

## **“Signatures collected for the Melkonian School”**

*-- The Armenians want it to reopen*

**PHILELEFTHEROS (Aug. 14, 2009)** – The large worldwide campaign to collect signatures to save and reopen the historic Melkonian school has ended. More 6,800 signatures from around the world have been collected and sent to the President of the Republic, with copies to the Attorney General, the Minister of Interior and the Minister of Education, asking for the intervention of the Republic of Cyprus to operate the school once again as an educational institute with a boarding house. The signatures comprised of 1100 Armenians of Cyprus and Greek Cypriots, 1200 Armenians of Turkey, around 2,000 Armenians in America and the rest from different countries where Armenians live. The campaign took place through the Internet from last March to the end of May.

As is widely known, the operation of the Melkonian School was terminated two years ago by decision of the AGBU. Since then, efforts are underway led by the Armenians of Cyprus to reopen the school. In the past year, the Aglandjia Gymnasium has moved there after its own school building was considered unsuitable.

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