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NOTE

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2150th MEETING

Held in New York on Friday, 15 June 1979, at 3.30 p.m.

President: Mr. Oleg A. TROYANOVSKY
(Union of Soviet Socialist Republics).

Present: The representatives of the following States: Bangladesh, Bolivia, China, Czechoslovakia, France, Gabon, Jamaica, Kuwait, Nigeria, Norway, Portugal, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Zambia.

Provisional agenda (S/Agenda/2150)

1. Adoption of the agenda
2. The situation in Cyprus:
Report of the Secretary-General on the United Nations operation in Cyprus (S/13369 and Add.1)

The meeting was called to order at 4.15 p.m.

Adoption of the agenda

The agenda was adopted.

The situation in Cyprus:

Report of the Secretary-General on the United Nations operation in Cyprus (S/13369 and Add.1)

1. The PRESIDENT (*interpretation from Russian*): I should like to inform members of the Council that I have received letters from the representatives of Cyprus, Greece and Turkey in which they request to be invited to participate in the discussion of the question on the agenda. In accordance with the usual practice, and with the consent of the Council, I propose to invite those representatives to participate in the discussion, without the right to vote, in conformity with the relevant provisions of the Charter and rule 37 of the provisional rules of procedure.

At the invitation of the President, Mr. Mavrommatis (Cyprus), Mr. Katapodis (Greece) and Mr. Eralp (Turkey) took places at the Council table.

2. The PRESIDENT (*interpretation from Russian*): I should also like to inform the Council that I have received a letter from the representative of Turkey in which he requests that Mr. Nail Atalay should be allowed to participate in the discussion of the question on the agenda. If I hear no objection, I propose to extend an invitation to Mr. Atalay in

accordance with the provisions of rule 39 of the provisional rules of procedure.

It was so decided.

3. The PRESIDENT (*interpretation from Russian*): Members of the Council have before them the report of the Secretary-General on the United Nations operation in Cyprus for the period from 1 December 1978 to 31 May 1979 [S/13369 and Add.1]. In addition, the Council has before it a draft resolution [S/13396] which was drafted during consultations among Council members.

4. I shall now put the draft resolution to the vote.

A vote was taken by show of hands.

The draft resolution was adopted by 14 votes to none.¹

One member (China) did not participate in the voting.

5. The PRESIDENT (*interpretation from Russian*): I now call on the Secretary-General who wishes to make a statement.

6. The SECRETARY-GENERAL: I have taken note of the resolution just adopted by the Council. I wish to assure the members of the Council that I shall continue to make every effort to carry out the mandate laid down in this resolution, in both its peace-keeping and its peace-making aspects.

7. I also want to inform the Council that, as agreed at the high-level meeting held at Nicosia under my auspices on 18 and 19 May, the intercommunal talks were resumed at Nicosia this morning. Under-Secretary-General Pérez de Cuéllar opened the first meeting on my behalf in the United Nations conference area at the Ledra Palace. Mr. George Ioannides represented the Greek Cypriot community and Mr. Umit Suleiman Onan represented the Turkish Cypriot community.

8. Mr. Pérez de Cuéllar read a message from me in which I referred to the historic importance of this occasion, which provides the parties with the opportunity of taking up again, after a two-year gap, the path of peaceful negotiations towards a just and lasting settlement of the Cyprus problem. I pointed out that it is now for the representatives of the two communities to build upon the consensus reached at the high-level meeting and to make progress in

¹ See resolution 451 (1979).

the direction of agreed solutions of the various aspects of the problem, with due regard for the principles and priorities indicated in the 19 May agreement. It will in the last analysis be for them to demonstrate on behalf of their communities the political will and statesmanship that alone can ensure such progress. I therefore appealed to the two representatives to devote themselves jointly to this task.

9. As provided in the high-level agreement, it is understood that the negotiations will be carried out in a continuing and sustained manner, avoiding any delay. It was agreed that there would be, as a rule, three formal meetings per week; what is equally important, there will be ample opportunity for private consultations.

10. At this point, I can only express the hope that it will prove possible during the next few weeks, with the co-operation of the parties, to use the impetus provided by the 19 May agreement. My representatives will certainly exert every effort to sustain that impetus. I shall follow the negotiations closely and shall not hesitate to intervene personally whenever I deem it appropriate to do so in the interest of the talks. I hope that the parties will be able to seize this opportunity. My best wishes and, I am sure, those of the international community are with them as they embark on this difficult and important task.

11. The PRESIDENT (*interpretation from Russian*): The first speaker is the representative of Cyprus, on whom I call.

12. Mr. MAVROMMATIS (Cyprus): Sir, allow me at the outset to extend to you our warmest and most sincere congratulations upon your assumption of the presidency of the Security Council for the month of June. Your well-known qualifications, skill and experience guarantee the successful discharge of the important tasks of the Council. The fact that you represent the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, a country that has constantly and consistently supported Cyprus and its just cause, is a further source of satisfaction for my country. I should also like to thank you and, through you, all the members of the Council for acceding to our request to participate in the present discussion.

13. The Security Council has already decided on a further renewal, with the consent of the Government of Cyprus, of the mandate of the United Nations Peace-keeping Force in Cyprus (UNFICYP). It is meeting today at a very auspicious moment, a few short hours after the resumption of the intercommunal dialogue at Nicosia, which was recently characterized by my Foreign Minister, Mr. Rolandis, as "the event of the year for Cyprus". For this most welcome occurrence we have to thank, first and foremost, the Secretary-General, Mr. Kurt Waldheim, for his tireless and painstaking efforts which culminated in the success of the meeting of 19 May last, a success which came as a pleasant surprise, even to those of us who sometimes wish to be incurably optimistic. Our grateful thanks go also to his collaborators, both in Cyprus and here in New York, and this is a unique opportunity to mention specifically and welcome back in the fold of Cypriologists Ambassador Mr. Pérez de Cuéllar, who brought with him not only his deep knowledge of the problem but also, perhaps, a touch of good luck.

14. Deep appreciation is more than deserved by Major-General Quinn and the officers and men of UNFICYP for doing such an excellent job in Cyprus, and our thanks go to those Member States which are providing contingents or making financial contributions to UNFICYP, with the rider that now more than ever, the presence of the Force is essential for the maintenance and improvement of conditions conducive to the success of the dialogue that has just begun.

15. Let me now turn to the 10-point agreement of 19 May 1979 [S/13369, para. 51]. This agreement, in the words of Mr. Kyprianou, the President of the Republic of Cyprus, contains all the essential elements and principles for a just solution of the Cyprus problem and constitutes the proper basis for negotiation and the framework for an acceptable solution. I would add that this agreement was a triumph of reason, and a triumph crowning months of persistent, skilful and patient work by the Secretary-General and his team. I wish particularly to mention also Mr. Brian Urquhart, Ambassador Galindo Pohl, Mr. George Sherry and Mr. Rémy Gorgé.

