

COURTESY TRANSLATION

Nicosia, 28 September 2012

Dear Colleague,

On behalf of the House of Representatives of the Republic of Cyprus, I am pleased to invite representatives of your Parliament to attend the Conference of the Chairpersons of Human Rights Committees, to be held in Nicosia, on 2 and 3 December 2012. This meeting shall be organized as part of the parliamentary dimension of the Cyprus Presidency of the Council of the EU, during the second half of 2012.

I kindly ask you to forward the enclosed invitation letter from the Chairman of the Committee on Human Rights and Equal Opportunities between Men and Women of the Cyprus House of Representatives to the Chairperson of the competent Committee in your Parliament.

Please accept, dear Colleague, the assurances of my highest consideration.

Yours sincerely,

/--/

Yiannakis L. Omirou,
President of the House of Representatives
of the Republic of Cyprus.

COURTESY TRANSLATION

Nicosia, 28 September 2012

Dear Colleague,

In the context of the parliamentary dimension of the Cyprus Presidency of the Council of the European Union, in the second half of 2012, I have the pleasure to invite you to attend the Conference of the Chairpersons of Human Rights Committees, which will be held at the Conference Centre «Filoxenia», in Nicosia, on 3 December 2012.

During the Conference, participants will focus on the Charter of Fundamental Rights of the EU, the Need to Reconcile family life and professional activities and the issue of Protecting human rights in times of crisis – economic crisis or threats to security.

Regarding the social programme, a dinner followed by a cultural event, are foreseen for the evening of 2 December 2012. The next day, a lunch will be hosted at the Conference Centre and an informal dinner will be organized the same evening.

Enclosed, please find the Preliminary Draft Agenda. All practical issues, including the Registration form and information on hotel reservations, can be found in the Practical Information Note, also enclosed. Please ensure that reservations and registrations are duly completed and sent back, by 2 November 2012 at the latest.

Looking forward to welcoming you to Cyprus,

Yours sincerely,

/--/

Sophoclis Fittis,
Chairman of the Standing Committee on Human Rights and
Equal Opportunities between Men and Women.

Conference of Chairpersons of Human Rights Committees

"Filoxenia" Conference Centre, Nicosia

2 - 3 December 2012

DRAFT PROGRAMME

Sunday, 2 December 2012

Arrival of participants.

(Hotels: Hilton Cyprus & Hilton Park)

15.00 - 19.30 Registration at the respective hotels.

19.30 Departure from hotels for "Famagusta Gate".

20.00 Official Dinner hosted by the Chairman of the House Standing Committee on Human Rights and Equal Opportunities for Men and Women, Mr. Sophoclis Fittis, MP and cultural event, at "Famagusta Gate".

Monday, 3 December 2012

08.15 Departure from hotels for "Filoxenia" Conference Centre.

09.00 - 09.10 Welcome address by H.E The President of the House of Representatives, Mr. Yiannakis L. Omirou.

09.10 - 09.20 Welcome address by the Chairman of the House Standing Committee on Human Rights and Equal Opportunities for Men and Women, Mr. Sophoclis Fittis, MP.

09.20 - 09.25 Audiovisual message by the Vice - President of the European Commission, Commissioner on Justice, Fundamental Rights and Citizenship, Mrs. Viviane Reding.

- 09.25** ***Session I: The Charter of Fundamental Rights of the EU***
Address by
- Debate.
- 11. 00 - 11.20** Coffee break.
- 11.20** ***Session II: The need to reconcile family life and professional activities***
Address by the Minister of Labour and Social Insurance,
Mrs. Sotiroulla Charalambous.
- Debate.
- 13.00** End of morning Sessions.
Family photo.
- 13.15** Lunch at "Yiasemi" restaurant ("Filoxenia" Conference Center).
- 15.00** ***Session III: Protecting Human Rights in times of crisis - economic crisis or
threats to security***
Address by the EU Special Representative for Human Rights,
Mr. Stavros Lambrinidis (tbc).
- Debate.
- 17.00** Conclusion of the Conference.
Return to the hotels.
- 19.30** Departure by bus from the hotels for the informal dinner.
- 20.00** Informal dinner.
- 22. 00 (approx.)** Return by bus to the hotels.

