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QUESTION OF CYPRUS

SECURITY COUNCIL
Thirty-seventh year

Letter dated 14 May 1982 from the Chargé d'Affaires a.i. of the
Permanent Mission of Turkey to the United Nations addressed to
the Secretary-General

I have the honour to enclose herewith a letter dated 14 May 1982 addressed to you by Mr. Nail Atalay, the representative of the Turkish Federated State of Kibris.

I should be grateful if this letter were circulated as a document of the thirty-sixth session of the General Assembly, under agenda item 35, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) Ömer ERSUN
Minister
Deputy Permanent Representative
Chargé d'Affaires a.i.

ANNEX

Letter dated 14 May 1982 from Mr. Nail Atalay
to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to attach herewith the text of a letter dated 12 May 1982 addressed to Your Excellency by His Excellency Dr. Kenan Atakol, Minister for Foreign Affairs and Defence of the Turkish Federated State of Kibris.

I should be grateful if this letter were circulated as a document of the thirty-sixth session of the General Assembly, under agenda item 35, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) Nail ATALAY
Representative of the
Turkish Federated State
of Kibris

APPENDIX

Letter dated 12 May 1982 from Mr. Kenan Atakol
to the Secretary-General

It has come to our knowledge that the Greek Cypriot administration, purporting to represent the whole of Cyprus, has acceded to the Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide, and that its instrument of accession was received by the Office of Legal Affairs of the United Nations Secretariat on 29 March 1982.

At the outset, I would like to make it clear that, as a people who have experienced tragic events akin to genocide, the Turkish Cypriots abhor very strongly not only the act of genocide, but any act or attempt at subjugation of a people or a nation by another, and, for this reason, would like to see the abhorrence of genocide made universal by having the signature of every people and country put under the Convention.

It is, however, fair to argue that the Turkish people of Kibris, as the co-founder partner of the Republic of Cyprus, must have a say on such contractual matters and undertakings which are intended to be binding on the Republic of Cyprus and on all its population. The purpose of this letter is to draw Your Excellency's attention to the legal and constitutional gaps which are created by this unilateral signing of the Convention by the Greek Cypriot administration.

I need not go into a detailed citing of the Turkish Cypriot views on the matter. Your Excellency's knowledge and understanding of the issue leave me only to say that the Greek Cypriot administration has no legal or constitutional authority to sign the Convention on behalf of the Republic of Cyprus. The signature of the Greek Cypriot administration can only bind the Greek Cypriot community, and not the Republic of Cyprus which is a bicomunal republic of Turkish and Greek Cypriots. As it is, as far as the Republic of Cyprus de jure is concerned, this accession is incomplete. For the accession to be complete, and legally binding on the Republic of Cyprus, the Turkish Cypriot wing of the Republic must also sign the Convention, and I am pleased to inform you that we are ready and willing to put our signature under the Convention.

Here I recall the speech made by the late Archbishop Makarios at Panayia Church, on 4 September 1962, in which he, inter alia, professed: "... unless this small community forming a part of the Turkish race which has been the terrible enemy of Hellenism is expelled, the duty of the heroes of EOKA can never be considered as terminated". It is very ironic that the Greek Cypriot leadership, which for years tried to implement this policy of oppression and extermination of the Turkish Cypriots in order to achieve enosis, can now pretend to be innocent and accede, 20 years too late, to the Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of

the Crime of Genocide without the consent of the Turkish Cypriot people, the co-founder partner of the Republic of Cyprus. I would, however, like to reiterate the willingness of the Turkish Cypriot people and of its Government to sign the Convention and render it legally binding on the Cyprus Republic and effective in all parts of the country.

(Signed) Dr. Kenan ATAKOL
Minister for Foreign Affairs
and Defence
Turkish Federated State of Kibris
