



The ceremony of awarding medals to members of the international military force in Cyprus in Sector Four was held in the UN buffer zone in Cyprus, in the village of Dherinia, on 26 June 2013. After soldiers lined up, the national anthems of Slovakia, Hungary, Serbia and Croatia were played, followed by a welcome address from Sector Four Commander, Slovak Lieutenant Colonel A. Ulicny.

Medals were presented to members of Sector Four UNFICYP by UN Chief of Mission, Lisa Bittenheim, Ambassadors of Slovakia, Hungary and Serbia, accompanied by officers from their national contingents. In her address, UNFICYP Chief of Mission, Lisa Bittenheim, spoke of the current situation regarding the Cyprus issue, as well as basic tasks to be fulfilled by UNFICYP deployed in Cyprus.

After the ceremony, a reception was held, followed by a cultural programme. First, the sing and dance company from Cyprus performed a combination of Turkish folk dances. National choirs composed of the international peacekeepers in Cyprus performed one Serbian, Slovak and Hungarian song each. SAF members sang the song "Tamo daleko" and it was very well received by the audience. The medal awarding ceremony in Dherinia was of shorter duration and at a lower protocol level than a similar event organized in Nicosia on 4 June 2013.