PRACTICAL INFORMATION NOTE

Conference of the Chairpersons of Human Rights Committees

2 – 3 December 2012

Date and venue

The Conference will be held at the “Filoxenia” Conference Centre, in Nicosia, on 2 - 3 December 2012.

The address of the Conference Centre is 17, Thrakis 1311, Aglanjia, Nicosia.

Registration of Participants

All participants are kindly requested to fill in a registration form and return it to hrcom@cyparliament2012.eu, **by 2 November 2012**. The form is also available at www.cyparliament2012.eu by clicking on the name of the Conference in the calendar.

Registration

Registration Desks will be located in the main entrance hall of the hotels on the day of arrival, from 3 pm. Identity badges and other material regarding the Conference will be available from these Desks.

All participants are kindly requested to wear their identity badges at all times for security reasons and in order to ensure their access to shuttle buses, conference rooms and receptions and/or other events in the programme.

The ribbons of the identity badges correspond to the following categories of participants:

- Blue - Delegates, Members of Parliament
- Green - Delegation Secretaries / Advisors / Staff
- Yellow - Staff of hosting Parliament

Accommodation

Block bookings have been made by the House of Representatives at the following hotels at special rates.

Participants are requested to make their reservations **by 2 November 2012**. Requests for accommodation will be dealt on a first-come-first-served basis and any requests received after this date cannot be guaranteed. Accommodation cost is covered by participants.

All participants are kindly requested to make their own arrangements for accommodation on-line with these hotels:

Hilton Cyprus Hotel (***)**

Archbishop Makarios III Avenue,
1516 Nicosia.

Phone: +357 22 377 777

Fax: +357 22 377 788

website:

http://www.hilton.com/en/hi/groups/personalized/N/NICHTW-GHR05-20121201/index.ihtml?WT.mc_id=POG

Hilton Park Nicosia (***)**

Griva Dighenis Avenue,
1507 Nicosia.

Phone: +357 22 695 111

Fax: +357 22 351 918

website:

http://www.hilton.com/en/hi/groups/personalized/N/NICLEHI-GHOUSD-20121124/index.ihtml?WT.mc_id=POG

Arrival and departure

IMPORTANT NOTE: The only legal ports of entry to the Republic of Cyprus are the International Airports of Larnaka and Pafos and the ports of Limassol and Larnaka, which are situated in the Government-controlled area of the Republic.

All participants arriving at the above legal ports of entry of the Republic are kindly requested to make their own arrangements for transportation to the hotels.

The cost of transfer from Larnaka International Airport to Nicosia by taxi is about €50 and from Pafos International Airport to Nicosia is about €120.

Transportation during the Conference

Transportation will be provided from the hotels to the venue of the Conference and vice versa, as well as for all social events included in the programme.

Simultaneous interpretation

Simultaneous interpretation into Greek, English and French will be provided. Participants accompanied by their own interpreters, are kindly requested to notify the Presidency Secretariat at hrcm@cyparliament2012.eu the soonest possible and also indicate their request on the registration form. For this purpose, please note that only three additional translation booths will be available and will be allocated on a strictly first-come-first-served basis.

Documents

Working documents will be regularly updated on the House of Representatives' website (www.cyparliament2012.eu). Final versions will be provided upon registration. Documents will be provided in English and French.

Requests to take the floor

Participants wishing to take the floor are requested to fill in a separate "Request for the floor" card for each Session of the Conference. The cards can be found in the material received upon registration. A separate coloured card will correspond to each agenda item. A list of speakers, based on the cards received by the Presidency Secretariat, will be drawn up by the Chairperson of the Conference and, once the floor is given, speakers can deliver their speeches from their seats.

