



SESAME

Synchrotron-light for Experimental Science and Applications in the Middle East

Opening of SESAME 16 May 2017

Statement by Mr George Georghiou Head of the Cypriot Delegation



Your Royal Highness,
Commissioner Moedas,
Your Excellencies,
Distinguished Colleagues and Friends of SESAME,

It is both a great honour and a privilege to be here today and to address, on behalf of the Government of the Republic of Cyprus, the Opening Ceremony of SESAME, a remarkable cooperative venture in our region. Today's event is a milestone for the science communities of our countries and a clear evidence of the effectiveness of Science Diplomacy in producing fruitful results for the benefit of our citizens and our societies in general.

SESAME has been designed and developed as a Science for Peace Initiative, nurturing cooperation among partners in the area for producing true scientific value, and the Middle East's major international research centre. By enabling high calibre, collaborative scientific research between the scientists of the region and other international peers, SESAME will foster scientific and technological excellence in the region, build scientific and cultural bridges between diverse societies and address common challenges.

Cyprus warmly embraced this venture from its inception and has actively participated in the development of SESAME. Today, we are really proud for being part of the SESAME family. I would like to stress that Cyprus, being the only Member State of the European Union that is a Member of SESAME, is committed to act as a bridge between the two as required and will constantly support the enhancement of the collaboration and the promotion of links between SESAME and the European Research Area, in the quest for excellence, in a spirit of friendship and understanding.

Thank you.