

Address by the Mayor of Limassol, Mr. Nicos Nicolaides at the Annual Congress of the European Paediatric Surgeons' Association, on Wednesday May 17, 2017 at 19.30 hours

My dear friend Zacho, dear Dr. Zachariou,

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Dear Guests,

It is a great pleasure to welcome you to our city, for the **Annual Congress of the European Paediatric Surgeons' Association**. On behalf of the city of Limassol I would like to extend our appreciation to you, for choosing our city to host such an esteemed international conference.

Limassol is a historic city with a 4000 year - long history. Besides being the largest municipality in Cyprus, our city is the business, financial and shipping centre of Cyprus. In fact Limassol is the largest ship-management centre in the European Union and the 5th worldwide. Besides being one of the most important commercial ports in the Mediterranean, a series of features such as: a 20 kilometer accessible beachfront, excellent food and accommodation facilities, a year-round nightlife, 2 marinas and three Universities, among other things, make our city a unique place to visit, to invest, to hold a conference and, of course, to live.

In addition to the aforementioned, Limassol is well known for its long cultural tradition. Visitors have the opportunity to experience a variety of cultural and other activities and they can

visit museums and other archaeological locations around the city, which is an astonishing combination of ancient Greek, Frankish, Byzantine, Ottoman and modern influence. This cultural richness of our city is further enhanced by its multi-ethnic composition: tens of thousands of friends from other countries have become an integral part of our society with considerable contribution in the social, cultural and economic development of our city.

But I think that the best way to get to know Limassol is not by listening to its Mayor advertising it, it is by seeing it and experiencing it. And I am sure that you will take advantage of the opportunity of your congress to visit and experience our beautiful, hospitable city.

I would like once more to welcome you all and wish you a fruitful and successful congress.