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QUESTION OF CYPRUS

SECURITY COUNCIL
Forty-second year

Letter dated 6 June 1987 from the Permanent Representative of Cyprus
to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

Upon instructions from my Government, I have the honour to request that the letters addressed to you by the President of the Republic of Cyprus, His Excellency Mr. Spyros Kyprianou, on the convening of an international conference on the Cyprus problem (10 March and 19 May 1987), on the situation in Varosha (10 March and 11 May 1987) and on the reinforcing and re-equipping of the Turkish occupation forces and their withdrawal, as well as that of Turkish settlers (21 May 1987), copies of which are annexed hereto, be circulated as an official document of the forty-first session of the General Assembly, under agenda item 43, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) Constantine MOUSHOUTAS
Ambassador
Permanent Representative of
Cyprus to the United Nations

ANNEX I

Letter dated 10 March 1987 from the President of Cyprus
addressed to the Secretary-General

You will recall that in my letters to you of 20 April and 10 June 1986 I proposed the convening of an international conference to deal with the international aspects of the Cyprus problem. We discussed this further in the course of our meeting in New York on 26 September 1986. You undertook then to consult on this matter with the members of the Security Council.

When Mr. Marrack I. Goulding, Under-Secretary-General for Special Political Affairs, visited Cyprus in November 1986, he conveyed to us the results of your first soundings. I did stress at the time and I do stress now the necessity for the holding of such an international conference under the auspices of the United Nations. I sincerely believe that none of the arguments against this proposal that have been put forward can be considered as valid. I also wish to reiterate my view that you should endorse this proposal and proceed with a determined effort to convince those of the members of the Security Council who appear to be unfavourable of the necessity for the convening of an international conference under the auspices of the United Nations. Pertinent to the above is the question whether the convening of an international conference by Your Excellency falls within your mission of good offices entrusted to you by the Security Council or within the general scope of the mission of the Secretary-General of the United Nations under the provisions of the Charter of the United Nations. From our previous discussions we concluded that such a step by the Secretary-General would not fall outside his task and mission whether under the pertinent resolutions or under the Charter of the United Nations.

It was, however, suggested in the course of some recent bilateral discussions we have had with some Governments that you would consider the convening of an international conference as falling outside your specific or general mandate. In the light of this I would be grateful if you were kind enough to inform me of your considered view and position on the matter with a view to taking the appropriate steps, if necessary, in order to ensure that you are empowered to promote the convening of such an international conference under the auspices of the United Nations.

(Signed) Spyros KYPRIANOU
President of the Republic of Cyprus

ANNEX II

Letter dated 10 March 1987 from the President of Cyprus
addressed to the Secretary-General

I refer to the recent developments regarding the city of Varosha. In the first place I would like to recall resolution 550 (1984) of the Security Council which considered "attempts to settle any part of Varosha by people other than its inhabitants as inadmissible", and called for "the transfer of this area to the administration of the United Nations".

Furthermore, the question of the resettlement of Varosha by its inhabitants, as you well know, was envisaged in the second High Level Agreement of May 1979, as a matter of priority. The validity of this Agreement has been reaffirmed on numerous occasions. As you will also recall, the High Level Agreement related to the whole Greek part of the city and not only to the area sometimes referred to as the "closed area" of Varosha. The current interest in this area should not, therefore, be construed as in any way varying our position with regard to the resettlement of the entire city of Varosha by all its inhabitants as a matter of priority, as envisaged in the High Level Agreement of 1979.

Mr. Marrack I. Goulding, Under-Secretary-General for Special Political Affairs, during his recent visit to Cyprus stated publicly that he has received the following assurances from the Turkish side:

1. They have no intention of changing the status quo with regard to Varosha, namely the situation that prevailed in 1974 immediately after the Turkish invasion.
2. The use of the three hotels, namely Sandy Beach, Golden Plage and Marina, was of a temporary nature.
3. The action would be reversed as soon as other arrangements to house the students or others staying now in these hotels were made.

I appreciate your efforts to secure compliance with these commitments. However, the third assurance, i.e. that those using now the hotels would be removed from them, remains of a general and vague character until the Turkish side undertakes a specific commitment to remove the students by a specific date as soon as possible.

I would therefore request Your Excellency to raise once again the matter with the Turkish side in order to secure compliance with the above by a specific date without further delay.

(Signed) Spyros KYPRIANOU
President of the Republic of Cyprus

ANNEX III

Letter dated 11 May 1987 from the President of Cyprus
addressed to the Secretary-General

I refer to your letter of 9 April 1987 concerning the situation in Varosha.

