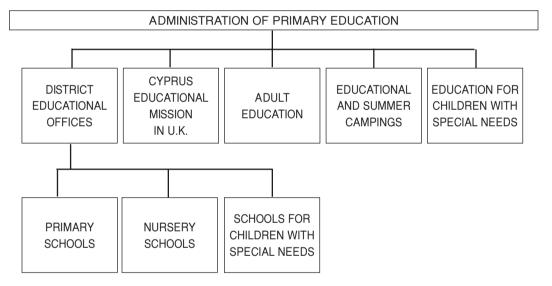
AMMUAL REPORT 2007

PART A EDUCATION



1.1 ADMINISTRATION OF 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 persists the continuous and steady progress, improvement and upgrading of Primary Education by encouraging the in-service training of the teaching staff, the production 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), the 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 at satisfying 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 fundamental principle of defining 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 foster 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 for beauty
- 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 2007 we had 371 Greek-Cypriots and 127 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 also had to close down, due to lack of pupils (the last and only pupil of the 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 that

started functioning in one of the classrooms of the Rizokarpaso Primary School. Thirteen children attended classes at the Rizokarpaso Nursery School during the school year 2006-2007, while fifteen pupils attended classes at the Rizokarpaso Primary School, the only Greek School that has been operating from the beginning of the Turkish Occupation.

Some 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 2006-2007. This was mainly due to the fact that the occupational forces insist on interfering with the regular operation of our schools.

Nevertheless, the education provided by the three schools mentioned above is considered satisfactory. The Ministry of Education and Culture ensures that all necessary material, including books and paperwork, 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 449 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 immense 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 organisation 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 publication 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 is one of the most important programmes of General Adult Education in Cyprus. Their aims and objectives are to keep pace with various developmental policies of Cyprus and the wider objectives of the Ministry of Education and Culture. They also aim at the enhancement of the quality of Adult Education on an informal basis, the improvement of knowledge and skills for those leaving school without any basic qualifications and the provision of Lifelong Learning opportunities to adults, leading to their successful integration in the European Union.

The Adult Education Centres have offered education and training to thousands of adults, mainly in rural areas, since the independence of the Republic of Cyprus in 1960. From 1974 onwards, they were also established in most urban areas and today, they cover all areas of the free area of Cyprus, offering opportunities for further personal and professional development for thousands of adults aged 15 and above. During the school year 2006-2007, more than 20000 thousands have attended the large number of courses offered by the Adult Education Centres (more than 70) in approximately 300 centres with more than 500 qualified instructors employed.

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 meet the Greek language, the culture of Cyprus, the history of the island and the island itself, in general.

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-organisation and self-support. Moreover, the programme helps to improve children's health and offers children organised entertainment, supporting the current trends of education through the organisation of social life in camps.

Educational camps operated in two different sessions during 2006-2007, one in October and one in May. There were five, five-day periods in October 2006 and seven, five-day sessions in May – June 2007. During the whole year, 1060 pupils from 40 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 900 children from 200 schools.

The Ministry of Education and Culture increases hospitality programmes for children from other countries too. In summer 2007, 140 children from other countries visited Cyprus, participating in these hospitality programmes (100 from Greece, 20 from the Greek-Cypriot community in the UK and 20 from Uzbekistan). These children were accommodated in a coastal hotel in Larnaka.

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 2006-2007. Specifically, during the summer of 2007, 270 Cypriot pupils were accommodated in five different camping sessions in Greece (three at Metamorfosis Halkidikis camping and two in Athens Municipality).

1.1.8 EDUCATION FOR THE GREEKS OF DIASPORA

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

- The teaching of the Greek language to children and teachers of the Greek Orthodox schools in Jerusalem.
- The provision of books and other educational material to all Greek schools and other Greek organisations.
- The offering of hospitality to children from Greek communities and the provision of programmes related to the Greek language and culture.
- The offering of educational support to repatriated Cypriots and Greeks of Diaspora, through the school system and the Adult Education Centres with the provision of free Greek Language courses to both children and adults.

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	2004-2005	2005-2006	2006-2007
PRIMARY SCHOOLS			
a) Number of Schools (*)	346	342	345
b) Number of Pupils (*)	57575	55868	53949
c) Number of Teachers (*)	3835	3882	3986
NURSERY SCHOOLS			
Public:			
a) Number of Schools (*)	244	244	249
b) Number of Pupils (*)	9924	10035	9904
c) Number of Teachers (*)	590	606	619
Communal:			
a) Number of Schools	69	66	66
b) Number of Pupils	1935	1840	1712
c) Number of Teachers	90	89	87

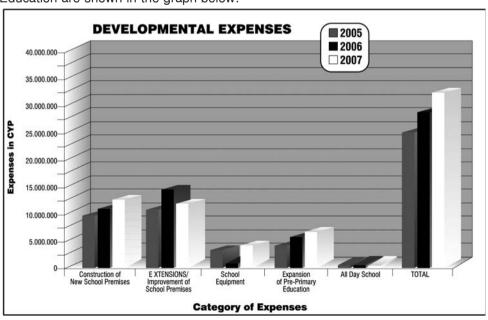
schools	2004-2005	2005-2006	2006-2007
SCHOOLS FOR CHILDREN WITH SPECIAL NEEDS			
a) Number of Schools	9	9	9
b) Number of Pupils	295	317	279
c) Number of Teachers	109	109	109
GREEK COMMUNITY SCHOOLS			
a) Number of Schools	113	125	84
b) Number of Pupils	6200	6500	6700
c) Number of Teachers: permanent	36	36	36
part time	85	90	106
ADULT EDUCATION CENTRES			
a) Number of Centres	263	280	305
b) Number of Members	19176	21550	22500
c) Number of Instructors	477	550	585

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

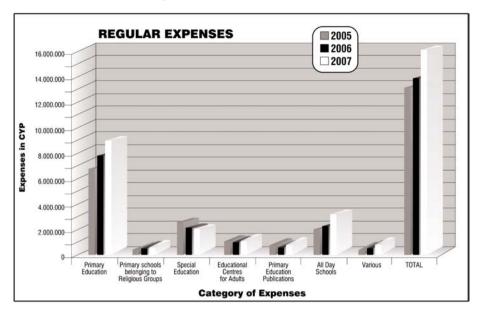
SCHOOLS IN OCCUPIED AREA	20042005	2005-2006	2006-2007
PRIMARY EDUCATION			
a) Number of Schools	1	1	1
b) Number of Pupils	9	13	15
c) Number of Teachers	2	2	1
NURSERY SCHOOLS			
a) Number of Schools	1	1	1
b) Number of Pupils	6	15	13
c) Number of Teachers	1	1	1

1.1.10 FINANCIAL STATUS

The developmental expenses for the financial years 2005, 2006 and 2007 in Primary Education are shown in the graph below:



The regular expenses for the financial years 2005, 2006 and 2007 in Primary Education are shown in the graph below:



1.1.11 SCHOOL PREMISES

During the school year 2006-2007, the procedures for the construction of 15 new primary school buildings and 27 new pre-primary schools continued.

In September 2006, the construction of three primary schools and five pre-primary schools was completed and they functioned without problems.

With the completion of the above programme, severe housing problems are expected to be solved on a pancyprian scale, since the number of pupils in very big schools will have to be reduced.

Expansions and improvements in a large number of primary and pre-primary school premises helped also in facing smaller housing problems.

1.2 SECONDARY GENERAL EDUCATION

Secondary General Education, Public and Private, covers 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 aims at promoting knowledge focusing on general education and the grading specialization. Thus it prepares pupils for their academic or professional pursuits. It also pursues the promotion and development of healthy, mental and moral personalities, the creation of able, democratic and law abiding citizens, the strengthening of national identity, cultural values and universal ideals for freedom, justice, peace and the fostering of love and respect among people, aiming at promoting mutual understanding and cooperation among people.

Public Secondary general Education is offered to pupils between the ages of 12 - 18, through two three-year levels - the Gymnasium and the Lyceum (Eniaio Lykeio). The curriculum includes common core subjects, such as Modern Greek and Mathematics and Optional Subjects. Some subjects are interdisciplinary such as Health Education and Environmental Studies. Moreover, there are various extra curricular activities, for

example clubs, excursions, visits to various places and so on in order to attain a wholesome and balanced development of the pupils' personality. Tuition is free of charge for both levels of education and it is compulsory up to the age of 15.

During the last few years, the educational system of the Lyceum has become more flexible within a varied subject framework which allows pupils to select subjects according to their inclinations, skills and interests. Particularly, from the school year 2000 - 2001, after the implementation of the Eniaio Lykeio institution at all lycea, flexibility and prospects opening up for pupils have increased even more. This new institution responds to the various challenges, national and international, while it strengthens the European dimension of the education of our country.

Secondary Education has a wide range of responsibilities: Supervising and evaluating the activities of the public schools, supervising the activities of private schools and institutes, the State Institutes for Further Education, Counselling, monitoring the implementation of school regulations, inspection of teaching staff, educational planning, school staffing, further education to pupils and adults, provision of information about education.

1.2.1 THE GYMNASIUM

The Gymnasium is a complete cycle of general education focused on humanistic education and supplements the general education offered in Primary Education. It prepares pupils for the Lyceum of the Technical / Vocational Education. Attendance is compulsory for all pupils. Within the framework of the policy of the Ministry of Education and Culture for qualitative upgrading of education new institutions have been introduced and promoted, such as the teaching of Information Technology in all classes, the utilization of the school libraries, the introduction of the special rooms, such as the Language Rooms or the History Rooms, as well as the upgrading of the institution of the Form Teacher.

Education Priority Zones ensure prevention of school failure and functional illiteracy. Their main principles being to secure the continuity from Pre-Primary to Primary Education and to the Gymnasium, the collaboration with local authorities, the decrease of the number of pupils in each class and the acquisition of the oral mode.

From the year 1989 - 1990, the Literacy Programme is run in all Gymnasia in an effort to face functional literacy and prevent school and social exclusion. The content of the programme focuses on the three basic skills - reading, writing, arithmetic - according to the levels of the three first classes of Primary Education and the needs and experiences of Gymnasium pupils.

Measures are also taken for the education and training of pupils with special needs. Special assistance is offered to these pupils for their school development in all sectors, and especially in the psychological, social and educational ones.

1.2.2 THE ENIAIO LYKEIO

In the school year 2000 - 2001, the institution of the Eniaio Lykeio was introduced all over Cyprus. An institution which is promoted and developed continuously so that all those concerned be able to face the challenges of the society of knowledge, and the new realities stemming from the accession of Cyprus in the European Union and the features of the Cyprus State - political, social and economic.

All the above led to the specification of the qualities of the teenager-citizen of the 21st century. This teenager has to acquire and materialize a combination of general

knowledge and some kind of specialization, with an emphasis on the learning mechanisms, research and self-activity, the knowledge of foreign languages, the skills to use new technologies and preparation for life long learning and self-education. The citizen of the 21st century must be able to coexist in a global, multicultural society, acquire and use the continually ongoing knowledge, get to know and act properly in every occasion and survive as a useful citizen in his state and in a global society.

The Eniaio Lykeio offers common core subjects, which are obligatory for all pupils, and optional subjects. Common core subjects offer general education, multi-faceted development and acquisition of general skills, which are required by the contemporary realities. All subjects in Class A' are common core subjects. In Classes B' and C' pupils attend common core lessons and at the same time choose optional subjects for systematic and in depth study of subjects which interest them.

1.2.3 STATE INSTITUTES FOR FURTHER EDUCATION

The State Institutes for Further Education function under the auspices of Secondary Education all over Cyprus. They aim at offering equal opportunities of education to thousands of pupils and adults and promote life long learning.

1.2.4 COUNSELLING AND CAREER EDUCATION SERVICE

The Counselling and Career Education Service also functions under Secondary Education and aims at offering support and information to pupils, so that they will be able to realise and use their abilities and interests, adapt better to the school environment and make the best personal, educational and professional choices.

1.2.5 THE EUROPEAN DIMENSION IN EDUCATION

The European dimension in education is one of the basic aims of the Cyprus education. It is promoted interdisciplinary through the syllabi of various subjects and other school activities which aim at informing and assisting pupils acquire "European consciousness". Therefore, schools participate in various activities, programmes and competitions such as Spring Day, The European Day of Languages, The European Language Label, Life Long learning Programmes, organise European Clubs, undertake projects, make links and exchanges with other European schools, and generally use the Internet and the email to conduct pupils in Europe.

1.2.6 PRIVATE SECONDARY EDUCATION

There is a number of private secondary education schools which offer education preparing pupils for enrollment in Tertiary Education locally or abroad and the smooth transition in the labour market and the business world. Primary and Secondary Education offered by private schools is divided into three categories according to their syllabus and timetable.

1.2.7 NUMBER OF PUPILS

During the school year 2006 - 2007, 27.697 attended the Gymnasium, 23.696 pupils attended the Eniaio Lykeio (Lyceum) and 809 pupils the evening school. The number

of pupils at the Gymnasium was decreased in contrast to the previous year and increased at the Lyceum.

1.2.8 NUMBER OF EDUCATIONISTS

The number of educators in Secondary Education during the school year 2006 - 2007 were 6.105.

Teaching staff at Secondary Education Schools during the School year 2006-2007

TEACHERS								
Subject	Head	Dep. Head A'	Dep. Head	Perm. Teachers	On Contract	Total Teachers	Grand Total	C.E.O. / Inspectors
Religious Knowledge	5	9	32	179	39	218	264	2
Greek/Language and Literature	31	74	276	1054	227	1281	1662	15
Mathematics	19	24	103	407	123	530	676	6
Physics	6	11	43	194	67	261	321	2
Biology/ Anthropology	3	11	34	151	39	190	238	2
Chemistry	5	4	21	107	44	151	181	1
Geography	0	1	3	10	3	13	17	0
English	27	25	90	307	62	369	511	3
French	5	9	32	133	27	160	206	2
Italian	0	0	0	3	38	41	41	
Spanish	0	0	0	1	12	13	13	
German	0	0	4	3	4	7	11	
Russian	0	0	0	0	3	3	3	
Turkish	0	0	0	0	8	8	8	
Economics	6	11	37	132	51	183	237	2
Physical Education	6	13	58	291	66	357	434	2
Music	2	3	17	130	26	156	178	2
Art	1	5	19	115	42	157	182	1
Photography	0	0	0	0	6	6	6	
Home Economics	0	1	20	130	31	161	182	0
Computer Studies	0	2	16	205	169	374	392	1
Design and Technology	0	5	21	161	30	191	217	2
Vocational Guidance	1	1	8	90	10	100	110	1
Theater	0	0	0	0	15	15	15	
TOTAL	117	209	834	3803	1142	4945	6105	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
2001-2002	29005	22840	51845	620
2002-2003	28874	23230	52104	800
2003-2004	28854	23367	52221	840
2004-2005	28050	23303	51353	888
2005-2006	27965	23526	51491	809
2005-2006	27697	23696	51393	771
I				

During the school year 2006-2007, there were 111 school units, as follows:

TOTAL	111
Evening Schools	5
Gymnasia and Lycea joined	7
Lycea	35
Gymnasia	64

1.2.10 FINANCIAL STATUS

Expenditure in Secondary General Education constitutes the greatest percentage of the public expenditure for education and aims at promoting activities, measures and projects which reinforce the effort for qualitative upgrading of Secondary Education.

Developmental expenditure in Secondary education for the year 2007 aimed at:

- The construction of Information Technology labs in Gymnasia and Lycea
- The building of new schools
- · The expansion, improvement, and maintenance of school buildings
- The promotion of Information Technology in Gymnasia and the connection to the Internet of Gymnasia and Lycea
- The reinforcement of technological subjects
- The equipment of labs
- · The anti-drug training and Health Education
- The establishment of School Links and Exchanges.

During the year 2007, regular expenditure, in Secondary Education, apart from educators' salaries, aimed at covering functional expenses as follows:

- School athletics
- State Institutes for Further Education
- Pupils' transportation
- Supplies for the operation of the Eniaio Lykeio
- Maintenance of computers in Lycea
- Publications
- Publications and purchases of books
- International pupils' competitions
- Competitions on Europe Day
- Guarding of school buildings
- Development of school libraries
- Replacement of furniture.

1.2.11 ESTABLISHING NEW SECONDARY EDUCATION SCHOOLS

The Ministry of education and Culture considers the qualitative upgrading of the infra structure of Gymnasia and Lycea and the decrease of the number of pupils in each class as of great importance.

For the next few years the Ministry has already started the procedure for finding places, designing and building Gymnasia and Lycea in every town.

Expansions and improvements of Gymnasia and Lycea.

In the annual budget for the year 2007, expansions and improvements of school buildings were included in order to be able to deal with problems of buildings in several schools. It is estimated that £8,07 millions will be needed.

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 at offering 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 area, which cater for the pupils of the Famagusta district. In 1998–99, Hotel and 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.

A comprehensive and scientific evaluation of the curriculum offered by Secondary Technical and Vocational Education is currently underway. The evaluation is cofinanced 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 at equipping young people with the means to get a job and to supply industry with semi–skilled workers.

A comprehensive evaluation of the Apprenticeship Scheme is currently underway. The evaluation is 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 at providing 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.

