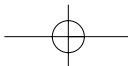
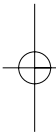
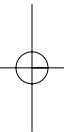


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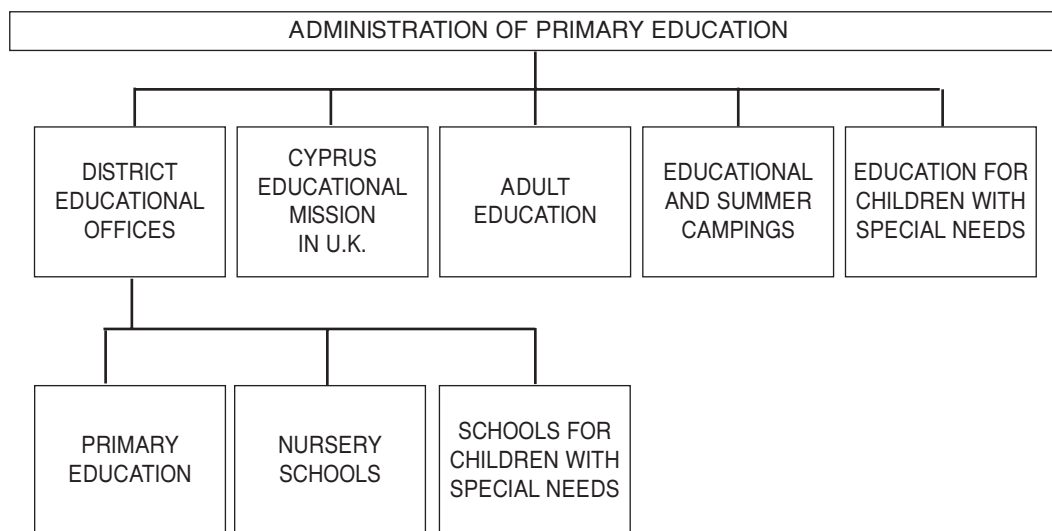
PART A EDUCATION



1. STRUCTURE OF THE MINISTRY OF EDUCATION

1.1 PRIMARY EDUCATION

Primary Education constitutes the main and fundamental stage of education, which lays the foundation for the harmonious development of children in the cognitive, emotional and psychomotor domains. For this reason the Administration of the Department of Primary Education insists on the continuous and steady progress, improvement and upgrading of Primary Education by encouraging the in-service training of the teaching staff, the composition of new books, the appointment of more teachers in the Education for Children with Special Needs and the extension, improvement or construction of new school buildings.



The various sectors of the Department of Primary Education include Pre-primary Education (Nursery Schools: Public, Communal, Private), Primary Education (Primary Schools: Public and Private), Education for Children with Special Needs (schools for children with special needs and the rendering of individualized help to children with special needs placed in primary schools), Cyprus Educational Mission in the U.K., Adult Education Centres, Educational and Summer Campings and Education of the Greeks of Diaspora.

1.1.1 PRE-PRIMARY EDUCATION

The Ministry of Education and Culture, is responsible for the education of 3 year old children and over. It takes on the responsibility to complement the family's role, to provide ample support and augment the developmental stage of the children, aiming to satisfy their basic needs for a wholesome personality in an experiential environment. This consequently, will enable them to recognise their capabilities and enhance their self-image.

The educational programme of Nursery Schools retains as many elements of the natural way of living of the family as possible, with emphasis on the free activation of the children, on comfort, love, support, trust, acceptance, safety and on respect for their personal uniqueness.

1.1.2 PRIMARY EDUCATION

The corner stone of the aims of Primary Education has always been the harmonious development of the personality of children. This is believed to be achieved under conditions which help children acquire knowledge, develop right attitudes and cultivate skills, and in situations in which children are prepared to face the unceasing changing world in a responsible manner.

According to the 10-year schooling educational programme, the aim of Primary Education is to create and secure the necessary learning opportunities for children regardless of age, sex, family and social background and mental abilities so as to enable them to:

- develop harmoniously in the cognitive, emotional and psychomotor domains, using to the maximum the means that contemporary technology offers,
- deal successfully with various problems they may come across, including difficulties in being familiarised with the school and the wider environment,
- promote socialization,
- establish their national and ethnic identity and their status as citizens of the Republic of Cyprus which exerts enormous efforts for their national demand of human rights through legal and generally accepted procedures,
- acquire positive attitudes towards learning, develop social understanding, belief in human values, respect for our cultural heritage and human rights, appreciation of beauty and finally, develop disposition to creativity and love for life and nature, in order to become sensitive in preserving and improving the environment.

1.1.3 SCHOOLS IN THE OCCUPIED AREA OF CYPRUS

During the year 2006 we had 379 Greek-Cypriots and 128 Maronites living in our country's occupied area.

Despite the prohibitions and the censorship imposed by the Turkish occupational authorities, three primary schools operated initially; one in Rizokarpaso, one in Ayia Triada and one in Kormakitis. During the school year 1996-1997, the Primary School in Ayia Triada was compelled to close down due to the denial of the Turkish occupational forces to allow the school teacher Mrs Eleni Foka to return to her village, regardless of the intense efforts of the Cyprus Government for her return. In addition, during the school year 1999- 2000 the Kormakitis Primary School had to close down too, due to lack of pupils (the last and only pupil of the had school graduated the previous year).

During the school year 2004-2005 following constant, insistent and enormous efforts of the Cyprus Government, the Rizokarpaso Gymnasium operated again for the first time, after the Turkish invasion 31 years ago. Furthermore, by the end of the same year, on 11th April 2005, children between the ages of 3 to 5 years and 8 months were given the opportunity to attend the newly established Nursery School (Kindergarten) that started functioning in one of the classrooms of the Rizokarpaso

Primary School. Fifteen children attended classes at the Rizokarpaso Nursery School during the school year 2005-2006, while thirteen pupils attended classes at the Rizokarpaso Primary School, the only Greek School that has been operating from the beginning of the Turkish Occupation.

Difficulties, such as censorship, non-acceptance of some teachers and attempts for eliminating the work being done at the schools, were faced during the school year 2005-2006. This was mainly due to the fact that the occupational forces constantly insist on interfering with the regular and harmonious operation of our schools and the well being of the enclaved people.

Nevertheless, the education provided by the three schools mentioned above is considered satisfactory, despite the problems and pressure caused by the Turkish occupational authorities. The Ministry of Education and Culture, in cooperation with the Service of Humanitarian Affairs, ensures that all necessary material, including books and stationery, is sent to these schools while the Educational Service Committee provides the educational staff needed for these schools.

1.1.4 EDUCATION FOR CHILDREN WITH SPECIAL NEEDS

As from September 2001, the Ministry of Education and Culture, has put into effect the Education and Training of Children with Special Needs Law 1999 [113(I)/1999], the Mechanisms for Early Detection of Children with Special Needs [185(I)2001] and the Regulations for Education and Training of Children with Special Needs [186(I)2001], which support the application of the Law.

Children with special needs are educated in public schools, which are equipped with the suitable infrastructure, according to the Law for special education. The majority of children with special educational needs are educated within the mainstream classroom. Special educational provision is also given in special units at mainstream schools. These children are assigned to a mainstream class where they can attend integrated lessons and participate in celebratory or festive events.

Children with severe difficulties are educated in special schools, which are equipped with the appropriate staff (psychologists, speech therapists, doctors, physiotherapists and other specialists as well as auxiliary staff) in order to support and provide essential means to achieve their mission.

The educational and other needs of children in nursery schools, primary schools, special units in primary schools and in special schools are being met through programmes for Special Education. A number of 434 teachers of various specialties (teachers for intellectual, sentimental and other problems, teachers for the deaf, the blind, special gymnastics, music therapy, work therapy, speech therapy, educational psychology, audiology and physiotherapy), work to support and meet the educational needs of children with special needs.

The Ministry of Education and Culture aims at reinforcing the awareness and sensitivity of School Inspectors, School Principals, class teachers and teachers of Special Education on the providences of the Law and their obligations towards children with special needs attending their schools. This objective is achieved through in-service training seminars and personal contacts with people involved in the subject (Inspectors of Special Education, educational psychologists, joining officials and teachers of Special Education).

1.1.5 CYPRUS EDUCATIONAL MISSION IN THE UK

The Ministry of Education and Culture shows lively interest in Greek Community Education, which aims to maintain the ethnic identity of the Greek children living in Great Britain. The accomplishment of the above aim is achieved through the teaching of the Greek language, the organization of ethnic and religious festivities and the familiarisation of pupils with our customs, traditions and the history of our country. The successful implementation of these aims is achieved through the appointment of teachers in the Cyprus Educational Mission in the UK, the employment and training of part-time teachers (local staff), the composition and publishing of books, the staging of theatrical shows and the accommodation of Greek Community children in the annual Ministry of Education Summer Campings in Cyprus.

1.1.6 ADULT EDUCATION CENTRES

The Adult Education Centres of the Ministry of Education and Culture organise the most important programme of general adult and continuing education in Cyprus. Their aims and objectives are mainly the enhancement of the quality of adult education on an informal basis, the improvement of knowledge and skills for those leaving school without basic qualifications and the provision of lifelong learning opportunities to adults leading to their successful integration in a United Europe.

They have offered education and training to thousands of adults, mainly in rural areas, since 1960; the year of the establishment of the Republic of Cyprus. In 1974, these centres were also established in urban areas. Today, they cover all areas of the free part of Cyprus, offering opportunities for further education to thousands of individuals aged 15 and above. During the school year 2005-2006, 21550 adults attended Adult Education courses in 280 centres and more than 550 qualified teachers offered their knowledge in about 70 different courses.

1.1.7 EDUCATIONAL AND SUMMER CAMPING

The aim of the educational and summer camping programme is to offer children from Cyprus and other countries the opportunity to meet and love the natural environment in the countryside, to develop correct attitudes and behaviour, to make friends with children of their own age and to get acquainted with the Greek language, the culture of Cyprus, the history of the island and the island itself, in general.

Educational camps operated in two different sessions during 2005-2006 one in October and one in May. There were five, five-day periods in October, 2005 and seven, five - day sessions in May – June 2006. During the whole year, 1100 pupils from 41 primary schools in Cyprus and one school from the Greek – Cypriot community in London participated in the educational camping programme. Summer campings were implemented in eight, seven-day sessions, plus an additional session for Maronites. The total number of participants was 850 children from 210 schools.

The educational and summer camping programme offers the children the opportunity to live for a few days away from their families, in an organised community, enabling them to socialize with other people and develop their self- knowledge and self-respect, to improve their co-operative skills and develop the feeling of responsibility as well as the ability for self-organization and self-support. Moreover, the programme helps in improving the child's health and it offers children organised entertainment, supporting the current trends of education through the organization of social life in camps.

The Ministry of Education and Culture increases hospitality programmes for children from other countries too. In summer 2006, 118 children from other countries visited

Cyprus, participating in these hospitality programmes (51 from Greece, 30 from the Greek-Cypriot community in England and 37 from Australia). These children were accommodated in a coastal hotel in Larnaka. Also 14 children from Uzbekistan were accommodated in the Prodrornos camp.

Moreover, the Ministry of Education and Culture in co-operation with the Ministry of Education of Greece organised educational exchanges of primary school pupils for the year 2005-2006. Specifically, during the summer of 2006, 253 Cypriot pupils were accommodated in four different camping sessions in Greece (three at Metamorfofis Halkidikis camping and one in Athens Municipality).

1.1.8 EDUCATION FOR THE GREEKS OF DIASPORA

In its efforts to offer educational help to the Greeks in other countries, the Ministry of Education and Culture has proceeded with the following:

- Continued the teaching of the Greek language to children and teachers of the Greek Orthodox schools in Jerusalem.
- Provided books and other educational material to all Greek schools and other Greek organisations in other countries.
- Offered hospitality to children from Greek communities and provided programmes related to the Greek language and culture.
- Offered educational help to the repatriated Cypriots, through the school system and the Adult Education Centres.

1.1.9 SCHOOLS-TEACHERS-PUPILS

The statistics below provide information concerning all sectors under the jurisdiction of the Department of Primary Education, for the last three years.

SCHOOLS	2003-2004	2004-2005	2005-2006
PRIMARY SCHOOLS			
a) Number of Schools (*)	348	345	341
b) Number of Pupils (*)	58373	57575	55868
c) Number of Teachers (*)	3851	3835	3882
NURSERY SCHOOLS			
<u>Public:</u>			
a) Number of Schools (*)	238	244	244
b) Number of Pupils (*)	9465	9924	10035
c) Number of Teachers (*)	560	590	606
<u>Communal:</u>			
a) Number of Schools	70	69	66
b) Number of Pupils	1747	1935	1840
c) Number of Teachers	90	90	89
SCHOOLS FOR CHILDREN WITH SPECIAL NEEDS			
a) Number of Schools	9	9	9
b) Number of Pupils	295	295	317
c) Number of Teachers	110	109	109

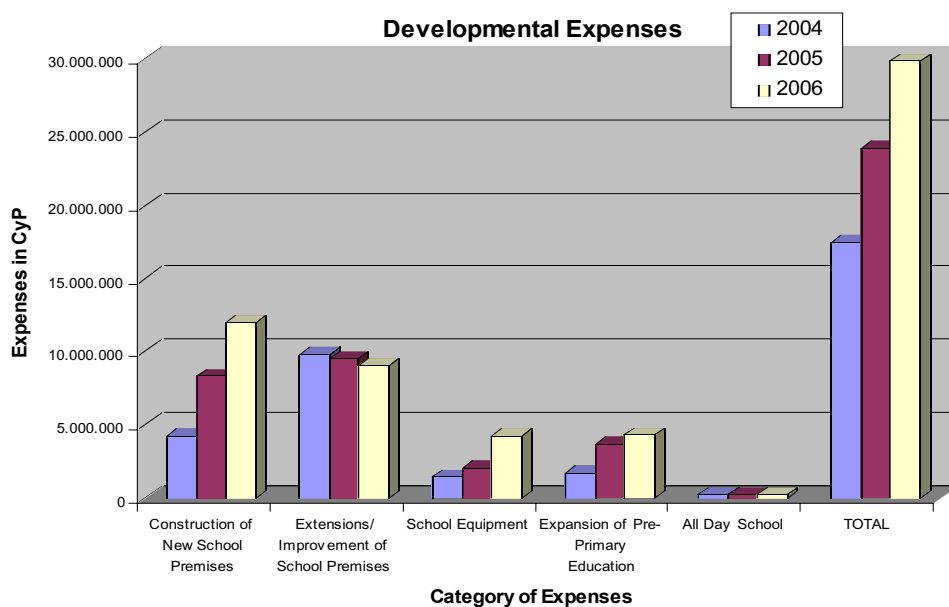
GREEK COMMUNITY SCHOOLS			
a) Number of Schools	111	113	125
b) Number of Pupils	6300	6200	6500
c) Number of Teachers: permanent	36	36	36
part time	75	85	90
ADULT EDUCATION CENTRES			
a) Number of Centres	230	263	280
b) Number of Members	18538	19176	21550
c) Number of Instructors	453	477	550

* The schools in the area occupied by Turkish troops are also included. These are:

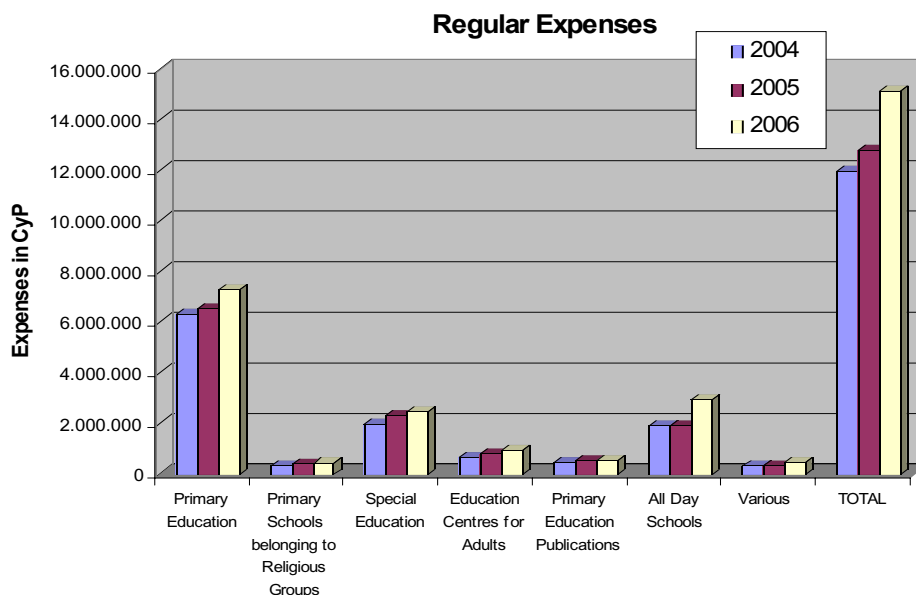
SCHOOLS IN OCCUPIED AREA	2003-2004	2004-2005	2005-2006
PRIMARY EDUCATION			
a) Number of Schools	1	1	1
b) Number of Pupils	9	9	13
c) Number of Teachers	2	2	2
NURSERY SCHOOLS			
a) Number of Schools	—	1	1
b) Number of Pupils	—	6	15
c) Number of Teachers	—	1	1

1.1.10 FINANCIAL STATUS

The developmental expenses for the financial years 2004, 2005 and 2006 in Primary Education are shown in the graph below:



The regular expenses for the financial years 2004, 2005 and 2006 in Primary Education are shown in the graph below:



1.1.11 SCHOOL PREMISES

During the school year 2005-2006, procedures continued for the construction of eighteen new primary school buildings, seven in Lefkosia, five in Larnaka, three in Lemesos, two in Pafos and one in the Ammochostos districts.

In September 2006, the construction of three of the above primary schools was completed and they functioned regularly.

With the completion of the above programme, severe housing problems are expected to be dealt with on a pancyprian scale, since the congestion in very big schools will be relieved.

Expansions and improvements in a large number of primary school premises helped also in facing housing problems of a lesser degree.

1.2 SECONDARY GENERAL EDUCATION

The Secondary General Education, Public and Private, concerns a huge sector of the Cyprus Education System. Based on the socioeconomic, cultural and national needs of Cyprus, Public secondary General Education offers equal opportunities for education and pursues the promotion of knowledge in view of preparing pupils for their academic and/or professional pursuits. It also pursues the promotion and development of healthy moral personalities aiming at creating democratic and law abiding citizens and consolidating national ideals of freedom, justice and peace.

The Public Secondary Education offers two three-year cycles of education – Gymnasio and Lykeio - to pupils between the ages of 12 and 18. The curriculum includes core lessons, interdisciplinary subjects and a variety of extracurricular activities in order to attain a circumspect and balanced development of the pupils' personalities.

Tuition is compulsory up to the age of 15 and free of charge for both cycles.

During the last 5 years the educational system has become more flexible at the Lykeio within a varied subject framework which allows pupils to select subjects according to their inclinations, skills and interests, especially by the implementation

as from the school year 2000-2001 of the Eniaio Lykeio at all Lykeia offering flexibility and opening up perspectives for the pupils. This innovation responds to the challenges, local and international, and supports our course as a member-state of the European Union.

Secondary Education has a wide range of responsibilities. The main sectors being among others:

Monitoring and evaluating the activities of the public and private schools and institutes, the development of curricula, the publication of text books, counselling and career education, monitoring the implementation of school regulations, inspection of teaching staff, education programming, appointment of teaching staff and further education to pupils and adults alike.

1.2.1 THE GYMNASIO

The Gymnasio is a complete cycle of general education focused on humanistic education. Lessons are common for all pupils pursuing qualitative upgrade. Innovations have been introduced in the Gymnasio such as computer studies on all forms, the establishment of language rooms and the institution of the Form Teacher. Education Priority Zones ensure prevention of school failure and functional illiteracy Measures are also taken for the education of pupils with special needs and assistance is offered for their school development in all sectors.

1.2.2 THE ENIAIO LYKEIO

The Eniaio Lykeio is an innovation which is promoted and continuously upgraded to respond to the challenges of the society of knowledge, the new realities stemming from the Cyprus accession to the E.U. and the political social and economic scene of the Cyprus State, conducive to the citizen of the 21st century who must live in a global multicultural society.

The Eniaio Lykeio offers common core optional streaming and special interest and /or enrichment subjects aiming at general education and skills and systematic in depth study of subjects the pupil has special interest or inclination for.

1.2.3 STATE INSTITUTES FOR FURTHER EDUCATION

The State institutes for further Education aim at offering equal opportunities of education to thousands of pupils and adults alike and promotes Life long learning.

1.2.4 COUNSELLING AND CAREER EDUCATION SERVICE

The Counselling and Career Education Service supports and informs pupils in realizing and developing their inclinations and interests, in better adapting to the school environment and taking the best possible personal educational and professional options.

1.2.5 EUROPEAN DIMENSION IN EDUCATION

The European Dimension in Education is a main aim of Education in Cyprus and is promoted interdisciplinary through the syllabuses and other school activities nurturing a "European Conscience".

1.2.6 PRIVATE SECONDARY EDUCATION

There is a number of private secondary education schools which offer education preparing pupils for enrollment to tertiary education institutions and/or their occupation in the labour market. All private schools are registered with the Ministry of Education and Culture and operate according to existing Legislation.

1.2.7 NUMBER OF PUPILS

During the School year 2005-2006 the number of pupils attending the Gymnasia amounted to 27965. At the Eniaia Lykeia there were 23526 pupils and 809 pupils attended the Evening Gymnasia. Compared to the previous school year 2004-2005 there was an decrease in the number of pupils of the Gymnasia amounting to 805 or 0,30% and at the Lykeio a decrease of 223 pupils or 0,96%.

1.2.8 NUMBER OF EDUCATIONISTS

The overall number of educationists employed at secondary Education Schools during the school year 2005-2006 was 5971 compared to 5787 in 2004-2005.

Teaching staff at Secondary Education Schools during the School year 2005-2006

TEACHERS								
Subject	Head	Dep. Head A'	Dep. Head	Perm. Teachers	On Contract	Total Teachers	Grand Total	C.E.O. / Inspectors
Religious Knowledge	4	10	32	183	33	216	262	2
Greek/Language and Literature	31	75	277	1061	192	1253	1636	14
Mathematics	17	29	101	419	92	511	658	6
Physics	4	14	46	190	65	255	319	3
Biology/ Anthropology	4	11	37	141	36	177	229	3
Chemistry	7	4	21	100	46	146	178	1
Geography	-	1	1	10	1	11	13	-
English	24	22	92	317	48	365	503	3
French	4	8	32	136	18	154	198	2
Italian	-	-	-	-	40	40	40	-
Spanish	-	-	-	-	13	13	13	-
German	-	-	4	4	3	7	11	-
Russian	-	-	-	-	3	3	3	-
Turkish	-	-	-	-	7	7	7	-
Economics	7	11	35	140	41	181	234	2
Physical Education	5	14	55	294	57	351	425	2
Music	2	2	18	131	20	151	173	1
Art	1	4	19	117	24	141	165	1
Photography	-	-	-	-	7	7	7	-
Home Economics	-	1	18	134	22	156	175	1
Computer Studies	-	1	13	182	192	374	388	-
Design and Technology	-	4	21	158	28	186	211	2
Vocational Guidance	-	1	8	89	12	101	110	1
Theater	-	-	-	-	13	13	13	-
TOTAL	110	212	830	3806	1013	4819	5971	44

1.2.9 STATISTICAL TABLES

The development of the number of pupils during the last six years was as follows:

School Year	Gymnasio	Lykeio	Total Gymnasio/Lykeio	Evening Gymnasio
2000-2001	29 254	22 918	52 172	600
2001-2002	29 005	22 840	51 845	620
2002-2003	28 874	23 230	52 104	800
2003-2004	28 854	23 367	52 221	840
2004-2005	28 050	23 303	51 353	888
2005-2006	27 965	23 526	51 491	809

During the school year 2005-2006 pupils attending the Gymnasia were divided into 1157 classes with an average of 24,24 pupils per class. At the Lykeio pupils were divided into 1002 classes with an average of 23,25 pupils per class. At the Eniaio Lykeio the number of classes was estimated on the basis of the common core lessons.

During the school year 2005-2006, there were 109 school units, as follows:

Gymnasio (Gymnasio cycle only)	62
Lykeio	34
Schools with both Gymnasio and Lykeio Cycles	8
Evening Gymnasio	5
TOTAL	109

Schools with both the Gymnasio and Lykeio levels are:

- Gymnasio Agrou
- Gymnasio Omodous
- Gymnasio Polemiou
- Gymnasio Lefkaron
- Gymnasio Kato Pyrgou
- Gymnasio Livadion
- Gymnasio Rizokarpasou
- Emporiki Scholi Mitsi-Lemythou

1.2.10 FINANCIAL STATUS

Expenditure on the Secondary General Education constitutes the largest percentage of public expenditure on education. The aim is to promote activities, measures and actions which support the effort for quality reform in the Secondary Education.

The developmental expenditure on the Secondary Education for the year 2006 aimed at the following:

- Promoting the institution of the Eniaio Lykeio
- Creating special rooms in the Eniaia Lykeia

- Establishing IT labs at the Eniaia Lykeia and Gymnasia
- Constructing new school buildings
- Extending, improving and maintaining school buildings
- Promoting computer science at the Gymnasia and Internet link at both Gymnasia and Lykeia
- Enhancing technological subjects
- Equipping laboratories
- Promoting Anti-drug Education and Health Education
- Establishing School Links and Exchanges

The developmental expenditure for the years 2004, 2005 and 2006 is as follows:

DEVELOPMENT EXPENDITURE ON SECONDARY EDUCATION

Type of Expenditure	2004 £	2005 £	2006 £
Eniaio Lykeio	1.000.000	500.000	300.000
Computer Science in Secondary Education	4.100.000	7.100.000	7.100.000
Contstructing new school buildings	5.360.000	10.000.000	14.200.000
Extension/Improvement of school buildings	6.000.000	3.860.000	5.885.000
Central Heating System	—	—	—
Enhancing technological sybjects	220.000	190.000	195.000
Laboratory equipment	300.000	200.000	397.000
Health Education – Anti-Drug Education	35.000	190.000	300.000
School Links and Exchanges	70.000	85.000	60.000
TOTAL	17.085.000	22.125.000	28 437 000

In the year 2006, the regular expenditure on Secondary Education, besides teachers' salaries, aimed at covering functional expenses on the following:

- School athletics
- State Institutes for Further Education
- Pupils transport expenses
- Supplies for the operation of the Eniaio Lykeio
- Publication and purchase of books
- International pupils' competitions
- Competition for the Europe at School
- Developing school libraries
- Replacing furniture
- Maintainance of computers at Lykeia
- Guading schools
- Publications

The regular expenditure for the years 2004, 2005 and 2006 was distributed as follows:

EXPENDITURE ON SECONDARY EDUCATION

Type of Expenditure	2004 £	2005 £	2006 £
School Athletics	2.000.000	517.442	1.539.000
State Institutes for Further Education	2.622.000	2.957.190	2.566.600
Pupils transport expenses	3.750.000	50.000	1.250.000
Expenses for the function of the Eniaio Lykeio	345.000	234.000	258.000
Maintenance of operation of Computers at Lykeia	100.000	106.500	129.500
Publications of Secondary Education	590.000	600.000	600.000
Publications & Purchase of Educational books	1.620.000	1.750.000	1.750.000
International Pupils' Competitions	42.900	60.000	133.850
Competition for the Day of Europe	20.000	20.800	22.300
Guarding School Premises	50.000	80.000	100.000
Replacing Furniture	70.000	70.000	70.000
Developing school libraries	200.000	200.000	200.000
TOTAL	11.409.920	6.645.932	8.619.250

1.2.11 ESTABLISHING NEW SECONDARY EDUCATION SCHOOLS

The Ministry of Education and Culture lays great importance on the qualitative upgrading of the premises of the Gymnasia and Lykeia and the reduction of the number of pupils per classroom.

