

Mr. Savvas Michaelides

Mr. Savvas Michaelides is currently serving in the Directorate-General for the Environment at the Ministry of Agriculture, Rural Development and Environment of Cyprus, where he is contributing to the preparations for the forthcoming Cypriot Presidency of the Council of the European Union.

From 2020 to 2024, he was Counsellor for Fisheries at the Permanent Representation of Cyprus to the European Union in Brussels, representing Cyprus in fisheries and marine policy negotiations and contributing to the development of the Common Fisheries Policy.

Between 2010 and 2020, Mr. Michaelides worked in the Division of Marine Environment of the Department of Fisheries and Marine Research (DFMR), including as Officer A' and Head of Division (2017–2020). In this role, he oversaw the implementation of EU marine legislation, biodiversity protection, pollution monitoring, and environmental reporting. In 2016, he was appointed Deputy Head of the Division, coordinating national responsibilities under the Marine Strategy Framework Directive (MSFD) and representing Cyprus in EU and international fora. During this period, he led the first national survey for cetaceans in Cyprus, which revealed critical data on Eastern Mediterranean populations and resulted in the designation of the largest marine Natura 2000 site in Cyprus's EEZ, "Oceanid" (8,300 km²).

He also represented Cyprus in the Marine Strategy Coordination Group (MSCG) and DIKE Working Group of the EU, served as Bureau member of ACCOBAMS, focal point for the International Whaling Commission (IWC), member of the UNEP/MAP Ecosystem Approach Coordination Group, and the Ad-hoc Committee of the Offshore Protocol of the Barcelona Convention. At national level, he was a member of the Committee on Submarine Pipelines and the Environmental Impact Assessment Committee for offshore hydrocarbon projects.

From 2009 to 2010, he was Head of Fisheries Control District Offices, following his initial appointment as Officer in the Division of Fisheries Control in 2004. Earlier, he gained experience at the State General Laboratory of Cyprus (2003–2004) in eco-toxicology and environmental monitoring, and in international research and aquaculture projects in the United States, Israel, and the Bahamas.

Mr. Michaelides holds a Master of Science (MSc) in Coastal Zone Management (University of Ulster, UK, 2014), a Master in Business Administration (MBA) (Cyprus International Institute of Management, 2011), and a BA in Marine Biology with a Minor in Chemistry (University of South Alabama, USA, 2002). He has also completed extensive training on energy and environment (IFP Training, France), EU decision-making (EIPA, Maastricht), and marine conservation (REMPEC/UNEP, UNEP/MAP, CINADCO).

With over 20 years of experience in fisheries management, marine environment policy, aquaculture, and EU environmental governance, Mr. Michaelides combines technical expertise with leadership in international policy and conservation.