

## 13th ENERGY SYMPOSIUM REMARKS

*By Oren Anolik, Ambassador of Israel to Cyprus*

Excellencies, distinguished guests, dear friends,

Energy cooperation has become a cornerstone of the growing and robust relationship between **Cyprus and Israel**.

Together, we are shaping a **secure, sustainable, and interconnected energy future**. It is a vision actively advanced by our Energy Ministers through open and constructive dialogue.

Just this past September, during their meeting in Israel, both reaffirmed their commitment to **deepening regional energy ties** - a vital step toward greater stability and prosperity across the Eastern Mediterranean.

Regarding the **Aphrodite-Ishai field**, we are encouraged by recent progress and the spirit of dialogue guiding both sides.

We remain hopeful that a **mutually beneficial resolution** is within reach. Such a resolution will deliver tangible **economic, political, and strategic gains**. It will serve as a model for resource-based cooperation.

In addition, a notable private-sector initiative has emerged: the recent **Memorandum of Understanding between Energean and Cyfield Group**. This MOU envisions the supply of natural gas from Israel's EEZ to Cyprus via a new subsea pipeline. This gas will primarily be used for electricity generation. It goes without saying that the planned natural gas pipeline project also has environmental and health benefits compared to the current use of diesel.

Beyond the bilateral angle, the **Cyprus-Israel-Greece** trilateral partnership stands out as a model for regional energy integration. It demonstrates how shared values and interests can produce shared success.

The **Great Sea Interconnector**, currently under discussion, embodies this spirit: enhancing energy security, integrating renewables, and connecting our grids to Europe's.

Other regional frameworks also play a crucial role. The **3+1" initiative**, including the United States, was recently revived in Athens. The four countries committed to ongoing energy cooperation and are expected to meet again in Washington in the second quarter of 2026.

Similarly, the **EMGF - East Mediterranean Gas Forum**, which brings together numerous regional states, remains a visionary platform we believe should be revitalized.

The future will not rely on gas alone. The **clean energy transition** is accelerating. **Israel's leadership in solar power, energy storage, and smart-grid technologies** presents concrete opportunities for collaboration.

One example is **Baromar Israel's** partnership with the **Cyprus Institute** to pilot an **innovative battery-storage project**. This project could evolve into a commercial plant in the near future.

In the context of green transition, and at the backdrop of the significance of the building sector in Israel and in Cyprus, it is worth mentioning the “zero-emission building” approach being promoted in Israel.

This approach focuses on reducing energy consumption through better insulation, efficient design, and the use of solar energy, while gradually shifting new construction toward low-carbon standards.

This effort highlights how smarter building practices can significantly cut emissions, improve public health, and create more resilient communities.

Looking ahead, the path to a sustainable energy future requires us to:

- Strengthen regional partnerships
- Invest in innovation
- Build cross-border infrastructure

The challenges we face - from **climate change to rising energy demand** - cannot be addressed in isolation. They demand **collective, strategic, and urgent action**.

In the Eastern Mediterranean, energy cooperation is no longer aspirational. It is fast becoming a **pillar of regional stability, prosperity, and opportunity**.

By working together, Israel, Cyprus, and Greece can deliver a **resilient, interconnected, and climate-smart energy future** for our region and beyond.

Thank you.