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QUESTION OF CYPRUS

Report of the Secretary-General

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I. INTRODUCTION

1. This report is submitted in pursuance of General Assembly resolution 34/30 of 20 November 1979 on the question of Cyprus. In paragraph 16 of the resolution, the Assembly requested the Secretary-General to follow up the implementation of that resolution and to report on all its aspects to the Assembly at its thirty-fifth session.
2. In paragraph 11 of resolution 34/30, the General Assembly reiterated its recommendation that the Security Council should examine the question of the implementation, within a specific time frame, of its relevant resolutions on Cyprus and consider and adopt thereafter, if necessary, all appropriate and practical measures under the Charter of the United Nations for ensuring the speedy and effective implementation of the resolutions of the United Nations on Cyprus. Accordingly, on 30 December 1979, I sent a note to the President of the Security Council (S/13713) drawing attention to the above recommendation. In paragraph 12 of the same resolution, the Assembly requested the Secretary-General to report to it by 31 March 1980 on the progress achieved in the negotiations between the two communities in Cyprus on the basis of the agreement of 19 May 1979; that report was circulated as document A/35/161, dated 2 April 1980.

II. GOOD OFFICES OF THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

3. In my report of 2 April I gave an account of my efforts toward the resumption of the negotiations between the Greek Cypriot and the Turkish Cypriot communities. Since that time, as indicated in paragraph 23 of that report, I have pursued the mission of good offices entrusted to me by the Security Council and have continued to search for common ground that would facilitate the development of a concrete and effective negotiating process. My new Special Representative, Mr. Hugo J. Gobbi, arrived in Cyprus on 8 May and immediately initiated intensive consultations with both sides based on the suggestions which I had previously explored with the parties (A/35/161, paras. 3-6, 14, 17). It was envisaged that my Special Representative at the intercommunal talks would open the negotiations by delivering a statement designed to overcome the controversy between the parties concerning the implementation of the high-level agreements of 12 February 1977 and 19 May 1979. On 5 June 1980, Mr. Pérez de Cuéllar, Under-Secretary-General for Special Political Affairs, travelled to Nicosia and from there on to Ankara and Athens for high-level consultations with regard to the difficulties which stood in the way of the resumption of the talks, and on 13 June I reported to the Security Council on his mission (S/PV.2230). Although those efforts did not produce immediate results, consultations continued both in Nicosia and in New York throughout the month of July. On 6 August 1980, Mr. Gobbi reported to me that agreement had been reached by the two parties to resume the talks formally in Nicosia on 9 August (see A/35/385-S/14100).
4. At the meeting held on 9 August, Mr. Gobbi delivered an opening statement on my behalf. The statement outlined my understanding of the common ground that had been worked out in the course of the consultations which had taken place over the preceding months, and listed the four items to be discussed in the intercommunal

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talks on the basis of the 19 May 1979 agreement (*ibid.*, annex). It was understood that those four items should be dealt with concurrently in rotation at consecutive meetings. Having heard the opening statement, the two interlocutors, Mr. George Ioannides, for the Greek Cypriot community, and Mr. Umit Suleiman Onan, for the Turkish Cypriot community, agreed to begin the substantive phase of the talks at the second meeting, on 16 September 1980. It was also agreed that the proceedings would be kept confidential.

5. Since then, there have been nine meetings of the resumed intercommunal talks and each of the four items of the agenda has been discussed at least twice. All meetings were held in private, in the presence of my Special Representative. The Greek Cypriot community was represented by Mr. Ioannides and his advisers, Mr. Michael Triantafyllides and Mrs. Stella Soulioti. The Turkish Cypriot community was represented by Mr. Onan and his advisers, Mr. Necati Munir Ertekun and Mr. Rustem Z. Tatar. Experts of both sides also attended some of the meetings.

6. On 16 September, the interlocutors took up consideration of the first item, "Reaching agreement on the resettlement of Varosha under United Nations auspices, in accordance with the provisions of point 5 of the 19 May 1979 agreement". The Greek Cypriot interlocutor submitted the proposals of his side.

7. On 24 September, the interlocutors discussed the second agenda item, "Initial practical measures by both sides to promote goodwill, mutual confidence and the return to normal conditions, in accordance with the provisions of point 6 of the 19 May 1979 agreement, which states that special importance will be given to this matter." The Turkish Cypriot interlocutor presented the proposals of his side, and the Greek Cypriot interlocutor made detailed suggestions.

8. On 1 October, the third item on the agenda, "Constitutional aspects", was taken up. The two interlocutors submitted their respective proposals for a future constitutional arrangement. Both sides undertook to study them with a view to discussing them in depth at the next meeting on this subject.

9. On 8 October, the fourth agenda item, "Territorial aspects", was discussed. Both interlocutors set forth their respective positions. There followed a frank exchange of views in the same good atmosphere as at previous meetings.

10. On 15 October, the interlocutors resumed consideration of the first agenda item. The Turkish Cypriot interlocutor presented the proposals of his side concerning the resettlement of Varosha.

