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QUESTION OF THE VIOLATION OF HUMAN RIGHTS AND FUNDAMENTAL
FREEDOMS, INCLUDING POLICIES OF RACIAL DISCRIMINATION AND
SEGREGATION AND OF APARTHEID, IN ALL COUNTRIES, WITH
PARTICULAR REFERENCE TO COLONIAL AND OTHER DEPENDENT COUNTRIES
AND TERRITORIES

Note verbale dated 21 October 1975 from the Permanent Representative
of Cyprus to the United Nations Office at Geneva addressed to the
Chairman of the Commission on Human Rights

The Permanent Representative of Cyprus to the United Nations Office at Geneva presents his compliments to the Chairman of the Commission on Human Rights and, with reference to resolution 1 (XXVIII) of the Sub-Commission on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities, has the honour to bring to his attention the following:

1. It may be recalled that operative paragraph 2 of the said resolution invited "the parties concerned to do their utmost for a just solution and the return of all displaced persons to their homes in safety" in accordance with the relevant United Nations resolutions. Not only no move so far has been made by Turkey for the implementation of this resolution but, quite to the contrary, every pressure is being exerted on the remaining Greek-Cypriots in the Turkish held areas (North) aiming at forcing their departure to the part of Cyprus under Government control (South).
2. The above constitutes not only a contravention of the above resolution and a negation of basic human rights enshrined in the Universal Declaration and the Governments but also a violation of the Agreement arrived at, during the inter-communal talks, in Vienna (31 July - 2 August 1975). It should be noted that although the undertakings of the Greek side were scrupulously observed and faithfully carried out, the part of the Agreement concerning the undertakings by the Turkish side has not been honoured. In fact, it was agreed that Greek Cypriots presently in the North would be free to stay and that they would be given every help to lead a normal life, including facilities of education and for the practice of their religion, as well as medical care by their doctors; also they would enjoy freedom of movement in the North. These obligations solemnly undertaken by the Turkish side during the talks held under the chairmanship of the Secretary-General of the United Nations have been ignored thereafter, and specific instances to that effect are given in the attached Annex.

3. Inasmuch as the said attitude of Turkey runs counter to the above resolution of the Sub-Commission, the implementation of which the Commission on Human Rights has been requested to review at its forthcoming session, it is considered appropriate that the Chairman would be informed accordingly with the request for onward transmission to the members of the Commission.

The Permanent Representative of Cyprus avails himself of this opportunity to renew to the Chairman of the Commission on Human Rights the assurances of his highest consideration.

ANNEXImplementation of the Vienna Talks AgreementViolations by the Turkish Side1. Facilities for Medical Care to Greek-Cypriots in the North

Within the spirit of the Vienna Agreement and in particular to the relevant provision the Greek side submitted on 23 September 1975 a list containing 15 serious medical cases for transfer to the South on medical grounds and after treatment/recovery for return back to the North.

Unfortunately so far the Greek side has not been advised of any action on these cases and this delay is causing a deep concern. The urgency of the subject is based on the fact that already one person (Christos Yeraniotis) has died and according to recent information there are another two cases which are so serious that unless urgent action is taken we might have very shortly two additional deaths. In addition to the above list a further list of four persons was also submitted.

2. Educational Facilities for Greek-Cypriots in the North

The situation concerning educational facilities in the North does not satisfy the spirit and the relevant provision on education of the Vienna Talks.

It is obvious from the behaviour of the Turkish side on the issue, that the Turkish "authorities" policy is to follow delaying tactics on the grounds of "security and other reasons" to implement their plans aiming at forcing the Greek-Cypriots to move to the South as they know too well that the Greeks will move out for their children's sake in case there are inadequate education facilities.

3. Greek-Cypriots' Voluntary Transfer to the South

According to the Agreement of the third round of the Vienna Talks it was agreed that the Greek-Cypriots at present in the North, who, at their own request and without having been subjected to any kind of pressure, wish to move to the South, will be permitted to do so but such requests to be verified by the UNFICYP to avoid any question of pressure.

Unfortunately since the Vienna Talks there have been many cases of transfers of Greek-Cypriots to the South in violation of this Agreement.

The violation by the Turkish side takes the form of transfers on the pretext of voluntary requests by Greek-Cypriots, without the required United Nations verification as to the genuine wishes of the transferees.

The transferees arrive in small numbers at regular intervals, nearly day by day, some with and some without their belongings and without even a courtesy advice to UNFICYP or the Greek-Cypriot side; the transferees are also asked to pay the Turks transport charges sometimes up to £20.00 for each person although the arrangement is that any agreed transfers will be made by United Nations transport.

It is also worth mentioning that the transfers were in the past concentrated to Greek-Cypriot inhabitants of the Kyrenia area but recently there have been cases of transfers from the Karpass area as well.

A large number of enclaved Greek-Cypriots have already fled to the South as a result of the Turkish pressure.

4. Re-unification of Greek-Cypriot Families in the North

Although at the third round of talks in Vienna it was agreed that "in connexion with the implementation of the above agreement priority will be given to the re-unification of families, which may also involve the transfer of a number of Greek-Cypriots, at present in the South, to the North", this subject is causing the Greek side a deep concern as although the relevant lists had been submitted to the Turkish side a long time ago, many cases have still been left outstanding.

Unfortunately the Turkish side continues to give the same excuse for delay which has become a "standard statement" and which is the "under consideration" policy.

5. Stocks of Grain kept at Co-operative Stores in the Karpass Area

This year's crop is being kept by the Turkish side in the Co-operative Stores of the Karpass peninsula and no permission has been given by the Turkish side for the transfer of the said stock and delivery to the Grain Commission in the South.

6. Restrictions to the Right of Property of the Greek-Cypriots imposed by the Turkish Side

According to reliable information a general confiscation of properties of the Greek-Cypriot refugees has been made by the Turkish "authorities".

The enclaved Greek-Cypriots are forced to sell their products at very low prices. The harvesting of olives has been prohibited and in some cases during which the Greek-Cypriots have been seen harvesting their olives, the Turks burned down the trees.

7. The Right of Correspondence of the Enclaved Greek-Cypriots with the Outside World

The Greek-Cypriots' right of correspondence with the outside world is in substance deprived by the Turkish "authorities". Their correspondence, if allowed, consists of short messages censored by the Turkish Army.