16. In responding to the appeal of the Secretary-General contained in paragraph 63 of his report, I shall try to be both brief and constructive.

17. It is an accepted fact that, apart from the agreement of 19 May 1979, which demonstrates once again that my Government has always been willing to negotiate not only in a sustained but also in a meaningful and substantive manner, nothing else has happened to resolve such important issues as the withdrawal of the Turkish army from Cyprus, the return of the refugees to their homes in safety, the restoration of human rights and fundamental freedoms and the accounting for the tracing of the missing persons.

18. Speaking about the missing persons, the most tragic chapter of the Cyprus drama, and having again to thank the Secretary-General for not missing the opportunity of attempting to resolve it afforded to him at the recent Nicosia meeting, I wish to express the disappointment of my Government over the lack of "information" regarding the submission to Mr. Denktas's "appropriate authorities" of the agreement already reached. I sincerely hope that those authorities, whoever they are, will view this concluded agreement with the compassion it deserves and that we shall not again be faced, as in the past, on this as well as on other issues, with backtracking; for such a retrograde step would be bound to poison the atmosphere of the talks and would, I am afraid, have a devastating effect on them. The first signs are already there. I plead with the Secretary-General to persevere in his efforts to have the agreement on the missing persons implemented.

19. Recent events in Cyprus have in no way altered the fact that the Cyprus problem persists, with all the potential danger that this entails; hence they in no way affect the obligation of the Security Council, the General Assembly and other international forums to deal with it in all its aspects and to demand a speedy resolution and compliance with decisions. Similarly, they in no way affect the sovereign right of the Government of the Republic to have recourse to these forums until the time that an agreement is reached.

20. The agreement of 19 May 1979 has not *per se* resolved any of the substantive issues and, for that to be achieved, we need the political will of the sides, and especially of the Turkish side, to resolve the problem in accordance with the four guidelines and, what is even more important, the United Nations resolutions relevant to the Cyprus question. To this end, the Security Council and its individual members, be they permanent or otherwise, have a significant part to play by reminding those that need to be both reminded and persuaded of their duties under the Charter, the United Nations resolutions and the agreements. We do not want to believe that the recent agreement was brought about by ulterior motives of a short-term nature, but if that was the case, then soon the whole matter will become crystal clear and every *bona fide* person will know and should speak out. We want to believe that the agreement was brought about by a genuine desire to achieve a breakthrough.

21. In the meantime, statements of the nature of some of those recently heard should be avoided, as the Secretary-General requested.

22. I need not remind the Council that the people of Cyprus of whatever origin—Greek, Turkish, Maronite or Armenian—have a common yearning, a yearning for peace and conciliation in an island where there are no armies, no refugees and no boundaries or lines of division and confrontation. The Government of Cyprus, I can assure the Council, will spare no effort to achieve the solution desired by the people of Cyprus, one which will safeguard the unity of the people and the unity of the country in accordance with the provisions of the relevant United Nations resolutions.

23. For my Government, the early, just and viable solution of the Cyprus problem, within the framework of the United Nations resolutions, is a political must, and I want categorically to assure the Council that the political will to work hard towards such a solution is ever present and to this end we shall work only in a continuous, sustained and result-oriented manner, but also in a meaningful and substantive manner, avoiding any delay.

24. I should like to thank all the members of the Council for unanimously adopting resolution 451 (1979), and particularly those members who took an active part in arriving at that resolution.

25. I should like to conclude by expressing our appreciation for the renewal of the mandate of UNFICYP and the hope that the intercommunal talks at Nicosia will soon result in a speedy resolution of the problem of Cyprus in accordance with the terms of the agreement of 19 May 1979.

26. The PRESIDENT (*interpretation from Russian*): The next speaker is the representative of Greece, on whom I now call.

27. Mr. KATAPODIS (Greece): Mr. President, it gives me great pleasure to present to you the warmest congratulations of my delegation upon your assumption of the presidency of the Security Council for this month. Your outstanding record in more than two years as your country's representative in this important body need not be underlined, while your well-deserved reputation as an expe-

rienced, wise and humane diplomat was fully justified by the skilful way in which you conducted the debate of the last few days on the situation in Southern Lebanon. An additional source of satisfaction to us is the fact that you represent a country with which mine maintains cordial relations and which has always lent its full and unqualified support to the independence, sovereignty, territorial integrity, non-alignment and demilitarization of the Republic of Cyprus. I should also like to thank you and the other members of the Council for giving me the opportunity to participate in its present deliberations.

28. The report of the Secretary-General which is on the Council's agenda covers two aspects of what has come to be known as the problem of Cyprus, namely, the renewal of the mandate of the United Nations Peace-keeping Force in Cyprus for a period of six months, and the developments which led to the 10-point agreement of 19 May for the resumption of the intercommunal talks.

29. As regards the renewal of the mandate, which has just been approved, it meets with the complete concurrence of my Government. In the 15 years of its presence in the island, UNFICYP has performed an exemplary task and can be counted among the most successful peace-keeping operations in the history of the United Nations. Our grateful thanks go to the Commander, officers and men of the Force, as well as to the Governments which for so long have contributed contingents to it, with the considerable economic burden that this entails. We should also like to thank all other contributing Member States. At the same time, we whole-heartedly support the appeal of the Secretary-General for new or increased pledges to ensure the continuation of the operation, which he deems indispensable for maintaining peace in the island.

30. The second, and perhaps more important, aspect of the problem covered by the Secretary-General's report concerns the resumption of the intercommunal talks. The Greek Government has always held the view that negotiation is the only way out of the present deadlock in Cyprus. It has consistently encouraged efforts to that effect. We are, therefore, gratified at the prospect of a new round of negotiations between the parties. This hopeful development would not have been possible without the untiring efforts, the dedication and the inventiveness of the Secretary-General, who cannot be praised enough for the success of his mission to Nicosia. He has received valuable help from his able collaborators, both at United Nations Headquarters and at Nicosia.

31. Due praise should also be given to the two parties concerned, and especially to the President and Government of Cyprus, who, by accepting to come once again to the negotiating table, despite the fact that the numerous United Nations resolutions calling for the withdrawal of foreign troops and the repatriation of the refugees have not even begun to be implemented, gave the best proof of their desire to approach the talks in a spirit of constructive co-operation.

32. Coming to the 10-point agreement itself, my Government considers that it constitutes a good framework for a viable settlement. We should like to underline in particular

the proviso that such a settlement should be based on the relevant resolutions of the General Assembly and the Security Council. Indeed, we firmly believe that these resolutions, by reaffirming the principles of the Charter which must govern the elimination of all international disputes, offer the only possible basis for allowing the Republic of Cyprus to function once more as an independent, unified and sovereign State.

