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## <u>KIBRIS TÜRK</u> TABİPLERİ BİRLİĞİ

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## CYPRUS TURKISH MEDICAL ASSOCIATION

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## Cyprus Fems Report

Comparing to our last report, drastic devaluation of turkish currency, hit not only the health system but also every field in north part of cyprus. Especially turkish lira lost one third of its value. Prices of medical instruments, drugs and everything rocketed up and also became hard to find some medicines because of illegal storage. Now Families in north are almost forcing their limits. Government had to take some measures against this devaluation. One of them, they went on reducing huge amount of Money given to additional overtimes of health workers which CTMA, our union and union of nurses did not accept. Because we know that cuts of resources, cuts of staff, cuts of education, cuts of professional development, cut of salaries and pensions mean cut to people's health. Reductions in salaries or Money given to additional work or health workers are frequently seen as a quick solution to address budgetary constraints or to alleviate financial pressures, however the negative impacts of such staff cuts can often prove costly. The heightened physician fatigue and stress arising from insufficient staffing levels can lower motivation and productivity, as well as significantly increase the risk of medical error. In our country also promotes patients referral, sending them other hospitals which brings more economic burden to the government.

After actions against this manupulation government and all unions agreed on some tolerable reduction because of the situation.

Medical association and union spent great efforts to provide support to the doctors in private and in government but last crisis is tremendous . As we mentioned in our last report, another important issue is the law suits against doctors who lost their patients in or after operations . The law was charging doctors automatically with almost crime as in traffic accidents . Thankfully parlimentarians , union and medical association worked very hard to change this law and help the doctors not get arrested for the lost of thier patients . In the near future we don't expect things to go well in North cyprus but we are working hard to overcome all the difficulties and hope bright future not only in North cyprus but all around the world .

Yours Faithfully,

Dr. Kenan Arifoğlu President Dr. Sonuç Büyük General Secretary