



PRESS RELEASE

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Strategic Co-operation between Cyta and STE

Damascus, 20 October 2009: In the framework of their long-standing strategic co-operation Cyta and STE have agreed, during an official high-level bilateral meeting, to upgrade UGARIT submarine cable system between Cyprus and Syria, providing the capability for multiple 10 Gbps connections. This upgrade is to be performed in conjunction with similar upgrades on CADMOS and BERYTAR submarine cable systems, together forming a high-capacity resilient ring between Syria, Cyprus and Lebanon.

The two sides have also confirmed their willingness to proceed with the planning and construction of a new high-capacity submarine cable system between Cyprus and Syria, ALASIYA. The new system will be in a position to restore the existing UGARIT system between Cyprus-Syria and to provide a high-quality alternative route between the two countries. In addition, it will form a bridge between cable systems accessing and transiting Syria from the East and ALEXANDROS cable subsystem landing in Cyprus. Cyta is the sole owner of ALEXANDROS subsystem implemented via Telecom Egypt's TEN submarine cable system between Egypt and France, and is expected to be put in operation early next year.

The Cyta team was headed by the Chairman of the Board of Directors Mr Stathis Kittis and CEO Mr Photis Savvides. The STE team was headed by Eng. Nazem Bahsas, Director General. Cyta and STE teams were received by HE the Minister of Telecommunications & Technology Dr. Imad Sabouni in the presence of the Deputy Minister and Chairman of STE Board Dr Ahmad Basesl Alkheshi, who have expressed their support for the outcome of the meeting, thereby demonstrating the willingness of STE to enhance its co-operation with Cyta.

The Cyta-STE high-level bilateral meeting has fostered a new partnership between the two countries and Cyta and STE in particular, that will enhance the strategic role of Cyprus through Cyta, as a major cable hub in the Eastern Mediterranean, and facilitate STE's strategic goal to strengthen its position in the international telecommunications landscape.

(You can find Cyta press releases and any photographic material on the website www.cyta.com.cy/pr/pressreleases)

Cyta Corporate Communications and Public Relations

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