33. Another encouraging development deriving from the Secretary-General's trip to Nicosia was the agreement of the Turkish Cypriot side to collaborate in the implementation of General Assembly resolution 33/172, concerning the search for missing persons in Cyprus. This is a purely humanitarian matter and we sincerely hope that full light will be shed on the fate of some 2,000 persons, a number of whom are Greek citizens.

34. The negotiations which, by a happy coincidence, have started on the very day of the Council's deliberations, will undoubtedly be arduous, protracted and demanding. There are still great differences separating the two communities in Cyprus. But if the political will, which has made the resumption of the talks possible, persists, we are hopeful that, with the assistance of all concerned, there will be an end to the tragedy of the Cypriot people, a tragedy that has brought suffering to all the inhabitants of the island, irrespective of their ethnic origin. The Greek Government, for its part, is determined to do everything in its power to help to bring about this result.

35. The PRESIDENT (*interpretation from Russian*): The next speaker is Mr. Atalay, to whom the Council has extended an invitation under rule 39 of its provisional rules of procedure. I invite him to take a place at the Council table and to make his statement.

36. Mr. ATALAY: Mr. President, I should like to thank you and the other members of the Council for having invited me to participate in this debate. I am confident that under your wise, patient and able guidance the Council will complete its proceedings smoothly and efficiently on the extension of the mandate.

37. I should like to express our appreciation to the Secretary-General, Mr. Waldheim, for his efforts to bring about a peaceful, just and lasting solution of the Cyprus problem. Our thanks and appreciation go also to Mr. Galindo Pohl and his deputy, Mr. Gorgé, the Special Representative of the Secretary-General in Cyprus. I should also like to thank the staff of the Secretariat for their endeavours. In this connexion the Under-Secretaries-General for Special Political Affairs Pérez de Cuéllar and Urquhart, the Director, Mr. Sherry, and Mr. Picco deserve mention.

38. We wish also to express our gratitude to the Commander of UNFICYP, Major-General Quinn, all the officers and men of UNFICYP and all the countries which have contributed towards the maintenance of the Force in the island.

39. On 22 May 1978 my President, His Excellency Mr. Denktas, said:

"I want to reiterate what I said to the press on Friday, 19 May 1978: I am ready to meet Mr. Kyprianou"—the

leader of the Greek Cypriot community—"anywhere, any time and discuss the problem with him even without an agenda." [S/12715, annex.]

I am more than happy to state that my President's offer for a summit meeting between Mr. Kyprianou and himself has, although after a lapse of exactly one year, materialized with a happy conclusion of a 10-point agreement.

40. The Turkish community, which has lived without peace and without security of life and property between 1963 and 1974, is pleased with the recent summit meeting that has resulted in the 10-point agreement. We should like on this occasion to express our appreciation to the Secretary-General for his efforts in this connexion.

41. The peace envisaged at the summit meeting would be within the four-point agreement reached between the late Archbishop Makarios and President Denktas in 1977 [S/12323 of 30 April 1977, para. 5]. Thus the two national communities, which have not known peace and tranquillity since 1955, would be able now to pursue the exercise of living side by side as friends within a bi-communal, bi-zonal federal system.

42. It is evident that the chief prerequisite for friendship is mutual trust. Also, it is obvious that the security of the Turkish community would be the main part of the foundation-stone on which the Makarios-Denktas principles are based.

43. We are quite confident that each and every peace-loving country in the world will support the efforts to establish a bi-zonal Federal Republic of Cyprus, which would guarantee the lives and properties of the Turkish Cypriot community in the island and prevent the recurrence of the events which took place prior to 1974.

44. Now, the Turkish community has reason to expect that the economic boycott and other measures imposed against the Turkish Cypriots since 1963 by the Greek side will be lifted. Furthermore, during the intercommunal negotiations, one-sided requests and the discussion of the question of Cyprus in international forums must not be encouraged. That would ensure that the peace talks proceed in a smooth and constructive manner. The two communities should be afforded the opportunity to make peace.

45. The agreement reached at the summit meeting has at long last brought the two communities to the negotiating table. As is known, the dialogue between them had been interrupted for the last two years.

46. As the Secretary-General pointed out in his report, the difficulties in the crux of the problem still remain and should not be underestimated. This fact has also been confirmed by the two leaders following the summit meeting. But, as Mr. Denktas, President of the Turkish Federated State of Cyprus, has emphasized, the fact that both sides have accepted this reality is in itself a positive step. President Denktas has also emphasized the necessity of conducting the negotiations with patience and the determination not to leave the table till the end. We wish success to the interlocutors in the historic task they have undertaken.

47. As for the question of missing persons raised by Mr. Mavrommatis, the representative of the Greek Cypriot Administration, I should like to inform the Council that Mr. Denktas has agreed to refer the matter to the Council of Ministers of the Turkish Federated State of Cyprus with his recommendations. As soon as the constitutional process is completed, we shall inform the Secretary-General accordingly. I particularly wanted to make this clarification to prevent any misunderstanding which might arise from the wording of paragraph 51 of the report of the Secretary-General.

48. I should now like to put on record our comments on the resolution that has just been adopted.

49. The resolution refers to the non-existing entity "the Government of Cyprus". As is known, this concept is not acceptable to us. The position of the Turkish Federated State of Cyprus on this issue has been put on record several times in this chamber. Therefore, I shall not repeat it now. Nevertheless, the Government of the Turkish Federated State of Cyprus is giving its consent to the extension of the mandate of the Force.

50. Furthermore, I have to bring to the Council's attention again the fact that the mandate of the Force is out of date and must be amended according to present realities.

51. In concluding, I should like to quote a paragraph from the statement delivered by President Denktas at a luncheon given to members of the foreign press by the Director of the Office of Public Information of the Turkish Federated State of Cyprus on 21 May 1979 at Magosa:

"The Cyprus problem can be and will be settled if people take no position on principle but say: 'We have to talk, talk until we begin to trust each other and until we begin to see how the other side is affected by what has happened, what the realities are and what is happening'. So the dialogue between the two communities is important, and I hope that all the members of the international community will do their utmost in this respect."

52. The PRESIDENT (*interpretation from Russian*): The next speaker is the representative of Turkey, on whom I now call.

53. Mr. ERALP (Turkey): Mr. President, I should like, in the first place, to thank you and, through you, the other members of the Council for inviting me to participate in the deliberations of this body. I hasten to say that it is a great privilege for me to take part in a meeting of the Council presided over by you. Your diplomatic skills and vast experience are widely appreciated and I am confident that under your wise and tactful guidance, which you have already amply displayed in the conduct of the consultations, the Council will be able to conclude its deliberations in a way that will enhance the chances for productive negotiations between the two communities in Cyprus. I should also like to pay a tribute to your country, the Soviet Union, with which my country enjoys constantly developing good-neighbourly and friendly co-operation.

