

Athens, 22 June 2023

**HERACLES Group inaugurates the new building of the HERACLES
Technology Research Center (EKET)**

*With applied research and development at the core of its strategy,
HERACLES Group is pioneering and breaking new ground in the building
materials industry*

HERACLES Group inaugurated yesterday the new building of the **Technology Research Center (EKET)** signalling its firm commitment to innovation to accelerate the transition to sustainable construction. This is an investment of HERACLES Group, consisting in the relocation of the Laboratory to a fully renovated building in a privately-owned area, a landmark of the country's industrial history, as well as providing cutting-edge equipment and an upgraded service offer, so that the Group may remain a source of leadership for the industry.

EKET is accredited in accordance with ISO 17025 and comprises of the Building Materials and the Environment Departments. The objective of the Laboratory is to develop innovative building materials, which have an improved carbon footprint throughout their life cycle and are fully harmonized with the modern requirements of sustainable construction. Similarly, aspiring to be at the forefront of developments and constantly upgrade its service offer, especially for the most technically and environmentally demanding constructions, EKET always looks for new materials, new construction practices and new building technologies. At the same time, the Laboratory joins forces with leading academic institutions and develops research activity, opening new avenues for the building materials industry of today and tomorrow.

Mr. Charalampos Kouris, Sustainability Director at HERACLES Group, stated: “It is with great pleasure that we are inaugurating the new building of the Research Centre for Technology (EKET) at the historic site of Drapetsona Cement Terminal, where our Group's first cement plant was housed in 1911. EKET’s contribution in the fields of applied research and development as well as to the achievement of HERACLES Group sustainable development goals over the years is paramount. It is our commitment that the Laboratory will relentlessly contribute to the realization of our vision for the transition to climate-neutral and sustainable construction, with a view to remaining a leader of developments and a source of innovation and a driver of growth.”