



Security Council

Distr.
GENERAL

S/17227/Add.1
11 June 1985

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

REPORT BY THE SECRETARY-GENERAL ON THE UNITED NATIONS
OPERATION IN CYPRUS

(For the period 13 December 1984 to 11 June 1985)

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1. GOOD OFFICES OF THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

1. During the period under review, I pursued the mission of good offices entrusted to the Secretary-General by the Security Council in resolution 367 (1975) and continued in subsequent resolutions, most recently in resolution 559 (1984).
2. In my report of 12 December 1984 (S/16858), I gave an account of the developments which led to the convening of the joint high-level meeting at United Nations Headquarters from 17 to 20 January 1985. As I informed the Council in my report of 2 February 1985 (S/16858/Add.2), the Turkish Cypriot side stated at that meeting that it accepted the draft agreement as contained in the documentation which I had presented, while the Greek Cypriot side stated that, in conformity with its understanding, it accepted the documentation as a basis for negotiations, and had come to the joint high-level meeting with a view to having constructive and meaningful negotiations. Despite this situation, I remained convinced, given their respective positions on the substance of the documentation, that the gap which had persisted for so long had never been so narrow. It was therefore essential to preserve and build upon the important progress that had been made prior to the joint high-level meeting. I addressed an appeal to both sides, which I reiterated on numerous occasions during the following months, to avoid any action which would make our task more difficult and might detract from our objective.
3. Following contacts with the two sides, I decided to concentrate my efforts on overcoming the difficulties which had arisen during the January meeting, while preserving the substance of the documentation, and I so informed the leaders of the two communities. Towards this end, I incorporated the components of the documentation into a single consolidated draft agreement, endeavoured to bring greater clarity to its various elements, and devised possible procedural arrangements for the follow-up action.
4. In order to further this process, on 11 March 1985, I met with His Excellency President Kyprianou at his request in Geneva. In that meeting I sought to ascertain his views on the consolidated draft agreement, including the clarifications of its various elements and the possible procedural arrangements. Likewise, Foreign Minister Iacovou came to Oman to meet with me on 3 April 1985.
5. Upon receiving an affirmative reply from the Greek Cypriot side, I wrote to His Excellency Mr. Denktas on 12 April 1985, to inform him of the status of my efforts and sought the views of the Turkish Cypriot side. In the contacts that followed, Mr. Denktas stated that due to the referendum and elections which his community intended to conduct during May and June 1985, the Turkish Cypriot side was not in a position to engage in substantive discussions until that process was completed.
6. In this connection, I must report that the referendum and elections have been the subject of strong representations that were conveyed to me in letters from the Permanent Representative of Cyprus. The letters emphasized inter alia that such actions violated United Nations resolutions on Cyprus, in particular Security Council resolutions 541 (1983) and 550 (1984) (see A/39/893-S/17150 and A/39/907-S/17241). The Turkish Cypriot side maintained that it had the right to

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engage in such a process, and that this would not hinder prospects for a federal solution to the Cyprus problem to which it remained committed (see A/39/902-S/17198). On 6 May 1985, my spokesman stated that the United Nations, as reaffirmed by the Security Council, recognizes no Cypriot State other than the Republic of Cyprus, and that therefore the Secretary-General cannot condone any development or action which is at variance with that position.

7. With regard to the Committee on Missing Persons in Cyprus, I appointed, effective 28 April 1985, Mr. Paul Wurth of Switzerland to succeed the late Claude Pilloud as the third member of the Committee. Mr. Wurth was selected by the International Committee of the Red Cross with the agreement of both sides (see S/16858, para. 53). The Committee on Missing Persons is now once again complete and is expected to resume its work this month.

II. OBSERVATIONS

8. Despite the outcome of the January meeting, I remain convinced that an agreement is within reach. My approach since January has taken into account the fact that the Turkish Cypriot side had agreed to the documentation; and I therefore assumed that it would wish to preserve what had been achieved and stand by its acceptance, provided the other side also agreed. As I have reported above, the outcome of my subsequent efforts to overcome the obstacles which had stood in the way of the acceptance of the documentation by the Greek Cypriot side has since been positive. The Turkish Cypriot side has not yet made known its position on the efforts I have undertaken since January, and I am awaiting its response.

9. In order to create an atmosphere that is conducive to progress, it is important that both sides refrain from making public statements that are at variance with the positions they have taken in the context of my mission of good offices. Such statements only contribute to the cycle of distrust and increase the danger of the two sides reverting to mutually irreconcilable attitudes.

10. Even though I am not as yet able to report to the Council that the two sides have reached an agreement, I believe that the substance of the documentation which has been worked out during the past ten months of strenuous effort, represents the formula most likely to lead to a just and lasting solution to the Cyprus problem. Provided both sides manifest the necessary goodwill and co-operation, an agreement can be reached without further delay. I therefore intend to intensify my diplomatic action in the coming weeks, and would welcome the support of all those who are interested in such an outcome.
