



Memorandum of Understanding
between the

**Cyprus Securities and Exchange
Commission (“CySEC”)**

and the

**Israel Securities Authority
 (“ISA”)**

on the

**Exchange of Information and Surveillance
of Securities Activities**

2005

The Cyprus Securities and Exchange Commission (hereinafter "CySEC") legally represented by Dr. Marios Clerides, Chairman of the CySEC, and **the Israel Securities Authority** (hereinafter "ISA") legally represented by Mr. Moshe Tery, Chairman of the ISA,

Considering the increasing internationalization, harmonization and interdependence of Financial Markets due e.g. to the use of modern technology;

Considering the need for closer co-operation between exchanges, for the broadest possible mutual assistance, for the strengthening of cross-border co-operation in order to enhance investor protection, to promote the integrity of financial markets and more generally to facilitate performance of the supervisory functions and the effective enforcement of the Laws and Regulations governing the markets;

Considering that such approach entails the sharing of different types of information given the various duties vested in the Authorities;

Considering that the most expedient way to achieve a necessary consensus is a Memorandum of Understanding;

Have thus reached the following understanding:

Article 1 - Principles

Without prejudice to the provisions set forth by the law of the Republic of Cyprus and the law of the State of Israel, the purpose of this Memorandum of Understanding is to establish a general framework for co-operation and consultation between the Authorities referred to hereinafter, in order to facilitate the fulfilling of their supervisory responsibilities. The provisions of this Memorandum of Understanding are not intended to create legally binding obligations or supersede national Laws and Regulations.

Article 2 -Definitions

1. "Authority" means the Cyprus Securities and Exchange Commission ("CySEC") and/or the Israeli Securities Authority ("ISA").
2. "Requested Authority" means the Authority to whom a request is made under this Memorandum of Understanding.
3. "Requesting Authority" means the Authority making a request under this Memorandum of Understanding.
4. "Laws and Regulations" means any laws, regulations, directives and other regulatory requirements in force in the respective States of the Authorities.

5. “Person” means any natural or legal person.
6. “Securities” means shares, bonds and other forms of securitized debts, futures and derivative products including commodity derivatives, units of undertakings in collective investment schemes and other financial products traded in the respective States of the Authorities and under the competence and supervision of the respective Authorities.
7. “Financial Markets” means any securities and derivatives market supervised by an Authority.
8. “Intermediary” means any investment firm, bank, collective investment scheme and any other person acting within the scope of competence of the Authorities.
9. “Issuer” means a person making an offer to the public or seeking listing of a security.
10. “MoU” means this Memorandum of Understanding.

Article 3 -Scope of assistance

1. To the extent permitted by their respective national Laws and Regulations, the Authorities shall provide each other with the fullest mutual assistance in any matter falling within the competence of the Authorities, including in particular the following areas:
 - a. investigations and enforcement in connection with applicable Laws and Regulations relating to insider dealing, market manipulation and other fraudulent or manipulative practices in the securities field,
 - b. investigation and enforcement of, and monitoring compliance with, applicable Laws and Regulations relating to dealing in, advising on and the management, administration and safekeeping of securities,
 - c. checking that the conditions for the taking up of, or continuing in, business as an Intermediary are met, including e.g. the enforcement of requirements to be authorized,
 - d. enforcing and monitoring compliance with applicable Laws and Regulations relating to the disclosure of interests in securities, takeover bids or the acquisition of influence over financial intermediaries,
 - e. the supervision of the Financial Markets, including the clearing and settlement, the monitoring and surveillance of OTC-transactions in securities listed on regulated markets,
 - f. enforcing or monitoring compliance with applicable Laws and Regulations relating to the duties of issuers and offerors of securities in relation to the disclosure of information.

2. In cases where the information requested may be maintained by, or available to, another authority within the country of the Requested Authority, the Requested Authority will endeavour to provide full assistance in obtaining the information requested, to the extent permitted by its Laws and Regulations. If necessary, the Requested Authority shall provide the Requesting Authority with sufficient information to establish direct contact between the Requesting Authority and the other Authority.
3. The Requested Authority may refuse to act on a request for assistance where communication of the information might adversely affect the sovereignty, security or public policy of the State of the Requested Authority, or where judicial proceedings for the imposition of criminal penalties have already been initiated in the jurisdiction of the Requested Authority in respect of the same actions and against the same persons, or, on the grounds that the provision of assistance might result in a judicial or administrative sanction being imposed where a non-appealable judicial or administrative sanction has already been imposed in the jurisdiction of the Requested Authority, in respect of the same actions and against the same persons. Nothing in Article 3 shall prevent the Requested Authority from refusing a request where this is necessary in order to comply with its own national Laws and Regulations.
4. To the extent permitted by their respective national Laws and Regulations and without prior request, each Authority should provide the other Authority with any relevant factual information available to it, and which it believes to be helpful to the other Authority for the discharge of its functions and for the purposes which it may specify in the communication (unsolicited information).

