

ANNUAL REPORT 2008

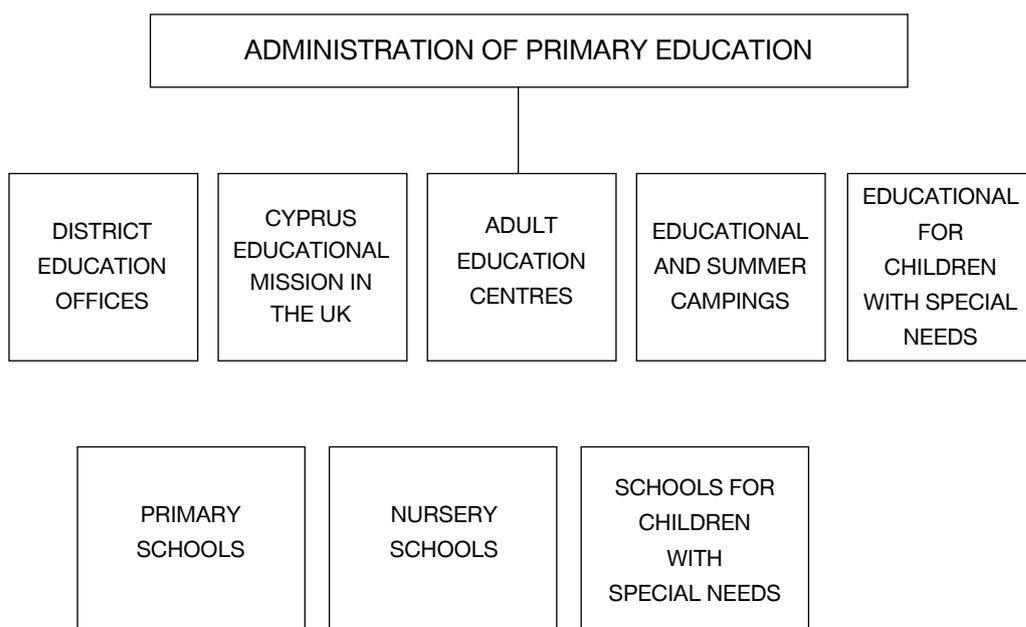
part a

education

1. STRUCTURE OF THE MINISTRY OF 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 in the continuous and steady progress, improvement and upgrading of Primary Education by encouraging the in-service training of the teaching staff, the writing of new books, that meet the demands and the challenges of the 21st century, the appointment of more teachers in the Education for Children with Special Needs, the participation and involvement of teachers in European Programmes, the introduction of innovative approaches to teaching, the introduction of English at a very early age, and the extension, improvement or construction of new school buildings, and so on.



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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 individualised 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 to satisfy their basic needs for a wholesome personality in an experiential environment. This consequently, will enable them to recognise their capabilities and enhance their self-image.

The educational programme of nursery schools retains as many elements of the natural way of living of the family, 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 encouraged 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 socialisation,
- acquire positive attitudes towards learning,
- develop social understanding, belief in human values, respect for our cultural heritage and human rights, appreciation of beauty, and
- 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 AREAS OF CYPRUS

During the year 2008 we had 363 Greek-Cypriots and 123 Maronites living in our country's occupied areas.

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 Republic of Cyprus 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 Republic of Cyprus, the Rizokarpaso Gymnasium operated again for the first time, after the Turkish invasion, 34 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. Eight children attended classes at the Rizokarpaso Nursery School during the school year 2007 - 2008, while 19 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 to eliminate the work being done at the schools or the rejection of the contents in some books, were faced during the school year 2007 - 2008. 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 468 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, audio logy 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 provisions 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 THE CYPRUS EDUCATIONAL MISSION IN THE U.K.

The Ministry of Education and Culture shows immense interest in the 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 writing and publishing of books, the staging of theatrical shows and the accommodation of Greek Community children in the annual Ministry of Education Summer Campings in Cyprus.

1.1.6 ADULT EDUCATION CENTRES

The Adult Education Centres of the Ministry of Education and Culture is one of the most important programmes of providing general adult education in Cyprus. Their aims and objectives are concerned with the implementation of various developmental policies in Cyprus and the wider objectives of the Ministry of Education and Culture on adult education in particular and lifelong learning, in general. They also aim at the enhancement of the quality of adult education provision, on an informal basis, the improvement of knowledge and skills' acquisition for adults leaving school without any basic qualifications and the provision of lifelong learning opportunities for adults from various sociocultural backgrounds, in order to be successfully integrated in the societies of Cyprus and the European Union respectively.

The Adult Education Centres have been providing education and training opportunities to thousands of adult learners, mainly in rural areas, since the establishment of the Republic of Cyprus in 1960. From 1974 onwards, they have been functioning in most urban areas as well as rural. They function in all areas of Cyprus offering opportunities for further professional and personal development to thousands of adults aged 15 and above. During the school year 2007 - 2008, more than 23.000 adults attended the various courses offered by the Adult Education Centres, more than 70 courses in total, in approximately 320 training centres with more than 600 qualified instructors employed.

1.1.7 EDUCATIONAL AND SUMMER CAMPING

The aim of the Educational and Summer Camping Programme is to offer children in 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 children the opportunity to live for a few days away from their families, in an organised community, enabling them to socialise with other people and develop their self- knowledge and self-respect, to improve their cooperative skills and develop the feeling of responsibility as well as the ability for self-organisation and self-support. Moreover, the programme helps to improve the child'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 2007 – 2008, one in October and one in May. There were five, five-day sessions in October 2007 and six, five-day sessions in May – June 2008. During the whole year, 1000 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 860 children from 195 schools.

The Ministry of Education and Culture increases hospitality programmes for children from other countries too. In summer 2008, 160 children from other countries visited Cyprus, participating in these hospitality programmes (114 from Greece, 23 from the Greek-Cypriot community in the UK, four from France and 19 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 2007 - 2008. Specifically, during the summer of 2008, 300 Cypriot pupils were accommodated in six different camping sessions in Greece (three at Metamorfofis Halkidikis camping and three in Athens Municipality).

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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.

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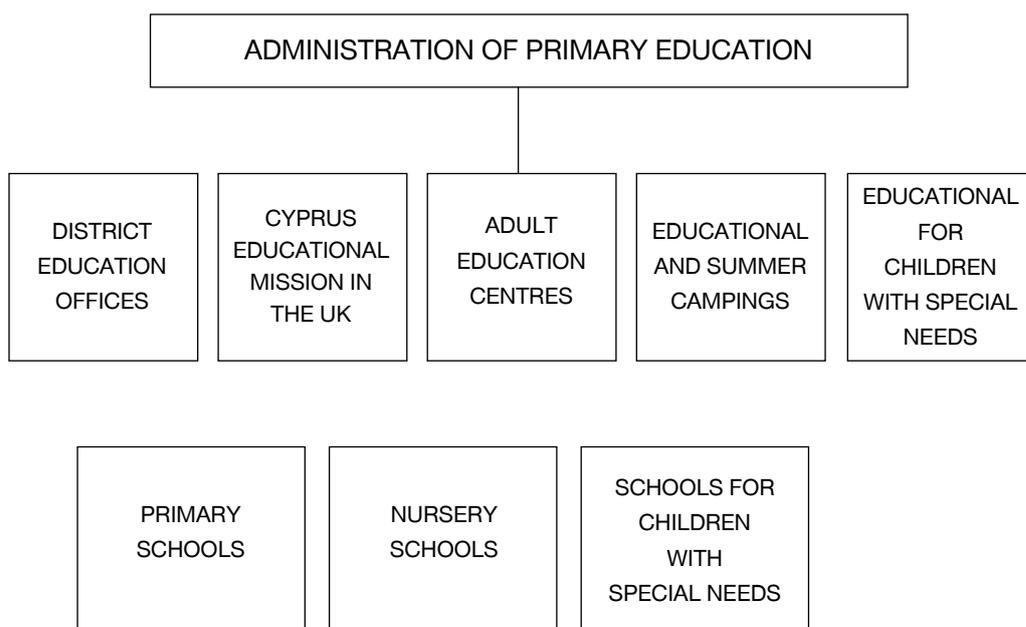
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The statistics below provide information concerning all sectors under the jurisdiction of the Department of Primary Education, for the last three years.

SCHOOLS	2005-2006	2006-2007	2007-2008
PRIMARY SCHOOLS			
a) Number of Schools (*)	342	345	349
b) Number of Pupils (*)	55868	53949	52558
c) Number of Teachers (*)	3882	3986	4048
NURSERY SCHOOLS			
Public:			
a) Number of Schools (*)	244	249	254
b) Number of Pupils (*)	10035	9904	9915
c) Number of Teachers (*)	606	619	626
Communal:			
a) Number of Schools	66	66	65
b) Number of Pupils	1840	1712	1679
c) Number of Teachers	89	87	90
SCHOOLS FOR CHILDREN WITH SPECIAL NEEDS			
a) Number of Schools	9	9	9
b) Number of Pupils	317	279	276
c) Number of Teachers	109	109	118
GREEK COMMUNITY SCHOOLS			
a) Number of Schools	125	84	81
b) Number of Pupils	6500	6700	6500
c) Number of Teachers:	36	36	36
permanent	90	106	94
part time			
ADULT EDUCATION CENTRES			
a) Number of Centres	280	305	320
b) Number of Members	21550	22500	23000
c) Number of Instructors	550	585	600

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

SCHOOLS IN OCCUPIED AREA	2005-2006	2006-2007	2007-2008
PRIMARY EDUCATION			
a) Number of Schools	1	1	1
b) Number of Pupils	13	15	19
c) Number of Teachers	2	3	3
NURSERY SCHOOLS			
a) Number of Schools	1	1	1
b) Number of Pupils	15	13	8
c) Number of Teachers	1	1	1

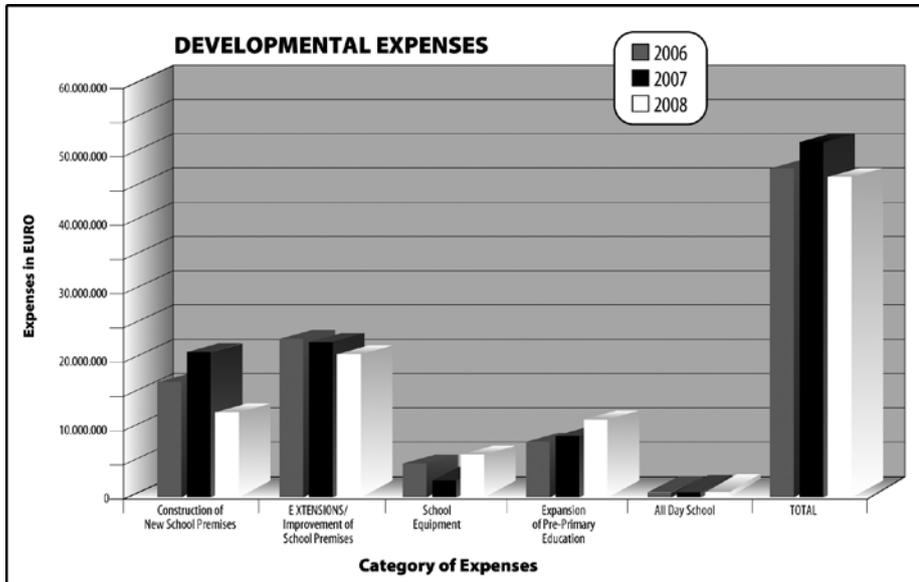
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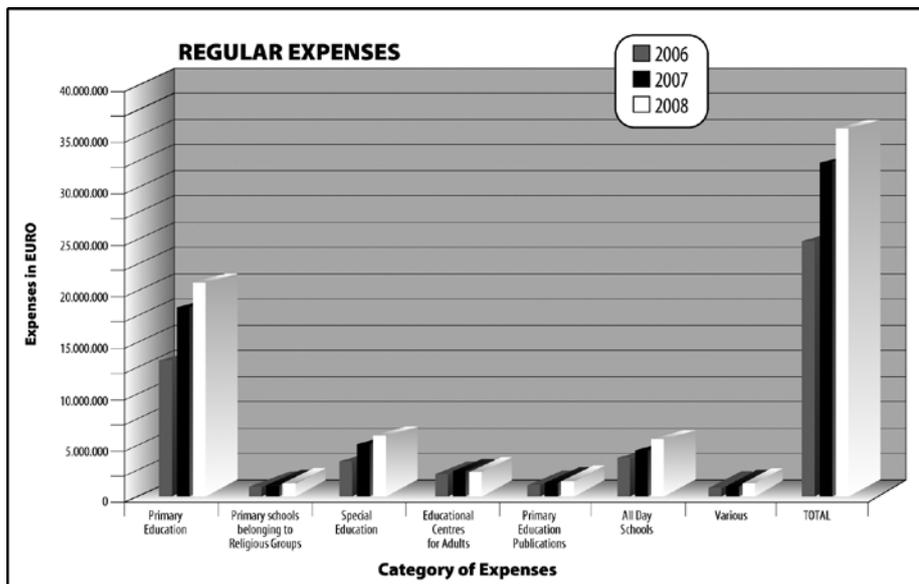
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1.1.10 FINANCIAL STATUS

The developmental expenses for the financial years 2006, 2007 and 2008 in Primary Education are shown in the graph below



The regular expenses for the financial years 2006, 2007 and 2008 in Primary Education are shown in the graph below:



1.1.11 SCHOOL PREMISES

During the school year 2007 - 2008, the procedures for the construction of 14 new primary school buildings, 17 new pre-primary schools and one special education school, continued.

In September 2008, the construction of seven primary schools and nine 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 pan-cyprian scale, since the congestion in very big and crowded schools will 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 2007 - 2008, 27.530 pupils attended the Gymnasium, 23.242 pupils attended the Eniaio Lykeio (Lyceum) and 720 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 2007 - 2008 were 6.229.

EDUCATORS								
	HEAD MASTERS	DEPUTY HEADS A	DEPUTY HEADS	PERMANT	ON CONTACT	TOTAL NO. OF TEACHERS	NUMBER OF EDUCATORS	C.E.O./ INSP.
THEOLOGIANs	7	9	32	182	45	227	275	2
PHILOLOGISTS	39	74	271	1052	275	1327	1711	16
MATHEMATICIANS	14	23	102	400	150	550	689	5
PHYSICISTS	4	10	44	200	73	273	331	2
NATUR./BIOLOGISTS	2	9	33	131	51	182	226	2
CHEMISTS	4	6	22	112	42	154	186	1
GEOGRAPHERS	0	1	3	11	3	14	18	
ENGLISH	17	29	94	291	76	367	507	3
FRENCH	6	11	33	134	28	162	212	2
ITALIANS	0	0	0	12	30	42	42	
SPANISH	0	0	0	3	13	16	16	
GERMANS	0	0	4	3	5	8	12	
RUSSIANS	0	0	0	1	3	4	4	
TURKISH	0	0	0	3	7	10	10	
ECONOMICS	6	9	35	124	61	185	235	2
PHYSICAL EDUCATION	6	16	58	291	76	367	447	2
MUSIC	1	4	20	130	20	150	175	2
ART	2	5	20	117	51	168	195	1
PHOTOGRAPHERS	0	0	0	0	6	6	6	
HOME ECONOMICS	0	3	19	121	42	163	185	1
INFORMATION TECHN.	1	2	19	263	114	377	399	1
TECHNOLOGY	3	4	21	162	30	192	220	2
COUNCILORS	0	2	7	94	6	100	109	
THEATRE RESEARCH.	0	0	0	0	19	19	19	
TOTAL	112	217	837	3837	1226	5063	6229	44

1.2.9 STATISTICAL TABLES

During the school year 2007 - 2008 the following schools operated:

Gymnasia	64
Lycea	37
Gymnasia and Lycea joined	7
Evening Schools	5
	<hr/>
	113

1.2.10 SECONDARY GENERAL EDUCATION

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 2008 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.

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During the year 2008, 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
- Competition on Europe Day
- Guarding of school buildings
- Development of school libraries
- Replacement of furniture

1.2.11 ESTABLISHMENT OF 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 2008, 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 £14,38 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 to offer pupils the required knowledge and skills which will:

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

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

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

A comprehensive and scientific evaluation of the curriculum offered by Secondary Technical and Vocational Education is currently underway. The evaluation is co-financed by the European Social Fund, in the framework of Measure 2.2.2 Improvement and Reinforcement of Secondary Technical and Vocational Education.

1.3.2 THE APPRENTICESHIP SCHEME

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

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

A comprehensive evaluation of the Apprenticeship Scheme is currently underway. The evaluation is co-financed by the European Social Fund, in the framework of Measure 2.2.3 Reform of the Apprenticeship Scheme.

1.3.3 AFTERNOON AND EVENING CLASSES

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

The Afternoon and Evening Classes provide:

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

1.3.4 SCHOOLS IN OPERATION

The Technical Schools in operation during 2007-2008, are shown in the table below. The total number of pupils in each School is also shown.

School	No. of Pupils
A Technical School Nicosia	413
B Technical School Nicosia	107
Technical School «Makarios III» Nicosia	673
Evening Technical School Nicosia	106
A Technical School Limassol	476
B Technical School Limassol	290
C Technical School Limassol	290
Apeitio Gymnasium Agros	28
Technical School Larnaca	450
St. Lazaros Technical School Larnaca	348
Paralimni Technical School	104
Peripheral Technical and Agricultural School Avgorou	312
Paphos Technical School	445
Polis Technical School	82

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 511 full-time. The number of part time Teachers and Instructors for the Afternoon and Evening Classes was 120.

1.3.6 NUMBER OF PUPILS

During the 2007-2008 school year, the number of pupils studying in the various programmes offered by STVE was as follows.

Programme	No of Pupils
Formal Technical and Vocational Programmes	4129
Apprenticeship Scheme	295
Afternoon and Evening Classes	1370
TOTAL	5794

1.3.7 EXPENDITURE

During the fiscal year of 2008 the development expenditure for STVE reached the amount of €9.115.389, while the current expenditure for the same year was €1.664.813.