I wish to express my grave concern at the fact that the change of the status quo with regard to Varosha, i.e. of the situation that prevailed in 1974 immediately after the Turkish invasion still persists. The Turkish side's assurances that, inter alia, "it was not their intention to change the status quo" in the city of Varosha and that "they would vacate the premises as soon as alternative accommodation became available", remain until now empty promises. I, therefore, have to refer to my letter addressed to you on 10 March 1987, in which I stated our position and which I have every reason to believe coincides with your own view on the matter. As mentioned in that letter we appreciate your efforts, which unfortunately have so far met with no success.

As you well know we relied on the assurances given to us by Your Excellency and your representatives in regard to the restoration of the status quo in Varosha and I was hoping that you would have conveyed to me something more specific with regard to the compliance by the Turkish side with their undertakings.

The attitude of the Turkish side not only is an affront to the will of the international community, as expressed in resolution 550 (1984) of the Security Council, which "considers attempts to settle any part of Varosha by people other than its inhabitants as inadmissible and calls for the transfer of this area to the administration of the United Nations", but also constitutes a breach of the High-Level Agreement of May 1979 under which the resettlement of Varosha by its inhabitants was by agreement given priority.

It is obvious that the Turkish side is resorting once again to its familiar tactics of creating faits accomplis and trying then to find ways and means to justify them.

Therefore, no pretexts, of whatever kind, should be entertained that would nullify the express undertaking of completely vacating all three premises by a specific date without any further postponement and delay.

I trust that you will use all available means to ensure that the restoration of the 1974 status quo is effected and thus an immediate end is put to the use of the three hotels, namely the Sandy Beach, the Marina and the Golden Plage. In this respect I would like to recall the assurances conveyed to us by Mr. Marrack I. Goulding, Under-Secretary-General for Special Political Affairs, during his latest visit to Cyprus, that no other hotels or buildings in Varosha were involved.

As you are aware, the decisions of the Security Council are of a mandatory nature on the Members of the United Nations. We, therefore, feel that you should

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formally call upon Turkey to surrender the town to your jurisdiction. You should, I submit, insist on a formal response by Turkey and you should report on your efforts and on the response of Turkey in your next report to the Security Council.

In conclusion, I would like to repeat that the current interest in the area referred to as the "closed area" of Varosha should not in any way be construed as varying our position with regard to the resettlement of the entire city of Varosha by all its rightful inhabitants as a matter of priority as envisaged in the High-Level Agreement of 1979 and as provided for in resolution 550 (1984) of the Security Council.

(Signed) Spyros KYPRIANOU
President of the Republic of Cyprus

ANNEX IV

Letter dated 19 May 1987 from the President of Cyprus
addressed to the Secretary-General

I would like to refer to your letter of reply of 10 April 1987 concerning the proposal for the convening of an international conference to deal with the international aspects of the Cyprus problem and more specifically with the question of the withdrawal from Cyprus of the Turkish troops and settlers and the question of international guarantees.

In my letter to Your Excellency of 10 March 1987 I suggested that you should endorse and promote the proposal for the holding of an international conference on Cyprus under the auspices of the United Nations. I had also asked you to inform me whether you considered such an initiative to be within your competence under the Charter and the pertinent resolutions of the United Nations.

While we appreciate your efforts in sounding members of the Security Council and interested parties, the lack of positive response on the part of the Turkish side cannot be a determining factor in your own stand, on the holding of an international conference, should you consider it as falling within your competence. On the contrary, in addition to the international character of the Cyprus problem which necessitates the holding of such a conference, the Turkish attitude in general and in particular on the international aspects of the Cyprus problem makes the holding of such a conference even more imperative. After 13 years of aggression, occupation, violation of human rights and fundamental freedoms, deadlocks and continuous threat to peace there can be no valid argument against the holding of an international conference on Cyprus under the auspices of the United Nations. It is my conviction that the holding of such a conference would promote the implementation of the relevant United Nations resolutions and contribute substantively towards an overall solution of the Cyprus problem.

I would, therefore, once again strongly urge you to endorse the proposal for an international conference under the auspices of the United Nations and proceed with a determined effort to convince those member States, which at present appear to be unfavourable, of the necessity to hold such a conference. Clearly, such an endorsement of the proposal by the Secretary-General himself would give great impetus to the efforts for its promotion and acceptance. We, on our part, shall continue with our contacts and efforts for the purpose of ensuring the maximum possible support for this proposal.

