## **Confucius Institute at the University of Cyprus**

## Mr Manthos Mavrommatis, Chairman

## **Opening Ceremony**

It is with great pleasure and honor that I am welcoming you here today. The establishment of the Confucius Institute at the UCY is a reality! The whole process began two and a half years ago and is the result of the close cooperation between the UCY and the Beijing Institute of Education (BJIE). The whole project was supported and continues to be supported by the Confucius Institute Headquarters.

The Confucius Institute will contribute not only to the promotion of cooperation between the University of Cyprus and institutions in China, but also to the promotion of cooperation between China and Cyprus.

Let me assure you that the UCY, and me personally through my position as the President of the Council of the UCY along with the members of the Council, we are fully committed to the successful development of the Institute. I am confident that the Management Board and the Directors of the Confucius Institute will significantly contribute to its proper functioning and development.

Once again, I would like to thank the Beijing Institute of Education as well as the Embassy of China in Cyprus for the close cooperation throughout the whole process. I would also like to thank the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Ministry of Interior, the Ministry of Labour, Welfare and Social Insurance and all the colleagues at the UCY who contributed to the creation of the Confucius Institute at UCY.