For the near future the Ministry of Education and Culture has started seeking suitable locations in order to design and construct Gymnasia/Lykeia per district:

Lefkosia District

- Lykeio Platy Aglantzias
- Lykeio Acropolis (Partial replacement of existing building)
- Gymnasio Dasoupolis
- B Gymnasio Archangelou (Lakatamias)

Lemesos District

- Gymnasio at Zakaki-Ayios Spyridonas area
- Lykeio at the northern region of Lemesos

Larnaka/Ammochostos District

- Lykeio Aradippou
- Lykeio Livadion
- Gymnasio Larnakas (to replace the Dianeleio)
- Gymnasio Meneou/Dromolaxias
- Gymnasio Athienou (to replace the existing one)
- B' Gymnasio Aradippou

Pafos District

- Neo Lykeio Pafou (Yeroskipou)
- Neo Lykeio at the western area of Pafos (Emba)

The Lykeio Livadion and the Gymnasio Zakaki are at the final stage of construction. In the 2006 annual budget extensions and improvements of school buildings were included amounting to £5.880.000.

1.3 SECONDARY TECHNICAL AND VOCATIONAL EDUCATION (STVE)

1.3.1 STRUCTURE AND PROSPECTS OF STVE

By offering a balanced curriculum of general and technological education, Secondary Technical and Vocational Education (STVE) aims to offer pupils the required knowledge and skills which will:

- Prepare them to enter the world of work well equipped, or
- Continue further studies in their chosen area.

STVE is offered in two main directions, the Theoretical and the Practical Direction, and in various specialties, in thirteen Technical Schools. These schools operate in the main towns of Cyprus, as well as in Paralimni and Avgorou areas, which cater for the pupils of the Famagusta district. In 1998–99, a catering section of STVE was introduced in Agros Gymnasium.

Technical School graduates can compete, in favourable terms, with Lyceum graduates, for places in Tertiary Education, by taking the centrally administered Pancyprian examinations.

The tendering process for a comprehensive and scientific evaluation of the curriculum offered by Secondary Technical and Vocational Education is currently underway. The evaluation will be co-financed by the European Social Fund with the amount of £348.000, in the framework of Measure 2.2.2 Improvement and Reinforcement of Secondary Technical and Vocational Education

1.3.2 THE APPRENTICESHIP SCHEME

The Apprenticeship Scheme, which has been in operation since 1963, is a two-year initial vocational education and training programme, which addresses drop-outs from the formal education system, between the ages of 14 and 17. It provides practical and theoretical training alternately. Practical training takes place in industry, where apprentices are remunerated for their work, for three days per week. Theoretical training takes place at Technical Schools for two days per week.

The Scheme is a joint effort of the Ministry of Education and Culture and the Ministry of Labour and Social Insurance and aims to equip young people with the means to get a job and to supply industry with semi-skilled workers.

The tendering process for a study for the revision of the curriculum offered by the Apprenticeship Scheme is currently underway. This study will be co-financed by the European Social Fund with the amount of £980.000, in the framework of Measure 2.2.3 Reform of the Apprenticeship Scheme.

1.3.3 EVENING CLASSES

The evening classes offered at several Technical Schools aim to provide individuals with the opportunity to enrich their knowledge and abilities and compete for employment in a rapidly changing world.

The evening classes provide:

- Formal STVE programmes
- Programmes of continuing TVE
- Programmes catering for the preparation for national and other examinations.

1.3.4 SCHOOLS IN OPERATION

The Technical Schools in operation during 2005-2006, are shown in the table below. The total number of pupils in each School is also shown.

School	No. of Students
Lefkosia	
A Technical School Lefkosia	474
B Technical School Lefkosia	126
Technical School «Makarios III» Lefkosia	639
Evening Technical School Lefkosia	111
Lemesos	
A Technical School Lemesos	672
B Technical School Lemesos	297
C Technical School Lemesos	264
Apeitio Gymnasium Agros	21
Larnaka	
Dianellios Technical School Larnaka	492
St. Lazaros Technical School Larnaka	370
Paralimni Technical School	104
Peripheral Technical and Agricultural School Avgorou	247
Pafos	
Paphos Technical School	462
Polis Technical School	93

1.3.5 TEACHING PERSONNEL

The total number of Secondary School Deputy Headmasters and Teachers, teaching subjects of General Education at Technical Schools, was 276. Some work on a full-time basis and some on a part-time basis. Technical School Instructors totalled 497 full-time. The number of part time Teachers and Instructors for the Afternoon and Evening Classes was 109, of which 1 was full-time.

1.3.6 STUDENT POPULATION

During the 2005-2006 school year, the number of pupils studying in the various programmes offered by STVE was as follows.

Programme	No. of students
Formal Technical and Vocational Programmes	4372
Apprenticeship Scheme	366
Afternoon and Evening Classes	1360
TOTAL	6098

1.3.7 EXPENDITURE

During the fiscal year of 2006 the development expenditure for STVE reached the amount of 5.557.000, compared to £ 5.680.000 in 2005. The current expenditure for the same year was £1.024.500, compared to £1.858.000 in 2005.

1.3.8 INFRASTRUCTURE EXPENDITURE

1.3.8.1 School building extensions and improvements

The total cost of school extensions and improvements adds up to £1.845.000 and was distributed as follows:

Technical Schools in Lefkosia District £525.000

Technical Schools in Lemesos District £988.000

Technical Schools in Larnaka District £21.000

Technical Schools in Paphos District £232.000

Technical Schools in Ammochostos District £79.000

1.3.9 OTHER ACTIVITIES OF SECONDARY TECHNICAL AND VOCATIONAL EDUCATION

- Student and parent guidance, aiming to inform students and parents about STVE
- Co-operation with CEDEFOP
- Co-operation with social partners, including the Educational Council, the Advisory Body for STVE, the Employers and Industrialists Unions etc

1.4 HIGHER AND TERTIARY EDUCATION

1.4.1 INTRODUCTION

Cyprus' accession to the European Union has brought forth new challenges for the Department of Higher and Tertiary Education which, during the previous academic year has taken significant steps towards the establishment of Cyprus as a regional educational and research center and has also implemented a series of measures regarding the alignment of the Cypriot educational policy and vision with that of the European Union. The Lisbon Strategy, which has been adopted by the European Union, aspires, by 2010, to turn the EU into the most competitive knowledge-based economy with more work positions and social cohesion. Education and especially Higher Education will become a catalyst toward the achievement of this goal.

Within this framework the Ministry of Education and Culture is responsible for the development of public institutions of tertiary education, that is, the development and expansion of the University of Cyprus, the establishment and operation of the Cyprus University of Technology and the operation of the Open University of Cyprus.

Private tertiary education today presents an ever evolving new dynamics. 24 institutions operate in Lefkosia, Lemesos, Larnaka, Pafos and Ammochostos offering a plethora of programmes which lead to academic as well as vocational qualifications of high demand in the local as well as in the international market. The educational evaluation-accreditation of their programmes of study by the Cyprus Council for Educational Evaluation-Accreditation, constitutes a quality assurance factor as, with

the assistance of international academic committees, the standards for development and upgrading as regards to the programmes of study, the qualifications of academic personnel, infrastructure etc, are set.

The establishment of the Cyprus Quality Assurance Agency is examined and promoted by the department of higher and tertiary education. The aim of this Agency will be to promote quality assurance and safeguard accountability for both public and private HEIs through various measures which should include external accreditation and development of internal quality culture based on the ENQA Standards and Guidelines and European Agreements on collaboration for Quality Assurance.

This new body is expected to absorb the functions of SEKAP (Council for the Educational Evaluation-Accreditation of Programmes of Study) and KYSATS (Cyprus Council for the Recognition of Higher Education Qualifications) and carry out the evaluation of all public and private higher education institutions operating in Cyprus.

A series of measures which aim at the expansion of university level education have also been implemented. These measures include the enrichment of undergraduate and postgraduate programmes of study at the University of Cyprus with the introduction of the Programme in Architecture and the Masters in Business Administration (MBA) Programme as well as the recent operation of the Faculty of Engineering. The Department of Higher and Tertiary Education has a significant role in the operation of two new Universities, namely, the Cyprus University of Technology, which is planned to accept its first students in 2007 and the Open University of Cyprus which has accepted its first students in September 2006.

Furthermore, steps have been taken to upgrade the Private Institutions of Tertiary Education. Law 109 (I)/2005, which regulates the establishment, operation and control of private universities in Cyprus, was approved by the House of Representatives in the summer of 2005. This new law is expected to upgrade private HEIs making them autonomous. Five applications are being evaluated by the ECPU (Evaluation Committee for Private Universities) and the first private universities are expected to operate in the very near future.

The Department of Higher and Tertiary Education is the competent department of the Ministry of Education and Culture responsible for the following:

- a. The legislation which governs the establishment and operation of the University of Cyprus.
- b. The legislation which governs the establishment and operation of the Open University of Cyprus.
- c. The legislation which governs the establishment and operation of the Cyprus University of Technology.
- d. The legislation which governs the establishment and operation of Private Universities in Cyprus.
- e. The European Programmes in Higher Education.
- f. The Private Institutions Tertiary Education and their efficient operation.
- g. The Cyprus Council for the Recognition of Higher Education Qualifications (KYSATS).
- h. The Council for the Educational Accreditation of Programmes of Study (SEKAP).
- i. Pancyprian Examinations.
- j. Lifelong Learning.
- k. Student affairs.

During the academic year of 2005 - 2006, the University of Cyprus, the Open University of Cyprus and seven Public Tertiary Education Institutions were operating. The University of Cyprus and the Open University of Cyprus are autonomous public educational institutions while the Public Tertiary Education Institutions function under the respective Ministries of the Republic.

According to the latest statistical data, on academic year 2005 – 2006, in total 34,577 Cypriot students studied at home and abroad. The number of students studying in Cyprus reached 15,177, whereas, Cypriot students studying abroad reached 19.400. These were mainly distributed to Greece (12,663), United Kingdom (3,967) and the USA (997).

During the same year, the number of international students studying in Cyprus reached 4,901.

1.4.2 THE UNIVERSITIES OF CYPRUS

University of Cyprus

During the academic year 2005 - 2006, the University of Cyprus offered programmes through its six faculties and various departments.

- Faculty of Humanities (Departments of English Studies, French Studies and Modern Languages, Turkish Studies and Middle Eastern Studies, Language Centre).
- Faculty of Social Studies and Education (Departments of Education, Social and Political Sciences, Law (not offered at present), Psychology)
- Faculty of Pure and Applied Sciences (Departments of Computer Science, Mathematics and Statistics, Physics, Chemistry, Biological Sciences (to be offered by 2007)).
- Faculty of Economics and Management (Departments of Economics, Public and Business Administration).
- Faculty of Letters (Departments of Byzantine and Modern Greek Studies, Classics and Philosophy, History and Archaeology).
- Faculty of Engineering (Departments of Civil and Environmental Engineering, Electrical and Computer Engineering, and Mechanical and Manufacturing Engineering, Architecture).

The Ministry of Education and Culture, through its Department of Higher and Tertiary Education, took all necessary measures, within its competence, for the efficient operation of the University.

The Technological University of Cyprus

The House of Representatives approved in December 2003, the Law for the establishment of the Cyprus University of Technology. This new University will cover the fields of study of the following public institutions now operating:

- a. Higher Technical Institute
- b. Higher Hotel Institute of Cyprus
- c. School of Nursing and others which will be decided.

The Council of Ministers approved on 1st August 2005 the operation of the following schools and departments in each school:

- School of Applied Arts and Communications
 - Department of Communication and Internet Studies
 - Department of Multimedia and Graphic Arts

- School of Health Services
 - Department of Nursing
- School of Administration and Economy
 - Department of Hotel and Tourism Administration
- School of Geotechnical Sciences and Environmental Management
- School of Technological Applications
 - Department of Electrical Engineering and Information Technology
 - Department of Mechanical Engineering and Materials Science Technology
 - Department of Civil Engineering

The Interim Governing Board was appointed in March 2004 and plans the commencement of operation of the university in 2007.

The Open University of Cyprus

Within the framework of "Lifelong learning" and in order to facilitate distance learning in Cyprus, the House of Representatives approved in December 2002 the Law for the establishment of the Open University of Cyprus and in February 2003 the Interim Governing Board was appointed. The University commenced its operation in September 2006 with the following programmes of study:

- Postgraduate programme in the Administration of Health Units
- Postgraduate programme in Education

In total, 162 postgraduate students enrolled to the programmes of study offered by the Open University of Cyprus. 100 students were enrolled in the Postgraduate programme in Education and 62 students were enrolled in Postgraduate programme in the Administration of Health Units.

1.4.3 EDUCATIONAL EVALUATION ACCREDITATION AND RECOGNITION OF DEGREES

KY.S.A.T.S. (Council for the Recognition of Higher Education Qualifications) is the Competent Authority for the recognition of Titles (or Degrees) which were awarded by institutions of Higher Education recognized in the country they operate. It serves the role of the National Academic Recognition Information Centre (NARIC) for Cyprus. KY.S.A.T.S examines applications for degree recognition and may also provide written information to employers and interested persons on the matter of recognition.

The Council for the Educational Evaluation of Programmes of Study (SEKAP) is the competent authority responsible for the evaluation of programmes of study offered by private institutions of higher education. In the year 2006, the educational evaluation - accreditation process continued and 175 programmes of study are currently accredited by the Council of Educational Evaluation-Accreditation.

Updated results and other information may be obtained through the Council's (SEKAP) web page: www.moec.gov.cy.

1.4.4 PRIVATE INSTITUTIONS OF TERTIARY EDUCATION

During the academic year, 2005 - 2006, twenty-four private institutions of tertiary education were registered with the Ministry of Education and Culture and offered programmes of study at the undergraduate and postgraduate levels. The Department of Higher and Tertiary Education provides all private institutions of

tertiary education with the necessary administrative support needed for the registration of new programmes of study.

1.4.5 EXAMINATIONS SERVICE

The Examinations Service organized in 2006 the Pancyprian Examinations for the purposes of graduation from secondary education and for entrance to Higher Education Institutions in Cyprus and Greece. The Examinations Service has also organized a number of other examinations for institutions and organizations.

1.4.6 PRIVATE UNIVERSITIES

The House of Representatives has approved, in July 2005, the Law for the establishment of Private Universities. The new law provides for the establishment of Private Universities by both, profit and non-profit organizations. It also provides for the evaluation of their establishment and operation through an Accreditation Committee, which will assess and evaluate all relevant applications. The Evaluation Committee for Private Universities was appointed by the Council of Ministers in December 2005. Five applications are being evaluated by the ECPU (Evaluation Committee for Private Universities) and the first private universities are expected to operate in the very near future.

1.5 THE CYPRUS PEDAGOGICAL INSTITUTE

The Cyprus Pedagogical Institute has a developmental mission which covers all levels of education. Its main activities are the in-service training of teachers, the pre-service training of secondary school teachers, educational research and evaluation, educational documentation, educational technology and curriculum development. These activities are implemented through the respective departments of the Institute.

1.6 GENERAL ACHIEVEMENTS OF THE DEPARTMENT OF TECHNICAL SERVICES DURING THE YEAR 2006

A 35 MILLION POUNDS WORK.

1.6.1 NEW WORKS

During the year 2006, in view of realizing the construction programme of the Ministry of Education and Culture there have been call of proposals for 102 construction and technical works and the supply of furniture and contracts have been signed for 83 works of an overall expenditure of £35.058.700 V.A.T included, while works from the previous year continued.

These works are:

- a) 1. The construction Vergina Primary School
2. Pyrga Primary School
3. Gymnasio Ag. Spyridona
4. Lykeio Livadion.

- b) Extension work in 2 Lykeia, 4 Gymnasia and 11 Primary Schools.
- c) Improvements and maintenance of 14 Primary Schools Buildings, 4 Lykeia and 10 Gymnasia including earthquake proof improvements works and addition of auxiliary buildings.
- d) The construction of a multiple function hall 2.
- e) The construction of sport infrastructure works 16.
- f) Installation of central heating at all the newly constructed schools.
- g) The construction of 8 kindergartens. The maintenance of 1 kindergarten.
- h) The maintenance of 7 government buildings.

During is time the materialization has proceeded of the earthquake proof upgrade of school buildings, which include all works of maintenance, repair and addition of auxiliary services and installations.

1.6.1.1 Primary Education

Works	£
New Work	
1. Verginas Primary School	2.063.639,00
2. Pyrga Primary School	1.368.113,00
Total: 2	£3.431.752,00
Constructions	
Lefkosia	
1. Archangelos Primary School	185.210,00
2. Ergates Primary School	42.000,00
3. Denia Primary School	77.000,00
4. B´ Pera Chorio Nisou Primary School	154.000,00
5. E´ Lakatamias Primary School	134.960,00
Total: 5	£5.931.700,00
Lemesos	
1. Trimiklini Periferiako Primary School	89.000,00
Total: 1	£89.000,00
Larnaka	
1. A´ Dromolaksia, Agglisides, Kalo Chorio Larnakas Primary School	240.650,00
Total: 1	£240.650,00
Ammoxostos	
1. Frenaros Primary School	520.000,00
2. Apostolos Varnavas Primary School	240.445,00
Total: 2	£760.445,00
Pafos	
1. B´ Pafos – Dimitrio Primary School	177.935,00
2. Tala Primary School	113.864,00
Total: 2	£291.799,00
TOTAL: 11 works	£7.312.944,00

Improvements		
Lefkosia		
1. Episkopio Primary School		204.000,00
2. Mammari Primary School		172.000,00
3. Pera Chorio Nisou Primary School		571.374,00
4. Kakopetria Primary School		204.650,00
Total:	4	£1.152.124,00
Lemesos		
1. Platres Primary School	99.870,00	
2. D´ Lemesos Primary School		911.870,00
3. Omodos Primary School & Gymnasio		596.830,00
4. IA´ Lemesos Primary School		1.078.419,00
Total:	4	£2.686.989,00
Larnaka		
1. Psevdas Primary School		43.000,00
2. A´ Sotiras Primary School		209.400,00
3. Choirokoitias Primary School		76.000,00
4. Ayios Ioannis Larnakas Primary School		306.000,00
Total:	4	£634.400,00
Pafos		
1. Kato Pyrgos Primary School		294.920,00
2. Stroumbi Primary School		29.800,00
Total:	2	£324.720,00
TOTAL:	25 works	£15.543.579,00
Kindergarten		
Lefkosia		
1. Kokkinotrimithias Kindergarten		215.650,00
2. A´ Primary and Kindergarten Paleometochou		664.000,00
		£879.650,00
1. Kindergarten of Dali (Improvement)		41.000,00
		£41.000,00
Lemesos		
1. KE Primary School of Lemesos		169.700,00
		£169.700,00
Larnaka		
1. Primary School of Xylofagou		115.073,00
2. Kindergarten Livadia		237.340,00
		£352.413,00
Famacousta		
1. A´ Primary School of Paralimni		662.360,00
		£662.360,00
Pafos		
1. Primary and Kindergarten of Mandria		117.000,00
2. Primary school of Mesogis		132.700,00
TOTAL:	9 works	£2.313.823,00

1.6.1.2 Secondary Education

Works	£
Constructions	
Lemesos	
1. Gymnasio Ayiou Spyridona	3.358.00,00
Total: 1	£3.358.000,00
Larnaka	
1. Lykeio Livadion	2.863.700,00
Total: 1	£2.863.700,00
TOTAL: 2 works	£6.221.700,00
Extensions	
Lefkosia	
1. B´ Periferiako Gymnasio Lefkosia	190.000,00
2. Gymnasio Ayiou Stylianou	98.540,00
3. Gymnasio Soleas and Lykeio	239.891,00
Total: 3	£528.431,00
Lemesos	
1. Lykeio Lefkotheas	79.461,00
Total: 1	£79.461,00
Larnaka	
1. Pagkyprio Lykeio Larnakas	1.148.000,00
2. Gymnasio Xilotymbou	75.200,00
Total: 2	£2.778.890,00
TOTAL: 6 works	£3.386.782,00
Improvements	
Lefkosia	
1. Gymnasio Akakiou	505.805,00
2. Lykeio Kykkou B´	926.446,00
3. Gymnasio Dianellou and Theotodou	918.444,00
4. Gymnasio Pera Chorio Nisou	184.875,00
5. Lykeio Archiepiskopou Makariou Γ´ (Lift)	34.050,00
6. Gymnasio Anthoupolis	473.000,00
7. Gymnasio Ayiou Vasiliou Strovolos	173.880,00
Total: 7	£3.216.500,00
Lemesos	
1. Gymnasio Polemidion	344.450,00
2. Gymnasio Ayiou Ioanni	633.000,00
3. Lykeio Ayiou Nicolaou	1.026.538,00
Total: 3	£1.124.398,00
Larnaka	
1. Lykeio Ayiou Georgiou	19.800,00
2. Gymnasio Verginas	19.800,00
Total: 2	£39.600,00

Ammoxostos		
1. Gymnasio Kokkinochorion		666.100,00
Total:	1	£666.100,00
Pafos		
1. Gymnasio Kato Pyrgou		465.000,00
Total:	1	£465.00,00
TOTAL:	22 works	£15.095.278,00

1.6.1.3 Ministry of Education Culture and Buildings

Works		£
Total:	7	£2.556.664,00

1.6.1.4 Sports

Works		£
Total:	16	£2.542.996,00

1.6.1.5 Multiple Functions Hall

Works		£
Total:	2	£548.200,00

2. INNOVATIONS, REFORMS AND STRUCTURAL CHANGES IN EDUCATION

2.1 PRIMARY EDUCATION

2.1.1 MAXIMUM NUMBER OF CHILDREN IN CLASSROOMS

The decrease of the number of pupils per class for all grades of the primary school is an essential part of the government educational policy and it aims at upgrading education. After a relevant suggestion of the Ministry of Education and Culture, on the 30th of July, 2003, the Council of Ministers adopted the maximum number of pupils in grades 1, 2 and 3 of primary schools as not exceeding thirty as from school year 2003-2004.

Additionally on the 4th June, 2004, the Council of Ministers decided that the implementation of the decrease of the number of pupils in grades 4, 5, and 6 should take place gradually each year, starting as from 2004-2005, with a decrease from 32 to 30 pupils in the 4th grade. A new resolution (61.603/16.2.2005) of the Council of Ministers adopted the simultaneous decrease of the maximum number of pupils from 32 to 30 pupils for grades 5 and 6 as from the school year 2005-2006.

At the same time, within the framework of the educational reform, a new proposal was forwarded to the Council of Ministers and a further decrease of the number of pupils in the first grade (resolution 62.664/28.9.2005) from 30 to 25 pupils per class, was adopted. The innovation was implemented in 1/3 of primary schools during the school year 2005-2006 and will be completed by the school year 2007-2008.

2.1.2 PROMOTION AND IMPLEMENTATION OF THE ALL-DAY SCHOOL

2.1.2.1 All-Day School in Primary Education

The All-Day School concept in Primary Education was experimentally implemented during the school year 1999-2000 in nine primary schools - four urban and five rural schools. Two of these schools functioned both as morning and afternoon schools until 4:00 pm, whereas two other schools functioned until 2:45 pm. The remaining five extended the time for younger children's stay at school (grades one, two and three) until 1:05 pm.

This experimental implementation of the All-Day School institution was evaluated by a Special Evaluation Committee which consisted of representatives of the Cyprus University, the Pedagogical Institute, the Inspectorate, the Teachers' Union and the Pancyprian Confederation of the Parents' Associations Federation. After the first phase of this evaluation was completed in May 2000, a relative report was prepared and submitted to the Minister of Education and Culture. Based on this report, the All-Day School institution is considered to be successful and useful socially and educationally.

During the school year 2000-2001, only 25 schools functioned as All-Day Schools until 4:00 pm. During the following school years it appears that there has been a significant increase in the number of All-Day Schools:

2001-2002: 70 All-Day Schools

2002-2003: 84 All-Day Schools

2003-2004: 107 All-Day Schools

2004-2005: 130 All-Day Schools

During the school year 2005-2006, 150 schools functioned as All-Day School, of which 126 operated as All-Day Schools on a voluntary basis for grades four, five and six and 24 as All-Day Schools on a voluntary basis for grades one, two, three, four, five and six. They functioned from October to May four days a week, until 4:00 pm (four periods were added to their daily programme).

No changes have been made concerning either the curriculum or the time table of the morning school. On the contrary, they continued to function according to the school regulations already in force.

The afternoon programme included four teaching periods per week for carrying out assigned homework, four teaching periods for reinforcing teaching and four teaching periods for two of the following optional subjects: English, Information Technology, Music, Physical Education, Art, Design and Technology.

The number of children per class ranged from 8 to 25 according to the subject and needs of each school unit. The formation of classes and groups depended on the pupils' and teachers' interests.

The Ministry of Education and Culture provided all schools already functioning as All-Day Schools, with the appropriate equipment.

Feeding expenses and necessary arrangements for the provision/preparation of the meals were undertaken by the pupils' parents. The type of food and feeding programme were consistent with the ration agreed and arranged by parents and the Ministry of Education and Culture. The Ministry of Education and Culture sponsored the feeding of the needy.

2.1.2.2 All-Day School in Pre-Primary Education

The All-Day School concept in Pre-Primary Education was experimentally implemented during the school year 2005-2006 in nine rural pre-primary schools. These pre-primary schools functioned both as morning and afternoon schools until 4:00 pm.

These pre-primary schools operated as All-Day Schools on a voluntary basis. They functioned from October to May and for four additional periods, four days a week, until 4:00 pm.

No changes have been made concerning either the curriculum or the time table of the morning school. On the contrary, they continued to function according to the school regulations already in force.

The afternoon programme included four teaching periods per week for resting and twelve teaching periods for the following subjects: Theatre, Music, Dance, Art, Physical Education and Group Games.

The maximum number of children per class is 25. The Ministry of Education and Culture provided all schools already functioning as All-Day Schools, with the appropriate equipment.

Feeding expenses and necessary arrangements for the provision/preparation of the meals were undertaken by the pupils' parents. The type of food and feeding

programme were consistent with the ration agreed and arranged by parents and the Ministry of Education. The Ministry of Education and Culture sponsored the feeding of the needy.

2.1.3 INFORMATION COMMUNICATION AND TECHNOLOGY

The Primary Education Department has initiated, since September 1993, an Information Communication and Technology (ICT) programme in order to enhance the educational process. Today the programme is implemented in all schools in Cyprus including the occupied school in Rizokarpaso.

The implementation of ICT aims not only at the technological enrichment of the learning environment, but also at the essential differentiation of the educational process. Thus, ICT is not taught as a separate subject in the Cyprus_ National curriculum, but is used as a dynamic tool in the teaching and learning process, aiming at a more effective implementation of the school curriculum and developing of skills such as problem solving, decision making, communication and information handling.

Since 2002, the Ministry of Education and Culture has adopted a programme entitled "The Integration of Information Communication and Technology" which is funded by the European Development Bank and the Council of Europe Development Bank. The action plan designed by the Ministry of Education and Culture addresses the following sectors:

- **Infrastructure:**

The technical infrastructure includes the acquisition of equipment, the networking and the construction of computer laboratories.

- **National Curriculum:**

The plan suggests the enrichment of the National Curriculum at the level of objectives and activities in order to include ICT use in schools and also the development of essential material (software and other) in order to assist the use of ICT in the educational process. During the school year 2005-2006, a team responsible for the enrichment of the National Curriculum has prepared a completed proposal for the integration of ICT in the Cypriot educational system. This proposal includes the theoretical frame and the mechanism for the implementation of ICT.

- **Teachers' training:**

The training of teachers aims at the acquisition of skills for ICT tools and the ability to use them in the educational process. Cyprus Pedagogical Institute is responsible for developing and implementing teachers' training programmes. Thus far, programmes related to ICT have been offered to about 2000 teachers.

ICT consultants provide efficient support to teachers in their effort to integrate Information Technology in the teaching/learning process. During the school year 2005-2006, seven educational software related to language and maths have been sent to all schools. Thus, the primary goal of the ICT consultants was to tutor teachers in the use of the software and the implementation in the learning process.

It is also essential to note that the enrichment of Science Curriculum aiming at the exploitation of ICT tools in the learning process has been completed. Digital material is being developed such as simulations, databases, web quests and other, in order

to utilize the additive value of ICT. The action plan is now being extended in the subject of Mathematics aiming to enrich the curriculum.