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 €2 750 073 and was distributed as follows:

Technical Schools in Nicosia District €1 204 947

Technical Schools in Limassol District €899 231

Technical Schools in Larnaca District €311 737

Technical Schools in Paphos District €146 875

Technical Schools in Famagusta District €187 283

1.4 HIGHER AND TERTIARY EDUCATION

1.4.1 INTRODUCTION

The Department of Higher and Tertiary Education has come across new challenges with Cyprus' accession to the European Union. Since the previous academic year it has been taking significant steps towards the establishment of Cyprus as a regional educational and research centre 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. 25 institutions and seven branches, of some of these 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 in the international market. The educational evaluation / accreditation of their programmes of study by the Cyprus Council for Educational Evaluation / Accreditation (SEKAP), constitutes a quality assurance factor as, with the assistance of international academic committees, the standards for development and upgrading as regards to the programmes of study, the qualifications of academic personnel, infrastructure and so on, are set.

The establishment of the Cyprus Quality Assurance and Accreditation Agency for Higher Education has been examined and promoted by the Department of Higher and Tertiary Education. The Council of Ministers has indicated the political will to proceed with the establishment of a Cyprus Quality Assurance and Accreditation Agency for Higher Education with its decision No. 66.010 dated 5 September 2007. Following this decision, a draft legislative decree has been prepared, which is currently under discussion with the relevant stakeholders. A final draft of the decree will be submitted to the House of Parliament for approval. The aim of this Agency will be to promote quality assurance and safeguard accountability for both public and private HEIs through various measures which should include external accreditation and development of internal quality culture based on the ENQA Standards and Guidelines and European Agreements on collaboration for Quality Assurance.

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

A series of measures which aim at the expansion of university level education have also been implemented. These measures include the enrichment of undergraduate and postgraduate programmes of the three public universities. The University of Cyprus (UCY) introduced an undergraduate programme in Biology in September 2007, and another undergraduate programme in Law in September 2008. In addition, UCY has submitted a strategic plan for its further development, according to which its student capacity will be increased by about 2000 places during the period 2008 - 2013. This is to be achieved both by increasing the student intake in existing programmes, and by developing new programmes. Finally, in 2008 legislation regarding the establishment

of a Faculty of Medicine at UCY was passed. Based on this legislation the university has submitted a plan for the development of this Faculty with the aim of admitting its first students in 2013.

The Open University of Cyprus (OUC) which started its operation in 2006, introduced two new programs in September 2007, a Masters programme in Computer Systems and an undergraduate programme in Greek Civilization. In addition, OUC has enriched its provision of continuous education modules, in the context of its Life Long Learning mission, with the aim of satisfying local demand in the relevant areas.

The Cyprus University of Technology (CUT) accepted its first students in September 2007 operating with five Faculties and eight Departments. In September 2008, the university established two other departments, the Department of Commerce, Finance and Shipping and the Department of Environmental Management. In addition, the university has submitted a proposal regarding the establishment of a Faculty of Fine Arts. CUT has also developed its first Masters and PhD programmes and has admitted its first graduate students in 2008.

Furthermore, the Private Institutions of Tertiary Education were upgraded to university level. 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 responsible for:

- 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).
- h. The Council for the Educational Accreditation of Programmes of Study (SEKAP).
- i. The Pancyprian Entrance Examinations.
- j. Lifelong Learning.
- k. Student affairs.
- l. Subsidy programme for Departments of Greek and Cypriot Studies at foreign Universities offered by the Ministry of Education and Culture

According to the latest statistical data, of the academic year 2006 – 2007, 37,454 Cypriot students studied at home and abroad. The number of students studying in Cyprus reached 16,266, whereas, Cypriot students studying abroad reached 21,188. These were mainly distributed to Greece (13,378), United Kingdom (5,641) and the USA (566).

During the same year, the number of international students studying in Cyprus reached 5,961.

1.4.2 THE UNIVERSITIES OF CYPRUS

University of Cyprus

During the academic year 2007 - 2008, 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, Psychology).

Faculty of Pure and Applied Sciences (Departments of Computer Science, Mathematics and Statistics, Physics, Chemistry, Biological Sciences).

Faculty of Economics and Management (Departments of Economics, Public and Business Administration, Economics Research Centre, HERMES Centre of Excellence on Computational Finances & Economics).

Faculty of Letters (Departments of Byzantine and Modern Greek Studies, Classics and Philosophy, History and Archaeology, Archaeological 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 CUT offered programmes through the following schools and departments:

- Faculty of Applied Arts and Communications
 - Department of Communication and Internet Studies
 - Department of Multimedia and Graphic Arts
- Faculty of Health Sciences
 - Nursing Department
- Faculty of Administration and Economy
 - Department of Hotel and Tourism Management
 - Department of Commerce, Finance and Shipping

- Faculty of Geotechnical Sciences and Environmental Management
 - Department of Agricultural Sciences, Biotechnology and Food Science.
 - Department of Environmental Management
- Faculty of Engineering and Technology
 - Department of Engineering and Technology
 - Department of Mechanical Engineering and Materials Science Technology
 - Department of Civil Engineering and Geomatics

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:

- Bachelor in Hellenic Civilization
- Master in Management of Health Units
- Master in Education Studies.
- Master in Information Systems
- Business Administration
- Banking / Finance

PhD programmes

- Education Studies
- Hellenic Civilization
- Information Systems
- Management of Health Units

In addition to the new programs, during the academic year 2008-2009 the following courses were introduced:

- Principles of Management
- Open and Distance Learning
- Introduction to Adult Education
- Natural Sciences Teaching

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 recognised 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, 2007 - 2008, twenty-five private institutions of tertiary education and seven branches, of some of these institutions, were registered with the Ministry of Education and Culture and offer 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 organised in 2008 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 organised a number of other examinations for institutions and organizations.

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1.4.6 PRIVATE UNIVERSITIES

The House of Representatives approved, in July 2005, the Law for the establishment of Private Universities. 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, the «Frederick University», the «European University - Cyprus» and the «University of Nicosia». The three new private universities started their operation in October 2007 under initial license offering over 70 programmes at Bachelor's and Master's level. The list of programmes, approved for private universities, is accessible through the webpage of the ECPU [http://www.ecpu.ac.cy/index_en.htm].

1.5 THE CYPRUS PEDAGOGICAL INSTITUTE

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

1.6 GENERAL ACHIEVEMENTS OF THE DEPARTMENT OF TECHNICAL SERVICES DURING THE YEAR 2008

A 37 MILLION POUNDS WORK

1.6.1 NEW WORKS

During the year 2007, in view of realizing the construction programme of the Ministry of Education and Culture there have been call of 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 including while works from the previous year continued.

These works are:

a) New works

1. New primary School Ap. Pavlou
2. New primary school Pissouriou
3. Aradippou Lyceum
4. New Pafos Lyceum

b) 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 earthquake proof improvement works 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 of the earthquake proof, upgrade of school buildings, which include all works of maintenance, repair and addition of 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 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 pm, whereas two other schools functioned until 2:45 pm. The remaining five extended the time for younger children's stay at school (grades 1, 2 and 3) until 1:05 pm.

This experimental implementation of the All-Day School institution was evaluated by a Special Evaluation Committee which consisted of representatives of the Cyprus University, the Pedagogical Institute, the Inspectorate, the Teachers' Union and the Pancyprian Confederation of the Parents' Associations. 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 was considered to be successful and useful both 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 2007 - 2008, 120 schools functioned as All-Day School, 24 operated on a voluntary basis All-Day Schools for grades 1-6 while the rest of the schools operated on a voluntary basis for grades 4, 5 and 6.

The All-Day Voluntary Schools function from October to May four days a week except Wednesdays, until 4:00 pm (four periods are added to the daily programme). No changes are made concerning either the curriculum or the timetable of the morning school. On the contrary, they continue to function according to the school regulations already in force.

The afternoon programme includes 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 ranges from 8 to 25 according to the subject and needs of each school unit. The formation of classes and groups depends on the pupils' and teachers' interests.

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

Feeding expenses and necessary arrangements for the provision / preparation of the meals are undertaken by the parents. The type of food and the programme of meals are consistent with the ration agreed and arranged by parents in collaboration with the Ministry of Education and Culture. The Ministry of Education and Culture finances the meals of the needy.

2.1.2.2 All-Day Voluntary Schools in Pre-Primary Education

The All-Day School concept in Pre-Primary Education was experimentally implemented during the school year 2005 - 2006 in ten classes in rural pre-primary schools. These pre-primary classes functioned both as morning and afternoon schools until 4:00pm. During the school year 2006 - 2007 the institution was extended to 16 classes in rural and urban pre-primary schools. The number was even more extended in 2007 - 2008 to 20 classes in rural and urban pre-primary schools.

These pre-primary schools operate as All-Day Schools on a voluntary basis. They function from October to May and for four additional periods, four days a week, until 4:00pm. No changes are made concerning either the curriculum or the time table of the morning school. On the contrary, they continue to function according to the

school regulations already in force. The afternoon programme includes four teaching periods per week for resting and 12 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 provides all schools already functioning as All-Day Schools, with the appropriate material and equipment.

Feeding expenses and necessary arrangements for the provision / preparation of the meals are undertaken by the parents. The type of food and the programme of meals are consistent with the ration agreed and arranged by parents in collaboration with the Ministry of Education and Culture. The Ministry of Education and Culture finances 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 has been established for the first time the school year 2006 - 2007 in nine primary schools all over Cyprus. In 2007 - 2008, the number of schools has been increased to 15. 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, while the children are supervised by their teachers. The cost of meals is covered by the parents. However, the Ministry of Education and Culture finances the cost of meals, for a number of children, based on socioeconomic criteria.

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 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 set Environmental Education high in its agenda. In primary education it is achieved through the interdisciplinary approach with the

involvement of all subjects of the curriculum.

Apart from that, various environmental education programmes are being implemented and many schools are actively involved in programmes such as:

- 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, and so on. To convert 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 topic with the ultimate aim of achieving environmental consciousness. The programme is being implemented in cooperation with the Environmental Education Centre of Argroupolis 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 Cypriot Ministry of Education. Through a specifically structured programme we aim at developing environmental sensitivity among pupils, the creation of school gardens and the undertaking of action.

Furthermore, the Environmental Education Centre of Pedoulas (under the responsibility of the Cyprus Pedagogical Institute) is being fully utilized and, at the same time, many schools visit the environmental centre of Kritou Terra, which belongs to the Cyprus Centre of Environmental Studies. The Centres of Environmental Education give the pupils the opportunity 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, offers pupils the chance to achieve empirical experiences and to develop correct attitudes towards the environment.

2.1.4 MULTICULTURAL EDUCATION

During the past few years, a growing number of pupils, coming mainly from the former Soviet Union and other foreign countries, have enrolled in primary schools in Cyprus.

About 7,7% 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 to provide an education that supports the language and distinctive cultural features of the various ethnic groups, but also to provide an education that helps bilingual pupils to learn Greek as their second language for a smoother transition to the Greek Cypriot society. The following table shows the percentage of foreign pupils during the past three years:

School year	Number of foreign pupils	Percentage
2005-2006	3759	6,7
2006-2007	3951	7,3
2007-2008	4040	7,7

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

Multicultural education is currently being practised in Cyprus in the form of various support measures. These measures can be categorised as measures for language support, which refer to the learning of Greek as a second language and measures for facilitating the smooth integration of groups with different cultural identities. The model that is currently being used is the mainstreaming programme in which bilingual pupils participate in the classrooms along with the native Greek speaking pupils. A flexible system of intervention within the ordinary timetable exists. This involves placing bilingual pupils in a separate class for some hours of the week, for intensive learning of the Greek language and specialised 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 in Cypriot schools and society, so the Department of Primary Education has promoted several cultural measures to promote multicultural awareness. The Department has provided all schools with educational material, which includes books for the teaching of the Greek language, Activity and Exercise Books, as well as Teachers' Books with methodological instructions and a variety of suggestions for activities, of mainly communicative character. The Department also realises the need to provide teachers with the opportunity to further develop their learning and teaching approaches to all children. Within this context, it organises in-service training seminars and conferences to teachers who teach bilingual pupils. Developing multicultural awareness, providing information among the pupil population of the way of life, patterns of thought and attitudes of people who differ from us, attempting to understand these differences and communicating with these people, are important features of schools.

2.1.5 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 work closely together 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 in cooperation with the local communities. During the school year 2007 - 2008, six kindergartens and seven primary schools participated in this programme in the Nicosia, Limassol and Paphos districts.

2.1.6 HEALTH EDUCATION PROGRAMME – “MENTOR”

During the school year 2007 - 2008, the Drug Prevention Programmes of the “MENTOR” Mobile Unit (Life Education Centres) continued its implementation. In Primary Education, five mobile units visited schools in all four districts of Cyprus and delivered their programmes to 21669 primary school pupils and 1462 parents who attended the relevant lectures. A modified version of the programme was also implemented within the special education schools and classes applying simplified activities for special education pupils.

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

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

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

2.1.7 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 of Drug Prevention). The goal of the programme is the prevention of drug addiction through art, culture and folk story telling and through oral story telling workshops.

2.1.8 PROGRAMME “EUROPEAN SCHOOL NETWORK FOR THE PROMOTION OF HEALTH”

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

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

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

Cyprus has been a member of the particular Network since 1995. During the school

year 2007 - 2008 the Network functioned with the participation of 141 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 success of these programmes is the enthusiasm, the hard work and the devotion of teachers and pupils who are members of the Network. These programmes are not supported by the intimidation via biological or medical type of knowledge. On the contrary, they are supported by modern forms for the promotion of health, where emphasis is given on the creation of a supporting school environment and the empowerment of the individual through information, the growth of skills and the reinforcement of self-esteem.

2.1.9 ROAD SAFETY EDUCATION

The Ministry of Education and Culture, in cooperation with the Ministry of Transport and the Police, introduced Road Safety Education (RSE) in public kindergartens and primary schools. The National Strategy Document for road safety (2005 - 2010), which incorporates RSE, outlines our short and long term goals and actions as well as the main responsibilities of all major public bodies involved.

RSE should be part of a life long learning process. Therefore, the RSE programme aims to promote knowledge and understanding of traffic rules and situations among teachers, pupils and parents, to improve pedestrian skills through training and real world experiences, to create and / or change attitudes towards safe and responsible behaviour in traffic, and finally to promote active involvement of children, social awareness and citizenship.

In order to assist teachers in their work and provide them with all the necessary materials, a Teachers' Guide for all grade levels and three Pupils' Books are published and distributed. Based on this set of booklets, selected traffic safety themes are integrated into different subjects, such as science, mathematics, language and so on. Relevant materials (lesson plans, power-point presentations and so on) was also published to www.moec.gov.cy/dde/programs/roadsafety.

Since RSE is not an obligatory part of our curriculum, the fore coming danger is that RSE may get ignored in 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, workshops, visits to the Road Safety Education Park, lectures from police officers and members of the Initiative Team for Road Safety, voluntary art competitions, distribution of posters and other audiovisual aids to all public schools.

Within this framework, the schools are encouraged to actively involve pupils in the learning process and to encourage them to share their experiences as well as the results of their work with their parents or pupils of other schools through exhibitions, the Internet, newspapers, and so on. We point out the need for a stronger involvement of parents in the programme and for better campaigns aiming at teenagers, a group at risk.

2.1.10 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, and the promotion of Museum Education, in general.

During the school year 2007-2008, eight Museum Educational Programmes functioned which designed and organised goals on the basis of the Cyprus Curriculum, the needs and interests of the children, but also in regard with potentials and limitations of the space and time available. Their implementation was based on active, experiential learning and interdisciplinary approach that was achieved through observation, exploration, discovery, drama, theatrical game and the pleasure of learning!

These programmes were implemented by nine Museum Education Advisors, who, through a series of organised activities, helped the children to come in contact with the area of the museum and the exhibits, collect data, research, work together, activate their creative and expressional skills and obtain valuable experiences and positive attitudes towards art and civilisation.

During the year the programmes were evaluated, with the method of on the spot observation and the focused discussion by the responsible Inspectors, and Museum Education Inspectors from all towns and also by the educators that took part in the educational programmes. The impressions were excellent, whereas the suggestions made, were taken seriously in account in order to improve these programmes.

Especially satisfied were the approximately 15000 pupils who took part in the programmes, enjoying the exploration within the museum, playing roles in group assignments, but also receiving the pleasure of learning, and saying, at the end, that they would love to come back to the Museum. This is a very encouraging message for the further promotion of the institution of the educational programmes and of the goals of the Museum Education.

2.1.11 CULTURAL EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMME

During the school year 2007 - 2008, the programme at the State Gallery of Contemporary Cypriot Art, which promotes the access of schools to art and culture and aims at the cultural and aesthetic development of children through experiential learning, continued. This programme's theme "Motherhood", gives the opportunity to educators to approach the concept in an interdisciplinary manner, mainly through Art and the Greek Language, while gaining an integrated cultural and aesthetic education.

2.1.12 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, the Culture of Cyprus and the Aegean Sea and develop cultural consciousness. It is a cultural programme that is organised by the Youth Board of Cyprus, in collaboration with the Ministry of Education and Culture and the General Secretariat of New Generation of Greece.

The programme began functioning in March 2001 and is still 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 from the school year 2003 - 2004 it functions for five days per week. The programme is addressed to primary school children of the 3rd – 6th grade 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 for them to transfer the experiences they gain from the programme in the classroom environment.

2.1.13 EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMME "IKADE"

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

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

Pupil travellers, using the Internet and especially the attractive Greek 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 being added in the future.

The second stage refers to communication of school classes from Greece, Cyprus and migrant Greeks through teleconferencing (about 130 schools participate worldwide). Only the pre-selected schools have access to communication between them in groups of four or five at preset timing and with commonly prepared methodology. During the school year 2007 - 2008, 19 primary schools from Cyprus and six from Greece participated at this stage of the "IKADE" programme, which was implemented in Cyprus. By this time, the training of teachers from Canada has been completed and soon their schools will be included in the existing communication groups. Moreover, training carries on with other migrant Greek educators beyond Canada, who soon will also have the opportunity to participate in this tele-cooperation. The thematic areas of teleconferencing include subjects of general interest that refer to the school life of children, our country, our common ancestors, our language, our customs and morals, our natural wealth, our dreams for the future of our country, and so on.