54. As the Security Council today reviews the situation in Cyprus on the basis of the report of the Secretary-General

on the United Nations operation in Cyprus, room for optimism increases not only because of the calm and tranquillity prevailing in the island, but also in view of the fact that the intercommunal talks resumed only a few hours ago at Nicosia. The Cyprus question has today reached a stage where the common purpose of the international community, as well as that of the parties directly concerned, has been to encourage the conduct of the intercommunal talks in a continuing and sustained manner. We are confident that the members of the Council will grasp this opportunity to voice their firm support and their satisfaction at the heartening outcome of the summit meeting between the leaders of the two communities in Cyprus, held under the personal auspices of the Secretary-General, an outcome embodied in a 10-point agreement.

55. I take this opportunity to perform a pleasant duty by commending the Secretary-General on the success he has achieved in bringing about an agreement on a basis for the resumption of the intercommunal talks. Despite the enormous difficulties he encountered, the Secretary-General tenaciously and skilfully continued his efforts with a view to restarting the negotiating process between the two communities in Cyprus. That process is in fact the only valid exercise for the achievement of a just and lasting settlement of the Cyprus problem. He certainly deserves credit for the successful conclusion of the high-level meeting between the leaders of the two communities held under his auspices at Nicosia on 18 and 19 May.

56. I should like to express my deep appreciation of the statement that the Secretary-General has just made and of the assurances he has given that he will persevere in his peace-making efforts.

57. Our deep appreciation also goes to the Special Representative of the Secretary-General, Mr. Reynaldo Galindo Pohl, whose contribution to the search for peace has already proved extremely constructive. Our grateful thanks go also to the Under-Secretaries-General Brian Urquhart and Pérez de Cuéllar, and to Mr. George Sherry, Mr. Picco and their staff for the devotion and competence they have shown in the discharge of their respective duties.

58. I should be remiss if I did not strike a special note of gratitude to Mr. Pérez de Cuéllar, who once again proved himself to be an experienced diplomat possessing exceptional qualities and a deep knowledge of the affairs of Cyprus by successfully contributing to the preparatory work in the high-level meeting.

59. I should like to express once again the appreciation of my Government to the Member States which have contributed to UNFICYP. Last but not least, I wish to thank the Force Commander, Major-General James J. Quinn, and the officers and men of the Force for the competence they have shown in the discharge of their duties.

60. The breakthrough in efforts designed to bring about a resumption of the intercommunal talks was achieved precisely one year after President Denktas proposed a meeting between himself and Mr. Kyprianou. In fact, on 19 May 1978, President Denktas publicly stated that he was ready to meet Mr. Kyprianou anywhere and at any time to discuss

the problem with him even without an agenda. He also stated at that time that it would be much better if, instead of working at cross purposes, they came together in a search for a solution to the benefit of both communities. We are gratified that that proposal of President Denktas has eventually produced material results through the indefatigable efforts of the Secretary-General within the framework of his good offices, which culminated in the high-level meeting between the leaders of the two communities. The efforts and various initiatives of the Secretary-General in devising a basis for the resumption of the negotiating process, which have been pursued intensively since the second half of last December, always met with a constructive attitude and with encouragement from the Turkish Cypriot side. The efforts of the Secretary-General also received support and encouragement from my Government. The Turkish Government, which has always encouraged the intercommunal negotiations and taken steps to contribute to an easing of tension and the creation of an atmosphere of dialogue, welcomed the convening of the summit meeting between the leaders of the two communities and the 10-point agreement of 19 May that resulted from it. The decision by the Greek Cypriot leadership to follow the path of talks for an independent, non-aligned, bi-communal and bi-zonal federal republic has raised our hopes. We are cognizant of the fact that the Denktas-Kyprianou agreement is not a solution in itself, but it is a significant development and a major step forward in the right direction.

61. The negotiating process restarted today at Nicosia may be arduous, but there is no doubt that it has moved in a more concrete phase following the summit meeting between the leaders of the two communities. At this crucial moment, if the momentum of the procedural breakthrough of 19 May 1979 is to be maintained and if the talks are to be given a chance to succeed, it is essential that the parties should act constructively by abstaining scrupulously from any action that might jeopardize the outcome of the talks and by initiating practical measures in order to promote goodwill and mutual confidence. It is with regret and reluctance, however, that I am compelled to mention here the fact that, despite the diligence and restraint demonstrated by the Turkish Cypriot leadership in that respect, the record of the period between 19 May and now has been far from gratifying. Nevertheless, we shall continue to nurture the hope that the political will shown by the two community leaders to overcome the existing stalemate and to resume the intercommunal talks will also prevail throughout the negotiating process and thereby open the way to fruitful co-operation between the Turkish and Greek communities in Cyprus. My Government also believes that Turkey and Greece should assist and encourage the two national communities in Cyprus to find a viable and equitable solution of their problem through intercommunal talks.

62. Turning now to resolution 451 (1979), which the Council has just adopted, I should like to explain the position of my Government on it.

63. In the third preambular paragraph there is, as in previous resolutions on the same subject, an irrelevant reference to a Government of Cyprus. The Council must be familiar with our basic, unchanged position in that respect. Therefore, without going into the details of what we have

stated before the Council on this point, because they are already on record, I should like to stress once again that any compliance or co-operation with the peace-keeping effort in Cyprus on our part would be conditional upon the exclusion of the concept of an existing Government of Cyprus.

64. The resolution contains three operative elements. First, it gives UNFICYP a mandate for another six months. We concur in that extension having heard Mr. Nail Atalay, representative of the Turkish Federated State of Cyprus, who informed the Council of the consent of the Turkish Federated State of Cyprus in that respect. It should, however, be noted that Mr. Atalay has once again underlined the necessity of reviewing the mandate of the Force as established in 1964 in order to adopt it to the circumstances now prevailing in Cyprus and to the new and reduced dimensions of the problem.

65. In its paragraph 2, as well as in the fifth preambular one, a pertinent reference is made to the high-level meeting between the leaders of the two communities and the 10-point agreement resulting therefrom. The Turkish Government certainly joins the members of the Council in welcoming this important achievement. We ardently hope that the negotiations resumed today at Nicosia will be conducted in a continuing and sustained manner. My Government will continue with determination to support and encourage this negotiating process, with the expectation that it will lead to progress towards a just and lasting settlement within the framework of the Denktas-Makarios agreement of 12 February 1977, which continues to be the basis of the talks resumed today.