2.1.4 MULTICULTURAL EDUCATION

During the past few years, a growing number of pupils, coming mainly from the former Soviet Union and other foreign countries, have enrolled in primary schools in Cyprus. About 6,7% of the pupils attending public primary schools do not speak Greek as their mother language. Bearing in mind that nowadays, society is becoming even more multicultural, the Ministry of Education and Culture needs to approach the subject of multicultural education with great sensitivity. This means that it is of vital importance to provide an education that supports the language and distinctive cultural features of the various ethnic groups, but also to provide an education that helps bilingual pupils to learn Greek as their second language for a smoother transition to the Greek Cypriot society.

In response to these demands and the changing social environment, both national and international, the Ministry of Education and Culture is promoting the implementation of educational measures and policies that will facilitate the smooth integration of groups from different cultural identities in a creative environment, regardless of background. The Department of Primary Education makes provisions so that bilingual pupils are distributed evenly in the various districts, schools and even classrooms, so that teachers can support their linguistic and cultural needs more effectively.

Multicultural education is currently being practised in Cyprus in the form of various support measures. These measures can be categorised as measures for language support, which refer to the learning of Greek as a second language and measures for facilitating the smooth integration of groups with different cultural identities. The model that is currently being used is the mainstreaming programme in which bilingual pupils participate in the classrooms along with the native Greek-speaking pupils. A flexible system of intervention within the ordinary timetable exists. This involves placing bilingual pupils in a separate class for some hours of the week, for intensive learning of the Greek language and specialized assistance according to their specific needs. The Adult Education Centres offer afternoon classes for learning Greek as a second language to the children of the repatriated ethnic Greeks, but also to all those interested in the subject.

The issue of multicultural education is relatively new to Cypriot schools and society, so the Department of Primary Education has promoted several cultural measures to promote multicultural awareness. The Department has provided all schools with educational material, which includes books for the teaching of the Greek language, activity and exercise books, as well as teachers' books with methodological instructions and a variety of suggestions for activities, of mainly communicative character. The Department also realises the need to provide teachers with the opportunity to further develop their learning and teaching approaches to all children. Within this context, it organises in-service training seminars and conferences to teachers who teach bilingual pupils. Developing multicultural awareness, providing information among the pupil population of the way of life, patterns of thought and attitudes of people who differ from us, attempting to understand these differences and communicating with these people, are important features of multicultural schools.

2.1.5 PROMOTION OF MUSEUM EDUCATION

The Ministry of Education and Culture supports and promotes the museum educational programmes aiming at the acquisition of experiences in museums, the development of a positive attitude towards the environment and the cultural heritage of our country.

During the school year 2005-2006, educational museum programmes have been prepared for all towns. These programmes are based on active learning and interdisciplinary methods, which are achieved through pupils' observation, inquiry, discovery, critical thinking and joy for learning. The museum and gallery programmes are based on:

- the children's needs and potentials,
- the objectives of the curriculum and
- the restrictions of time and space.

During the school year 2005-2006, the programme at the State Gallery of Contemporary Cypriot Art which promotes the access of schools to art and culture and aims at the cultural and aesthetic development of children through experiential learning continued. This programme's theme "Motherhood", gives the opportunity to educators to approach the concept in an inter-disciplinary manner, mainly through Art and the Greek Language, while gaining an integrated cultural and aesthetic education.

A number of teachers were seconded for the designing of the educational programmes. They prepared activities and educational material for pupils and teachers, implemented the programmes, co-ordinated and helped pupils to appreciate the museum and gallery exhibits, to select information and search, co-operate and acquire experiences and positive attitudes.

2.1.6 EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMME "CYPRUS-AEGEAN, MYTH-HISTORY-ART"

The educational programme "CYPRUS-AEGEAN, MYTH-HISTORY-ART" aims at giving opportunities to pupils to discover through a "journey of knowledge, game, search, daydream, sentimental emotions and surprises", the wealth of History, Art, Culture of Cyprus and the Aegean Sea and to develop cultural consciousness. It is a cultural programme that is organised by the Youth Board of Cyprus, in collaboration with the Ministry of Education and Culture and the General Secretariat of New Generation of Greece.

The programme began functioning in March 2001 and is in process until today. In the first two years, it functioned for two days per week. During the school year 2002-2003, it functioned for four days per week, while from the school year 2003-2004 it functions for five days per week. The programme is addressed to primary school children of the 3rd – 6th grades and about 55-60 pupils can take part each time. The animators of the programme are primary and nursery school teachers, who, as a team, prepare additional educational material with a variety of activities for the pupils, in order for them to transfer the experiences they gain from the programme in the classroom environment.

2.1.7 HEALTH EDUCATION PROGRAMME – "MENTOR"

During the school year 2005-2006, the Drug Prevention Programmes of the "MENTOR" Mobile Unit (Life Education Centres) continued its implementation. In Primary Education, four mobile units visited schools in all four districts of Cyprus and delivered their programmes to 20138 pupils of primary school.

The programmes are implemented within the framework of health education and promotion and are based on three main strategies:

- the provision of information,
- the development and application of social skills and
- the enhancement of self-esteem.

Within the context of the programme, dialogue and communication with the pupils is sought, so that they can develop attitudes of self-esteem and self-respect. The educational programmes take place in a specially designed mobile classroom, which is equipped to provide a stimulating and exciting learning environment. This is combined with the use of highly trained teachers/educators who use a wide range of positive techniques and strategies designed to enable children to develop the confidence and thinking skills needed to make health choices. The programmes provide material appropriate for each age range and explore a wide range of health related-issues.

As from January 2006, Primary Education has implemented the revised programmes of the Life Education Centres, which give even more emphasis on empowerment of the child through group work, role play, games and quizzes.

2.1.8 2.1.8 PROGRAMME "EUROPEAN SCHOOL NETWORK FOR THE PROMOTION OF HEALTH"

The interest for the promotion of health has always been very high in the Ministry's list of priorities, since health is interwoven with peoples' quality of life. The promotion of health aims at the empowerment of people and the creation of such conditions, in order that a bigger percentage of the population is in a position to check and improve their health and select healthy ways of living.

Within this framework, the "School for the Promotion of Health" was developed, as a pioneering form of approach for the promotion of health. It aims at the growth of a healthy way of living for the population of each school unit. It offers opportunities, but at the same time it provides a healthy and secure supporting environment.

The "School for the Promotion of Health" concerns the school environment, the official and unofficial curriculum, the pupils' family and the community. Its philosophy is to incorporate the promotion of health in all schooling areas. In other words, the healthy way of living should constitute part of the daily life of the school and should be adopted by all its members.

Cyprus has been a member of the particular Network since 1995. During the school year 2005-2006 the Network functioned with the participation of 74 Primary Schools. The programmes promoted in schools were selected by members of the school community (teachers, parents, pupils). With the selected subject in mind, a number of activities were developed that promoted the school population's health and the adoption of a collective spirit of responsibility for the health not only of the individual but also of the society as a whole.

A basic factor for the growth and the success of these programmes is the enthusiasm, the hard work and the concentration of teachers and pupils who are members of the Network. These programmes are not supported by the intimidation via biological or medical type of knowledge. On the contrary, they are supported by modern forms for the promotion of health, where emphasis is given on the creation of a supporting school environment and the empowerment of the individual through information, the growth of skills and the reinforcement of self-esteem.

2.1.9 EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMME "IKADE"

The educational programme "IKADE" is supported by the Ministry of Education and Culture and is sponsored exclusively by the Bank of Cyprus. The programme aims at developing the spiritual and cultural bonds among pupils attending schools in Greece, Cyprus and young Greek migrants attending schools elsewhere in the world. It is a vision that concentrates on supporting the migrant Greeks in the countries they live and prosper, contributing towards maintaining a bridge of communication among the migrants, Cyprus and Greece.

"IKADE" operates at two levels:

- a) the level of the Internet, where a Greek planet is created, to which everyone, wherever he/she lives, can visit or navigate, and
- b) the level of teleconferences carried out between young Greeks attending Greek speaking community schools everywhere in the world and their classmates from both Cyprus and Greece.

Pupil travellers, using the Internet and especially the attractive Greek web space created, have the opportunity to get acquainted with the Greek culture, to play games of knowledge, and to get involved with creative activities related to the Greek history and mythology. Furthermore, they have the opportunity to explore and listen to traditional music, to become amused and to appreciate the global presence of Greece, through a trip to their country. All the above are possible since pupils become pupils of a "virtual class", where several cognitive areas such as geography, music, mythology, science, culture and religion are studied in a creative and pleasant way. The subject units, which are organised by executive programmers of the Banks of Cyprus and Greece, are enriched continuously with the possibility of new units being added in future.

The second aspect of the programme, which can be used only by the participating schools, is of great interest. This particular aspect relates to a brother ship programme for Greek, Cypriot and Greek migrant pupils, which connects schools. During the school year 2005–2006, seventeen primary schools were involved in the programme.

The new equipment for the brother ship programme was installed in all seventeen schools and related literature was sent. The coordinator of the programme informed teachers about the philosophy and goals of IKADE and how the programme operates under its new format. A private company that cooperates with the Bank of Cyprus and supports IKADE undertook systematic training of teachers of nine schools that had already been involved to this programme in the past. These schools have already begun the application of IKADE on a pilot base, with its new format, and the results have been encouraging. Training of the teachers of the remaining eight schools involved, is expected to begin during the 2006–2007 school year.

2.1.10 ROAD SAFETY EDUCATION

Since 2003, the Ministry of Education and Culture, in co-operation with the Ministry of Transport and the Police, had introduced Road Safety Education (RSE) in primary schools. In 2005-06 Road Safety Education was set as one of the priority goals. Within this framework, each primary school has the obligation to devote, at least, two weeks to road safety. During the two weeks, daily RSE events and activities, such as visits, lectures, research, projects, etc, were launched in schools. At the beginning of the school year, the teachers of each school unit discussed the subject, set their goals and developed a scheme on how they intended to implement them and what the outcome would be. At the end of the school year, the results of the programme were evaluated and the final report was sent to all primary schools. Pupils were encouraged to share their experiences as well as the results of their work with their parents or pupils of other schools through exhibitions, internet, newspapers, magazines, etc.

In order to assist teachers in their work and provide them with all the necessary materials, a Teachers' Guide for all grade levels and two Pupils' Books (Level A and B), were published and distributed in September of 2005 and 2006, respectively. The Teachers' Guide provides information, suggestions for discussion and other activities and a list of resources. The Pupils' Books, which are designed in parallel with the Teachers Guide, provide a basis for discussion and a thorough examination of various topics. Based on this set of three booklets, selected traffic safety themes are integrated into different subjects, such as science, mathematics, language, etc. Relevant material (lesson plans, power-point presentations, etc) was also published to the following internet address: www.schools.ac.cy/klimakio/programs/roadsafety.

Since RSE is not an obligatory part of our curriculum, the forth coming danger is that RSE may become gradually less distinct amongst the vast amount of school subjects. The implementation of the programme depends, to a high degree, on the engagement and interest of individual teachers. To minimize the risk of RSE becoming marginalised due to a lack of interest and/or time, the following actions are or will be undertaken: teacher training, visits to the Road Safety Education Park, lectures from police offices, voluntary art competitions, distribution of posters and a videotape to all public schools, etc.

2.1.11 PHYSICAL EDUCATION

The Ministry of Education and Culture aims at upgrading the quality of Physical Education so the future citizens lead an active and healthy lifestyle. In an attempt to achieve this aim, the following programmes have been implemented:

Cooperative Professional Learning Communities: A pilot project

Qualitative Physical Education depends on well informed and professionally developed teachers on Physical Education issues, theory and practice. According to research, effective professional development is achieved when it is school-based, collaborative and reflective on everyday work. The provision of a school-based in-service professional development was necessary, especially after the provision of a one year out of school in-service education to teachers. As a result, Cooperative Professional Learning Communities (CPL) was formed.

In Cooperative Professional Learning Communities (CPL), teachers are guided and encouraged by mentors or School Inspectors to cooperate with colleagues from the same school or from a school from the same area, on issues such as planning, practice and evaluation. Three or four teachers coming from schools in the same area are the members of each CPL Community. This pilot project will be run for the following two years and will be evaluated.

"Kovoume to Nima": Educational programme

The Ministry of Education and Culture and the Laiki Group cooperated and run "Kovoume to Nima" for four consecutive years. The programme aims to engage children from all districts, in a variety of sport activities in order to learn and adopt the Olympic values and ideals. This year the programme focuses on acquiring and implementing the values and initiatives of fair play.

Olympic Education Programmes

A variety of Olympic Education Programmes has been implemented in schools in all districts. Their main objectives were:

- active engagement of all children in physical activities
- emotional education
- acceptance of difference
- application of fair play and the Olympic spirit
- familiarization with the well known Olympic sports
- acquisition of positive attitude towards life and active living.

2.1.12 PRE – PRIMARY EDUCATION

Pre-Primary Education has become mandatory from the 1st of September 2004, and is free to children aged 4 years and 8 months to 5 years and 8 months, who attend public kindergartens. The Council of Ministers approved the above innovation, while giving a one-year trial period for all agents involved, adapting to the new regulations (Decision No. 59.824/14.4.2004).

According to the new legislation, children of the above age are obliged to attend public kindergartens, community or private schools, which are registered and approved by the Ministry of Education and Culture. Younger children aged 3 years to 4 years and 8 months take up vacant places in public kindergartens and pay fees, as set by the Ministry of Finance. The State is responsible to cover all expenses for the introduction of this innovation; while at the same time it will continue to subsidize the functioning of community kindergartens.

The Ministry of Education and Culture makes available all the necessary prerequisites for the most effective implementation of qualitative educational programmes. This is achieved by offering the schools financial support, guidance and supervision.

The following objectives are achieved through educational programmes being developed in correspondence with the equivalent European ones:

- children's overall development in the cognitive, emotional and psychomotor domains
- children's development in skills, attitudes, values and principles
- children's preparation to attend Primary School and maximize their capabilities for school success.

During the school year 2005-2006, the implementation of the Building Programme of Pre-Primary Schools which began in 2001 (No. Decision 52.138 / 19.7.2000), continued. Also, the support of buildings against earthquakes and the upgrading of Pre-Primary Schools are still under effect. Additionally, the building of seven Pre-Primary Schools has been completed.

2.2 SECONDARY EDUCATION

2.2.1 INNOVATIONS IN GYMNASIA

Innovations at the Gymnasia were introduced to update curricula and upgrade and improve education in general.

Modern society demands that young Cypriots should:

- a. have a wide range of knowledge
- b. find mechanisms of learning and research with maximum autonomy
- c. acquire skills in ICT
- d. move with ease in geographical and virtual space
- e. have life long learning
- f. develop creativity, imagination, analytical and composite thinking, critical thinking and decision making
- g. acquire new attitudes such as tolerance and respect for others and their culture.

These educational and social changes dictated changes at both the Gymnasio and the Lykeio.

The innovations at the Gymnasia aim at

- qualitative upgrade in education
- coping with problems posed at the Gymnasio
- responding to requirements indicated by surveys/ research
- harmonizing the Gymnasia with the Lykeia
- updating school life in general
- securing a smooth transition through all levels of education

During the school year 2005-2006 the following innovations were established:

- Upgrading the form teacher status for the C form Gymnasio
- Better use of the Library
- Introduction of the Computer Science Lesson in all three forms of the Gymnasio by establishing an 8-period programme 2 days weekly.

As from the school year 2005-2006 these innovations were added:

- confining the highest number of pupils per class at the A Gymnasio form to 25
- operation of the all-day school at Education Priority Zones
- operation of a music and athletics school in the afternoons.

Further innovations are expected to be introduced upon completion of the study of the report by the Education Reform Committee.

2.2.2 THE ENIAIO LYKEIO

The Eniaio Lykeio, a response to the challenges and policies of Europe and the world in general, is characterized by its focus on general education including technological and economy education and developing multifaceted personalities by:

- a) The didactic process and the various pedagogical activities which nurture a wide range of skills and types of thought such as:
 - critical thinking
 - creativity and originality
 - imagination
 - observation

- co operation
 - problem solving and coping with a variety of situations
 - analysis skills
 - writing skills
 - skills for assesment and self-assesment
- b) Developing skills and attitudes so that a youth can cope with the challenges of the modern world as a pupil and later as a citizen.

The pupils have the flexibility to form their own timetable according to their interests and inclinations.

The A form is the form of observation, guidance and orientation. In the B and C forms the pupils attend common core subjects considered indispensable while they have the opportunity to select those subjects of orientation which will help them to prepare for their future career and those subjects of interest or enrichment which will enhance their interest and inclinations.

The Eniaio Lykeio institution is also connected to a series of internal reforms which constitute the qualitative difference that characterizes the institution.

The most important are:

- Upgrading and supporting the practice of the form teacher
- The programme Creativity – Action – Social Service
- The better use of the school library
- In service training of teachers
- Improving and supporting the institution of special rooms
- Introducing laboratory lessons in the A form
- Supporting and upgrading Career Education and Counselling
- Reducing the maximum number of pupils to 25 per class at the C form Lykeio
- Introducing new syllabuses, establishing nucleus knowledge/attitudes/skills and activities aiming at attaining the goals of the Eniaio Lykeio
- support teaching and introductory classes.
- Expanding and supporting knowledge with updated text books as well as with audiovisual aids, software and support material.
- The new didactic methodology pursues creative approaches so that pupils can co-operate with fellow pupils and teachers, enrich their knowledge, judge, analyze, compose, create and assess
- New way of assessing pupils
- Reform support centres
- Evaluation of Education
- Prevention of violence and lack of discipline at school
- Internal regulations by each school
- Operation of the music and sports school.

2.2.3 HOME ECONOMY

The Home Economy subject has been upgraded with the introduction of modern appliances, equipment and software. MS Office has been installed in 60 Gymnasia and the second software education programme for nutrition by the University of Crete is to be installed at the Eniaia Lykeia.

2.2.4 HEALTH EDUCATION

The Health Education programme is an interdisciplinary programme aiming at the spiritual moral and physical development of pupils.

During the school year 2005-2006 the pilot programme of Sex Education was implemented in 6 Gymnasia. It will continue aiming at full implementation in all Gymnasia.

In order to raise the awareness of pupils on health issues the following programmes are pursued:

1. "European School Network for the Promotion of Health"
2. "MENTOR" a programme which, with the assistance of mobile units, helps pupils acquire skills to develop decision – making abilities for healthy living
3. "Anti-drug Education Seminars" aiming at creating "resistance nuclei " among pupils
4. "Standing on my own two feet" A programme in cooperation with the programme "KENΘEA" which aims at developing attitudes of self esteem and self respect and promote resistance skills to the temptations of modern society.
5. "EY ZHN (Well Being) a programme implemented on the basis of an agreement between the governments of Greece and Cyprus. Links are created between individual schools from Greece and Cyprus respectively to study an issue related to Health.
6. There is a pilot programme by the Educational Psychology Department involving pupils, teachers and parents in promoting prevention against addictive substances.

Teachers (over 2000) attended seminars, in Cyprus, on Health Education.

2.2.5 ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION

The programme of environmental education aims at developing positive attitudes among pupils on the environment and its sustainable development according to the Rio agenda 21.

International and European programmes are being implemented with the participation of pupils, Syllabuses have been reformed and new methodologies applied. Such programmes are:

- The "Gold and Green Leaf" A joint programme between Cyprus and Greece.
- The European programme "Ecoschools"
- The European programme "Young reporters and the Environment", in which 30 Gymnasia and 30 Lykeia participate.
- The UNESCO programme "South Eastern Mediterranean Sea Project"
- "Globe", Global Learning and Observations to Benefit the Environment. A joint programme between Cyprus and the U.S.A.
- "I Learn About Forests" and "Green Corners in my Neighbourhood".
- The South Eastern Mediterranean Environmental Programme.

2.2.6 COMPUTER SCIENCE IN SECONDARY EDUCATION

Syllabuses on Computer Science have been upgraded. There are 120 computer Labs at the Lykeia and 181 Computer labs at the Gymnasia. Each lab is fully equipped with at least 18 PCs (Laser and Inkjet type), scanners, and multimedia apparatuses. There is also Internet Link.

At the Gymnasio computer science is taught 2 periods per week aiming at reaching ECDL standards.

At the Lykeio the lesson is taught 2 periods per week at the A Greade at B and C grades it is taught 4 periods per week as a direction subject and 2 periods per week as a special interest subject.

At the Lykeia there is a systematic use of PCs as a means and/or tool for subjects such as Typing, Physics, Biology, History and languages. All labs have been equiped with a video projector linked to the teacher's computer.

In 2006, following an agreement between the MOEC and the CISCO Academy, the lesson of CISCO NETS was established in 9 Lykeia.

2.2.7 LANGUAGE ROOMS

The use of language rooms in the Lykeia has been one of the major innovations in the teaching of languages which is in line with the increasing emphasis on a learner centered perspective and the promotion of autonomous learning.

A language room is a user friendly place appropriately equipped with easily accessible resources to satisfy the learner's diverse needs and facilitate the teacher's work. It is a multifunctional classroom which may be used as a conventional classroom, as a self access centre or as language resource centre. Space is allocated in such a way as to ensure diverse learning environment. There is a listening station, a multi-media area for CALL, a printed material resource corner and a viewing station.

The pleasant and motivating atmosphere of the Language Room created by the bright colours in the furniture and furnishing inspire and motivate the learners, providing the pedagogical context which allows teachers to change their traditional approach and make the lesson more interactive and cooperative.

The aims of the Language room are to encourage pupils become autonomous language learners, to take advantage of the opportunities to use their learning potential to the full at their own pace, to encourage Life-long learning to promote intercultural awareness and communication, to promote the European Identity.

The objectives focus on promotion of cooperation and team spirit for both learners and teachers, flexibility in class management (especially in mixed ability classes), access to a wide range of resource and equipment, training of the learner to be aware of his needs and take responsibility of his own learning, training in learner's self assessment and promotion of remedial work.

The use of the Language Room becomes more effective by collective decisions of teachers with the help of the inspectors and /or counsellors of the Ministry of Education and Culture.

The major impact of the use of the Language Room is that it promotes the change from a conventional approach of teaching and learning to a more active, interactive and cooperative one. The teacher sets feasible goals and timetables, gives clear directions, ensures the use of all the material and equipment available, allows

learners to trial and experimentation and coordinates all activities conducive to learning.

The learner becomes more independent in choosing means and sectors according to their interests becoming more independent and motivated. The learner can monitor and enhance their own progress through the use of a portfolio and learner – self assessment worksheets.

The Secondary Education Department organized a number of model Lessons in the language Rooms by teachers of English, French and Greek.

In addition, in-training service Seminars were held for teachers on the use of Language Rooms.

Within the framework of promoting the most effective use of the Language Rooms model lessons are conducted by language teachers in cooperation with the inspectors.

2.2.8 LITERACY

2.2.8.1 The Permanent Work Group for the Promotion of Literacy and school success

The work group operates on the following three axes:

- Surveys on illiteracy, school failure, reading skills
- Organizes, coordinating and evaluating preventive actions and programmes on the above sectors
- Combats illiteracy and school failure by organizing, coordinating, supporting and assessing programmes to cope with the above problems.

The establishment of the Permanent Work Group for the Promotion of Literacy and School Success is a significant innovation in the Cyprus Educational System as, combating school failure, inequality and social exclusion is the main axis of the contemporary education innovations in Europe.

2.2.8.2 The Literacy programme at the Gymnasia

The Literacy programme operates in 55 Gymnasia islandwide at the A and B form and aims at:

- Securing the basic human right to education for all illiterate pupils
- Preventing school and, by extension, social exclusion which has negative consequences such as: marginalization, school violence self-destructive behaviour and problems with one's mental and physical health.

The pedagogical goals are mainly the development of the basic skills of reading, writing, comprehension of texts and mathematics as functional social activities and practices, as well as the development of expression judgment, creativity and communication the enhancement of the self –image and adaptability to school and social environment.

DEVELOPMENT OF LITERACY PROGRAMME AT THE GYMNASIA

School Year	Schools	Groups	Pupils	Teachers	Periods
2001-2002	39	78	585	158	702
2002-2003	53	109	817	220	981
2003-2004	56	119	900	237	1080
2004-2005	55	121	907	239	1089
2005-2006	55	124	823	241	1116

2.2.9 EDUCATION PRIORITY ZONES

The "Plan for Educational Reform " proposes institutional and structural changes in education aligning our system to the European acquis,

In the school year 2005-2006 the Plan for Education Priority Zones initiated in 2001-2002 was fully established at three areas.

Some of the basic principles of the establishment of Education Priority Zones are:

- Using practices based on modern pedagogical research.
- Ensuring educational continuity between the three levels of education through a Network of Education Priority.
- Establishing new cooperative attitudes.
- Decrease of number of pupils per class.
- Ensuring oral and writing skills as a major education priority.
- The Establishment of a Guidance Team which offers pedagogical information and support to pedagogical groups at schools and acts as coordinator in the links between the schools at all levels.
- Establishing systematic links with parents.
- Developing cultural and athletic activities.

2.2.10 MUSIC EDUCATION

2.2.10.1

The innovation has been introduced of the establishment of 2 Music Schools to broaden the outlook on music and establish the teaching of traditional music. The Music School aims at preparing and training youths who wish to pursue a music career while attending general education.

2.2.10.2 District choirs / Orchestras at Lykeia

As from November 2003 there exists the practice of District choirs /orchestras in Lefkosia. The purpose is to provide opportunities for further music education, the creation of incentives for quality works, the development of Music Education and aesthetic education. On April 2006 the District Orchestra of Lefkosia and the District Choir of Lefkosia jointly performed a concert at the Castelliotissa Hall. On 21-25 April 2006, the District Orchestra presented concerts at Castellar Del Valtès, in Catalonia, Spain.

2.2.10.3 Artists at School

Artists visit schools during the lesson of Music and present musical instruments, play music and compose music with pupils and artists, share vivid musical experiences and the teacher's task is supported.

2.2.10.4 Major Projects and Activities

A project type programme was undertaken by the Phaneromeni Gymnasio at a Education Priority zone in which pupils under the guidance of musicians and artists composed their own music as a theme for a short film.

2.2.10.5 Family Concerts

A remarkable innovation of the Education Programmes of the Cyprus State Orchestra are concerts especially performed for parents and children on Saturday afternoons.

2.2.11 ROAD SAFETY EDUCATION PROGRAMME

This is an interdisciplinary programme, taught as a compulsory subject by specially trained teachers. As part of the Road safety plan 2000-2010 the following actions have been put into effect:

- Two books on Road Safety (Pupils' and Teacher's Book) have been sent to all schools.
- Two video tapes on Road Safety have been sent to all schools as visual aids.
- 10 CD –ROMs on Road Safety have been sent to all schools to be used at the Computer Science lesson.
- Books on Road Safety for Primary Schools are in the process of being written.
- There is a Pancyprian Pupils' Competition on Safety for all A form pupils at the Gymnasia.
- Writing books on Road Safety for the Primary Schools has started so as to apply the programme to Primary Schools.

The activities of the programme include, among others, lectures at schools, seminars for teachers, visits to the Road Safety Park for training.

2.2.12 INTRODUCTION OF TECHNOLOGY AT THE LYKEIO

Technology is a relative new lesson at the Secondary Education curricula. As from the school year 2000-01 the lesson of Technology has been introduced at the Eniaio Lykeio to promote technological literacy and develop the pupils' abilities and skills to live and work in a modern technological environment.

Pupils acquire information interdisciplinary achieving them development of skills from communication surveys, analysis, composition and feasibility and development of knowledge related to Energy Control and materials. Through the syllabus and its application the subject promotes:

- Say assurance in tackling technological problem,
- Critical attitude towards technological products and decisions
- Safe and responsible practice in the place of work
- Appreciation of production.

2.2.13 TEACHING DRAMA AT THE ENIAIO LYKEIO

Drama is taught at the Eniaio Lykeio as a special interest or enrichment subject at two levels. The B and C form pupils may choose Drama I taught 2 periods weekly. Drama II, also taught 2 periods weekly, may be chosen only by C form pupils, on condition they had attended the Drama I course in B class.

