

**Address of the Mayor of Limassol Mr. Nicos Nicolaides at
The Global Grand Final of ClimateLaunchpad, on
October 17 2017, at the Carob Mill**

Ladies and Gentlemen,
Dear Guests,

It is a great pleasure to welcome you to our city, for **The Global Grand Final of ClimateLaunchpad.**

On behalf of Limassol Municipality, I would like to congratulate the organisers of this important event, the world's largest green business idea competition. Thank you for choosing Limassol as your host city. We are looking forward to hear some of the world's most interesting green business ideas and we welcome the 105 startups from 35 countries all over the world.

Limassol, our city, is an International conference centre. It's a place where people of many nationalities meet and discuss vital issues, issues such as Innovation and invention, which are the topics of your event. Innovation and invention are the wheels of progress.

Limassol is a city of progress, of new opportunities, new people, new ideas. Our city is the business and financial center of Cyprus. The economic activity of our city is characterized by versatility and a dynamic development that stretches throughout a wide spectrum of sectors, from services, the manufacturing industry, tourism, the building sector, energy and other sectors. Furthermore, one of the factors that characterizes and defines Limassol as a city is its shipping industry. Limassol is the largest ship-management center in the European Union and the fifth worldwide. Limassol has all the prerequisites to aim even higher as a business center. An excellent geographic position, new developments in the port infrastructure, new opportunities in the natural gas and the energy sector in general and top quality human resources. A 20-kilometre-accessible-beachfront, 1 port, 2 marinas, 3 universities, excellent infrastructure, a high-standard service network, best-quality food and accommodation facilities, a year-round nightlife, all these elements combine top prerequisites for an attractive destination for investment and progress.

These are a number of impressive projects under way or under planning, starting from the high-rise buildings along the seaside line, the casino resort, the new commercial operation of the port, the natural-gas activities, the uplifting of the western urban areas and the reintegrating the area between the Limassol Marina and the New Port into the urban fabric. The latter is an unprecedented redevelopment that will reshape the city's character and will create huge development opportunities.

Dear friends,

Once again I would like to welcome you to Limassol, and wish you fruitful and interesting conference! And of course my congratulations go to **Chrysalis LEAP**, to the Cyprus University of Technology and to Professor Alexandros G. Charalambides, for his tireless efforts in promoting environmental and energy issues.