66. In its third important element, the resolution reiterates the mission of good offices of the Secretary-General in the intercommunal negotiations, as established by paragraph 6 of resolution 367 (1975). As has already been stated on numerous occasions, the Turkish Government fully supports the mission of good offices of the Secretary-General.

67. In view of the fact that the Secretary-General was absent from the meeting when I made part of this statement, I should like to mention once again how much I appreciate the statement he made this afternoon and the assurances he has given that he will persevere in his peace-keeping efforts.

68. Mr. LAI Ya-li (China) (*interpretation from Chinese*): The Chinese delegation has pointed out on many occasions that the Cyprus question was caused by prolonged imperialist colonial rule and that super-Power meddling and interference were the basic cause for the eruption of the Cyprus crisis in 1974 and the long-standing failure to solve the issue thereafter. In our view, despite the differences of one kind or another that exist between the Greek and Turkish Cypriots and between the parties directly concerned, they share identical basic interests and, therefore, they have every reason to seek an early solution of their differences through negotiations on an equal footing. Recently, we were very pleased to note the gratifying new progress that has been achieved on the Cyprus question. On 19 May of this year, under the auspices of the Secretary-General, talks were held between Mr. Kyprianou, President of Cyprus and leader of the Greek Cypriots, and Mr. Denktas, leader of the Turkish Cypriots. They reached a 10-point agreement and decided

to resume at Nicosia on 15 June the intercommunal talks which have been suspended for two years, thus achieving a breakthrough in the stalemate on the Cyprus issue. This progress is supported by both Cypriot communities and widely acclaimed by the people of all countries who are really concerned about the destiny of the people of Cyprus.

69. Needless to say, it will take some time to resolve the Cyprus question, which is a complex issue left over by history, and there may yet be obstacles and zigzags of one kind or another on the road ahead. However, what is essential now is after all the common ground shared by the two Cypriot communities and the parties directly concerned. They all stand for safeguarding the independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity of Cyprus and favour a settlement of the Cyprus question through negotiations. Furthermore, they are all faced with the threat of super-Power aggression and expansion. Now, with the emergence of a breakthrough in the stalemate, they will certainly be able to narrow their differences gradually and achieve a fair and reasonable settlement of the Cyprus question at an early date, so long as they take to heart the over-all interests of unity against imperialism and hegemonism, continue to guard against and firmly exclude super-Power interference and sabotage and carry on patient negotiations on an equal footing and in a spirit of mutual understanding and mutual accommodation. The Chinese Government and people entertain profound friendly sentiments towards the Cypriot people. We sincerely hope that the two Cypriot communities will continue their efforts on the basis of the results already attained and bring about an over-all and reasonable settlement at an early date. We believe that herein lie the basic interests of the two Cypriot communities and that this is the common desire of the third-world countries and all the other countries and peoples that uphold justice.

70. On the basis of the aforementioned position, we support the positive elements in draft resolution S/13396 welcoming the 10-point agreement reached between the two communities and urging them to proceed with the intercommunal talks within the framework of the 10-point agreement in a result-oriented manner, avoiding any delay. In the meantime, in view of the fact that the draft resolution mainly concerns the renewal of the mandate of UNFICYP, on which the Chinese delegation has always held its position of principle, the Chinese delegation did not participate in the vote on the said draft.

71. Mr. LUSAKA (Zambia): My delegation was happy to vote in favour of the resolution just adopted by the Council extending the mandate of the United Nations Peace-keeping Force in Cyprus for another six months, in accordance with the recommendation of the Secretary-General contained in his report which is before the Council. It is significant that the parties directly concerned have also expressed their concurrence with the recommendation of the Secretary-General. Clearly, there is a recognition of the vital, if not indispensable, role that UNFICYP has continued to play in promoting conditions of peace and stability in Cyprus and in contributing to the search for a just and durable solution.

72. I take this opportunity to commend the Secretary-General for the very lucid and objective report that he has

presented on this question. My delegation has studied this report with the utmost care, as it deserves, and we feel in duty bound to express our admiration for the tireless efforts of the Secretary-General and his staff in the search for a solution to the many intricate problems involved in the situation in Cyprus. In particular, my delegation wishes to commend the Secretary-General for the wisdom that he brought to bear at the high-level meeting held at Nicosia under his auspices on 18 and 19 May 1979, the purpose of which was to initiate an effective negotiating process, with a view to achieving a just and durable solution to the problem of Cyprus. The 10-point communiqué issued at the conclusion of that meeting is of tremendous significance, and my delegation hopes that its substance will provide the necessary impetus in further efforts to resolve the many complex issues that have for a long time bedevilled the situation in Cyprus.

73. Accordingly, my delegation is heartened by the news provided this afternoon by the Secretary-General about the resumption of the intercommunal talks this morning. We hope that these intercommunal talks will register further progress in the search for a solution to the problem of Cyprus. Indeed, we hope that the same spirit of statesmanship that prevailed at the meetings of 18 and 19 May will continue to inspire the leaders of Cyprus in their commitment to the resolution of the problems of their country.

74. There can, of course, be no question that in the final analysis the solution to the problem of Cyprus lies in the full implementation of General Assembly resolution 3212 (XXIX) as well as of subsequent Assembly and Security Council resolutions. My delegation is of the firm view that all foreign interference in the internal affairs of Cyprus should end and that the independence, sovereignty, territorial integrity and non-alignment of the Republic of Cyprus should be preserved.

75. I wish to conclude on a note of hope that the much needed permanent settlement of the problem of Cyprus will not continue to elude us.

76. Mr. McHENRY (United States of America): In renewing the mandate of the United Nations Peace-keeping Force in Cyprus for another six-month period, the international community recognizes that the continued maintenance of peace and stability on Cyprus is essential for serious, sustained and successful resumed intercommunal talks. UNFICYP has continued to fulfil its mandate in an exemplary manner. The impartiality and integrity it has displayed in its operations enhance the reputation which United Nations peace-keeping has justly earned as an effective force for maintaining stability in troubled areas of the world.

77. We renew the mandate of UNFICYP on the same date on which intercommunal talks have begun anew at Nicosia. UNFICYP therefore has the added opportunity of maintaining the peace while the parties exert every effort to arrive at a just and equitable settlement of their differences. Credit for the fact of these talks must be given to the Secretary-General for his unfailing efforts and to the willingness of the leaders of the two communities to demonstrate the necessary flexibility. The Council has every right to expect that

the representatives of the two communities participating in these talks will work to establish a moderate, flexible and statesmanlike atmosphere, so that genuine progress can be made towards a lasting solution in Cyprus.

78. If the resumed talks are sustained and constructive, as we hope, further opportunities for resolution of the issues dividing the two communities will present themselves. I am sure the Council shares with my Government the strong expectation that the negotiations will succeed and offers its support to the Secretary-General in the continuance of his good offices.

