



ΟΜΙΛΟΣ ΥΓΕΙΑ



ΜΗΤΕΡΑ Α.Ε.  
ΙΔΙΩΤΙΚΗ ΓΕΝΙΚΗ ΠΑΙΔΙΑΤΡΙΚΗ ΚΛΙΝΙΚΗ

Maroussi, 13.06.2008

### PRESS RELEASE

- **Mr. Dimitris Avramopoulos, the Minister of Health, inaugurated the MITERA Paediatric Cardiosurgery Clinic**
- **Mr. Andreas Vgenopoulos, the Vice President of the Marfin Investment Group (MIG) and HYGEIA, announced the commencement of a healthcare plan for our financially weak fellow citizens**

"The new sophisticated Clinic, an investment that almost reached the amount of 6 million euros, allows the Public Insurance Funds to save a large amount of money and puts new perspective on the broader healthcare system", stated Mr. Konstandinos Stavrou, the HYGEIA-MITERA Board of Directors Chairman during the inauguration of the MITERA Paediatric Cardiosurgery Clinic, held on Thursday, June 12<sup>th</sup>.

Mr. Dimitris Avramopoulos, the Minister of Health, who inaugurated the new Clinic, also stated among others that "Our being here this evening implies a common decision, accord and will to support incentives developed by the private sector, while at the same time the Public Healthcare System, the main pillar of health in our country, is being improved and enhanced."

The Minister added that "We can now handle within our country the total of paediatric cases that need invasive surgical treatment. I am truly glad that a dynamic financial and business group goes beyond their objective, which is profitability, and emphasizes on the Corporate Social Responsibility, thus essentially helping our social culture improve. It indeed sets a very good example that other business groups in our country could follow».

Mr. Avramopoulos ended up saying that "the competition between the public and private sectors can only lead to good results and can thus bring mutual improvement in the efforts and the provided services of the healthcare system."

Mr. Andreas Vgenopoulos, the MIG and HYGEIA Vice President, pre-announced that a very large and financially potent Institute will start operating in September which will save lives and treat cases that could not otherwise be treated. It is a comprehensive *pro bono* healthcare services plan intended for

financially weak citizens who will then have access to the services of HYGEIA Group.

In regard of the MITERA Paediatric Cardiosurgery Clinic, he particularly said "It has been established not to serve financial interests but as a donation to the society and our country."

Mr. Georgios Patoulis, the Mayor of Maroussi, also gave a greeting speech at the ceremony; among others, he praised the Paediatric Clinic namely stating that "Health is promoted within the administrative boundaries of our city through innovative action made by experts who are experienced in this field."

The MITERA Paediatric Cardiosurgery Clinic was inaugurated by the Minister of Health and little Maria, the first child who was successfully operated in the new Clinic. Mr. Athanasios Giannopoulos, ex-Under Secretary of Health, members of the Parliament and other politicians, the representative of the Ambassador of Serbia, the princely couple of Yugoslavia as well as Presidents of various Children Associations and Societies honoured the ceremony with their presence.

**Picture legend:**

*Mr. Dimitris Avramopoulos, the Minister of Health, and little Maria are inaugurating the new MITERA Paediatric Cardiosurgery Clinic. The photograph also shows (from left) Mr. Andreas Vgenopoulos, the MIG and HYGEIA Vice President; Mr. Georgios Patoulis, the Mayor of Maroussi; Mr. Konstandinos Stavrou, the President of HYGEIA-MITERA BoD, and Mr. Athanasios Giannopoulos, member of the Parliament (in the background).*