



**Joint Declaration by
Cyprus Employers & Industrialists Federation (OEB), Turkish Cypriot
Businessmen's Association (İŞAD), Hellenic Federation of Enterprises (SEV)
and Turkish Industrialists' and Businessmen's Association (TÜSİAD)**

Nicosia, March 12th, 2009

We, OEB, İŞAD, SEV and TÜSİAD, the prominent Business Organizations of Cyprus, Greece and Turkey respectively, call upon the two communities in Cyprus to continue negotiating in good faith to achieve a comprehensive and enduring settlement of the Cyprus problem.

We urge the two communities in Cyprus to make every possible effort to agree on changes and to complete all aspects of a comprehensive settlement as soon as possible.

Based on the understanding of the interconnectedness of political and economic issues, the four Organizations express their hope that the ongoing negotiations on Turkey's EU accession process and the ongoing negotiations between the communities in Cyprus will help reach an acceptable solution to the long outstanding issue of Cyprus this year.

The four Organizations underline that the stimulus for economic development of Cyprus as a whole will hinge upon the economic integration of the island. They believe that any opportunity to solve the issue is not to be missed and, therefore, encourage the negotiating leaders Demetris Christofias and Mehmet Ali Talat to intensify their efforts to reach an agreement.