

ANNEX III

Measures to support the educational needs of children belonging to the religious minority groups (Armenians/Maronites/Latins).

- Full subsidization of the operation of the Armenian Nareg Schools and the Maronite Agios Maronas Primary School. Furthermore, the Armenian and Maronite School Boards are financed by the MOEC.
- Subsidization of the transportation of Maronite children to Agios Maronas Primary School.
- Teaching of the Armenian language, history, geography and religion in all the Nareg Schools. The Armenian language is also taught at the University of Cyprus and the Adult Education Centres.
- Operation of Agios Maronas Primary School as an optional all-day school. The curricula that are implemented are enriched with issues associated with Maronites' history, religion and geography and the process to be further enriched is currently under way. Moreover, CMA is taught as an option during the afternoon timetable. CMA is also taught in the Adult Education Centres and the Annual Summer Language Camp for young Maronites.
- Inclusion of units, with accompanying success indicators, about the religious minority groups of Cyprus in the curricula of the subjects of History and Religious Education, aiming at informing all pupils about the rights of the religious minority groups and raising awareness for their history, culture, language, religion and identity. In the subject of History, in particular, the curriculum contains proposed activities to encourage pupils to design projects while a list of monuments is included for the organization of visits by teachers, in order to promote better understanding of the history of the religious minority groups in Cyprus. The curriculum specifically stresses that, through the teaching of history, pupils are expected to develop respect for religious and cultural differences.
- Implementation of the Action Plan for the protection and revitalization of the CMA. The scientific work carried out by academics, based on decisions of the relevant Committee of Experts, is now in its fifth phase. Currently, the main

focus of the researchers is the production of teaching material and training courses.

- Organization of training seminars for teachers of the CMA and the Armenian languages, as well as all staff of the Armenian and Maronite schools.
- Subsidization of the tuition fees paid by children belonging to the religious minority groups who attend private schools.
- Subsidization of the purchase and production of books and teaching material for the educational needs of the members of the religious minority groups.
- Exemption of children belonging to religious minority groups from the subject of Religious Education in public schools.
- Facilitation of the entry of members of religious minority groups to public universities.