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QUESTION OF CYPRUS

SECURITY COUNCIL
Forty-fifth year

Letter dated 23 April 1990 from the Permanent Representative of
Cyprus to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to bring to your attention that the letters dated 27 March and 12 April 1990, addressed to you from the Permanent Representative of Turkey to the United Nations, and circulated as documents of the General Assembly and the Security Council (A/44/932-S/21212) and (A/44/937-S/21245), are in abuse of the processes and the mechanisms that have been established in the United Nations system in order to promote the cause of the Organization which, among other things, as we all know, is to offer a platform for co-operation and conciliation.

In requesting the circulation of the above-mentioned letters, a practice repeated on numerous occasions in the past, the Permanent Representative of Turkey creates a climate of controversy and promotes an entity which was condemned strongly and unequivocally by the Security Council when resolutions 541 (1983) and 550 (1984) were adopted. To request the Secretary-General to circulate letters and statements emanating from and expressing the views of an illegitimate entity as a document of the Security Council, is an act involving contempt for the very same Security Council which condemned this illegal entity and at the same time requested all United Nations Member States not to recognize it. This behaviour can only be characterized as abusive and insulting to both the Secretary-General and the Security Council.

Suffice it to say that the letter dated 27 March, mentioned above, was used by the Permanent Representative of Turkey to attack the European Parliament, a body outside the structure of the United Nations, expressing the views and opinions of the European Economic Community (EEC), the very Community that Turkey has already applied to join. Turkey has this time gone far beyond the tolerable by accusing the European Parliament of gross bias, adopting worse than useless resolutions and bizarre paragraphs, and arrogating themselves the right to subvert the democratic process or the judiciary.

Nevertheless, it is for the EEC organs in general and the European Parliament in particular, to reply to the Turkish invective and calumny. But at the same time, it is also for the Secretariat to take appropriate steps to put an end to such permissive practices and behaviour. If this practice is allowed to continue, the Republic of Cyprus will be forced to respond and take appropriate action.

My Government's view is that the duty of Turkey's Permanent Representative is to assist the Secretary-General in his good offices mission. Mr. Askin's behaviour undoubtedly undermines and frustrates the effectiveness of the Secretary-General's efforts in his endeavours to achieve a negotiated settlement on the Cyprus problem.

I should be grateful if the present letter and the European Parliament's resolution annexed hereto were circulated as a document of the forty-fourth session of the General Assembly, under agenda item 47, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) Andreas MAVROMMATIS
Ambassador
Permanent Representative of
Cyprus to the United Nations

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ANNEX

Text of the resolution on Cyprus adopted by the European Parliament
on 15 March 1990

The European Parliament,

Aware that for the last 15 years the island of Cyprus has been illegally divided,

Aware that the European Commission in its opinion of 17 December 1989 states firmly that the Cyprus problem influences particularly the political terms of the request for Turkish accession to the EC,

Noting the many previous demands of the European Parliament for a just solution to the Cyprus problem,

Acknowledging the political, cultural and religious complexity of the problems of Cyprus,

Believing that the overwhelming majority of both Turkish and Greek Cypriots desire a peaceful and united Cyprus which guarantees the political, civil and human rights of ALL Cypriots,

Supporting the dedicated and positive efforts which have been made by the Secretary-General of the United Nations to convene negotiations between the President of Cyprus, Mr. George Vassiliou and Mr. Rauf Denktash,

Appreciating the positive negotiating stance being taken by the President of the Republic of Cyprus,

Condemning the actions of Mr. Denktash to attempt to alter the Secretary-General's mandate which led to the collapse of the United Nations initiative on Wednesday, 28 February,

Further condemning the detention of five young Greek Cypriots in the disengaged zone by the Turkish occupation forces,

Believing that the vast majority of Turkish Cypriots also deplore the spoiling tactics of Mr. Denktash,

Calls on the President of the Parliament to:

Urge member States to make their voice heard in opposition to the Denktash moves in New York;

Urge the Turkish Government to demonstrate the will and the spirit of co-operation with a view to resuming the intra-community negotiations according to international law and the resolutions of the United Nations so as to find an acceptable solution to the Cyprus problem;

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Ask the Foreign Ministers meeting in political co-operation to consider how best to give support to those progressive Turkish Cypriot community leaders who are prepared to negotiate honestly with the Cyprus Government under the auspices of the United Nations;

Demand the immediate release of the young people illegally imprisoned by the Turkish occupation forces;

Urge the Cypriots to maintain the dignity which has characterized their cause by remaining calm in a climate of growing tension;

Call on the Foreign Ministers to present regular reports to the Parliament on their actions to promote a just solution to the Cyprus problem.