It is our view that your task and competence emanating from the Charter and the resolutions of the United Nations is sufficiently broad so that it does not exclude any specific methodology for pursuing the solution of the international aspects of the Cyprus problem, which you have also recognized as important and which it is quite clear, by now, that must be tackled as a matter of priority and urgency.

It is in this spirit that we inquire whether you consider that an initiative, on your part, for the holding of an international conference would fall within your competence as Secretary-General of the United Nations.

I would, therefore, be grateful to hear from you on your position on the specific matters raised in this letter the soonest possible.

(Signed) Spyros KYPRIANOU
President of the Republic of Cyprus

ANNEX V

Letter dated 21 May 1987 from the President of Cyprus
addressed to the Secretary-General

The facts relating to the Turkish invasion and occupation of 37 per cent of the territory of the Republic of Cyprus are well known to you. However, the recent actions by Turkey in reinforcing and re-equipping its occupation forces require us to remind you of the urgency of ensuring the withdrawal of all occupation forces and settlers from the territory of the Republic of Cyprus.

It was through the invasion and the ensuing gross acts of violence that Turkey forced 200,000 Greek Cypriots to flee from their ancestral homes. The Turkish occupation forces prevent these refugees from returning to their homes.

The Turkish occupation forces have enabled Turkey to implant a large number of settlers reliably estimated between 60,000 and 62,000 into the occupied area of the Republic of Cyprus. The importation of settlers is intended, as it is well known, primarily to change the demographic character of the occupied part and the composition of the population of Cyprus. But it has also resulted in diluting the Cypriot identity of the Turkish Cypriots and their will to seek reconciliation with their Greek Cypriot compatriots. This attempted turkification is manifested in many other ways: desecrations of places of worship, plundering of antiquities and works of art, changes of Greek place names etc.

Another manifestation of the occupation is the secessionist act and the purported establishment of the so-called "TRNC" which is explicitly forbidden by the treaties which established the Republic of Cyprus. The provocative act of creating this illegal entity and the act by Turkey to recognize it have been universally condemned, particularly through Security Council resolutions 541 (1983) and 550 (1984).

Moreover, the occupation also aims at forcing the Greek Cypriot community to negotiate at gunpoint and accept an arrangement on the basis of the faits accomplis created by the Turkish aggression and other subsequent illegal acts in violation of the Charter and the resolutions of the United Nations.

The presence of the Turkish forces in Cyprus is illegal and must be terminated without any further delay. It is illegal because it violates the Charter of the United Nations and specific treaties including the treaties signed in 1960. The international community has rejected the various excuses advanced by Turkey as to the presence of its troops in Cyprus and called for the withdrawal of all Turkish occupation troops from the territory of the Republic of Cyprus. (See Security Council resolution 365 (1974) endorsing General Assembly resolution 3212 (XXIX) etc., General Assembly resolutions 3212 (XXIX) (endorsed by Security Council resolution 365 (1974)), 3395 (XXX), 32/15, 33/15, 34/30 and 37/253.)

Instead of withdrawing its forces in conformity with international law and in response to the demand of the international community as expressed in the

resolutions cited above, Turkey is doing the exact opposite: it has been increasing and strengthening its forces in Cyprus. It has now been established beyond reasonable doubt that over the last few months there has been an important quantitative increase and a qualitative strengthening of the Turkish occupation forces in Cyprus.

According to information reliably collected, there are now between 34,000 and 35,000 Turkish troops in the occupied area of Cyprus. This means a vast increase over the last few months. There are now 300 heavy tanks representing an increase of 50 per cent or 100 tanks. The modernization programme and increases in numbers are assessed to have tripled the firepower of the Turkish troops. This should be viewed in conjunction with information regarding the military airport at Lefkoniko and the naval port at Kyrenia and vast stores of equipment brought into the occupied part of Cyprus by Turkey to enable it to bring additional forces which are known to have been earmarked for this purpose.

The presence of this huge military occupation force on the territory of the Republic of Cyprus should leave no doubt as to the real intentions of Turkey in Cyprus. The presence of the occupation troops in Cyprus is a direct threat against the Cypriot people. The unlawful presence of Turkey in Cyprus and its refusal to withdraw its forces prevent also progress towards a just and viable solution of the Cyprus problem.

I call on Your Excellency to take all necessary steps in conformity with the Charter and the resolutions of the United Nations for the removal of this serious threat against the sovereignty and territorial integrity of the Republic of Cyprus.

(Signed) Spyros KYPRIANOU
President of the Republic of Cyprus
