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**PRESS RELEASE**

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**11 April 2023**

**Solidarity Concert by MIP and Merfest**

**Mersin united as one in the solidarity concert organized for the benefit of earthquake victims.**

Mersin International Port Management Inc (MIP) and Mersin International Music Festival organized a Solidarity Concert for the earthquake victims at Yenişehir Municipality AKM on Saturday, April 8 at 20.30.

The concert was presented by the famous ballet dancer Tan Sağıtürk, theater and cinema actors Yiğit Yapıcı and Alara Turan; Gülsin Onay (Piano), Bengi İspir Özdülger (Soprano), Bülent Bezdüz (Tenor), Dilek Türkan (Turkish Music Interpreter), Asude Karayavuz (Mezzosoprano), Caner Akgün (Baritone), Gökhan Aybulus (Piano), Bilgin Canaz (Ney), Elvin Hoxha Ganiyev (Violin), MDOB Children's Choir, Tarsus Municipality Children's Choir and Earthquake Region Children's Choir, under the direction of Conductor Reyhan Bezdüz, conquered the hearts of Mersin art lovers with their performances. At the end of the concert, the artists received a standing ovation for minutes and sang the song "Memleketim" together with the audience.

After the February 6 earthquakes, earthquake victims who came to Mersin were among those who attended the event, which was also attended by Rear Admiral Fuat Gedik, Commander of the Mediterranean Region Garrison, Sabahattin Yeşiloğlu, Deputy Mayor of Akdeniz, Neşet Tarhan, Mayor of Mezitli, Abdullah Özyiğit, Mayor of Yenişehir, and Nuri Peker, Chairman of MIP Public Relations Committee.

Under the umbrella of the Art Events Association and in cooperation with Mersin International Music Festival and Mersin Port Management Inc., all of the proceeds from the event will be allocated to the education of conservatory and Fine Arts High School students who were affected by the earthquake.

Since the first day of the earthquake disaster, MIP has contributed to the earthquake region and the needs of the earthquake victims who came to Mersin with all its instruments and will continue to provide support until the wounds are healed.

**About Mersin International Port Management Inc.**

Mersin International Port Management Inc. (MIP=, which was established in partnership with Akfen Holding and PSA International, took over the Turkish State Railways Mersin Port Management on May 11, 2007 for 36 years. Mersin International Port (MIP), of which the Australian Fund Company IFM joined in 2017, is connected to industrialized cities of Turkey such as Ankara, Gaziantep, Kayseri, Kahramanmaraş, Konya and neighboring countries such as Syria, Iraq and Commonwealth of Independent States by rail and road. It is one of the main container ports in the Mediterranean Region with its transshipment and hinterland connections with the Middle East and the Black Sea. Mersin International Port (MIP) constitutes an important part of Turkey's import and export volume with its wide hinterland, accessible transportation opportunities and successful personnel. MIP is Turkey's largest port with the annual total amount of cargo handled and its current area.

**For Information:**

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