79. We continue to be deeply concerned that voluntary contributions to the maintenance of UNFICYP, still do not meet anticipated expenditures for the Force and that the deficit—which is owed primarily to the troop-contributing countries—continues to increase. Unfortunately troop contributors are forced to bear an inordinate and unfair share of the burden of maintaining their contingents in Cyprus. The United States has continued to contribute its fair share of the costs, and we greatly regret that some countries, including permanent members of the Council, have not responded to the repeated appeals of the Secretary-General for contributions. We urge Member States to meet their obligations, thereby giving concrete evidence of their commitment to international peace and security and to the promotion of a just and lasting Cyprus settlement.

80. In closing, I should like to express my Government's sincere appreciation to the Secretary-General and his Special Representative in Cyprus for their unceasing efforts to assist the parties to achieve a lasting settlement. A special note of thanks and best wishes is also offered to Under-Secretary-General Pérez de Cuéllar, who today presided over the beginning of the resumed intercommunal talks.

81. Finally, our particular thanks and fullest admiration are offered to Under-Secretary-General Urquhart and his able staff, to Major-General Quinn and the officers and men of the Force for the dedicated and professional manner in which they have carried out their important duties.

82. Mr. HULINSKÝ (Czechoslovakia) (*interpretation from Russian*): At the very beginning of the Cyprus conflict the main principles according to which it could be settled were reaffirmed within the United Nations—that is, strict respect for the independence, sovereignty, territorial integrity and non-aligned status of the Republic of Cyprus. The main requirement for a resolution of the Cyprus question has always been, and indeed remains, the immediate cessation of any foreign interference in the internal affairs of the country, the withdrawal of all foreign troops and the demilitarization of the island. As for the question of the State unity of the Republic of Cyprus, the United Nations resolutions do not admit of any equivocal interpretations. Respect for those principles is still the basis for making much-needed progress in resolving the problem of Cyprus and for the success of any diplomatic efforts.

83. Everybody is fully aware that there still exist certain external forces that would like to circumvent the principles of an international settlement of the problem of

Cyprus in order to resolve it, without taking account of the fundamental interests of the people of Cyprus, in pursuit of the policy of a narrow group of NATO States. That sort of "solution" of the problem of Cyprus would really only entrench the partition of the island and would transform the country into a pawn on the strategic chess-board of the Western countries.

84. The present meeting of the Security Council is taking place in a promising atmosphere following the recent agreement reached regarding the resumption of the intercommunal talks. The report of the Secretary-General is also significantly more optimistic than previous reports. My delegation would like to pay a tribute to the Secretary-General for the efforts he has exerted to discharge the difficult task entrusted to him by the Council—that is, the international solution of the question of Cyprus on the basis of United Nations resolutions. At the same time, we voice the hope that the intercommunal talks will be a tangible step towards the achievement of a just settlement of the internal aspects of the problems and will thus be of assistance in securing the existence of Cyprus as an independent, sovereign and united State in consonance with the interests of both national communities in the island.

85. The speedy elimination of the focal point of tension on Cyprus would be a stabilizing factor in the troubled eastern Mediterranean region and an important contribution to the cause of the strengthening of peace and security. It would be in accordance with the Final Act adopted at Helsinki and with the need to make progress in international détente.

86. Bearing in mind the wish expressed by the Government of the Republic of Cyprus, the Czechoslovak delegation voted in favour of the renewal of the mandate of UNFICYP for a further six months. I should like to express here the hope that the representatives of both national communities will use the renewed mandate of the Force to solve their internal problems in the interest of a just settlement of the conflict.

87. Mr. ÅLGÅRD (Norway): My delegation supported the extension of the mandate of the United Nations Peace-keeping Force in Cyprus for another period of six months. We did so because we feel that in the prevailing circumstances the continued presence of UNFICYP is indispensable.

88. My Government welcomes the 10-point communiqué issued at Nicosia at the high-level meeting under the auspices of the Secretary-General. We should like to express our sincere appreciation to the Secretary-General for his persistent and untiring efforts in this matter. We hope that the talks started today at Nicosia will bring a just and lasting solution to the Cyprus problem.

89. In conclusion, I should like to pay a tribute to the Commander of UNFICYP, Major-General James J. Quinn, to his staff, to the officers and men serving in UNFICYP and to the Special Representative of the Secretary-General.

90. Mr. LEPRETTE (France) (*interpretation from French*): The French delegation has always taken a position in favour of the draft resolutions providing for the renewal of the mandate of the United Nations Force stationed in Cyprus. But in so doing we have always been careful to remind everyone of the role of the Force as we see it, that is, to prevent acts of violence between the members of the two communities, thereby allowing their representatives to seek an over-all agreement in an atmosphere of relative calm.

91. For more than two years now, however, events have hardly lived up to the hopes and wishes we have expressed. Hence, the French authorities welcomed with deep satisfaction the 10-point agreement reached on 19 May at Nicosia. It was with the conviction that in itself it is already a positive element that my delegation voted in favour of the draft resolution submitted to us today. That agreement provides, in fact, for the resumption of the intercommunal talks, with no break in the continuity of and with respect for certain priorities mutually agreed upon by the parties.

92. The French authorities wish to thank the Secretary-General for the essential role he has played in this success and for the constant efforts he has made. They congratulate him on the result obtained. I would add that my delegation welcomed with particular satisfaction the news given us at the beginning of this meeting by Mr. Waldheim regarding the felicitous resumption of the intercommunal talks. My Government wishes to state in that connexion how much it admires the restraint and open-mindedness shown by the representatives of the two parties. Their positive attitude is an element essential to the development and success of the process that has resumed today in Cyprus. Fully aware of the difficulty and scope of the undertaking, aware also of the dangers involved in overestimating the scope of the agreement, my Government appeals to the parties to demonstrate the qualities of heart and mind necessary to the development and implementation of the momentum towards peace. The condition indispensable to the success of these negotiations is, need I recall, the political will of all sides to achieve a settlement. In any case, the settlement must be in conformity with justice and international law; it can be achieved only if the parties exert at the same time an effort towards compromise.

93. Finally, I should like to pay a tribute to the men and officers of the Force, who have served in an exemplary way under the command of Major-General Quinn. My delegation wishes also to thank Under-Secretary-General Pérez de Cuéllar and the Special Representative of the Secretary-General, Mr. Galindo Pohl, for the contribution they have made to peace. They may rest assured that they have our confidence and our support in their task.

