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QUESTION OF CYPRUS

SECURITY COUNCIL
Thirty-third year

Letter dated 23 September 1978 from the Permanent Representative of
Cyprus to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to request that the aide-mémoire annexed hereto be circulated as an official document of the General Assembly, under agenda item 28, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) Zenon ROSSIDES
Ambassador
Permanent Representative of
Cyprus to the United Nations

ANNEX

Aide-mémoire dated 20 September 1978

1. The main subject before the General Assembly is the aggression, invasion and continuing military occupation by Turkey of 40 per cent of the territory of the Republic and the international crimes committed by the army of occupation in the expulsion of one third of the total indigenous population of Cyprus, coupled with the forcible implanting in their usurped homes and properties of alien population transported from Turkey on a design to change the demographic structure of the island.
2. The gravity of this situation has rendered the question of Cyprus one of the three most serious problems in the United Nations. Its forum, as previously, is the General Assembly plenary and no other.
3. On this grave problem, Turkey, and no one else, is accountable for its flagrant violations of the relevant resolutions and decisions of the General Assembly and the Security Council. The Turkish Cypriots cannot be a party in an issue directly between Turkey and Cyprus.
4. The constitutional issue in which they are involved is by no means the main issue. It necessarily comes after the withdrawal of the Turkish occupation forces from the territory of Cyprus in the appropriate sequence, established in the relevant United Nations resolutions on Cyprus, so that intercommunal negotiations could be genuine and not directed by Ankara, under whose domination the Turkish Cypriot leadership is operating as the instrument of the invader. To this end, General Assembly resolution 3212 (XXIX), in its reference to the constitutional matters, provides that relevant negotiations between the two communities should be "freely" conducted.
5. At the present time the General Assembly has to deal with the question of implementation of its resolution 3212 (XXIX), in accordance with its resolution 32/15 of last year. The forum for this subject is obviously the General Assembly plenary and no other, as it has constantly been every year. As a matter of compromise to the request that the Turkish Cypriots could have the chance of being heard, it was agreed by common consent that the relevant matters could be discussed in the Special Political Committee. This forum is still open.
