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OPENING OF THE EXHIBITION
"ARISTOTLE ONASSIS: BEYOND HIS MYTH"

On Wednesday, 4 October 2006, in the presence of several personalities from the worlds of politics, business, culture and the arts, the Prime Minister Kostas Karamanlis opened the exhibition 'Aristotle Onassis: Beyond his Myth', which is organized by the 'Alexander S. Onassis' Foundation in collaboration with the Benaki Museum at the new building of the Benaki Museum on Pireos Street.

In his welcome address, the President of the Foundation, Mr Anthony Papadimitriou, pointed out that the exhibition is intended as 'a tribute for a triple anniversary: thirty years since Aristotle Onassis' death; thirty years since the establishment of the Foundation; a hundred years since the birth of this Greek Myth - the Greek man beyond limits.' Aristotle Onassis' personality was also extolled by the Prime Minister Kostas Karamanlis, who added that 'the exhibition is also a way of praising all those who continue Onassis' vision through the operation of the Foundation.'

Mr Karamanlis was welcomed at the exhibition by Mr Anthony Papadimitriou and the Director of the Benaki Museum, Mr Angelos Delivorrias. Amongst others, the event was attended by the Minister of Foreign Affairs Dora Bakoyanni, the Minister of State Theodoros Roussopoulos, the Minister of Education Marietta Yannakou, the Minister of Culture Giorgos Voulgarakis, the Minister for the Interior Prokopis Pavlopoulos, the Minister of Tourism Fani Palli-Petralia, representatives of opposition parties and members of the Parliament, such as Ms Maria Damanaki and former Minister Yannos Papantoniou, representatives of the Ecumenical Patriarch and the Patriarch of Alexandria, ambassadors and diplomatic notables, representatives of the Armed Forces, Ms Dolly Goulandris and Ms Niki Goulandris, Ms Marianna Vardinoyanni, and several others.

The exhibition, which focuses on both Aristotle Onassis' life and multifarious activities, and the successful history of the 'Alexander S. Onassis' Public Benefit Foundation, runs from 5 October to 12 November 2006.