134 SCHOOLS IN OPERATION

The Technical Schools in operation during 2006-2007, are shown on the table below. The total number of pupils in each School is also shown:

School	No. of Students
A´ Technical School Nicosia	436
B´ Technical School Nicosia	104
Technical School «Makarios III» Nicosia	676
Evening Technical School Nicosia	110
A´ Technical School Limassol	621
B´ Technical School Limassol	293
C´ Technical School Limassol	283
Apeitio Gymnasium Agros	26
Technical School Larnaca	431
St. Lazaros Technical School Larnaca	345
Paralimni Technical School	86
Peripheral Technical and Agricultural School of Avgorou	289
Paphos Technical School	474
Polis Technical School	84

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 498 full-time. The number of part time Teachers and Instructors for the Afternoon and Evening Classes was 109, one of which was full-time.

1.3.6 NUMBER OF PUPILS

During the 2006-2007 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	4258
Apprenticeship Scheme	373
Afternoon and Evening Classes	1360
TOTAL	5991

1.3.7 EXPENDITURE

During the 2007 year the development expenditure for STVE reached the amount of £3.130.000, compared to £5.557.000 in 2006. The current expenditure for the same year was £918.290, compared to £1.024.500 in 2006.

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 £2.130.000 and was distributed as follows:

Technical Schools in Nicosia District £1.112.000

Technical Schools in Limassol District £278.000

Technical Schools in Larnaca District £491.000

Technical Schools in Paphos District £213.100

Technical Schools in Famagusta District £35.900

1.4 HIGHER AND TERTIARY EDUCATION

1.4.1 INTRODUCTION

The Cyprus' accession to the European Union has brought forward new challenges for the Department of Higher and Tertiary Education. During the previous academic year the Department 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 Cyprus 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 dynamic; 24 institutions and 7 branches (of some of those institutions) operate in Nicosia, Limassol, Larnaka, Pafos and Famagusta offering a plethora of programmes which lead to academic as well as vocational qualifications of high demand in the local as well as 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. The standards for development and upgrading as regards to the programmes of study, the qualifications of academic personnel, the infrastructure and so on, are set with the assistance of international academic committees.

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. These measures 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 undertake 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 operation of the Faculty of Engineering. The Department of Higher and Tertiary Education has a significant role in the operation of the two new Universities, namely, the Cyprus University of Technology, which has accepted 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. Five applications were evaluated by the ECPU (Evaluation Committee for Private Universities).

The Department of Higher and Tertiary Education is the 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 of Tertiary Education and their efficient operation.
- g. The Cyprus Council for the Recognition of Higher Education Qualifications (KYSATS).
- The Council for the Educational Accreditation of Programmes of Study (SEKAP).
- i. Pancyprian Entrance Examinations.
- j. Lifelong Learning.
- k. Student affairs.
- I. Subsidy programme for the Departments of Greek and Cypriot Studies at foreign Universities offered by the Ministry of Education and Culture.

According to the latest statistical data, on the academic year 2006-2007, 35,926 Cypriot students studied at home and abroad. The number of students studying in Cyprus reached 14,952, whereas, Cypriot students studying abroad reached 20,969. These were mainly distributed to Greece (13,470), United Kingdom (4,952) and the USA (762).

During the same year, the number of international students studying in Cyprus reached 5,630.

1.4.2 THE UNIVERSITIES OF CYPRUS

University of Cyprus

During the academic year 2006 - 2007, 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, Economics Research Center, HERMES Center of Excellence on Comutational Finances & Economics).
- Faculty of Letters (Departments of Byzantine and Modern Greek Studies, Classics and Philosophy, History and Archaeology, Archaelogigal Research Unit).
- 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 Cyprus University of Technology

The House of Representatives approved in December 2003, the Law for the establishment of the Cyprus University of Technology. This new University which has

accepted its first students on September 2007, covers the fields of study (in part or in whole) 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 in the future.

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

Faculty of Applied Arts and Communications

Department of Communication and Internet Studies

Department of Mutlimedia and Graphic Arts

· Faculty of Health Sciences

Nursing Department

Faculty of Administration and Economy

Department of Hotel and Tourism Management

Faculty of Geotechnical Sciences and Environmental Management

Department of Agricultural Production and Food Science and Technology

Faculty of Engineering and Technology

Department of Engineering and Technology

Department of Mechanical Engineering and Materials Science Technology

Department of Civil Engineering

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:

- · Master in Management of Health Units
- Master in Education Studies.

New programmes offered in September 2007:

- Bachelor in Hellenic Civilization
- · Master in Information Systems.

In the future, the Open University of Cyprus is planning to offer the following undergraduate courses:

- · European Civilization
- Foreign Languages and Literature
- Natural Sciences
- Computer Sciences
- Business Administration
- Journalism.

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 2007, the educational evaluation - accreditation process continued with the evaluation of 25 programmes of study and the evaluation of the alterations in two other programmes.

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, 2006 - 2007, twenty-four private institutions of tertiary education and 7 branches (of some of these institutions) 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 2007 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 is responsible for the assessment and evaluation of the relevant applications. The Evaluation Committee for Private Universities was appointed by the Council of Ministers in December 2005.

The Council of Ministers with its decision of September 12, 2007, allowed the establishment of three Private Universities namely, «Frederick University», «European University-Cyprus» and «University of Nicosia». The three new private universities initiated their function in October 2007.

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 preservice 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 2007

A 37 MILLION POUND WORK.

1.6.1 NEW PROJECTS

During the year 2007, in view of realizing the construction programme of the Ministry of Education and Culture there has been a call for proposals for 96 construction and technical works and the supply of furniture and contracts have been signed for 74 works of an overall expenditure of £ 37.295.096,00 (V.A.T included) while works from the previous year continued.

These works are:

- a. New works:
 - New primary School Ap. Pavlou
 - New primary school Pissouriou
 - Aradippou Lyceum
 - New Pafos Lyceum
- Extension work in 2 Lycea, 6 Gymnasia and 18 Primary Schools.
- c. Improvements and maintenance of 10 Primary Buildings, 2 Lycea and 3 Gymnasia including support of buildings against earthquake and addition of auxiliary buildings.
- d. The construction of a multiple function hall 3.
- e. The construction of sport infrastructure works 12.
- f. The construction of 9 kindergartens. The maintenance of 1 kindergarten.
- g. The maintenance of 2 other government buildings.

During the time of materialization the work has proceeded with earthquake support works and upgrading of school buildings, which includes all works of maintenance, repair and other auxiliary services and installations.

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 (Decision No. 58.344) adopted the maximum number of pupils in grades 1, 2 and 3 of primary school should not exceed 30 as from the school year 2003-2004.

Additionally, on the 4th June, 2004, the Council of Ministers (Decision No. 60.362) 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 (Decision No. 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 1st grade (Decision No. 62.664/28.9.2005) from 30 to 25 pupils per class, was adopted.

Moreover, on the 16th May 2007, the Council of Ministers (Decision No. 65.536) decided that the maximum number of pupils in all grades of primary schools should not exceed 25. The Council of Ministers decided that the implementation of the decrease of the number of pupils should take place gradually each year, starting from 2007-2008, with a decrease from 30 to 25 in grades 2 and 3. Therefore, by the school year 2010-2011 the maximum number of pupils in all grades of primary schools will not exceed 25.

2.1.2 PROMOTION AND IMPLEMENTATION OF THE ALL-DAY SCHOOL

2.1.2.1 All-Day Voluntary Schools 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 p.m., whereas two other schools functioned until 2:45 p.m. The remaining five extended the time for younger children's stay at school (grades 1, 2 and 3) until 1:05 p.m.

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 following school years it appears that there is a significant increase in the number of All-Day Schools:

School Year	No. of All-Day Schools
2001-2002	70
2002-2003	84
2003-2004	107
2004-2005	130
2005-2006	150
2006-2007	150

During the school year 2006-2007, 150 schools functioned as All-Day School, of which 126 operated as All-Day Schools on a voluntary basis for grades 4, 5 and 6 and 24 as All-Day Schools on a voluntary basis for grades 1-6. 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 timetable 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 parents. The type of food and the programme of meals were consistent with the ration agreed and arranged by parents in collaboration with the Ministry of Education and Culture. The Ministry of Education and Culture financed the meals of the needy.

2.1.2.2 All-Day Voluntary 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.

During the school year 2006-2007 the institution was extended to fourteen rural and urban pre-primary schools. 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 p.m.

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 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 parents. The type of food and the programme of meals were consistent with the ration agreed and arranged by parents in collaboration with the Ministry of Education and Culture. The Ministry of Education and Culture financed the meals of the needy.

The main objective of the establishment of the All-Day School in Pre-Primary Education is the gradual extension, upon completion of the experimental programme, to a considerable number of pre-primary schools all over Cyprus.

2.1.2.3 All-Day Compulsory Schools in Primary Education

The emerging changes in the Cyprus society created the need to reform the Cyprus Educational system. This reformation will have to deal with innovations in terms of the conditions of school life, the learning procedures, the new courses introduced, the upgraded infrastructure and the revision of the Curriculum of the Ministry of Education and Culture.

Therefore, the Ministry of Education, introduced, on a pilot basis, the All-Day Compulsory School in Primary Education. The reform was established for the first time in the school year 2006-2007 in nine primary schools all over Cyprus. In 2007-2008, the number of schools will be increased to fifteen. The pilot programme will have a total duration of three consecutive years and will be evaluated by an appointed independent Evaluation Committee.

The educational context and the operational adjustments of the All-Day Compulsory Schools are very different from those applied to the existing All-Day Voluntary Schools. All-Day Compulsory Schools operate with a unified curriculum, unified school management and staff and also with upgraded educational context.

During the four days the school operates in the afternoon, lunch is provided to children. During lunch, additional subsidiary staff provides its services, and the children are supervised by their teachers. The cost of meals is covered by the parents. However, the Ministry of Education and Culture, based on socioeconomic criteria, finances the cost of meals for a number of children.

The main objective of the establishment of the All-Day Compulsory School in Primary Education is its gradual extension, upon completion of the programme, to a considerable number of primary schools all over Cyprus.

2.1.3 INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATION TECHNOLOGY

The Primary Education Department has initiated, since September 1993, an Information and Communication 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 and Communication 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 prepared a completed proposal for the integration of ICT in the Cyprus educational system. This proposal included the theoretical frame and the mechanism for the implementation of ICT. The same year, the Curriculum Team prepared a new Curriculum for the teaching of ICT as a subject in the All-Day school programme. The year 2006-2007 the curriculum was implemented in the All-Day schools on a project oriented methodology.

Teacher Training

The training of teachers aims at the acquisition of skills for ICT tools and the ability to use them in the educational process. The Cyprus pedagogical Institute is responsible for developing and implementing teacher 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 at enriching the curriculum.

2.1.4 ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION

Environmental Education, as it has been shaped through many conferences, aims at the shaping of environmentally educated citizens; Citizens personally and socially responsible and involved in action, that aims at preserving the environment and improving the quality of life.

The Ministry of Education and Culture sets Environmental Education high in its agenda and considers it as of high priority. In primary education, the interdisciplinary approach is achieved through the involvement of all subjects of the curriculum.

Apart from that, various environmental education programmes are being implemented and many schools are actively involved. Such programmes are:

- The European programme "Ecological Schools"
- The Greek-Cypriot cooperation "Golden-Green Leaf" ("Xrisoprasino fillo")
- The programme "The Seed-Source of life"

"Ecological Schools" is a European programme. Schools of primary and secondary education are involved in the programme which aims through the study of various topics, such as water, energy, waste management, biodiversity, sea to turn our pupils into sensitive, responsible and critical active future citizens. At the same time the programme aims at the opening of the school to the local community with the involvement of parents and local and government agents.

The environmental programme "Golden-Green Leaf" ("Xrisoprasino fillo") is a Greek-Cypriot cooperation in which schools cooperate in twos and study a common subject with the ultimate aim of achieving environmental consciousness. The programme is being implemented in cooperation with the Environmental Education Centre of Argyroupolis of the Ministry of Education in Greece.

The environmental Education programme "The Seed-Source of Life" is a network of Environmental Education in which many schools from Greece and Cyprus are involved. It is organised by the NGO "Greek organisation for the protection of nature and cultural inheritance" with the cooperation of both the Greek and Cyprus Ministry of Education. This specifically structured programme aims at developing environmental sensitivity among our pupils, creating school gardens and the undertaking of action.

Furthermore, the Environmental Education Centre of Pedoulas (under the responsibility of the Pedagogical Institute of Cyprus) is being fully utilized and, at the same time, many schools visit the environmental centre of Kritou Terra (it belongs to the Cyprus Centre of Environmental Studies). The Centres of Environmental Education give the pupils the chance for substantial environmental education.

Environmental education is also part of the educational programme during the educational and summer camping of the Ministry of Education and Culture. Camping in nature gives our pupils the chance to achieve empirical experiences, and to develop correct attitudes towards the environment.

2.1.5 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 7,3% of the pupils attending public primary schools do not speak Greek as their mother language. Bearing in mind that nowadays, the 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 not only to provide education that supports the language and distinctive cultural features of the various ethnic groups, but also to provide 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 on a national and international level, 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 returning 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 foster multicultural awareness. The Department has provided all schools with educational material, which includes books for the teaching of the Greek language, workbooks 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 for 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 schools.

2.1.6 ZONES OF EDUCATIONAL PRIORITY

The areas that are characterised as Zones of Educational Priority are those which are economically and socially deprived. The particular kindergarten/s, the primary school/s as well as the neighbouring gymnasium/s of each district form a network and all stakeholders are working closely to develop joint programmes for the socialisation of pupils. In these schools a series of extra measures are provided, which include among others, the decrease in the number of pupils per class, free breakfast for all pupils of the schools and other measures that are decided by each school unit. During the school year 2006-2007, 6 kindergartens and 7 primary schools participated in this programme in the Nicosia, Limassol and Pafos districts.

The effectiveness of the measures adopted within the programme of Multicultural Education, where the Zones of Educational Priority are included, is proved by the award granted to Ayios Antonios Primary School at the Commonwealth Education Ministers' Conference that took place in Cape Town, South Africa from 10th to 14th December 2006. The school was a second place winner of the Education Good Practice Award. This award is of great significance as it shows that the efforts that all stakeholders make are recognised at a pan-Commonwealth level.

2.1.7 HEALTH EDUCATION PROGRAMME - "MENTOR"

During the school year 2006-2007, the Drug Prevention Programmes of the "MENTOR" Mobile Unit (Life Education Centres) continued their implementation. In primary education, four mobile units visited schools in all four districts of Cyprus and delivered their programmes to 20 717 pupils of primary school and 786 parents who attended relevant lectures. In Nicosia school district, a modified version of the programme was also implemented within the special education classes applying simplified activities for special education pupils. Hence, a special week called "MENTOR" was organised in which various activities occurred in relation to drug prevention. 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, through group work, role play, games and quizzes, dialogue and communication in general with the pupils is sought, so that pupils 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.

2.1.8 EDUCATION PROGRAMME "FOLK STORY TELLING...."

The educational programme "Folk story telling....The folk art of story telling nowadays", is implemented by the Ministry of Education and the Drug Law and Enforcement Unit (the Cyprus police department for Drug Prevention). The goal of the programme is the prevention of drug addiction through art, culture and folk story telling with the organisation oral story telling workshops. 160 pupils and 40 teachers from 25 schools all over Cyprus took part in this programme, in order to transfer knowledge and experience they had gained from the programme to their own school.

2.1.9 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, so 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 2006-2007 the Network functioned with the participation of 111 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 dedication 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.

2.1.10 ROAD SAFETY EDUCATION

In 2003, the Ministry of Education and Culture, in co-operation with the Ministry of Transport and the Police, introduced Road Safety Education (RSE) in public kindergartens and primary schools. In 2006-2007 Road Safety Education was set as one of the priority goals. Within this framework, each primary school had 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 and so on.

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. 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 and so on. Relevant material (lesson plans, powerpoint presentations etc.) was also published on the following Internet address: www.schools.ac.cy/klimakio/programs/roadsafety.

Since RSE is not an obligatory part of the curriculum, the forthcoming danger is that RSE may gradually become of less importance 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 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 officers, voluntary art competitions, distribution of posters and a videotape to all public schools, and so on.

2.1.11 PROGRAMMES 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 2006-2007, educational museum programmes were prepared for all towns. These programmes are based on active learning and inter-disciplinary methods, which are achieved through pupils' observation, inquiry, discovery, critical thinking and joy for learning. The museum programmes are based on the:

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

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 exhibits, select information, search, co-operate, and acquire experiences and positive attitudes.

2.1.12 CULTURAL EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMME

During the school year 2006-2007, the programme at the State Gallery of Contemporary Cypriot Art which promotes the access of schools to art and culture continued. It aims at the cultural and aesthetic development of children through experiential learning. 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.

2.1.13 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 has been running 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 since 2003-2004 it has been functioning 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 kindergarten teachers, who, as a team, prepare additional educational material with a variety of activities for the pupils, in order to transfer the experiences they gain from the programme in the classroom environment.

