

**Joint Declaration of Intent**  
**on**  
**Cooperation in the Field of Environmental Protection**  
**Between**  
  
**the Ministry of Environmental Protection of the State of Israel**  
  
**the Ministry of Environment and Energy of the Hellenic Republic,**  
**and**  
**the Ministry of Agriculture, Rural Development and Environment of the**  
**Republic of Cyprus**

The Ministry of Environmental Protection of the State of Israel, the Ministry of Environment and Energy of the Hellenic Republic and the Ministry of Agriculture, Rural Development and Environment of the Republic of Cyprus (hereinafter “the Participants”)

- Recalling the Convention for the Protection of the Marine Environment and the Coastal Region of the Mediterranean (Barcelona Convention), which underlines among others the need to: assess and control marine pollution; protect the marine environment and coastal zones through prevention and reduction of pollution; and strengthen solidarity among Mediterranean coastal States; and bearing in mind the provisions of the Protocols of the Convention applicable to the Participants respectively;
- Recognizing that many environmental problems are of cross-border nature and require international cooperation, through both bilateral, regional and multilateral conventions, and that cooperation between national environmental authorities can be of mutual benefit at national, regional and global level;
- Recognizing the significance of Sustainable Development and Green Economy for the protection and enhancement of the environment as well as for the health and well-being of the present and future generations;
- Recognizing the importance of strengthening the relations between the three countries in the environmental field, in the framework of UNEP and other international environmental organizations;
- Recognizing the need for closer scientific and technical co-operation for the protection of the environment and conservation of natural resources;

Declare their intention to advance cooperation in the following areas:

- a) Marine and coastal environmental protection, and in particular preparedness and response to major marine pollution incidents in the Mediterranean, resulting from ships, off-shore hydrocarbon (oil and gas) exploration and exploitation activities and hydrocarbon pipelines;
- b) Assessing the environmental impacts of transboundary projects in the area of energy and oil and gas transfer;
- c) Promotion of Green Economy and Sustainable Consumption and Production;
- d) Combating desertification and climate change, including adaptation to climate change;
- e) Prevention of forest fires;
- f) Biological diversity, ecosystem services and nature protection including national park management;
- g) Waste management;
- h) Environmental aspects of Water Resources management including pollution prevention, wastewater treatment and reuse and river restoration;
- i) Environmental impacts of seawater desalination activities, including protection from pollution caused by seawater intake systems of desalination plants; and
- j) Any other area deemed to be of common interest by the Participants.

The following forms of cooperation may be considered, inter alia:

- a) Joint marine oil spill response exercises and/or training;
- b) Exchange of best practices, scientific and technical information and data, as well as relevant research results;
- c) Technical assistance, particularly through exchange of experts and specific studies in the cooperation scope indicated in this document;
- d) Joint research activities;
- e) Promotion of regional environmental cooperation projects;
- f) Encouragement of trilateral cooperation between public and private institutions;
- g) Utilization of financing opportunities available through international institutions and European funds;
- h) Agreed procedures to be followed in assessing environmental impacts of transboundary projects; and
- i) Any other forms of cooperation that may be jointly decided upon by the Participants;

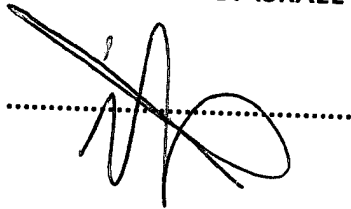
Cooperative activities under this Joint Declaration will be subject to the availability of appropriate funds and other necessary resources of each Participant. Unless otherwise decided, each Participant is intended to bear the costs of its own Participation activities carried out under this Declaration.

Any activity carried out pursuant to this Joint Declaration will be done in accordance with the domestic laws and regulations of each Participant. The Ministry of Environment and Energy of the Hellenic Republic and the Ministry of Agriculture, Rural Development and Environment of the Republic of Cyprus will apply this Joint Declaration without prejudice to their obligations as members of the European Union.

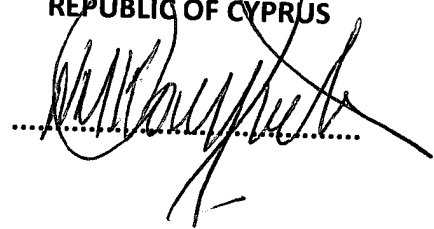
This Joint Declaration is solely an expression of the Participants' intentions and it is not intended to create any legally binding obligations for the Participants.

Signed in Jerusalem on April 6, 2016, which corresponds to the 27 of Adar B' 5776 in the Hebrew Calendar, in triplicate in the English Language.

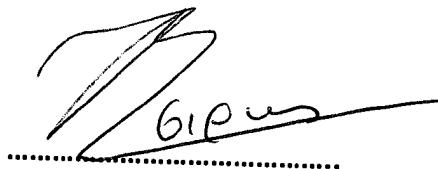
**FOR THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENTAL  
PROTECTION  
OF THE STATE OF ISRAEL**

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**FOR MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE, RURAL  
DEVELOPMENT AND ENVIRONMENT OF THE  
REPUBLIC OF CYPRUS**

A handwritten signature in black ink, featuring a large, circular loop followed by a series of smaller loops and a horizontal stroke, positioned above a dotted line.

**FOR THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT  
AND ENERGY  
OF THE HELLENIC REPUBLIC**

A handwritten signature in black ink, starting with a large, stylized 'Z' followed by a horizontal stroke, positioned above a dotted line.