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INFORMATION NOTE

From: General Secretariat of the Council
To: Council

Subject: The 6th International Music Olympiad for school students (Ayia Napa, Cyprus, 18-20 April 2024)
- Information from the Cyprus delegation

Delegations will find attached an information note from the Cyprus delegation on the above subject, which has been put on the agenda under 'Any other business' for the next Education, Youth, Culture and Sport Council meeting on 23 November 2023.

**The 6th International Music Olympiad for school students
(Ayia Napa, Cyprus, 18-20 April 2024)**

Information note from the Cyprus delegation

The 6th International Music Olympiad for school students will be organised in Ayia Napa, Cyprus on April 18-20 2024 by the Ministry of Education, Sports and Youth (MOESY) of the Republic of Cyprus, in collaboration with the Ayia Napa Municipality.

Held every two years, the International Music Olympiad is a relatively new event, first held in 2012 in Tallinn, Estonia. Being a cultural crossroad between East and West, Cyprus is an ideal venue for organizing such an international music event. In fact, we anticipate an increased interest for participation from countries that have never participated before. In a post-pandemic era, the Music Olympiad aims at offering inspiring opportunities for creative interaction between young participants.

The Cyprus Ministry of Education, Sports and Youth has always supported and promoted education for cultural development at local and global level, such as through the foundation of the Music Schools of Cyprus in 2006. The Ministry considers that the International Music Olympiad, is a cultural meeting point for exceptional young people, that aspires to contribute to the achievement of international and European goals such as, inter alia, promoting peace, freedom, achieving sustainable development, protecting the environment, combating social exclusion and discrimination, promoting social justice and respecting cultural and linguistic diversity.

The International Music Olympiad promotes the respect for cultural heritage, as well as contemporary cultural creation, through a three-part contest procedure focusing on: a) musical knowledge, b) musical performance and c) musical composition. More specifically, this action aims at:

- strengthening the position of music education as a creative subject in national curricula;
- creating motivation and, at the same time, offering musically talented young people opportunities for artistic self-expression;
- widening opportunities for composing music;
- developing musical literacy to assist creative activities.

It is also worth noting that the Music Olympiad is a significant cultural event, since both the opening and closing ceremonies, as well as the performance and composition competitions are presented in the form of concerts open to the general public.

We therefore, invite you to encourage participation of talented young musicians from your countries to this important cultural event.

All information regarding the programme and regulations of the International Music Olympiad 2024 is available on the website: <https://www.imuo2024.org>.