94. Mr. PALACIOS de VIZZIO (Bolivia) (*interpretation from Spanish*): Once again the Council is considering one of the oldest and most difficult problems facing our Organization: peace and security in the Republic of Cyprus. However, my delegation believes that this time we can glimpse a real chance of lasting and effective peace in the Republic. Thanks to the indefatigable and effective work done by the Secretary-General, a fundamental, decisive step in that direction has been taken. Intercommunal talks, subject to

the guidelines established in the relevant communiqué, have begun. The initiative enjoys the full support of my delegation.

95. Bolivia voted in favour of the renewal of the mandate of the United Nations Peace-keeping Force in Cyprus for another six months, with the hope and the sincere desire that the dialogue that has started today will be approached by the two parties in the loftiest spirit of understanding. Only in that way can stable and lasting solutions be found which respect the rights and freedom of all the citizens and preserve the unity, sovereignty and integrity of the Republic of Cyprus.

96. I should not wish to conclude without expressing my delegation's gratitude to Mr. Galindo Pohl, Mr. Javier Pérez de Cuéllar and Major-General James Quinn for the effectiveness and dedication with which they have carried out and are continuing to carry out their important task.

97. Mr. MATHIAS (Portugal): Allow me at the outset to pay a tribute to the Secretary-General for the remarkable and effective work he has done in creating the conditions that led to the resumption of negotiations between the two Cypriot communities. The Portuguese delegation hopes that both parties will approach the resumed intercommunal talks which started this morning with the political will to bridge the differences that separate them. We believe that the 10-point communiqué referred to in the Secretary-General's report may constitute a sound basis for the effort now needed to overcome the difficulties that lie ahead.

98. These talks in our view should emphasize the benefits the two communities will enjoy co-existing in a free and peaceful way and respecting their specific differences and thus contributing to the development of their common country. We urge each party to be flexible and ready to acknowledge the needs of the other so that this aim can be achieved.

99. Portugal, therefore, voted in favour of the renewal of the mandate of the United Nations Peace-keeping Force in Cyprus, with the hope that its presence will help the search for a peaceful solution that will permit a return to normal conditions, thus allowing the Force later to withdraw, having fully accomplished its mandate.

100. I should further like to express my delegation's appreciation to all the officers and men of the Force and to the Secretary-General's staff for the effective way in which they have all been carrying out their task.

101. Mr. AHSAN (Bangladesh): Bangladesh voted in favour of the draft resolution renewing the mandate of the United Nations Peace-keeping Force in Cyprus for another six months. In doing so my delegation was conscious of the crucial role UNFICYP has played over the years and the vital contribution it can make by maintaining, as the Secretary-General has put it, a climate of calm in the island, thereby facilitating the search for a peaceful settlement.

102. Bangladesh welcomes the 10-point agreement which constitutes the basis for the resumption of intercommunal talks. We are all indeed grateful to the Secretary-General for the dedication and perseverance that he has displayed in

bringing this about. We also hail the statesmanship and the spirit of co-operation of the leaders of the two Cypriot communities. We would urge them to pursue this peaceful process to its logical end.

103. I wish in conclusion to express our thanks to the Secretary-General's Special Representative, to the Commander, the officers and men of UNFICYP and to the troop-supplying Governments for their contribution in maintaining this important peace-keeping operation.

104. Mr. BISHARA (Kuwait): Very briefly I should like to explain the vote of my delegation. The parties concerned have requested the extension of the mandate of the United Nations Peace-keeping Force in Cyprus for another six months and, because of that, the delegation of Kuwait voted in favour of the resolution just adopted by the Council. My Government is one of the very few that always responds very favourably to the appeal of the Secretary-General for financial contributions for the maintenance of the Force. We always maintain the position, however, that UNFICYP, while it has been providing a sense of quiet, has not played the role initially envisaged for it, that of an interim force that would encourage the parties towards a meaningful solution of the problem. Instead, it has provided a good shelter behind which the parties have entrenched their positions and consolidated their policies.

105. We cannot say that the situation has been very satisfactory. However, it is always good to light a candle rather than curse the dark. We note with relief that the unflagging efforts of the Secretary-General have brought about agreement on the 10-point programme reached at the meeting recently held between the leaders of the two communities. The Secretary-General deserves high commendation and praise for his patience and unmatched dedication to the solution of the problem.

106. We would also commend the parties concerned, both Turkish Cypriot and Greek Cypriot, for the constructive spirit displayed in the course of these talks. The parties concerned must know that the present situation is not acceptable. We are committed to the preservation of the independence, territorial integrity, non-aligned character and unity of Cyprus. We are also committed to assisting in any efforts directed towards the achievement of a just and comprehensive solution of the problem. There is no rhyme or reason in saying that the question of Cyprus is an internal matter in which the majority would decide the affairs of the Republic. It has always been the position of my Government that the Turkish Cypriots have the right to participate fully in the decision-making of the island. At the same time, they should seek the co-existence that can be obtained from co-operation rather than getting it on the basis of a fait accompli.

107. The Council's role at this stage is to reduce and eliminate the mistrust, suspicion and fear. In this connexion, the best we can do is to support to the hilt the efforts of the Secretary-General. The talks that have just started must be encouraged. What is important is that the present spirit of relaxation of tension that has brought about an atmosphere conducive to substantive negotiations must be preserved. The overriding problem is how to nurture that

atmosphere, encourage it and nurse it, in order to encourage the constructive spirit so far displayed by the parties concerned. The resolution just adopted is, in our view, a step in that direction.

108. Finally, my delegation would like to express its appreciation to the countries that contribute troops, to the officers and soldiers and to all those who work hard, including members of the Secretariat, for the achievement of a just and noble peace in Cyprus.

109. Mr. NEIL (Jamaica): The delegation of Jamaica is pleased to have supported the resolution just adopted by the Council renewing the mandate of the United Nations Peace-keeping Force in Cyprus for a further six months. From our examination of the Secretary-General's report, it is clear that the continued presence of the Force is indispensable, bearing in mind not only the objective requirements of the situation on the ground but also the significant political developments which have taken place under the auspices of the good offices of the Secretary-General.

110. Jamaica welcomes the fact that the intercommunal talks which have been stalled for so long were resumed this morning at Nicosia. It is our earnest hope that these talks will result in progress towards the restoration of harmony in Cyprus and a state of affairs where the independence, sovereignty, territorial integrity and non-alignment of Cyprus is respected and guaranteed in accordance with the relevant resolutions of the United Nations.

111. I should like to take the opportunity to congratulate the Secretary-General and his Special Representative for their patient and persevering efforts which have resulted in the resumption of the negotiating process and we also commend the parties directly concerned for the constructive co-operation they gave to the Secretary-General as he lent his good offices.

112. Finally, Jamaica expresses its sincere appreciation to the Commander of the Force, Major-General Quinn, and the officers and men of UNFICYP and its civilian staff for their dedicated work, both in the political and humanitarian aspects, which has allowed the situation to remain calm.