2.1.14 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 Internet, where a Greek planet is created, and which everyone, wherever he/she lives, can visit or navigate, and
- teleconferences carried out among 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 website created, have the opportunity to get acquainted with the Greek culture, play games of knowledge and get involved with creative activities related to the Greek history and mythology. Furthermore, they have the opportunity to explore and listen to traditional music, become amused and 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.

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 2006–2007, seventeen primary schools were involved in the programme.

The new equipment for the brothership programme was installed in all schools and related literature was sent. The coordinator of the programme informed teachers about its philosophy and goals and how it operates under its new format. A private company that cooperates with the Bank of Cyprus and supports "IKADE" undertook systematic training of the teachers involved in the programme. The schools began the implementation of the programme in its new form with positive results.

2.1.15 PHYSICAL FDUCATION

The Ministry of Education and Culture aims at upgrading the quality of Physical Education so that 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

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 inservice 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) were 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 implemented for the following two years and will be evaluated.

Programmes in cooperation with Sport Federations

The local Sport Federations and the Primary Education Department cooperated and ran several programmes. The most successful programmes were these of tennis, table tennis, badminton, swimming, sailing, roaring, canoe, and ski. The aim of the programmes was to motivate children to join Sport Clubs and participate in sport activities in after school time.

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.

2.1.16 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 to 4 years and 8 months take up vacant places in public kindergartens and pay fees, as set by the Ministry of Finance. With a relevant decision, the Council of Ministers (Decision No. 63.682/20.4.2006) conceded the Minister of Education and Culture the authority to free attendance for children of poor families who receive public allowance from the Welfare Services. 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 to 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 2006-2007, the implementation of the Building Programme of Pre-Primary Schools which began in 2001 (Decision No. 52.138/19.7.2000), continued. Moreover, the support of buildings against earthquakes and the upgrading of Pre-Primary Schools are still under effect.

2.2 SECONDARY EDUCATION

2.2.1 INNOVATIONS AT THE GYMNASIUM

The Ministry of education and culture decided to introduce innovations at the Gymnasium in order to update the curricula and upgrade and develop education. Society demands that young Cypriots should:

- · have a wide range of knowledge
- find mechanisms of learning and research with maximum self activity
- · acquire skills in ICT
- move with ease in geographical and virtual space
- pursue life long learning
- develop creativity, imagination, analytical ,synthetical and critical thinking and decision making
- acquire new attitudes, such as tolerance, respect for others and their culture

Innovations at the Gymnasium aim at:

- qualitative improvement
- · coping with problems
- · responding to requirements indicated by research data
- updating and upgrading school life in general
- harmonizing the Gymnasia with Lycea
- securing a smooth transition through all levels of education

2.2.2 THE ENIAIO LYKEIO

The Eniaio Lykeio, a response to the challenges of the globe and generally to the policy and the European orientations of the government, the social expectations of the people in Cyprus and the new pedagogic approaches. It is student centered and emphasis is given on school in general. It aims at the full development of personalities within a system of values and achievements of the society in Cyprus. School offers the background and the provision for life long learning as well as the capability for pre-professional training and specialized knowledge and skills aiming at access to the labour market.

This new institution is characterized by the focus on general education, both technological and economic, and on the development of a multi-faceted personality through:

- a. the didactic process and the various pedagogical activities which foster a wide range of skills and types of thought, such as:
 - critical thinking
 - creativity and originality
 - imagination
 - observation
 - cooperation
 - problem solving and coping with various situations
 - analytical skills
 - synthetic skills
 - skills for assessing the others and for self assessment
- b. the fostering of values and attitudes so that the teenager, and later as a citizen, can cope with the challenges of the modern world.

Class A' is for the pupil the class for observation, guidance and orientation. In Class B' and C' pupils attend common core subjects which are considered to be indispensable while they have the opportunity to select optional subjects which will help them to prepare for their future career according to their interests and inclinations.

The Eniaio Lykeio institution is related to a series of internal reforms necessary for the implementation of the basic changes and which consist the qualitative difference which characterizes this institution. The most important are:

- The upgrading and supporting of the practice of the Form Teacher
- The programme Creativity Action Social Service
- The better use of the school library
- The strengthening of the pre- and in-service training of teachers
- The assistance offered to weak pupils
- The expansion, support and upgrading of the special rooms
- The expansion of laboratory subjects in Class A'
- The reduction of the number of pupils to 25 in Class C'
- The strengthening and upgrading of the Counselling and Career Education Service
- The introduction of new curricula based on basic knowledge, attitudes, skills and activities which must be implemented in order to achieve the aims of the Eniaio Lykeio
- The enrichment and strengthening of teaching materials with new course books, multiple resources, audio visual aids, software and other supplementary material.
- The new didactic approach which aims at promoting energetic participation of the pupils in the teaching and learning process
- · The alternative methods of assessment
- · The setting of internal regulations in each school
- The establishment of media and procedures for the changes
- The evaluation of education
- The programmes for prevention of violence juvenile delinquency
- The operation of the Music and Sports School

2.2.3 INNOVATIONS IN HOME ECONOMICS, FAMILY EDUCATION AND BABY NURSING / NURSING

Modern appliances, equipment and software have been introduced in order to upgrade the Home Economics subject at the Gymnasium, the Family Education, and the Baby Nursing / Nursing subject at the Eniaio Lykeio as well as the implementation of new curricula. Ms Office has been installed in all Gymnasia and more software has been purchased for the Eniaion Lykeio.

2.2.4 HEALTH EDUCATION

The Health Education Programme aims at pupils' mental, moral and physical development. It is offered through a variety of topics and subjects in an interdisciplinary approach according to the pupils' interests and the situation existing.

During the school year 2006 - 2007 the pilot programme of Sex Education was implemented in six Gymnasia and it will continue this year. It aims at informing pupils responsibly and scientifically about their sexual life, in general.

In order to raise pupils' awareness on health issues the following programmes are pursued and attended by more than 2000 pupils:

- 1. European School Network for the promotion of Health
- MENTOR: with the assistance of mobile units, pupils are helped to acquire skills to develop decision making abilities so that to avoid using addictive substances
- 3. Anti-drug Education Seminars
- Standing on my Own Two Feet: a programme aiming at developing attitudes of self esteem and self respect and promoting 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
- A pilot programme implemented by the Educational Psychology Department, involving pupils, teachers, and parents and aims at preventing the use of addictive substances.

2.2.5 ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION

Environmental Education aims at developing positive attitudes among pupils towards the environment and its sustainable development according to the Rio Agenda 21. International and European programmes have been introduced and implemented with the participation of pupils. Moreover, syllabi have been reformed and new teaching approaches are applied. Such programmes are:

- 1. The Gold and Green Leaf (Cyprus and Greece)
- 2. Ecoschools (European programme)
- 3. Young Reporters and the Environment (European programme)
- 4. South Eastern Mediterranean Sea Project (UNESCO)
- Global Learning and Observations to Benefit the Environment (Cyprus and the USA)

2.2.6 INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (IT)

During the past few years, the syllabi of Information Technology courses in Secondary Education have been updated in order to meet European standards and current trends. The teaching of these courses at the Gymnasium and the Lyceum aims at engaging pupils in meaningful learning using the computer as a problem solving tool.

There are 181 IT labs with 17 computers and a printer per lab in all Gymnasia and there are 120 IT labs in all Lycea, depending on the curriculum needs. Each lab contains 18 computers, printers, scanners, and multimedia hardware. All computers in all IT labs are connected to the Internet via ADSL lines. Furthermore, a video projector is installed in all laboratories. The video projector is connected to the teacher's computer.

In 2007 the eLearning course offered by CISCO Networking Academy continued in ten Lycea in Cyprus. Several Information technology teachers were trained ahead in order to facilitate the course.

In all Gymnasia, Infromation Technology is taught for two periods per week in each of the three classes. The main objective is for pupils to cover material of European standards (ECDL). Furthermore, pupils are taught basic issues of algorithms and programming. In the A' Lyceum Class, the subject is taught for two periods per week and the objective is to introduce pupils to Information Technology. In B' and C' Class of the Lyceum the common core subject is taught for two periods per week and the optional subject is taught for four periods per week in each class.

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, Language Rooms, History, Mathematics, and Multimedia classes, as well as in the Counselling offices. Finally, computers can also be found in all school libraries with Internet access.

2.2.7 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 Programme

eTwinning promotes school collaboration in Europe through the use of Information and Communication Technology (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.

In 2007 more than 210 educators were registered in the eTwinning database. Among them, more than 110 educators have developed a partnership with a European school.

2.2.8 TRAFFIC EDUCATION

Traffic Education consists part of the Programme Road Safety Education. It aims at the development of attitudes and skills and the fostering of traffic awareness and desirable behaviour on the part of the pupils in order to decrease road accidents. It is taught through a disciplinary approach by educators of various subjects trained properly in special seminars. Training has been offered, in England, to Ministry of Education and Police officials.

Traffic Education was also one of the aims set by the Ministry of Education in 2007. Therefore, various lectures, visits, activities, competitions and seminars were organised by schools.

2.2.9 MUSIC EDUCATION

2.2.9.1 MUSIC SCHOOLS

Music Schools have been introduced 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. The Cyprus State Music Schools function in the afternoon, in the form of a whole-day school.

The first Music School was established in February 2006, at the Pancyprian Gymnasium in Nicosia and the second Music School started functioning in September 2006 at the Laniteion Lyceum A´ in Limassol. In both schools there is a concert hall, a library and suitable rooms well equipped for the teaching of solo instruments, as well as chamber music, choir, orchestra, Byzantine Music, Traditional Music/lute playing, music technology, theory/harmony, ear training and the history of music.

2.2.9.2 DISTRICT CHOIRS / ORCHESTRAS AT LYCEA

As from November 2003 there exists the practice of District Choirs and Orchestras in Nicosia. The purpose is to provide opportunities for further music education and experience, the creation of incentives for quality work, the development of Music Education and aesthetic education.

Main Activities of the Nicosia Regional Lycea Orchestra:

- Music Camp on the Environmental Centre in Pedoulas (12 14 January 2007) and a final concert.
- A concert at the Melina Merkouri Hall, Nicosia (26th of March 2007).
- Participation in the Paralimni Brass Band Festival (30th March 2006).
- Participation in the Harrogate Festival for Young People, in England (6 April 2007 – 13 April 2007).

2.2.9.3 ARTISTS IN SCHOOLS

Classical, jazz, folk and light music artists visit schools of secondary education, during the music lessons. They present musical instruments, perform short works and also make and create music together with the children. Thus, both children and musicians share vivid musical experiences. At the same time, the music teacher's task is supported.

2.2.9.4 EDUCATIONAL CONCERTS

During the school year 2006 - 2007 the following educational concerts were given:

- The Cyprus Symphony Orchestra
- Folk Music Concerts
- Jazz Concerts
- Kathariou Olivier (Educational Concerts in Nicosia in co-operation with the Pharos Trust)
- Chaussian and Wass (Educational Concerts in Nicosia in co-operation with the Pharos Trust)
- The Altenberg Trio Wien (Educational Concerts in Nicosia in co-operation with the Pharos Trust)
- The Lendvai String Trio(Educational Concerts in Nicosia in co-operation with the Pharos Trust)
- Concerts given by young talented violin students of Matteios Kariolou, in the Verengaria Festival in Limassol.
- The Duende Jazz Group (educational concerts in Pafos in co-operation with the Cultural Department of the American Embassy).

2.2.9.5 MUSIC GAMES (COMPETITIONS)

The Cyprus Music Games have been organized for Secondary Education children, yearly, since 2006, in cooperation with the Greek Music Games. The purpose is to broaden the children's music outlook and to raise the instrumental / vocal performing standards, while at the same time opportunities are offered to enjoy music making and to develop friendship and strong ties between Cypriot and Greek children. The winners perform their music during the "Week of Artistic Expression" in Athens, in April.

2.2.9.6 THE PHAROS TRUST AWARD

The Pharos Trust Award is a yearly music competition for students of Lycea (ages 14 - 18) and it started being organised in April 2007. The prizes consist of the amount of £1000 offered by the organization of Pharos Trust, which has been offering educational concerts, of a very high standard (organized by the Secondary Education of the Ministry of Education and Culture), to secondary education children, since 2003.

The purpose is to provide opportunities for aural and analytical skill development, for the development of musical memory and the acquisition of knowledge on the history of Music and Style. At the same time, the Music Teachers' task is supported.

2.2.9.7 SONG COMPETITION

(in commemoration of the 30 years since the death of Arch. Makarios III)

The Song Competition was organized in memory of the Life and Work of Archbishop Makarios III. Since the year 2007 is the 30th anniversary of his death 20 groups of children (specifically 127 children), from Nicosia, Limassol, Larnaka and Pafos participated in the competition. There were three First Prizes, three Second Prizes and three Third Prizes. The final Award was the actual performance of all the first and second prizes at the Presidential Palace, on the 8th of December 2007, Remembrance Day of the people who fight for Freedom.

2.2.10 FUNCTIONAL LITERACY PROGRAMME

Functional illiteracy is a serious problem of modern societies making social adjustment difficult and leading pupils to delinquency, self destructive behaviour, use of addictive substances, psychological and health problems. The Ministry of Education and Culture started this programme in 1989. Research showed that it was very effective. Today it is scientifically supervised and coordinated by the Educational Psychology Service. It aims at offering equal opportunities for all in education in order to avoid social exclusion. Its main objectives are the fostering and development of basic skills in reading, writing, arithmetic, comprehending a passage, receiving information, facilitating and developing skills in order to be able to express themselves, make judgements, be creative, discuss and communicate, to strengthen the pupils' self image and support them psychologically and finally help them adjust within the school environment and the society in general.

The whole programme has been acknowledged by experts of international organisations and university professors in Greece and in other countries.

2.2.11 THE FUNCTIONING OF A PERMANENT WORKING GROUP FOR THE PROMOTION OF LITERACY AND SCHOOL SUCCESS

The permanent working group was set in 1999 and works as follows. They:

- · carry research on illiteracy, school failure, reading skills and books
- organise, coordinate and evaluate preventive actions and programmes of the above sectors
- fight illiteracy and school failure with the organisation, coordination, support and evaluation of programmes to face the above problems.

2.212 EDUCATION PRIORITY ZONES (EPZ)

One of the innovations lately being introduced is the institution of Education Priority Zones which was first applied in 2001. During the school year 2006 - 2007 three EPZ operated in Nicosia, Limassol and Paphos. They aim at offering equal opportunities for all. Some basic principles are:

- The function of leading groups
- The smooth transition from Pre-primary to Primary and Secondary Education
- The smaller number of pupils in class
- The acquisition of the oral and written mode
- The opening to society (entrepreneurship)
- The systematic communication with parents
- The emphasis on the development of cultural and sports events
- The implementation of new approaches in teaching and learning
- The project work
- The establishment of a committee for health Education and Citizenship
- The emphasis on the development of a Library Self Access Centre
- The strengthening of the Educational Psychology Service
- · The training of the educators

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 Limassol 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 of 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 Nicosia as from September 1999.

2.3.1.5 Establishment of new Technical Schools

A new Technical School in Larnaca, that has replaced Dianellios Technical School, began its operation in January 2007.

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 preservice 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 2006-2007 the following courses were offered:

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

The Pre-service Teacher Training Programme for 2006-2007 (October 2006 – April 2007) was successfully completed by 342 candidate teachers from eight different subject areas. The Training Programme was offered by the Cyprus Pedagogical Institute for the last time, since the University of Cyprus is undertaking the responsibility for its delivery as of September 2007.

Educational Administration Seminars

- a. In-service Training Programme for Secondary School Headteachers: In May 2007 31 Secondary School Headteachers completed the course.
- b. In-service Training Programme for Secondary School Deputy Headteachers: In June 2007 175 Secondary School Deputy Headteachers completed the course.
- In-service Training Programme for Primary School Headteachers: In March 2007
 Primary School Headteachers completed the course.
- Training Programme for Teachers of Greek Origin from the Black Sea Countries

A six-month Training Programme for Teachers of Greek Origin from the Black Sea Countries was completed at the end of June 2007 by twelve participants.

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

One thousand three hundred and fifty (1350) teachers and educational administrators from all levels of education attended 82 seminars which took place in five centres (Nicosia, Limassol, Larnaka, Paphos and Paralimni) within the Noncompulsory 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. This year an electronic online system was used for registrations to non-compulsory programmes.

Other Seminars or Conferences

During 2007 the following seminars were also organised by the Cyprus Pedagogical Institute:

DATE	TITLE		
17-20 March	10th Seminar on Teaching the Ancient Greek Language and Civilization	Seminar	
20-21 March	E-learning and Innovation: the development of educational policy and social cohesion	Round table discussion / seminar	
1 March & 18 May	Environmental Education and Protected Areas	Seminar	
2-4 March	Experiential Interdisciplinary Approaches in Environmental Education	Conference	
19 April	Education in the Mass Media for a European Identity	Seminar	
20–21April	Lifelong Teacher Education for Lifelong learning in Europe	Conference	
26 April	Lifelong teacher education and training: the European perspective	Seminar	
25–28 June	Seminars for Greek language teachers as regards the new teaching materials at Gymnasia	Seminar	
15–30 June	Seminars in Greece for School Inspectors in relation to the new teaching materials for schools	Seminar	
20–22 June	Intensive seminars for newly promoted Headteachers for Secondary General and Vocational Education	Seminar	
19 October	Seminar for school librarians	Seminar	
24-28 September & 20–24 October	The development of critical thinking skills	Seminar	
26–30 November	In-service training on the new teaching materials for Primary and Secondary Education	Seminar	

School-Based Seminars

During the academic year 2006-2007 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 pupils. During the seminars teachers and parents were able to exchange viewpoints with the speakers.