Services during the Conference

Participants will have access to a working station, equipped with computers, Internet access and Fax machines and all other relevant communication facilities. A WI-FI service will also be available.

Besides coffee breaks, running coffee will also be available in the corridor, outside the Conference room. Food and beverages are not allowed in the Conference room.

Information Desk

An Information Desk will be situated outside the Conference room and will be available to participants for any practical matter, including username and password for WI-FI service.

Press Facilities

Press Facilities will be provided during the Conference. Access will be given to correspondents of national and international press, radio and television, who have already sent their registration forms to the Presidency Secretariat. The Conference will be open to the press.

Medical Service

Medical services will be available during the Conference.

Automated Teller Machine (ATM)

An ATM will be located near the Conference room, in the "CYPRESS MEDIA CENTRE".

Non-smoking policy

Smoking is prohibited in all indoor areas in hotels and all public places.

An outdoor space, outside the "CYPRESS MEDIA CENTRE", can be used by smokers.

Currency

The national currency of the Republic of Cyprus is the Euro.

Weather

The mild Mediterranean winter starts in December. The average lowest temperature is 8°C and the highest is 18°C.

Presidency Secretariat

Mrs. Evie Hadjiyianni, Director of the International Relations Service

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Fax: +357 22 668611

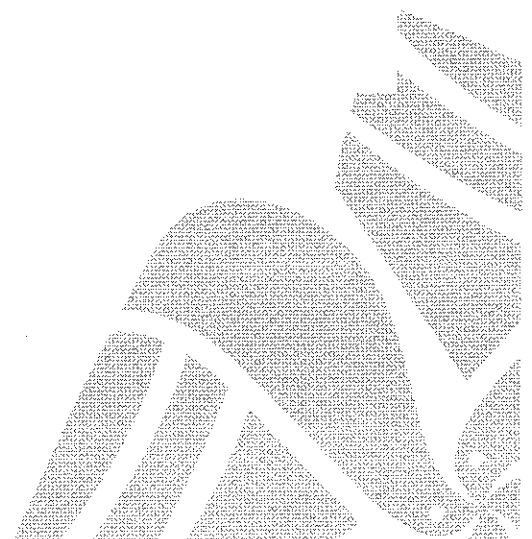
E-mail: international-relations@parliament.cy

Mr. Panicos Pourgourides, Senior International Relations Officer

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CYPRUS ΝΕΣΤΕΑ
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
REPUBLIC OF CYPRUS



Conference of the Chairpersons of Human Rights Committees

2 – 3 December 2012

Nicosia, Cyprus

Individual Registration Form			
Kindly fill in this form and return it by <u>2 November 2012</u> at: hrcom@cyparliament2012.eu			
Please complete this Form in CAPITAL letters			
Mr <input type="checkbox"/> Ms <input type="checkbox"/>		First Name:	
		Last Name:	
Function:			
Chamber and/ or Parliament:		Country:	
Address:		e-mail:	
Tel:		Fax:	
Date of birth*:	Country of birth*:	Nationality*:	
Identification document (*Mandatory fields for accreditation purposes)		<input type="checkbox"/> Passport No*: <input type="checkbox"/> Identity Card No*:	
Dietary restrictions/ allergies:			
Other important information (Disabilities etc.):			
Arrival		Departure	
Date:		Date:	
Flight No.:	Time:	Flight No.:	Time:
Please note that the House of Representatives will not provide transportation from and to the airports.			
Hotel <input type="checkbox"/> Hilton Cyprus Hotel <input type="checkbox"/> Hilton Park Nicosia			
Please note that hotel reservation MUST be made directly to the hotel (see Practical Information Note)			
I will attend: <input type="checkbox"/> 2.12.2012 – Dinner <input type="checkbox"/> 3.12.2012 – Lunch <input type="checkbox"/> 3.12.2012 – Dinner			
Request for additional translation booth <input type="checkbox"/>			