Article 4 - Requests for Assistance

1. Requests for assistance shall be made in writing, signed by the Chairperson of the Requesting Authority and addressed to the contact person of the Requested Authority listed in Annex A.
2. To the extent available to the Requesting Authority, the request should specify the following:
 - a. a description of the subject matter of the request and the purpose for which the information is sought and the reasons why this information will be of assistance;
 - b. a description of the specific information requested by the Requesting Authority;
 - c. a description of the facts that constitute the grounds for the suspicion that the offence that is the subject of the request has been committed, and of the connection between these facts and the assistance requested;

- d. a short description of the relevant provisions that may have been violated and, if known to the Requesting Authority, a list of the persons or institutions believed by the Requesting Authority to possess the information sought or the places where such information may be obtained and the details that support this belief, to the best of the Requesting Authority's knowledge;
- e. in so far as the request concerns information relating to transactions in specific securities
 - a description of the securities in question as precise as possible, including e.g. the securities code,
 - the names of those firms with whose dealings in the securities the Requesting Authority is concerned,
 - the dates between which transactions in the securities are considered relevant for the purposes of the request,
 - the names of any persons on whose behalf relevant transactions in the securities are believed or suspected to have been entered into;
- f. in so far as the request relates to information concerning the business or activities of any person, such precise information as the Requesting Authority is able to provide so as to enable such persons to be identified;
- g. an indication of the sensitivity of the information contained in the request and whether the Requesting Authority agrees that the request shall be disclosed to persons whom the Requested Authority may need to approach for information;
- h. whether the Requesting Authority is or has been in contact with any other authority or law enforcement agency in the State of the Requested Authority in relation to the subject matter of the request;
- i. any other securities authority of another State whom the Requesting Authority is aware has an active interest in the subject matter of the request;
- j. an indication of the urgency of the request, or the desired time period for the reply;
- k. a declaration that any information or document transferred to the Requesting authority pursuant to the request shall be used solely for the purpose for which it was delivered.

Article 5 -Execution of Requests for Assistance

1. To the extent permitted by its Laws and Regulations, the Requested Authority shall take all reasonable steps to obtain and provide the information sought within a reasonable period of time.

2. The Requested Authority shall use the relevant means at its disposal for the execution of the request. The Authorities shall consult and agree on the types of enquiry that may be necessary for the execution of a request.
3. To the extent permitted by its Laws and Regulations, the Requesting Authority shall provide the Requested Authority with such further assistance as may reasonably be required for the efficient execution of the request including the provision of further information as to the circumstances surrounding the request, staff or other resources.
4. To the extent permitted by their respective Laws and Regulations, the Authorities will consider conducting joint investigations in cases where the request for assistance concerns violations of Laws and Regulations, where it would assist in the effective investigation of the alleged violations. The Authorities should consult to define the procedures to be adopted for conducting any joint investigation, the sharing of work and responsibilities and the follow up actions to such investigations.
5. If it appears to the Requested Authority that the response to a request for assistance under this MoU is likely to incur substantial costs, the Requested Authority may call for the establishment of a cost sharing arrangement before continuing to respond to such a request.

Article 6 - Permissible Uses of the Information Exchanged and Confidentiality

1. Each Authority shall use the information exchanged solely for the purposes of:
 - a. securing compliance with, or enforcement of, the national Laws and Regulations specified in the Request;
 - b. initiating, conducting or assisting in criminal, administrative, civil or disciplinary proceedings resulting from the violation of the Laws and Regulations specified in the Request, provided however that if any Authority intends to use or disclose information furnished under the MoU for the purpose of initiating, conducting or assisting in criminal proceedings, it must obtain the prior written consent of the providing Authority;
 - c. any of the particular purposes specified in Art.3 (1)a.-f. to the extent that they are administered by the Requesting Authority.
2. Each Authority to which unsolicited information is supplied shall use this information solely for the purposes stated in the transmission letter or for the purposes of criminal or administrative proceedings or for the discharge of the obligation to report to judicial authorities; provided however that if an Authority intends to use or disclose unsolicited information furnished under the MoU for the purpose of initiating, conducting or assisting in criminal proceedings, it must obtain the prior written consent of the providing Authority.