Information and Communication Technologies Teacher Training

During the academic year 2006-2007 about 2500 teachers from all levels of education participated in

programmes on Information Technology as follows:

- a. Basic Information Technology Skills
- b. Basic Educational Applications of Information Technology
- c. Specialized training for teachers of Computer Science

Environmental Education Programmes

The Cyprus Pedagogical Institute environmental education team coordinates the environmental education projects for the Ministry of Education and Culture and has developed various actions during 2006-07. These have focused on the Pedoulas Environmental Education Centre and the in-service training of teachers both on the

theoretical as well as the practical aspect of their work. Furthermore a variety of conferences and seminars were organized in cooperation with other institutions.

The Pedoulas Environmental Education Centre is housed in the premises of what was previously the community's primary school. It is a cooperative function of the Ministry of Education and Culture and the Pedoulas community and is under the overall supervision of the Cyprus Pedagogical Institute. It offers educational programmes which cover the thematic areas of 'Water', "Forest', 'Culture', 'Nature trails' and 'Geology'.

During the 2006-07 school year 3850 pupils from all levels of education participated in the educational programmes offered and 250 teachers took part in training seminars and experiential workshops which were organized.

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. During 2007, 479 new books were added to the Library.

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. Teaching the Ancient Greek Language and Civilisation, Proceedings of the 10th International seminar of the council of Europe
- b. Implementing ICT in the Cyprus Educational System
- c. Environmental Education Programmes for Secondary General and Vocational Education
- d. Environmental Education Programmes for Pre-primary and Primary Education
- e. Forest: Interdisciplinary activities

Moreover, the 9th issue of the Pedagogical Institute magazine entitled 'Cyprus Pedagogical Institute Bulletin' was 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 circulating to schools, free of charge.

2.4.3 DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATIONAL TECHNOLOGY

In 2007 the staff of the department of Educational Technology offered pre-service and in-service training programmes to teachers. These focused on the use of audiovisual aids and educational technology equipment.

Production of Audio-Visual Teaching Material

The department continued writing scenarios and producing short-length films and documentaries in order to support the teaching of various topics of the syllabus. Specifically, during the year 2006-2007 the following took place:

- a. "Eleni" of Seferis
- b. "The light in Dionysios 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 coproduction of educational programmes. Currently the production of an educational film about the painters Theophilos and Kassialos is in progress.

2.4.4 DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATIONAL RESEARCH AND EVALUATION

During 2007, 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 Pedagogical Institute during 2007 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 Music and Sports Schools
- Evaluation of the Language Rooms in Lyceum.
- Evaluation of the compulsory and non-compulsory seminars offered by the Pedagogical Institute
- Evaluation of the Sports Afternoon
- Evaluation of Delinquency Prevention intervention programme
- Evaluation of the Action, Creativity and Community Sence innovation school action.

2.4.5 EUROPEAN PROJECTS

During 2007 the Cyprus Pedagogical Institute participated in a number of European projects which are presented on the table below. The Cyprus Pedagogical Institute also participates in the European Network "ENTEP" (European Network on Teacher Education Policy).

ACTION	PROGRAMME	TOPIC	
COMENIUS 2.1	ECMA European Counsellor For Multicultural Affairs (completed in April 2006)	Curriculum for the training of teachers in Intercultural Education Promoting entrepreneurship in education	
	Teach & Esprit		
	On the Edge	Dealing with teaching needs through the development of teaching strategies and materials	
	PRO-CLIL	Providing guidelines for the implementation of CLIL in pre-primary and primary education	
MINERVA	MustLearnIT Using ICT for special subject Distance Learning in multigrade schools	Supporting small multi-grade schools through distance teaching of specialized subjects	
GRUNDTVIG 2	Diagnosis of Teachers' needs and evaluation of Teachers	Diagnosis of teacher needs and evaluating the development of teachers	
ERASMUS Mundus	Erasmus Intensive Programmes	ACEP (Analysis of Comparative Education Policies)	
eContentPlus	CITER	Development of an online electronic database of history books with an aim to enable access to historical information through multiple sources	

2.4.6 THE CURRICULUM DEVELOPMENT UNIT (C.D.U.)

Since May 2002, the Curriculum Development Unit (C.D.U.) constitutes an integral part of the Pedagogical Institute. During 2007, the CDU has undertaken the publication of the Ministry of Education and Culture's Diary, the organisation of the Annual Education Fair and also published various booklets for the Cyprus Pedagogical Institute and other Ministry of Education and Culture services. The CDU has also been involved in transferring its publications into digital form.

The introduction of the EURO has brought about necessary changes in the school textbooks and the CDU has undertaken the responsibility to make the adaptations in all the textbooks which it publishes and which will be used by schools during 2007 – 2008. The CDU has also published two informative booklets (one for Primary and one for Secondary education) so as to help students deal with the introduction of the EURO. The following table shows the amount of books that were printed or reprinted during 2007, as well as the related cost.

Department	Cost	Number of Books		
	(Cyprus Pounds) (£)	First Edition /Revised Ed.	Reprints	Total
Primary Education	640.000	57	68	125
Secondary General Education	638.000	31	74	105
Secondary Technical and Vocational education	149.000	13	15	28
TOTAL	1.427.000	101	157	258

The above table indicates that during 2007 the CDU has published a total of 258 textbooks for all levels of education from which 101 are new or revised editions and the rest are reprints.

PARTICIPATION IN EUROPEAN PROGRAMMES

3.1 EURYDICE NETWORK

The information network on education in Europe, Eurydice is one of the several institutional mechanisms established by the European Commission and Member States, and has been working since 1980 to boost cooperation in education by improving understanding of systems and policies. Since 1995, Eurydice has also been an integral part of EU action programmes in education.

The Eurydice Network consists of a European Unit based in Brussels and National Units in each of the 31 countries covered by the Lifelong Learning programme (namely the 27 EU and three EFTA/EEA countries and Turkey), generally situated within the ministries of education or bodies closely associated with them.

The Cyprus Unit has been operating within the Ministry of Education and Culture since June 2002. In 2006, the Unit had the complete responsibility for the edition of "Key Data on Education" in Greek which was disseminated to all schools and educational institutions on the island.

Eurydice has recently published:

- School Autonomy
- Key Data on Higher Education in Europe 2007
- Focus on the structure of higher education in Europe. National trends in the Bologna Process - 2006/07 Edition, Eurydice, 2007
- European Glossary on Education, Vol. 5, Decision-making, advisory, operational and regulatory bodies in higher education, 2007
- Non-vocational adult education in Europe. Executive summary of national information in Eurybase, 2007
- Specific educational measures to promote all forms of giftedness at school in Europe, 2007.

3.2 EUROPE AT SCHOOL (E.A.S)

The Europe at School competition 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 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 pupils of three European countries.



 Meetings of the prize-winners in several European countries (European Youth Gatherings).

The aim of the competition is to encourage pupils to become actively involved in matters regarding European ideals and principles, to promote cooperation between pupils from Europe and to develop the feeling of European identity.

The general motto of the 54th Europe at School competition was "Equal Opportunities for All". The competition of the Essay Writing was conducted again on a voluntary basis.

The change in the form of the Group Project competition which gave pupils the opportunity to compete with a song, video or DVD production, research based on questionnaires or interviews and different kinds of patterns allowed the participants to become more creative and original with the help of modern technology and as a result more CDs, DVDs, and patterns were sent to the EAS Committee.

On the whole, 49 Gymnasia and 43 Lycea participated in the Project Competition. The participation of private schools was also high.

In the Art competition, a significant change was introduced last year. Students of Secondary Education passed again through a selection process and the selected students gathered at particular school-centres and competed, under the invigilation of art teachers, on specific dates with the difference that variations of the general theme of the competition were given to the students to work on during the gatherings at the school centres. Therefore, students worked on completely new topics.

These specialized topics had also been given to the students of Primary Education three weeks before the gatherings of the students of Secondary Education at the school centres. The Art competition in Primary and Secondary Education was simultaneously completed.

The competition for the Essay and the Projects was announced on September 28th 2006. Despite the fact that the Essay competition was optional, the participation of Cypriot students was all-embracing.

The Essay Writing competition took place on the 15th of January 2007 whereas the Art competition in Secondary Education was conducted from April 3rd - 7th 2007.

The prize winners' ceremony, sponsored by Laiki Bank, was held at the Pancyprian Gymnasium on April 25th. The exhibition of the prize awarded paintings, was also held at the Pancyprian Gymnasium, and lasted from April 23rd to April 27th 2007. Last year was the first time that the ceremony and the art exhibition took place at a school and the whole event was very efficiently organised and met with success.

Nineteen prizewinners joined Youth Gatherings last summer, held in Cyprus and other European countries. The Limassol gathering (July 23-29) was attended by 19 students from 6 European countries and the students were under the supervision of three Cypriot Team Leaders.

3.3 SCHOOL LINKS AND EXCHANGES - INTERNATIONAL PUPILS CONFERENCE

Every year a great number of Secondary Education schools participate in various programmes of School Links and Exchanges, as well as in International Pupils' Conferences organised by the Council of Europe, by various countries and by non governmental organisations. The basic aim of these programmes is the promotion of

cooperation among schools from different countries and the mutual understanding among young people within a peaceful world without prejudices and discriminations.

The most important programmes and conferences in which our schools participated during the school year 2006 - 2007 are:

- The Programme for Global Education of the "Centre of North South" of the Council of Europe
- The annual conference in Lisbon: "Strategies for Strengthening and promoting Global Education"
- The Global Pupil Conference in Hague organised by The Hague International Model United Nations
- · Pupils participation in the Model European Parliament

4. OTHER ACTIVITIES

4.1 THE YOUTH PARLIAMENT PROGRAMME - 12th SESSION 2006-2007

An educational programme in which pupils of B' Class Lyceum participate. During the first phase the works of the pupils were assessed by a group of assessors in each town of Cyprus and a number of them was selected according to certain criteria set by the Foundation of the Greek Parliament. Then, during the second phase, through a public lot in Athens 20 young representatives were chosen to represent Cyprus at the 12th session which took place in Athens in January 2007. There our teens had the opportunity to express themselves about topics such as terrorism, racism, drugs, national problems, the European Union and others and get in touch with Greek teenagers from all over the world.

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 and Turkish Cypriots, Turkish language for Greek Cypriots, Accounting, Computer Studies and preparatory courses for the entrance to 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. Greek for Turkish Cypriots and Turkish for Greek Cypriots are offered free of charge.

During the school year 2006 - 2007, more than 18.000 pupils attended lessons at 41 State Institutes throughout Cyprus.

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

The State Institutes for Further Education (S.I.F.E.) offer afternoon and evening courses of languages to children and adults alike and have been applying, since their establishment in 1960 as Foreign Language Institutes, the principles of equal opportunities and Life Long Learning in Education. Any language can be taught if there is demand from interested pupils. The languages currently taught are English, French, German, Italian, Spanish, Turkish and Greek.

The whole scheme is generously subsidized by the State, thus ensuring low tuition fees and high quality education by qualified teachers. There are four 45-minute lessons weekly and an aggregate total of 120 45-minute periods per course yearly.

The courses are offered from elementary through to advanced levels, from the age of primary school pupils to well over the age of retirement and lead to unified S.I.F.E. final exams, with the option of taking international exams such as the General Certificate Examination or the French DELF.

The principle of equal opportunities in education is applied through the following:

- There are 41 S.I.F.E. both at urban and rural areas. In rural areas the centres
 cater for the needs of the villages and outreach communities. Both teachers' and
 pupils' transport is offered free of charge when the need arises, especially for the
 latter, as an institute may cater for as many as 17 communities.
- In rural communities where there is only one institute in the area, classes function irrespective of the small number of pupils.
- Fees are low and underpriviledged classes of people are offered exemption of tuition fees. These include persons receiving welfare benefits or disability benefits. Large families pay 50% of the fees while tuition is free of charge from the 3rd pupil onwards of the same family.
- There are free of charge courses of Greek to children of repatriated families who attended foreign schools abroad before settling back home.
- Special free of charge courses of Greek are also offered to a large number of Greeks from the Pontus area of the ex-USSR whose families are currently residing in Cyprus as migrant workers.

The principle of Life Long Learning is applied by offering evening language courses to adults of any age, which are more often than not taken for professional qualification.

The fees are low and there is free tuition for a number of cases such as unemployed University degree holders, blind telephone operators or soldiers who come from low income families.

Free language courses are offered to all educationalists.

Under a new scheme Greek and Turkish language is taught free of charge to Turkish Cypriots and Greek Cypriots respectively, in an effort to promote mutual understanding, communication and tolerance, in view of a prospective solution to the Cyprus Problem.

Greek courses can be offered to migrant workers and / or political refugees who are wards of the welfare office.

Generally, the S.I.F.E. have the infrastructure to cater for all needs in any language.

4.3 UNESCO ASSOCIATED SCHOOLS

UNESCO Associated Schools have been working on projects for almost 35 years. They aim at bringing forth and promoting the ideals of UNESCO, such as friendship, love, peace, cooperation, among pupils. Their basic activity is the organisation of an annual Pancyprian Symposium. They cooperate with UNESCO schools in other countries and mostly in Greece.

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 consuitations culminated in the Cyprus Country Report. The Final Report jointly drawn 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 EDUCATION FOR DEMOCRATIC CITIZENSHIP AND THE HUMAN RIGHTS

Education for Democratic Citizenship and the Human Rights is a Council of Europe Programme. Our schools participate in the project: "Learning and Living Democracy for all" for the years 2006 - 2009. The programme includes education for peace, global education, intercultural education but also the concepts of application of democracy and participation in common interest activities. It aims at making young people able to acquire civics education and develop attitudes and values necessary in order to become responsible citizens and live effectively and responsibly in local national and global societies.

4.6 PHYSICAL EDUCATION

The Ministry of Education and Culture appreciating the value of Physical Education and Sports organised Pancyprian and Panhellenic School Games and offered the opportunity to pupils, who were successful in Pancyprian Games, to represent Cyprus abroad. Generally, Physical Education aims at life long exercising. The department organised various games in all towns, Pancypria and Panhellenic games as well as games in France and Andora.

4.7 PARTICIPATION IN PROGRAMMES - ACTIVITIES OF THE EUROPEAN UNION

EUROPEAN YEAR OF INTERCULTURAL DIALOGUE 2008

The European Parliament and the Council of Europe declared the year 2008 as the European Year of Intercultural Dialogue in an effort to promote intercultural dialogue as a process through which those living in the European Union can improve their ability to deal with difficulties in a more open but also more complicated environment.

The Ministry of Education and Culture has undertaken the coordination for this year and has set a National Coordination Body. Its main task is to coordinate and organise the participation of Cyprus in the activities, to inform the people of Cyprus, motivate people to participate in the intercultural dialogue, observe the materialisation of the activities and get in touch with the European committee.

4.8 PANCYPRIAN AND INTERNATIONAL COMPETITIONS

Secondary Education Schools participated in a great number of school based, pancyprian and international competitions, such as:

 The essay competition among the C' Class pupils of the Lycea and Technical schools organised by the Greek Embassy

- The competition of Schools in Europe (composition, projects and Art)
- · Teenager Parliament
- Pancyprian, Balkan and International Competitions in Physics
- Pancyprian, Balkan and International Competitions in Mathematics
- International and Balkan Olympiad Competitions in Chemistry
- European Olympiad in Natural Sciences
- · Universal Olympiad in Biology
- Information Technology Competitions: Pancyprian Competition, Balkan Information Technology, Universal Olympiad in Information Technology
- European Competition in French
- Pancyprian School Competition in Contemporary Theatre and Ancient Drama
- Panhellenic Competition in Ancient Greek
- European Competition in "Knowledge and Understanding of the Ancient Greek Language and the Ancient Greek Civilisation"
- · Balkan Olympiad in Ecology
- Panhellenic Pupil Dance Competition
- Panhellenic Pupil Music Competition.

4.9 THE INTRODUCTION OF EURO

Inspectors of Economics and Commerce with the cooperation of the Ministry of Education and Culture contributed towards the successful introduction of Euro on the 1st January 2008. Inspectors represented the Ministry at several meetings with the Ministry of Commerce. Books locally produced by the Curriculum Development Unit were adapted. Schols were informed. The Curriculum Development Unit produced brochures to inform pupils. A pancyprian competition was organised among pupils.

4.10 OTHER ACTIVITIES OF SECONDARY TECHNICAL AND VOCATIONAL EDUCATION

Student and parent guidance, aiming at informing 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, Industrialists Unions and many others.

5. OTHER SERVICES

5.1 THE EDUCATIONAL PSYCHOLOGY SERVICE

The Educational Psychology Service (EPS) is an inter-departmental service answerable to the Permanent Secretary.

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.

The work of the EPS is organized around two main areas or sectors of activity: the Individual Case Sector and the Programs, Research and Studies Sector.