2.1.14 PHYSICAL EDUCATION

The Ministry of Education and Culture aims at upgrading the quality of Physical Education so the future citizens lead an active and healthy lifestyle. In an attempt to

achieve this aim, special emphasis has been given on the Continuing Professional Development of the teachers. They are supported, through seminars, personal contacts and printed material to:

- strengthen links between theoretical knowledge and teaching practically
- develop a more critical perception on physical education lessons
- value creativity across the areas of activity (e.g. dance, gymnastics, games)

In addition, the following programmes have been implemented:

Cooperative Professional Learning Communities (CPL)

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

In CPL, teachers are guided and encouraged by mentors or School Inspectors to cooperate with colleagues from the same school or from a school in 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 cooperate and run several programmes. The most successful programmes were these of tennis, table tennis, badminton, swimming, sailing, rowing, canoeing, and skiing. 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 are:

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

2.1.15 PRE-PRIMARY EDUCATION

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

According to the new legislation, children of the above age are obliged to attend public

kindergartens, community or private schools, which are registered and approved by the Ministry of Education and Culture. Younger children aged 3 years to 4 years and 8 months take up vacant places in public kindergartens and pay fees, as set by the Ministry of Finance. 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 subsidise 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 the schools financial support, guidance and supervision.

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

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

During the school year 2007 - 2008, the implementation of the Building Programme of Pre-Primary Schools which began in 2001 (Decision No. 52.138/19.7.2000), continued. Also, the support of buildings against earthquakes and the upgrading of Pre-Primary Schools are still under effect.

2.2 SECONDARY GENERAL 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 in order to develop critical thinking and take the correct decisions. It is offered through a variety of topics and subjects in an interdisciplinary approach according to the pupils' age and interests and the situation existing.

During the school year 2007 - 2008 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 pupils:

1. The "European School Network for the promotion of Health".
2. "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.
4. "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

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 for pupils of all level of education)
3. “Young Reporters and the Environment” (European programme for Gymnasia and Lycea)
4. “SEMPEP” (South Eastern Mediterranean Environmental Programme)
5. “GLOBE” (Global Learning and Observations to Benefit the Environment)

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.

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

In 2008 the eLearning course offered by CISCO Networking Academy continued in eleven Lycea in Cyprus. Several Information technology teachers were trained ahead in order to facilitate the course.

In all Gymnasia, Information 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 (www.llp.org.cy/etwinning/).

In 2008 more than 250 educators were registered in the eTwinning database. Among them, more than 150 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.

2Traffic Education was also one of the aims set by the Ministry of Education. Therefore, various lectures, visits, activities, competitions and seminars were organised by schools. At the same time the European Union has set a goal to decrease deadly accidents to 50% by the year 2010 and thus the Ministry of Education is in close cooperation with the Police for the materialization of this goal.

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.

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

Educational concerts are presented to pupils in secondary schools all over Cyprus in the mornings.

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 performed their music during the «Week of Artistic Expression» in Thessalonica.

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.

Projects

A multidisciplinary project was organised with the participation of all Nicosia schools, entitled "Music Once", A. Mpalta's music. Groups of pupils composed, improvised and played their own music with the guidance of music artists. It lasted for three weeks.

Family concerts

Concerts specially organised for parents and children on Saturday afternoon.

2.2.10 TEACHER ADVISORS FOR LITERARY SUBJECTS

The institution of teacher advisors for literary subjects was introduced in the school year 2004 - 2005 in an effort to upgrade literary subjects. They visit schools and offer support using new methods and approaches, through teaching practices, mostly for the teaching of essay writing, modern and ancient Greek and history to both public and private schools. Supportive material has also been prepared. They also organise various competitions among schools.

2.2.11 SPECIAL EDUCATION PROGRAMMES

The Special Education Unit has organised several seminars for teacher training in special education. The following programmes are run in Secondary Education:

- a. Learning difficulties programme: pupils are offered support, individually or in groups of no more than four children, in Modern Greek, History, mathematics and Physics. Support is also offered in other subjects according to the pupils' needs
- b. Special Units programme: special education and training is offered to pupils within an everyday school. Pupils attend 17 periods in their everyday class without any participation and then in two to eight pupils attend lessons in the Special Unit. Special staff is hired to offer help in the Unit.
- c. Literacy programme: started in 1989 and is run under the auspices of the Educational Psychology Service (scientific responsibility) and the Secondary Education Directory (administrative responsibility). It aims at offering equal educational opportunities and preventing social exclusion by fostering basic skills and reinforcing self esteem and offering emotional support.
- d. Hearing programme takes place either in an everyday class without support or if it is necessary with support in a special room mostly for the subjects which are examined at the end of the year, and in a Special Unit. Supportive material has been produced for teachers locally and in Greece.
- e. Sight programme is run in cooperation with the School for Blinds.

2.2.12 LITERACY PROGRAMME AT GYMNASIUM LEVEL

Functional illiteracy is one of the most serious problems of contemporary educational systems since its consequences are related to the emotional health and social adjustment of people as well as of society in general. Marginalisation, delinquency, self-destructive behaviour, use or abuse of drugs, psychological and physical problems are its results. Therefore, fighting functional illiteracy is one of the main goals of our educational system.

The programme started in the school year 1989 – 1990 after it was evaluated and its success clearly shown it was extended to all gymnasia. It aims at ensuring the basic human right for education for functionally illiterate pupils, preventing school and social exclusion with all its awful results, fostering and developing basic skills, boosting self-image and emotional support, and making adjustment at school and in society easier.

2.2.13 INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATION TECHNOLOGY

The school year 2007 - 2008 has been considered the most important year for the promotion of Information and Communication Technology in the Cypriot Educational System.

During the year 2007 - 2008, the Data Centre of the Ministry of Education and Culture was established and began its operation at the Cyprus Pedagogical Institute. This Data Centre will constitute the central service that will accommodate and ensure the effective operation of all digital applications of education, such as DIAS, an Internet based school application. The system will manage the administrative processes of the Ministry from the level of school unit up to the level of the Minister's office.

Within this Data Centre the most modern systems of digital networks management and also systems of digital and non-digital safety have been installed. Additionally, the Data Centre accommodates a big number of employees that manage the ICT use in the educational process, like the practitioners responsible for the application and development of DIAS, the practitioners that manage the design of the technical infrastructure of schools and the unit that manages the contracts related to the ICT programme.

During the year 2007 - 2008 the number of computers and printers that were sent to public schools is the greatest than ever. With the installation and operation of this equipment Cyprus possesses one of the best proportions of computer availability per student.

At the same time, the processes of network installation in 20 new schools of Secondary and Technical Education proceeded. These schools belonged in the second team of schools, provided that the work of structured wiring for the schools of the first team was completed within the year.

During 2007-2008 the preparation of digital electronic material for 17 courses of Lyceum and Technical Schools made an important progress. This material will be the first material that will function within the frames of DIAS.

In parallel with this, the process for acquiring software for all courses in Elementary schools and Gymnasias has begun.

In September 2008, the Elementary School that brings the name of the unforgettable Minister of Education and Culture, Pefkios Georgiades, was ready to function. At Pefkios Georgiades elementary school, the model of future public schools has been developed, demonstrating how Cypriot public schools will be in the years to follow. At this school the equipment that was installed shows how each school will be in the 21st century.

Among others, interactive boards were installed in each classroom as well as three computers and one printer and a special system that shows in large tft screens selected material from the Data Centre. Moreover, wired and wireless networks were developed that cover all the areas of the school and portable computers were given to each teacher that worked at the school during the school year 2007 - 2008. An important contribution for the operation of DIAS was offered by the Cyprus Telecommunications Authority which offered the above equipment.

The school year 2007-2008 constituted undoubtedly the beginning of an impressive progress of the Cyprus Educational System upgrading process. Furthermore, it contributed towards the beginning of the success of the greatest innovation that has ever scheduled in any educational system, the innovation of ICT developments, for mainly improving school performance and effectively turning students to the requirements of the Information Society.

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 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.

Other activities of Secondary Technical and Vocational Education

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

2.4 THE CYPRUS PEDAGOGICAL INSTITUTE

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

2.4.1 DEPARTMENT OF TEACHER EDUCATION

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

During the academic year 2007-2008 the following courses were offered:

- **Induction course for novice Primary, Secondary and Technical / Vocational Education Teachers**

The above induction course is offered for the first time after a relevant decision by the Council of Ministers (July, 2008).

The course aims to help towards the smooth induction of novice teachers through a supportive mentoring system. The course aims to cater towards novice teachers' personal, emotional, professional and practical needs as well as to promote the development of critical thinking in their teaching practice.

- **Educational Administration Seminars**

(a) In-service Training Programme for Secondary School Headteachers: In May 2008, 35 Secondary School Headteachers completed the course.

(b) In-service Training Programme for Secondary School Deputy Headteachers: In June 2008, 180 Secondary School Deputy Headteachers completed the course.

(c) In-service Training Programme for Primary School Headteachers: In March 2008, 45 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 2008 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 85 seminars which took place in five centers (Nicosia, Limassol, Larnaka, Paphos and Paralimni) within the Non-compulsory 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 2008 the following seminars were also organised by the Cyprus Pedagogical Institute:

DATE	TITLE	
8 February	Seminar for Primary School Inspectors on the new literature compilations for primary school	Seminar
15 February	Official opening ceremony for the Training Programme for Teachers of Greek origin from the Black Sea Countries	
20 March	Presentation of online and printed materials for the teaching of Greek to the Greeks of Diaspora	Seminar
21 March	Conference on the theme of “Intercultural Dialogue”	Conference
28-29 March	CLIL in Pre-primary and Primary Education	Conference
3 April 2008	Conference on Sports and Biology	Conference
11-12 April	Seminar on Dionysios Solomos	Seminar
24 May	Training Teachers on Environmental Education	Conference
5-6 June	2nd consultation table of the Council of Europe for “Policies and Practices for teaching Sociocultural Diversity”	Seminar
11-12 June	Induction courses for novice teachers	Seminar
6 - 13 October	Prevention of youth delinquency	Seminar/ workshops
25-28 November	Teaching ancient tragedy through drama	Seminar/ workshops
27-28 November	Developing creativity through teaching and learning	Conference

• **School-Based Seminars**

During the academic year 2007 - 2008 several seminars for teachers and seminars for parents were conducted at schools around Cyprus. The subjects of these seminars dealt directly with the education of the students. During the seminars teachers and parents were able to exchange viewpoints with the speakers.

Information and Communication Technologies Teacher Training

During the academic year 2007-2008 about 2500 teachers from all levels of education participated in

programmes in Information Technology as follows:

- (a) Basic Information Technology Skills
- (b) Basic Educational Applications of Information Technology
- (c) Specialised 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 2007 - 2008. These 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 organised 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 2007 - 2008 school year 3850 students from all levels of education participated in the educational programmes offered and 250 teachers took part in training seminars and experiential workshops which were organised.

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 2008, 624 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 were published during 2008:

1. Proceedings of the annual Symposium on Ancient Cypriot Literature.
2. The 10th issue of the Pedagogical Institute Newsletter entitled 'Cyprus Pedagogical Institute Bulletin'. The Bulletin is circulated to all schools, free of charge.
3. The booklet "Non-compulsory Training Courses 2007 - 2008" which informs teachers on the courses offered by the Cyprus Pedagogical Institute.
4. Booklets about all the training programmes offered by the Pedagogical Institute as well as supplementary materials and notes which were required by the training programmes.

2.4.3 DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATIONAL TECHNOLOGY

In 2008 the staff of the department of Educational Technology offered pre-service and in-service training programmes to teachers. These focused on the use of audio / visual aids and educational technology equipment.

Production of Audio / Visual Teaching Material

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 2008 the following films were completed and are now available:

- (a) “Eleni” of Seferis
- (b) “The light in Dionyisios Solomos poetry”
- (c) “Theophilos-Kassialos” (a co-production with the Educational Television Company of the Ministry of Education in Greece)

2.4.4 DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATIONAL RESEARCH AND EVALUATION

During 2008 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 2008 are:

- Evaluation of various programmes implemented in Secondary Education (e.g. Sports in the afternoon, Language Rooms, etc.)
- Literacy programme (in cooperation with the University of Cyprus)
- Evaluation of the Music and Sports Schools
- Evaluation of the compulsory and non-compulsory seminars offered by the Pedagogical Institute
- Evaluation of the State Institutes (phase A’)
- Evaluation of School Canteens

2.4.5 EUROPEAN PROJECTS

During 2008 the Cyprus Pedagogical Institute participated in a number of European projects which are presented in 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	Curriculum for the training of teachers in Intercultural Education
	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
COMENIUS Network	Wi-Mi	Thematic network aiming mainly towards supporting intercultural partnerships amongst European schools
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 of historical information through multiple sources

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

The following table shows the amount of books that were printed or reprinted during 2008, as well as the related cost. The table indicates that during 2008 the CDU published a total of 293 textbooks for all levels of education (new or revised editions as well as reprints).

DEPARTMENT	COST €	Number of books		
		First Edition- Revised Edition	Reprints	Total
Primary Education	1.025.000,00	1	133	134
Secondary General Education	1.110.000,00	7	103	110
Secondary Technical and Vocational education	233.000,00	—	49	49
TOTAL	2.368.000,00	8	285	293

3. PARTICIPATION IN EUROPEAN PROGRAMMES

3.1 EURYDICE NETWORK

The information network on education in Europe, Eurydice, is one of 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 2008, the Unit had the complete responsibility for the edition of “Levels of Autonomy and Responsibilities of Teachers in Europe» in Greek, which was disseminated to all schools and educational institutions on the island.

Eurydice has recently published:

- Governance on Higher Education
- Levels of Autonomy and Responsibilities of Teachers in Europe
- Key Data on Teaching Languages at Schools in Europe
- Tackling Social and Cultural Inequalities through Early Childhood Education and Care
- Vocational Guidance in Education
- National Dossier 2007-2008
- National Summary Sheets 2008

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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 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 general motto for School Year 2007 - 2008 competition was “Intercultural Dialogue”. The competition of the Essay Writing was conducted for the third year 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 innovative, 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 7th 2007. Despite the fact that the Essay competition was optional, the participation of Cypriot students from public and private schools was all-embracing.

The Essay Writing competition took place on the 14th of January 2008 whereas the Art competition in Secondary Education was conducted from March 13th 2008.

The prize winners' ceremony was held at Idalion Lyceum on April 16th. The exhibition of the prize awarded paintings, was also held at the same place, and lasted from April 14th to April 18th 2008. Last year was the second 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.

Fourteen prizewinners were chosen after interviews at the MOEC and in agreement with their schools to take part in Youth Gatherings in summer 2008, held in Cyprus and other European countries. In Cyprus the Limassol gathering (July 21-27 2008) was attended by 13 students from five European countries and the students were under the supervision of two Cypriot and one foreigner Team Leader.

4. OTHER ACTIVITIES

4.1 THE YOUTH PARLIAMENT PROGRAMME - 13TH SESSION, 2008

An educational programme in which pupils of B' Class Lyceum participate. During the first phase the works of the pupils are assessed by a group of assessors in each town of Cyprus and a number of them is 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 are chosen to represent Cyprus at the session which takes place in Athens every January. There our teens have 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 OF FURTHER EDUCATION

The State Institutes of Further Education started functioning in 1960 offering only foreign languages. Nowadays they offer lessons to pupils of all levels of education as well as to adults both in urban and rural areas. Subjects offered: foreign languages, Greek for foreigners, Accountancy, IT, subjects examined at the Pancyprian exams. Free of charge Greek lessons are offered to Turkish Cypriots and Turkish are offered to Greek Cypriots. Pupils are prepared for external exams in foreign languages and IT. During the year 2007 - 2008 there were 41 institutes in operation all over Cyprus and more than 17000 people attended the lessons offered.

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4.3 UNESCO ASSOCIATED SCHOOLS

UNESCO Associated Schools have been working on projects for almost 37 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 PHYSICS

1. Competition on the Science of meteorology

The Ministry of Education and Culture in collaboration with the Cyprus Meteorological Association announced an optional competition, a research project entitled "Extreme Weather Conditions". Source, social and financial consequences, ways to deal with them, contribution of Meteorology and so on. The aim was to get the pupils in contact with scientific and research procedures and at the same time to promote environmental conscience and the development of environmental culture in cooperation with various organisations.

2. Ecomobility programme

The Ministry of Education and Culture, the Directory of Secondary Education and the Cyprus Pedagogical Institute participated in the programme. The goal of the programme was the development of the quality of life in towns. It aimed at sensitizing citizens on environmental issues which degrade life in towns, at adopting alternative

and more friendly towards the environment behaviours and ways of life and at the active participation of pupils (C' class Gymnasium) in matters related to the reservation of the quality of life in towns. They studied critically the means of transportation and how they harm the environment and consequently the quality of life, tried to find solutions and discussed them with the local authorities.

4.5 COUNCIL OF EUROPE PROGRAMMES

“Education for Democratic Citizenship and the Human Rights”

The programme aims at strengthening democratic societies with the adoption of a strong democratic culture, boosting the participation feeling and commitment but also acceptance of basic values from the creating of a free, tolerant and fair society at national and European level.

Democratic citizenship is offered as a separate subject, Civics, but also through all the subjects or school activities. The programme includes education for peace, global education, intercultural education but also application of democracy and participation in common activities. Thus young people will become responsible citizens able to live effectively and responsibly at a local, national and international society.

4.6 PHYSICAL EDUCATION

Physical education lessons aim at preparing pupils for a healthy way of life focusing on pupils total physical and mental development while at the same time contribute towards values such as justice, selfdiscipline, solidarity, team work, and tolerance.

During the school year 2007 - 2008 various sports events were organised locally and abroad.

Athletic School

Two Athletic schools are now in operation. One in Limassol and one in Nicosia. The number of pupils has increased and the training and feeding conditions have been improved. Moreover the lessons offered in the afternoon have been enriched.

4.7 EUROPEAN YEAR OF INTERCULTURAL DIALOGUE 2008

The Ministry of Education and Culture, in collaboration with the European Institute of Cyprus coordinated the European Year of Intercultural Dialogue with the aim all the people in Cyprus and abroad, especially the young ones, to become aware of the importance of intercultural dialogue in our everyday life, to get to know and understand the cultural characteristics of the others and be sensitised so that to be involved in actions with the purpose of a continuous intercultural cooperation, at a local, national or international level.

Therefore, it was set as one of the educational goals for the school year and all schools developed various activities, such as exhibitions, researches, competitions, conferences, speeches, plays and so on.

Global Education Week 2008

During the third week of November, Global Education Week was celebrated with the topic “Intercultural Dialogue”. An effort was made to present activities of various schools and at the same time be a motive for schools to develop and foster

knowledge, skills, values and attitudes which are the characteristics of the active citizen in today's global, multicultural society. More information can be found on the Ministry's website: www.moec.gov.cy

Model European Parliament

Cyprus participated with five pupils in Stockholm from 13 to 20 April 2008. the apcticipaiton offered to pupils the opportunity to get to know and work together with pupils from other European countries.

