Speech by Evangelos Mytilineos, Chairman & CEO of MYTILINEOS, during the delivery ceremony of Aktio - Amvrakia project

Prime Minister,
Ministers,
Members of the Parliament,
Regional Governor,
Mayors,
Your Eminence,
Dear associates,

Ladies and gentlemen,

Welcome to the delivery ceremony of an extremely important project for Western Greece, the new highway connecting Amvrakia with Aktio.

This project, before being commissioned to MYTILINEOS in November 2020 following the last re-bidding, had gone through numerous problems for more than a decade in an environment of economic crisis.

Today, METKA, the construction subsidiary of MYTILINEOS, with its robust name and history, delivers it on time and with high quality standards.

We are particularly proud of the motorway delivery because we have been able to cope with a technical project with exceptional difficulties, especially in its geomorphology.

We have thus vindicated the trust of the contracting authority and the Prime Minister himself, who is here with us for the 2nd time (upon completion of the project), underlining his strong interest in the infrastructure modernization in Western Greece as well as verifying himself if the money of Greek people is well and prudently spent, aiming at the construction of European-scale projects.

I hope he was happy with what he witnessed.

Allow me please to digress a bit making a personal comment:

Our subsidiary METKA, which carried out the project, essentially left Greece 15 years ago unable to successfully compete with other companies for reasons we all know.

During this period, METKA implemented 19 projects in 10 countries with great success, with the projects' contractual value exceeding 4 billion euros.

When Kyriakos Mitsotakis took over as Prime Minister, he urged me to transfer human and financial resources from abroad to Greece in order to help modernize the infrastructure, personally guaranteeing absolute transparency in Public Works procedures.

I followed his encouragement. I hope he does not regret it, being here today and seeing such difficult projects delivered on time and at a totally controlled cost.

In addition to the Prime Minister, I would also like to thank the former Minister and Deputy Minister with whom we kicked off the project, and the current ones Christos Staikouras and Mr. Nikos Tahiao, with whom we have excellent cooperation.

But above all I would like to thank our people at METKA, who stand out with their technical knowledge and experience, fully adhering to the values in all fields of activity of our company.

Ladies and gentlemen

At this point in time, projects of 15 billion euros value have already been awarded, with minimal delays compared to the past.

But now the tough period is about to begin, this referring to the execution of the projects itself. In other words, the challenge is how to turn unexecuted projects, a term I am not very fond of, into executed ones; this term fills me with satisfaction. All parties should assist in this effort, and I mean everyone, including the local communities, which have been very helpful in the execution of this project.

Construction companies must also stop seeing this work as contracting, but as an important business activity, especially now that most projects will be private PPPs and Concessions.

So, it is with utmost pleasure and pride that we are all here to deliver this work to you.

I wish everyone a good and safe journey.