113. Mr. MANSFIELD (United Kingdom): I should like to begin by expressing my Government's pleasure at the outcome of the high-level meeting convened by the Secretary-General at Nicosia last month. The success of that meeting, in particular the agreement that the intercommunal talks should be resumed and that they should be carried out in a continuing and sustained manner, owes much to the spirit of enlightened statesmanship and co-operation which, in the words of the Secretary-General, prevail at the meeting. Our warm congratulations are also due to Mr. Waldheim for his skill and persistence in bringing the parties together, to his Special Representative in Cyprus, and to the members of his staff, in particular, Pérez de Cuéllar, for their unremitting efforts. It is our firm hope that the talks which began at Nicosia this morning will lead to a just and lasting settlement of the Cyprus problem. The efforts which the two communities are undertaking to achieve this will have the fullest support of the British Government.

114. I should also like to congratulate the Secretary-General on yet another comprehensive and lucid report on the operations of the United Nations Peace-keeping Force in Cyprus and on the exercise of his good offices. My Government accepts without reservation his recommendation that the UNFICYP mandate should be extended by a further six months and hopes to maintain the British contingent of the Force at its present strength for the next six months. We agree that UNFICYP continues to play an essential part in maintaining peace in Cyprus and should be kept in being while the resumed intercommunal talks are given reasonable time to achieve substantial progress.

115. We are grateful to the officers and men of UNFICYP for their dedication to their task. We hope, however, that the Secretary-General's further appeal for voluntary contributions for the financing of the Force will meet with a generous response. As the Secretary-General points out in paragraph 66 of his report, the financial situation of UNFICYP continues to be a cause for concern, with a disproportionate financial burden falling on those Governments which contribute troops to the Force. This most unsatisfactory situation ought to be rectified in the interest of equity and balance.

116. Mr. N'DONG (Gabon) (*interpretation from French*): Sir, as this is our first statement since you assumed the presidency of the Council for the month of June, I wish to take this occasion to extend to you our congratulations. Your great country, the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, and my own, the Republic of Gabon, enjoy very good relations, and it is with particular pleasure that the delegation of Gabon wishes you great success in your presidency and pledges to you its fullest co-operation.

117. We should also like to congratulate the representative of Portugal on the effective manner in which he discharged his functions as President of the Council for the month of May, a particularly busy and difficult month.

118. As has been remarked, my delegation voted in favour of the resolution just adopted which extended the mandate of the United Nations Force in Cyprus for an additional six months. In so doing, my delegation wished to express its confidence in the intercommunal talks. We in the delegation of Gabon believe that a solution to the Cyprus problem can be found only within the framework of those intercommunal talks, free of any foreign pressure. That is why my delegation, in the light of the Secretary-General's announcement a little while ago that the negotiations have resumed, wishes to congratulate him on the resumption of those intercommunal talks. We hope that they will lead to a settlement of this very delicate problem. But if those intercommunal talks are to be successful, there must be no foreign interference, and the non-aligned nature of Cyprus and its independence must be safeguarded.

119. It was in the light of these considerations that the delegation of Gabon voted in favour of the resolution just adopted.

120. The PRESIDENT (*interpretation from Russian*): I wish now to make a statement in my capacity as representative of the UNION OF SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLICS.

121. The delegation of the Soviet Union did not object to the extension of the mandate of UNFICYP for another six months: in fact, we voted in favour of it, inasmuch as the Government of the Republic of Cyprus had agreed to its extension. We assume that the financing of the Force will, as heretofore, take place on a voluntary basis.

122. In view of the resolution adopted by the Security Council regarding the extension of the UNFICYP mandate, the Soviet delegation would reaffirm its position of principle on the question of a Cyprus settlement.

123. The Soviet Union continues staunchly to advocate a solution of the Cyprus question on the basis of the principles of the independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity of the Republic of Cyprus, with strict respect for its policy of non-alignment.

124. The lack of any solution to the Cyprus problem, which has been with us for many years now, is the result of the continuing foreign interference in the internal affairs of Cyprus. In violation of United Nations decisions, certain NATO interests have not relented in their attempts to change the status of Cyprus as a non-aligned State by turning the island into the main NATO stronghold in the eastern Mediterranean. One must be aware of the aim of those interests to link the settlement process in Cyprus with narrow self-seeking political manoeuvres extraneous to the interests of the people of Cyprus. There is an urgent need to put an end to all foreign interference in the internal affairs of Cyprus and to halt any attempts to impose on Cyprus plans and decisions which run counter to the interests of its people. The withdrawal of all foreign troops from the island must be ensured, and the elimination of the foreign military bases guaranteed. The two national communities of Cyprus must be given an opportunity to settle the questions of the internal organization of their State themselves, free of foreign interference and taking account of the interests and rights of the Greek and Turkish communities.

125. The Soviet Union lays great stress on the immediate and full implementation of the United Nations resolutions on Cyprus. It is ready to promote by all such means a settlement of the problem of Cyprus aiming at guaranteeing the independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity of the Republic of Cyprus and serving the interests of peace and international security. To that end, the Soviet Union has proposed that a representative international conference should be convened within the context of the United Nations to examine the question of Cyprus. There is no doubt that the convening of that conference could provide an important element in achieving a just settlement of the problem of Cyprus and the strengthening of peace in the eastern Mediterranean.

126. In view of the meeting which took place in mid-May at Nicosia between the President of Cyprus, Mr. Kyprianou and the leader of the Turkish Cypriot community, Mr. Denktaş, under the aegis of the Secretary-General and thanks to his efforts, we should like to express the hope that the agreement reached at that meeting will open up prospects for the bringing together of the two sides. We hope that the intercommunal talks will bring positive results.

127. The Soviet delegation hopes that this further renewal of the UNFICYP mandate will be used by both sides to reach a settlement of the controversial issues in the interests of ensuring the independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity of the Republic of Cyprus and its status as a non-aligned State.

128. Speaking now as PRESIDENT, I call on the representative of Cyprus, who has asked to be allowed to speak.

129. Mr. MAVROMMATIS (Cyprus): Thank you very much, Mr. President, for allowing me to speak again. I have asked to do so to thank once again the members of the Council for adopting resolution 451 (1979) and even more to

thank them for reaffirming their position on the question of Cyprus, which is a source of encouragement to us.

130. We have heard certain allegations this afternoon and one might have wished that they would find no place here or thought that they had none in view of the prevailing climate. Those statements would normally call for a reply, but I shall not reply, because if I were to do so I would have to mention a few truths, which might be misunderstood as not being conducive to maintaining the prevailing climate. In any event, our position with respect to each and every one of those allegations is well known to the members of the Council.

The meeting rose at 5.55 p.m.

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