4.8 PANCYPRIAN SCHOOL COMPETITION OF CONTEMPORARY PLAYS AND ANCIENT DRAMA

The Pancyprian School Competition of Contemporary Plays and Ancient Drama is coorganised with the Cyprus Theatre Organisation every year. Secondary education schools show increased interest towards this institution and the quality of their performances is remarkable. Pupils are offered the opportunity to gein in contact with plays and ancient drama, to play various roles and through them to experience the passions of the human soul. They work creatively in groups towards a common goal, they get to know themselves and the others, they learn to organise things but also organise themselves, they discipline, communicate, avoid racism, struggle for the success of the 'other', create, think critically and imaginatively.

5. OTHER ACTIVITIES

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 organised around two main areas or sectors of activity: the Individual Case Sector and the Programmes, 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 the individual and may work with the child, with 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 assessment and recommendations.

During the 2007 - 2008 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 2007 - 2008 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 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 THE COUNSELLING AND CAREER EDUCATION SERVICE

The Counselling and Career Education Service (C.C.E.S.) operates within the Public Secondary Education System of Cyprus and offers help to the students and other youngsters through the Counselling and Career Education Offices of the Schools and the Central Offices of the Service at the Ministry of Education and Culture (M.O.E.C).

The goal of the C.C.E.S is the provision of specialized help to the students and other young people through the counselling technique in order to make effective personal, educational, and vocational choices. Emphasis is given on the following areas:

- self – knowledge
- self – approval and self – confidence
- self – actualization
- decision – making skills / problem – solving skills
- healthy adjustment to the school and social environment
- critical thinking and effective use of appropriate information
- The Counsellors help the students in order to acquire the necessary skills so as to make effective personal, educational and vocational choices through the following:
 1. Personal, group, and family counselling
 2. Administration of specialized tests which are offered during counselling sessions in order to help the interested persons to explore in depth their personality, interests, etc.
 3. Teaching of the Career Education and Social Education course (it is offered at the 3rd grade of gymnasium)
 4. Organization of seminars and Conferences on vocational, educational, social psychologed, and other related subjects
 5. Production of a career – education film
 6. Publication of instructive and informative books

Additionally, C.C.E.S. participates at a strategic level in different Committees at the M.O.E.C., which have as a major goal the empowering of students in order to deal effectively with personal, educational and social problems.

Based on the principle of providing equal opportunities to the children with special needs to be educated along with other children of the same age in the Public Secondary Schools of their community / neighborhood, the counsellors also provide personal and educational Counselling to the students with special needs and contribute to the development of individual educational programs for these students.

5.3 SCHOOL CLERKS UNIT

The School Clerks Unit, headed by the First Clerk, comes under the Permanent Secretary of the Ministry of Education and Culture and forms part of the Civil Service. It is a necessary and imperative service, 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 105 secondary education schools, 11 Technical Schools, 8 afternoon and night Technical Schools, 5 evening schools, 44 School Boards, 42 state institutes for Further Education and the Library of the Pedagogical Institute.

The Unit keeps records for all the School Clerks (about 480) which comprise, among others, Confidential Reports, Personal Records and Leave Records. It monitors and controls the posts and arranges for appointments for vacant posts. It also oversees leaves, sick or maternity leaves and retirement.

The Unit 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 175) of Temporary Clerks according to submitted needs.

During the school year 2007-2008 the following activities took place:

- a) One day, October 2008, in-service training for the Clerks of the State Institutes of Further Education as well as for the clerks of the afternoon and night Technical School classes.
- b) IT seminars for librarian clerks for Gymnasias, Lycea and Technical schools held from 25.9.08 until 11.12.08 (12 meetings).

In October 2008 the Administration clerk unit created its own website in which useful information and helpful material is provided for the clerks of the school units, institutes of further education and school boards. The website is:

http://www.moec.gov.cy/monada_dioikisis_epimeliton/

5.4 THE STORE

The main objective of the Ministry of Education and Culture Store is the dispatching of books and stationery to all public schools. Also the store assists all the 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, materials for Art, Music, Gymnastic, Chemistry, Physics, Biology, Home Economics, Design and Technology and so on.)

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

The preparation of dispatches is carried out within the Store in close co-operation with the schools, school boards and community councils. The Store prepares a timetable and undertakes the responsibility to serve the needs of all DSTE, public schools, nursery schools and the community schools after receiving their orders. The delivery of the required items in each district is undertaken by a transporter under contract and a store employee. Books donated by various authors and approved by the Ministry of Education are delivered by post to school libraries.

Apart from the above, the Store sells stationery, art material and support 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 DEFENSE, HEALTH AND SAFETY

Mission

The Civil Defence, Health and Safety Office has as its mission the creation of a safe and healthy environment for all the workers in the educational institutions and services, as well as the pupils that study in all public schools. At the same time, it caters for the convenient and effective reaction of schools in situations of emergency.

Our main concern as Health and Safety Officers is to ensure healthy and safe conditions at work according to the European Directives, and the Cyprus legislation in all educational institutions (students and staff in all public schools) and services of the Ministry of Education and Culture.

Supervisor: Haralambos Constantinou

Health and Safety Officers

Civil Defense Officers

Pavlos Kyriakides (Higher Technical Education) 22800988

Christos Antoniadis (Secondary Education) 22800965

Yiannis Kasoulides (Elementary Education) 22800989

Fax – 22809584

http://www.moec.gov.cy/politiki_amyna/index.html

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- Pancyprian First Aid seminars for teachers of Elementary Education.
- Pancyprian First Aid seminars for Assistants - Helpers of Special Education of the Secondary Education.
- Eight hour educational seminars on Basics of First Aid and CPR, Ministry Education and Culture - personnel.
- Presentation from our Office at the Euro Mediterranean Congress on the reduction of destructions in schools (EUR - OPA).
- Training the Emergency Fire Safety Team of the Ministry.
- Training the First Aid Emergency Team and Stretcher-bearers crew of the Ministry.
- Participation of Elementary and Secondary schools, in a joint earthquake and evacuation exercise with the Ministry of Interior, Civil Defense Team "Egkelados 2007».
- Visits / Inspections in schools and services of YPP all over Cyprus for counseling on Safety and Health issues.
- Visits / Inspections in schools and services of YPP all over Cyprus for counseling on management crisis and evacuation issues.
- Follow-up evacuation exercises of schools and informative lectures at all levels of education.
- Informative educational seminar to school Headmasters at all levels of education on Safety and Health, and briefing - analysis of School Action Plan during an emergency.

- Lectures on First Aid - “First Aid in Class” presented to teachers of Secondary Education.
- Application and monitoring safety and alarm system - Ministry of Education and Culture.
- Planning and supervising of the access control system of the Ministry of Education and Culture.

5.6 TECHNICAL SERVICES

Technical Services mission is to offer, develop and maintain the necessary infrastructure (buildings, furniture, equipment) of all public schools (nursery, primary, secondary, technical schools), buildings related to culture which belong to the Ministry as well as of the Ministry itself.

Their basic duties are to research in order to introduce innovative and improved standards, supervise the existing infrastructure and materialise the projects included within the annual budget. Moreover, they support the Ministry in relation to public organisations under its auspices, offer consultative services to the authorities as regards private schools and so on.

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. They undertake a significant role in forming local cultural policy as they are 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.

The Cultural Services' total budget (including that of the Cyprus Library and SIMAE) amounts to € 23.709.594 (Regular and Developmental Expenses).

1.1 LETTERS

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

Within the framework of the programme regarding the publication of doctorate dissertations, the following dissertations have been published:

- 'Church and Taxation in Cyprus in the last Century of Turkish Domination (1779-1856)' by George Dionysiou
- 'Language Indicators in the Dialect of Cyprus Students' by Costas N. Constantinou
- 'The Educational Element in the Contemporary Cypriot Short Story for Children and Youths' by Costas Katsonis
- 'Family within the Cypriot Children's and Youth Novel (1977-2002) by Maria Michaelidou

Also published were the works 'Costas Montis', 'The Wonderer of the Sky' and 'French Culture in the Cypriot Domain' by Sylvain Beraud. In charge of the publication was Mr Yiannis I. Ioannou.

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

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

1.1.2 CONSIGNMENTS OF CYPRUS LITERARY AND CYPROLOGICAL BOOKS LOCALLY AND ABROAD

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

1.1.3 BOOK EXHIBITIONS IN CYPRUS AND ABROAD

In 2008, the Cultural Services subsidized the Association of Cypriot Book Publishers in an effort to project and promote contemporary literary work for participation in the International Book Fairs in Thessalonica (May 2008) and in Frankfurt (October 2008). Furthermore, the Cultural Services subsidised the participation of the Association of Cypriot Book Publishers in the Book Fairs at the Dionysiou Areopagitou sidewalk in Athens, which takes place in May and October every year and at the seafront by the Thessalonica White Tower in June.

1.1.4 SUBSIDISATION OF PUBLICATIONS

In an effort to encourage publishing houses and non-profit organisations, the Cultural Services, following suggestions by the Advisory Committee for Subsidising Publications, subsidised 201 publications covering a wide range of Cyprological topics during 2008.

1.1.5 STATE, MUNICIPAL, COMMUNITY, SCHOOL AND TRAVELLING LIBRARIES

During 2008, the computerisation based on the system ABEKT 5.5 of the collections of Libraries of the various State Services / Government Departments continued.

Seventeen Municipal Libraries received technical assistance (staff training) in matters of classification – cataloguing – filing of material as well as in the field of computerisation, based on the ABEKT system. Nine 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 were upgraded. At eleven of these, the system ABEKT 4 was implemented.

During 2008, twenty-eight Municipal Libraries and one hundred and twenty-six Community Libraries were in operation. During 2008, six new Community Libraries were established.

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

As in previous years, in 2008 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 2008. The Cultural Services' team responsible for computerisation continues the computerisation of the Severios Library.

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

1.1.6 SPONSORSHIP OF LITERARY EVENTS

The Cultural Services sponsor many bodies and persons for the organisation of literary events in Cyprus and abroad, including the participation of bodies and persons in conferences and events abroad. Among other things, in 2008, the Association of Cypriot Studies undertook the 4th Cyprological Conference with the sponsorship of the Cultural Services

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

With the aim of supporting the literary work of Cypriot writers, the Cultural Services implement the system of State Prizes for Literature and Prizes for Children and Youth Literature and Book Illustration on a yearly basis. The system includes the following award categories: 1) Poetry 2) Short Story 3) Novel 4) Essay 5) Study 6) Chronicle – Testimony 7) Award for new writer 8) Children's literature 9) Youth literature 10) Illustration of Children's or Youth's book.

1.1.8 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 / her course so far and for his / her contribution to the cultural upgrading and development of scientific research.

On the 4th of February 2008 the award ceremony was undertaken, during which the following were awarded:

Letters: Panos Ioannides

Kyriacos Charalambides

Arts: Marinos Mitellas

Nikos Siafkalis

Valentinios Charalambous

Sciences: Andreas Kazamias

Helen Sotiriou

Christoforos Pissarides

The prizes were awarded by the late President of the Republic of Cyprus, Tassos Papadopoulos.

1.1.9 ANNUAL HONORARY GRANTS

The annual honorary grants are 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 and given by the President of the Republic at a special ceremony that takes place at the Presidential Palace.

1.1.10 MONTHLY HONORARY GRANT

The Cultural Services of the Ministry of Education and Culture received a total of 16 applications for the Monthly Grant that is given to men of Letters and Arts. After the examination of every application, a Proposal is prepared for the Ministerial Council for the approval of 13 new recipients of the Monthly Honorary Grant (from January 2008).

1.1.11 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 2008, a total of 29 such magazines and newspapers were subsidized.

1.2 MUSIC

1.2.1 SUBSIDISATION 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 organised by various agencies such as choirs, musical ensembles, foundations, associations, and so on. The financial support of the Cultural Services is essential for the realisation of these events.

1.2.2 SUBSIDIZATION AND PURCHASE OF CDs

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

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

1.2.3 MUSIC PUBLICATIONS

The Cultural Services, in their effort to preserve and promote the work of outstanding representatives of local music creativity, have been actively engaged in the publication of music works. During 2008, a decision was made to publish the work of Leandros Sitaros, in collaboration with his wife, Georgia Sitarou. This particular publication comes under the series of publications of the Cultural Services of the Ministry of Education and Culture.

1.2.4 MUSIC CENTRE

In July 2008, by decision of the Ministerial Council, the operation of the Music Centre began, which is housed at 25 - 27 Othellos Street (Famagusta Gate). The purpose of the Centre is to offer a plethora of services to Cypriot composers, musicians, teachers, students and more generally to the music loving public of Cyprus. The Centre's first priority is the creation of an Archive of Cypriot Music. Its aim is to collect and maintain the works of Cypriot composers in a user friendly data base, allowing access to this to the wider Cypriot public, offering the scores of these works, together with audiovisual and biographical material, as well as research sources.

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 the Presidential Palace, our embassies abroad and the offices of Ministers and Directors of Ministries.

In 2008, sixty works were purchased in order to enrich the collection of the State Gallery of Contemporary Art. Furthermore, the practice of the publication of a catalogue of the works which were bought or donated to the state has been continued. Within

the framework of this policy, a catalogue of the works acquired by the State Gallery during the period 2006 - 2008 is currently in the process of being published.

1.3.2 CYPRUS STATE GALLERY OF CONTEMPORARY ART

The State Gallery houses, on a permanent basis, a representative part of the state collection of Cyprus Contemporary Art. At the State Gallery an archive of artists is kept which includes the curriculum vitae and the characteristic features of their work, an archive of slides and an archive of photographs. There is also an Art Library enriched yearly with significant publications on various arts (visual art, photography, dance, cinema).

During 2008, educational programmes held in the State Gallery for Primary school children, has been continued, in cooperation with the Primary Education Department.

In 2008, the State Gallery was visited by about 2 000 visitors.

During 2008, the State Gallery participated, for the second year, in the European-wide celebrations of the 'Night for Museums', in which European Museums are invited to remain, on a particular day of the year, open to the public from the time the sun sets until around 1 am. The State Gallery remained open on Saturday 17th of May 2008 from 6:00 in the afternoon until 9:00 pm. To the visitors who attended on this evening a number of brochures from recent participations of Cypriot artists in visual art exhibitions abroad were handed out free of charge.

1.3.3 THE PROMOTION OF CONTEMPORARY CYPRIOT ART IN CYPRUS AND ABROAD

During 2008, Cyprus was invited to take part in the 11th Biennale of Cairo. The Advisory Committee of the Selection of Works of Art and Artists chose, amongst 36 artists who submitted a portfolio, the artist Nicholas Panayi, who represented Cyprus with the video installation entitled 'White Light'.

Beyond the dispatch of official state participants, the Cultural Services sponsored Cypriot artists for their participation in international visual art events and group exhibitions abroad, such as Klitsa Antoniou (International Exhibition of Sculptures and Installations Open 2008) and the engravers Hambis and Evgenia Vasiloudi for their participation in the Mediterranean Engraving Triennale in Rhodes.

From the 20th of May until the 6th of July 2008, at the Gounavopoulou Museum in Athens, a visual arts exhibition with 14 works by Greek-Cypriot and Turkish-Cypriot artists took place. The curator of the exhibition was Mrs. Andri Michail. The exhibition was inducted into ART ATHINA's official programme, so as to provide opportunity to foreign representatives like Museum directors, artists, gallery owners and others to visit the exhibition. Furthermore, a lecture organised by ART ATHINA was given in order to introduce the exhibition. The following artists participated: Klitsa Antoniou, Katerina Attalidou, Theodoulos Grigoriou, Fanos Kyriakou, Lia Lapithi, Toulla Liasi, Panayiotis Michail, Dimitris Neocleous, Lefteris Olympios, Anber Onar, Christodoulos Panayiotou, Andreas Savva, Emin Cizenel, Nicos Charalambides. The exhibition was crowned with a success and the works of some of the above named artists were moved to the 'Kodra' exhibition in Thessaloniki.

Furthermore, within the framework of the visual arts event 'Field of Action, Kodra 2008' at Kalamaria – Thessaloniki, where Cyprus was an awarded country, the Cultural Services supported the following programmes in which Cypriot artists participated:

Within the framework of the 'Protasis' programme, the Cypriot group exhibition entitled 'I await your news...' was presented. This exhibition was based on the exhibition that was organised at the Gounavopoulou Museum in Athens as part of the parallel programme by ART ATHINA 2008. The following artists participated: Klitsa Antoniou, Katerina Attalidou, Thodoulos Grigoriou, Melita Kouta, Fanos Kyriakou, Lia Lapithi, Toulla Liasi, Panayiotis Michail, Dimitris Neocleous, Lefteris Olympios, Anber Onar, Christodoulos Panayiotou, Polis Peslikas, Andreas Savva, Socratis Socratous, Yiannis Toumazis, Emin Cizenal, the group Two FourTwo, Nicos Charalambides and Yula Hadjigeorgiou. In parallel with the exhibition 'I await your news...', specially adapted events were undertaken in public spaces, that were presented for the first time in Paris, within the framework of Saison Culturelle Europeene, that was launched by the French Presidency of the European Union. Both the exhibition and the activities were curated by the Art Historian and professor of History of Art at the University of Amien, Andri Michail.

Moreover, the Cypriot artist Andreas Savva was chosen by the curator Ruth Noack to participate in the Hospitality Programme FAR (Forum Artists in Residence), which for the past three years comprises an essential part of Kodra's Field of Action and which is undertaken in collaboration of the European Cultural Exchange Forum and the Cultural Organization of the Municipality of Kalamaria. The organization of the series of cultural events entitled 'Under Construction: Alternative Museum Spaces' (U.C:A.M.S) aims at creating an alternative space for exhibiting; an alternative museum of contemporary art. Within the framework of U.C:A.M.S experimental activities were presented, which explored the limits of the different forms of art (dance, music, performance arts) and the possibilities for their integration. Also attempted, and to a great degree achieved, the collection and processing of a mass of information of archival value for Cypriot artists, which was accessible to the visitors of U.C:A.M.S.

1.3.4 SUBSIDY OF THE CHAMBER OF FINE ARTS AND OTHER VISUAL ART AGENCIES

The Cultural Services subsidise 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.

This year, activities such as the annual international symposium – series of lectures regarding contemporary art, Artalk, was funded as well as the visual art activity 'Experimental Art Project' that was organised by the Cultural Organization 'Stoa Aeschylus'.

