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PRESS RELEASE

WFP-EU Family Meal Photo Exhibition Opens at Larnaka International Airport

Today Larnaka International Airport is launching a photo exhibition: "The Family Meal - What brings us together?" It shows how food assistance, funded by the European Union and delivered by the United Nations World Food Programme (WFP), improves the lives of hungry and vulnerable communities around the world.

The Larnaka event is part of a pan-European campaign, run jointly by the European Commission and WFP, to raise public awareness about hunger - the world's most solvable problem. The compelling images and stories demonstrate how people's lives can be changed through food assistance that is provided in various innovative ways including vouchers and cash, offering both choice and opportunity to entire communities.

The exhibition was opened by Christos Stylianides, EU Commissioner for Humanitarian Aid and Crisis Management, who stressed the gravity of the food insecurity: "Worldwide, over 800 million people are still undernourished. Every day more than 8,000 children die because of undernutrition. Every 10 seconds a child loses his/her life. This is harsh reality. The unacceptable reality, which the EU, together with WFP, are fighting to change."

"Though the road ahead is long and difficult, we can solve the hunger problem. By taking action and building awareness through initiatives like this one today. The EU-WFP partnership is doing just that. I am proud and humbled to be part of this important collective effort," Commissioner Stylianides said as he introduced the Family Meal campaign to the Cypriot and international audience gathered at Larnaka Airport.

Representing WFP at the Larnaka ceremony, Abeer Etefa, WFP's Senior Regional Communications Officer for the Middle East, North Africa, Eastern Europe and Central Asia, stressed the importance of attracting global attention to the problem of hunger: "One person in nine of the world's population cannot get enough food to live an active and healthy life. It's



hard to imagine the individual suffering behind such daunting statistics. This exhibition gives a human face to the millions of families who struggle daily to feed their children.”

“At WFP we believe that a zero hunger world can be achieved. This conviction drives our life-saving work, which would not be possible without the continued support of our key donors, such as the European Commission,” Abeer Etefa added.

In his opening address, Wes Porter, Chief Executive Officer of Hermes Airports, said: “We are delighted that Larnaka International Airport has an opportunity to host the Family Meal exhibition. It is our collective duty to stand by all people who are less fortunate than ourselves and are forced to fight daily to ensure simple things such as a meal for their families and themselves.”

Larnaka Airport presents the Family Meal exhibition - a series of powerful photos taken by renowned photographer Chris Terry, as he travelled across three continents to explore EU-financed projects run by WFP. He visited families receiving food assistance in: Ecuador, Chad, Niger, Jordan and Myanmar. The central theme of the exhibition highlights the universal appeal of family members simply gathering together to share food.

Chris Terry’s images capture the routines of five families, focusing on the obstacles they must overcome to enjoy the family meal each day. His stunning pictures reveal that the human desire to share is one of the most essential ingredients, not only for the family meal, but also for the zero hunger world advocated by WFP and the European Union.

The Family Meal photo exhibition is currently displayed in the check-in area of Larnaka International Airport and will be open to the public until the end of October 2015.

Further information on the Family Meal campaign is available at www.familymeal.eu.







