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Letter dated 17 September 2010 from the Permanent Mission of Turkey to the United Nations Office at Geneva addressed to the President of the Human Rights Council

The delegation of the Republic of Turkey makes the following statement in connection with the letter dated 27 August 2010 (A/HRC/15/G/2) containing unfounded accusations concerning Turkey's contribution to the universal periodic review process and the Cyprus problem.

It is a well-known fact that the Republic of Cyprus was established in 1960 in accordance with international treaties, on the basis of a partnership between the two peoples of the island. The international treaties were based on the equality of political rights and status of the Turkish and Greek Cypriot peoples of the island. This state of affairs, and therefore the "Republic of Cyprus", ceased to exist as such after its Constitution was unilaterally abrogated in 1963 by the Greek Cypriot side by use of force and the Turkish Cypriots ousted from State mechanisms. The Turkish Cypriot side and Turkey have never accepted this illegal and illegitimate situation, which amounted to the deprivation of the Turkish Cypriot people of the use of their rights as equal partners in the State established in 1960.

Thus, the Greek Cypriots who organized themselves under their own constitutional order and within their boundaries cannot be the legitimate government representing the whole of Cyprus. Turkey will continue to regard the Greek Cypriot authorities as exercising authority, control and jurisdiction only in the territory south of the buffer zone, as is currently the case, and as not representing the Turkish Cypriot people, and will treat the acts performed by them accordingly. There is no single authority that in law or in fact is competent to represent jointly the Turkish Cypriots and the Greek Cypriots, consequently Cyprus as a whole.

As in the past, the Turkish Cypriot side is making sincere efforts in the ongoing United Nations negotiation process towards a new partnership in line with the established United Nations parameters and the leaders' joint statements, which will allow for a legitimate representation of Cyprus once again. Turkey, as guarantor and motherland, fully supports these efforts. To date, the Greek Cypriot side has not displayed the necessary political will for a comprehensive settlement. If it is motivated and encouraged to show a more positive attitude, it will be possible to conclude the negotiations successfully by the end of 2010, as suggested by the Secretary-General, to end this almost half-century-long

problem. This, in turn, will greatly contribute to peace and stability in the whole area of the eastern Mediterranean and will be in the interest of the entire international community.

At the sixth and eighth sessions of the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review, Turkey was left with no other option than to put its well-known position on the record in response to the allegations contained in the report drafted by the Greek Cypriots (A/HRC/WG.6/6/CYP/1), as well as to their statement made during the review of Turkey.

The statement made by Turkey at the sixth session of the Working Group and its position concerning some of the recommendations made during its review at the eighth session are fully in line with universal periodic review rules and practices, and were adequately reflected in the draft reports adopted by consensus.

Therefore the Greek Cypriot administration is the sole party responsible for the negative precedents that have been set for the universal periodic review process by taking the following steps:

- The unacceptable allegations levelled against the Turkish Cypriot side and Turkey contained in the report drafted by the Greek Cypriot administration for the sixth session of the Working Group (A/HRC/WG.6/6/CYP/1)
- The deplorable absence of the representatives of the Greek Cypriot administration during the adoption of the draft report of the Working Group on 4 December 2009
- The politicized statement made by the Greek Cypriot delegate during the review of Turkey at the eighth session of the Working Group on 10 May 2010, despite the fact that there was no single reference to the Greek Cypriot administration or to the Cyprus issue in the national report drafted by Turkey for its review (A/HRC/WG.6/8/TUR/1)

I would appreciate it if the present letter could be circulated as a document of the Council under agenda item 6.

(signed) Oğuz DEMİRALP
Ambassador, Permanent Representative