The Individual Case Sector

Educational Psychologists (EPs) respond to requests from teachers and parents/guardians for specialised help in a wide range of difficulties that pupils may present at school, including learning, emotional and behaviour problems. EPs may intervene at the level of the whole school, at the level of the group or of the individual and may work with the child, with his/her parents and teachers and, if deemed necessary, with other professionals or agencies.

Educational Psychologists also respond to referrals from the District Committees on Special Education and Training (according to Law 113(I)/1999 concerning the Education and Training of Children With Special Needs), for psychological evaluation and recommendations.

During the 2002-2003 school year, the EPS worked with 4,093 individual cases of school children.

• The Programmes, Research and Studies Sector

Besides its traditional pre-occupation with individual cases of pupils presenting with learning and/or emotional problems, the EPS invests enormously in preventive programmes and actions that are directed at the pupil population as a whole. Their primary aim is the prevention of school failure and functional illiteracy, the promotion of health and citizenship behaviour and the integration of pupils with disabilities in ordinary schools.

During the 2002-2003 academic year, the EPS contributed to the development of preventive programmes in Zones of Educational Priority (ZEP) and in various other primary and secondary schools concerning violence, juvenile delinquency and substance abuse.

The EPS was also involved in support programmes for secondary school pupils in response to their needs (literacy, learning difficulties, physical disabilities).

The EPS has organized or participated in talks, presentations, lectures and various training activities directed at teachers, parents and pupils concerning issues of child development and education. Finally the EPS was represented in various national, ministerial and interdepartmental committees.

5.2 COUNSELLING AND CAREER EDUCATION SERVICE

Counselling and Career Education Service aims at personal, social, educational and professional development of pupils and other people. Generally, councellors help pupils and other young people to

- get to know and accept themselves
- be able to deal effectively with their personal, family or / and social problems
- adapt to the school environment
- develop their personal capabilities, interests, skills and aptitudes
- have the ability to make their own decisions about their future
- be informed about various professions.

5.3 SCHOOL CLERKS UNIT

The Department of School Clerks Unit, 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 104 Secondary Education schools, 5 evening schools, 44 School Boards, 42 State Institutes for Further Education and the Library of the Pedagogical Institute.

The Service keeps records for all the School Clerks (about 461) which comprise, among others, Confidential Reports, Personal Records and Leave Records. It monitors and controls the posts and arranges 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 Unit 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 158) of Temporary Clerks according to submitted needs.

During the period 2006-2007 (academic year) the following activities took place:

- a. In-service training day for the Clerks of the State Institutes for Further Education (October 2006).
- b. Three-day seminar on the programme ABEKT 5,5 for the Clerks-Librarians at Secondary Schools, Lyceums and Technical Schools (November 2006).
- c. One-day seminar on "Tender System" for the Clerks of the School Boards (December 2006).
- d. One-day seminar on the "Adoption of Euro by Cyprus" (March 2007).

Additionally, the following seminars were organized by the end of 2007

- Five day Seminar on matters of Public Procurement for the Clerks of the School Boards and Technical Schools (October 2007)
- One-day Seminar for the Clerk Cashiers (November 2007).

5.4 STORE

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

In co-operation with all the parties conveyed (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, Design and Technology etc.)

Meetings are 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 and art material 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 approximately 1000 orders.

5.5 OFFICE OF CIVIL DEFENCE, HEALTH AND SAFETY

5.5.1 MISSION

The Office of Civil Defence, Health and Safety aims at creating a safe and healthy environment for all public schools, educational institutions as well as all other buildings that accommodate educational departments and services concerning the Ministry of Education and Culture. The Civil Defence department is mainly concerned with schools and institutions' emergency planning and their readiness to act fast and effectively during a disaster or crisis such as an earthquake, fire or terrorist / hostile act. Each institution is obliged to prepare such a plan and put it into practice at least twice a year. The Health and Safety department is dealing more with everyday life activities and its efforts are centralized on the creation of a safe and healthy working

/ learning environment. The Ministry's officers are visiting schools and institutions on a daily bases so as not only to identify and report problems but also to make realistic suggestions for improvement.

5.5.2 STRUCTURE - ORGANIZATION - PERSONNEL

The Office is an independent service connected directly to the Permanent Secretary. It has an interdepartmental character provided that the personnel consists of three officers that represent all educational ranks, that is to say Primary, Secondary and Technical Education.

5.5.3 ANNUAL BASIC ACTIONS

- Training Seminars
- Visits to schools or other Ministry's institutions
- Civil Defence practice
- Close collaboration with governmental services such as the Civil Defense Headquarters, The National Labour Inspectorate, the Ministry of Health, the Police and the Fire Service.

5.5.4 ACTIONS DURING THE YEAR 2007

- First Aid lectures for primary teachers
- · Establishment of a webpage
- Primary and Secondary Schools actively participating in a large scale emergency practice in Limassol
- First Aid lectures to the Ministry's central building officers
- Fire fighting lectures to the Ministry's central building officers
- First Aid lectures for special education escorts
- · Formation of the Ministry's Health and Safety Committee
- Installation of a Controlled Access System at the Ministry's main building
- · Providing all new schools with Civil Defence materials
- Visits to many schools and other buildings that accommodate the Ministry's services.

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 a department it was renamed as 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 2007, a budget of CYP 9.882.000. The activities of the Cultural Services during the current year are the following:

1.1 LETTERS

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

Andreas Malecos - Photography

The Cultural Services of The Ministry of Education and Culture issued an album of artistic photography by one of its pioneers, Andreas Malecos, who had worked at the Ministry of Education and Culture.

Nicos Nicolaides, The Cypriot (1884-1956)

The Cultural Services of the Ministry of Education and Culture and 'Bibliorama' publishers issued the volume 'Nicos Nicolaides, The Cypriot (1884-1956): A Review of His Work'.

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

- Vol. XLV, No.1, January March
- Vol. XLV, No.2, April June
- Vol. XLV, No.3 and 4, July December

1.1.2 BOOK EXHIBITIONS IN CYPRUS AND ABROAD

In 2007 the Cultural Services subsidized the Association of Cyprus Book Publishers in an effort to project and promote contemporary literary work for its participation in the International Book Fairs in Alexandria (January 2007), London (March 2007), Salonica (May 2007), Bologna (April 2007) and Frankfurt (October 2007). Furthermore, the Cultural Services subsidized the participation of the Association of Cyprus Book Publishers in the Book Fairs at the Dionysiou Areopagitou sidewalk in Athens in May and October 2007 and at the seafront by the White Tower in June 2007.

The latest publications of Cyprus' Publishing Houses were presented at the Fairs.

1st Festival of the Cypriot Book

Within the framework of the policy to promote reading and the circulation of the Cyprus Book, the Cultural Services subsidized the Association of Cyprus Book Publishers for the organization of an outdoor Cyprus Book Festival in Nicosia, Larnaca, Limassol and Paphos. The duration of the Festival was about a month and included, aside from the Book Fairs, presentations of notable books written by Cypriots.

1.1.3 SUBSIDIZATION OF PUBLICATIONS

In a effort to encourage publishing houses and non-profit organizations which intend according to their memorandum, to publish books, the Cultural Services, following suggestions by the Advisory Committee for Subsidizing Publications, subsidized 220 publications covering a wide range of Cyprological topics during 2007.

1.1.4 ADVERTISEMENT - BOOK PROMOTION

Within 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 2007.

1.1.5 STATE, MUNICIPAL, COMMUNITY, SCHOOL AND TRAVELLING LIBRARIES

In 2007, fifteen 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. Seven of the Municipal Libraries 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 upgrading. At 11 of these, the system ABEKT 4 was implemented.

During 2007, twenty-eight Municipal Libraries and one hundred and twenty Community Libraries were in operation. During 2007 two new Community Libraries were established.

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 also being continued.

As in previous years, in 2007, 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 2007.

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

In 2007, the Traveling Library continued its operation in the Paphos district.

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

In an effort to support the literary work of Cypriot writers, the Cultural Services implemented the system of State Prizes for Literature and Prizes for Children and Youth Literature and Book Illustration on a yearly basis.

1.1.7 PRIZES FOR EXCELLENCE IN LETTERS, ARTS AND SCIENCES

The Prize for Excellence in Letters, Arts and Sciences is the highest honor 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 course and for his contribution to the cultural upgrading and development of scientific research.

1.1.8 ANNUAL HONORARY GRANTS

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

1.1.9 GRATIS MONTHI Y GRANTS

During 2007, the Cultural Services of the Ministry of Education and Culture received about 20 applications regarding the Monthly Grant for People of Letters and Arts, in Need. Following the review of every artist's and writer's application, a Proposal for the Ministerial Council was prepared for approval of the new beneficiaries of the monthly grant by January 2008.

1.1.10 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 2007, a total of 26 such magazines and newspapers were subsidized.

1.1.11 ORGANISATION OF SYMPOSIA – SEMINARS – LITERARY COMMERATIVE EVENTS

Symposium on Odysseus Elitis

The Cultural Services of the Ministry of Education and Culture organized, on the 23rd and 24th of February 2007, a symposium regarding the Nobel prize- winning poet Odysseus Elitis. During the symposium the Minister of Education and Culture Mr. Akis Kleanthous addressed the audience.

Theatre Script Week

In February, in collaboration with 'Theatre Ena' a Theatre Script Week was organized, with the aim to encourage the writing of plays and in order to highlight novel elements in theatrical approach. During Theatre Script week the notable Greek writer Andreas Staikos spoke, as well as the Director of Warehouse Theatre, Ted

Craig, the stage director Andreas Christodoulides and the dramatist Ellada Evangelou.

Events regarding Nicos Nicolaides at the House of Cyprus in Athens

The Cultural Services in collaboration with the House of Cyprus in Athens organized a series of events in March 2007, in Athens, regarding Nicos Nicolaides.

11th Pan-Cyprian Greek Book Exhibition

From the 23rd of March to the 1st of April 2007 the 11th Pan-Cyprian Greek Book Exhibition was held at the Evagoras Lanitis Centre in Limassol. It was organized by the Cyprus Booksellers Association in collaboration with the Pan-Hellenic Federation of Publishers and Booksellers and with the support of the Ministry of Education and Culture.

1st Festival of the Cyprus Book

The first Cyprus Book Festival entitled 'Opening of the Book' was inaugurated on the 20th of April 2007 at Freedom Square in Nicosia. This outdoor book exhibition was undertaken in Nicosia from the 20th to the 25th of April 2007 and then moved to Larnaca (27th April – 2nd May), Paphos (4th – 9th May) and Limassol (11th – 16th May). Within the framework of the Festival book presentations were organized by various Cyprus publishing houses.

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 manifested in the many performances organized by various agencies such as choirs, musical ensembles foundations, associations and so on. 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 2007, 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 2007, 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 cultural organization Avant Garde, the Evangelia Tziarri Music Foundation, the Musicorama, the Centre of Cypriot Composers, and others.

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 and so on.

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 the 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.

1.3.2 STATE GALLERY OF CONTEMPORARY CYPRUS ART

The State Gallery of Contemporary Cypriot Art 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 visual arts.

1.3.3 PROMOTION OF CONTEMPORARY CYPRUS ART ABROAD

In 2007, Cyprus participated in the 24th Biennale of Alexandria for Mediterranean countries and was represented by the visual works of Julius Georgiadou in the area of drawing, Kettas Ioannidou in the area of space installation and Tatiana Ferahian in the area of mural art. The works were chosen by the Advisory Committee for the Selection of Works of Art and Artists.

This year the 52nd Biennale of Visual Arts took place in Venice (10th June – 21st November 2007), in which Cyprus participated with the artists Haris Epaminondas (video) and Mustafa Hulusi (drawing). The Cyprus entry, which was under the supervision of Denise Robinson with assistant curator Andre Zivanari, was presented successfully in the specially appointed space of Palazzo Malipiero, entitled "Old Earth, no more lies...I've seen you".

1.3.4 SUBSIDY OF THE CHAMBER OF FINE ARTS AND OTHER VISUAL ART 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 aiming at the promotion of Visual Arts. They also support on an annual basis the Engraving Workshop of the Chamber of Fine Arts.

Moreover, this year, a number of international symposia / series of lectures concerning contemporary art were subsidized, like Artalk, which is organized by the homonymous body, the group exhibition "In transition", which is an initiative of the Cultural Organization NEME, as well as the 2nd Sculpture Symposium at Ayia Varvara, which is presented by the Friends of Fine Arts Group.

1.3.5 ART PHOTOGRAPHY

During 2007, in an effort to support art photography, the Cultural Services subsidized the activities of the Cyprus Photography Society and the 'Photodos' Association.

1.3.6 ENRICHMENT OF PUBLIC BUILDINGS WITH WORKS OF ART

During 2007, the relevant competitions for the office building of the Audit Services as well as for the Ayia Napa Post Office were successfully accomplished.

1.3.7 ADVISORY MONUMENTS COMMITTEE

The 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, including the 1955-59 liberation struggle, with on the spot visits and provision of advice to those concerned. Moreover, it has made suggestions for the subsidization of erecting monuments that fulfilled the necessary specifications.

The Monuments Committee now operates based on 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, and its members have been appointed by the Ministerial Council. In 2007 twenty-four matters were examined.

1.4 THEATRE

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.

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 various agencies.

1.4.1 ANCIENT GREEK DRAMA FESTIVAL

Between the 4th of July and the 4th of August the Ancient Greek Drama Festival was undertaken, in cooperation with the Cyprus Centre of the International Theatre Institute. The Festival has been functioning as an institution.

The Festival took place at the ancient Odeon in Paphos, 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.

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,
- the promotion of education of young people in matters of classical and modern dance.
- d. the support of our artists abroad. The cultural Services through subsidization are strengthening the agencies which are active in this sector.

1.5.1 EUROPEAN DANCE FESTIVAL

This year's 10th European Dance Festival was held at the 'Rialto' Theatre from the 21st of April until the 20th of June. Representative groups of contemporary dance from 16 European countries participated: Austria, France, Denmark, Italy, Germany, Greece, the United Kingdom, Poland, Switzerland, Spain, Portugal, Sweden, Finland, Croatia, Czech Republic and Cyprus. The Festival, as always, included dance workshops in Limassol which were offered free of charge by esteemed foreign dance teachers and choreographers, which were also attended by Cypriot dancers and choreographers.

1.5.2 DANCE TRAINING

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

During 2007, thanks to the financial support given by the Ministry, as the main sponsor, the following were realized:

- Youth Dancers Competition, which took place, and was a great success, in February, and was organized by the Cyprus Professional Dance Association
- Summer workshop 'A Taste of New York', which was organized for the seventh consecutive year by the society 'Horeftika Vimata', with the participation of more than 80 children.

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 Salonica; the competition 'The New York Ballet Competition' in New York with the participation of 7 dance students.

1.6 CINEMA

The Cultural Services, aware of the power of the cinema and its importance in shaping 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 2007, the funding of two proposals for the production of debut films, two proposals for the production of short films, one proposal for the production of a documentary and four for the development of a production plan of a long film, and two for script writing were approved. At the same time, six short films, four debut films, four documentaries as well as eleven long films are in the process of preparation and production. A significant number of Cypriot films which were funded by the State were projected and awarded in a variety of large cinema festivals around the world.

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, Cinema Club Limassol, Cinema Club Paphos). At the same time various non- profit agencies and organizations, which, by their activity contribute to cinema education, are financially supported.

1.6.3 ACTIVITIES / FESTIVALS / AWARDS

- 1. "Cyprus Days 2007" a Mini International Cinema 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 of the domain of the cinema. A few of the films that were shown include: 'An Incredible Story' by the British Michael Winterbottom, Berlin Festival 2006; 'The Optimistic' by the Serbian director Goran Pascalievitch; 'The Justice of the Weakest' by the Belgian Lukas Belvo, Cannes Festival 2006; 'Climates of Love' by the Turk Nuri Bilgen Tseilan, awarded FIPRESCI International Critics prize at the Cannes Festival; 'The Soul in the Mouth' by the Cypriot director Yiannis Economides (was shown at the Director's Fortnight at the Cannes Festival 2006); 'Honey and Wine' by Marinos Kartikkis. The Russian film 'The Island' received the Public's Award.
- 2. A two day event dedicated to the Greek short film entitled "The Drama Festival Travels to Cyprus". In the last twelve years, the practice has been adopted to screen in Cyprus, short Greek films that were 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.
- 3. A two-day European Short Film Festival European Cinema Academy Awards, in cooperation with the European Cinema Academy and the Cinema Friends Group.
- 4. The Ministry of Education and Culture has established as a bi-annual convention, awards for short films and documentaries by Cypriot directors. The

aim of this is the promotion and encouragement of Cypriot cinema and the proliferation of Cypriot short films of fiction and documentaries. This year's Festival was held at the Rialto Theatre from the 21st until the 26th of February. During the Festival a total of 33 Cypriot films were screened. The Panel of Judges consisted of: Dinos Katsourides (producer, director, director of cinematography), Despina Mouzakis, Chairman of the Panel (producer, Director of the Salonica Film Festival), Yiannis Economides (director), Christos Georgiou (director, producer), Tassos Boulmetis (director, producer). This year's prizes were awarded as follows: First Prize, Fictional Film: 'Farmakon' by loakim Mylonas. Second Prize, Fictional Film: 'Prova Paltou' by Elias Demetriou. Third Prize, Fictional Film: 'Nekri Zoni' by Spyros Plati. Prize for Student Film: 'Elehontas to Melani' by Constantinos Yiallourides. Prize for Documentary: 'To Psomi ton Kyprion' by Paschalis Papapetrou. Honorable mentions for directive achievement: 'Imifos' by Andreas Savvides and 'Kouklospito' by Danae Stylianou. The Dinos Katsourides Directors Award: 'Farmakon' by loakim Mylonas. Cartoon and Experimental: 'Zoiki Simperifora' by Nikos Synnou and 'Mia Volta' by Achilleas Kentonis and Maria Papacharalambous. Award for Cinematography: Stefanos Efthymiades for the film 'Farmakon'. Award for Best Scenario: 'Farmakon' by Ioakim Mylonas and 'Prova Paltou' by Elias Demetriou. Award for Best Supporting Actor: Antonis Katsaris for the film 'Poleitai Aerodromio'. Award for Best Leading Man: Andreas Vasiliou for the film 'Blues yia tin Nedi Ryan'. Award for the Best Female Lead: Demetra Demetriadou for the film 'Blues yia tin Nedi Ryan' and Stella Fyrogenis for the film 'Farmakon'. Award for Best Film: 'Nekranastasi' and 'Blues yia tin Nedi Ryan'. Soundtrack Award: Stelios Pisi for the film 'Stelios'.

