

CYPRUS – CHINA BUSINESS COOPERATION FORUM
17/10/2019 – ST. RAPHAEL

Ladies and Gentlemen,
Dear Guests,

It is a great pleasure to welcome you to our city, for the proceedings of the CYPRUS – CHINA BUSINESS COOPERATION FORUM.

On behalf of the Limassol Municipality, I would like to congratulate the organizers of this very important forum, focusing on business cooperation opportunities between Cyprus and China. I warmly welcome the our guests from China, who are here to get to know Cyprus and also to share their valuable experiences in various aspects of economic activity in their great country, China.

I am sure that by the end of this forum, you will be fully aware of the investments opportunities that can be found in in Cyprus, and in Limassol in particular, today.

Cyprus is:

- A Multinational – multicultural country
- It has a Strategic geographical position
- An EU and Eurozone member state

Cyprus has Top rated Infrastructure

- Two modern international airports
- Excellent motorway network, port facilities and marinas
- State of the art technology in services & Telecommunications

Above all, Cyprus is A SAFE AND CHALLENGING BUSINESS ENVIROMENT

- Residence-based taxation
- Corporate tax as low as 12.5%
- Double taxation avoidance treaties

When we speak about investment in Cyprus, we primarily mean investment in Limassol: a city of great prospects and opportunities

- Limassol is a modern European City
- The financial steam-engine of Cyprus
- Excellent infrastructure and high-quality business services

- Attractive year-around life-style
- Multicultural environment – safety and social stability

Limassol's main advantage is its Diversified economic activity in a large spectrum:

- tourism & leisure
- corporate services
- education
- light industry such as pharmaceuticals & software
- Oil and Gas
- Shipping
- Real estate development

All these areas of economic activity make Limassol an important regional and European business hub

- Limassol of course is Europe's southernmost international port
- It has a port soon to be a Cruise hub – and we are working very hard on that
- Limassol provides Top-quality professional manpower and unmatched corporate services
- And of course our city is a World famous shipping industry center

Most importantly, what attracts investment in Limassol, is the promising future that lies ahead

- With the emerging Oil & Gas industry
- The upcoming Integrated Resort Casino
- An unprecedented dynamic property market ahead, powered by:
 - Fiscal incentives provided by the Government of Cyprus to the buyers
 - Urban planning incentives
 - Coordinated action of all market stake holders

I am sure, that during today's forum you will be given the chance to explore in detail the full spectrum of investment opportunities in Limassol and in Cyprus in general.

Before completing this short address, I would like to especially welcome the delegation from Nanjing, a city with which Limassol has fraternal relations since 1992. Our two cities have a lot to benefit from sharing each other's knowledge and experiences in all the fields of common interest.

Today's forum is a tribute to the friendship between China and Cyprus. Between the people of Cyprus and the people of China. And I would like to take this opportunity, to, once again, express on behalf of the Limassol Municipality, our deep appreciation to the hundreds of our Chinese friends, who live in Limassol. We are more than glad to be fellow citizens with them, together in our beautiful, hospitable city. A city that has been shaped with the contribution of many people, of many origins and of many cultures.

Once more, I would like to welcome you all and wish you a fruitful stay in our city.