Furthermore, during 2008, the Cultural Services funded the Cultural Association NeMe for the transfer of the exhibition 'In Transition' to Russia, as well as the collaboration between the Chamber of Fine Arts and the Nicosia Municipal Centre of Arts for the organization of a series of cultural events entitled 'Under Construction: Alternative Museum Spaces'

The exhibition 'In Transition' negotiates the subject of displacement in its various forms and manifestations, and includes installations, photography, animation / video art and lectures / presentations / projections by artists and theorists. For the realization of the exhibition in Russia, NeMe is collaborating with the National Centre of Contemporary Art, which operates under the auspices of the Ministry of Culture of the Russian Federation, and which also holds outlets in various cities throughout Russia. Other partners are the state university Ural State Gorky with headquarters in St.Catherinberg, and the Academy of Contemporary Art, which is funded by the

Municipality of St. Catherinberg.

The organization of the series of cultural events entitled 'Under Construction: Alternative Museum Spaces' aims to bring into operation an alternative exhibition space, and an alternative museum of contemporary art. Within the framework of this series of events, experimental activities were presented which explored the limits of the various forms of art (dance, music, performance art) and the potential to blend them. In parallel, the collection and processing of a vast bulk of information of archival value for Cypriot artists was attempted and to a great extent achieved, and which was accessible to the visitors of this event.

1.3.5 ENRICHMENT OF PUBLIC BUILDINGS WITH WORKS OF ART

Based on the Minimum Quantity of Embellishment with Works of Art of Public Buildings Law of 1992 [N.23(1)/1992] the placement of works of art in public buildings is now mandatory. Based on the Law, a Special Committee has been established, which is responsible for choosing the works through a public competition, while the Cultural Services have assumed, relevant regulation allowing, the administrative and financial support of the Committee's undertaking.

During 2008, competitions will be announced regarding the Primary School of Pyrgos, the Primary School Verginas in Larnaca and the new Government Offices in Pafos.

The Cultural Services, having identified the problems in the functioning of the Special Committee, which arise from the very specific character of its duties, have proceeded in the configuration of a new legislative framework, which dictates that the responsibility for organising the competitions will belong to the body under whose authority the particular public building belongs. This bill of Law was approved by the Ministerial Council and has been submitted to the House of Representatives in order to be voted into Law.

1.3.6 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 subsidisation 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, the members of which have been appointed by the Ministerial Council. In 2008, twenty-four matters have been 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 organisation of theatrical shows, workshops and other exhibitions by a variety of agencies.

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

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 of both group and individual initiative, b) the encouragement of 'popular' participation, c) the enhancement of public interest through correct education and information d) the promotion of education of young people in matters of classical and modern dance e) the promotion of our artists abroad. The Cultural Services through subsidisation are strengthening the agencies which are active in this sector.

1.5.1 DANCE PLATFORM – DANCE MEETINGS

Since 2001, the Ministry of Education and Culture adopted the institution "Dance Platform – Dance Meetings", that was organized this year for the eighth consecutive year. This event, which is subsidized entirely by the Ministry of Education and Culture, gives the opportunity to Cyprus groups to present their creative work and their choreographic work in the sector of Contemporary Dance within an organised framework.

The "8th Dance Platform – Dance Meetings", which was organised in collaboration with the 'Rialto' Theatre, which provides the hall and all the technical infrastructure, was held between the 14th and 16th March. The following groups participated with new presentations and with a significant upgrade in their artistic standards: Group 'En Drasi', Jeunesses Musicales, InterAct Group, Noema Dance Works, 'Soma' Group, Echo Arts, Chorotheatro 'Group 5', 'En Choro', Amphidromo Chorotheatro, 'Aelion' Group and 'Epilogi' Group.

1.5.2 EUROPEAN DANCE FESTIVAL

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

This year's 11th European Dance Festival was held at the 'Rialto' Theatre from the beginning of June until the 20th of July. Representative groups of contemporary dance from 15 European countries participated: Austria, Britain, France, Germany, Switzerland, Greece, Italy, Spain, Croatia, Poland, Sweden, Finland, Hungary, Holland and Cyprus. The Festival, as always, included dance workshops which were offered

free of charge by foreign well known dance teachers and choreographers were also followed by Cypriot dancers and choreographers.

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

Apart from the organization of the European Dance Festival, within the framework of implementing Cyprus' bilateral Cultural Agreements with other countries, cooperation with foreign embassies for the organization of dance performances in Cyprus was undertaken during 2008.

For the second time, Cyprus undertook a co-production with Tanzhaus (Düsseldorf, Germany), which concerned the musical work "Revival". Cypriot and German dancers participated as well as other contributors, and the choreography was undertaken by a Cypriot choreographer.

Furthermore, the Cultural Services supported the participation of various groups in foreign festivals and other events, such as, for example, at the Tala Dance Center Festival in Zagreb of Croatia, at the Kalamata International Dance Festival, at the Aerowaves Festival in Holland, at Impulz Dance in Vienna, at the Place and at the Southbank Center in London and at the Festivals of Portugal and Frankfurt.

1.5.4 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 are aimed as much at students as at professional choreographers / dancers. Thanks to the financial support given by the Ministry, as main sponsor, during 2008 the following were realized:

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

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 Thessalonica; the competition 'The New York Ballet Competition' in New York; the Concorso Competition in Italy, and others.

1.5.5 SUBSIDIZATION OF DANCING EVENTS IN CYPRUS

In 2008, the Cultural Services supported various agencies, organizations, associations and other groups that have as aim the propagation and the promotion of dance. Among others, they supported the "Premier Group", the "Pelma" group, "Solipsism", Dance Cyprus, Echo Arts, New Movement of Dancers and Choreographers, Dance Lab, Inter Act, Group "Pente", Amphidromo Chorothreatro, the National Armenian Cultural Group, the group "Street Beat", the Cultural Group 'Diastasi', and others.

1.6 CINEMA

Over the last few years, the Cultural Services have developed significant activity in the area of cinema, either through their own initiatives and development strategies which are undertaken in collaboration with cultural bodies and other social partners, or through the funding of events or other such things in the context of cinema activity.

Aware of the power of the cinema and its importance in shaping contemporary society, the Cultural Services aim to construct an effective policy, which will extend to and serve all the various aspects that comprise the development of cinema (film production, cinema education, professional training, and distribution).

1.6.1 FILM PRODUCTION

During 2008, the funding of one proposal for the production of a debut film, five proposals for the production of short films, four proposals for the production of documentaries and three proposals for the development of production plans for long films, were granted. At the same time, nine short films, three debut films, four documentaries and twelve long films are in the process of production. A significant number of Cypriot films that were funded by the State were promoted and awarded in a variety of large film festivals around the world. An example is the award given to Costas Kakoyiannis and Bambos Kouzalis for the documentary 'Transgression' with 1st Prize for documentary at the Drama Cinema Festival. Furthermore, the short film 'Instructions for Use', by Constantinos Yiallourides was awarded the following: Greek Centre of Cinema prize, prize from the international organization FNAC, Pan-Hellenic Union of Cinema Critics prize.

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 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. Funding of the Hambis Tsangaris School for the organization of a Documentary Festival at the village of Platanisskia. Within the framework of its policy for the

development of cultural decentralization, the Ministry of Education and Culture successfully collaborates with the Hambis Tsangaris School of Engraving at the village of Platanisskia, with the purpose of organizing a documentary and animation Festival. This year, the Festival inaugurated, in the School, an amphitheatre which seats 250 people. Large public attendance (about 1200 people), its multi-formity, a friendly approach and the quality of the films were all factors that contributed to the success of the festival. With 10 documentaries and long animations and 20 short ones, six workshops and a concert, the Festival embraced the arts, giving food for thought, occasion for discussion and sensitization of the public in subjects that do not often get the chance to be negotiated.

1.6.4 PROFESSIONAL TRAINING

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

1. The Cultural Services subsidize Directors, thus enabling them to present their films at international festivals and other exhibitions, thus 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 2008'

The Cultural Services successfully organized the International Festival 'Kypria 2008'. Fourteen events were undertaken in Nicosia, Limassol, Larnaca and Paphos. The events included concerts, theatrical shows, stage cantata, opera and dance performances. The Festival's programme included the following events:

DEDICATION TO MARIOS TOKAS

Monday, 1st September – Tafros D'Avilla, Nicosia

CYPRUS YOUTH SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

'MATURE YOUTHS'

Tuesday, 2nd September – Strovolos Municipal Theatre, Nicosia

BORIS EIFMAN BALLET OF SAINT PETERSBERG

'KARAMAZOV BROTHERS'

Wednesday, 3rd September – Rialto Theatre, Limassol

Thursday, 4th September – Strovolos Municipal Theatre, Nicosia

FAIDROS KAVALLARIS

'CYPRUS-BORN APHRODITE', First Performance Worldwide

Saturday, 6th September – Sanctuary of Aphrodite, Kouklia

DEIN PERRY'S TAPDOGS

Sunday, 7th September – Makarios III Amphitheatre, Strovolos, Nicosia

Tuesday, 9th September – Municipal Gardens, Limassol

NEW MOSCOW OPERA KOLOMBOV**'CAVALLERIA RUSTICANA & I PAGLIACCI'**

Wednesday, 10th September – Rialto Theatre, Limassol

Friday, 12th September – Strovolos Municipal Theatre, Nicosia

STATE THEATRE OF NORTHERN GREECE**CYPRUS THEATRE ORGANISATION****'BACCHAE'**

Friday, 19th September & Saturday, 20th September – Makarios III Amphitheatre, Strovolos, Nicosia

NATIONAL THEATRE OF GREECE**'FROGS'**

Monday, 22nd September – Makarios III Amphitheatre, Strovolos, Nicosia

Wednesday, 24th September – Curium Amphitheatre, Limassol

UTE LEMPER**'ANGELS OVER BERLIN AND PARIS'**

Friday, 26th September – Strovolos Municipal Theatre, Nicosia

Saturday, 27th September – Rialto Theatre, Limassol

THE GYPSY DEVILS AND THE CYPRUS SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA**'GYPSY SOUL'**

Tuesday, 30th September – Strovolos Municipal Theatre

Wednesday, 1st October – Larnaca Municipal Theatre

DEBRECEN ORCHESTRA OF 30 GUITARS – BUDAPEST**SAVVINA YIANNATOU – COSTAS GRIGOREAS – EVAGORAS KARAGEORGIS****'MUSIC AND SONGS OF THE MEDITERRANEAN'**

Sunday, 5th October – Markideio Municipal Theatre of Pafos

Monday, 6th October – Strovolos Municipal Theatre, Nicosia

Tuesday, 7th October – Larnaca Municipal Theatre

Wednesday, 8th October – Rialto Theatre, Limassol

JAZZ WITH THE PEPSTEPPERS

Wednesday, 8th October – Pafos Ancient Odeon

Thursday, 9th October – Latsia Municipal Theatre, Nicosia

Friday, 10th October – Rialto Theatre, Limassol

PERCUSSION GROUP 'DULSORI' – KOREA

'BINARI, THE SPIRIT OF THE BEAT'

Wednesday, 22nd October – Strovolos Municipal Theatre, Nicosia

Friday, 24th October – Strovolos Municipal Theatre, Nicosia

MARTHA GRAHAM DANCE COMPANY N.Y

'CLYTAEMNESTRA'

Monday, 27th October (evening) – Strovolos Municipal Theatre, Nicosia

Tuesday, 28th October (afternoon and evening) – Strovolos Municipal Theatre, Nicosia

1.8 FOLK CULTURE / CULTURAL HERITAGE

The Cultural Services promoted the following activities regarding matters of folk culture and cultural heritage:

1. Traditional music and dance ensembles were subsidized to enable them to enrich their costumes and participate in events of a traditional character in Cyprus and abroad.
2. Dance teachers and researchers were encouraged to attend dance seminars abroad.
3. Members of the Cyprus Committee of the International Council of Folk Festival and Arts were subsidized for their participation in international conferences.
4. The costumes of the Cyprus dancing ensembles in Cypriot communities abroad were enriched.
5. Subsidization of Festivals by communities and areas of the countryside, with the aim of achieving cultural decentralization.
6. Encouragement of The Shadow Theatre artists.
7. Participation in various Committees for the preservation and promotion of our cultural and archaeological heritage.
8. Support of festivals and cultural activities by the Municipalities of Cyprus in relation to our traditional culture.
9. The European Heritage Label was created in 2006, aiming at the expression of a European vision and a common cultural identity of the states of Europe. Within this framework, Cyprus promoted four candidacies, which were all accepted for entry into the catalogue.

These monuments are: the Kolossi Castle, the Medieval Fortifications of Nicosia, the archaeological site of Kourion, including the Apollon Hylates Sanctuary and the Stadium, and the cultural route with six Byzantine and Post-Byzantine illustrated Churches of the Troodos area (Panagia Phorviotissa - Asinou, Agios Sozomenos - Galata, Panagia Chrysokourdaliotissa - Kourdali, Panagia Katholiki - Pelendri, Agios Mamas - Louvaras and Panagia Iamatiki - Arakapas).

1.8.1 TREATY FOR THE PROTECTION OF INTANGIBLE CULTURAL HERITAGE:

Cyprus responded to UNESCO's invitation for the implementation of the Treaty for the Protection of Intangible Cultural Heritage (which was adopted in October

2003), with the suggestion of two candidate subjects / elements for addition into UNESCO's relevant catalogue. These elements are (a) Tsiatista (rhyming lyrics) and (b) Embroidery from Lefkara. Furthermore, with its accession into the Treaty, Cyprus has the responsibility to prepare a National catalogue in which all details of our Intangible Cultural Heritage will be included. In 2008, Cyprus was chosen by the Central Commission of UNESCO for the Treaty, in which 21 countries participate.

1.8.2 MUSEUMS

The study and processing of the proposal for the introduction of an institutional framework which will regulate matters concerning the operation and provision of services from private museums and museums which operate under the auspices of regional authorities has been completed. The proposed institutional framework (regulatory law draft) that was put forth to the House of Representatives to be voted into law defines the preconditions which must be satisfied in order for these museums to be recognized by the State. The basic aim of this regulation is the consolidation, by institutional means, of the state's fundamental role in matters pertaining to the upgrading of operation and services provided from these museums to the public.

1.9 REGIONAL CULTURAL DEVELOPMENT

During 2008, the Cultural Services examined and satisfied a great number of demands which were put forth by Municipalities, Communities and artistic groups, regarding the subsidization of a variety of cultural activities (festivals, musical, dance and theatrical performances, participation in meetings abroad, and so on).

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1.10 OPERATION OF CULTURAL FOUNDATIONS

1.10.1 NATIONAL STRUGGLE MUSEUM

The National Struggle Museum operated in its new building since its inauguration on 30 April 2001. During 2008 it was visited by about 28,000 persons most of whom were students and foreign tourists.

1.10.2 HOUSES OF LETTERS AND ARTS

The Cultural Services continued in 2008 to lease premises in Nicosia, Limassol, Larnaca and Paphos in order to provide accommodation to associations that serve the Arts and Letters. In essence, providing accommodation constitutes in fact a form of additional subsidy in addition to the annual state subsidy they receive. The Houses of Letters and Arts are used by the organizations they accommodate for meetings, visual art exhibitions, literary events, film projections, theatrical rehearsals, and so on.

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

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

1.11 OPERATION OF CULTURAL CENTERS IN CYPRUS

1.11.1 CREATION AND OPERATION OF CULTURAL SCHOOLS AND WORKSHOPS

The Ministry of Education and Culture, which has as purpose the utilization and upgrading of the current structure, has progressed in the creation and operation of cultural villages and schools in Lemba (Stas Paraskos School) and Platanisskia (Hambis Tsangaris school) as well as the use of these spaces as residencies for artists.

Work has begun at the Stas Paraskos School in Lemba regarding the utilization of the buildings of the College of Art in the framework of implementing the provisions of the Strategic Plan for the creation of a network of workshops / schools in the peripheries.

The Ministry of Education and Culture's funding of Hambi Tsangaris for the creation of a School and Museum of Engraving at Platavisskia is also for this purpose. The Museum has already been inaugurated and an agreement for financial support of the school and museum has been signed by Mr Tsangaris and the Ministry of Education and Culture.

EDUCATIONAL CENTERS / OFFICES ABROAD

1.11.2 THE HOUSE OF CYPRUS IN ATHENS

At the House of Cyprus, from October 2007 until October 2008, 25 book presentations were realized, 12 of which received the collaboration of the Cultural Services. Also, nine other events were undertaken, including the conferences about Nikos Kranidiotis, George Seferis and Michalis Kakoyiannis.

At the House of Cyprus another two book exhibitions were undertaken. One regarded the presentation of the publications of the Cultural Foundation of the Bank of Cyprus and the other, the presentation of 'En Tipis' publications.

Furthermore, 12 visual arts and two photography exhibitions were organized. One of the visual art exhibitions was the great retrospective exhibition of Christoforos Savva that was carried out with the collaboration of the Cultural Services and the Cultural Foundation of the Bank of Cyprus.

The House of Cyprus also collaborated with the University of Athens in the organization of the School of Philosophy's IH' three day cultural event and with the University's Department of Philology for the organization of the ΙΔ' Seminar on Archaic Cypriot Language.

Another 4 music events and 3 Press interviews were also undertaken.

The House of Cyprus collaborated with and supported 42 events that were undertaken by Cypriot bodies in Greece, by municipalities, schools, foundations or galleries that hosted Cypriot artists.

Also worthy of mention, is the event of the Union of Cypriots in Greece with the collaboration of the House of Cyprus and the Cultural Services for the musical performance SECRETUS MUSICA MUNDUS, composed by Andreas Artemi.

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

With 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 is included the organization of cultural events with the aim of systematically projecting the historical course, the culture and the contemporary artistic and intellectual creativity of Cyprus.

This year, under the auspices of the Office of the Cultural Advisor and in cooperation with the Cultural Services, a series of events such as book presentations, lectures, theatrical performances and concerts 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, which systematically hosts the events that are programmed by the Office of the Cultural Advisor.

1.11.4 OFFICE OF THE CULTURAL ATTACHÉ 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 2008, under the auspices of the Office and with the support and contribution of the Cultural Services many events were organized which enabled the German public to be acquainted with Cyprus and its culture. Amongst the events organized under the auspices of the Office of Cultural Attaché was the series of events entitled “Cypriot Spring”. Furthermore, a variety of visual art exhibitions were also undertaken as part of great visual art events also including concerts.

