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QUESTION OF CYPRUS

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Letter dated 18 April 1978 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 draw Your Excellency's attention and that of the members of the Security Council to a highly provocative statement made to the press in Vienna, on 17 April 1978, by Professor M. Soysal, an official from Ankara responsible for the preparation of the Turkish proposals on Cyprus, presented to the Secretary-General.

In his statement, Mr. Soysal openly threatens that "regrettable things may happen in the immediate future if the Turkish proposals were not accepted and the intercommunal talks were not resumed". This new and arrogant statement coming from a Turkish official denotes the emboldened aggressiveness of Ankara against Cyprus and its people, and further reveals the tactics of threats and blackmail through which Turkey now seeks to impose acceptance of its oppressive terms for a partitionist solution with annexation in prospect.

It should, perhaps, be recalled that repeated General Assembly and Security Council resolutions which demand the speedy withdrawal of the foreign forces of occupation, and call for negotiations on constitutional issues, stipulate that such negotiations should be "freely" conducted.

However, the continued presence in Cyprus of Turkish occupation forces and their aggressive activities through faits accomplis and international crimes - with a view to changing by force the demographic structure of Cyprus - have constantly undermined the very purpose of the talks and rendered them devoid of all meaning.

At the present juncture, the aforesaid inflammatory statement and other threatening moves from Turkey are calculated to frustrate all efforts towards free and meaningful negotiations for a just solution.

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\* A/33/50/Rev.1.

All these illegal actions in flagrant violation of repeated resolutions of the General Assembly and the Security Council take now a new form, that of imposing by diktat and threats of force, Ankara's pre-planned scheme to legalize the demolition of the territorial integrity and the very independence of Cyprus and its people.

In strongly denouncing, on behalf of my Government, the above aggressive Turkish utterances, I wish to express the earnest hope that Your Excellency and the members of the Security Council will not lose sight of the ominous implications of such statements.

I should be grateful if this letter were circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under item 28 of the preliminary list, and of the Security Council.

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

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