<u>PRESS RELEASE - Creating synergies between the National Competence Center for</u> <u>Innovation Procurement, which is the National Central Purchasing Body, and the</u> <u>Conference of Vice Rectors for Financial Affairs of Greek Universities</u>

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The General Directorate for Public Procurement (GDPP) of the General Secretariat for Commerce and Consumer Protection, which is the National Central Purchasing Body, is the proceeding authority for the implementation of the National Action Plan for Green Public Procurement and also the National Competence Center for Innovation Procurement.

GDPP continues its cooperation with the Conference of Vice Rectors for Financial Affairs of Greek Universities. In this context, GDPP successfully held informative online events on the 24th and 25th of June 2021 on Green Public Procurement and on Innovation Procurement respectively, aiming at broader synergies between the National Competence Center and the academic and research community of Greece. The events were attended by 80 executives of the Financial Services and the Special Account for Research Funds from 19 Universities in total, who will be the contact persons between the Universities and the National Central Purchasing Body. The overall goal is to raise awareness, build capacities and encourage the Universities to conduct public procurements with reduced environmental impacts during their life cycle, as well as the implementation of Innovation Procurement in order to promote innovative solutions and support research and innovation in our country.

At the event on Green Public Procurement the discussed topics were related to the European and national legislation, the National Action Plan for Green Public Procurement, eco-labels and environmental management systems, life cycle cost and good practices.

At the event on Innovation Procurement the discussed topics were related to the legislative framework, the financial instruments, and the implementation and monitoring of Innovative Public Procurement and the National Competence Center for Innovation Procurement.

In the context of this cooperation, more events and webinars will be organized in the near future.

From the Press Office