

**Doorstep by the Cypriot Minister of Communications and Works  
before the Ceremony for the Presentation of the “Limassol Declaration”**

Following a constructive plenary debate yesterday afternoon which has resulted with the adoption of the “Limassol Declaration”, we are ready today to present the Declaration in the presence of the President of Republic of Cyprus Mr. Demetris Christofias, the President of the European Commission Mr. José Manuel Barroso and the Commissioner responsible for Maritime Affairs and Fisheries Mrs. Maria Damanaki.

As I have already stressed yesterday afternoon, Cyprus attaches great emphasis to the EU Integrated Maritime Policy and has placed this Policy among the strategic priorities of the Cyprus Presidency. Therefore, I am assured that, through this Informal Ministerial Meeting and the adoption of the “Limassol Declaration”, the Cyprus Presidency is giving new impetus to this significant policy and is contributing to its future implementation and development.

The Integrated Maritime Policy is the way forward for realizing the potential of Europe’s seas and oceans and the “Limassol Declaration” will be the key driving force in this process.

I am looking forward to a pleasant Ceremony for the presentation of the adoption of the “Limassol Declaration” this morning.