## Address by the Mayor of Limassol, Mr Nicos Nicolaides at the Chinese Spring Festival, on January 11<sup>th</sup>, 2017 at 19.00 hours at Rialto Theatre

I welcome, with great joy, the Chinese Spring Festival Martial Art Performance, at the Rialto Theatre, in Limassol.

Our city boasts a long-standing and indeed very fruitful relationship with China in the field of culture, as during the 1970's, 1980's and 1990's many Chinese folk and acrobatic groups systematically participated in the Summer Events or the Summer International Festivals of the Municipality of Limassol at the Medieval Castle Square and at the Municipal Garden Theatre.

Limassol is also twinned with the Chinese city of Nanjing. The twinning which took place in 1992 offered the opportunity for an exchange of visits and of expertise in many domains.

This cooperation should be further rekindled and strengthened for the benefit of the people of both cities.

I wish you all an enjoyable Chinese Evening and I congratulate the Chinese Ministry of Culture, the Chinese Embassy in Cyprus and the Chinese Friendship Association for taking the initiative to organise this event in cooperation with the Ministry of Education and Culture of Cyprus and our Municipality.