

STATEMENT OF MR. YANOS GRAMATIDIS, PRESIDENT OF THE AMERICAN-HELLENIC CHAMBER OF COMMERCE, ON THE RESULTS OF THE 2009 ELECTIONS

Athens, October 5, 2009—The President of the American-Hellenic Chamber of Commerce, Mr. Yanos Gramatidis, made the following statement following Greece's national elections:

“We are satisfied that the result which has emerged from the ballot boxes was a majority government. We congratulate the President of PASOK, Mr. George Papandreou, on his assuming responsibility for governing Greece. He undertakes a historic challenge that must lead the country out of the current financial crisis and also set the foundations for the Greece of 2020, a competitive Greece. This means the simultaneous implementation of measures for fiscal stability and structural reform, which reinforce competitiveness and are consistent with the necessary realignment of the current development model.

These steps presuppose cutting the umbilical cord between the mechanisms of the political party and the mechanisms of the State, so that the sought-after reforms achieve the desired result, and also maintain a continuity in the operation of the State, regardless of the political parties that succeed each other in governing.

We express the wish that the new government will assist in the further development of business relations between the United States and Greece on the basis of mutual respect and understanding. It is clear that Greece, with a foundation of green development, must take all measures and implement policies that ensure legislative stability and reinforce and protect American business initiatives in Greece. We are certain that Greece may become an even more reliable partner of the United States for common business initiatives in the greater region of Southeast Europe.”