The general aims of the subject is to offer the opportunity and possibility to the students to:

- Get acquainted with the underlying principles of the function of Drama, in order to develop their aesthetic faculties and discover their probable artistic capabilities.
- Learn about the history of international Drama
- Follow the direct relation of political and social events with developments in Drama throughout history
- Be sensitized about the subject of the art of Drama and become able to discover the virtues of the theatrical genre
- Develop critical thinking
- Become aware of their capabilities for expression through drama texts
- Appreciate the value of drama and become an active audience of performances

Apart from the possibility of choosing the subject of Drama in B and C forms of the Eniaio Lykeio, secondary education pupils (Gymnasia-Lykeia) have the opportunity to deal in Drama through the Programme Creativity-Action-Social Service and within the practice of open activities at school. Thus the pupils can satisfy their particular interest for Drama and develop their abilities by participating in school drama performances, organised by their schools.

2.2.14 INTRODUCTION OF INFORMATION COMMUNICATION TECHNOLOGIES IN SECONDARY EDUCATION

ICT in Second Education is not simply a subject but mainly a tool to upgrade and reform the learning process. It is applied interdisciplinarily and nurtures among pupils skills for.

- Basic knowledge and user ability in ICT
- Programming
- Access to information and creative use for projects and research
- Communication within Cyprus and with bodies abroad
- Learning foreign languages
- Virtual designing
- Use of robotic technology and automatic control Systems.

The Action Plan for materializing the ICT includes establishing infrastructure, adapting curricular and training educationists.

2.2.15 INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY COURSES IN SECONDARY EDUCATION

During the past few years, the syllabi of all computer courses taught at Secondary Education Level schools have been updated in order to meet European standards and current trends. The teaching of these courses at the Gymnasium and the Lyceum levels aims to engage students in meaningful learning using the computer as a problem-solving tool.

In all Lyceums, and depending on the curriculum needs, exist 120 IT labs for the purpose of teaching all computer science courses. Each lab contains 18 computers, printers, scanners, and multimedia hardware. In all Gymnasiums, depending on the curriculum needs, there exist 181 IT labs with 17 computers and a printer per lab. All computers in all IT labs are connected to the Internet via ADSL lines. Furthermore, a video projector is installed in all computer science laboratories. The video projector is connected to the instructor's computer.

In 2006 the eLearning course offered by CISCO Networking Academy was continued to nine Lyceums in Cyprus. Several computer science teachers were trained ahead in order to facilitate the course.

In all Gymnasiums, computer science courses are taught for two periods per week in each of the three grades. The main objective of the courses is for students to cover material of European standards (ECDL). Furthermore, students are taught basic issues of algorithms and programming. In the A' Lyceum grade, the computer science course is taught for two periods per week and the objective is to introduce students to computer science. In B' and C' grades of the Lyceum the main science course is taught for four periods per week and the special interest course is taught for two periods per week in each grade.

Computers are also used in all Lyceums as a teaching tool in courses such as Typing, Physics, Biology, History, and Languages. Furthermore, software and hardware support is provided for all other curriculum disciplines and subjects. One to twenty PCs have been placed in the Typing and the Technology classes of every Lyceum in Cyprus. Additionally, one to six computers have been placed in rooms such as Physics labs, Languages, History, Mathematics, and Multimedia classes, as well as in the Counseling offices. Finally, computers can also be found in all school libraries with Internet access.

2.2.16 eTWINNING EUROPEAN ACTION

eTwinning (<http://www.etwinning.net>) is a framework for schools to collaborate on the Internet with partner schools in other European countries. It is the main action of the European Union's eLearning Program.

eTwinning promotes school collaboration in Europe through the use of Information and Communication Technologies (ICT) by providing support, tools and services to make it easy for schools to form short or long terms partnerships in any subject area.

eTwinning is supported by the European Central Support Service (CSS) and a network of National Support Services based in each European country, like the Cypriot Support Service (<http://www.etwinning.moec.gov.cy>).

In 2006, more than 150 educators from Cyprus were registered in the eTwinning database. Among them, more than 50 educators have developed a partnership with a European school.

2.2.17 ECONOMICS AND COMMERCIAL SUBJECTS

Entrepreneurship in Education

[One of the themes of the school year 2005-2006]

During the school year 2005-06 more than 10 upper high schools organized conferences with subject the Entrepreneurship in Education. These conferences were organized by students where there was a discussion about the findings of a research based on the results of a questionnaire given to students, teachers, parents and economic factor of the school area. The programme of the conference included speeches and suggestions by representatives of the Ministry of Education and Industry and other economic organizations and enterprises on subjects referring to entrepreneurship. The conferences were focused on Small and Medium Enterprises.

Other schools organized lectures where specialists on matters concerning entrepreneurship were invited.

Some schools proceeded to practical implementation of entrepreneurship forming illustrative enterprises. One of them proceeded to exploiting the possibilities of used paper recycling and they demonstrate it during the Educational Exhibition. Another one formed an illustrative shopping centre within the area of school and groups of students formed their own enterprises.

Continued measures:

Teaching and promoting the basic principles and objectives of entrepreneurship and frequent reference on matters referring SMEs within the curriculum of Economics lesson taught 2 periods a week in A' grade of Lyceum and within the curriculum of all other economic courses taught in B' and C' grade of Lyceum.

In addition courses or chapters that are taught in Technical and Vocational Education are followed directly or indirectly toward SMEs.

In addition, there is a direct promotion of entrepreneurship, especially of the entrepreneurial spirit, through the scheme of the working week held every year. All the pupils of 2nd grade of the Lyceum participate in this scheme. Upon completing their attendance and familiarization with the operation of the firm they visit for a complete week, students fill in a special form, where they record their impressions, remarks, comments and other relevant information. This week offers the best opportunity for students to get acquainted with the firms, and everything relevant to them, enabling the development of an entrepreneurial spirit.

2.2.18 THE INTRODUCTION OF THE EURO

Based on the decision of the Council of Ministers, the target date for adopting the euro is 1st of January, 2008, provided that Cyprus, which will be evaluated by the institutional bodies of the European Union (EU) on the basis of the Convergence Report, will fulfil the convergence criteria (known as Maastricht criteria). This date is called E-day. The Ministry of Education and Culture has launched a campaign in order to facilitate the above target by setting among others themes of the school year 2006-2007 the introduction of the euro. The Inspectors of Economics and Commerce with the cooperation of the Ministry of Economics and the Central Bank of Cyprus undertook a big share of the task of changes. They issued a book about euro for the Secondary Education, they organized conferences with subject the euro, they undertook to make the changess, from CY pound to euro, in the teaching Books, e.t.c.

The Central Bank of Cyprus Provided us the following information {valid from 1-1-2008}:

- Withdrawals from bank accounts will be only in euro.
- Automatic Teller Machines (ATMs) will issue only euro.
- All payments (e.g. salaries, pensions and social grants) will be made in euro.
- Prices in shops and commercial enterprises will be expressed in euro. The Cyprus pound equivalent will be also shown for a certain time period. Shops will accept Cyprus pound banknotes and coins for payment until 31.1.2008, but they will give change in euro.
- Banking institutions will exchange Cyprus banknotes and coins for euro, free of charge, at least for the amount of €1.000 for banknotes and €50 for coins, for a period of 6 months from the date of the introduction of the euro, i.e. until 30.6.2008.
- Central Government and Semi-Government Organisations, Government Departments, Local Authorities, Medical Funds and Post Offices will make and accept payments in euro. Cyprus banknotes and coins will also be accepted for payments until 31.1.2008 but any change will be given in euro.

Parallel Circulation period

From the day of the introduction of the euro, and for a period of one month, that is from 1.1.2008 until 31.1.2008, the Cyprus pound will circulate in parallel with euro and will be accepted for cash transactions. This period is referred to as the parallel circulation period. After 31.1.2008, Cyprus banknotes and coins will cease to be legal tender and their acceptance for payments will not be obligatory. However, they will continue to be exchanged for euro at commercial banks for a certain time period which will be decided, as well as at the Central Bank of Cyprus.

Exchange period for the Cyprus pound

The Central Bank of Cyprus will continue to exchange free of charge Cyprus pound coins for euro for a period of 2 years from the day of the introduction of the euro, that is until 31.12.2009, and banknotes for a period of 10 years, that is until 31.12.2017.

Frontloading of banks and business enterprises

In order to facilitate the public during the changeover period the Central Bank will frontload the banks with the necessary quantities in euro before the 1st of January, 2008.

Commercial enterprises, post offices and companies operating vending machines, will be sub-frontloaded with euro through the banking system, before the date of its introduction, in order to be in a position to meet the needs of their customers.

2.2.19 TARGETS OF SCHOOL YEAR 2006-2007

The targets set for the school year 2006-2007 are the following:

1. Interdisciplinary Approach
2. Safety and Health in Education
3. Equal opportunities for the 2 sexes, and all races and nations.
4. Environmental Education
5. The Introduction of the Euro as a monetary unit in Cyprus.

2.3 SECONDARY TECHNICAL AND VOCATIONAL EDUCATION

2.3.1 INNOVATION, REFORM AND STRUCTURAL CHANGES IN EDUCATION

2.3.1.1 Introduction of New Technology

In an effort to keep pace with the rapid technological developments, STVE is in the process of introducing new technology in the STVE curricula. A pilot project has been operating in A' Technical School Lemosos and comprises instructional models in Pneumatics, Programmable Logic Control, CNC Machine Tools, Computer Aided Manufacturing and Robotics.

2.3.1.2 Computers and Information Technology

Upgrading the curricula in Computers and Information Technology is at an advanced stage. The aim of the course is on the one hand to achieve computer literacy for all pupils in STVE and on the other hand to enable them to use Information Technology and Computers as a tool for learning and as a means of accessing information and carrying out various tasks in their adult life.

2.3.1.3 Proposal for Restructuring, Reform and Modernization of STVE

After serious deliberations with social partners and stakeholders (the Technical School Teacher Assemblies, the Technical Instructors Union, the Advisory Body for Technical and Vocational Education) and final approval by the Educational Council, a Proposal for the Restructuring, Reform and Modernization of STVE was submitted and approved by the Council of Ministers of the Republic. This Proposal is being implemented as from September 2001.

The primary reform issues included in the Proposal are:

- The revision of STVE objectives
- The revision of existing and the development of new curricula
- The introduction of new subjects
- The introduction of modern technology
- The restructuring of the STVE Directorate.

2.3.1.4 Establishment of the Evening Technical Schools

In view of the expanding need for life-long education, STVE has established Evening Technical Schools, with the first School operating in Lefkosia as from September 1999.

2.3.1.5 Establishment of new Technical Schools

The steady increase in the number of pupils opting to attend the programmes of STVE has led to the decision of the MOEC to establish new Technical Schools to meet the expanding demand. The establishment of the Avgorou Agricultural and Technical School has already been accomplished, while a new Technical School in Larnaka, that will replace Dianellios Technical School, is expected to operate in January 2007.

2.3.1.6 Experimental Guide in Technical Schools (Vocational direction for A', B', and C' forms)

Both the inspectorate and the teachers of Physics are convinced that the experimental approach of the curriculum of Physics is very important for all the

students and particularly for the students of Vocational Direction of Technical Schools.

An integral element of the teaching of Physics is the application of scientific processes in theory and practice. By doing experiments, the scientific knowledge is constructed in the way real scientists work.

The degree of attendance of students depends on their ability to use the scientific processes, which they are taught in class. No matter whether the students continue their studies or not, the development of skills like observation, measurement, classification, communication, prediction etc., will enrich their comprehension of the world that surrounds them and also their understanding of the way things work.

The scientific processes have decisive importance for the configuration of the personality of the individuals who, as active citizens of the society will play an important role in its future. The scientific processes are of equal importance with the theoretical knowledge that is offered in school.

With that in mind, a team of voluntary teachers from the Technical Schools, with the monitoring of the inspectorate, working on a voluntary base, prepared a series of worksheets in order to be used as supporting material for the experimental approach of the curriculum of Physics in A, B, and C form in Vocational and Technical Schools.

2.3.1.7 Supporting material for the application of the new Curriculum of Physics, Form C of Lyceum and Technical Schools

A team of Physics teachers, monitored by the inspectorate of Physics, undertook a project of preparing auxiliary material in order to support the application of the new physics curriculum, form C of the Lyceum and the Technical Schools. The team worked on a voluntary basis working overtime.

A particular attention was given in cultivating in students the skills of curiosity, critical thinking, analytical thought, problem solving and cooperative skills.

At the same time, along with the suggestion for the use of modern pupil-centered methods of teaching, attention was paid to give the students the opportunity for creative work and for life learning skills as well as for the transfer of knowledge.

The supporting material that was focused in different objectives:

1. Conceptual questions aiming at the comprehension of physical laws and the modification of the alternative perceptions of students.
2. Experimental activities aiming to develop the skills of observation, prediction, recognition of variables, experimentation and derivation of conclusions.
3. Theoretical experimental problems aiming to develop the skills of recognition of variables, planning, mapping out and the use of graphs.
4. Problems aiming to relate science with everyday life and to enable students to handle numerical operations and mathematical expressions in problem solving.
5. Advanced problems aiming to develop the ability to transfer knowledge from one field to another.
6. Ideas for projects aiming to develop the process of inquiring, critical thinking and creativity.

The problems have been grouped in three categories A, B and C.

Category A includes formative, conceptual and qualitative problems, for the comprehension of basic concepts and for the understanding of the applications of Physics in everyday life.

Category B contains formative problems that check and improve the knowledge of students for various physical phenomena, the laws and principles of physics and critical thinking skills.

The problems in category C examine the advanced knowledge of students, check their critical thinking abilities and their abilities to resolve advanced problems.

The supporting material that accompanies the Curriculum is indicative and it was stressed to the teachers of Physics that they can use it to the extent they wish.

It has been developed in order to help and guide them and not to restrict their initiative in teaching.

2.3.1.8 Economic and Commercial subjects

The curricular of economic subjects have been upgraded in the framework of wider objectives educational reforms during the last two years.

At the school year 2005-2006 the effort of inspectors of the sector was focused on the reformation of matter, but also the reduction by 25% of the examined subjects of C grade Lykeio and more specifically in the examined subjects for access in the Higher Education Institutions and Universities.

Besides the content of subjects of economic sector were reviewed in order to become comprehensible or related to Entrepreneurship, one of the objectives of the school year, at all three grades of the Lykeio. Special importance was placed on the European dimension of Entrepreneurship as this has been also determined by the responsible bodies of the European Union in order for the students and the young persons in general, to realise their importance in the European open market, the free competition and the enlargement of transactions.

2.3.1.9 PHYSICS

1. A team of Technical School teachers under the guidance of the inspectorate prepared a series of work-sheets as support material for the experimental promotion of Physics in the A, B and C grades of the Science Section of Technical School.
2. Support material was prepared for the pursuit of the new syllabus for Physics of the C grade of the Eniaio Lykeio and the Technical Schools.

2.4 THE CYPRUS PEDAGOGICAL INSTITUTE

The Cyprus Pedagogical Institute has a developmental mission which covers all levels of education. Its main activities are the in-service training of teachers, the pre-service training of secondary school teachers, educational research and evaluation, educational documentation, educational technology and curriculum development. These activities are implemented through the respective departments of the Institute.

2.4.1 DEPARTMENT OF TEACHER EDUCATION

The Department of Teacher Education offers pre-service and in-service professional training for teachers, deputy head teachers and head teachers.

During the academic year 2005-2006 the following courses were offered:

Pre-service Training Programme for Prospective Teachers of Secondary General & Secondary Technical / Vocational Education

In January 2006, 529 candidate teachers successfully completed the Pre-service Teacher Training Programme that was offered by the Pedagogical Institute during the period of June 2005- January 2006.

In May 2006, a further 288 candidate teachers successfully completed the Pre-service Teacher Training Programme that was offered by the Pedagogical Institute during October 2005- May 2006.

The Pre-service Teacher Training Programme for 2006-2007 (October 2006 – April 2007) started on 2nd October 2006 with 414 candidate teachers attending classes (either morning or afternoon sessions). The introductory meetings were held on the 6th and 7th September 2006.

Educational Administration Seminars

- **In-service Training Programme for Secondary School Headteachers**

In May 2006 15 Secondary School Headteachers completed the course.

- **In-service Training Programme for Secondary School Deputy Headteachers**

In May 2006 164 Secondary School Deputy Headteachers completed the course.

- **In-service Training Programme for Primary School Headteachers**

In March 2006 41 Primary School Headteachers completed the course.

- **Training Programme for Teachers of Greek Origin from the Black Sea Countries**

The Training Programme for Teachers of Greek Origin from the Black Sea Countries began on the 16th January 2006 with 11 participants: 2 from Russia, one from Bulgaria and eight from Marioupolis (Ukraine).

- **Non-compulsory Seminars for Pre-Primary, Primary and Secondary School Teachers**

One thousand five hundred (1500) teachers and educational administrators from all levels of education attended 93 seminars which took place in five centers (Lefkosia, Lemesos, Larnaka, Paphos and Paralimni) within the Optional Seminars Programme. Participants were given the opportunity to work on theoretical and practical aspects of various educational topics, to engage in creative and reflective activities and to share good practices.

- **School-Based Seminars**

During the academic year 2005-2006 several seminars for teachers and seminars for parents were conducted at schools around Cyprus. The subjects of these seminars dealt directly with the education of the students. During the seminars teachers and parents were able to exchange viewpoints with the speakers.

- **Other Seminars**

During 2006 the following seminars were also organized:

DATE	TITLE
10-11 February 2006	12th Seminar on Ancient Cyprus Literacy
8-10 March 2006	Attention Deficit Disorder – The role of the school
22-23 March 2006	Supportive Chemistry Software for Secondary Education
24 March 2006	The Finnish Educational System
27-30 March 2006	Training for National Exam Item-writers (in cooperation with the British Council)
3-6 May 2006	Online Teacher Communities: Moving Towards Education and Training 2010
3-4 May 2006	Nutrition in preschool age
11 May 2006	The use of the puppet theatre at preschool education
12 May 2006	European Network on Teacher Education Policies "Teacher Evaluation"
26-28 May 2006	Learning Technologies in the Language Classroom: A step closer to the future" (in cooperation with the University of Cyprus and IATEFL)
16 June 2006	ICT Applications – Open learning Tools in Education
17-18 June 2006	The role of Environmental Study Centres in promoting Environmental Education at School

- **ICT Teacher Training**

During 2006, the Institute of Education, Cyprus, continued to offer training programmes in Information Technology to teachers of all levels, as follows:

- Basic Skills
- Basic Skills and Spreadsheets/Databases
- Basic Skills and ICT Educational Applications

- **Environmental Education Programmes**

During 2006 the PI continued a number of major environmental education programmes (LeAF-Learning About Forests, Forest net-Nature Trails, The Green Corners of my Neighbourhood).

Another new programme that has been introduced in 2005 is at The Centre of Environmental Education at Pedoulas village. In 2006 the center offered one-day, two-day, and three-day environmental education programmes to children of Cyprus primary and secondary schools as well as from foreign universities.

Furthermore, new environmental education programmes were launched with the participation of parents and the local community.

2.4.2 DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATIONAL DOCUMENTATION

The Department of Educational Documentation contributes to the developmental role of the Pedagogical Institute and focuses on the valid and contemporary informing of educators through its own publications and the running of the Institute's Library.

Specifically, the activities of the Department are described below:

- **Administration of Library Services**

The Pedagogical Institute Library continues to offer services to educators from all levels of education. A significant number of educators and students used reference books and other materials and/or books. Services associated with the online card catalogue of the Institute's Library were offered as well. In 2006 the Library was enriched with a significant number of new books, periodicals, audiotapes, CD-ROMS, videotapes, and information technology programmes. Furthermore, the library now offers electronic access to over 1000 educational journals.

- **Publications**

The Pedagogical Institute continued to help seminar participants with the publication of books offering contemporary and valid materials for research and reference. The following new books were published:

- a) Evaluation of a School-Unit, Conference Proceedings
- b) The teaching of the Ancient Greek Language and Civilisation, Conference Proceedings of the Council of Europe 9th Seminar
- c) Introduction to ICT., Study notes
- d) Intercultural Education and the Teaching of Greek as a Second Language, Conference Proceedings

Moreover, the 7th and 8th issues of the PI magazine entitled 'Cyprus Pedagogical Institute Bulletin' were published. The new edition includes articles related to general and more specific didactic, as well as subjects related to the Pedagogical Institute Programmes. The articles were produced mainly by the Pedagogical Institute staff. The Bulletin has been circulated to schools, free of charge.

2.4.3 DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATIONAL TECHNOLOGY

In 2006 the staff of the department of Educational Technology offered pre-service and in-service training programmes to teachers. These focused on the use of audio-visual aids and educational technology equipment.

- **Production of Audio-Visual Teaching Material**

In 2006 the staff of the department of Educational Technology offered pre-service and in-service training programmes to teachers. These focused on the use of audio-visual aids and educational technology equipment.

- "Kavafis' home"
- "Papdiamantis's home"
- "The Church of Ayios Mamas in Louvaras"
- "The Church of Ayia Paraskevi in Askas"

Moreover, the preparation of two new films is in progress. These films are:

- "Eleni" by Seferis
- "The light in Dionyisios Solomos poetry"
- **Co-operation and Co-production of films with the Educational television of Greece**
- Cooperation is in progress with the Greek Educational television at the level of co-production of educational programmes.

2.4.4 DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATIONAL RESEARCH AND EVALUATION

During 2006 the Pedagogical Institute's Department of Educational Research and Evaluation completed research projects which had already been in progress and planned new research and evaluation projects according to needs and priorities set by the Ministry of Education and Culture.

Some of the research projects undertaken by the PI during 2006 are:

- Evaluation of the induction of special needs children in mainstream state schools (in cooperation with the University of Cyprus)
- Literacy programme for the final year of primary school (cooperation with the University of Cyprus and the Working Group for the Promotion of Literacy)
- Briefing meetings and intervention programmes for Social and Emotional Education (in cooperation with the University of Athens)
- Evaluation of the training programme for teachers of Greek origin from the Black Sea Countries (after a decision of the Council of Ministers)
- Evaluation of the Pre-service training programme for Secondary School teachers
- Evaluation of the ICT in-service training programmes
- Evaluation of the compulsory and non-compulsory seminars offered by the Pedagogical Institute

PARTICIPATION IN EUROPEAN PROGRAMMES

3.1 SOCRATES NATIONAL COORDINATION UNIT

The SOCRATES Programme is the Community action programme founded by the European Commission of the European Union in 1995 to act as the connecting link among the European countries in the field of education.

Cyprus joined the Programme on 1st November 1997. The Republic of Cyprus responded to the challenge by setting up the Socrates National Coordination Unit which functions within the structure of the Ministry of Education and Culture as the National Agency commissioned to manage and implement the Programme.

In view of promoting cooperation between institutions of pre-primary, primary, secondary, tertiary and adult education with respective European institutions, the SOCRATES Programme has initiated activities involving the full range of education bodies in order to establish the European dimension and improve quality in education. The Programme aims at offering equal opportunities in education to children and adults alike, as well as to persons with special needs, regardless of race, creed, sex, language or profession. Moreover, it aims at abolishing racism and xenophobia at all levels of society and at promoting the less widely used languages. To implement these goals the SOCRATES Programme has laid the foundations for Lifelong Learning as well as Open and Distance Learning, and aspired to develop the vision of a "Europe of Knowledge". These goals have become the basis of the SOCRATES Phase II Programme in force between 1st January 2000 and 31st December 2006.

The following activities were carried out during 2005-2006 and 2006-2007:

3.1.1 COMENIUS – SCHOOL EDUCATION

1. COMENIUS 1 – SCHOOL PARTNERSHIPS

In 2005-06, eighty-seven public and private schools of pre-primary, primary and secondary education as well as special schools participated in School Projects, Language Projects and School Development Projects covering a variety of thematic areas. In 2006-07, eighty-nine schools have been approved to participate in school partnerships. Moreover, nine schools in 2005-06 and twenty-one schools in 2006-07 participated in Contact Seminars and Preparatory Visits for the development of future projects.

2. COMENIUS 2.2 – TRAINING FOR SCHOOL EDUCATION STAFF

Moreover, in 2005-06 five future language teachers were awarded grants to spend four to eight months as Comenius Language Assistants in other European countries. Furthermore, eight schools in Cyprus hosted Language Assistants from other European countries.

3. COMENIUS 2.2.C – IN-SERVICE TRAINING

In 2005-06, forty-one educationalists from all levels of school education participated in various In-service Training courses in different European countries. The total amount granted was 64.550,00 euros. For 2006-07 fifty-nine individual grants have

been awarded to staff involved in school education in order to attend In-service Training courses. The total amount granted was 99.120,00 euros.

3.1.2 ERASMUS – TERTIARY EDUCATION

The Cyprus Higher Education Institutions that have the Erasmus University Charter and are eligible to participate in the Programme are 14. 10 of these institutions are actively involved in the activities of Erasmus and mobility.

It is estimated that during the academic year 2005-06, 133 outgoing students and 65 outgoing teachers were granted by Erasmus and hosted in European Institutions. The European Commission budget absorbed was 457.889 Euro.

The mobility activities for 2005-06 have been completed at the end of September 2006 and the final reports have not been formally submitted by the Higher Education Institutions as yet.

3.1.3 GRUNDTVIG – ADULT EDUCATION AND OTHER EDUCATIONAL PATHWAYS

GRUNDTVIG 2 – LEARNING PARTNERSHIPS

For 2005-06, 25 private and public organizations that deal with Adult Education participated in Grundtvig 2 - Learning Partnerships.

For 2006-07, 32 Learning Partnerships have been developed by both private and public institutions. The type of participating institutions are as follows:

- Non Governmental organization
- Local Authorities
- Women Associations
- Adult Education Centers
- Parents Associations
- Institutions Dealing with People with special needs
- Pedagogical Institutes and other Educational Institutions.
- Prison Departments
- Cultural Organizations
- Municipalities
- Local Authorities
- State Institutes
- Youth Centers
- Evening Schools

Institutions covered various topics such as parental education, active citizenship, environmental issues, women and politics, ICT, immigrants, social inclusion, culture, languages.

The total amount granted for 2006-07 was 193.500 Euro.

GRUNDTVIG 2 - PREPARATORY VISITS

For 2005-06, 10 public and private institutions were approved to participate in Grundtvig 2 Preparatory Visits and Contact Seminars in order to help institutions wishing to establish a Grundtvig Partnership to find suitable partner institution. The total amount granted was 9.544 Euro.

During 2006-07, 9 institutions have been approved to participate in Grundtvig 2 Preparatory Visits. The amount allocated was 9.218 Euro. The action is still in process.

GRUNDTVIG 3 – INDIVIDUAL TRAINING GRANTS FOR ADULT EDUCATION STAFF

Concerning Grundtvig 3 - Individual Training Grants for Adult Education Staff, for 2005-2006, nineteen individual grants were awarded. The total amount granted was 22.775,00. For 2006-07, eight individual grants were awarded. The total amount granted was 11.235,00.

3.1.4 MINERVA – OPEN AND DISTANCE LEARNING

In 2006 two proposals under the Coordination of Cyprus Institutions were approved at the pre-proposed phase but were rejected at the final (fall proposal) phase.

3.1.5 ARION – STUDY VISITS

In 2005-06 eight decision makers have been offered grants to participate in several study visits. The same number of participants has been approved for the year 2006-07. In addition, for the first time two study visits will be organized in Cyprus in Spring 2007: One by the Department of Secondary Education and the other by the Pedagogical Institute.

3.1.6 EURYDICE NETWORK

The tasks carried out/will be carried out are as follows:

2006-07

1. Update of National Dossier 2007
2. "Focus on the Structure of Higher Education-2007"
3. "Key Data on Higher Education-2007"
4. "Governance in Higher Education"
5. "Glossary 5-Formal Bodies in Higher Education"
6. "Promoting all forms of giftedness"
7. "Adult Education"
8. "Organization of School Time 2006-07"
9. "Equity in Education"
10. Data Renewal of Electronic Publications
 - a. National Summary Sheets on Education Systems

3.1.7 EUROPEAN LANGUAGE LABEL

The Ministry of Education and Culture organized a 'European Language Label' competition 2006 in 2005-06 among individuals, Primary, Secondary, and Upper Secondary Schools on the topic: 'Qualitative and Quantitative Development of Teaching and Learning Languages'. A Committee of experts evaluated the projects and 10 'European Labels' have been awarded.