- 5. A dedication to recent German films, productions of the Foundation of Northern Rhine – Westphalia in collaboration with the Friends of the Cinema Group, the German Embassy and the Gaete Kyprou Center. Within the framework of the dedication to German producers, the Director of the Foundation was invited to Cyprus. Contacts were organized with local professionals as well as seminars regarding the funded programmes of the Foundation in the area of coproduction.
- 6. An event dedicated to French cinema, in cooperation with the Cinema Friends Group and the French Cultural Centre.
- 7. An event dedicated to contemporary Romanian cinema in cooperation with the Romanian Embassy in Cyprus.
- 8. An event dedicated to classical cinema and to the great directors of world cinema in cooperation with the Cinema Friends Group.
- 9. An event dedicated to Indian cinema in cooperation with the Indian Embassy in Cyprus and the Cinema Friends Group.
- 10. 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 classical films of the world cinema during the summer months. The event was held in cooperation with Theatre 'Ena' and the Cinema Friends Group.
- 11. The event dedicated to the "Alternative and Underground Cinema", was organized again this year in collaboration with the Theatre 'Ena' and the 'Persona' Team. Amongst others in this year's programme, the unique films of the modernist Man Ray were presented, as well as films by the great Japanese director Kenzi Mizogoutsi, a short dedication to the great director Verner

Hertzog, documentaries by the director Lefteris Xanthopoulos, and the film 'O Kipos me ta Ametrita Parathira' by Nicos Engonopoulos which tied the festival with the Year of Engonopoulos. The films were accompanied by introductory speeches and lectures.

- 12. Mini International Documentary Festival, with films that were awarded at a variety of international cinema festivals, took place in Limassol.
- 13. The Festival of experimental film and video-art (Xperimental) in cooperation with the cultural association "Pantheon".
- 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.
- 15. The Ministry also supported the Festival of Children's Cinema for the organization of educational screenings for children and young people, twice a month.
- 16. A revival of the Greek Cinema Festival 'Panorama of Greek Cinema', with recent Greek films which were awarded at the Festival of Thessalonica, in collaboration with the Rialto Theatre and the Friends of Cinema Group and the Cinema Club of Limassol.

1.6.4 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 their operation, on a yearly basis.
- 2. Promoting Cyprus films in the countryside.
- 3. Presenting part of the event "Summer Film Show Marathon" in three cinemas in rural areas annually.
- 4. Subsidizing the Hambis Tsangaris school for the organization of a Documentary Film Festival at Platanistassa village.

1.6.5 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 Directors, thus enabling them to present their films at international festivals and other exhibitions, and projecting Cypriot cinema abroad.
- 2. They support the cinema clubs with their frequent projections.
- 3. They support with subsidies various other activities concerning the cinema.
- 4. They collaborate with the Department of Social Welfare in organizing workshops of visual-audio expressions and games for children in Children's Shelters.

1.7 INTERNATIONAL FESTIVAL 'KYPRIA 2007'

The Cultural Services successfully organized the International Festival Kypria 2007. The Festival was comprised of thirty-two events from 16 different artistic ensembles in Nicosia, Limassol, Larnaca, Paphos and Ayia Napa. The events included concerts, theatrical shows, stage cantata, opera and dance performances.

The programme included the following performances:

 CYPRUS YOUTH SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA – 'GIANTS OF THE NORTH – SIBELIUS & GRIEG'

Monday, 3rd September - Strovolos Municipal Theatre, Nicosia

NEW YORK CONTEMPORARY DANCE GROUP – COMPLEXIONS

Thursday, 6th September - Makarios III Amphitheatre, Strovolos, Nicosia

Friday, 7th September - Pattichio Amphitheatre, Larnaca

STATE THEATRE OF NORTH GREECE – 'LYSISTRATI'

Friday, 7th September - Ancient Theatre of Curium, Limassol

Saturday, 8th September - Makarios III Amphitheatre, Strovolos, Nicosia

MUNICIPAL PERIPHERAL THEATRE OF CRETE – 'CAPETAN MICHALIS'

Wednesday, 12th September – Makarios III Amphitheatre, Strovolos, Nicosia

Thursday, 13th September - Ancient Theatre of Curium, Limassol

CONCERT DOROS DEMOSTHENOUS – 'ONE FOR THE ROAD'

Thursday, 13th September - Nicosia Municipal Theatre

Friday, 14th September - Rialto Theatre, Limassol

 GORAN BREGOVIC – 'STORIES AND SONGS FROM WEDDINGS AND FUNERALS'

Friday, 14th September - Dafros d'Avilla, Nicosia

Saturday, 15th September - Castle Square, Paphos

EUROPEAN UNION BAROQUE ORCHESTRA – 'THE MYTH OF ORPHEA'

Thursday, 20th September - Strovolos Municipal Theatre, Nicosia

Friday, 21st September - Larnaca Municipal Theatre

NOEMA DANCE WORKS – 'CROSSING BORDERS'

Friday, 21st September - Nicosia Municipal Theatre

Sunday, 23rd September – Castle Square, Paphos

 CYPRUS SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA CONCERT – 'INSPIRATION AND PASSION'

Tuesday, 25th September - Rialto Theatre, Limassol

Wednesday, 26th September - Strovolos Municipal Theatre, Nicosia

SAVVAS HOUVARTAS – ETHIC JAZZ CONCERT

Monday, 24th September – Amphitheatre of Ayia Napa Municipal Museum 'Thalassa'

Friday, 28th September - Strovolos Municipal Theatre, Nicosia

Sunday, 30th September - Rialto Theatre, Limassol

'CARMINA BURANA' – BUDAPEST ORCHESTRA, KAMEA DANCE GROUP, CHOIRS: LEANDROS SITAROS, EPILOGI: COMBINED CHILDREN-YOUTH

Friday, 28th September - Castle Square, Paphos

Saturday, 29th September - Pattichio Amphitheatre, Larnaca

Sunday, 30th September - Nicosia Municipal Theatre

HELIKON OPERA OF MOSCOW – 'The Barber of Seville'

Wednesday, 3rd October - Strovolos Municipal Theatre, Nicosia

Friday, 5th October - Limassol Municipal Garden Theatre

LEDRA MUSIC SOLOISTS AND AVANT GARDE – PIANISTI NON 'SOLO'

Friday, 5th October - Strovolos Municipal Theatre, Nicosia

MICHALIS CHRISTODOULIDES – 'SECRET WINDS, 40 YEARS OF CREATION'

Tuesday, 9th October – Nicosia Municipal Theatre

Wednesday, 10th October - Rialto Theatre, Limassol

VASSOS ARGYRIDES – 'JUST SMELLING JASMINE'

Friday, 12th October - Nicosia Municipal Theatre

Saturday, 13th October - Pattichio Muncipal Theatre, Limassol

'LOVE, DANCE' – BEJART BALLET LAUSANNE

Friday, 19th October and Saturday 20th October - Nicosia Municipal Theatre

1.8 FOLK CULTURE

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

- 1. Traditional dance ensembles were subsidized to enrich their costumes and participate in events of traditional character in Cyprus and abroad.
- 2. Dance teachers and researchers were supported financially 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.
- 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. Moreover, 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 fundamental role in matters pertaining to the upgrading of the operation and service provision offered by these museums to the public.

1.9 REGIONAL CULTURAL DEVELOPMENT

During 2007, 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, musicals, dance and theatrical performances, participation in meetings abroad and so on).

1.9.1 "ATHENA" PROGRAMME

In an effort to upgrade the quality of life of the inhabitants of rural areas and ensure 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.

1.10 OPERATION OF CULTURAL FOUNDATIONS

1.10.1 MUSEUM OF THE STRUGGLE

The Museum of the Struggle has been operating in its new building since it was inaugurated on 30 April 2001. During 2007 it was visited by about 26,000 persons most of whom were students and foreign tourists.

1.10.2 HOUSES OF LETTERS AND ARTS

The Cultural Services continued in 2007 to lease premises in Nicosia, Limassol, Larnaca and Paphos in order to provide accommodation to associations that serve the Arts and Letters. The Houses of Letters and Arts are used by the organizations they accommodate for meetings, visual art exhibitions, literary events, film projections, theatrical rehearsals and so on.

1.11 OPERATION OF CULTURAL CENTRES / CULTURAL OFFICES ABROAD

1.11.1 THE HOUSE OF CYPRUS IN ATHENS

By the end of October 2007, the House of Cyprus in Athens hosted fifteen book presentations, of which eight were organized with the collaboration of the Cultural Services. Furthermore, four literary events, a two-day event on Nicos Nicolaides, in collaboration with the Cultural Services as well as three music events, of which one entailed the collaboration of the Cultural Services were also hosted.

One of the events also undertaken was the signing ceremony for the inauguration of 'Diakirixis tou Diktiou Kyprou' (The Declaration of the Cyprus Network), by the Minister of Interior, Public Administration and Devolution of Greece, Mr. Prokopis Pavlopoulos and the former Minister of Interior Mr. Neoclis Silikiotis.

The House also hosted seven visual art exhibitions, two photography exhibitions and one exhibition of photographs and memorabilia belonging to Manos Loizou. One of the visual art exhibitions exhibited the work of George Paul Georgiou, in collaboration with the Cultural Services, which was undertaken given the 20th anniversary of the House of Cyprus.

The House of Cyprus also hosted three events in collaboration with embassies of other countries: The presentation of Cypriot literature in Albanian in collaboration with the Albanian Embassy; Stella Angelidou's photography exhibition in collaboration with the Mexican Embassy; and the exhibition 'Bochoumille Chrabal – his life and work', in collaboration with the Embassy of the Czech Republic.

In collaboration between the House of Cyprus and Cypriot organizations in Cyprus and in Greece, eleven events were organized. It is worth mentioning the event of the Municipality of Morphou in collaboration with the House of Cyprus – Cyprus Embassy and the University of Athens for the proclamation of Distinguished Citizen of Morphou and the awarding of the Key of the Town to the President of the Greek Republic Mr. Karolos Papoulias.

The House of Cyprus supported 42 events for Cyprus, which took place in Municipalities, schools, clubs, Institutes or galleries which hosted Cypriot artists.

Four press conferences were held; for the composer Georgios Theofanous for the musical performance 'Tragoudo to Nisi mou'; the conference 'A Year Dedicated to Manos Loizou'; the conference of the State Theatre of Northern Greece for its performance of the play 'Lisistrati' at Epidaurus; and the conference of the Cyprus Theatre Organisation for its performance of the play 'Ifigeneia y en Tavris' at Epidaurus.

Within the House of Cyprus Programme up to the end of 2007, three symposiums were included; one about Georgios Seferis, one for Michalis Kakoyiannis and one for Nicos Kranidiotis. Also scheduled were five book presentations, one visual art exhibition, the exhibition- dedication to Michalis Kakoyiannis with photographs, portraits, and costumes and so on, a musical event as well as a Christmas events.

Moreover, planned is the collaboration of the House of Cyprus with Cypriot and Greek bodies in five events for Cyprus: with 'EFEK' of Athens for the 5th Cypriot Student Festival; with the Cypriot Union of Greece; the Youth of the Cypriot Union of Greece and the Youth of the Federation of Cypriot Organizations of Greece; with the Hellenic Cultural Group of Cypriots of Greece, as well as the concert of Michalis Christodoulou for Kyriacos Matsis at the Athens Music Hall which is organized by

SIMAE, the Kyriacos Matsis Foundation, the Federation of Cypriot Organizations in Greece and the Cyprus Embassy.

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

According to the decision of the Ministerial Council in August 2005, the position of Cultural Advisor at the Consular Residency of the Republic of Cyprus in London was established. Amongst the duties of the position the organization of cultural events is included with the aim of systematically projecting the historical course, 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 2007 a series of book, art 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 2007, under the auspices of the Office and with the support and contribution of the Cultural Services many events were organized which offered the opportunity to the German public to be acquainted with Cyprus and its culture. Amongst the pinnacle events undertaken under the auspices of the Office of Cultural Attaché series of events is included entitled "Cyprus Spring" (which is presented at Munich every year) and 'Cyprus Mosaic' (which is presented at Brunswick every two years). These are a series of events which encompass almost the entire spectrum of contemporary Cyprus artistic and intellectual creativity, that have evolved into institutions, which are supported by the cities in which they are organized and are undertaken under the auspices of the Municipal authorities. The 'Literature Marathon' has also evolved into a yearly institution which is undertaken in line with the Leipzig International Book Exhibition. Within the framework of this event, Cypriot writers and their work are presented in different German cities.

1.12 BILATERAL AND MULTILATERAL RELATIONS

1.12.1 AGREEMENTS AND PROGRAMMES OF CULTURAL COLLABORATION

Cyprus, with the aim of collaborating with other countries in the sectors of education, culture and sciences, has to date incurred thirty-nine Agreements. For the implementation of these Agreements the contracted parties establish and sign the Presiding 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.

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 at 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 FUROPE

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 alias, 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, and so on. 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

The Republic of Cyprus has signed the UNESCO convention on the Protection of Intellectual Cultural Heritage and has undertaken responsibilities which it will implement on the basis of the principles and regulations of the given convention. For

the implementation of the activities, two bodies have been established: the Executive body and the Advisory body. The two bodies are responsible for the activities which are required and for the measures which have to be taken for the application of the conditions of the convention.

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 Multiform 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 contracted member of the convention at the same time as the rest of the member states of the European Union.

1.13 EUROPEAN UNION

In 2007, 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 Program Management Committees related to culture, the Cultural Services participated in the Management Committee for the Programme "Culture", in the Committee of National Experts for the program of digitalization of cultural information "NRG Minerva Project" as well as in the program 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' OF THE EUROPEAN UNION

Cyprus has been participating in the European Union Framework-Programme "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 an effort 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 towards finding 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 Cyprus 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 programmes.

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, and so on.

1.15 OTHER INSTITUTIONS AND PROGRAMMES FOR CULTURAL DEVELOPMENT

1.15.1 CULTURAL CENTRE

According to the decision of the Council of Ministers, the establishment of a Cultural Centre which will accommodate the Music Centre as well is being promoted. In 2005, the Council of Ministers approved (by decision number 62.311 of 6 July 2005) the establishment and the statute of the Cyprus Cultural Foundation. The Administrative Council has already begun the realization of its aims and objectives.

1.15.2 CULTURAL INFRASTRUCTURE

In an effort to support the establishment of cultural infrastructure throughout the non occupied part of 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, state funds have been granted for the execution of more than thirty works of cultural infrastructure.

1.15.3 CREATION OF A MAIN PORTAL OF CULTURAL INFORMATION

The creation of a Main Portal of Cultural Information was completed in September 2007. Through the Main Portal the culture of Cyprus will be presented 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.

1.15.4 ASSISTANCE TO CHAIRPERSONS 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 chairpersons 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, will be housed.

During 2006, the elaboration of the architectural study for the configuration of the building began. The work of a special team, comprised of Art Historians also began. They had been assigned the selection of the works of the state collection that would 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 2008, thus architectural work will begin.

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

1.15.6 THE 'PALLAS' CINEMA/THEATRE CONVERTED INTO O MUSIC HALL

The "Pallas" cinema/theatre hall which was 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 this project funding from the Structural Funds of the European Union has been obtained and the project is expected to be completed in 2008.

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 Minister 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 programmes it is subsidized by the Ministry of Education and Culture.

The Commission promotes the implementation of the UNESCO programs 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 and communications.

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 2007 can be summed up as follows:

1.16.1 PROMOTION OF UNESCO 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 2007, 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 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.

