



2nd September, 2003.

Dear Mr. Mouskos,

Re: Breathing Life Cyprus Campaign

It was a pleasure to receive your letter of the 27th May 2003, in which you set out the details of the activities you think are necessary for the realization of your campaign. I am sorry that it took us a little longer than expected to consult with other officials in order to define what we, as Ministry of Health, are able to provide for the enhancement of the potentials of your Campaign in Cyprus. Please allow me with this opportunity to congratulate you and express once again our firm commitment to support and encourage initiatives of this kind that come from individuals or non-governmental organizations.

With regard to the gradual upgrading of the clinical and research activities of the Paediatric Respiratory Centre in Makarios Hospital, we have come to the following conclusions:

1. The currently available space (60 sq.m.) that is allocated for the research activities of the Paediatric Research Unit will continue to be used for this purpose. As soon as new spaces are made available at the Hospital (with the transfer of some Departments to the New Nicosia General Hospital) this space can be increased to 120 sq.m.
2. Researchers that are employed by the Paediatric Respiratory Research Unit should have the necessary cover in order to perform research activities within the Hospital premises and/or clinical investigations of patients in the Hospital. In order to achieve this, the Ministry of Health is prepared to examine the case of each individual researcher and ask for a permission to do so from the appropriate authority (Ministry of Finance). It is, however, necessary to reaffirm that any research activities that take place within the Hospital will also require the approval of the National Committee of Bioethics.
3. The employment of one additional Paediatrician for the operational needs of the Paediatric Respiratory Clinic of the Makarios Hospital is viewed positively, and this will be examined in due course in relation to the general needs of the Dept. of Paediatrics of the Hospital.