In 2006-07 the Ministry of Education and Culture is organizing a similar competition for 2007 on the topic "Quantitative Development of Teaching and Learning Languages – Innovative Approaches in Teaching".

3.1.8 PREPARATORY VISITS FOR CENTRALIZED ACTIONS

Beyond the above actions, the Socrates National Coordination Unit, promotes the development of transnational cooperation of various educational and other institutions that work in the field of formal and informal education, within the framework of Centralized Actions. Centralized Actions are managed centrally by the European Union. The involved organizations which can be either coordinating or partner institutions, participate in the following centralized Actions: ERASMUS, COMENIUS 2.1, COMENIUS 3, GRUNDTVIG 1, GRUNDTVIG 4, LINGUA 1, LINGUA 2 and MINERVA. For 2004-06, eighteen grants were awarded for the participation in Preparatory Visits for Centralised Actions. The total amount granted was 17.918,00 euros.

3.2 EUROPE AT SCHOOL (E.A.S)

Art, Essay, Internet and Project Competition

Purpose and Competition Activities

The Europe at School competition operates under the auspices of the Council of Europe, the European Parliament, the European Commission for Educational Matters and the Commission for Cultural Affairs and is conducted within the framework of the general policy of the Ministry of Education and Culture as part of the harmonisation process with European institutions. The specific activities of the competition include:

- Competition in the form of Essay Writing.
- Competition in the form of Group Projects.
- Art Competition.
- Competition on the Internet – the "Internet Award Scheme" aiming at the production of a common website designed by students of three European countries.
- Meetings of the prize-winners in several European countries (European Youth Gatherings).

The aim of the competition is to encourage students to become actively involved in matters regarding European ideals and principles, to promote cooperation between students from Europe of all educational levels (Primary, Secondary, Technical) and to develop the feeling of European identity.

The general motto of the 53rd Europe at School competition was "The Spirit of Partnership in Europe". The competition of the Essay Writing was conducted, this year, on a voluntary basis. Still, participation was wide and the schools with the highest number of participants were awarded special diplomas. The Group Project competition was redefined and broadened in order to encourage students to develop their creativity using modern technology. Students were given the opportunity to compete with a song, video or DVD production, research based on questionnaires or interviews and different kinds of fabrication.

The Art competition in Primary Education was conducted in the same way as in the previous years.

Students of Secondary Education schools, who wanted to participate in the competition, passed through a selection process. The selected students from all over Cyprus, gathered at particular school-centers and competed under the invigilation of art teachers on specific dates.

The competition for the Essay and the Projects was announced on October 19th 2006, whereas the Internet Award Scheme on September 16th 2006. Despite the fact that the Essay competition was optional, participation of Cypriot students was all-embracing. Almost every school of the public and private sector participated in the Essay Writing, while 60 high schools and 28 lyceums participated in the Project competition. Even more, two schools of Primary and eight schools of Secondary Education participated in the Internet Award Scheme.

The Essay Writing competition took place on February 3rd 2006. The Art competition was conducted under the same procedures as in the year 2004-2005 and took place from April 3rd - 7th 2006 for students of Secondary Education.

The prize winners' ceremony, sponsored by Laiki Bank, was held at Latsia Municipal Theatre on May 17th.. The exhibition of the prize awarded paintings lasted from May 16th - 19th also at Latsia Municipal Theatre.

Fifteen prizewinners joined Youth Gatherings last summer, held in Cyprus and other European countries. The Limassol gathering (July 24-30) was attended by 21 students from 11 European countries.

The third prize of the Internet Award Scheme was awarded to "Forum Private School" along with teams from Romania and Turkey.

3.3 SCHOOL LINKS AND EXCHANGES - INTERNATIONAL PUPILS CONFERENCE

A substantial number of secondary Education Schools participate in various programmes of School Links and Exchanges and at international Pupils' Conferences organized by the Council of Europe, aiming at promoting cooperation between schools from various countries and enhancing understanding among young people in a peaceful world, free from prejudices and discrimination.

4. OTHER ACTIVITIES

4.1 THE YOUTH PARLIAMENT PROGRAMME – 11th SESSION 2005-2006

At the 10th session of the youth parliament held in Athens on 1-4 September 2006 20 «Young Members of Parliament» from Cyprus expressed their views on major issues.

The 20 youths were selected by a special committee which evaluated their written essays. 1464 pupils from the B form of the Public Secondary and Technical Education as well as from the Private Education submitted entries for the selection.

4.2 STATE INSTITUTES FOR FURTHER EDUCATION

The State Institutes for Further Education have been providing courses to pupils and adults since 1960, both in urban and rural areas. Courses available include foreign languages, Greek for foreigners, Accounting, Computer Studies and preparatory courses for the Cyprus and Greek Universities.

Moreover, free support lessons are given to children of repatriate or enclaved Cypriots and Greeks from the former Soviet Union Republics, as well as Greek for Turkish Cypriots and Turkish for Greek Cypriots are offered free of charge.

During the school year 2005-2006 more than 19.000 students attended 40 State Institutes throughout Cyprus.

4.3 SPORT EVENTS

4.3.1 THE ATHLETES' SCHOOL

Regional and Pancyprian Sport events were held both at Gymnasio and Lykeio Level. Pupils who excelled took part in Panhellenic and International events with notable successes.

In the framework of the Education Reform the Ministry of Education and Culture established a pilot programme of Sports section at the A grade of the Lykeio. The institution was initiated in October 2006 at 2 Lykeia. The innovation aims at supporting pupil who wish to pursue a sports career.

4.4 LANGUAGE POLICY IN CYPRUS

The Ministry of Education and Culture set up a committee for the language policy in Cyprus following communications with and directions by the Council of Europe. The procedure of meetings and consultations culminated in the Country Report Cyprus. The Final Report jointly dran up by the respective committees of the Council of

Europe and the Ministry of Education and Culture will be an official document duly disseminated.

4.5 INTERNATIONAL EDUCATION FAIR 2006

The Ministry of Education and Culture in cooperation with the State Fair Authority held the 13th International Education Fair between 2-5 March 2006 at the State Fair premises in Lefkosia. The subject of the Fair was: «Quality Education in the Modern Society of Knowledge». The Ministry of Education and Culture participated with its own stall. The overall work of the various Departments and Services of the Ministry of Education and Culture was presented through the topic units:

- Culture
- Life Long Learning
- In-service Training
- Study Programmes
- Innovations
- Publications
- School Buildings
- Sports
- United Europe

Visitors at the stall of the Ministry of Education and Culture were able to get to know about innovations in the various fields of education and be briefed on subjects of career guidance and studies.

Visitors to the International Fair included organised groups of the B and C forms of all the Lykeia, parents, students and professionals who deal in education.

4.6 PHYSICS

The Ministry of Education and Culture in cooperation with the University of Cyprus and the California State University, Los Angeles organised an Information Day on the topic «Encouraging Young Women Towards Engineering and Applied Sciences» with the framework of the international Conference Med/Isic.

Seminars and modal Lessons were conducted by visiting professors from the University of Massachusetts.

A pilot programme has been introduced on teaching Physics in the B from of the Lykeio, in Cooperation with the University of Surrey.

4.7 PANCYPRIAN SCHOOL CONTEST OF CONTEMPORARY AND ANCIENT DRAMA IN MEMORY OF PANAYIOTIS SERGIS

The practice of the Pancyprian School Theatre Contest which is organised jointly by the Ministry of Education and Culture and The Cyprus Theatre Organization and sponsored by the Cultural Foundation of the Bank of Cyprus is an institution that has become a standard practice of high status as each year the number of participating

school is increased and the quality of the performances improved. As of 2002 performances of Ancient Drama have been added to the School Theatre Contest while the best performance participates at the Panhellenic ancient Drama contest. In addition as of 2002 the contest is dedicated to the memory of Panayiotis Sergis, who, believing that School Theatre is an indispensable part of the education system, worked hard in his capacity of Higher Cultural Officer to establish school theatre as an education means.

Through Drama pupils avail of the opportunity to study human character and get better insight into human nature. In addition they learn to be cooperative, disciplined, develop their imagination and organisational skills, enjoy expression, communication and creativity.

The role of this lofty heritage of the ancient Greek spirit is of supreme importance in our contemporary society where extreme materialism, consumerism and easy living is at a premium while spiritual quests are constantly degraded. This unique product of Greek civilization is widely acclaimed as having great pedagogical value. Involvement in the domain of drama highly contributes towards upgrading the quality of contemporary life. Drama as a genuine product of knowledge and literature educates, gives food for thought, nurtures attitudes ready to cope with the challenges of our times. Theatrical culture constitutes an essential part of forming an integral personality.

The 17th Pancyprian School Theatre and Ancient Drama Contest was conducted between the 13th and 31st March 2006 with the participation of a total of 56 schools 47 of which presented a performance of contemporary drama while 9 schools performed Ancient Drama.

The prize for the Best Performance of the Contemporary Theatre was awarded equally to the English School in Lefkosia which staged Pirandello's "Six Characters Seek an Author" and the Lykeio Kokkinohorion Photi Pitta which stages Wassermann's "The Man from Manche". The English School in Lefkosia represented Cyprus at the Panhellenic Week of Cultural Expression after drawing lots of the two schools.

The prize for the Best Performance of the Ancient Drama Contest was awarded to the Lykeio Aghiou Georgiou Lakatameias which represented Cyprus at the Panhellenic Week of Cultural Expression with a performance of Aristophanes' "Thesmophoriazouses".

4.8 PANCYPRIAN AND INTERNATIONAL CONTESTS

The Secondary Education Schools participated in a number of School, pancyprian and international contests the most indicative of which are:

- Pupil competition of Essay Writing among all C grade pupils of Secondary and Technical Schools held by the Embassy of Greece
- The Europe at School Contest
- The Contest for participation and the Youth Parliament
- Pancyprian and International Contests in Physics
- Pancyprian and International Contests in Mathematics
- The Chemistry Olympiad

- Informatics Contests: Pancyprian, Balkoiniad, International Olympiad.
- Pancyprian School Contest in French
- Pancyprian School Contemporary and Ancient/Drama Contest
- European Contest on “Knowledge and understanding of Classical Greek Language and Ancient Greek Civilization
- Balkan Olympiad in Ecology

5. OTHER SERVICES

5.1 THE EDUCATIONAL PSYCHOLOGY SERVICE

The Educational Psychology Service (EPS) is an interdepartmental service answerable to the Director General of the Ministry.

Its mission is to protect and promote mental health and to facilitate learning and development in all persons who participate in the educational system, from preschool to the end of secondary education.

Generally, the work of the service consists of:

- Individual referrals from schools and from the District Committees according to the Law (The education and Training of children with Special Needs Law 1999 (113 / 1999). The Educational Psychologist provides consultation to the parents and educators, assessment and evaluation of individual students and develops the necessary interventions within the school system. During the 2005-2006 school year, the EPS worked with 2,970 individual cases of school children.
- Development and implementation of preventive and supportive programmes in schools according to need.

During the last years and especially the year (2005-2006) there is a noticeable shift towards the development and implementation of programmes that are preventive as well as therapeutic within the schools. These programmes last at least one academic year and activities are initiated to involve the Educational Psychologist, the educators, the administrators of schools as well as the parents.

During the past academic year there has been an increase in the number of activities concerning interventions in schools, with the general population being the target group and not necessarily those who already face problems.

The subject of the above interventions had to do with the worries and the problems that the youngsters are facing today and were in the form of lectures, seminars, and workshops.

Through these programmes a greater number of students can be served and mental health can be promoted for the school population in general.

The future policy intention, aims to a wider organization and implementation of preventive programmes and interventions for the school population and the others involved.

To achieve these objectives, the Service is constantly involved in research programmes, seminars and discussions and cooperates with partners in the educational system and social groups and institutions within the community.

5.2 SCHOOL CLERKS SERVICE

The Department of School Clerks service, headed by the First Clerk operates under the jurisdiction of the Permanent Secretary of the Ministry of Education and Culture and forms part of the Civil Service, it is a service of applied managerial presence imperative for and totally compatible with the aims of the state for sustainable development of education.

It is responsible for planning, appointing and managing the School Clerks of 102 secondary education schools. 5 evening schools, 44 School Boards, 41 store institutes for Further Education and the Library of the Pedagogical Institute.

The Service keeps records for all the School Clerks (about 458) which comprise, among others, Confidential Reports, Personal Records and Leave Records. It monitors and controls the posts and arranges for appointments for vacant posts. It also oversees leaves, sick or maternity leaves and retirement.

The Service puts forward proposals to the permanent secretary for better staffing of the services it is responsible for. It also draws up proposals to the council of ministers for appointment of additional staff to meet needs and the annual budget for extra personnel.

As from June 2005 the service has undertaken the Appointment Procedure for Temporary Clerks it sets criteria, assesses the applications, draws up and publicises preliminary and final lists and proceeds to appointments (about 130) of Temporary Clerks according to submitted heads.

During the period 2005-2006 the following activities took place:

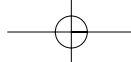
- a) In-service training Day for the clerks of the State Institutes for Further Education.
- b) Seminars for the School clerks on the school Programme Avakio.
- c) One-day seminars for the Clerks of the School Boards on Financial management of School Boards.
- d) Seminars on issues of Computer Science, for Clerks Librarians by the Pedagogical Institute. Total duration: 36 hours.

5.5 STORE

The main objective of the Ministry of Education and Culture Store is the dispatching of scholastic stationery to the public schools. Also the store assists all the schools throughout the year.

In co-operation with all the parties concerned (C.D.U., Directors, DSTE, Inspectors) it invites tenders for all the items that are sent to schools: books, stationery, material for Art, Music, Gymnastic, Chemistry, Physics, Biology, Home Economics, Teaching methodology, Design and Technology etc.)

Meetings are then held with the successful tenderers and arrangements are made for the receiving and storing of all the items until they are dispatched to schools. The store is responsible for the follow-up of the contracts and has to ensure that all the terms and conditions are fully met. The store works in close co-operation with the Accounts Department of the Ministry of Education and makes arrangements so that the suppliers are paid soon after they deliver the items ordered.



The preparation of dispatches is carried out within the Store in close co-operation with the schools, school boards and community councils.

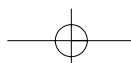
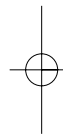
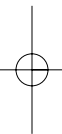
The Store prepares a timetable and undertakes the responsibility to serve the needs of all DSTE, public schools, nursery schools and the community schools after receiving their orders.

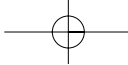
The delivery of the required items in each district is undertaken by a transporter under contract and a store employee.

Books donated by various authors and approved by the Ministry of Education are delivered by post to school libraries.

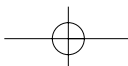
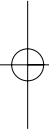
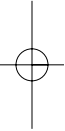
Apart from the above, the Store sells stationery, art material and teaching methods to all public schools and approved private schools. It also sells books published by C.D.U. to individuals.

During the current year the Store has attended to approximately 1000 orders.





PART B
CULTURE



1. CULTURAL SERVICES

The first service of the Ministry of Education and Culture exclusively responsible for culture was created in 1965 under the name of Cultural Service. In 1992, after being upgraded to department it was renamed the Department of Cultural Services.

The Cultural Services reflect the state's cultural policy regarding contemporary culture. It plays a significant role in shaping the local cultural policy as it is responsible for the development of Letters and Arts in Cyprus, for informing and involving the public in cultural activities and for the promotion of our cultural achievements overseas.

For the financing of its development policy the Cultural Services had in 2006 a budget of CYP 7, 824,006. The activities of the Cultural Services during that year present the following picture:

1.1 LETTERS

1.1.1 PUBLICATIONS OF WORKS ON LITERATURE, HISTORY, PHILOLOGY AND ART

In the area of Letters, the Cultural Services published the collection of poems "Alisahni" by Thecla Karitevli in the series New Cypriot Writers and the volume "Terra cotta : Traditional Pottery from Nicosia" in the series Folk Art.

The following three issues of the review CYPRUS TODAY were also published:

- Vol. XLIV, No.1, January – March 2006
- Vol. XLIV, No.2, April – June 2006
- Vol. XLIV, No.3, July – September 2006
- Vol. XLIV, No. 4, September - December 2006

1.1.2 CONSIGNMENTS OF CYPRUS LITERARY AND CYPROLOGICAL BOOKS ABROAD

The Cultural Services sent a large number of literary books and other publications of general interest to cultural institutions and foundations, universities, libraries and Embassies of the Republic of Cyprus with the purpose of projecting Cyprus adequately through the works of its own writers. Furthermore, a large number of books were also sent to hospitals in Cyprus and to the Central Prison.

1.1.3 BOOK EXHIBITIONS IN CYPRUS AND ABROAD

In an effort to project internationally the Cyprus publications and to promote them abroad, the Cultural Services subsidize the Association of Cypriot Book Publishers to enable them to participate in International book fairs.

During the current year 2006, the Cultural Services subsidized the above mentioned Association to participate in the Thessalonica International Book Fair. Within the

framework of this exhibition, a luxurious catalogue of the most significant Cypriot publications of the last years was published.

The Cultural Services also subsidized the same Association for the organization of Cyprus' participation in the International Book Fairs of London, Frankfurt and Moscow, as well as the Book Fairs at the Dionysiou Areopagitou pedestrian precinct in Athens.

1.1.4 SUBSIDIZATION OF PUBLICATIONS

With the purpose of encouraging publishing houses and non-profit organizations that have as clear intention, according to their memorandum, the publishing of books, the Cultural Services, following suggestions by the Advisory Committee for Subsidizing Publications, subsidized 130 publications covering a wide range of Cyprological topics during 2006.

1.1.5 ADVERTISMENT - BOOK PROMOTION

Within the framework of the efforts to increase readership and promote the circulation of books, the Cultural Services supported an advertising campaign and the screening of a promotional film on books during December 2006.

1.1.6 STATE, MUNICIPAL, COMMUNITY, SCHOOL AND TRAVELLING LIBRARIES

In 2006, thirteen Municipal Libraries received technical assistance (staff training) in matters of classification – cataloguing – filing of material as well as in the field of computerization, based on the ABEKT system. Six of the Municipal Libraries have received the new version of ABEKT, ABEKT 5.5 which functions as WINDOWS 2000 and which has a networking capacity.

Technical assistance was also provided to new, as well as old Community Libraries which are upgraded. At 11 of these, the system ABEKT 4 has been implemented.

During being 2006 three new Municipal Libraries started functioning, resulting in their numbers now reaching 28. Also, while two new Community Libraries have begun to function, three older Community Libraries have upgraded their material.

The Elpinikios Library, which began to function in April 2001, continues to serve the public of its area and its computerization with the ABEKT 5.5 system is continuing.

As in previous years, in 2006 increased technical assistance was provided to School Libraries of Secondary and Primary Education and to libraries of Government Departments as well. The training courses and seminars on the book cataloguing as well as seminars on the implementation of ABEKT system sponsored by the Cultural Services continued in 2006.

A total of 40 libraries have implemented the new version of ABEKT 5.5

In 2006, the Traveling Library continued its functioning in the Paphos district.

1.1.7 SUBSIDIZATION OF CULTURAL EVENTS

The Cultural Services subsidize a number of agencies to organize literary events in Cyprus and abroad.

In 2006, Cyprus participated in important International symposia such as the 5th Literary Forum on "Small Languages, Great Literatures" held within the framework of the International Book Fair in Leipzig between 17th – 20th March. Cyprus was represented by the writers Andreas Maloris and George Christodoulides.

Furthermore, at the great literary Symposium held in Lodeve, France, Cyprus was represented by the poet Nasa Patapiou.

Panicos and Elli Paionidou represented Cyprus at the International Symposium of Writers in Bulgaria, which was organized by the Foundation of Slavic Studies, while Evridiki Pericleous-Papadopoulou represented Cyprus in exhibitions about Cypriot literature at the University of Johannesburg.

1.1.8 STATE LITERARY PRIZES AND PRIZES FOR CHILDREN'S / YOUTH LITERATURE AND ILLUSTRATION

With the aim of supporting the literary work of Cypriot writers, the Cultural Services implement the system of State Prizes for Literature and prizes for Children and Youth Literature and Book Illustration. Works on the following forms are awarded prizes:

a) poetry, b) short stories, c) novel, d) essay – literary study, e) children's literature, f) Youth literature, g) book illustration for children and young persons. Moreover, the prize for Young Writer is awarded to those under the age of thirty. From this year, the Prize Chronicle – Testimony is also included and adopted in the State Literary Awards

In 2006, the following prizes were given for works published in the year 2005:

- **Poetry:**
Phrosoula Kolossiati: "When the Flamingoes Go Away"
Evridiki Pericleous – Papadopoulou: "A Narration about Chora Nicosia"
- **Essay - Study:**
Yannis Katsouris: "The Theatre in Cyprus"
Hambis Tsangaris: "The Leprechauns and the Game" (Oi kalikanjaroi tzai to paiximin)
- **Chronicle - Testimony:**
Stella Spyrou: "In Kyrenia on an Angel's Wing"
- **Children's Literature:**
Eleni Artemiou – Photiadou: "In the Land of Sunshine"
- **Youth Literature:**
Maria Olympiou: "Dangerous Journalistic Mission"
- **Book Illustration:**
Androula Empedocleous for the illustration of the book "The Elephant and his Trunk and Other Stories ...".

1.1.9 PRIZES FOR EXCELLENCE IN LETTERS, ARTS AND SCIENCES

The Prize for Excellence in Letters, the Arts and Sciences is the highest honour the State awards to intellectuals and scientists. It is a prize which is awarded for the long contribution of an intellectual or a scientist during his/her course so far and for his/her contribution to the cultural upgrading and development of scientific research.

1.1.10 ANNUAL HONORARY GRANTS

The annual honorary grants were awarded to men of letters and the arts for their long contribution and their creative work. The grants are awarded at the suggestion of special Advisory Committees.

1.1.11 GRATIS MONTHLY GRANTS.

This monthly gratis grant is given to intellectuals and artists who have made a valuable contribution in their field of work. The grant is given on the basis of financial and age criteria .In 2006, 79 persons received this grant.

1.1.12 CULTURAL MAGAZINES AND NEWSPAPERS

The Cultural Services strengthen the efforts of publishers of cultural and literary magazines and newspapers by granting a subsidy on an annual basis. In 2006, a total of 40 such magazines and newspapers were subsidized.

1.1.13 ORGANISATION OF SYMPOSIA – SEMINARS – LITERARY COMMEMORATIVE EVENTS

In October 2006 a series of exhibitions regarding Nicos Nicolaides was organized in the light of the completion of fifty years since his death. Included was a literary Symposium at which presentations were made by the following university professors and researchers of his work: Lena Arambatsidou, Vasilis Vasiliades, Alexis Ziras, Anna Katsiyiannis, George Kehagioglou, Filothei Kolitsi, Elpida Kouloumbri, Eleni Nikita, Costas Nicolaides, Lefteris Papaleondiou, Maria Polihrona, Theodosios Pylarinos, Valentinos Charalambous, Andreas Hadjisavvas.

The Symposium was organized with the cooperation of the Limassol Coordinative Council of Cultural Bodies, the Municipality of Limassol, the Cyprus National Society of Greek Writers, the Cyprus Union of Writers, the Pafos Society of Writers, the 'Vasilis Michaelides' Society of Writers, the Cyprus Association of Greek Philologists and the Cyprus – Egypt Friendship Association 'Nicos Nicolaides'.

Furthermore, the Cultural Services of the Ministry staged Nicos Nicolaides novel 'Beyond Good and Evil' in cooperation with the Theatre 'Ena'. The premiere of the work took place on the 29th of October in Lemessos, directed by Andreas Christodoulides and theatrical scenery by Irena Ioannidou – Adamidou. Performances were also undertaken in Lefkosia, Larnaca and Pafos.

Moreover, the Cultural Services, in cooperation with the Department of Philosophy of the University of Athens, the Pedagogical Institute, the Supervisors of Philology, the Cyprus Association of Greek Philologists 'Stasinos' and the Department of Classical Studies and Philosophy of the University of Cyprus, organized the Seminar of Ancient Cypriot Letters with subject 'Archaic Epic Poetry of Cyprus beneath the shadow of Homer'.

1.1.14 GREEK BOOK FAIR

With the financial support of the Cultural Services the Cyprus Booksellers' Association successfully organized the 10th Greek Book Fair at the State Exhibition Centre in March and April. About 6,000 titles of publications from most publishing houses in Greece as well as Cypriot publications of recent years were present. The

exhibition was organized in cooperation with the Pan-Hellenic Federation of Publishers and Booksellers. Within the framework of the exhibition a variety of exhibits, such as book presentations of Greek and Cypriot writers, lectures on books, etc were undertaken.

1.2 MUSIC

1.2.1 SUBSIDIZATION OF AGENCIES, FOUNDATIONS, ARTISTS AND MUSIC ENSEMBLES

The activity in the sector of music has increased considerably in the last years and this was manifest in the many performances organized by various agencies such as choirs, musical ensembles foundations, associations, etc. The financial support of the Cultural Services is essential for the realization of these events.

Moreover, subsidies are provided in many cases for the participation of Cypriot artists and groups in cultural events and festivals in other countries. In 2006, financial assistance was granted to choirs, musical ensembles as well as individuals who participated in festivals, seminars and other events abroad.

Furthermore, the Cultural Services promote and help Cypriot musicians and artists who live and work abroad and who are invited to give performances either in Cyprus or abroad.

Within the framework of subsidization the Cultural Services subsidize, among others, music foundations for the implementation of their annual programme of activities, thus promoting significant pivots of our national cultural policy. As in previous years, during 2006 various proposals were studied and several foundations were subsidized to organize musical programmes for the development of activities in Cyprus, such as the Pharos Trust, the Ledra Music Soloists, the Steinway Club, the Music and Fine Arts Club, the Evangelia Tziarri Music Foundation, the Musicorama, etc.

Support and subsidies are also granted to agencies for organizing conferences, symposia, music competitions and other musical events, as for example, the Musical Society, the Cyprus Music Committee, Centre of Cypriot Composers, etc.

1.2.2 SUBSIDIZATION AND PURCHASE OF CDs

Within the programme of support given to Cypriot musicians and creators, the Cultural Services have established the practice of subsidizing and purchasing their CDs.

Support is also given for the production of CDs that are related to research topics or the promotion or preservation of work composed by outstanding representatives of contemporary Cypriot classical music.

1.2.3 MUSIC PUBLICATIONS

The Cultural Services, in its effort to preserve and promote the work of outstanding representatives of the local music creation, have been actively engaged in the publication of music works.

During 2006, the archival research for the publication of Solon Michaelides' musical work was completed. In addition, within the framework of Cyprus' participation in international musical exhibitions abroad, catalogues have been published regarding the recent discographic productions of Cypriot musicians.

1.2.4 COOPERATION WITH CULTURAL CENTRES OF OTHER COUNTRIES

Cooperation in the field of music with cultural centers of European and other countries has been very fruitful in 2006 as well. Particular promotion and projection of Cyprus' contemporary music was undertaken through the programme "Musical Cyprus in Europe". Moreover, seminars on music topics and concerts with other countries were organized within the framework of international cultural exchanges.

1.2.5 CONTEMPORARY CLASSICAL MUSIC COMPOSURE COMPETITION

During 2006 the CD released by the Ministry of Education and Culture that contains the works of the Composure Competition was promoted. The effective promotion of this production contributed to the greater projection of Cypriot musicians abroad.

1.2.6 MUSIC EXHIBITIONS ABROAD

For the first time in 2005, the Cultural Services started participating in important international music events with the aim of projecting and promoting contemporary Cypriot classical Music. After Cyprus' first successful participation in the International Music Exhibition (MIDEM) last year and its invitation from the European Committee to participate in next year's exhibition, Cyprus again took part in MIDEM, creating again very good impressions.

The Cultural Services also participated, in June, in the "First Baltic Market of Visual Arts" in Thessalonica after receiving invitation from the Greek Cultural Ministry.

1.2.7 MUSICAL SEMINARS

In 2006 the Cultural Services organized a musical seminar with subject "The cultural politics of music, of the European Member states: the case of Finland, Holland and the United Kingdom". Speakers at the seminar were important personalities from the above mentioned countries, such as Mr. Hanu Saha, President of the Council of Arts of Finland, Mr. Kai Amberla, Managing Director of the Finnish Centre of Musical Information, and Mr. Christopher Gordon, independent expert.

