Athens, 27th June, 2015

Dear President of the Eurogroup,

Over the past five months the Greek Government and the institutions have made great efforts to reach, within the framework of the 20th February 2015 Eurogroup Statement, an agreement for a broader and deeper reform process durably improving growth and employment prospects, achieving debt sustainability with financial stability, and enhancing social fairness.

On 22nd June 2015 the Prime Minister of the Hellenic Republic submitted a comprehensive proposal, which was accepted as a basis for discussions and possible agreement by the institutions.

At the Eurogroup meeting of 25th June 2015 the institutions submitted three different documents, namely

1. Reforms for the completion of the current program and beyond – including the proposition for a Staff Level Agreement (SLA)
2. Preliminary Debt Sustainability Analysis for Greece
3. Greece – Financing needs and draft disbursement linked to the completion of the fifth review

The Greek Government assessed the aforementioned proposals and found that they could not form the basis of an immediate agreement.

On this basis, the General Assembly of the Hellenic Parliament considered today a proposal of the Cabinet to hold a referendum that allows the Greek people to decide whether or not to accept the final proposals of the institutions to our government. The referendum will take place on Sunday July 5th 2015.

In light of these developments, the Greek authorities are now applying for the extension of the Master Financial Assistance Facility (MFAFA) for a period of one month from the date of its termination, in order for the negotiations to recommence on Monday July 6 2015, with a view to reaching an agreement immediately afterwards in line with the decision of the Greek people.

Our Government will fully respect the outcome of the referendum, and take this opportunity to reconfirm that Greece is an indivisible part of the Eurozone. As the European Union’s Treaties make no provision for exiting EMU, the referendum of 6th July does not raise directly or indirectly any issue regarding Greece’s EMU membership but focuses solely on the institutions’ proposals.
In view of the above, the Greek Government expresses its determination to cooperate closely with the Institutions and European authorities to attain a mutually beneficial agreement, to secure fiscal, financial and debt sustainability, and to return Greece on a growth path that enables the Greek social economy to liberate millions of Greek citizens from the ill consequences of a long crisis that world record levels of fiscal consolidation have failed to cure.

Yanis Varoufakis
Minister of Finance