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 programmes of the Organization in Cyprus. In 2007 the following issue was published:

Issue April 2007, No. 163

1.16.4 THE 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

INFORMATIVE SYMPOSIUM

The Cyprus National Commission for UNESCO, in collaboration with the University of Cyprus, organized a symposium regarding the work and the role of the organization in contemporary times. The event took place on the 23rd of March 2007 at the A.G. Leventis Hall on the University grounds, with speaker the Director of the Public Information Office of UNESCO, Mr. Saturnino Munonz Gomez.

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 INFORMATIVE SYMPOSIUM ON THE CONVENTION FOR THE PROTECTION OF INTELLECTUAL CULTURAL HERITAGE

The Cyprus National Commission for UNESCO represented Cyprus at the Informative Symposium on the convention for the Protection of Intellectual Cultural Heritage that was organized by the French National Commission for UNESCO in Paris in March 2007, with the participation of all the National Commissions of Europe.

1.16.6.2 MEETING REGARDING SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT AND CULTURAL DIVERSITY

The Cyprus National Commission for UNESCO represented Cyprus in the meeting regarding sustainable development and cultural diversity which was organized by the Italian National Commission for UNESCO in Italy in May 2007, with the participation of the National Commissions of the Mediterranean countries.

1.16.6.3 REGIONAL SEMINAR FOR THE ORAL AND INTANGIBLE CULTURAL HERITAGE CONVENTION IN THE BALKANS AND THE COUNTRIES OF THE SOUTH-EASTERN MEDITERRANEAN

The Cyprus National Commission for UNESCO represented Cyprus in the Regional seminar on the oral and intangible cultural heritage convention in the Balkans and in the countries of the South-Eastern Mediterranean which was organized by the Bulgarian National Commission for UNESCO in June 2007.

1.16.6.4 GENERAL MEETING

The Commission organized and coordinated the participation of Cyprus in the 34th General Meeting of UNESCO in the organization's headquarters in Paris in October 2007. It is the highest decision-making body of the organization which convenes every two years and in which there is participation by the Representatives of the member states, headed by the Minister responsible for UNESCO issues of each member state.

2. CYPRUS RESEARCH CENTRE

2.1 PART A: EDUCATION

The Cyprus Research Centre (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 has also 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. currently employs a permanent research staff of five but also collaborates with outside scholars both in Cyprus and overseas in over 30 long term research programmes.

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. Following the relocation of the CRC premises in October 2006 to no. 6 Gladstone St. 1095 Nicosia the Library has acquired considerably more floor space and the installation of new furniture has greatly facilitated the shelving and use of both existing and new acquisitions.

The CRC has also 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. As in the case of the library, these

archival materials are now located in far more spacious surroundings, greatly facilitating their use. This year the data base of the Oral Tradition Archive has undergone a process of correction, and following the ratification on 28 January 2006 of the UNESCO convention for the protection of Intangible Cultural Heritage the C.R.C. was authorized to undertake all the necessary steps towards implementing the aims of this convention. At this stage the translation of data submitted by various countries and the discovery for purposes of comparison of the steps taken by other countries, for example, China and Bulgaria, in this area has been undertaken.

The C.R.C. has hired the services of five young researchers, for twelve months for carrying out interviews focusing on the heritage of the areas controlled by the Republic.

Two research missions abroad, to France and Italy have been undertaken this year within the framework of the C.R.C. research activities, while the structure of the C.R.C. home page has also progressed, with the collection of the biographical details of the permanent research staff and the preparation of a full C.R.C. publications catalogue.

2.3 PUBLICATIONS OF THE C.R.C.

2.3.1 PUBLICATIONS OF THE C.R.C. FOR THE YEAR 2007

FIRST SERIES OF PUBLICATIONS: TEXTS AND STUDIES IN THE HISTORY OF CYPRUS

 A. Blondy, Lettres consulaires reçues de Chypre par le chargé d'affaires du roi à Malte, Vol. V Pr 6265 [Προξενικές επιστολές που λήφθηκαν στην Κύπρο από τον επιτετραμμένο του Γάλλου βασιλιά στη Μάλτα], Nicosie 2007.

CY£6.5/11€

17 x 24, pp. 148

 A. Beihammer, Griechische Brief end Urkunden aus dem Zypern der kreuzfahrzeit, [Ελληνικές επιστολές και έγγραφα από την Κύπρο επί εποχής των σταυροφοριών], Nicosia 2007 (in the process of being published).

19 x 28, pp. 440

SECOND SERIES OF PUBLICATIONS: PUBLICATIONS OF THE CYPRUS RESEARCH CENTRE

1. Ι. Ιωνά, Γητειές, σώμα κυπριακών επωδών [Healing songs, a corpus of Cypriot spells for the sick] 2 volumes, Nicosia 2007.

CY£23.5/40€

17 x 24, pp. 252 (vol. A') + pp. 736 (vol. B')

 Γεώργιος Σεφέρης, P.L. Fermor & J. Rayner αλληλογραφία (1948-1971) [George Seferis, P.J. Fermor & J. Rayner, Correspondence (1948-1971)], editing F. Ar. Demetrakopoulos – B. D. Lambropoulou, Nicosia 2007.

CY£10/17€

17 x 24, pp. 308

THIRD SERIES OF PUBLICATIONS: ANNUAL REVIEWS

1. Επετηρίδα [Annual Review] XXXIII, 2007 (in press)

SEVENTH SERIES OF PUBLICATIONS: C.R.C. COLLECTED STUDIES

1. M. Balard, Les marchands italiens à Chypre [Οι Ιταλοί έμποροι στην Κύπρο], Nicosie, 2007 (in the process of being published).

17 x 24

3. CYPRUS THEATRE ORGANISATION

A look back at Cyprus Theatre Organisation's oeuvre spanning 36 years of existence (1971-2007) would impress even the most hardened skeptic. Apart from the high standard of plays, Cyprus Theatre Organisation (CTO) has bred a host of important homegrown artists, actors, directors, composers, stage and costume designers, choreographers. The state theatre has established itself in the public conscience through regular plays in urban centers as well as in rural. The Stage of CTO has travelled to four continents and has received acclaim as a theatrical group that has something to say and does so with class. Through the activities and programmes of its Department of Theatre Development, CTO has made important breakthroughs both in infrastructure and in audience development.

3.1 OPERATION OF STATE STAGES DURING THE PERIOD 2006-2007

As a state theatre, CTO brings to the public plays performed on four stages:

The **Main Stage**, with grand performances from the classical and modern repertoire and of ancient drama, has staged plays such as lacovos Kambanellis' «The court of miracles», Tennessee Williams' «Summer and smoke», Moliere's «Don Juan», Michalis Pitsillides' «For whom shall it rain», and Euripides' «Iphigenia in Tauris».

The **New Stage**, drawing on the modern-day repertoire from around the world and revolving around limited-cast works with social issues, brought to the public plays such as Giorgos Skourtis «The actors», Samuel Beckett's «Waiting for Godot», and Pavlos Matesi's «The ritual».

The **Experimental Stage**, focusing on research and the current quests of theatre, has presented such works as Marios Pontikas' «Laios' assassin and the crows», Antonis Georgiou «Dear washing machine» and Nikolai Gogol's «Diary of a madman».

The **Children's Stage**, targeting the impressionable younger audience, has produced plays across Cyprus, in schools and communities cut off from access to theatres, bringing to children works such as Giannis Xanthoulis' «Teacher in the water» and Xenia Kalogeropoulou «The little slave».

3.1.1 PARTICIPATION IN FESTIVALS

- CTO took part in the 1st Theatre Festival of South-East Europe Aspects on Ancient Drama, organised in Salonica by the National Theatre of Northern Greece, with the production of Iphigenia in Tauris.
- As part of theatrical exchange activities, a CTO delegation of the board of directors and management held meetings with the National Theatre of Greece, the National Theatre of Northern Greece and the Carolos Koon Art Theatre. The meetings agreed on reciprocal exchanges of plays in Cyprus and Greece between CTO and the aforementioned theatres.

 In December 2007 CTO participated in a festival organized by the National Theatre of Northern Greece.

3.1.2 RETURN TO EPIDAVROS

Through the coordinated efforts of its board of directors, and in close collaboration with the government, CTO "returned" to the Epidavros Festival following a year's absence. It is felt that the organisation's presence at Epidavros is necessary for Cyprus as well as the festival itself, for political but mostly cultural reasons.

3.1.3 CULTURAL DIPLOMACY

The CTO board of directors has informed the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of its readiness to escort the President of the Republic as well as other senior officials on state visits abroad to perform plays, the purpose being to promote the culture of Cyprus. Similarly, CTO has notified the Ministry of Foreign Affairs that in the event of visits to Cyprus by high-ranking officials and delegations from foreign countries it is ready to place its theatrical services at the government's disposal.

The proposal is currently being negotiated with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the Ministry of Education & Culture.

3.2 DEPARTMENT OF THEATRE DEVELOPMENT

3.2.1 THEATRE BUILDING OF CTO

The board of directors has been concerned for the theatre building of CTO. All preparatory work has been completed, and today the project is in its final stage. Construction, set to get underway in February 2008, is expected to be finished in three years' time.

3.2.2 FSTABI ISHMENT OF A THEATRE MUSEUM

CTO is pleased to announce that this joint project with the Limassol municipality is in its final stages, and that the museum is expected to be completed and be opened to the public before the end of 2008. Town planning permits have been obtained, and contracts with the architects signed.

3.2.3 DRAMA SCHOOL

The organisation has submitted to the Ministry of Education & Culture a feasibility study for a Drama School. The school will be autonomous, self-financed, of a high standard, and will be able to begin operation immediately. The process of registering the school with the Ministry of Education & Culture is already underway.

3.2.4 UPKEEPING AND RUNNING OF THEATRE PREMISES

The Department of Theatre Development is in charge of the upkeeping and running of theatrical premises such as the Makarios III Amphitheatre and the Ayios Andreas

Market Theatre. In addition, CTO and the Paphos municipality are jointly responsible for the upkeeping and administration of the Markideion Theatre in Paphos.

3.2.5 STAGE DESIGN EXHIBITION, 35 Years of CTO

As part of the 35th anniversary celebrations of CTO, a costume exhibition was held in Limassol with great success.

3.2.6 STAGE DESIGN EXHIBITION, GREECE

On the occasion of CTO's 25-year-long participation in Epidavros, a costume exhibition was held in July 2007 at the "House of Cyprus" in Athens. The event, a resounding success, was welcomed with acclaim.

3.2.7 PRAGUE QUADRENNIAL EXHIBITION 07

CTO displayed the works of nine distinguished Cypriot costume designers of the younger generation at the Prague Quadrennial Exhibition 07.

3.2.8 EUROPEAN THEATRE CONVENTION

CTO has participated in many activities of the European Theatre Convention. The Convention's Congress has published, among other things, the repertory of CTO as well as a report by a Cypriot commission concerning the works of Cypriot playwrights.

CTO has also taken part in a translation/direction workshop in France, and has been represented at the general assembly of the Convention's Congress. Moreover, as part of reciprocal staff exchange programmes within the Convention, a lighting designer has worked for CTO on a temporary basis, and there are plans for the exchange of staff members abroad.

3.2.9 ANNA LINDH FOUNDATION

The Organisation has joined the Anna Lindh Foundation for Intercultural Exchange, the aim of which is to bring closer the nations of Europe, especially those of the Mediterranean Basin, in line with the Treaty of Barcelona which promotes socioeconomic and political cooperation.

3.2.10 EUROPEAN OFFICE OF CYPRUS

CTO is a charter member of the European Office of Cyprus, whose function is to provide swift and continuous services to its members regarding their rights and benefits as part of the European Union. The European Office of Cyprus bureau is located in Brussels.

3.2.11 AMATEUR THEATRE

CTO has expanded its register of amateur theatre groups, has staged the 20th Pancyprian Festival of Amateur Theatre with the participation of 20 such amateur

groups, and has organised a one-day seminar in cooperation with Limassol's 'Theatriki Poreia." An anniversary catalogue has been published dedicated to the Festival of Amateur Theatre, entitled «Zeal and diligence».

As part of ongoing efforts to support amateur ventures, CTO has issued invitations to all registered amateur groups to attend productions of professional theatres.

3.2.12 SCHOOL THEATRE COMPETITION

The popularity of the School Theatre Competition continues to rise, with up to 54 schools now taking part in the competition. The breakthrough came after a decision to remove the competitive aspect of the awards, with the emphasis now being on the educational value of theatre.

Cyprus participated with only one school in the Panhellenic School Theatre Games, following a decision by the organising committee not to include the Ancient Drama module. Additionally, and in collaboration with the Ministry of Education and the Evagoras & Kathleen Lanitis Foundation, CTO has undertaken the initiative in organising a one-day seminar for drama teachers. Meanwhile CTO has continued its consultative education programme for schools which perform plays.

The crowning moment came with the successful closing ceremony staged for the first time at the Nicosia Municipal Theatre, attended by students and teachers who took part in the Games. A complimentary play was performed for those attending, followed by a discussion on "Being involved is important," with theatre professionals speaking about the true values of the craft.

3.2.13 EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMMES

Throughout the first half of 2007, theatre experts visited many schools as part of an ongoing effort to provide theatre counseling. Additionally, children from nurseries right up to high school were given guided tours of CTO premises, and a workshop on school theatre was held in Paphos in cooperation with the Association of Greek Cypriot Scholars of Paphos.

Further on, the Department of Theatre Development participated in educational seminars on career guidance organised by schools.

3.2.14 DRAMATHERAPY

In collaboration with the day-care center of the Mental Health Services, CTO has pursued the dramatherapy programme, which allows individuals to channel their creativity into theatre.

3.2.15 SCHOOL TEACHERS AND THEATRE

More than 200 school teachers and children attended a workshop organised by the Department of Theatre Development at the Nicosia Municipal Theatre. The workshop was held under the guidance of Tasos Ratzos, Professor of acting and director of the Drama School of the National Theatre of Northern Greece, qualified in children's theatre and educational issues.

3.2.16 THEATRE WRITING

A theatre writing competition was organised with the participation of Cypriot authors or authors living and working permanently on the island offering prizes. The purpose of the competition is to encourage and promote playwriting.

3.2.17 SUBSIDIES- TERMS AND CRITERIA

Following discussions with all subsidized theatre companies, CTO has worked out new criteria and means of supporting independent theatre. Additionally, audits of independent theatre companies are to be expanded, and corrective measures are to be taken, where appropriate.

In total, over the past year more than 25 professional companies received subsidies from CTO to the tune of £700,000.

3.2.18 SUBSIDIES FOR ORGANISATIONS/ASSOCIATIONS

Meanwhile, CTO has continued its annual subsidies to the Cyprus Centre of the International Theatre Institute, the Actors Guild of Cyprus and the Association of Theatre Writers of Cyprus. CTO has also funded the commencement of the operation of the Cyprus Centre for Stage Designers, Theatre Architects & Technicians.

3.2.19 THEATRE FOR CYPRIOT COMMUNITIES ABROAD

CTO continues to provide both financial and moral support to theatre among Cypriot communities abroad. A representative of the board of directors recently attended an honorary event held at the Theatro Technis in London, where an honorary plaque was presented to the theatre's founder Georgios Evgeniou. CTO has also been supportive of the "Our Cyprus" theatre group in New York City.

3.2.20 RESEARCH

CTO provides a broad range of facilities to researchers, students and professionals who conduct research in theatre archives. CTO has also provided the new Centre of Documentation of Ancient Drama in Athens with a complete range of audio-visual material from CTO's archives on Ancient Drama.

3.3 THE SOCIAL ROLE OF CTO

3.3.1 TICKETS FOR LARGE FAMILIES

In collaboration with the Ministry of Finance, CTO has furnished the members of both the Pancyprian Association of Large Families and the Pancyprian Association of Five-Member Families with free tickets. The value of the 10,000 tickets, offered as part of this social cohesion measure, is approximately £40,000.

3.3.2 YOUTH

In cooperation with the Cyprus Youth Organisation, and in consultation with the Pancyprian Federation of Student Unions, CTO has further supported the youth by offering reduced-rate theatre subscriptions, jointly staging various activities and issuing a number of free passes to disadvantaged union members.

3.3.3 BLOOD DONATION

Members of the board of directors, the Artistic Committee, the management, the technical and artistic staff took part in a blood donation event, which aims at being a permanent fixture.

3.3.4 TRIBUTE TO ARTISTS

CTO has supported actors with financial problems and has paid tribute to various art craftspeople.

3.3.5 INITIATIVE TO SUPPORT CHILDREN OF ENCLAVED PARENTS

This year, CTO once again hosted enclaved children from the Karpas Elementary School. The children had the opportunity to watch a play performed by the Children's Stage and to meet with the actors.

3.3.6 CONTRIBUTING TO WELFARE INSTITUTIONS

Delegations comprising members of the board of directors, actors and management have visited and given gifts to hospitalised children at the Nicosia and Paphos hospitals during the Easter holidays.

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 2007, the Central Library held more than 100,000 volumes and provided services to users in Cyprus and abroad. Its primary collections are comprised of 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 (CSO), 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
- Sport Facilities & Technical Services
- Financial Administration Sector.
- Human Resources Sector

The Competitive Sports, the Sports For All and all the other projects launched by the Organisation, like Anti-Doping, National Board of Sport Development, Violence and so on, fall into the Sport Sector.