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1.12 BILATERAL AND MULTILATERAL RELATIONS

1.12.1 AGREEMENTS AND PROGRAMMES FOR CULTURAL COLLABORATION

Cyprus, with the aim of collaborating with other countries in the sectors of education, culture and sciences, has to date incurred dozens of bilateral 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 aiming at projecting contemporary Cypriot culture abroad as well as to host in Cyprus cultural events organized by other countries. In the context of these programmes contacts and meetings, at the level of specialists, take place with a view to exchanging information, mutually briefing and collaborating in the field of culture.

1.12.2 THE COUNCIL OF EUROPE

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

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

The European Cultural Convention includes, inter alia, the aims of promoting the recognition, on behalf of the European citizens, of the common cultural heritage, promoting mobility and cultural exchanges for a better mutual understanding, promoting the Pan-European cultural cooperation in all its fields, establishing the European dimension as concerns the creation and recognition of political and practical standards in the domain of culture, 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 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.

The embroidery of Lefkara and the 'Tsatista' have already been submitted to UNESCO as the first representative samples of Cyprus' live tradition, in order to be included in the 'World Catalogue of Intellectual Cultural Heritage'

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 Multifarious 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 2008, the Cultural Services supported various events which were promoted and implemented in cooperation with agencies from European countries in all the fields of cultural activities.

At the level of Cyprus' representation in the European Programme management committees related to culture, the Cultural Services participated in the Management Committee for the Programme "Culture", as well as in that of Europeana that comprises the digital library, museum and archive of Europe.

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 EVENTS OF THE FRENCH PRESIDENCY

The Cultural Services participated in Cultural events that were organized in the second semester of 2008 given the opportunity of the French Presidency of the European Union Council:

- 'Cyprus Week in Paris 28/7-3/08': Within the framework of 'Cyprus Week' a number of musical, visual and theatrical events were undertaken with great success by Cypriot artists, in indoor and outdoor public spaces in Paris.
- Special cultural events: In collaboration with our embassy in Paris, concerts, visual installations, performances and an archaeological exhibition were undertaken by prominent Cypriot artists in such spaces as the Pompidou Centre, Notre Dame, The School of Fine Arts, the UNESCO hall, the Chapelle des Invalides and the Louver Museum
- Beaux Arts Magazine: The most significant French art magazine, that has the greatest distribution, 'Beaux Arts', dedicated its November 2008 insert to the new Cypriot visual arts scene.
- Institutionalized Events in France: Cypriot dance and theatre ensembles as well as composers, dramatists and DJ's were chosen and participated in institutional and acknowledged cultural events and Festivals such as the Aurillac Street Theatre Festival, the 'Paris Techno Parade' and the Avignon International Festival.
- For the first time, Cyprus participated in the Avignon International Festival with Jean Genet's work 'The Servants' directed by Maria Mannaridou-Karsera. The work gained particularly favorable critique mainly for its excellent acting and the approach of its stage direction.

1.13.2 THE PROGRAMME 'EUROPE FOR THE CITIZENS'

Participation in the programme 'Europe for the Citizens'. The Citizen's Communication Structure, as in all participating countries, has operated in Cyprus since 2007, and comprises the national point of contact that aims to locally promote the Programme. The operation of the CCS has been assigned to the 'Cyprus European Social Forum'. This competitive programme has as purpose the promotion of European 'citizenship': to bring Europe closer to its citizens and offer them the possibility to participate in its construction. The programme is aimed at local authorities and organizations, think tanks, citizen groups, non-governmental organizations, trade unions, educational establishments, volunteer groups, amateur athletic associations and accepts project-proposals for co-funding.

1.14 OTHER INSTITUTIONS AND PROGRAMMES FOR CULTURAL DEVELOPMENT

1.14.1 CULTURE HALL

By decision of the Council of Ministers, the creation of a Culture Hall which will accommodate the Music Centre is being promoted. In 2005, the Council of Ministers approved (by decision number 63.311 of 6 July 2005) the establishment and the statute of the Cyprus Cultural Foundation. The Administrative Council has already begun the realization of its targets and aims; it has announced (October 2006) an international competition for the design of the Culture Hall and has delegated the undertaking of the work. It is expected that the work will be completed by the year 2012.

1.14.2 CULTURAL INFRASTRUCTURE

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

1.14.3 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 promoted on the Internet. The creation of the Main Portal has been assigned by decision of the Informatics Services Department to the University of Cyprus which has completed its work and has begun the digitalization of the archives of the Cultural Services.

1.14.4 ASSISTANCE TO CHAIRS IN VARIOUS UNIVERSITIES

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

1.14.5 UTILIZATION OF THE "SPEL" BUILDING

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

During 2006, the elaboration of the architectural study for the configuration of the building began. Also began, the work of a special team, comprised of Art Historians, to whom 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 shall 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, thus presenting 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.

1.14.6 TRANSFORMATION OF THE 'PALLAS' CINEMA-THEATRE HALL

The "Pallas" cinema-theatre hall which has been purchased by the Cyprus government will be converted into a music hall, a cinema and a place for other cultural events. In this way, in combination with the Casteliotissa hall, a significant cultural area will be created near the Green Line and at the same time the chronic problem of acquiring a self owned place for cultural events will be solved. For the work, funding from the Structural Funds of the European Union has been obtained and the work was completed in November 2008. Inauguration took place on the 1st of December.

1.15 CYPRUS NATIONAL COMMISSION FOR UNESCO

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

The Commission promotes the implementation of the UNESCO programmes in Cyprus in collaboration with all the Ministries and Services of the government as well as with non governmental institutions whose activities are related with those of the Organization, that is, with education, culture, social and humanistic sciences, natural sciences, communications and informatics.

It operates as a centre of public information on the objectives and programmes of UNESCO and 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 2008 can be summed up as follows:

1.15.1 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 2008, such as:

- UNESCO Fellowship Programme 2008 - 2009: The Commission dealt with UNESCO's Fellowships Programme, the largest two year programme of fellowships which has as aim the briefing, further education and training of the scholars in sectors which touch on the pertinence of the Organization.
- UNESCO Participation Programme 2008 - 2009: The Commission dealt with UNESCO's Participation Programme, the largest two year programme that provides direct financial and technical assistance to the member states of the organization, for the realization of suggestions related to sectors of the organization's pertinence.

- UNITWIN / UNESCO Chairs: This concerns the institution of UNESCO chairs that has as aim the development of research activities and the reinforcement of inter-university collaboration and academic solidarity in areas which are pertinent to the Organization. The Commission collaborated with the University of Cyprus for the submission of an application for the creation of a chair for the Equality of the Sexes and Female Empowerment which was approved.

1.15.2 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.

1.15.3 PUBLICATIONS

1.15.3.1 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 2008, the following issues were published:

- Issue May 2008, No. 164
- Issue November 2008, No. 165

1.15.4 INTERNET

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

1.15.5 EVENTS

1.15.5.1 DOCUMENTARY PRESENTATION

The Commission presented, on the 29th January, at the 'Kastelliotisa' hall, the documentary 'Archaeological Spaces and Monuments of Cyprus in UNESCO's Catalogue of World Cultural Heritage', that was prepared in collaboration with CyBC, in research, scenario and direction of Dr Maro Theodosiadou.

1.15.5.2 PHOTOGRAPH EXHIBITION

The Cyprus National Commission for UNESCO in collaboration with the Municipality of Nicosia hosted a UNESCO photograph exhibition dedicated to Global Intellectual Cultural Heritage. The exhibition took place outdoors, on the sidewalks of Ledra and Onasagorou street, from the 15th September until the 31st October. In parallel a book presentation was also organized, which was dedicated to the Intellectual Cultural heritage of Cyprus, at the 'Cross of Misirikou', in the Faneromenis area.

1.15.6 INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

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

2. CYPRUS RESEARCH CENTRE

The Cyprus Research Centre (C.R.C.) was founded by the Greek Communal Assembly (G.C.A.) (Law no. 9, 1964). Since the dissolution of the G.C.A. the C.R.C. has functioned as a department of the Ministry of Education and Culture (Law 62 of 1966).

Aims and Objectives:

- The undertaking of research on Cypriot subjects by both Cypriot and overseas researchers on a systematic basis. Research programmes connected with the most fundamental aspects of Cypriot studies, that is, on the history, folklore, linguistics, literature, ethnography and sociology of Cyprus are implemented at the C.R.C. within a broader historical and geographical context.
- The organization, undertaking and conduct of research in any other branch as required by current national imperatives.
- The publication and dissemination of the conclusions of the research conducted.
- The promotion of scholarly research in Cyprus and of research co-operation with other countries.

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The realization of the above objectives is sought by the following means:

- By utilizing the existing permanent research staff, the secondary school teachers on secondme and outside scholars.
- By the organization and constitution of research archives and of a library specializing in Cypriot studies. At the C.R.C. to-date a Historical Archive, a Folklore Archive, an Oral Tradition Archive and a Veterans' Archive have been constituted.
- By organizing research missions both within and outside Cyprus.
- By organizing academic conferences in Cyprus, or by the participation of scholars representing the C.R.C. in international conferences abroad.
- Through the promotion of able Cypriot researchers and scholars and through guiding and coordinating their academic research.

The C.R.C. has both short and long-term research programmes which are assigned to its permanent research staff. Long-term research programmes can also be assigned to outside scholars. The conclusions of short-term research programmes are published in the *Epeteris* (Annual Review) of the C.R.C., while those of long-term programmes are published independently in one of the following series:

- Texts and Studies in the History of Cyprus
- Publications of the CRC
- CRC Conference Publications
- Publications of the Social Research Centre

- Publications of the Cyprus Research Centre
- Digital Disks
- Publications of the Cyprus Research Centre
- Collected Studies

The publications of the C.R.C. are brought out in the above series, either in Greek or in the main European languages (English, French, German, Italian and Spanish) and include a broad range of scholarly works, such as the C.R.C. Annual Review, scholarly monographs, translations, publications of documents and historical sources and the publication of academic conference proceedings. To-date 110 academic books, 33 Annual Reviews and one CD have been published. During 2008 the CRC also published the following:

- Epeteris 2008, vol XXXIV.
- Rita Severi, The Swedes in Cyprus.
- Rolandos Katsiaounis, I Diaskeptiki 1946-1948 (The consultative assembly) [Reprint].

For the purposes of research, the conservation and the preservation of original materials on Cypriot studies archives has been established. The materials have been concentrated in a thorough and scholarly manner through research missions organized abroad, purchases or donations or through missions to overseas archives, universities and libraries. The C.R.C. in co-operation with the University of Cyprus Library and in the context of a research programme for the up-dating of the way the archives are administered has completed the creation of a unified data base and has transformed the totality of the archival material into an electronic library and a digital library.

1. Historical Archive of the Cyprus Research Centre (HA)

The constitution of the historical archive of the C.R.C. began during the first years of the Centre's existence in 1965. A host of records and manuscripts on the Medieval and Ottoman periods of Cyprus history are kept in the HA, from archives in Venice and the Vatican, the Paris National Library and the British Library. The modern period is represented largely through records from the national archives of Greece, Britain and the USA. There is also a rich collection of records from Cyprus such as ledgers of merchants, musical books, microfilms of ecclesiastical codices, photocopies of dowry contracts, colour slides and photographic materials and notes concerning the history, the institutions and historical personalities of Cyprus. A recent addition is the family archive of Xenophon and Anastasia Coumbarides.

2. Folklore Archive (FA)

The Folklore Archive began with a mission to Cyprus organized by the Academy of Athens (1960). Such missions were supported by the Greek Education Office of Cyprus. When the C.R.C. was founded in 1962, it placed among its objectives the collection and recording of the linguistic and folklore materials of Cyprus. With this end in mind permanent researchers of the C.R.C. undertook research missions in various villages throughout Cyprus. The materials collected were recorded on old-fashioned cassette reels, and a large part of them has been transcribed from these reels into written form. The Folklore Archive also contains manuscripts with folklore material donated to the C.R.C. by private persons.

3. Oral Tradition Archive (OTA)

Following systematic research materials on the history and civilization mainly of the occupied parts of Cyprus have been assembled at the OTA, as well as from a number of communities in the government-controlled areas. The archive was set up in the years 1990 - 1998 and it contains a wealth of oral material on matters of topography, history, and social, economic, spiritual and cultural life. From 1 September 2002 research missions to the government-controlled areas of Cyprus (rural and urban) have been continued, and interviews on traditional lifestyles have been recorded with a view to completing the Oral Tradition Archive. During the years 2007 - 2008 five young graduates have been employed by the Centre for the purpose of taking interviews in the areas controlled by the Republic.

4. Veterans' Archive

Research on setting up this archive began in October 1990 in co-operation with the Pancyprian Association of World War II veterans and the Pancyprian Greek Association of Volunteer Fighters. The recording of their reminiscences was done on 334 tapes while at the same time valuable written material was also collected, shedding light on the participation of Cypriots in the wars of the 20th century. At the moment the CRC is engaged in providing assistance for a documentary regarding Cyprus' contribution during the Second World War.

Library

From the time of its foundation (1962) a library at the C.R.C. began to be constituted on a systematic basis in the fields of linguistics, Folklore, Ethnography, Literature, History and the study of civilizations. Included in this collection are books concerning Cypriot studies (Sources of Cypriot history) and general history (ancient, medieval, Byzantine, as well as the recent history of Greece, Cyprus and other countries). There are also books on linguistics, folklore, archaeology, literature, philology, sociology, religion, periodical publications, dictionaries, annual reviews (Greek and foreign), reference works, old newspapers, publications on the occupied towns and villages of Cyprus and the entire set of C.R.C. publications (Annual Reviews and Monographs). Following the rehousing of the CRC in new and more spacious premises the library is being re-organised and the stock is catalogued in accordance with the ABEKT electronic system.

Miscellanea

The CRC has undertaken the implementation of UNESCO's convention regarding intangible cultural heritage. The CRC is also setting up an archive regarding cultural treasures relevant to Cyprus and kept in archives and libraries in Venice.

3. CYPRUS THEATRE ORGANISATION

The Cyprus Theatre Organisation (THOC) began its creative journey in 1971, aspiring to «promote the art of theatre in Cyprus, foster a sense of theatre among the people, and promote artistic relations between the theatre world of Cyprus and that of Greece and other countries».

The **State Theatre** offers productions from its four stages:

- Main Stage: With large-scale productions of classical and modern plays, as well as ancient drama, intended for large audiences and with performances specially scheduled for secondary school pupils.
- New Stage: Established in 1994 as a follow-on from the Second Stage. Plays with small casts are performed in smaller spaces, with a more intimate relationship between stage and audience.
- Experimental Stage: Promoting new forms of theatre and research, the Experimental stage is a place where young artists and theatre people with fresh ideas have a channel of expression.
- Children's Stage: With plays by authors from Cyprus, Greece and other countries, THOC's Children's Stage successfully reaches out to children of ages from 4 - 12, with performances specially organised for schools and nurseries.

The Cyprus Theatre Organisation, with over 360 productions, has developed excellent relations with state theatres abroad, as well as with smaller but very significant companies in many countries, and has toured abroad extensively, giving performances in the United Kingdom, Egypt, Germany, Bulgaria, Russia, Greece, the USA, Poland, China, Denmark. Since 1980 THOC has taken part in the annual Epidaurus Festival, with plays from the Ancient Greek Drama repertory and has gained a prestigious place among the Festival's participants.

A review of THOC's accomplishments over the years would impress even the more reluctant or 'indifferent' people towards theatre: a very high standard of productions, a showcase of important artistic abilities – actors, directors, composers, designers, choreographers and so on. The Organisation's productions have travelled to all continents and has been accepted as a theatre unit with high quality and standards, contributing to the rich Greek culture but also creating bridges between cultures. In this aspect, THOC is established as a Company honouring Cyprus and theatre in general.

Added to THOC's structure in 1979, the Theatre Development department deals specifically with the following:

- Subsidisation and support of independent theatres (non profit companies)
- Subsidisation of ad hoc performances
- Organisation of seminars, lectures, and other events related to theatre
- Theatre in education
- Amateur theatre
- Theatre of Cypriot communities abroad
- Competitions and support of Cypriot writers
- Collaborations with organisations abroad
- Foundation and Operation of the Cyprus Theatre Museum
- Subsidisation of organised groups (i.e. Cyprus Centre of the International Theatre Institute, Cyprus Actors' Union, Playwrights' Society, and so on)
- Networking and providing information regarding matters of theatre.

Today THOC is undoubtedly one of the most important cultural operators in Cyprus

and the nucleus of theatre activity on the island, a well respected international artistic presence with a vast array of activities in the field of theatre development.

3.1 STAGE ACTIVITY 2007 - 2008

The Cyprus Theatre Organisation continued with success its productions from its four stages (Main, New, Experimental and Children's Stage) presenting a total of 10 productions with a repertory covering all ages and interests of the Cypriot population. These productions, involved apart from the 23 actors on a yearly contract basis, a further 17 actors and 52 collaborating artists (directors, scenographers, choreographers, musicians and so on). The Cyprus Theatre Organisation increased its audience numbers during the season by 13 thousand, reaching a total of 91.143 audiences.

THOC at Herodion

«Plutus» by Aristophanes directed by Nicos Charalambous completed the 37th theatre season of THOC which was presented at the Herodion Theatre as part of the Athens Festival 2008.

Collaboration Protocols

The signing of important collaboration protocols with theatres abroad, opens a new era for THOC with the aim of formalising a creative dialogue in matters concerning theatre, exchange of performances, artists, co-productions, symposiums, conferences and so on. Specifically, THOC has recently signed collaboration protocols with the National Theatre of Greece, the National Theatre of Northern Greece and the National Theatre of Craiova.

The implementation of the protocol has already begun with the exchange of productions between THOC and the National Theatre of Northern Greece. THOC's New Stage production of the «Loves of Cass McGuire» enthused audiences in Thessaloniki, where five performances were given. Simultaneously, THOC hosted, in collaboration with the Cultural Services of the Ministry of Education and Culture, the production of «Bacchae» by Euripides presented by the National Theatre of Northern Greece, within the framework of the Kypria Festival of Cyprus. The implementation of the protocol with the State Theatre of Craiova will begin in 2009.

Theatre Festival of South-Eastern Countries of Europe

Turkey hosted the 2nd Theatre Festival of South-Eastern Countries of Europe. The Directors of the theatres met in Smyrni and THOC awaits an invitation of participation for the Festival.

Actors at Theatre Festival abroad

Following a decision of the Board of Directors of THOC, all expenses of an actor will be covered to attend performances given within European Theatre Festivals.

