Speech by the Mayor of Limassol, Mr Nicos Nicolaides, at the ITU Cyber Drill - ALERT (Applied Learning for Emergency Response Teams) conference, on Wednesday, November 28, 2018, at 09.00 hours at St. Raphael hotel

Distinguished Guests

Ladies and Gentlemen,

It is a great pleasure to welcome you to our city, for the **ITU** Cyber Drill - ALERT (Applied Learning for Emergency Response Teams) for Europe Region.

I would like to congratulate the organizers of this important and prestigious event: the Telecommunication Development Bureau (BDT) of the International Telecommunication Union (ITU) at the kind invitation of the **Digital Security Authority** of Cyprus.

On behalf of the city of Limassol I would like to especially express our appreciation to the distinguished speakers, as well as all the participants who came from abroad. I have no doubt that the high caliber of so many important participants will ensure that a broad range of key issues in the field of digital security and cyber threats will be addressed by top professionals and experts of the field. Our city, being a city of progress and development, is glad to host an event, which is so crucial to economic and scientific development, all over the world.

Please allow me to say a few things about our city, since as the mayor of the city, I should not pass the opportunity to present my city to such a prestigious audience.

Limassol is a historic city with a 4000 year - long history.

Throughout the years, Limassol has been established as a city of progress, of new opportunities, new people, new ideas.

Limassol's economic activity 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.

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, 2 ports, 2 marinas, 3 universities, excellent infrastructure, a high- standard service network, best-quality living facilities, all these elements combine top prerequisites for an attractive destination for investment and progress.

Limassol is also well known for her 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.

But I am sure that you know that the best way to get to know Limassol is by seeing it and experiencing it. I urge you to take advantage of the opportunity of your stay in Cyprus and visit and experience our beautiful, hospitable city.

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