The creation and / or the improvement of the sport infrastructure as well as the supervision and maintenance of all the privately owned sporting facilities & technical services fall into the Sporting Facilities & Technical Services Sector

The entire financial planning of the CSO and the financial auditing processes fall into 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 fall into the Human Resources Sector and the Cyprus Sport Research Centre.

1.1 SPORTS SECTOR

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

1.1.1 COMPETITIVE SPORTS

The Cyprus Sports Organisation has offered financial support amounting to CYP8.517.500 in the form of subsidies, to the Competitive Sports:

- a. CSO projects like National Board of Sport Development, Anti-Doping, Talents' Scheme, Developing High Performance Athletes – Olympic Training, Researches etc)
- b. Discipline A' Basic Sports (Clubs)
- c. Discipline B' Top Sports (Federations)

2007 High priority activities

In 2007, the most important achievement of the Cyprus Sports Organisation in the Competitive Sports sector has been Cyprus participating in big international sport

events, aiming both at obtaining a performance distinction and the qualification to participate in the Beijing Olympic Games, which will be held in 2008. Big successes have so far been achieved by Cypriots during this year considering the abovementioned objectives like in the case of Kyriacos Ioannou who has been classified third in the World Track Championship, our shooting athlete Ghiorgos Achilleos who has been qualified world champion, two medals were obtained by athletes of ours in the context of University Games and many other distinctions.

Major participations on a competitive level

In 2007 Cyprus participated in a couple of big events: the World University Games held in August in Bangkok – Tayland and the World Shooting Championship held in Cyprus with the following results:

2007 World University Games

The objectives of the team were to get the highest possible position and represent Cyprus in a decent and respectful way in this biggest world university event. Here are the most significant results obtained so far:

INDIVIDUAL SPORTS

Chasikos Andreas	1st Gold Medal	Skit
Soteriou Vassilis	7th	Skit
Mastrou Elias	15th	Skit
Theodotou Stefanos	7th	Double Trap
Eleftheriou Andri	6th	Skit
Lupan Bianca	11n	Skit

TEAM SPORTS FOR MEN

CYPRUS					2nd Position-Silver Medal	Skit	
(0) "							

(Chasikos Andreas, Soteriou Vassilis,

Mastrou Elias)

TRACK

Ioannou Kyriacos (Track)	2nd Position (Silver Medal)
Ioannou Stefanos (Track)	17th
Kaloyeroyiannis Alexandros (Track)	21st
Aresti Ghiorgos (Track)	14th
Parelis Apostolos (Track)	13th
Tsisiou Alexandra (Track)	15th
Theodorou Skevi (Track)	17th
GYMNASTICS	
Aristotelous Constantinos	19th
Aristotelous Panayiotis	47th
Spanos Ghiorgos	20th
TAEKWONDO	

Pattichis Rikkos 9th

JUDO

Mandritis Theodoros 9th

World Shooting Games in Cyprus

The objectives of the team were to get the highest possible position and represent Cyprus in this world event in the best way. Here are the achievements of the Cypriot shooters:

1. Ghiorgos Achilleos: Gold in the individual skit for men

Gold in the team skit for men

2. Kyriacos Christoforou: Gold in the team skit for men

4th position in the individual skit for men

3. Antonis Nicolaides: Gold in the team skit for men

4. Tassos Chapesiis: Gold in the individual skit for adolescents

4th position in the individual skit for adolescents

5. Bianca Kasianidou: bronze in the team skit for young ladies

5th position in the individual skit for young

ladies

6. Charalambia Christou: bronze in the team skit for young ladies

12th position in the individual skit for young

ladies

7. Celia Gheorghiou: bronze in the team skit for young ladies

8. Luiza Theofanous: 10th position in the skit for women

4th position in the team skit for women

9. Gheorghia Constantinou: 12th position in the individual skit for women

10. Valentinos Michael: 4th position in the team skit for adolescents

11. Ghiorgos Kazakos: 4th position in the team skit for adolescents

12. Andri Eleftheriou: 4th position in the team skit for women

13. Constantia Nicolaou: 4th position in the team skit for women

Athletes' reward

The Cyprus Sports Organisation sets the "Scheme for High Benefits to Athletes and Coaches", on the basis of which, the athletes and coaches are rewarded accordingly and they get substantial amounts of money as a reward for excelling in top sport events. As far as the 2006 achievements are concerned (the subsidies are granted a year later, that is this year) the Cyprus Sports Organisation has invested more than CYP300.000,00 for athletes and coaches being rewarded. In 2007 the Cyprus Sports Organisation puts simultaneously in practice the "Scholarship Scheme", in the context of which athletes, being students, are assessed, considering their competing performance and are given a scholarship.

Fighting against the major problems faced by modern sport world

In the context of the "CSO Projects", which are national projects, the Cyprus Sports Organisation deals with a wide variety of activities and focuses mainly on fighting against the use of prohibited substances and methods as well as Violence in Sports.

The Cyprus Sports Organisation complies by means of its National Committees with the international strategies, in terms of taking action in a co-ordinated way and implementing efficient projects aiming at facing the above-mentioned challenges.

International Sport Relations

A further CYP130.000 amount has been granted to enhance International Sport Relations. It is noted that the Transnational Agreements signed by our country, other European States and other countries stressing particularly the agreement between Cyprus and Greece, have proved beneficial to almost all the sport disciplines in our country (30), in terms of team training, with a view to participating in international and established games organized in both countries.

1.1.2 MASS SPORTS

The project Sports For All has for 21 consecutive years been implemented 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" addresses all the children attending Elementary Education and aims basically at getting them involved in a sportoriented world.
- b. The Specialised Projects address children who wish to get intensively involved in their favourite discipline and those who are talented in sports are selected accordingly. Therefore, participation opportunities are offered by means of this project on a regional and national level in Cyprus.
- c. The project "Child and Swimming" is realised during summer months and gives the opportunity to all the children to get in the water and learn how to swim properly.
- d. The project "Pre-elementary Education" addresses children at a pre-school age aiming at getting them involved in sport practising in the form of playing.

B. Sports and Woman - Man project

This project is put in practice in big urban areas and is extended to centres in the country.

Courses are given in the following sports:

- Aerobics
- Basket-ball
- Volley-ball
- Swimming
- Futsal
- Self-defence

C. Projects 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 Schools with Special Curricula in Nicosia, Larnaca, Famagusta and Paphos. It applies the philosophy of the "Sports For All" project providing people involved, with equal opportunities regardless their sex, age, social position and mainly the level of psychic and physical health.

In this project approximately 11.000 persons (both children and adults) have been involved in more than 300 centres and 85 Physical Education teachers have been employed.

The overall cost of the project is expected to rise to approximately CYP840.000.

D. "Sports For All" Project in the National Guard

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

The physical exercise projects are set up with a view to forming a modern army in terms of fitness and are improved and adapted to the needs and conditions as required by the National Guard.

Physical Exercise in the Army aims at:

- Selecting the soldiers and valorising those with specific sport skills in the context of the Army Forces National Team,
- · Combining physical education and leisure time for the soldiers through sports,
- Ensuring the continuation of the soldiers involved in sports doing physical exercise for competition purposes,
- Staffing, the National Guard with well-trained soldiers, who will be skilful to cope with any military mission and carry it out successfully.

The overall cost of the project is expected to rise to approximately CYP200.000

1.2 SPORT FACILITIES AND TECHNICAL SERVICES SECTOR

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

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

1.2.1 CONSTRUCTING 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 CYP6.143.000,00 (CYP9.500.000,00 in 2004 and CYP7.800.000,00 in 2005) has been spent in 2006. A progressive reduction of the funds invested in constructing sport facilities 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 by means of lending the funds required for each individual big project.

A. Works completed and already in use since 2006

- A1. The Larnaka Olympic Swimming Pool has been ready for use to serve the Larnaka Nautical Club, part of the Famagusta Nautical Club and the Sports For All projects in Larnaka. It has been integrated in the Tourism Sport projects.
- A2. 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, Limassolian Sport Institutions involved in Martial Arts, Boxing, Weight Lifting, Rhythmic Gymnastics, and Squash become active in this field. A delay has occurred as far as public procurement is concerned regarding the seats and the results board, which are expected to be placed there in 2007.

- A3. 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.
- A4. 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 from the Cyprus Football Federation, have moved over there.
- A5. Substantial work has been done in the field of Social Sports and the works completed are already used in many towns and communities (Nicosia, Strovolos, Yeroskipou, Polemidia, Erimi municipalities etc).
- A6. The sport seafront facilities at Paralimni have been completed and the World Student Beach Volley Games have taken place there as well as local Beach Volley and Beach Handball tournaments.
- A7. The renovating works in the Pafian Stadium for the changing rooms have been completed against approximately CYP300.000.

B. Works under construction

- B1. The Sport Park in the ancient 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.
- B2. The Cyprus Sports Organisation subsidizes the construction of the Platres Sport Centre. The cost of this project amounts to CYP1.100.000 and is expected to be completed during 2007.
- B3. The upgrading works at the Kyperounta Stadium are estimated to amount to CYP300.000 and are expected to be completed during the current year.
- B4. Many small Social Sports projects are under construction in Municipalities and Communities.
- B5. Following the contract award, TV closed circuits are actually installed in the Antonis Papadopoulos and the Tsirion Stadium. The project is expected to be completed during the first quarter of 2007. These circuits are expected to be functional.

C. Maintenance of the football grounds

The CSO is in charge of the maintenance of Makarios stadium and its ancillary facilities, as well as the Pafian Sporting Centre. It also subsidizes the maintenance of the GSZ, Ahnas National, Tsirion, "Famagusta", "Tassos Marcou" stadia and so on.

D. Small Developing Works

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

E.

1. It has sponsored the construction of closed sport rooms at schools, which are used by Sporting Clubs and Associations.

1.2.2 MANAGEMENT AND MAINTENANCE OF SPORT FACILITIES

In 2007, the Cyprus Sports Organisation has turned to advantage the Sport Facilities aiming mainly at developing sports in our country on a qualitative and quantitative level, meeting a great number of sport disciplines. The Sport Facilities have simultaneously been productive in favour of developing the Sport Tourism (in Cyprus and abroad).

Reference is made here below to the use of Sport Facilities, which is a token of the above-mentioned.

NICOSIA:

- A. The multi-use training facilities have greatly been developed in 2007 and have therefore met the needs of our Clubs and Federations. As far as Sports, which faced through time the problem of lacking the relevant facilities, like Badminton, Table Tennis, Gymnastic, Fencing, are concerned, these multi-use training facilities are actually used. Moreover, they are also used in the case of the team sports (Basket Ball, Table Tennis, Volley Ball).
- B. The Nicosia Olympic Swimming Pool is used to a great extent both with the view of enhancing the Competitive Sports by getting involved the Nautical Clubs and also the Massive Sports, while it is what the foreign athletes prefer mostly.
- C. The auxiliary stadia of the Makarios Sport Centre have broadly been used in 2007 by many local teams, the National Football Teams as well as by foreign teams occasionally.

LIMASSOL:

A. The "Spyros Kyprianou" sporting centre, which has been operating since 2006, extended its activities in 2007, meeting the needs in the case of other sports like Weightlifting, Gymnastics, Boxing, Squash and Volley Ball. Besides, Massive Sporting projects are enhanced in the context of this Sporting Centre.

Furthermore, the first steps have been taken to encourage the Sport Tourism development. Big sport events have taken place like the Cyprus International Rally, Weightlifting International Games, the FIBA All star Game and the LEMESIA.

It was furthermore conceded to cultural events taking place.

B. The New Closed Limassol Swimming Pool (25m) meets (following the Olympic Swimming Pool being closed for restoration purposes) the needs of the Nautical Clubs and Massive Sports Projects are enhanced there.

LARNACA:

- A. The Larnaca Swimming Pool, which became functional in 2006 was turned to advantage further in 2007 mainly in three fields:
 - 1. To enhance the development of the Competitive Sports, with the collaboration of the three Nautical Clubs, which are active in Laranca.

- 2. To enhance the development of the Massive and the Leisure Sports by means of the "Sports For All" Project and with the collaboration of the Nautical Clubs.
- 3. To develop the Sport Tourism by hosting foreign teams.
- B. The "KITION" Sporting Centre meets the needs of both team (Basket Ball, Tennis, Volley Ball) and individual sports (Wrestling, Judo, Gymnastics) and is also used by foreign teams.

AGROS:

The "Glafkos Clerides" Sporting Centre in Agros was turned to advantage in 2007. Enhancing the Massive Sports Projects underlines how much the Cyprus Sports Organisation is interested in offering equal sporting opportunities and it is expected that the enhancement of the Competitive Sports on a local level will be the next step after developing the sport "culture" in the communities of the major region (by means of Massive Sports Projects).

Yet, the Sporting Centre is used by the local team of Basket Ball in the field of Competitive Sports. A group of Swimmers was simultaneously set up by the Limassol Nautical Club.

In the field of Sport Tourism (both in Cyprus and abroad) camping was an event both on Competitive and Leisure Sports.

1.3 FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT SECTOR

The income and expenses of the CSO during the period 2005 - 2007 are stated in the following table:

ACCUMULATIVE TABLE OF INCOME - EXPENSES

	2005	2006	2007
	Real terms £	Real terms £	Initial budget £
INCOME			
1. State subsidies	19.300.000	19.300.000	19.300.000
Income from private-owned and other Sport Facilities	310.685	335.495	298.318
3. Sport stamp	177.791	_	_
4. Other income	747.466	844.504	705.100
5. Lending	6.000.000	6.600.000	6.600.000
Total income	26.255.942	27.079.999	26.903.418

	2005	2006	2007
	Real terms £	Real terms £	Initial budget £
EXPENSES			
1. Management expenses	4.131.543	4.631.694	5.181.585
2. Subsidies	10.042.204	10.494.281	10.190.380
Creation & Improvement of Sport Facilities	6.261.535	3.901.568	6.603.303
4. Loans paid off & Other Obligations	3.971.986	685.000	4.328.139
5. Policing of the Grounds	400.000	400.000	400.010
Non estimated expenses provisions and Stock	0	0	200.000
Total expenses	24.607.268	20.112.543	26.903.418

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

The total number of permanent positions among the employees is 36 against 5 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 on their own initiative. Such training courses have been offered by the public sector but mainly the private one. A total amount of CYP4.500 has approximately been spent so far.

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

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

In 2007, 765 male and female athletes, no matter what the sport discipline and the league is, have gone through ergometric examinations by the 30/9/2007. The biggest participation rate is observed in the case of athletes who participate in the National Teams (369); then come the male and female athletes who are involved in the Talents' Scheme (265) and the Research Projects, which are acted out by the Centre and there are (105) ergometric measurements, mainly Euro fit and Control Groups for specialised research carried out by the Cyprus Sport Research Centre (KAEK).

Today the Cyprus Sport Research Centre (KAEK) has actually 8 employees that is one permanent employee, 7 exceptionally recruited and collaborators who carry out various jobs as well as measurements in the Centre's laboratories, but also on the spot at the competition places.

Yet, researches have been conducted and relevant presentations have been made in the context of international conferences dealing with scientific issues.

It is expected that in 2007 the Cyprus Sport Research Centre (KAEK) may be further equipped with new scientific instruments and modern measurement means focusing on athletes with high performance, mainly in the field of Strength, Flexibility and Balance, which help improve the method the athletes involved in almost all the sport disciplines are assessed, considering the above-mentioned factors. Yet, this is valid even more for the athletes both men and women involved in rhythmic and artistic gymnastics.

1.5 PROTOCOLS

In 2007, the CSO has signed protocols on sport collaboration with Greece and Romania.

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 many countries, if it could afford so.

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

1.6 SERVICE VISITS ABROAD

The CSO participates in various seminars, meetings, conferences and fora dealing with sport issues, in order to keep abreast with the developments in its field of activities. It, therefore, follows up particularly issues related to violence in sports, anti-doping, sport administration and it attends various Minister Informal Meetings on Sports. It also participates actively in big European Sport Conferences like the European Sport Conference, the Meeting of European Sport General Directors, the European Conference on "Woman & Sports" as well as the sport meetings of the Sport Department of the Council of Europe Sport Department.

1.7 SPORT ACADEMY

In 2007, the Sport Academy of the Cyprus Sports Organisation decided to help improve and develop substantially the following fields during the next three years:

- 1. The high training performance
- 2. The training of the Sport Institutions' Leaders

In order that the Sport Academy may achieve its objectives, it has established the Guide on Policy and Procedures to follow aiming at enhancing the Training Projects, in which the policy and procedures governing the Sport Academy collaborating with all the sport institutions are described, with respect to approving, organising and subsidizing training projects.

Yet, in the context of its new policy, the Sport Academy has designed training projects on the sport administration, which address sport institutions' leaders. Therefore, the Cyprus Sports Organisation has contributed towards this direction in collaboration with the relevant Faculty of the University of Nicosia, through a call for tenders launching related to the initial project, which will start in the mid-October 2007 and will end to the mid-March 2008.

In 2007, the Cyprus Sports Organisation kept on subsidizing the sport institutions in Cyprus aiming at enhancing the knowledge and expertise level of their human resources. The global amount of this subsidy to the sport institutions amounted to approximately CYP75.000

MAPAPTHMATA