THOC Theatre Building

The Cyprus Theatre Organisation has completed all necessary procedures for the building of its theatre. Following the signing of contracts with the building contractors responsible, THOC's theatre building will be completed in 2011. All preparations have begun for the laying of the inaugural stone in January 2009 by the President of the Republic.

3.2 THEATRE DEVELOPMENT

Subsidies

Through three main subsidisation schemes, THOC supports a number of professional theatre companies, covering ad hoc performances and companies operating yearly. During the current season, the total subsidisation rose to a sum of 1.258.000 Euros. THOC also supports financially professional organisations such as the Actors Union of Cyprus, the Cyprus Centre of the International Theatre Institute, the Playwrights Union and the Cyprus Centre of Scenographers, Theatre Architects and Technicians.

Foundation of School of Dramatic Arts

In an agreement between the Minister of Education and Culture, Dr Andreas Demetriou, the President of the Board of Directors, the Director of THOC and representatives of the Technical University of Cyprus, the Drama School which was proposed by THOC shall be developed into a School of Dramatic Arts at a University level.

Amateur Theatre

THOC supports amateur theatre mainly through the annual Pancyprian Festival it organises, which gives an opportunity to non professional companies to present their work and receive subsidisation for their performances.

With 21 companies all over Cyprus, the 20th anniversary of the Festival in 2007 was celebrated with a special edition, devoted to the anonymous worker of theatre. The 21st Pancyprian Theatre Festival took place in November 2008 with 26 performances by various companies.

Pancyprian School Theatre Games

In their 19th year, the Pancyprian School theatre games were marked by a wider selection of plays, higher standards in the quality of performances and the open dialogue between all participants, who gathered at the Municipal Theatre of Nicosia, in May 2008, to celebrate the closure of the Games. 54 schools participated with performances in the 19th Games. All schools are subsidised by THOC and the Ministry of Education and Culture.

Workshops for Teachers

Continuing a series of workshops aiming at training teachers, THOC organised two significant and very successful workshops. The first, took place at the Theatro Agoras Agiou Andrea with 200 teachers from all over Cyprus who worked under the guidance of theatre practitioners from Greece: Tasos Ratzos, Director, Anna Papafiggou, Theatre in Education, Costas Gerardos, movement. The workshops were included amongst a series of events celebrating International Theatre Day under the title of "March of Theatre".

The second workshop, took place in Nicosia, Paphos, Limassol, Larnaca and Paralimni under the guidance of James Thomas Bailey, a renowned American expert on improvisation, and was organised in collaboration with the American Embassy in Nicosia and the Ministry of Education and Culture of Cyprus. Six hundred teachers and actors participated in the workshops which were offered at no charge.

March of Theatre

In order to celebrate International Theatre Day, THOC collaborated with the Cyprus ITI and organised a series of events: For the first time, THOC audiences old and new productions, free of charge, workshops and discussions under the theme "Theatre as a tool in education" and a series of Shadow Puppet plays were presented by

Cypriot puppeteers.

THOC Awards

As of 2001 and every two years THOC's theatre awards honour exceptional artists for their work in productions in Cyprus, in Acting, Directing, Scenography, and so on as well as a life time achievement award.

In January 2008, the grand ceremony for the 2005 – 2006 / 2006 - 2007 awards took place at the Municipal Theatre of Nicosia, in the presence of the President of the Republic. The award ceremony was broadcast live from CYBC television.

Summer Academy of the National Theatre of Greece, in Nicosia

THOC in collaboration with the National Theatre of Greece hosted the Summer Academy of the National Theatre for twelve fruitful days of workshops and showings. This was the first time The Academy travelled outside Greece. Experts from Greece and other countries taught 15 young artists from Greece and 15 young artists from Cyprus.

THOC is a member of the European Theatre Convention (ETC)

THOC is an active member of the European Theatre Convention and has taken part in all international meetings and symposia which were organised in various European Countries. THOC will host the Spring General Assembly of the ETC in 2010.

Cyprus in Avignon

Cyprus was represented in the Off Festival of Avignon with the "Maids" by Jean Genet. The performances contributed to the cultural diplomacy and the interchange of experiences between artists in major festivals. This representation was accomplished through the collaboration of the Cultural Services of the Ministry of Education and Culture of Cyprus and THOC.

Theatre Museum of Cyprus

The renovation works of the building which will house the Cyprus Theatre Museum are at their final stage. THOC and the Municipality of Limassol have completed all preparations for the Foundation of the Museum which is expected to open next year.

Video Archive

THOC is in the process of digitalization of its rich video archive, in order to better preserve the history of theatre productions.

(1) ACTIVITIES OF THE CYPRUS THEATRE ORGANISATION

(1.1) ARTISTIC ACTIVITIES DURING THE THEATRICAL PERIOD 1.10.07 – 30.9.08

MAIN STAGE

C/C	PLAY	No. of Performances	No. of Audience
1.	YOUTH WORTH A DIME by Asimakis Yialamas and Costas Pretenderis Direction: Christos Zanos Period:3.11.07 – 2.1.08	27	12.148
2.	TWO INTO ONE by Ray Cooney Translation: Anna Varvaresou Direction: Monica Vasileiou Period: 12.1.08 – 2.3.08	21	6.220
3.	GHOSTS by Henrik Ibsen Translation: Yiannis Iordanides Direction: Yiannis Iordanides Period: 15.3.08 – 14.5.08	21	6.145
4.	PLUTOS by Aristophanes Translation: Costis Colotas Direction: Nicos Charalambous Period: 2.7.08 – 25.7.08	8	4.189
	TOTAL OF MAIN STAGE	77	28.702
	COMPARATIVE FIGURES 1.10.06 – 30.9.07	97	27.407
	COMPARATIVE FIGURES 1.10.05 – 30.9.06	92	33.912

NEW STAGE

C/C	PLAY	No. of Performances	No. of Audience
1.	SHADOW BOX by Michael Christopher Translation: Varnavas Kyriazis Direction: Athena Xenidou Period: 9.11.07 – 5.1.08	22	2.434
2.	THE LOVES OF CASS MCGUIRE by Brian Friel Translation/ Direction: Glykeria Kalaitzi Period:18.1.08 – 19.3.08	20	2.790
3	FROZEN by Bryony Lavery Translation: Annita Dekavalla Direction: Takis Tzamargias Period:7.3.08 – 10.5.08	22	2.073
TOTAL OF NEW STAGE		64	7.297
COMPARATIVE FIGURES 1.10.06 – 30.9.07		60	5.189
COMPARATIVE FIGURES 1.10.05 – 30.9.06		43	4.777

EXPERIMENTAL STAGE

C/C	PLAY	No. of Performances	No. of Audience
1.	ON/OFF (Life Cuts) based on an idea by Lea Maleni and George Rodosthenous Direction: Lea Maleni Period: 12.12.07 – 12.2.08	17	1.385
2.	BEAUTY MARK based on an idea by Giorgos Christodoulides Direction: Spyros Charalambous Period:5.3.08 – 16.4.08	16	966
TOTAL OF EXPERIMENTAL STAGE		33	2.351
COMPARATIVE FIGURES 1.10.06 – 30.9.07		44	2.810
COMPARATIVE FIGURES 1.10.05 – 30.9.06		33	1.424

CHILDREN' S STAGE

C/C	PLAY	No. of Performances	No. of Audience
1	SLEEPING BEAUTY IS AWAKE by Xenia Kalogeropoulou and Thomas Moschopoulos Direction: Tasos Ratzos Period: 7.10.07 – 27.1.08	57	24.695
2	I FASOULIDES TOU KATSIPORA (Los Titeres de Cachiporra) by Federico Garcia Lorca Adaptation: Yiannis Kalatzopoulos Direction: Isidoros Sideris Period: 2.2.08 – 15.5.08	56	28.098
TOTAL OF CHILDREN'S STAGE		113	52.793
COMPARATIVE FIGURES .1.10.06 – 30.9.07		96	42.918
COMPARATIVE FIGURES 1.10.05 – 30.9.06		107	41.821
GRAND TOTAL		287	91.143
COMPARATIVE FIGURES 1.10.06 – 30.9.07		297	78.324
COMPARATIVE FIGURES 1.10.05 – 30.9.06		275	81.934

PARTICIPATION OF THE CYPRUS THEATRE ORGANISATION AT THE HELLENIC FESTIVAL DURING THE YEARS 2008, 2007, 2006

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Year	Play	No. of Performances	No. of Audience
2008	Aristophanes "PLUTUS"	1	1.676
2007	Euripides "IPHIGENEIA IN TAURIS"	2	5.164
2006	Aristophanes "ECCLESIAZUSAE"	1	1.914

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

1.10.07 - 30.9.08	No. of Plays		No. of Performances		No. of Audience		Total of Audience
	Cyprus	Abroad*	Cyprus	Abroad*	Cyprus	Abroad*	
Main Stage	4	1	77	1	28.702	1.676	30.378
New Stage	3	1	60	5	7.297	751	8.048
Experimental Stage	2	-	44	-	2.351	-	2.351
Children's Stage	2	-	96	-	52.793	-	52.793
TOTAL	11	2	277	6	91.143	2.427	93.570

1.10.06 - 30.9.07	No. of Plays		No. of Performances		No. of Audience		Total of Audience
	Cyprus	Abroad*	Cyprus	Abroad*	Cyprus	Abroad*	
Main Stage	5	1	97	4	27.407	6.662	34.069
New Stage	3	-	60	-	5.189	-	5.189
Experimental Stage	3	-	44	-	2.810	-	2.810
Children's Stage	2	-	96	-	42.918	-	42.918
TOTAL	13	1	297	4	78.324	6.662	84.986

1.10.05 - 30.9.06	No. of Plays		No. of Performances		No. of Audience		Total of Audience
	Cyprus	Abroad*	Cyprus	Abroad*	Cyprus	Abroad*	
Main Stage	5	1	92	1	31.234	1.914	33.148
New Stage	2	-	43	-	4.777	-	4.777
Experimental Stage	3	1	35	7	1.642	560	2.202
Children's Stage	1	-	107	-	41.821	-	41.821
TOTAL	11	2	277	8	79.474	2.474	81.948

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

3.3 DEPARTMENT OF THEATRE DEVELOPMENT

3.3.1 SUBSIDISATION OF THEATRE CREATIVITY

• Plan C' (Annual Subsidisation of non-profitable companies)

	2008 €	2007 €	2006 €
SATIRICON THEATRE	Up to 4.11.08 233.594	241.964	244.192
THEATRO ENA	237.966	232.337	240.877
E. TH. A. L.	227.090	235.121	243.647
SKALA THEATRE	229.283	236.117	227.458
TOTAL	927.933	945.539	956.174

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

	2008 € Up to 4.11.08	2007 €	2006 €
ANIKTO THEATRO	52.000	25.629	40.152
THEATRE DIONYSOS	80.000	46.132	41.861
THEATRE ANEMONA	31.263	58.092	36.735
THEATRE ANTIDOTO	28.000	25.629	38.444
ARIANNA ECONOMOU	-	-	1.367
THEATRO LEXI	-	5.126	17.086
TOTAL	191.263	160.608	175.645

• **PLAN A' (Ad Hoc subsidisation of groups)**

	2008 € Up to 4.11.08	2007 €	2006 €
THEATRE GROUP "EPITHESEOS"	-	5.126	10.252
THEATRE GROUP "PROSKINIO"	-	-	8.543
FOTOS FOTIADES	-	5.126	5.126
SPYROS STAVRINIDES	-	8.543	8.543
THEATRE KOUINTES	-	-	2.563
PARAVAN PROACTIONS	26.000	5.980	5.980
COSTAS HADJISTAVROU	-	5.126	-
THEATRE VERSUS	14.709	5.980	-
KATERINA LOURA	-	5.126	-
APOSTOLOS APOSTOLIDES	-	5.126	-
EMILIOS CHARALAMBIDES	4.500	-	-
PRIMA VISTA	6.000	-	-
TOTAL	51.209	46.133	41.007

• **Theatres of Cypriot communities abroad**

	2008 € Up to 4.11.08	2007 €	2006 €
THEATRE GROUP "OUR CYPRUS" (NEW YORK)	1.709	1.708	2.563
THEATRE TECHNIS LONDON	-	8.259	3.417
TOTAL	1.709	9.967	5.980

GRAND TOTAL OF SUBSIDISATIONS	1.172.114	1.162.247	1.178.806
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3.3.2 INFRASTRUCTURE

• CONSTRUCTION / RENOVATION OF NEW AND EXISTING THEATRE BUILDINGS 2008 Up to 4.11.08

	€
• THOC NEW BUILDINGS	1.458.942
• CYPRUS THEATRE MUSEUM	20.000
• MAKARIOS III AMPHITHEATRE	22.575
• NEW STAGE THOC	13.461
• CURIUM ANCIENT THEATRE	4.467
• THEATRO AGORAS AYIOU ANDREA	479
TOTAL	1.519.924

• CONSTRUCTION / RENOVATION OF NEW AND EXISTING THEATRE BUILDINGS 2007

	€
• THOC NEW BUILDINGS	44.237
• NEW STAGE THOC	40.945
• CURIUM ANCIENT THEATRE	3.682
• MAKARIOS III AMPHITHEATRE	5.103
• THEATRO AGORAS AYIOY ANDREA	699
TOTAL	94.666

• CONSTRUCTION / RENOVATION OF NEW AND EXISTING THEATRE BUILDINGS 2006

	€
• NEW STAGE THOC	66.268
• SATYRICON THEATRE	17.086
• SCALA THEATRE	11.960
• MAKARIOS III AMPHITHEATRE	2.616
• NICOSIA MUNICIPAL THEATRE	331
TOTAL	98.261

3.3.3 OTHER SUBSIDIES AND ACTIVITIES

Amateur Theatre 2008 Up to 4.11.08

	€
21st Pancyprrian Festival of Amateur Theatre	98
20th Pancyprrian Festival of Amateur Theatre	1.025
PROSVASI Group travelling to Germany	1.196
TOTAL	2.319

Amateur Theatre 2007

	€
20th Pancyprrian Festival of Amateur Theatre	39.293
Advisory Services for staging theatre performances	9.739
19th Pancyprrian Festival of Amateur Theatre	2.170
20th Meeting of Amateur Theatre of the Aegean in Siros	3.691
TOTAL	54.893

Amateur Theatre 2006

	€
Advisory Services for staging theatre performances	18.325
19th Pancyprrian Festival of Amateur Theatre	33.200
18th Pancyprrian Festival of Amateur Theatre	8.304
Expenses for quest performance of Naousa – Paros theatre group	3.988
Travelling to Siros	3.759
18th Meeting of Amateur Theatre of the Aegean	598
TOTAL	68.174

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SCHOOL THEATRE:

	2008 € Up to 4.11.08	2007 €	2006 €
Pancyprrian Student Theatre Games in Memory of Panayiotis Sergis	25.436	51.869	42.847
Educational drama within schools of Secondary and special needs education	-	19.478	32.164
Panhellenic Games	-	721	680
TOTAL	25.436	72.068	75.691

ORGANISATION SUBSIDIES:**2008**

	€
Annual Subsidy of the Cyprus Centre of the International Theatre Institute	76.887
Popular Theatre of Aglandjia	15.400
Cyprus Playwrights Society	5.980
Actor Union of Cyprus	4.272
TOTAL	102.539

OTHER ACTIVITIES Up to 4.11.08**2008**

	€
Theatre Awards THOC	30.289
EUROPEAN THEATRE CONVENTION	9.770
Exhibition 35 years THOC	1.949
International Theatre Day	1.883
Shadow Theatre Friends	1.700
Seminar for teachers	1.168
Aglandjia Day Centre	1.100
Architects and Technicians of Theatre	854
European Office of Cyprus	850
Thessaloniki – PREMIO EUROPA AWARDS	452
International Theatre Exhibition of Israel	421
IBSEN Exhibition	408
Thessaloniki – Panhellenic week of Artistic expression	393
Publication – PROFILE THOC	110
I.T.I. Seminar	85
Summer Theatre Academy of the National Theatre of Greece	57
TOTAL	51.489

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 2008 the Central Library held more than 100,000 volumes and provided lending and reference services to users in Cyprus and abroad. Its primary collections are mostly Cypriot books and periodicals, and United Nations documents.

The Bulletin of the Cyprus Bibliography for 2006 and 2007 was published by the Library.

part c

sports

1. CYPRUS SPORTS ORGANISATION (CSO)

The Cyprus Sports Organisation being 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 of the Cyprus Sports Organisation.

The functioning structure of the CSO is as follows:

- 1.Sports Sector
- 2.Sporting Grounds Sector & Technical Services
- 3.Financial Administration Sector
- 4.Human Resources Sector

The Competitive Sports, the Sports For All project, as well as each one of the CSO other projects (Anti Doping, National Sport Development Support Scheme-NSDSS, Violence and so on) come under the responsibility of the Sports Sector.

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

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

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

BREAKDOWN OF THE SECTORS AND BRANCHES:

1.1.SPORTS SECTOR

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

1.1.1 COMPETITIVE SPORTS

The CSO has provided the Competitive Sports with financial support amounting to € 15.872.924 used in the form of subsidies:

- (a) CSO projects (National Sport Development Support Scheme, Anti-Doping, Talents' Scheme, Developing High Performance Athletes – Olympic Training, Research and so on)
- (b) Discipline A' - Basis Sports (Clubs)
- (c) Discipline B' - Elit Sports (Federations)
- (d) Social Sports (Special Sports, Drugs, Sports and Environment and so on) 2008 High Priority Activities

The most important achievement of the CSO in the context of the Competitive Sports for 2008 has been Cyprus participating in the Beijing Olympiad and Parolympiad, aiming at both achieving excellent performance and attending as a State. This year, sports in Cyprus has experienced big achievements like Kyriacos Ioannou taking

the third place in the World Championship in Athletics, our sharpshooter Ghiorgos Achilleos being classified first worldwide, medal-winning in the Universities Games and many other distinctions.

Athletes having achieved successful results in 2007:

1. Achilleos Ghiorgos:

- 1a. Member of the Shooting Federation – he came 1st out of 78 athletes in the European Shooting Championship – male skeet event.
- 1b. A 2nd achievement of the same athlete in the European Male Shotgun Championship: group skeet; second place out of 20 groups.

2. Andreou Antonis:

Member of the Skeet Federation and he was classified 2nd out of 20 groups in the European Shooting Championship: group male skeet.

