More than 5,000 people attended the annual festival in Cyprus’ only bi-communal village, Pyla, on 30 June and 1 July, enjoying a smorgasbord of food, drink, entertainment and shopping. Supported by UNFICYP since its inception in 2015 and by the two local Mukhtars (leaders), Mr. Simon Mitides, the local leader of the Greek Cypriot community, and Mr Nejdet Enver, the local leader of the Turkish Cypriot community, the festival has grown from strength to strength, more than tripling its attendance in the three years it has been in existence. “People from both sides of the island were present. This is what makes Pyla festival unique,” said Therapoulla Kalatha, UNFICYP liaison officer in Sector 4. “Our aim is to expand these events from Pyla bicommunal to nationwide bicommunal.”