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REPORT OF THE SECRETARY-GENERAL PURSUANT TO PARAGRAPH 6 OF  
SECURITY COUNCIL RESOLUTION 391 (1976)

1. This report is submitted in pursuance of paragraph 6 of Security Council resolution 391 (1976) of 15 June 1976, in which the Council requested me to continue the mission of good offices entrusted to me by paragraph 6 of resolution 367 (1975), to keep the Council informed of the progress made and to submit a report on the implementation of that resolution by 30 October.
2. Immediately after the adoption of resolution 391 (1976), I and my Special Representative in Cyprus, Mr. Javier Perez de Cuellar, initiated exploratory contacts with the representatives of all parties concerned with a view to resuming the negotiating process. After discussions with His Beatitude President Makarios and His Excellency Mr. Rauf Denktash in Nicosia, the Special Representative, at my request, visited Ankara on 13-14 July and Athens on 15-16 July for talks with the Foreign Ministers of Greece and Turkey and other high officials. Upon his return to Nicosia, he held further talks with the leaders of the two communities. On 26 July Mr. Perez de Cuellar came to Geneva to report to me on his conversations.
3. Both parties in Cyprus had expressed their readiness to send representatives to a sixth round of intercommunal talks under my auspices if convened by me. However, wide differences persisted as to the basis of the prospective talks and both sides considered that it would be counterproductive to convene a sixth round unless those differences were narrowed.
4. The Greek Cypriot side considered that the exchange of written proposals referred to in the Vienna communiqué of 21 February 1976 (S/11993) had not been completed by the Turkish Cypriot side as regards the territorial issue and that the Turkish Cypriot side would be expected to submit concrete counter-proposals on that issue at the next round of talks, with a view to establishing a common basis at those talks prior to referring the matter to mixed committees.
5. The Turkish Cypriot side considered that the exchange of written proposals had been completed in April 1976 (S/12093, sect. V), that substantive discussions at the next round should concern principles and criteria, but that concrete proposals, especially on territorial matters, should be discussed in the mixed committees in the presence of experts.
6. In Nicosia, my Special Representative endeavoured to arrange a reconvening of the humanitarian talks at the Ledra Palace Hotel. Such meetings would have brought

together the two interlocutors, Mr. Papadopoulos and Mr. Onan, and would also have provided an opportunity for them to engage in preliminary discussions on broader issues. That effort did not prove successful.

7. After further exploratory contacts with the representatives of all the parties concerned on how best to overcome the difficulties in the way of a resumption of the intercommunal talks, I invited Mr. Papadopoulos and Mr. Onan to New York before the opening of the General Assembly for consultations with me. Two rounds of separate consultations were held on 16 and 17 September, followed by a joint meeting on 18 September, further separate meetings on 20 September and a concluding joint meeting on 21 September. An extensive exchange of views took place during those consultations concerning the resumption of the intercommunal talks under my auspices. In that connexion, I broached the idea of bridging the gap by having the main talks under my auspices and the mixed committees function simultaneously. The mixed committees, which could meet in the presence of my Special Representative, would report back to the main group at regular intervals. While the two interlocutors reacted positively in principle to my suggestion, both did so with reservations which in effect reintroduced the main elements of their respective previous and conflicting positions. It was agreed that my Special Representative in Cyprus would continue the consultations in Nicosia.

8. The situation regarding the implementation of the agreement recorded in the communiqué of 2 August 1975 at the end of the third round of talks in Vienna remains as outlined in my report of 5 June 1976 (S/12093, paras. 22-24 and sect. III). The condition of the Greek Cypriots in the north continues to be a matter of serious concern not only on humanitarian grounds but also because it constitutes a highly contentious issue between the two communities. They continue to be restricted to their respective villages and to the immediate surroundings thereof. Medical, educational and religious facilities have declined. No Greek Cypriot physicians are practising in the north. The Greek Cypriot elementary schools did not reopen after the summer holidays, and secondary schools have remained closed since 1974. The Turkish Cypriot authorities have now proposed that Greek Cypriot pupils of secondary school level move south for educational purposes and return to their families during the summer holidays.

9. The movement of Greek Cypriots to the south continues at the rate of approximately 30 persons a day. Of a Greek Cypriot population of about 9,000 at the time of the agreements of 2 August 1975, 4,817 remained in the north as of mid-October 1976. Complaints continue to be received by UNFICYP from Greek Cypriots that the migration to the south is due to Turkish Cypriot pressure. The Turkish Cypriot authorities, for their part, maintain that the transfers occur on a voluntary basis as the Greek Cypriots wish to join the bulk of their community in the south.

10. With regard to the question of persons still unaccounted for since the events of 1974, the situation concerning the Vienna agreement of August 1975, under which both sides undertook "to extend full facilities for searches in response to information given by either side" (S/11789, annex, p. 2), remains unchanged. Following a request by the Foreign Minister of Cyprus, my representative in

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Geneva took up with the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) the question of arranging for searches to trace those missing or discover their burial places. After careful consideration, ICRC expressed its readiness in principle to designate members of an investigatory body operating outside ICRC itself, provided both parties requested it to do so and undertook to give full co-operation to that body. The ICRC further specified that any such investigatory body should have freedom of movement throughout Cyprus and that the parties should undertake to furnish all relevant information required by it and agree in advance to accept as final its conclusions and recommendations. My Special Representative communicated the suggestion of the ICRC to the parties in Cyprus. On the basis of the reactions obtained by him, it appears that since it has not been possible to secure the agreement of both parties, there is no possibility at this time of carrying out the suggestion for the designation of an investigatory team as envisaged by ICRC.

11. A few observations on the developments set out in the preceding paragraphs may be in order. I continue to believe that, despite all the difficulties, the negotiations between the representatives of the two communities represent in the present circumstances the best hope of achieving an agreed, just and lasting settlement of the Cyprus problem. At the same time, I regret to have to report to the Security Council that the difficulties in the way of resuming meaningful negotiations have yet to be overcome, and that the differences between the two sides, both as to substance and as to procedure, have in practice shown little sign of narrowing.

12. The existing deadlock has tended to affect adversely the situation in the island, to prolong the sufferings of many of its people and to continue to complicate the tasks confronting the United Nations Peace-keeping Force. I consider that it is of the highest importance to find ways of making progress towards an agreed and lasting settlement.

13. The current procedural deadlock reflects the political difficulties of the interlocutors. These have not been relieved by the passage of time and can, I am convinced, only be overcome with the support, understanding and statesmanship of all the parties concerned. I wish to assure the Council that despite all the difficulties, I shall continue to exert my best efforts to bring about a resumption of meaningful negotiations and to assist the parties in making the urgently required progress towards a settlement of the Cyprus problem.

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