



Scientists wish to turn Presidential Palace in Cyprus green

A group of specialists is carrying out a series of thermal and atmospheric pollution measurements at the Presidential Palace in Nicosia, to determine the potential of transforming the central administrative building of the Republic of Cyprus into a model environment-friendly state building, with zero energy liability and zero emissions. The tests are being carried out by the Cyprus Institute in cooperation with the Building Environment Laboratory of the University of Athens, with the use of a mobile measurement station, equipped with state-of-the art instruments.

Speaking at the Presidential Palace, Undersecretary to the President Titos Christophides said this was pioneering technology, which is being processed by large institutes abroad and which has not been used anywhere else, adding that the whole symbolism of the project should be used as an example for the private and the broader public sector. Christophides said the initiative was undertaken after a decision by President of the Republic Demetris Christofias, in cooperation with the Cyprus Institute, adding that the message was that this effort should be seen as practical measures to minimise energy loss and an example to be followed by the private and public sector.

Replying to questions, Christophides said efforts were focusing on solar energy, since no other renewable energy sources were available in the area, adding that, if the system proves to be cost-effective, then it may be implemented by the end of 2009 or beginning of 2010. Similar measurements will also be carried out in Eleftheria Square in the centre of the capital.