1.2.8 CYPRUS STATE ORCHESTRA

In 2006, the Cyprus State Orchestra presented fifty concerts in cities and villages within the area under government control of Cyprus. The programme included orchestra music, concerts, chamber music operas, as well as training seminars, with conductors and soloists from different countries. Apart from the conductor and artistic director of the Orchestra, Spyros Pisinis, the Orchestra was also directed by guest conductors Stefan Fraas, Maciej Zoltowski, Ayis Ioannides, Notis Georgiou and as leader, Wolfgang Schroeder. Internationally famed soloists also worked with the Orchestra, such as Kyros Patsalides, Thomas Duis, Vasilis Varvaretsos, and others.

During 2006 the Cyprus State Orchestra presented, amongst others, the opera 'Hansel and Gretel' by Eg. Houberting, in cooperation with the 'Liriki Skini Kyprou' and with the participation of Cypriot soloists. Also, in cooperation with the German State Orchestra Cottbus it presented Mozart's 'Don Giovanni'. Within the framework of the inauguration ceremony of the refurbished building of the Nicosia Municipal

Theatre, the Orchestra presented opera nights with the participation of internationally famed Cypriot and foreign soloists. Included in the Orchestra's program this year were, a concert with Marios Meletiou's 'Laiko Symphonico Oratorio' under the artistic direction of Raphael Pilarinou, as well as a series of shows of the work 'Horeftiki Fantasia gia ton Grigori Afxentiou' by composer Savva Savvas.

Within the framework of the Mozart Year, on the occasion of 250 years since the birth of the composer, the Cyprus State Orchestra gave a concert with the title 'Homage to Mozart's Concerta'. Noteworthy, is the fact that during 2006 nearly all of the Orchestra's programs included works by Mozart.

Regarding its social contribution and the development of its relations with society, the Orchestra gave a philanthropic concert in cooperation with the Pan-Cyprian Association of Cancer Patients and Friends, the proceeds of which went for the support of the Association's services. It also gave a concert at the Cyprus Central Prison in cooperation with the Prison Musical Society.

Moreover, within the context of boosting Cypriot musicians, the Orchestra gave, during 2006, a concert with works exclusively by Cypriot composers. Also, it gave a concert dedicated to the composer Stelios Pissis, with his works exclusively.

The Cyprus State Orchestra also participated this year in the "Kypria" International Festival, giving two concerts with the Helsinki Choir under the direction of Ayis Ioannides.

Within the framework of the system of Educational Programs, which is included in the Orchestra's activities, its members visited Primary and Secondary Schools, partaking in different musical activities. Also the Orchestra, as well as the total of wind and string instruments of the Orchestra, gave within the same framework, family concerts in Nicosia, Pafos, Ayia Napa and Ayia Marina Xyliatou.

In addition to its activities in Cyprus, the Orchestra appeared for the first time at the Athens Music Hall, within the framework of the organization "Greek Musical Festivals". At the Orchestras concert, which received excellent reviews in the Greek press, were presented works by Cypriot composers under the direction of Spyros Pisinis. The Orchestra also gave two concerts in Patra, the Cultural Capital of Europe 2006, of which one was a family concert, in cooperation with the Orchestra 'Soloists of Patra'.

1.2.9 CYPRUS STATE YOUTH ORCHESTRA

During 2006, the Cyprus State Youth Orchestra participated, under the baton of Artistic Director – Conductor Ayis Ioannides, in different concerts and other events / organizations.

More particularly, the Orchestra participated in the inauguration ceremony of the 13th International Educational Exhibition 2006, which was organized by the Ministry of Education and Culture and the Authority of State Fairs, as well as the award ceremony of the Europe School Competition (E.A.S.), which was organized by the Ministry of Education and Culture at the Latsia Municipal Theatre. Also, the Orchestra participated in the opening ceremony of the 'Commonwealth Educational and Management Conference', as well as at the opening ceremony of the Euro-Mediterranean Youth Forum of UNESCO. In November the Orchestra gave a concert in Nicosia.

The Clarinet Sextet 'Los Jovenes', which is comprised of students of the Musical workshop of the Orchestra, which functions under the care of the Cultural Services, appeared in Nicosia, Limassol and Nissou.

Furthermore, from the 27th of April until the 1st of May and from the 23rd of August until the 3rd of September 2006, the Music Spring School and the Music Summer School respectively, functioned at Pedhoulas. Amongst other things, the participants took part in small concerts and excursions to nearby places. In the Summer School the internationally famed violin teacher Mr. Mathaios Kariolou also participated; he delivered master classes to many participants from Cyprus, as well as to students from Greece and Korea.

1.2.10 FOUNDATION 'CYPRUS SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA'

The functioning status of the Cyprus State Orchestra and the Cyprus State Youth Orchestra will soon be altered, since, based on decisions of the Council of Ministers dated 3rd May and 4th October 2006, a Foundation under the name 'Cyprus Symphony Orchestra' is recommended, which will, as of 1st January 2007 undertake the management and operation of both Orchestras. The already appointed (by the Council of Ministers) Management Council of the foundation constitutes the General Manager of the Ministry of Education and Culture as President (ex officio), the Manager and an Educational Officer of the Cultural Services of the same Ministry (also ex officio) and of six other members.

1.3 VISUAL ARTS

1.3.1 PURCHASE OF WORKS OF ART

Being aware of the necessity to encourage artistic creation and to establish a representative collection that would trace the course of Cypriot art from the beginning of last century up to the present day, the Cultural Services have undertaken the purchase of representative works of Cypriot artists. These works are either displayed in exhibitions in Cyprus or abroad or are used for the interior decoration of our embassies abroad and offices of Ministers, Permanent Secretaries and in other state buildings.

In 2006, eighty works were purchased in order to enrich the collection of the State Gallery of Contemporary Cypriot Art. Furthermore, the practice of the publication of a catalogue of the works which were bought or donated to the state has been continued. Within the framework of this policy, a catalogue of the works acquired by the State Gallery in 2005 is currently in the process of being published.

1.3.2 CYPRUS STATE GALLERY OF CONTEMPORARY ART

The State Gallery houses on a permanent basis the state collection of Cyprus Contemporary Art, while it periodically hosts important exhibitions from abroad as well as retrospective exhibitions of the pioneers of the Cyprus fine arts. At the State Gallery an archive of artists is kept which includes the curriculum vitae and the characteristic features of their work, an archive of slides and an archive of photographs.

There is also an Art Library enriched yearly with significant publications on various arts (visual art, photography, dance, cinema).

During 2006, educational programs held in the State Gallery for primary school children, has been continued, in cooperation with the Primary Education Department.

In 2006, the State Gallery was visited by about 2 000 visitors.

1.3.3 PROMOTION OF CYPRUS CONTEMPORARY ART

In December 2005, the inauguration of the 23rd Biennale of Alexandria for the Mediterranean countries was realized, in which Cyprus was represented by three visual artists; Savella Michail (painting – mixed technique), Angelos Michaelides (space installation) and Erato Hadjisavvas (video), all of whom were chosen by the Advisory Committee for the Selection of Works of Art and Artists. The Cyprus participation was crowned with success since one of the first five awards, which was accompanied by the "Golden Lantern of Alexandria", was awarded to Erato Hadjisavvas for her work entitled "Wave".

During 2006, Cyprus was invited to participate in the 10th International Biennale of Cairo. The Advisory Committee for the Selection of Works of Art and Artists, which functions under the auspices of the Cultural Services, chose the artists Andreas Karayian (painting), Kyriaki Costa and Melina Soukiouoglou (wall installations) and Maria Lianou (sculpture).

The year 2006 also included the organization of the 27th Biennale of Sao Paulo (7th October – 17 December) in which the Cypriot visual artist Nicos Charalambides participated. Given the abolition of the system of national participation, the invitation of the Cypriot artist by the international team of curators was especially honorary.

Also significant were the presentations of the individual exhibitions of Nicos Charalambides and Christodoulos Panayiotou at the British centers of contemporary art "Turner Contemporary" and "Modern Art Oxford" respectively, the organization of which was supported by the Cultural Services. The exhibitions were undertaken within the framework of the program "ARRIVALS – New Art from the EU", which presented artists from the ten new member states of the European Union.

Beyond the dispatch of official state participation, the Cultural Services subsidized Cypriot artists in their participation in international visual art organizations and in group exhibitions abroad. For example, Kakia Katselli-Trahoniti (International Exhibition of Sculptures and Installations Open 2006), Panayiotis Michail and Nicos Charalambides (Exhibition one in Ireland after invitation by curator Katerina Gregou), Christodoulos Panayiotou (Winter Festival in Sarajevo under diligence of Christina Petrinou) and Maria Loizidou (exhibition of women's creations with title "Femmes d'Europe" in France).

1.3.4 EUROPEAN BIENNALE OF CONTEMPORARY ART MANIFESTA 6

The European Biennale 'Manifesta 6', under the initiative of the Cultural Services and the Municipality of Nicosia, which was intended to be organized in Nicosia in the autumn of 2006, was cancelled a few months before its official commencement.

The organizing authority of the Municipality of Nicosia (Nicosia for Art Ltd) ended its cooperation with the curators and the Foundation Manifesta due to insurmountable problems which had arisen between the involved parties.

1.3.5 SUBSIDIZATION OF THE CHAMBER OF FINE ARTS AND OTHER VISUAL ARTS AGENCIES

The Cultural Services subsidize the Chamber of Fine Arts (E.KA.TE) as well as various other associations of self-taught and amateur painters aimed at the promotion of Visual Arts. They also support on an annual basis the Engraving Workshop of the Chamber of Fine Arts.

Also this year, a number of international symposia / series of lectures concerning contemporary art were subsidized, like Fundamenta and Artalk, which were organized by initiative of cultural foundations or individuals.

1.3.6 ART PHOTOGRAPHY

Within the policy framework of supporting art photography, the Cultural Services subsidized during 2006 the activities of the Cyprus Photography Society and the 'Photodos' Association.

1.3.7 ENRICHMENT OF PUBLIC BUILDINGS WITH WORKS OF ART

During 2006, the relevant competition for the High Court building was successfully completed and the contracts with the successful artists have already been signed. Furthermore, competitions were declared for the office building of the Audit Services as well as for the Ayia Napa Post Office.

1.3.8 ADVISORY MONUMENTS COMMITTEE

The Advisory Monuments Committee has dealt with many applications for the erection of monuments in honor of persons who died in the struggles of the Greek Cypriot people (Except the 1955-59 liberation struggle), with on the spot visits and technical advice to those concerned. Moreover, it has made suggestions for the subsidization of erecting monuments that fulfilled the necessary specifications.

The Advisory Monuments Committee, since June 2006 has ceased to exist, subsequent to the voting of the Inspection of the Erection and Placement of Monuments in Open Spaces Law [N.79(1)/2006]. Based on this law, the Monuments Council has been recommended, the members of which have been appointed by the Ministerial Council.

1.4 THEATRE

Activity in the sector of theatre over the past few years has shown continual rise, expressed in the form of the organization of theatrical shows, workshops and other exhibitions by a variety of agencies.

The Cultural Services, being aware of the role the theatre plays in its spiritual, cultural and educational function for the citizens' character, offer significant and fundamental support to agencies, schemes, groups and artists who develop activity in this sector.

The basic aims of the developmental policy of the Cultural Services in the sector of theatre is the development of theatrical education, the stimulation of public interest in theatrical creation, the promotion of Cypriot artistic potential abroad and the involvement of young people in the creative process.

1.4.1 ANCIENT GREEK DRAMA FESTIVAL

Between 5th July and 18th August, for the seventh consecutive year, the Ancient Greek Drama Festival was undertaken, in cooperation with the Cyprus Centre of International Theatre Institute. The Festival has been sanctioned as an institution.

The Festival took place like last year, apart from the ancient Odeon in Pafos, at the ancient Curium Theatre in Limassol and the Makarios III Amphitheatre in Nicosia. The Festival offered the public the opportunity to watch performances of a high artistic standard, like Aristophane's comedy 'Ecclesiazousae' by the Cyprus Theatre Organisation, Aeschylus' tragedy 'Persians' by the 'Thiasos' theatre, Euripides' tragedy 'Bacchae' by the 'Aniksi' theatre, Euripides' tragedy 'Eleni' by the Regional Municipal Theatre of Larissa, Euripides' tragedy 'Medea' by "In the Blood" theatre from the United Kingdom, the musical performance of Aeschylus' 'Orestia' by the German State Ballet Mecklenburg, and others.

Alongside the Festival, the Cyprus International Theatre Institute (I.T.I.) with the support of the Ministry of Education and Culture organized the following:

1. The Festival of Theatre Schools, which gave the opportunity to many students from different countries and with different cultural backgrounds to approach and come into contact with ancient drama.
2. The upgraded summer school named 'International Institute of Ancient Greek Drama', in which foreign and Cypriot students participated
3. The Symposium of Ancient Drama, which is organized every two years and in which there was wide participation by academics, students and researchers of ancient Greek Letters.

1.4.2 SUBSIDIZATION OF EVENTS IN CYPRUS

During 2006, the Cultural Services subsidized the organization of performances, events or other theatrical activities of the following: the theatre 'Persona', the theatre 'Anemona', the Popular Theatre Anglantzia, the theatrical group 'Stagones Zois', the theatrical group 'Kouintes', the Youth Theatre, Pitsa Antoniadou's Theatrical Workshop, the theatrical group 'Antidoto', the theatre 'Lexi', the 'Alpha Square', the 'House of Art', the theatre 'Rialto', the French Cultural Centre for the co-organization of Peter Brook's theatrical performance, as well as many amateur and semi-amateur theatrical groups. Municipal and Community theatrical groups were also subsidized for events, workshops and other activities.

The Cultural Services, within the framework of supporting Cypriot groups and Cypriot artists who live and work abroad and who are invited to appear in Cyprus, subsidized Xenia Orphanidou's group 'XO Theatre Nova Co' from London, which presented the work 'Manoramo Charms' in the Melina Mercouri Hall in Nicosia.

1.4.3 PARTICIPATION IN FESTIVALS ABROAD

In many cases the Cultural Services subsidize the participation of artistic groups in organizations or festivals abroad. During 2006, the participation of free theatres in international festivals abroad was subsidized. Among others, the Theatre 'Ena' and the Theatre 'Antidoto' received financial assistance.

1.5 DANCE

The Ministry of Education and Culture, aware of the significant role the art of dance can play in shaping the character of young people and society in general, offers manifold support to the development of dance in our country through various activities, events and programmes.

Basic targets of the developmental policy of the Cultural Services of the Ministry of Education and Culture in the sector of artistic dance are: a) the support of research and artistic creation through the encouragement both of group and individual initiative, b) the encouragement of the people's participation through proper education and information, c) the promotion of education of young people in matters of classical and modern dance d) the promotion of our artists abroad. The cultural Services through subsidization are strengthening the agencies which are active in this sector.

1.5.1 DANCE PLATFORM – DANCE MEETINGS

Since 2001, the Ministry of Education and Culture adopted the institution "Dance Platform – Dance Meetings", that was organized this year for the sixth consecutive year.

This event, which is subsidized entirely by the Ministry of Education and Culture, gives the opportunity to Cyprus groups to present their creative work and their choreographic work in the sector of Contemporary Dance within an organized framework.

The "6th Dance Platform – Dance Meetings", which was organized in collaboration with the 'Rialto' Theatre, which provides the hall and all the technical infrastructure, was held between the 10th and 12th March. The following fourteen groups participated with new creations and with a significant upgrade in their artistic standards: Group 'En Drasi', Jeunesses Musicales, Dance group 'Selas', Amphidromo Chorotheatro, StreetBeats, Pelma, Dance group 'Synthesis', InterAct group, Noema Dance Works, Dance group 'Kima', Solipsism, Group 'Soma', Echo Arts and Chorotheatro 'Omada 5'.

1.5.2 EUROPEAN DANCE FESTIVAL

At the initiative of the Cultural Services and with the aim of the best possible and most complete briefing of the public regarding the European event in the sector of contemporary dance, the "European Dance Festival", which has been held annually since 1998. The Festival, which is organized by the Cultural Services in collaboration with the embassies or the cultural centers of the participating countries, is held under the auspices of the Ambassador of the European Commission in Cyprus. The contribution and financial support of the event by the Cultural Services, which are responsible for the coordination and undertaking of the event, are substantial and considerable.

This year's 9th European Dance Festival was held at the 'Rialto' Theatre from the 4th of May until the 17th of June. Representative groups of contemporary dance from 10 European countries participated: France, Italy, Germany, Greece, Holland, United Kingdom, Poland, Switzerland, Spain, Sweden and Cyprus. The Festival, as always, included dance workshops in Limassol which were offered free of charge by foreign well known dance teachers and choreographers which were also followed by Cypriot dancers and choreographers. Within the framework of the Festival, two lectures by the choreographers Andromachi Lindal and Georgette Gebara were given.

1.5.3 COOPERATION WITH FOREIGN ORGANIZATIONS AND CULTURAL CENTRES AND PARTICIPATION IN FOREIGN FESTIVALS AND EVENTS

Apart from the organization of the European Dance Festival, within the framework of implementing Cyprus' bilateral Cultural Agreements with other countries, cooperation with foreign embassies for the organization of dance performances in Cyprus was undertaken during 2006.

For the first time, this year Cyprus undertook a co-production with the Tanzherbst Festival 2006 / Staatsschauspiel Dresden Tristan Production of Dresden, which concerned the musical work "Living happily forever after". Cypriot and German dancers participated as well as other contributors, with the choreography by the awarded Cypriot choreographer Lia Haraki. The work was presented officially for the first time within the framework of the Festival.

Also, for the first time, the Ministry officially took part in the dance exhibition Tanzmesse that was organized in August in Düsseldorf, Germany, representing the Cypriot dance groups with its own stand at which visual and printed matter was displayed, that referred to the groups that were being represented.

Furthermore, the Cultural Services subsidized the participation of various groups in foreign festivals or other events, such as, for example, at the Tala Dance Center Festival in Zagreb of Croatia, at Video Dance in Thessaloniki, at the International Dance Festival of Kalamata, at Aerowaves Festival in Holland, at Impulz Dance in Vienna, one of the biggest of Europe, as well as at an event in

Toronto, Canada within the framework of the global conference of World Dance Alliance.

1.5.4 DANCE TRAINING

In the sector of training, support is provided to a variety of agents, such as societies, dance groups, associations, etc, which take part in the development of education regarding artistic dance in Cyprus by organizing workshops, seminars or summer schools (intensive lessons) which are aimed as much at students as at professional choreographers / dancers.

Thanks to the financial support given by the Ministry, as main sponsor, during 2006 the following were realized:

1. Youth Dancers Competition, which took place in February and was organized by the Cyprus Professional Dance Association.
2. The production, as well as the performance of the work 'La fille mal gardee' by the Nicosia Youth Ballet, in which young dancers of school age from a variety of Cyprus ballet schools participated.
3. Summer workshop 'A Taste of New York', which is organized for the sixth consecutive year by the society 'Horeftika Vimata'.

Furthermore, Cypriot students were subsidized for their participation in foreign dance events, like, for example, the international workshop 'Dance Web' of Austria, which is financed by European Union funds; the competition organized by 'Terpsichoris Erga' in Thessaloniki; the competition 'The New York Ballet Competition' in New York with the participation of dance students, and others.

1.5.5 SUBSIDIZATION OF DANCING EVENTS IN CYPRUS

In 2006, the Cultural Services supported various agencies, organizations, associations and other groups that have as aim the propagation and the promotion of dance. Among others, they supported the "Premier Group", the "Pelma "group, "Solipsism", Motion Art, Echo Arts, New Movement of Dancers and Choreographers, the National Armenian Cultural Group, and others.

1.5.6 "ANTISTROFES DIADROMES" PROGRAMME

Through the programme "Antistrofes Diadromes" the Cultural Services promote Cypriot artists (dancers and choreographers) who live and are prominent abroad, supporting them financially in order to make possible their coming to Cyprus in order to undertake dance performances and the presentation of their artistic creations.

1.6 CINEMA

The Cultural Services aware of the power of the cinema and its importance in shaping the contemporary societies, have been very active in the various aspects that comprise the development of cinema (film production, cinema education, professional training).

1.6.1 FILM PRODUCTION

During 2006 the funding of eleven proposals for the production of experimental films, debut films and short films, two for the production of documentaries and four for the development of a production plan of a long film, has been granted. At the same time, four short films, one debut film, one documentary and four long films are in process of production. Films which were completed in 2004-2005 were promoted to international festivals and other film events.

1.6.2 CINEMA EDUCATION

The Cultural Services have developed a multi-faceted plan concerning cinema education and the theoretical training of the public. For the achievement of these aims they organize, collaborate and / or fund different festivals and retrospective events dedicated to screen directors and cinematographic movements. The events are held mostly:

a) Within the framework of cultural agreements which Cyprus incurs with other countries b) In cooperation with the Ministry of Culture of Greece c) In cooperation with film clubs (Group of Cinema Friends, Cine Studio, Cinema Club Limassol, Cinema Club Paphos, Cinema Club Aradippou). At the same time various non profit agencies and organizations, which by their activity contribute to cinema education, are financially supported.

In 2006, the following events and activities were organized:

1. A mini International Cinema Festival, "Cyprus Days 2006" with awarded long films and other cinema exhibitions. The Festival took place in Nicosia and Limassol. The public was given the opportunity to vote and award the best film according to their own judgment and to discuss with foreign directors and specialists in the domain of cinema.

2. A two-day European Short Film Festival – European Cinema Academy Awards, in cooperation with the European Cinema Academy and the Cinema Friends Group.
3. A two day event dedicated to the Greek short film entitled "The Drama Festival Travels to Cyprus". In the last eleven years, the practice has been adopted to screen in Cyprus, short Greek films awarded prizes at the Short Film Festival of Drama. The event is held in cooperation with the organizing authority of The Drama Festival, the Ministry of Culture of Greece and 'Rialto' Theatre.
4. An event dedicated to the German cinema in cooperation with the Cinema Friends Group and the Cyprus 'Goethe' Institute.
5. An event dedicated to French cinema, in cooperation with the Cinema Friends Group and the French Cultural Centre.
6. An event dedicated to contemporary Romanian cinema in cooperation with the Romanian Embassy in Cyprus.
7. An event dedicated to classical cinema and to the great directors of world cinema in cooperation of the Cinema Friends Group
8. The event "Summer Film Show Marathon". This is an initiative launched in 2000 for the purpose of reopening of "Constantia", one of the most beautiful old summer cinemas of the capital, and giving the opportunity to the public to watch during the summer months classical films of the world cinema. The event was held in cooperation with Theatre 'Ena' and the Cinema Friends Group.
9. A European Film Festival in cooperation with the Cinema Friends Group.
10. An event dedicated to the "Alternative and Underground Cinema", with the screening of experimental, independent and avant-garde films from Europe and America. The films are presented with opening lectures and explanations. The event was organized in cooperation with Theatre 'Ena'.
11. Mini International Documentary Festival with films that were awarded at a variety of international cinema festivals, which took place in Limassol
12. Festival of experimental film and video-art (Xperimental) in cooperation with the cultural association "Pantheon".
13. The event "Kids for Kids" in collaboration with the Foundation SOFIA and the international organization CIFEZ, which is supported by UNESCO. Forty children from all around the world, as well as cinema experts, met in Cyprus for the viewing and awarding of films that were made by children aged 6-16 years.
14. International Cinema Festival for Children with the participation of Primary and Secondary schools. The festival included morning film projections with analysis by directors and other cinema experts, evening projections and cinema workshops. Also a bi-communal workshop about the environment was organized.

1.6.3 DEVELOPING CINEMA IN RURAL AREAS

The Cultural Services, within the framework of supporting the cinema in rural areas has carried out the following activities:

1. Supporting cinema halls in the countryside for the show of quality films.
2. Promoting Cyprus films in the countryside

3. Presentation of part of the event "Summer Film Show Marathon" in three cinemas in rural areas annually.
4. Subsidization of the Hambis Tsangaris school for a Documentary Film Festival at Platanistassa village.

1.6.4 PROFESSIONAL TRAINING

The Cultural Services financially support directors, producers, and other persons involved in the cinema industry for their participation in various educational seminars and workshops abroad.

In addition:

1. The Cultural Services subsidize, annually, the operation of the Cyprus Film Library
2. They subsidize directors in order to present their films at international festivals and other events thus promoting Cyprus cinema abroad.
3. They subsidize the cultural agency "The Weaving Mill" (Yfantourgeio) for the promotion of various programs concerning cinema.
4. They support the Cinema clubs in their frequent projections
5. They support with subsidies various other activities concerning the cinema.

1.7 THE INTERNATIONAL FESTIVAL "KYPRIA 2006"

This major annual event features events from the various fields of music, dance and theatre. The "Kypria 2006" Festival numbered twenty eight events presented by fifteen different artistic groups as follows:

Theatre

- The National Theatre of Greece: Aristophanes' "Thesmoforiazousae", directed by Sotiris Hatzakis.
- The "Diadromi" Theatre: Bost's "Maria Pentayiotissa", directed by Costas Tsianos
- The Amphictio Theatre: Euripides' "Iphigenia at Aulis", directed by Nicos Charalambous and with the participation of the Cypriot Ensemble

Opera

- Puccini: "Madame Butterfly" with the Stanislavsky Opera Theatre

Music

- Concert by the Youth Orchestra of Saxony with the participation of the Cypriot pianist and composer Christodoulos Georgiades
- Concert by the Montpellier National Symphony Orchestra under the baton of the Cyprus State Orchestra conductor, Spyros Pisinis who was also the piano soloist.
- Concert by the Cyprus State Orchestra and the Helsinki Chamber Choir under the baton of the Cyprus State Youth Orchestra conductor, Ayis Ioannides
- "Homage to Manos Hadjidakis" with Alkinoos Ioannides and Manolis Lidakis

- "Along the Trail of Geronimos the Singer", with Koulis Theodorou and Giorgos Karvellos and the participation of the Bulgarian National Radio Symphony Orchestra
- "Mesogeios", a concert with George Dalaras and Dulce Pontes.
- Music performance with the group "Kyprogenia" and Larkos Larkou
- Jazz-Rock concert: "Four Electric Guitars" with the participation of the Cypriot guitarists Adonis Aletras, Andros Papapavlou, Marinos Neophytou, and Marios Ioannou.

Dance

- Joachim Cortez in a flamenco dance performance entitled "Mi Soledad".
- Boris Eifman Ballet of St. Petersburg with "Mozart- Requiem"
- The National Ballet of Israel with "Giselle"

The amount of CYP 750.000 has been made available for the organization of these events.

1.8 FOLK CULTURE

The Cultural Services carried out the following activities in connection with folk culture:

1. Traditional dance ensembles were subsidized to enable them to enrich their costumes and participate in events of a traditional character in Cyprus and abroad.
2. Dance teachers and researchers were supported financially to enable them to attend dance seminars abroad.
3. Members of the Cyprus Committee of the Folk Culture Organization were subsidized for their participation in international conferences.
4. The costumes of the Cyprus dancing ensembles in Cypriot communities abroad were enriched.
5. The Folk Shadow Theatre was sponsored.
6. Festivals in rural areas were subsidized with the aim of achieving cultural decentralization and the preservation of customs and traditions, as well as the support of the bodies of the Folk Shadow Theatre. Also festivals in towns were subsidized.
7. Participation in the National and Joint Committee of Evaluation and Selection of the "Thrace – Aegean – Cyprus" Programme.
8. Participation in various Committees for the preservation and promotion of our cultural heritage.

1.8.1 MUSEUMS

The Ministry of Education and Culture, in cooperation with state services and other agencies, has completed the study and processing of a proposal for the introduction of an institutional framework which will regulate matters concerning the operation and the provision of services from private museums and museums which operate

under the auspices of regional authorities. The proposed institutional framework (regulatory law draft) defines the preconditions which must be satisfied in order for these museums to be recognized by the State. The basic aim of this proposed regulation is the consolidation, by institutional means, of the state's role of intervention in matters of operation and service provision from these museums to the public.