3. Nicolaidis Antonis

Member of the Shooting Federation in the European Shooting Championship: group male skeet; she was classified 2nd out of 20 groups.

4. Michael Valentinos

- 4a. Member of the Shooting Federation; he was classified 1st out of 44 athletes in the European Shooting Championship: junior men skeet
- 4b. A 2nd achievement of the same athlete in the European Junior Men Shooting Championship: group skeet, he was classified 1st out of 11 groups.

5. Athanasiou Fotis

Member of the Shooting Federation; he was classified 1st out of 11 groups in the European Shooting Championship: group junior men skeet.

6. Antoniou Andreas

Member of the Shooting Federation; he was classified 1st out of 11 groups in the European Shooting Championship: group skeet.

7. Theofanous Louiza

Member of the Shooting Federation; she was classified 4th out of 36 athletes in the European Shooting Championship: women skeet

8. Kassianidou Pianca

Member of the Shooting Federation; she was classified 2nd out of 10 athletes in the European Shooting Championship: junior women.

9. Leontiou Leontios

Member of the Shooting Federation; he was classified 7th out of 24 athletes in the European Shooting Championship: group men trap.

10. Savvides Fidas

Member of the Shooting Federation; he was classified 7th out of 24 groups in the European Shooting Championship: group men trap.

11. Sofocleous Marios

Member of the Shooting Federation; he was classified 7th out of 24 groups in the European Shooting Championship: group men trap.

12. Anna Demetriou

Member of the Taekwondo Federation; she was classified 3rd out of 14 athletes in the European Junior Women's Championship.

13. Despina Pilavaki

Member of the Taekwondo Federation; she was classified 5th out of 23 athletes in the European Junior Women's Championship.

14. Timothea Diola

Member of the Taekwondo Federation; she was classified 3rd out of 14 athletes in the European Junior Women's Championship.

15. Nicolas Episkopou

Member of the Taekwondo Federation; he was classified 5th out of 29 athletes in the European Children's Championship.

16. Ghiorgos Nicolaou

Member of the Taekwondo Federation; he was classified 5th out of 19 athletes in the European Children's Championship.

17. Sotiris Charalampous

Member of the Judo Federation; he was classified 7th out of 30 athletes in the European Children's Championship.

18. Kyriacos Ioannou

Member of the Athletics Federation; he was classified 3rd out of 39 athletes in the World Men's Championship.

19. Apostolos Parellis

Member of the Athletics Federation; he was classified 3rd out of 28 athletes in the European Junior Men's Championship.

Athletes' Reward

The Organisation puts in practice the "Scheme for High Benefits to Athletes and Coaches", which in compliance with, athletes and coaches are rewarded with significant sums of money for their excellent performance at top sport events. More than €500.000,00 have been awarded to athletes and coaches who have made achievements in 2007 (this money is granted a year later, therefore this very year).

In the context of "CSO projects", which are National Projects indeed, the Organisation is the umbrella of a wide range of activities and lays stress particularly on fighting against the use of prohibited substances and methods and on fighting against Violence in Sports, which are deemed the most crucial problems faced by modern sports.

The CSO through the National Committees keeps typically in line with the international strategy on taking coordinated actions and implementing efficient projects to cope with the above-mentioned challenges.

International Sport Relations

A further €220.000 amount has been subsidized to enhance the International Sport Relations. It is noted that almost all the sports practised in our country (about 30 disciplines) in terms of group training, with a view to ensure participation in

international sport events as well as in established domestic sport competitions have benefited from the Transnational Agreements signed between Cyprus and other European countries, of which the most powerful is the one signed between Cyprus and Greece.

1.1.2 MASS SPORTS

The Sports-For-All project has successfully been lasting for 23 consecutive years. The main objective of the project through its various programmes is to provide all the citizens of the Republic of Cyprus with equal physical exercise and sport opportunities and improve our peoples' fitness and health level.

A. Sports and Child

- a. The "General Sport Practising" project addresses all the Elementary Schools children and aims basically at getting them involved in a sport-oriented world.
- b. The Specialised Programmes address children wishing to be intensively involved in the sport discipline they like most and the talented children, having particular sport qualifications are, therefore, selected accordingly. In the context of this Programme, they are offered the opportunity to participate in competitions on regional, provincial and national level.
- c. The "Child and Swimming" project takes place during summer months. It gives the opportunity to all the children to get in contact with water for the first time and learn how to swim properly.
- d. The "Pre-Elementary Education" project addresses pre-school aged children and the objective is to get them involved in sport-practising while playing.

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B. Sports and Woman – Man Project

The Project is extended to big urban areas and reaches even centres in the rural areas.

The Current Programmes include the following sport disciplines:

- Aerobics / Pilates
- Basketball
- Volleyball
- Swimming
- Futsal

C. Projects for Persons with Special Abilities, Inclusion Groups, Prisons and Tourists

The Cyprus Sports Organisation carries out specific projects for people attending the Blinds School, the Larnaca, Famagusta and Paphos School for Pupils with Special Abilities, by going from theory to practice regarding the Sports-For-All Project philosophy, in relation to providing all people, no matter the gender, age, social position and mainly psychical and physical health state, with equal opportunities for sport-practising. Furthermore, the Project is running for people in social inclusion

groups, in prisons and also for long stay tourists visiting Cyprus.

12.000 people (both children and adults) approximately became active in the context of this project in more than 485 centres and 90 Physical Education Teachers worked for it.

The project overall cost is expected to be approximately €1.471.106.

D. Physical Education Project in the National Guard

The Physical Education Project of the National Guard, which aims at upgrading the physical education in the Army, contributes considerably in the conscripts and the officers employed permanently in the army to benefit from it.

The sport-practising programmes set up, aiming at forming a modern army in terms of fitness, are getting improved and are adapted to the current circumstances, meeting the needs as required by the National Guard.

25 physical educationists are employed in the National Guard Physical Education Project, two of whom are appointed to act as coordinators, in order to exert a more efficient control of the project and have a better contact with the officers. The first coordinator is in charge of the Larnaca, Nicosia and Famagusta regions and the second one is in charge of the Paphos and Limassol regions.

Morning fitness-improving sessions take place for the conscripts' benefit. The objectives are:

- Fitness-improving (aerobic skills)
- Motor skills-improving
- Overall strength-improving

In the afternoon sessions, plays and games take place. The soldiers are taught the basic principles regarding plays like Basketball, Volleyball, Football, Handball. The objectives are:

- Sport-practising - Entertainment
- Developing Leadership
- Self discipline
- Creating Team Spirit
- Promoting Fair play

The objectives of Physical Education sessions in the National Guard:

- Selecting and valorising the soldiers who have particular sport skills acquired while belonging to the National Forces Team.
- Combining for the soldiers, physical exercise and entertainment through plays.
- The soldiers who are athletes may this way pursue their competitive activity.
- Promoting fair play, which cultivates morality and correct, fair behaviour.
- Manning the National Guard with well-trained soldiers, who should be able to cope with and carry out any military mission.

The physical educationists, apart from giving physical exercise classes to the units where they are appointed, they also meet other needs coming up like:

Organising local military championships among the units upon the conscripts being recruited at the Conscripts' Centres

- Organising and following up the selection test for candidate volunteer officers (five-year committed volunteer officers scheme) and for candidate rank-holders and special forces
- Assessing the permanent officers' fitness, done once yearly
- The overall project cost is expected to be approximately €447,086.

1.2 SPORTING GROUNDS SECTOR & TECHNICAL SERVICES

The Sporting Grounds Sector and Technical Services deals with two key chapters:

1. Having built private-owned Sport Facilities and subsidising non private-owned Sport Facilities.
2. Administering the private-owned Sport Facilities

1.2.1 HAVING BUILT PRIVATE-OWNED SPORT FACILITIES AND SUBSIDIZING NON PRIVATE-OWNED SPORT FACILITIES

Approximately €7.565.000 are expected to be spent in 2008 to develop the sport infrastructure in terms of works. The Sport Infrastructure on the island related to the big Sport Projects has been completed and a gradual reduction of the funds granted is therefore observed. Should need for further big Sport Projects occur, the funding is ensured by lending.

The Council's priority policy is the Mass and Social Sports development. This policy promotes the creation of a sport infrastructure everywhere on the Republic of Cyprus' territory (Municipalities and Communities) aiming at generating awareness and attracting the citizen's interest in sport-practising.

In the context of this policy, all the Municipalities, Communities, organised non-profit making organisations, church or other child camping and School Boards are invited to become active and collaborative, aiming at creating and developing Sport Facilities.

Projects, which were completed and became operational in 2008

- a. The Sport Park in the former GSO stadium has been completed very recently. At present, the Cyprus Sports Organisation studies ways to manage it.
- b. The Sport Centre at Platres village has been completed and inaugurated.
- c. The restoration works of the Limassol Yacht Club facilities, which will be used for the 2009 Games of the Small States of Europe (GSSE) have been completed.
- d. Some Makarios Stadium parts (locker-rooms, VIP, insulations) have been upgraded.
- e. Upgrading works have been made in the four federation-owned tennis grounds and they have already used for the DAVID CUP 2008 games.
- f. Operational use and maintenance of CCTV systems in the Tsirio and "Antonios Papadopoulos" stadia
- g. Upgrading works and lighting repairs in the Lefkotheo, Spyros Kyprianou, Glavkos Clerides and Makarios Stadium are noted

Works under construction

- a. Construction of a Play-Room at the Acropolis Senior School (€1.600.000,00)
- b. Construction of a Play-Room at Galata (€1.812.500,00).
- c. Restoration of the Limassol Olympic Swimming Pool (€1.470.000,00).
- d. Construction of a Play-Room at Pelendri (€1.642.000,00).
- e. The Polys Chrysochous Municipal Stadium was constructed following a CSO contribution amounting at €1.025.000,00
- f. Installation of a CCTV system in the GSZ stadium
- g. Lighting upgrading in the Pafian Stadium's tiers (€230.000,00).

Soccer Stadia Turf Maintaining

The CSP was responsible to maintain the turf in the Makarios Stadium as well as in the auxiliary ones; furthermore, the CSO is responsible indeed for the Pafian Stadium's turf.

Small Development Works

The CSO offered a subsidy amounting to €300.000 to Various Clubs, Municipalities and Communities in order to improve their Sport Facilities on the whole island.

Mass / Social Sports Works

The CSO subsidized various Mass / Social Sports works in Municipalities and Communities

Gymnastics Private Schools Inspection Visits

The CSO has recently recruited five Physical Educationists on temporary basis, who act as inspectors and carry out inspection visits of the Gymnastics Private Schools, aiming at ensuring their operating in an appropriate and legally acceptable way.

1.2.2 MANAGING PRIVATELY-OWNED SPORT FACILITIES

In 2008, the CSO valorised the Sport Facilities aiming mainly at achieving our Sports development in quality and quantity terms, including a great number of sport disciplines. The Sport Facilities have simultaneously been utilised in order to enhance the development of the Sports Tourism (externally & internally).

Find below an indicative reference to the use of the Sports Facilities:

NICOSIA

- a. The Multi-training Centre named after "Evaggelos Florakis" has in 2008 greatly been utilised and has met the needs of our Clubs and our Federations. An "accommodation" problem faced throughout times by the sport disciplines of: Badminton, Table Tennis, Gymnastics, Fencing, is coped with by using today the Multi-training Centre. It is also used by for team games purposes (Basketball, Volleyball, Handball & Futsal).
- b. The Nicosia Olympic Swimming Pool is greatly used to enhance both the Competitive Sports development through the Nautical Clubs and the Mass Sports, while at the same time it is mostly what the foreign athletes prefer.

- c. The auxiliary stadia of “Makarios” Sport Centre have in 2008 been used by a great number of local teams, the National Football Teams and at times by foreign teams coming from abroad.

LIMASSOL

- a. The “Spyros Kyprianou” sport centre, which was operational in 2006, extended its activities in 2008 to meet the needs related to the following sport disciplines: Weight-lifting, Gymnastics, Wrestling, Squash, Handball. Furthermore, Mass Sport Projects are developed in the said sport centre.
The first steps have simultaneously been made to enhance the Sport Tourism. Big sport events took place there, like the International Competitions of weight-lifting, the FIBA All star Game and it was used for training purposes of the athletes from abroad in the following sport disciplines: weight-lifting, handball, wrestling. Furthermore, authorisation is given so that the “Spyros Kyprianou” Sport Centre may be used for cultural events taking place and the Junior Eurovision 2008 organised by the CBC was held there on the 22nd November 2008.
- b. The New Limassol Indoors Swimming Pool (25m) meets (following the Olympic Swimming closing down for reconstruction purposes) the needs of the Nautical Clubs and Mass Sports Projects are developed further.

LARNACA

- a. The Larnaca Swimming Pool operating since 2006 has been utilised to a greater extent in 2008 in mainly three sectors:
- Developing the Competitive Sports – through the three Nautical Clubs becoming active in Larnaca.
 - Developing the Mass and the Employment Sports through the “Sports-For-All” project as well as the Nautical Clubs.
 - Cause the Tourism Sports to be developed by foreign groups abroad
- b. The “KITION” Sport Centre meets the needs of both the team games (Basketball, Volleyball, Handball) and the individual ones (Wrestling, Judo, Gymnastics) and it has been used by teams from abroad too.

AGROS

The “Glavkos Clerides” Sport Centre in Agros was largely utilised in 2008. The Mass Sport-Practising shows the Cyprus Sports Organisation’s interest in enhancing equal opportunities for sport-practising and it is expected that by developing sport “culture” in the communities of the broader area (by means of Mass Sports Projects), local Competitive Sports development will come up soon. The Sport Centre is already used by the local basketball team for the local Competitive Sports purposes.

As far as Sports Tourism (external and internal) is concerned, camping-events have taken place in terms both of Competitive Sports and Employment Sports.

Furthermore, the Cyprus Sports Organisation has from September 2008 authorised the use of the “Glavkos Clerides” Sport Centre Swimming Pool by the Ministry of Education & Culture so that the pupils attending the Agros Senior School may have swimming class and it is expected that the collaboration with the Ministry will be extended.

1.3 FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT SECTOR

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

ACCUMULATIVE TABLE OF INCOME – EXPENSES

	2007	2008	2009
	Real €	Appr. Budget €	Appr. Budget €
INCOME			
1. State subsidies	32,976,008	34,957,985	41,006,72
2. Income from private-owned and other Sport Facilities			
3. Sport Grounds	675,986	553,008	756,760
4. Sport stamp	0	0	0
5. Other income	1,139,535	1,435,396	1,785,010
6. Lending	0	3,306,445	4,210,000
Total Income	34,791,527	40,252,834	47,758,495
EXPENSES			
1. Management expenses	7,776,706	8,704,914	379,268
2. Subsidies	17,736,206	19,566,888	21,811,115
3. Creation & Improvement of Sport Facilities	7,889,996	7,563,979	14,089,001
4. Loans paid off & Other Obligations	2,129,944	3,306,445	1,295,660
5. Grounds Policing	683,441	683,458	683,451
6. Non estimated expenses provisions and Stock	0	427,150	500,000
Total Expenses	36.016.293	40.252.824	47.758.495

1.4 CYPRUS SPORT RESEARCH CENTRE (CSRS)

In 2008, 322 ergometric examinations were performed in male and female athletes involved in various disciplines and categories by the 30th September 2008. The bigger number of participation was observed among athletes having participated in National Teams (133) and next come male and female athletes participating in the Talents' Scheme, their number amounting to (5). Then come the clubs' athletes (114) and the Research Projects carried out by the Centre, amounting to (70) ergometric measurements for mainly (Eurofit and Control Groups) specialised research carried out by the CSRS.

Today, seven employees work at the CSRS out of whom one being permanent staff, six (temporarily employed and collaborators) who carry out various duties as well as measurements in the Centre's labs, but also on the spot, where competitions take place. It is noted that one lab assistant collaborator has resigned from his position and the remaining employees fulfil his duties too. Moreover, considering that the CSRS Administrative Head retired and that the director has assumed the responsibility to accomplish his duties, a claim has been lodged with the Organisation to proceed to the recruitment of one officer and one scientific specialist to ensure the Sport Psychology Department and meet the increasing needs of the Centre.

Furthermore, research projects have been carried out and relevant presentations have been made in international scientific congresses. Yet, it is expected that during 2009, further research projects will take place and the Sport Industry and Sport Psychology Departments will get more involved in the context of their collaborating with scientific specialists.

1.5 PROTOCOLS

The CSO has in 2008 signed sport collaboration protocols with Greece and Rumania, which are still valid. The sport collaboration with only these countries is exclusively due to the limited financial sources in the Organisation's budget, in the context of the financial cuts policy of the Government. The Organisation might have signed sport collaboration protocols with many other countries indeed, if it could afford doing it with its budget.

In the context of these protocols athletes and teams are exchanged for training purposes and for preparing themselves to participate in competitions both in Cyprus and abroad. An overall of 35 disciplines have become active sports by means of the said protocols.

1.6 SERVICES VISITS ABROAD

The Organisation participates in various seminars, meetings, congresses and fora on sports, to be able to follow up and meet the needs of the sport environment. It participates in them, to this end and follows up the thematic debates on violence and anti-doping in sports and sport administration, attending indeed the various informal Ministerial Conferences on Sports. Moreover, the CSO participates in important European Congresses like the European Sports Congress, the European Sports General Director Meeting, the "Woman & Sports" European Congress as well as congresses and meetings on sports organised by the Council of Europe Sport Department, making therefore observations.

1.7 SPORTS ACADEMY

In 2008, the Sport Academy of the Organisation pursued its objective fixed for the three-year period 2007 - 2010 regarding the important improvement and the development of the following sectors:

- 1.High quality training
- 2.Further training of the Sport Institutions' Administrative Leaders

The Sport Academy has been supported by means of the Policy and Training Projects Procedures Manual in order to achieve successfully its objectives. The said Manual contains detailed description of the policy and the procedures, which govern the collaboration between the Sports Academy and all the sport institutions related to training projects being approved, organised and subsidised.

Furthermore, in 2008, the Sport Academy has, in the context of its new policy, completed the training projects on sport administration, addressing sport institutions' administrative leaders. The CSO has signed a contract with the University of Nicosia in its capacity as an educational establishment for the programme having lasted from the mid October 2007 to the mid March 2008.

In 2008, the CSO still subsidised the sport institutions in Cyprus to assist them in their enhancing the knowledge level of their human resources. The overall amount of the subsidy granted to the sport institutions amounted to approximately €128.000.