



AFICS – CYPRUS NEWSLETTER

Number: 001 Date: December 2013

NEWS OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

During its last two sessions, held on 15 October and 5 December 2013 the Executive Committee examined the following main items: (a) It reviewed the state of the Association's registration with the Ministry of the Interior and it charged its President to provide to the AFICS' lawyer dealing with the Ministry elements for another letter to it for a decision no later than end of November. (b) It paid the Association's dues to FAFICS and thus AFICS became a full member of FAFICS as of 1 July 2013. (c) It made arrangements for a visit of a UNJSPF staff member to Cyprus on Wednesday, 12 March 2014 in order to provide two presentations addressed to both pre- and post-pensioners. (d) It fixed the membership fees according to a table appearing elsewhere in the Newsletter. (e) It finalized the arrangements for the first social event, an excursion to Choirokoitia and Pano Drys for which readers shall find more information elsewhere in this issue of the Newsletter (f) It approved the provisional agenda for the second ordinary session of the Assembly and the 2014 budget that will be presented to it.

25 OCTOBER 2013 UN DAY CELEBRATION



THE AFICS STAND

The UNFICYP UN Day Organizing Committee invited AFICS-Cyprus to participate in its UN Day celebration on 25 October 2013 from 10:30 to 16:30 hours at its sports field in UNPA, Nicosia and provided it with a tent, a table and some chairs so as

to have a dedicated presence at the venue. The documentation available at the stand consisted of a flyer containing the basic aims and purposes of the Association, as well as the composition of the Executive Committee and the membership application form. Gert Schmidt, seconded briefly by Ioannis Antoniadis, manned the AFICS stand and distributed the documentation to the many visitors - interested UN staff members and former International Civil Servants - attending the event.

EDITORIAL NOTE

The Executive Committee is pleased to present the first edition of the AFICS Newsletter to the Association's members and to all other readers. The Committee had many discussions concerning the presentation, the frequency, the contents and the length of the Newsletter. The presentation, as it appears in this first number, had its inspiration from the newsletter of FAFICS (Federation of Associations of Former International Civil Servants), to which our Association belongs. The Committee has not fixed a frequency; it believes that there should be at least one issue per year. The contents shall include a summary of decisions taken by the Committee, news on the social activities of the Association, news of FAFICS and the UNJSPF; it shall also provide information on relations with the Cypriot authorities and with the UNFICYP; in addition, as the case may be it shall include some news on its members (if they so wish) and pertinent news of other associations in Cyprus which might be of interest. Finally, the Newsletter shall not exceed, normally, two pages (recto/verso), in order to avoid doubling postage costs; of course, if the news warrants it, it shall be longer.

The Executive Committee shall be happy to receive the member's views on this issue and suggestions for ameliorating future editions. Comments should be addressed to AFICS by mail, preferable electronic.

The main contributors for this number of the Newsletter are: Ioannis Antoniadis, and Gert Schmidt, President and Deputy-President/Secretary of the Executive Committee.

SEASON'S GREETINGS FROM THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

On the occasion of the holiday season and the coming New Year the Executive Committee of AFICS-Cyprus wishes to all members and their families and friends a happy and prosperous 2014 in good health and fortune.

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SECOND ORDINARY SESSION OF THE ASSEMBLY

The second ordinary session of the Assembly shall take place on Wednesday, 12 March 2014 at 09.30 hours at UNFICYP, Blue Beret Camp, Nicosia. After the Assembly, a colleague from the UNJSPF shall make two presentations: one for pensioners and one for active colleagues of the UN Organizations in Cyprus. Members are invited to note and reserve that date.

15 MEMBERS PARTICIPATE IN THE FIRST SOCIAL ACTIVITY OF AFICS

The first social activity of AFICS-Cyprus took place on 5 November 2013. Fifteen members from Nicosia, Limmasol, Paphos and Paralimni, participated in an excursion which took them to Choirokoitia, Kato Drys and Lefkara. At



Choirokoitia the group visited the Neolithic age archaeological site which is listed in UNESCO's World Heritage since 1998; they then visited at the same village an artisan's halloumi factory, "Loulla's" farm, where they were shown how the halloumi cheese is fabricated with goat milk, the traditional way; they tasted and bought halloumi and another Cypriot traditional cheese Anari. In Kato Drys, the birthplace of Agios Neophytos, they walked through the old village with many restored buildings with suspended balconies; they then visited the charming rural museum, the House of Gabriel and Eleni Papachristoforou, a restored building with remarkable woodwork, affine example of 19th century architecture. Finally, in Lefkara, it was the happy hour of lunch with delicious Cypriot food at the "Drosia tis Marias" Tavern. The participants thanked Ioannis Antoniadis, the Association's President and organizer of this event, and asked our member from Limassol, Colin Garland, to organize, in February

2014, the second excursion in and around Limassol. Lets us hope to be many more than 15 for that excursion. The photograph shows the group outside the restaurant; those who are interested can see the other photographs from the excursion at the AFICS-Cyprus' web site.

THE UN ASSOCIATION OF CYPRUS CELEBRATES THE UN DAY ON 31 OCTOBER AT THE PRESIDENTIAL PALACE

The UN Association of Cyprus, on 31 October 2013, organized a solemn celebration of the United Nations Day at the Presidential Palace. After the introductory speech by Dr. Christos A. Theodoulou, the President of the Association, the main address was delivered by the President himself Mr. Nicos Anastasiades. The President stressed the fact that the United Nations' role in international affairs continues to be "critical, timely and important". He congratulated the UN Association of

Cyprus for its efforts "to ensure that the objectives of the United Nations become embedded in each and every one of us and that it translates into our daily lives".

During the cocktails which followed, the President of AFICS-Cyprus had a short conversation with Dr. Theodoulou. The two presidents agreed to have further discussions together when AFICS has been registered, with a view to find fields of cooperation between the two associations.

UNITED NATIONS NEWS AT THE AFICS-CYPRUS WEB SITE

Readers of this Newsletter are invited to go to www.afics-cyprus.org/News.html in order to read two messages from the Secretary-General, the first delivered on 1 October 2013 , on the occasion of the International Day of Older

Persons and the second on 24 October 2013 on the occasion of the United Nations Day, as well as the decisions taken by the FAFICS Council at its 42nd session held from 8-11 July 2013 in New York, USA.

AFICS-CYPRUS - Membership Fee Structure

Monthly Pension	For life membership (valid from 2015)	For a full year	Membership from 1 st quarter of a year	Membership from 2 nd quarter of a year	Membership from 3 rd quarter of a year	Membership from 4 th quarter of a year
>€500	€500	At least €50	€50	€37	€25	€13
<€500	€100	At least €10	€10	€5	€0	€0