1.9 REGIONAL CULTURAL DEVELOPMENT

During 2006, the Cultural Services examined and satisfied a great number of demands which were put forth by Municipalities, Communities and artistic groups, regarding the subsidization of a variety of cultural activities (festivals, musical, dance and theatrical performances, participation in meetings abroad, etc).

1.9.1 "ATHENA" PROGRAM

With the aim of upgrading the quality of the life of the inhabitants of the rural areas and ensuring equal access of all citizens of Cyprus to culture, the "ATHENA" programme has been expanded in the last years in order to cover more areas and a broader range of subjects and events such as the presentation of traditional dances, live performances of excerpts of traditional musical works, the Shadow Theatre and theatrical performances.

In 2006, musical-dancing ensembles and theatrical groups were asked to submit proposals for participation, which after being evaluated, were included in the "ATHENA" program. The themes of the events concerned mainly our folk tradition, e.g. the Cyprus demotic poetry and folk traditional music and dance, like "rembetico", the artistic Greek, the popular 'Laiko' and the contemporary song. Presented also were theatrical performances with works of prominent Greek and foreign writers.

In the program of Rural Cultural Development, 2006, 116 municipalities of the Cyprus Republic under government control participated as well as 32 artistic groups.

1.10 OPERATION OF CULTURAL FOUNDATIONS.

1.10.1 MUSEUM OF THE CYPRIOT STRUGGLE

The Museum of the Cypriot Struggle has operated in its new building since it was inaugurated on 30 April 2001. During 2006 it was visited by 25,000 persons most of whom were students and foreign tourists.

1.10.2 HOUSES OF LETTERS AND ARTS

The Cultural Services continued in 2006 to lease premises in Nicosia, Limassol, Larnaca and Paphos in order to provide accommodation to associations that serve the Arts and Letters. In essence, providing accommodation constitutes in fact a form of additional subsidy in addition to the annual state subsidy they receive. The Houses of Letters and Arts are used by the organizations and accommodate meetings, visual art exhibitions, literary events, film projections, theatrical rehearsals, etc.

The Houses of Letters and Arts in Nicosia and Paphos commenced, in 2002, their operation in new and more spacious traditional premises due to the fact that they had increased activities and hosted a greater number of guests than in the previous years. During 2005 the procedures for the creation of a House of Letters and Arts in Larnaca, in cooperation with the local cultural agencies were completed. The new House began operation in July 2005.

The Cultural Services continue to support the management, operation and cultural activity of the Houses of Letters and Arts with the steady objective of turning them into important cultural "lungs" of the urban centers of Cyprus.

1.11 OPERATION OF CULTURAL CENTERS / CULTURAL OFFICES ABROAD

1.11.1 HOUSE OF CYPRUS IN ATHENS

During 2006, the House of Cyprus in Athens hosted eighteen book presentations, eleven literary events and four music events. One of the events undertaken was the conferment of the Grand Cross decoration of the Makariou III Order, by the President, Mr. Tassos Papadopoulos, to Mihalis Kakoyianni. Also organized were ten visual art exhibitions and one photography exhibition in cooperation with the Cultural Services, as well as a book exhibition entitled 'The Cyprus Tragedy in the written word / history – politics – literature'. Furthermore, a meeting was hosted for Andreas Kalvo, which was organized, in cooperation with the House of Cyprus, by the publications 'Metehmio' and the magazine poema, as well as a Christmas event for children with creative activities.

The House of Cyprus cooperated with the University of Athens in the organization of the 15th Literary Seminar of Modern Greek Literature of Cyprus.

In cooperation with the House of Cyprus eight events were organized by Cypriot agencies, in Greece. Indicative is the event that was organized at the House of Cyprus by the Embassy of the Cyprus Republic and the Federation of Cypriot Organizations in Greece, within the framework of the anniversary events, with speaker the Minister of Interior, Mr. A. Christou; as well as the event organized by the Union of Cypriots in Greece, in cooperation with the House of Cyprus, at the Cypriot 'Estia' with speaker the Minister of Justice and Public Order, Mr. S. Sofocleous.

The House of Cyprus supported thirty-two events for Cyprus, which were undertaken at municipalities, schools, societies, foundations or galleries that hosted Cypriot artists and collaborated with different Cypriot and Greek agencies who also organized events for Cyprus, like National Cypriot Students' Union of Athens, the Association of Cypriot Students of Patra, and others.

Finally, two Press conferences were held, one of which concerned the Municipality of Limassol for its presentation of participation at the events of the Cultural Capital of Europe, Patra 2006.

1.11.2 OFFICE OF CULTURAL ADVISOR AT THE CONSULAR RESIDENCY OF CYPRUS IN LONDON

Following the decision of the Ministerial Council in August 2005, the position of Cultural Advisor at the High Commission of the Republic of Cyprus in London was created. Amongst the duties of the position is included the organization of cultural

events with the aim of systematically projecting the historical development, the culture and the contemporary artistic and intellectual creativity of Cyprus.

Under the auspices of the Office of the Cultural Advisor and in cooperation with the Cultural Services, in 2006 a series of book and music presentations were organized, which were directed as much to the British public as to the public of the Cypriot community. Most of these events were undertaken at the Hellenic Center in London, which will, in the future, systematically host the events that will be programmed by the Office of the Cultural Advisor.

1.11.3 OFFICE OF THE CULTURAL ATTACHE AT THE EMBASSY OF CYPRUS IN BERLIN

From the beginning of 2005 the Office of Cultural Attaché has been in operation at the Cyprus Embassy in Berlin. The main responsibility constitutes the organization of events with the aim of projecting the culture and the contemporary artistic and intellectual creativity of Cyprus in Germany.

In 2006, under the auspices of the Office and with the contribution of the Cultural Services many events were organized which enabled the German public to be acquainted with Cyprus and its culture. The Utmost event was the programme of events entitled "Cypriot Spring", which was presented at the cultural center 'Gasteig' in Munich. The program was set under the auspices of the Ministry of Education and Culture, the Cyprus Ambassador in Germany and the First Mayor of Munich and within this were included events from almost all the spectrum of traditional and contemporary Cypriot creativity (literature, visual arts, contemporary and traditional – demotic music, dance, cinema, photography).

1.12 BILATERAL AND MULTILATERAL RELATIONS

1.12.1 AGREEMENTS AND PROGRAMS OF CULTURAL COLLABORATION

Cyprus, with the aim of collaborating with other countries in the sectors of education, of culture and sciences, has to date concluded thirty-eight Agreements. For the implementation of these Agreements the contracting parties establish and sign the Executive Programmes of Education, Cultural and Scientific Collaboration. The Agreements and the Programmes, with the adjustments they include provide the necessary statutory framework in which Cyprus' cultural and educational exchanges are implemented with other countries. In process today are six Programmes of Education, Culture and Scientific Collaboration, of which four were signed in 2006, while under examination or negotiation are another ten such programs. Also in process or negotiation are three new Agreements for Educational, Scientific and Cultural Collaboration.

The Cultural Services are responsible for the shaping and implementation of the part of the provisions of the Programmes which concern the cultural collaborations and the cultural exchanges Cyprus has with the contracted country each time (with the exception of the provision regarding collaboration in the field of cultural heritage). Within the framework of this competence, the Cultural Services see to organizing events aimed at projecting contemporary Cypriot culture abroad as well as to hosting in Cyprus cultural events organized by other countries. In the context of these

programmes contacts and meetings, at the level of specialists, take place with a view to exchanging information, mutually briefing and collaborating in the field of culture.

1.12.2 THE COUNCIL OF EUROPE

Cyprus has been a member of the Council of Europe since 1961 with parliamentary representatives in the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe, actively participating in the programmes and the activities promoted within the coordinated transnational collaboration of the member states.

In 1969, Cyprus ratified the European Cultural Convention which expresses the principles and aims of the Council of Europe in the field of culture and establishes the transnational cultural collaboration of the Council of Europe member states. This convention constitutes the corner stone for the development of the Council of Europe's activities in the field of culture, whereas the legal basis it offers represents the starting point for the drawing up and adoption of other cultural conventions of the Council of Europe specialized according to fields and topics.

The European Cultural Convention includes, inter alia, the aims of promoting the recognition, on behalf of the European citizens, of the common cultural heritage, promoting mobility and cultural exchanges for a better mutual understanding, promoting the Pan-European cultural cooperation in all its fields, establishing the European dimension as concerns the creation and recognition of political and practical standards in the domain of culture, etc. For the promotion of these aims different Steering Committees, constituting representatives of member states, are set up. Their work is assisted and coordinated by the Secretariat of the competent Direction of the Council of Europe. Cyprus is a member of two such Committees: in the Cultural Steering Committee (CDCULT) and the Steering Committee for Cultural Heritage (CDPAT).

The work of these committees concentrates on the promotion of an intercultural dialogue, in harmonizing the cultural policy of the member states with commonly accepted principles and standards of cultural policy (by selecting and adopting the best practice in the field of cultural policy and cultural management), on supplying advisory services and transfer of knowledge to the member states of the Council of Europe with a view to updating their institutional frameworks as far as culture is concerned.

1.12.3 UNESCO

Based on UNESCO's questionnaire "World Observatory on the Social Status of the Artist", the research preparation is being completed regarding the social status and the working conditions of artists in Cyprus.

The study was assigned to the company RAI Consultants, which undertook to explore and document the provisions of the systems of occupation, employment, social security and provisions, taxation, that are implemented in Cyprus in relation to artists, in order to make possible the image of the aggregate of regulations that govern the conditions under which they live and create.

Apart from its usefulness as a source of information, the study will become a useful political tool, given that it will allow for comparison with similar studies of other countries and the drawing of conclusions regarding the possibility of improving the systems which define the conditions of occupation, employment, social provisions for Cypriot artists.

Cyprus, within the framework of its role as an active member of UNESCO, promotes through the Ministry of Education and Culture the ratification of UNESCO's convention for the Protection and Promotion of the Multiformal of Cultural Expression, which was approved by UNESCO in October 2005, within the framework of the 33rd General Conference of the organization's member states. For reasons that concern the ensuring of cohesion of the communal law, Cyprus will become a contracting member of the convention at the same time as the rest of the member states of the European Union.

1.13 EUROPEAN UNION

In 2006, the Cultural Services supported various events which were promoted and implemented in cooperation with agencies from European countries in all the fields of cultural activities.

At the level of Cyprus' representation in the European Programme management committees related to culture, the Cultural Services participated in the Management Committee for the Programme "Culture 2000" , in the Committee of National Experts for the program of digitalization of cultural information "NRG Minerva Project" as well as in the programme TELEMOR, which promotes the inclusion of the national libraries of the ten new European Union member countries into the European Library and to the access of the cultural heritage of these countries through the Internet.

In addition, the Ministry of Education and Culture is represented in the Cultural Affairs Committee of the European Council (CAC) by the Permanent Representation of our country in Brussels through its special Attaché for educational and cultural affairs.

1.13.1 PROGRAMME "CULTURE 2000" OF THE EUROPEAN UNION

Cyprus has been participating in the European Union Framework-Program "CULTURE 2000" since 2003. In the same year, the Cultural Contact Points Cyprus (CCP) started functioning. Similar offices operate in all the participating countries to supply information to the public and help promote the Programme at a local level.

In aiming to provide the greatest possible service to the public and in light of the broadened role of the European CCP's concerning the communal programs of culture, the management of the Cypriot CCP has been assigned, through the tender process, to a non-governmental agency, the Cultural Foundation ARTos. The new CCP began operating on the 1st January 2006 and is subsidized annually by the State. Through a coordinated information programme, this Office actively encourages the participation of cultural bodies from Cyprus in the communal cultural activities. It also contributes in the finding of foreign companies (partners) and provides help regarding the configuration and submission of applications for participation.

The Ministry of Education and Culture continues to maintain provisions for the support of Cypriot cultural agencies whose designs are chosen for funding by the European Council. Also, it continues to participate, through the Cultural Services, in the committees of national representatives of the EU that are concerned with cultural programs.

1.14 OTHER ACTIVITIES

1.14.1 SUBSIDIZATION OF CULTURAL AGENCIES (ASSOCIATIONS, CLUBS, FOUNDATIONS)

The Cultural Services strengthen financially the events presented by intellectual and artistic agencies of Cyprus by covering part of the expenses incurred for the organization of these events. Special subsidies are granted only for specific events with a specific budget of expenses.

1.14.2 ADVISORY COMMITTEES

Various Advisory Committees function in the Cultural Services which are staffed with Cultural Services officials and with prominent people of the country's cultural life.

Officials of the department also participate in various committees for collective cultural events, matters connected with the cinema, museums, institutionalization of a system for the protection of cultural heritage, etc.

1.15 OTHER INSTITUTIONS AND PROGRAMMES FOR CULTURAL DEVELOPMENT

1.15.1 CULTURE HALL

By decision of the Council of Ministers, the creation of a Culture Hall which will accommodate the Music Centre is being promoted. In 2005, the Council of Ministers approved (by decision number 63.311 of 6 July 2005) the establishment and the statute of the Cyprus Cultural Foundation. In view of this decision, the Minister of Education and Culture proceeded to its registration and to the appointment of the Administrative Council so that in 2006 its targets and aims can be materialized. The Administrative Council has already begun the realization of its targets and aims and has announced (October 2006) an international competition for the design of the Culture Hall.

1.15.2 CULTURAL INFRASTRUCTURE

Within the framework of the support of the efforts which are undertaken in order to create a cultural infrastructure throughout free Cyprus, the Plan of Cultural Infrastructure has been implemented since 2001, which anticipates the provision of state subsidy (upon approval by the relevant Ministerial Council) for the undertaking of works of cultural infrastructure at Municipalities and communities. From the beginning of the implementation of the Plan to date, state funds have been granted for the execution of about thirty works of cultural infrastructure.

1.15.3 CREATION OF A MAIN PORTAL OF CULTURAL INFORMATION

The implementation of the project for the creation of a Main Portal of Cultural Information started in September 2000. Through the Main Portal the culture of Cyprus will be promoted on the Internet. The creation of the Main Portal has been assigned by decision of the Informatics Services Department to the University of Cyprus which has completed its work and has begun the digitalization of the archives

of the Cultural Services. The Cultural Counselors carry out their activities in conjunction with the Cultural Services.

1.15.4 ASSISTANCE TO CHAIRS IN VARIOUS UNIVERSITIES

The Ministry of Education and Culture financially assists various research centers and foundations abroad which deal with Greek and Cypriot matters. The establishment of chairs in various universities is supported by an annual financial grant, based on specific criteria.

1.15.5 UTILIZATION OF THE "SPEL" BUILDING

A new decision of the Ministry of Education and Culture is that the SPEL building will comprise a part of the State Gallery of Contemporary Cypriot Art at which works of Cypriot artists from the years of Independence and hence, shall be housed.

During 2006, the elaboration of the architectural study for the configuration of the building began. Also will, the work began of a special team, comprised of Art Historians, to who have been assigned the selection of the works of the state collection that will be exhibited at the two locations (the SPEL building and the central building of the state Gallery), as well as their positioning. These studies are expected to be completed in 2007, when architectural work will begin.

The aim of the Cultural Services is that the two above mentioned spaces, will comprise the State Gallery of Early and Contemporary Cypriot Art, thus presenting in a complete manner to the public, the historical evolution of Cypriot art, functioning, in addition, as exhibition areas where periodical exhibitions from Cyprus and abroad will be hosted.

1.15.6 TRANSFORMATION OF THE "PALLAS" CINEMA.

The "Pallas" cinema-theatre hall which has been purchased by the Cyprus government will be converted into a music hall, a cinema and a place for other cultural events. In this way, in combination with the Casteliotissa hall, a significant cultural area will be created near the Green Line and at the same time the chronic problem of acquiring a self owned place for cultural events, particularly for the State Orchestra concerts, will be solved. For the work funding from the Structural Funds of the European Union has been obtained and work began in October.

1.16 CYPRUS NATIONAL COMMISSION FOR UNESCO

The Cyprus National Commission for UNESCO is operating under the supervision of the Government which is exercised by the Ministry of Education and Culture through the Permanent Secretary of the Ministry. The General Secretary of the Commission is the Director of the Cultural Services. The Commission represents the vital link between the state, the league of citizens and the Organization and it acts as an advisory body for the Government. For its organizational requirements and for the promotion of its programs it is subsidized by the Ministry of Education and Culture.

The Commission promotes the implementation of the UNESCO programmes in Cyprus in collaboration with all the Ministries and Services of the government as well as with non governmental institutions whose activities are related with those of the

Organization, that is with education, culture, social and humanistic sciences, natural sciences, communications and informatics.

It operates as a centre of public information on the objectives and programs of UNESCO and it distributes free magazines, books, posters, digital and printed material, dispatched for this very purpose by the Organization's publishing house. It also maintains and promotes relations and collaboration with other UNESCO National Commissions of member countries for their mutual benefit.

The activities of the National Commission for UNESCO during the year 2006 can be summed up as follows:

1.16.1 PROMOTION OF UNESCO PROGRAMMES

1.16.1.1 PARTICIPATION PROGRAMME

The Commission dealt with UNESCO's Participation Programme, the largest two year program that provides direct financial and technical assistance to the member states of the organization, for the realization of suggestions related to sectors of the organization's pertinence.

1.16.1.2 FELLOWSHIPS PROGRAMME IN SUPPORT OF PRIORITY PROGRAM AREAS

The Commission dealt with UNESCO's Fellowships Program, the largest two year program of fellowships which has as aim the briefing, further education and training of the scholars in sectors which touch on the pertinence of the Organization.

1.16.1.3 OTHER PROGRAMMES

The Commission promoted and coordinated the participation of individuals, groups, governmental and non governmental organizations in competitions and activities organized by UNESCO and other National Commissions for UNESCO during the year 2006, such as:

- UNESCO – L'OREAL Co-sponsored Fellowships for Young Women in Life Science: It concerns Fellowships that are directed exclusively at young women who undertake research in the sectors of biology, bio-chemistry and physiology. This year, candidates were doctorate students of the University of Cyprus
- UNESCO KING HAMAD BIN ISA AL-KHALIFA: Submission of candidacy of the Higher Technological Institute (ATI) for the award, which aims at presenting good practice in the use of communication technology in education. The candidacy of ATI concerns the solar power laboratory.
- World Heritage Sites Exhibition: It concerns a photography exhibition about the monuments of global heritage of the member states, which was organized within the framework of UNESCO's 30th Convention of the Council of World Heritage, undertaken in Lithuania. The UNESCO Cyprus National Commission, in cooperation with the Department of Antiquities, participated with photographs of Byzantine churches in Cyprus that are registered in UNESCO's Catalogue of World Heritage.
- UNESCO Index Translationum: concerns a data base on the Internet to which the user has free access. Updated yearly, it contains the bibliography of the works published by the UNESCO member-states which were translated in foreign languages. Cyprus participated through the Cyprus Library.

- **Mondialogo School Contest:** Concerns UNESCO's biggest international school competition, which aims at the promotion of multicultural dialogue and contact between student communities with different cultural backgrounds. Participation in the competition presupposes collaboration between groups of students and teachers with groups from other countries for the creation of mutual works, like the writing of fairy tales, the design of a web page or table game, the publication of a newspaper. Cyprus participated with a group from the 1st Technical School in Limassol, which collaborated with a school group from Iran. The Cypriot participation was chosen amongst 2500 groups from all over the world and qualified into the 50 groups that will partake in the finals.

1.16.2 UNESCO LIBRARY

The Commission has set up a library on the premises where its offices are housed. It contains UNESCO publications as well as publications of the Services that come under its auspices, in different languages. The library is open to the public who wishes to consult it.

1.16.3 PUBLICATIONS

1.16.3.1 INFORMATIVE BULLETIN

The Commission publishes a quarterly informative magazine which presents the current UNESCO activities on a worldwide scale as well as the application of the various programs of the Organization in Cyprus. In 2006 the following two issues were published:

- Issue April – August 2006, No. 160 - 161
- Issue December 2006, No. 162

1.16.3.2 COMMISSION CALENDER

In developing the Archive of Children's Art of the Primary Education Department of the Ministry of Education and Culture and in observance with the principles of promoting children's free and creative artistic expression, the Commission published a calendar for 2007. The calendar presents the paintings of Cyprus' primary school children and the inspiration themes are drawn from UNESCO's pertinence as follows:

- Education and Environment
- Participation
- Peace
- Morals and Mores of Cyprus

1.16.4 INTERNET

The Commission has created its own website (<http://www.unesco.org.cy>) with a view to informing the public promptly and effectively on matters related to the programs and activities of the Commission and of UNESCO in Cyprus.

1.16.5 EVENTS

1.16.5.1 EURO – MEDITERRANEAN UNESCO YOUTH FORUM

The UNESCO Cyprus National Commission, in collaboration with the Youth Section of UNESCO's Office of Strategic Planning, organized the Euro – Mediterranean Youth Forum. The subject of the Forum was "Young People and the Dialogue among Civilizations, Cultures and People: Intercultural and Interfaith Dialogue to Ensure Peace". Its purpose was the discussion, about different issues and problems that concern young people today and the suggestion of proposals for their resolve through initiatives on a national and local level with the support and cooperation of UNESCO.

At the Forum, two representatives of Youth organizations from countries of Europe and the Mediterranean participated, as well as officers of UNESCO and other international organizations. At the conference, members of Cypriot Youth organizations also volunteered to participate.

The Forum was undertaken at the conference centre at Governors Beach and the participants were put up in refurbished traditional agro tourism houses in the villages of Tochni and Kalavassos. Within the framework of the Forum, artistic events were organised and the conventioners were toured around the archaeological sites of Cyprus.

1.16.6 INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

The Commission represents Cyprus at international conventions and conferences abroad organized by UNESCO and other National Commissions abroad.

1.16.6.1 UNESCO SYMPOSIUM OF AFFILIATED SCHOOLS, GREECE

The UNESCO Cyprus National Commission represented Cyprus at the Athens UNESCO Symposium of Affiliated Schools (February 2006).

1.16.6.2 CONSULTATION OF GENERAL DIRECTOR WITH THE NATIONAL COMMISSIONS OF EUROPE – NORTH AMERICA

The UNESCO National Commission represented Cyprus in the consultation of the General Director with the National Commissions of Europe – North America, for the program concerning the budget of the organization for the period 2006 – 2007 (Athens, June 2006).

2. CYPRUS RESEARCH CENTRE

2.1 PART A: EDUCATION

The C.R.C. was founded in 1962 to promote research on the history and civilisation of Cyprus locally and internationally, to encourage Cypriot and overseas scholars to engage in research on the island's history and civilisation and to have their conclusions published on a systematic basis. Research programmes relevant to the fundamental disciplines of the culture of Cyprus, namely its history, folklore, language, literature, ethnography and social evolution are initiated and implemented. Such research is promoted according to the country's requirements at any given time and within a broader regional context.

For implementing its various research programmes the CRC maintains a specialised library containing encyclopaedias, academic periodicals, published archival materials and other reference works covering the history not only of Cyprus but also of Greece, Europe and the Middle East in general. The library has been enriched with new books, periodicals and academic journals.

The CRC also has collections of primary archival material, consisting of manuscripts, photocopies and photographic reprints of historical sources and documents, microfilms, cassettes and digital CDs. This material is classified according to subject in various archives, these being the Historical Archive, the Veterans Archive, the Folklore Archive and the Oral Tradition Archive.

2.2 PART B: CULTURE

2.2.1 AIMS AND PERSONNEL

The C.R.C. was founded in 1962 to promote research on the history and civilisation of Cyprus locally and internationally, to encourage Cypriot and overseas scholars to engage in research on the island's history and civilisation and to have their conclusions published on a systematic basis. Research programmes relevant to the fundamental disciplines of the culture of Cyprus, namely its history, folklore, language, literature, ethnography and social evolution are initiated and implemented. Such research is promoted according to the country's requirements at any given time and within a broader regional context.

2.2.2 LIBRARY, ARCHIVES AND NEWS

For implementing its various research programmes the CRC maintains a specialised library containing encyclopaedias, academic periodicals, published archival materials and other reference works covering the history not only of Cyprus but also of Greece, Europe and the Middle East in general. The library has been enriched with new books, periodicals and academic journals.

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in various archives, these being the Historical Archive, the Veterans Archive, the Folklore Archive and the Oral Tradition Archive.

In October 2006 the relocation of the CRC to its new premises in no. 6, Gladstone Street was completed.

2.3 PUBLICATIONS OF THE CRC

2.3.1 PUBLICATIONS OF THE C.R.C. FOR THE YEAR 2006

FIRST SERIES OF PUBLICATIONS

TEXTS AND STUDIES IN THE HISTORY OF CYPRUS

1. P-V. Claverie, L'Ordre du Temple en Terre Sainte et à Chypre au XIIIe siècle (in press)
2. P. Leventis, Nicosia, Cyprus, 1192-1570: Architecture, topography and urban experience in a diversified capital city, Nicosia 2005 (published in 2006)
3. N. Coureas (transl.), George Boustronios: A Narrative of the Chronicle of Cyprus 1456-1489, Nicosia 2005 (published in 2006)
4. M. Michael, Η Εκκλησία της Κύπρου κατά την οθωμανική περίοδο (1571-1878): Η σταδιακή συγκρότησή της σε θεσμό πολιτικής εξουσίας, Nicosia 2005 (published in 2006)
5. T. Lounghis, B. Blysidu, St. Lampakes, Regesten der Kaiserurkunden des Oströmischen Reichs, 477-565, Nicosia 2005 (published in 2006)
6. Th. Papadopoulos, Contributions to the Comparative Study of African Cultures (in press)
7. A. Loizidou Pouradier-Duteil, Consulat de France à Larnaca, Tome V (1706-1708) (in press)
8. Αικ. Αριστείδου, Η υφαντουργία της Κύπρου από την αρχαιότητα μέχρι τον 20ο αιώνα και η συμβολή του Κώστα Χριστοδούλου, Τομ. Α' και Β' (in press)

SECOND SERIES OF PUBLICATIONS

PUBLICATIONS OF THE CYPRUS RESEARCH CENTRE

K. Protopapa, Έθιμα του Παραδοσιακού Γάμου στην Κύπρο, 2 vols. Nicosia 2005 (published in 2006)

THIRD SERIES OF PUBLICATIONS

ANNUAL REVIEWS

1. Επετηρίδα [Annual Review] XXXII, 2006 (in press)

THE ASSIGNMENT OF NEW RESEARCH PROGRAMMES TO OUTSIDE SCHOLARS

1. E. Kakoulidou-Panou, Ανθολογία Κυπριακού Πεζού Λόγου, 15ος-17ος αι.

3. CYPRUS THEATRE ORGANISATION

ACTIVITIES OF THE CYPRUS THEATRE ORGANISATION DURING 2006

Acting within the framework of its statutory aims consisting, inter alia, in the promotion of the Art of Theatre in Cyprus, the Cyprus Theatre Organisation continued its artistic and promotional pursuits in 2006.

