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Letter dated 18 February 1988 from the Permanent Representative of
Turkey to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to attach herewith a letter dated 18 February 1988 addressed to you by Mr. Özer Koraç, representative of the Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus (see annex).

I should be grateful if the present letter and its annex were circulated as a document of the forty-second session of the General Assembly, under agenda item 46, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) İler TÜRKMEN
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

ANNEX

Letter dated 18 February 1988 from Mr. Özer Koray
to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to enclose herewith the text of a statement issued by His Excellency Rauf R. Denktas, President of the Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus, on 13 February 1988, concerning Greek Cypriot elections in Southern Cyprus.

I should be grateful if this letter and its enclosure were circulated as a document of the forty-second session of the General Assembly, under agenda item 46, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) Özer KORAY
Representative

APPENDIX

Statement made on 13 February 1988 by Mr. Rauf R. Denktas
concerning Greek Cypriot elections in Southern Cyprus

The Greek Cypriot people in Southern Cyprus will be going to the polls on Sunday to elect a new leader for their administration. The people of the Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus, like the people of other countries in the region, will naturally be following this event with interest.

It should be stressed that the Greek Cypriot leader to be elected as a result of these elections will be none other than the Head of the Greek Cypriot Administration in Southern Cyprus, and certainly not the "President of Cyprus" as a whole. In view of the persisting misconceptions and false claims that the said leader is or will be the "President" of the whole of Cyprus, I felt it necessary to underline this point once again.

It is a fact that, in Cyprus, there exist two distinct peoples and two separate, independent political entities, the Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus and Greek Cypriot Administration in Southern Cyprus, a situation that came about as a result of the well-known past events perpetrated by the Greek Cypriot side, going back to 1963.

These two independent political entities naturally also have their own legislative and executive organs, to which the two peoples elect their own representatives. The Turkish Cypriot people elect their own President and Members of Parliament through free and democratic elections based on universal suffrage. The last of the presidential and parliamentary elections in the Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus were held separately in June 1985.

The elections that are about to be held in Southern Cyprus, on the other hand, are one in which the Greek Cypriot people alone will elect their own leader. That these elections are of no direct concern to the Turkish Cypriot people can also be clearly observed from the fact that, within the framework of the political realities explained above, no single Turkish Cypriot is involved, in any way, with the Greek Cypriot elections in Southern Cyprus, either as a candidate or as a voter.

This being the case, I would like to express the hope that the new Greek Cypriot leader who will emerge from these elections will adopt a constructive and realistic posture towards a negotiated solution in Cyprus, on the basis of a bi-national, bi-zonal federation, as previously agreed, and as also envisaged by the Secretary-General's Draft Framework Agreement of 29 March 1986.