

## Greek PM names ministers

Costas Simitis, Greece's prime minister, yesterday appointed new ministers to handle controversial reforms ahead of Greece's expected euro-zone entry in January, while leaving senior cabinet ministers in place, after his government's narrow win in Sunday's general election.

George Papandreou will stay on as foreign minister, and Yannis Papantoniou as finance minister. Nikos Christodoulakis, who oversaw a successful restructuring of Greece's public debt, has been promoted to development minister with responsibility for liberalising the energy market. Christos Verelis, who organised the rehousing of more than 80,000 victims of last year's damaging earthquake in Athens as deputy public works minister, will take over as transport and telecommunications minister.

Mr Simitis also appointed Tassos Yannitsis, his personal economic adviser, as labour minister with a brief to reform the debt-burdened state pension system. An earlier attempt by the Socialists to restructure the pay-as-you-go system collapsed because of fierce opposition from trade unions. Theodoros Pangalos returns to the cabinet as culture minister. **Kerin Hope, Athens**