3.1 ARTISTIC ACTIVITIES DURING THE THEATRICAL PERIOD 1.10.05 – 30.09.06

3.1.1 CENTRAL STAGE

No	Play	Performances	Audience
1.	"THE MERCHANT OF VENICE" by William Shakespeare Direction: Varnavas Kyriazis Period: 19.11.05 – 15.1.06	17	4.128
2.	"I RUSTEGHI" by Carlo Goldoni Direction Nicos Charalambous Period: 28.1.06 – 12.3.06	18	4.164
3.	"IT'S NOT ME" by Grigorios Xenopoulos Direction: Pitsa Antoniadou Period: 25.3.06 – 20.5.06	22	5.816
4.	"FINALLY WE ARE RICH" by Michalis Pitsillides Direction: Andreas Marangos Collaborating Director: Pantelis Antonas Period: 3.6.06 – 9.9.06	23	14.225
5.	"ECCLESIAZUSAE" by Aristophanes Direction: Giorgos Mouaimis Period: 21.6.06 – 11.7.06	12	5.579
TOTAL OF CENTRAL STAGE		92	33.912
COMPARATIVE FIGURES 1.10.04 – 30.9.05		74	19.814
COMPARATIVE FIGURES 1.10.03 – 30.9.04		57	23.624

3.1.2 NEW STAGE

No	Play	Performances	Audience
1.	"MONSIEUR AMILCAR" by Yves Zamiaque Direction: Christos Zanos Period: 5.11.05 – 14.1.06	24	3.062
2.	"THE LIEUTENANT OF INISHMORE" by Martin McDonagh Direction: Christos Shiopachas Period: 21.1.06 – 11.3.06	19	1.715
TOTAL OF NEW STAGE		43	4.777
COMPARATIVE FIGURES 1.10.04 – 30.9.05		47	4.179
COMPARATIVE FIGURES 1.10.03 – 30.9.04		55	4.497

3.1.3 EXPERIMENTAL STAGE

No	Play	Performances	Audience
1.	"MEDEA" by Christa Wolf Direction: Stefanos Kotsikos Period: 9.11.05 – 28.12.05	19	714
2.	"MAGICO THEATRO" by Logginos Panayi Direction: Logginos Panayi Period: 8.2.06 – 4.4.06	14	710
TOTAL OF EXPERIMENTAL STAGE		33	1.424
COMPARATIVE FIGURES 1.10.04 – 30.9.05		16	1.167
COMPARATIVE FIGURES 1.10.03 – 30.9.04		49	3.216

3.1.4 CHILDREN'S STAGE

No	Play	Performances	Audience
1.	"THE CATS" by Haris Pisas Direction: Haris Pisas Period: 9.10.05 – 12.4.06	107	41.821
TOTAL OF CHILDREN'S STAGE		107	41.821
COMPARATIVE FIGURES 1.10.04 – 30.9.05		69	25.110
COMPARATIVE FIGURES 1.10.03 – 30.9.04		79	33.762
GRAND TOTAL		275	81.934
COMPARATIVE FIGURES 1.10.04 – 30.9.05		206	50.270
COMPARATIVE FIGURES 1.10.03 – 30.9.04		240	65.099

3.1.5 PARTICIPATION OF THE CYPRUS THEATRE ORGANISATION AT THE HELLENIC FESTIVAL DURING THE YEARS 2006, 2005, 2004

Year	Play	Performances	Audience
2006	Aristophanes "ECCLESIAZUSAE"	1	1.914
2005	Sophocles "ANTIGONE"	2	7.878
2004	Aeschylus "MYRMIDONES, NEREIDS, PHRYGIANS"	2	7.621

3.1.6 COMPARATIVE CHART OF NUMBER OF PLAYS, PERFORMANCES AND AUDIENCES IN CYPRUS AND ABROAD

2006

	Plays		Performances		Attendance		Attendance
	Cyprus	Abroad	Cyprus	Abroad	Cyprus	Abroad	Total
Central Stage	5	1	92	1	31.234	1.914	33.148
New Stage	2	-	43	-	4.777	-	4.777
Experimental Stage	3	1	35	7	1.642	560	2.202
Children's Stage	1	-	107	-	41.821	-	41.821
TOTAL	11	2	277	8	79.474	2.474	81.948

2005

	Plays		Performances		Attendance		Attendance
	Cyprus	Abroad	Cyprus	Abroad	Cyprus	Abroad	Total
Central Stage	4	1	74	4	19.814	7.878	27.692
New Stage	2	-	47	-	4.179	-	4.179
Experimental Stage	1	-	16	-	1.167	-	1.167
Children's Stage	1	-	69	-	25.110	-	25.110
TOTAL	8	1	206	4	50.270	7.878	58.148

2004

	Plays		Performances		Attendance		Attendance
	Cyprus	Abroad	Cyprus	Abroad	Cyprus	Abroad	Total
Central Stage	3	1	57	2	23.624	7.621	31.245
New Stage	3	1	55	2	4.494	940	5.434
Experimental Stage	3	-	49	-	3.216	-	3.216
Children's Stage	1	-	79	-	33.762	-	33.762
TOTAL	10	2	240	4	65.096	8.561	73.657

* The figures above include all stage performances given by Cyprus Theatre Organisation abroad.

3.1.7 COLLABORATION WITH THEATRES OF CYPRUS AND ABROAD

Within the framework of collaboration and exchange programmes, during 2006 THOC staged of following plays:

No	Play	Performances	Audience
1.	EIKONES APO SINNEFA KAI NOTES Celebrations of the International Theatre Day	2	218

3.2 THE DEVELOPMENT SECTION OF THE CYPRUS THEATRE ORGANISATION

The Cyprus Theatre Organisation continued and intensified during 2006 activities for the development the theatre in Cyprus through its subsidy policy and developmental programmes which cover:

Subsidisation of professional theatre performance,

School theatre (Pancyprian student games, teacher training, advisory support to school stages performances for the Pancyprian student games, drama for special needs education)

Amateur Theatre – Pancyprian Festival of Amateur Theatre, support to participating amateur groups within the Festival, educational seminars, Cypriot Theatre Museum, Educational programmes (covering Audience, playwrighting, theatre artists),

Infrastructure (creation of new renovation of theatre buildings, management)

3.2.1 SUBSIDISATION OF PROFESSIONAL THEATRES

• **PLAN C (annual subsidisation of non-profitable companies)**

	2006 £	2005 £	2004 £
SATIRICON THEATRE	131.795	141.494	130.125
THEATRO ENA	124.979	137.879	113.250
THEATRE DEVELOPMENT COMPANY OF LEMESSOS (E.TH.A.L.)	131.600	144.473	126.900
"SKALA" THEATRE	125.625	135.301	121.465
TOTAL	513.999	559.147	491.740

• **PLAN B (Ad Hoc Subsidisation of non-profitable companies)**

	2006 £	2005 £	2004 £
ANIKTO THEATRO	-	21.400	18.000
THEATRE DIONYSOS	21.000	13.400	10.000
THEATRE ANEMONA	18.000	8.000	18.000
NEANICON THEATRE OF CYPRUS	-	-	5.000
THEATRE ANTIDOTO	19.000	19.997	5.000
THEATRE GROUP PERSONA	-	5.000	10.000
ARIANA ECONOMOU	800	6.500	-
THE HOUSE OF ART	-	14.000	-
THEATRO LEXI	5.000	-	-
TOTAL	63.800	88.297	66.000

• **PLAN A (Ad Hoc Subsidisation of groups)**

	2006 £	2005 £
PERFORMANCE	-	3.000
ELLI KYRIAKIDOU	-	4.000
COSTAS GEORGIU	-	1.800
THEATRE GROUP "EPITHESEOS"	3.000	-
THEATRE GROUP "PROSKINIO"	5.000	-
FOTOS FOTIADES	3.000	-
SPYROS STAVRINIDES	5.000	-
THEATRE KOUINTES	1.500	-
PARAVAN PROACTIONS	3.500	-
TOTAL	21.000	8.800

THEATRES OF CYPRIOT COMMUNITIES ABROAD

	2006	2005	2004
	£	£	£
THEATRE GROUP "OUR CYPRUS"	1.500	2.000	4.020
THEATRO "TECHNIS" LONDON	2.000	-	-
TOTAL	3.500	2.000	4.020
GRAND TOTAL OF SUBSIDISATIONS	602.299	658.244	561.760

3.2.2 CREATION OF NEW AND RENOVATION OF THEATRE BUILDINGS

INFRASTRUCTURE 2006

NO	ACTIVITY	£
1.	NEW STAGE THOC	974
2.	SATIRICON THEATRE	10.000
	TOTAL	£10.974

INFRASTRUCTURE 2005

NO	ACTIVITY	£
1.	THOC NEW BUILDINGS	89.530
2.	ETHAL BUILDING	10.000
3.	OLYMBOS PELENTRIOU	35.000
4.	NEW STAGE THOC	5.680
5.	COMMUNAL THEATRE OF SOTIRA	69
6.	KIMON XYLOTYMBOU GYMNAS TIC SOCIETY	500
7.	SATIRICON THEATRE	30.000
8.	SKALA THEATRE	37.250
	TOTAL	£208.029

INFRASTRUCTURE 2004

NO	ACTIVITY	£
1.	THOC NEW BUILDINGS	117.825
2.	SKALA THEATRE BUILDING	50.000
3.	ETHAL BUILDING	10.000
4.	OLYMBOS PELENTRIOU	20.000
5.	NEW STAGE THOC	1.030
6.	ALONA SUMMER THEATRE	3.000
7.	SOTIRA COMMUNAL THEATRE	10.228
8.	ANTIDOTO THEATRE	5.000
	TOTAL	£217.083

3.2.3 OTHER SUBSIDIES AND ACTIVITIES

ACTIVITY	£
AMATEUR THEATRE 2006 (up to 7.11.06)	
Theatre Council Services	10.725
Expenses for guest performance of Naousa-Paros Theatre Group	2.334
18th Pancyprian Festival of Amateur Theatre	4.860
Participation of Cyprus at the 18th Annual Meeting of Amateur Theatre of the Aegean	350
TOTAL	£18.269
AMATEUR THEATRE 2005	
Theatre Council Expenses	9.258
Expenses for quest performance of Mitilini Theatre Group	3.712
17th Pancyprian Festival of Amateur Theatre	3.442
18th Pancyprian Festival of Amateur Theatre	23.438
Participation of Cyprus at the 18th Annual Meeting of Amateur Theatre of the Aegean in Ko	1.339
TOTAL	£41.189
AMATEUR THEATRE 2004	
Teaching of Theatre Education	8.554
Participation of Cyprus at the 16th Annual Meeting of Amateur Theatre of the Aegean in Lymnos	4.116
16th Pancyprian Festival of Amateur Theatre	2.684
17th Pancyprian Festival of Amateur Theatre	555
Theatre Group "DIGENIS"	500
TOTAL	£16.409

School Theatre:

	2006 £	2005 £	2004 £
Pancyprian Student Theatre Games in Memory of Panayiotis Sergis	25.077	28.720	29.298
Educational drama within schools of Secondary and special needs education	18.825	17.537	12.925
Panhellenic Games	398	961	14.517
Various Teaching Materials	-	105	77
TOTAL	44.300	47.323	56.817

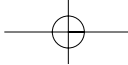
ORGANISATION SUBSIDIES	£
Annual Subsidy of the Cyprus Centre of the International Theatre Institute	40.000
Actors Union of Cyprus	2.500
Cyprus Playwrights Society	1.500
Friends of Shadow Theatre	1.000
Popular Theatre of Aglandjia	6.000
TOTAL	51.000
OTHER ACTIVITIES (up 7.11.2006)	
Website of THOC	3.483
Publication – Diary (Theatriki Poria Lemesou)	1.000
EUROPEAN THEATRE CONVENTION	5.780
International Theatre Day	2.928
PHYSICAL AND DEVISED Theatre Seminar	250
Cyprus Theatre Museum	325.000
Participation of Cyprus at the 18th Session of Cairo International Festival for Experimental Theatre	1.715
TOTAL	340.156

4. THE CYPRUS LIBRARY

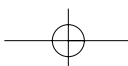
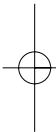
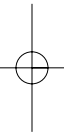
The Cyprus Library was established in 1987 (Law 51/87). It is located on the D_Avila Bastion of the Venetian walls of Nicosia near Eleftheria Square.

In 2006 the Central Library held more than 100,000 books and provided lending and reference services to users in Cyprus and abroad. Its primary collections comprise Cypriot books and periodicals, and United Nations documents.

The Bulletin of the Cyprus Bibliography for 2005 was published by the Library.



PART C
SPORTS



1. CYPRUS SPORT ORGANISATION

The Cyprus Sports Organisation, the supreme sport authority in the Republic of Cyprus, is responsible for the development of the out-of-school sports, as well as the Sports For All project, pursuant to the 69-96 Law on the Cyprus Sports Organisation.

The functioning structure of the CSO is as follows:

1. Sports Sector
2. Sporting Grounds Sector
3. Financial Administration Sector
4. Human Resources Sector

The Competitive Sports and the Sports For All as well as all the other projects launched by the Organisation like Anti-Doping, National Sport Development Support Scheme, Violence etc, come under its responsibility.

The creation and / or the improvement of the sport infrastructure as well as the supervision and maintenance of all the privately owned sporting grounds come under the Sporting Grounds Sector.

The entire financial planning of the CSO and the financial auditing processes come under the Financial Administration Sector.

The training of all the permanent staff of the Organisation, the follow-up of the Sport Research Centre and the Relations with the Trade Unions come under the Human Resources Sector and the Cyprus Sport Research Centre.

1.1 SPORTS SECTOR

The Sports Sector has been involved in two disciplines: the Competitive Sports and the Mass Sports.

1.1.1 COMPETITIVE SPORTS

The Cyprus Sports Organisation has offered to the Competitive Sports, financial support amounting to CYP8.134.000 used in the form of subsidies:

- a) CSO projects like National Sport Development Support Scheme, Anti-Doping, Talents' Scheme, Developing High Performance Athletes – Olympic Training, Surveys etc)
- (b) Discipline A' Basis Sports (Clubs)
- (c) Discipline B' Elit Sports (Federations)

A. 2005 HIGH PRIORITY ACTIVITIES

Cyprus participation, in the 2006 Commonwealth Games in Melbourne has been the major achievement of the Organisation in the field of Competitive Sports.

In order that the Organisation may achieve its objectives, it has, in co-operation with the Cyprus Olympic Committee, implemented the Scheme of High Performance Athletes and specialised coaching, which has been operational according to the project. The said Scheme aims basically at developing the athletes with high competitive expectations in an efficient way and furthermore at ensuring the highest possible participation of the Cypriot athletes in the above-mentioned games.

B. 2006 COMMONWEALTH GAMES – MELBOURNE

The objectives of the Cyprus delegation at the 2006 Commonwealth Games in Melbourne have been three as follows:

The best possible distinction, as specified while focusing on obtaining as many medals as possible compared with any other previous Commonwealth sport events and some athletes being placed in good positions at the finals.

The proper competitive presence of the Cyprus delegation, which is translated in its participating in the finals and its getting at least the eighth position.

The main objective, which is always set up, that is the participants appearing and behaving correctly whilst members in delegations, which represent Cyprus abroad (athletes, coaches, accompanying persons, important persons.)

The first objective has absolutely been achieved because our athletes have come up winners with 6 medals.

Three gold medals: Giorgos Achilleos, Andri Eleftheriou, Achilleos and Nikolaides, all of them in skit.

One silver medal: Andri Eleftheriou and Louiza Theofanous in double skit

Two bronze medals: Erodotos Giorgallas in the rings of artistic gymnastics and Kyriakos Ioannou in vault.

The second target regarding the athletes participating properly has been achieved by most of them. Yet, some athletes have not reached this goal and their personal one either, which was a possibly achievable performance for them.

As far as the third target is concerned, success has absolutely been reached.

Forty athletes, men and women, coming from eight federations participated indeed in the above-mentioned event: 10 out of the 40 in the track events, 11 in shooting, 6 in weight lifting, 3 in swimming, 2 in paralympics, 3 in boxing, 3 in rhythmic and 3 in artistic gymnastics.

The Cyprus Sports Organisation has supported the athletes' training with the amount of CYP163.515, acting as part of the project CSO – COC Commonwealth Games.

C. ATHLETES' REWARD

The decision taken by the CSO's Council is deemed determining. According to this decision two projects have been implemented, the one being the "Scheme for High Benefits to Athletes and Coaches" and the second one being the "Scheme for High Benefits to 2004 Athletes and Coaches".

The Organisation puts in practice the "Scheme for High Benefits to Athletes and Coaches", in compliance with, which athletes and coaches are rewarded with significant sums of money for their excellent performance at top sport events.

Simultaneously has in 2006, the Organisation has implemented the "Scholarships Scheme", according to which both athletes and students are evaluated considering their competitive activities and they benefit from a scholarship.

D. FIGHTING AGAINST THE MOST CRUCIAL PROBLEMS FACED BY MODERN SPORTS

In the context of "CSO projects", which are National Projects indeed, the Organisation is the umbrella of a wide spectrum of activities and lays stress particularly is fighting against doping, that is the use of prohibited substances and methods. It also stresses fighting against violence in sports. These are deemed the most crucial problems faced by modern sports.

The CSO keeps typically in line with the international strategy on taking coordinated actions and implementing efficient projects to cope with the above-mentioned challenges and fight against their negative impact accordingly. It does so, by means of the National Committees.

E. INTERNATIONAL SPORT RELATIONS

Moreover, the International Sport Relations have been subsidized by further CYP130.000. It is noted that almost all the sports practised in our country (about 30), in terms of group training, with a view to participating in international sport events as well as in established games between Cyprus and Greece, have benefited from the Transnational Agreements signed by our country, other European and non countries, the strongest among which is the one signed with Greece.

1.1.2 MASS SPORTS

The "Sports For All" Project has for 21 consecutive years been applied successfully.

The project aims mainly at providing all the Cypriots with equal training opportunities, through its various programmes. It also aims at improving the fitness level and the peoples' health.

A. SPORTS AND CHILD

- a) The project "General Sport Practising" is addressed to all the children in Elementary Education and aims basically at getting them involved in a sport-oriented world.
- b) The Specialised Projects, in which the talented children, having special sport qualifications, are selected. Through this project, the candidates are provided with the opportunity to participate in games on a regional and country level in Cyprus.
- c) The project "Child and Swimming", during summer months, gives the opportunity to all the children to get into water for the first time and learn how to swim properly.

- d) The project "Pre-elementary Education" is addressed to children at a pre-school age aiming at getting them involved in sport practising in the form of playing.

B. PROJECT: SPORTS AND WOMAN – MAN

This project covers big urban zones and is extended to country centres too.

The projects, which are performed, are the following:

1. Aerobics
2. Basket-ball
3. Volley-ball
4. Swimming
5. Futsal
6. Self-defense

C. PROJECT FOR PERSONS WITH SPECIAL ABILITIES

The Cyprus Sports Organisation, implements special projects for the persons attending the School for the Blind and the students of the Special Schools in Nicosia, Larnaca, Famagusta and Paphos. It puts in practice the philosophy of the "Sports For All" projects, providing people involved with equal opportunities regardless their sex, age, social position and mainly the level of mental and physical health.

In the project "Sports For All", approximately 10.000 persons (both children and adults) and 80 Physical Education teachers have become active working in more than 250 centres.

The overall cost of the project is expected to rise to approximately CYP715.320.

D. "SPORTS FOR ALL" PROJECT IN THE NATIONAL GUARD

The "Sports For All" offers the considerably important Project of Physical Education in the National Guard, aiming at upgrading the Physical Education in this field.

The projects "Sport Practising", which have been established with a view to create a modern army in terms of fitness, are improved and modified in compliance with the changing conditions and needs required by the National Guard.

The objectives of the Physical Education discipline in the National Guard are:

1. Improving all the soldiers' fitness.
2. Selecting the soldiers among the members of the Army National Team. Evaluating the soldiers who have some particular sport skills.
3. Combining sport practising and leisure time of the soldiers by play.
4. Encouraging the soldiers to continue their competitive activity to be athletes.
5. Finally staffing the National Guard with well-trained militiamen, who will be competent to cope with any mission, which will be successfully accomplished.

The overall cost of the project is expected to rise to approximately CYP180.000

1.2 SPORT FACILITIES AND TECHNICAL SERVICES SECTOR

The Sport Facilities and Technical Services Sector shall include two chapters:

1. Building private-owned Sport Facilities / sponsoring Club Sport Facilities, and
2. Administering and maintaining the private-owned Sport Facilities.

1.2.1 CONSTRUCTION OF PRIVATE-OWNED SPORT FACILITIES AND SPONSORING CLUB SPORT FACILITIES

In order to ensure the development of the sport infrastructure in the field of works done, the sum of approximately CYP5.800.000,00 (CYP9.500.000,00 in 2004 and CYP7.800.000,00 in 2005) has been spent in 2006. A progressive reduction of the capitals invested in sport premises is observed, considering that the big sport works have already been completed and bearing in mind that the relevant policy has been modified, since these works are carried out following some lending procedures for each big project separately.

A. Works completed and already used in 2005

- A1 The Larnaka Olympic Swimming Pool has been ready for use to serve the Larnaka Nautical Club, part of the Famagusta Nautical Club, the Sports For All projects in Larnaka and it has been integrated in the Sport Tournament projects.
- A.2 The parquet has been placed in the Closed Sport Centre "SPYROS KYPRIANOU" and sport activities (FIBA All Star Game) have taken place in it, like Lemesia, the Volleyball championship and other events (concerts, the Cyprus International Rally, etc). At the same time, Federations, Lemesos Sport Institutions involved in Martial Arts, Boxing, Weight Lifting, Rhythmic Gymnastics, and SQUASH become active in this field. A delay has occurred in the public procurement regarding the seats and the results board, which are expected to be placed there in 2007.
- A.3 The new closed 25-meter Swimming Pool by the Tsirion Ground in Limassol has been completed and is already used by the Limassol, Famagusta and Kyrenia Nautical Clubs. The Limassol Olympic Swimming Pool is out of use for renovating and modernizing purposes.
- A.4 The Olympic Mansion, which has been subsidized by the Cyprus Sport Organisation has been completed and is actually used. The Cyprus Olympic Committee and all the other Federations except for the Cyprus Football Federation, have moved over there.
- A.5 A great many Social Sports works have been completed and are used in many towns and communities (Nicosia, Strovolos, Yeroskipou, Polemidia, Erimi municipalities etc).
- A.6 The sport seafront premises at Paralimni have been completed and the World Students Beach Volley Games have taken place there as well as local Beach Volley and Beach Handball tournaments.
- A.7 The renovating works of the Pafian Ground changing rooms have been completed against approximately CYP300.000.

B. Works under execution

- B.1 The Sport Park in the old GSO (Olympian Gymnastic Club) is under construction. The cost of this project amounts to CYP1.900.000 and it is expected to be completed by the end of 2007.
- B.2 The Cyprus Sports Organisation subsidizes the construction of the Platres Sport Centre. The cost of this project amounts to CYP1.100.000 and it is expected to be completed during 2007.
- B.3 The Kyperounta Village Ground is undergoing upgrading works amounting to CYP300.000 and it is expected to be completed by the end of the year.
- B.4 Many small Social Sports projects are under construction in Municipalities and Communities.
- B5 Following a contract award, TV closed circuits are actually installed in the Antonis Papadopoulos and the Tsirion ground. The project is expected to be completed the first quarter of 2007 when these circuits will be functional.

C. Maintenance of the football Grounds turf

The CSO has been responsible for the maintenance of the turf in the Makarios ground and its ancillary premises as well as the Pafian Sporting Centre. It also subsidizes the grounds of GSZ, Ahnas National, Tsirion, "Famagusta", "Tassos Marcou" etc.

D. Small Developing Works

The CSO granted CYP500.000.00 to various Clubs and Sport Associations to help them improve their Sport Facilities.

E. It has sponsored the construction of closed sport rooms at schools, which are used as Sport Clubs and Associations.

1.2.2 MANAGEMENT AND MAINTENANCE OF SPORT FACILITIES

In 2006, the Organisation has assessed the sport places, which might be used for Sport Tourism and this was considered when the Strategic Project with respect to the Sport Tourism was developed.

The Agros In-door Ground was used well and mainly during summer months, in the context of the Sports For All projects and the camping focusing on Group Sports coaching.

The renovated old GSZ ground, the management of which was entrusted with a private company, following a call for tenders procedure, is functioning successfully indeed with the Larnaka public participating massively.

The Federations already use the coaching centre for multiple uses in Nicosia. Clubs of Group Sports also use it for Basketball, Volleyball, Tennis. The Badminton Federation, the Table Tennis Federation and the Cyprus Gymnastics Federation use it too. Moreover, some of our facilities are let to private companies as well as to Charity Foundations to organise sport and cultural events.

1.3 FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT SECTOR

The income and expenses of the CSO during the period 2004 – 2006 are stated in the following table:

ACCUMULATIVE TABLE OF INCOME – EXPENSES

	2004	2005	2006
	Real terms £	Real terms £	Initial budget £
INCOME			
1. State subsidies	19.245.131	19.300.000	19.300.000
2. Income from private-owned and other Sport Facilities	264.571	310.685	251.310
3. Sport stamp	158.143	177.791	. 0
4. Other income	790.455	747.466	690.100
5. Lending	0	6.000.000	4.377.739
Total income	20.458.300	26.535.942	24.619.149
EXPENSES			
1. Management expenses	3.044.026	4.131.543	5.056.217
2. Subsidies	9.535.110	10.042.204	9.706.700
3. Creation & Improvement of Sport Facilities	8.683.659	6.261.535	6.738.832
4. Loans paid off & Other Obligations	939.380	3.971.986	2.567.390
5. Policing of the Grounds	400.000	400.000	400.010
6. Non estimated expenses provisions and Stock		0	150.000
Total expenses	22.602.175	24.607.268	24.619.149

1.4 HUMAN RESOURCES SECTOR AND CYPRUS SPORT RESEARCH CENTRE (CSRS)

The total number of permanent positions among the employees is 38 against 6 temporary ones. The total number of Experts collaborating on a contract basis is 160 and they work on applied sport projects, which are operational under the CSO. Staff in all the departments of the Organisation has been trained as their supervisors have planned so or by their own initiative. Such training courses have been offered by the public sector but mainly the private one. A total amount of approximately CYP5.000 has been available so far.

The Law 98(1)/03 on a Fixed Employment Time (Avoid ill –favoured treatment) has always been applied and has covered pay issues like the 13th. Salary. The public holidays are also fixed. Moreover, annual and sick leave are also mentioned in the law. It is expected that a medical and pharmaceutical care plan be implemented before end 2006.

The functioning and management of the Sport Research Centre is also placed under the Human Resources Sector.

As far as the Human Resources Sector and Cyprus Sport Research Centre (CSRS), in 2006, 671 ergometric tests for athletes men and women involved in many sports belonging to various categories. (Res. 1) have been done by the by the 31st of September 2006. The biggest participation figure is observed in the case of athletes who were members of the National Groups (253) and then come the athletes men and women who are under the Talents' Scheme, the number of whom reaches 131. Then come the athletes of the clubs (188) and the Research Projects, which are carried out by the Centre. There are (99) ergometric works, mainly carried out by Eurofit as well as Control Groups and focus on specialized research carried out by the Human Resources Sector and the Cyprus Sport Research Centre (CSRS).

Today, the Human Resources Sector and Cyprus Sport Research Centre (CSRS) has 10 employees: 1 permanent one, 9 temporary positions and / or scientific expert collaborators who carry out ergometric works in the Centre's laboratories as well as on the Competitive Places. Some research work has also been carried out on, which presentations during international conferences dealing with scientific issues have been made.

It is expected that In 2006, the Human Resources Sector and Cyprus Sport Research Centre (CSRS) will further be equipped with scientific instruments of high technology and modern measurement and assessment means focusing on athletes with high performance, mainly in the field of Strength, Flexibility and Balance. Therefore, the evaluation procedure and methods of the athletes involved in almost all sports, in compliance with the above-mentioned factors, will be improved. Yet, this evolution will affect even more positively the athletes who practise rhythmic and artistic gymnastics.

PROTOCOLS

In 2006, the CSO has signed protocols on sport collaboration with Greece, Romania and Bulgaria, which are still in force.

The sport collaboration with these countries is due exclusively to the limited budget capacity of the Organisation, in the context of the government retrenchments. The CSO could very well have signed a collaboration protocol with the double number of countries and even more, if it could afford so.

Exchange of athletes and groups are made for training purposes, as per the protocol. Participating in games both in Cyprus and abroad is also provided by the protocol. Approximately 35 sports have globally been activated by means of this protocol.

SERVICE VISITS ABROAD

The CSO participates in various seminars, meetings, conferences and fora dealing with sport issues, in order that it may keep abreast with the evolutions in its field of activities. It, therefore, follows up particularly issues related to violence in sports, anti-doping, sport administration and it attends various Ministers' Informal Meetings

on Sports. It also participates actively in a big European Sport Conference, in a Meeting of the European Sports General Directors, a European Conference on "Sports and Woman" as well as in sport meetings of the Council of Europe Sport Department.

SPORT ACADEMY

In 2006, the CSO continued to subsidize sport institutions in Cyprus to help the staff acquire further knowledge. In the same year, the Organisation has, in the context of the Sport Academy, subsidized 42 sport institutions for training their athletes, coaches, judges and officers. The total sum of this subsidy has amounted approximately to CYP90.000.