3. Each Authority shall keep confidential requests made under this MoU, the contents of such requests, and any matters arising under this MoU, including consultations between or among the Authorities, and unsolicited assistance. After consultation with the Requesting Authority, the Requested Authority may disclose the fact that the Requesting Authority has made the request if such disclosure is required to carry out the request. An Authority shall not disclose non-public documents and information obtained pursuant to this MoU to third parties without having obtained the prior written consent of the providing Authority, except in response to a legally enforceable demand according to its law to inform other law enforcement or regulatory authorities within its country, as exclusively designated in Annex B of this MoU. In the event of a legally enforceable demand, the Requesting Authority shall notify the Requested Authority prior to complying with the demand, and shall assert such appropriate legal exemptions or privileges with respect to such information as may be available. The Requesting Authority will use its best efforts to protect the confidentiality of non-public documents and information received under this MoU. Nothing in this provision shall obligate the Requested Authority to furnish documents and information in violation of its own national Laws and Regulations.
4. If an Authority intends to use or disclose information furnished under this MoU for any purpose other than those stated in this Article and in the request, it must obtain the prior written consent of the Authority which provided the information. If the Requested or providing Authority consents to the use of the information for purposes other than those stated, it may subject it to certain conditions.
5. If an Authority decides to make public an administrative or a disciplinary sanction within the course of its duties it may, with the consent of the Authority providing the information, indicate that the successful outcome of the case has been achieved with the aid of the international co-operation mechanisms provided for in this MoU.

Article 7 - Consultations

The Authorities will review the implementation of this MoU regularly and may conduct consultations in order to improve its operation and to resolve possible difficulties.

Article 8 -List of Regulated Markets and Directory of Competent Authorities

1. The Authorities may submit to each other a list of regulated markets as referred to in this MoU in Article 2 (7) and make available the relevant rules of procedures and operation of these regulated markets upon request. The Authorities might consider making available the list of regulated markets under their respective jurisdiction on their Internet homepages.

2. The Authorities may provide each other with a directory of competent authorities within their jurisdictions, setting out the responsibilities of each body. In case of any changes thereto, the respective Authority will provide the other Authorities with an updated version of the directory.

Article 9 - Amendments to the MoU

This MoU may be amended or modified by mutual consent. Any amendment or modification of this MoU shall follow the same procedure as its entry into force.

Article 10 – Publication

This MoU may be published.

Article 11 - Entry into Effect and Termination

1. This MoU shall be signed by the ISA in Jerusalem and by the CySEC in Nicosia. Following the signature of this MoU, the Authorities shall notify each other, in writing, of the completion of the signature of this MoU. This MoU shall enter into force on the date of the latter notification of signature by the Authorities.
2. This MoU shall be concluded for an unlimited period of time and may be terminated by any of the Authorities at any time by giving, at least, thirty days prior written notice to the other Authority. If the Requested Authority undertakes to denounce the MoU, requests for information communicated before the effective date of denunciation will still be processed under this MoU.

Done at Jerusalem and Nicosia in duplicate in English and Hebrew, all texts being equally authentic.

[signature page follows]

**[Signature page of the MoU between the Israel Securities Authority and
the Cyprus Securities and Exchange Commission]**

**FOR THE
ISRAEL SECURITIES AUTHORITY**

**FOR THE
CYPRUS SECURITIES AND
EXCHANGE COMMISSION**

Date and Place:

Date and Place:

Jerusalem,

Nicosia,

**Moshe Tery
Chairman**

**Dr. Marios Clerides
Chairman**

Annex A

CONTACT PERSONS

Contact person as defined by Article 4 of the MoU is:

For the Cyprus Securities and Exchange Commission

Mr. Kypros Sideras, International Affairs Officer
Market Monitoring and Enforcement Department
Ph: (357) 22 875 489
Fax: (357) 22 754 671
E-mail: ksideras@cysec.gov.cy
Postal Address: 32 Stasikratous 4th Floor,
P.O.BOX 24996, CY-1306, NICOSIA-REPUBLIC OF CYPRUS

For the Israel Securities Authority

Ms. Lisa Haimovitz, Director
International Affairs Department
Tel.:(972) 2-6556448
Fax:(972) 2-6513646
E-mail:lisah@isa.gov.il
Postal Address:22 Kanfei Nesharim Street,
Jerusalem 95464 Israel

Annex B

LIST OF LAW ENFORCEMENT AND REGULATORY BODIES

In Cyprus

The Attorney-General;
The Unit for Combating Money Laundering;
The Unit for Combating Economic Crime;
The Parliament;
The Courts;
The Minister of Finance;
The Central Bank;
The Superintendent of Insurance;
The Tax Authorities.

In Israel

The Central Bank;
Ministry of Finance – Capital Markets, Insurance & Savings Division;
The Social Security Organization;
The Tax Authorities;
The Money Laundering Prohibition Authority;
The Antitrust Authority;
The Parliament;
The Attorney-General;
The Courts;
The Clearing Houses.