Dear Excellency, Mr. President of the Republic of Cyprus

It is with distinct pleasure and sincere feelings of friendship that I present today the Letters of Credence, by which His Highness the President of the United Arab Emirates has appointed me to be the next Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the United Arab Emirates to the Republic of Cyprus, as well as the Letters of Recall of my predecessor.

I am especially delighted to convey the cordial greetings and wishes of His Highness Sheikh Mohamed Bin Zayed Al Nahyan, President of the United Arab Emirates for progress and prosperity for the country and people of the Republic of Cyprus. I am also honored to take this opportunity to underline the historical friendly bonds between our two countries, based on their common adherence to the principles and values that the two countries share, particularly with respect to international law, and to ensure the respect to human rights and fundamental freedoms. Accordingly, I would also like to reiterate the support of UAE for the United Nations efforts to find a solution to the Cyprus issue on the basis of the relevant United Nations resolutions.

Furthermore, I kindly express the eagerness and commitment of His Highness; and myself personally, to further strengthen and deepen the relations between the two countries and their cooperation, both at the bilateral level, as well as in international fora.

At the moment, the bilateral cooperation between the UAE and Cyprus has been flourishing over the last few years, which can be witnessed by the increase in the mutual exchange of official visits, and the signing of bilateral agreements and Memoranda of Understanding, as well as by cooperation in other areas of common interest.

The UAE and Cyprus may each belong to a different geographical sphere, yet our relations have traditionally been excellent and have developed based on concrete substance and shared values, beliefs and adherence to International Law. The UAE values the strategic

friendship and partnership of the Republic of Cyprus, and looks forward to working closely together to achieve shared goals and address common challenges, recognizing that our future and the future of our region is intertwined.

In this context, I am pleased to acknowledge the fact that several high-level contacts between our countries have taken place lately and will continue, with the will of God, in the near future, thus, marking yet another milestone in the history of ties and bilateral relations between the UAE and the Republic of Cyprus.

These ties that are based on the principles of mutual respect, and the ever-increasing levels of cooperation at the political, economic, investment, and trade exchange levels. All of which act as a powerful indicator that stands witness to the strength of our bilateral relations at all levels and in various fields.

Your Excellency, such established prevailing bilateral relations provide a solid foundation, indeed, on which we can seek and expand the establishment and development of our cooperation in new areas, as the UAE is confident of the genuine prospects towards this end. I am altogether eager and looking forward to the strengthening of joint ties between our countries and people, and to the furtherance of bilateral cooperation and solidarity between the United Arab Emirates and the Republic of Cyprus.

Yours Sincerely,

Mohamed Saif Helal Al Shehhi

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