Happy first birthday to AEQUITAS

AEQUITAS, the non-profit human rights education organisation based in Limassol, celebrated its first birthday on December 21. The year-old NGO, which promotes human rights education through a workshop and exchange training programmes, lectures and conferences has had a highly successful year according to its director, Natalie Alkiviadou.

“This has been a successful first year for AEQUITAS. We thank the members of our board, our senior advisory board, our funders and all of you for the support and interest you have shown in our mission.”

The activities for the year included a human rights education conference held in November, entitled ‘The role of human rights education in the Cypriot society.’ Organised at the University of Nicosia the conference received financial support from the Youth Board of Cyprus and was conducted under the auspices of the Cyprus Presidency of the Council of the European Union.

The conference focused on the role of human rights education within a culture characterised by respect for human rights, solidarity and tolerance. The speakers were distinguished academics and professionals.

Also in November, AEQUI-TAS launched a Human Rights Education, a youth work initiative, funded by the Council of Europe and European Youth Foundation.

It’s aim, to enable participants to understand the importance of human rights education in combating racial discrimination, taught participants skills, knowledge and confidence to carry out human rights education activities within their own organisations. The non-formal education methodology and activities included school visits for participants.

The most recent educational programme implemented by AEQUITAS and completed in December was the successful youth exchange event entitled ‘Our Environment – Our Duty.

In cooperation with the European Commission, the completed handbook prepared by the participants guided them on simple measures for environmental protection with recommendations prepared by the participants for their respective governments on the specific issues.

“We will be running more educational based programmes during 2014” said Alkiviadou. “We are delighted with the response and feedback we have received this year particularly since the issues of Human Rights are fundamentally important to every society and culture.”

For further information about AEQUITAS, email nalkiviadou@aequitas-humanrights.org or visit their website.