

UNITED NATIONS  
ECONOMIC  
AND  
SOCIAL COUNCIL



Distr.  
LIMITED  
E/CONF.69/L.122  
24 August 1977.  
ENGLISH ONLY

THIRD UNITED NATIONS CONFERENCE ON THE  
STANDARDIZATION OF GEOGRAPHICAL NAMES

Athens, Greece

17 August - 7 September 1977

QUESTION OF CYPRUS

Letter dated 23 August 1977 from the Head of the Cyprus Delegation  
to the President of the Third United Nations Conference  
on the Standardization of Geographical Names

I have the honour to refer to the letter dated 22 August 1977 from Professor Talip Yügel, Head of the Turkish Delegation to the Conference, by which he transmitted a cable from Turkish Cypriot Mr. Rauf Denktash, self-styling himself "President of the Turkish Federated State of Cyprus", raising objections to the representative capacity of my delegation.

I very much regret the fact that the representative of Turkey has considered it fit to circulate a letter emanating from a so-called "State" which is neither a legal entity nor is it recognized by any other State or any international organization. I also regret the fact that during our meeting of 18 August, the Turkish representative tried - though unsuccessfully - to raise similar objections to those raised by Mr. Denktash.

The attitude of the representative of Turkey is not surprising. As we all know, Turkey, in violation of the Charter of the United Nations and in absolute disregard of the 1949 Geneva Conventions and of all principles governing international relations, invaded my country in July 1974 and tried to destroy its independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity.

In the furtherance of her aims and objectives, Turkey and her official organs have been causing to the people of Cyprus immense sufferings. They have occupied 40 per cent of the total territory of the Republic of Cyprus, they have been killing thousands in cold blood, they have turned 200,000 people - one-third of the population of Cyprus - into refugees and have been committing against the Greek population all kinds of unprecedented atrocities. I shall, however, refrain from enumerating here or elaborating on these atrocities and shall confine myself to the issue raised by the representative of Turkey.

This is not the first time that Turkey and her instruments in Cyprus, the Turkish-Cypriot leadership, are raising objections to the representation of Cyprus. They have been monotonously doing so for many years; but despite their objections and the aggressive invasion of my small country by 40,000 Turkish troops, the Republic of Cyprus and its Government have been consistently recognized by all international organizations and in all International Fora.

Cyprus is a member State of the United Nations, the Commonwealth, the Council of Europe and other International Organizations and its Government is fully recognized by all members of these Organizations.

The independence and sovereignty of the Republic of Cyprus have been recognized in a series of resolutions of the Security Council, the latest ones being 367 (1975), 370 (1975), 383 (1975), 391 (1976), 401 (1976) and 410 (1977), which is a long time after the aggressive invasion by Turkey and the unlawful occupation of a great part of the territory of the Republic by the invaders. But also according to international law such occupation does not in any way extinguish the existence of the State. Indeed, during the last world war, in spite of the occupation of the whole territory of certain States, they continued to exist and function even by Governments in exile.

The Government of the Republic of Cyprus is its lawful Government, in spite of the persistent objections of Turkey both before and after the aggressive invasion of Cyprus by the Turkish forces and despite the arbitrary and unilateral declaration of 13 February 1975, purporting to create a separate Turkish-Cypriot State.

- I. Paragraph 2 of Security Council resolution of 4 March 1964 (S/5575) "asks the government of Cyprus, which has the responsibility for the maintenance and restoration of law and order, to take all additional measures necessary to stop violence and bloodshed in Cyprus", and by its paragraph 4 "Recommends the creation with the consent of the government of Cyprus of a United Nations peace-keeping force in Cyprus". Reference also is made in paragraph 7 to the Government of Cyprus which is equated with the Governments of Greece, Turkey and the United Kingdom. Reference to the Government of Cyprus is repeated in all ensuing relevant resolutions of the Security Council, the latest ones being 367 (1975), 370 (1975), 383 (1975), 391 (1976), 401 (1976) and 410 (1977).
- II. At the twenty-ninth, thirtieth, and thirty-first sessions of the General Assembly of the United Nations, Cyprus was represented as before without any challenge or change.
- III. But also the arbitrary and unilateral declaration of 13 February 1975 purporting to create a separate Turkish-Cypriot State has been rejected by the international community. The Security Council entertained the Cyprus Government's resort to it following the said declaration and on 12 March 1975 adopted resolution 367 which considers the Government of Cyprus as the only lawful Government of the Republic of Cyprus.
- IV. All countries in the world recognize the Cyprus Government as the legal government of the Republic and the Ambassadors of these countries are accredited to the President of the Republic of Cyprus.

V. The foreign relations of the Republic are carried out by the Minister of Foreign Affairs who *virtute officio* represents the Republic in its international relations, and who has signed the Credentials of my delegation. Indeed it was the same Minister who had signed the credentials of Cyprus' representation at the twenty-ninth, thirtieth and thirty-first sessions of the General Assembly of the United Nations, and at the February/March 1975 meetings of the Security Council, which discussed the recourse of Cyprus following the Turkish attempts to declare a separate Turkish-Cypriot State.

It has been argued by the Turkish representation that my delegation cannot possibly represent the Turkish Cypriot community in Cyprus, and that there should be separate representation for the Turkish Cypriots.

My delegation does not represent either the Greek Cypriot or the Turkish Cypriot community of Cyprus. We represent the Government of Cyprus. Indeed if the reasoning of the Turkish delegation were to be followed, then every State represented here should have more than one delegation. I do not think that there is any country which does not have more than one ethnic community in its territory. Turkey herself would need to have at least one more delegation to represent the community of Kurds living in Turkey, which it is said numbers eight million. But even in the case of countries having federal systems the reasoning of the Turkish delegation is not followed.

I shall be grateful if the present reply to Dr. Talip Yügel's letter is circulated to all participants of the Conference.

(Signed) Ambassador Nicos Kranidiotis,  
Head of the Cyprus Delegation