11. On 31 October, the interlocutors continued discussion of the second agenda item. Areas of co-operation and the machinery required for this purpose were explored in detail.

12. On 5 November, consideration of the third agenda item, concerning constitutional aspects, was continued. There was a lengthy discussion, during which both sides explained further their respective constitutional proposals.

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13. On 12 November, the interlocutors continued discussion of the fourth agenda item, concerning territorial aspects. Both sides further elaborated their respective positions on this subject and discussed in depth the various issues raised.

14. On 19 November, the interlocutors continued consideration of the first agenda item, concerning the resettlement of Varosha. They explored at length each other's proposals and had a constructive and frank exchange of views on the item.

III. OTHER PROVISIONS OF GENERAL ASSEMBLY RESOLUTION 34/30

15. As requested by the General Assembly, I have endeavoured to follow up the implementation of those provisions of resolution 34/30 which deal with the exercise of effective sovereignty and control over the entire territory of Cyprus (resolution 34/30, para. 3); the implementation of Assembly resolution 3212 (XXIX) and of the subsequent resolutions of the Assembly and the Security Council on Cyprus (*ibid.*, para. 4); the withdrawal of foreign armed forces and foreign military presence (*ibid.*, para. 5); the respect of the human rights of all Cypriots and the return of refugees to their homes (*ibid.*, para. 7); and the demilitarization of Cyprus (*ibid.*, para. 10).

16. As regards those provisions, the situation remains essentially as described in my report to the General Assembly dated 8 November 1979 (A/34/620). The United Nations Peace-keeping Force in Cyprus (UNFICYP) continues to supervise the cease-fire lines of the Cyprus National Guard and the Turkish and Turkish Cypriot forces and to provide security for civilians in the buffer zone between those lines. It also discharges certain humanitarian responsibilities (see A/34/620, paras. 22 and 24). In this connexion, UNFICYP assisted in the transfer from north to south of some 180 Greek Cypriots during the first 10 months of 1980. As at 27 October, 1,210 Greek Cypriots were residing in the north. Some 206 Turkish Cypriots remain in the south. The activities of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, in his capacity as Co-ordinator of United Nations Humanitarian Assistance for Cyprus, have continued (see S/13672, paras. 37-42, and S/13972, paras. 32-37). The scale of these activities will, however, be gradually adjusted to take account of present requirements. The competent authorities in Cyprus have been kept informed about developments in this area.

17. With regard to the question of setting up an investigatory body for the tracing of and accounting for missing persons of both communities in Cyprus, I and my representatives have actively pursued our efforts aimed at overcoming the obstacles which continue to stand in the way of the establishment of such a body. In view of the responsibility entrusted to me by the General Assembly, I am continuing to work towards a resolution of the existing difficulties.

IV. OBSERVATIONS

18. The evolution of the Cyprus problem since the adoption by the General Assembly of resolution 34/30 has been dominated by developments relating to the

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intercommunal talks, which were formally resumed on 9 August 1980 after a hiatus of more than a year, and which on 16 September entered their substantive phase (see A/35/385-S/14100). It seems evident that all concerned have accepted the process of the talks, carried out under my auspices, as the best available way of working toward a just and lasting settlement and of seeking to achieve the objectives of the United Nations concerning the problem of Cyprus.

19. The talks have proceeded in a friendly and business-like atmosphere. Two cycles of the talks have been held, and the third cycle is now under way. The parties have stated their initial positions on the four items of the agenda, and there have been the first substantive responses. Some common ground has been indicated on certain practical questions; while progress so far has been slow, the discussions have been constructive. It is hoped that an acceptable arrangement has at last been found for a sustained, serious and result-oriented joint exploration and negotiation both of the basic problems confronting Cyprus and of the approaches to their solution. I look forward to the continuation of this process. As I pointed out to the General Assembly in my previous report on this item, "there is no alternative to a concrete and effective negotiating process if a mutually acceptable, just and lasting solution of the Cyprus problem is to be achieved" (A/34/620, para. 33).

20. One of the problems that the interlocutors will no doubt have to face at some point is the difficult issue of how and where to start the actual give-and-take which is the essence of an effective negotiating process. In this connexion, it is relevant to recall that the high-level accord of 19 May 1979 specified that certain matters are to be given priority both as regards reaching agreement and implementation.

21. My Special Representative has kept me fully informed about the proceedings. At the same time, as part of the exercise of my good offices, it is my intention also to continue to maintain direct personal contact with the parties from time to time, with a view to reviewing periodically the progress of the talks and, as appropriate, to exploring procedures that might facilitate the conduct of the negotiations. While a complex negotiating process such as the present one must of necessity proceed with careful deliberation, it must also, if it is to maintain its credibility, produce concrete results.

22. The resumption of the intercommunal talks has presented the parties with a new opportunity to achieve a freely negotiated, just and lasting settlement of the Cyprus problem. This opportunity should not be lost.
