From: "Olympia Neocleous" <neocleous@cyprusembassy.net>
To: WARVIN@bis.doc.gov
Date: 2/4/2011 1:21:36 PM
Subject: Strategic Trade Authorisation License Exception issue - Exclusion of Cyprus and Malta

Dear Mr Arvin,

Following my previous e-mail and efforts to reach you,

I would like to provide you with some additional information on the issue and kindly ask you for a response :

During the meeting of the Council Working Group "Dual Use Coordinating Group"

held yesterday in Brussels,

we were informed that the US government,

has recently proceeded ,

within the framework of its export control reform,

with the compilation of a list of countries for which there would be no need

for import licenses concerning dual use goods.

We have also been informed that Cyprus and Malta are the only two Member States of the European Union

that have been excluded from the aforesaid list.

We very much regret this exclusion and the fact that the US authorities

have not sought to provide us with the reasons/grounds for this exclusion.

In addition to that, we deem the exclusion as discriminatory.

The EU internal market is single and indivisible and there can be no discriminations between Member States.

Malta and Cyprus fully implement all international export control standards, as part of the EU export control framework.

Given the excellent bilateral relations between the Republic of Cyprus and the US government

as well as our fruitful cooperation on a number of issues of mutual concern,

we would appreciate to receive explanations on the reasons that informed this decision.

Taking into account that your government has set February 7th ,

as the deadline for consultations regarding the finalization of the list,

we would very much appreciate an urgent response to this request.

We do hope that the decision for excluding the Republic of Cyprus

(and Malta) from the list will be rescinded.

Looking forward to hearing from you,

Best regards,

Olympia Neocleous

Deputy Chief of Mission

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