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Letter dated 5 June 1985 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the
Permanent Mission of Cyprus to the United Nations addressed to
the Secretary-General

I have the honour to refer to the letter of the Permanent Representative of the Republic of Cyprus to the United Nations, Ambassador Constantine Moushoutas, dated 3 May 1985 (A/39/893-S/17150), enclosing a letter addressed to Your Excellency by the Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Cyprus, Mr. George Iacovou, apprising you, and through Your Excellency the General Assembly and the Security Council, of certain imminent illegalities in the occupied territory of the Republic of Cyprus. These were the holding by the occupying power of a purported "referendum" on a so-called "constitution" - which took place on 5 May 1985 - and the announcement that various "elections" would be held in June 1985.

Upon instructions from my Government, I must now, in addition, draw Your Excellency's attention to another serious matter, the colonization aspect involved, as revealed by the decisive percentage of Anatolian "votes" on 5 May 1985. Turks from Anatolia - as everyone knows - have been illegally implanted in the Republic of Cyprus by the Government of Ankara with the sole aim of changing the demographic structure of the island and of promoting the endless faits accomplis perpetrated by the invaders in and against Cyprus.

As you are aware, after Turkey's mid-1974 invasion and occupation of almost 37 per cent of the territory of the Republic of Cyprus, the Turkish Army expelled from the occupied area most of the Greek Cypriots established there at that time, comprising about one third of the island's population. Subsequently, between 1975 and 1977, the Government of Turkey drove out nearly all the remaining Greek Cypriot population of the Karpass Peninsula, still under Turkish military occupation.

In the homes of the expelled Greek Cypriots, Turkey accommodated about 43,000 Turkish Cypriots, who had left the free areas of the Republic of Cyprus.

At about the same time, the Government of Turkey systematically began a policy of colonization, bringing over thousands of Turkish mainland settlers from Anatolia. Such conduct, be it noted, is defined by article 85, paragraph 5, of Protocol I of 8 June 1977 to the Geneva Convention as a "war crime". As is known, such conduct also violates peremptory norms of international law, the Charter of the United Nations and resolutions of the United Nations on Cyprus.

It is clear from Turkish Cypriot published sources that there has been a massive influx of Turkish Anatolian settlers, altering the demographic composition of the occupied area. From "official" Turkish Cypriot sources it appears that there are in 1985 between 60,000 and 65,000 settlers in the occupied area of the Republic of Cyprus.

Already in August 1979, the Turkish Cypriot press had claimed that there were over 50,000 settlers from Turkey ("Aydinlik", 15 May 1979 and 27 August 1979). Even the so-called "Prime Minister of the Turkish Federated State of Cyprus", Mr. Cagatay, indicated that 45,000 settlers had been settled by the beginning of 1980 ("Halkin Sesi", 29 February 1980).

These figures have been corroborated by the recent "electoral" statistics. In the "referendum" there were 91,810 registered voters aged 18 or more. Using Turkish statistics, 65.7 per cent of the population are aged 18 or more. This gives a "citizen" population of 139,740. According to the statistics of the Denktash régime, the Turkish Cypriot community is 160,287. This means that, from what the Turkish side admits, there are now 20,500 non-Cypriot Turks who have not yet acquired the "right to vote".

These facts are extremely serious. Already for the 1980 "elections" a flood of mainland Turks was incorporated in the "voting registers". Within five days, 14,149 Turkish Republic citizens were registered ("Aydinlik", 18 April 1980). At that time, settlers were 22.2 per cent of the Turkish Cypriot electorate ("Soz", 14 April 1980). This process has since then continued unabated, as proved by the 1985 "referendum".

Turkish Cypriot newspapers are now complaining that the settlers' votes played a very important role in the "referendum" (e.g. "Yeniduzen", 6, 7 and 9 May 1985; "Ortam", 8, 9 and 11 May 1985 and "Hurriyet", 7 May 1985), since half of the Turkish Cypriots either voted against it or abstained.

The future of Cyprus is thus being affected by a masquerade of a "free election" and a "free referendum" in which Anatolian settlers from the Republic of Turkey have been allowed to determine the result. Indeed, the "official" Turkish Cypriot press statistics make it obvious that it was in settler areas that there was "voting" and not "abstention", and that it was in such areas that there was a "yes" majority vote rather than a "no" majority vote in the "referendum" ("Special News Bulletin", 8 May 1985).

In an era when the last remnants of colonialism rapidly disappear from humanity, the Government of Turkey implements in Cyprus a policy of colonialism, worse than ever. It is essential that the Security Council be reminded of Turkey's

colonization of Cyprus and the role that the Government of Turkey has given its settlers. It is vital that the resolutions of the United Nations on the question of Cyprus be observed and that the foreign settlers in the island, in breach of the aforesaid Geneva Convention, as well as of resolutions of the United Nations, return to their homeland, Turkey.

I should be grateful if this letter were circulated as a document of the thirty-ninth session of the General Assembly, under agenda item 42, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) Phedon PHEDONOS-VADET
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