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QUESTION OF CYPRUS

Letter dated 10 May 1983 from the Permanent Representative
of Turkey to the United Nations addressed to the President
of the General Assembly

I have the honour to attach herewith a letter dated 10 May 1983 addressed to you by Mr. Nail Atalay, representative of the Turkish Federated State of Kibris.

I should be grateful if this letter were circulated as a document of the thirty-seventh session of the General Assembly under agenda item 37.

(Signed) A. Coşkun KIRCA
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

ANNEX

Letter dated 10 May 1983 from Mr. Nail Atalay
to the President of the General Assembly

Upon instructions from my Government, I have the honour to refer to the decision of the General Assembly to allocate the item "Question of Cyprus" to the plenary with a short interruption of the proceedings to enable the representatives of the two communities to express their views in the Special Political Committee, and to inform Your Excellency that this procedure, which in our view is legally improper, is unacceptable to the Turkish Cypriot side.

Resolutions of the General Assembly have established the principle of equality between the two parties to the Cyprus dispute, namely the Turkish Cypriot and Greek Cypriot communities, and have also recognized that a solution to the Cyprus problem can only be achieved through negotiations carried out between the two national communities on an equal footing.

The principle of equality was endorsed by the Denktas-Makarios framework agreement of 12 February 1977, later confirmed by the two leaders of the two national communities concerned, Mr. Denktas and Mr. Kyprianou, at the summit meeting on 19 May 1979.

The procedure decided by the General Assembly is therefore not consistent with the acknowledged principle of intercommunal equality, and furthermore the application of this procedure precludes the General Assembly from becoming fully acquainted with the views of the Turkish Cypriot community thereby rendering any debate on the question of Cyprus inherently incomplete.

H.E. Mr. Imre Hollai
President of the General Assembly
United Nations

NEW YORK

The Turkish Cypriot side holds the view that only by implementing the acknowledged principle of equality of the two national communities can a solution to the problem be achieved and that unequal treatment on the occasion of the General Assembly debate on the "Question of Cyprus" is bound to be detrimental to a negotiated settlement of the problem.

Under these circumstances, the Turkish Cypriot community having thus been barred from participating in the proceedings of the General Assembly on the "Question of Cyprus", has no alternative but to reject a priori any association with a resolution to be adopted by the General Assembly in accordance with such procedures.

I should be grateful if this letter were circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda item 37.

Please accept, Your Excellency, the renewed assurances of my highest consideration.



Nail Atalay
Representative of the
Turkish Federated State
of Kibris
