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STANDARDIZATION OF GEOGRAPHICAL NAMES
Athens, Greece
17 August - 7 September 1977

Letter dated 5 September 1977 from the Head of the
Turkish Delegation to the President of the Third
United Nations Conference on the Standardization
of Geographical Names

I have the honour to submit enclosed herewith the cable-transcript text of a letter dated 1 September 1977, addressed to Your Excellency, by His Excellency Rauf Denktas, President of the Turkish Federated State of Cyprus, in connexion with Cyprus in the Third United Nations Conference on the Standardization of Geographical Names, being held in Athens.

I should be grateful if this letter, together with its enclosure, were circulated as a document of the Conference.

(Signed): Professor Dr. Talip Yücel

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ANNEX

Nicosia, 1 September 1977

Your Excellency,

Mr. Kranidiotis's letter E/CONF.69/L.122 of 24 August 1977 goes a long way in exposing the Greek Cypriot mentality which has been the main cause of creating the Cyprus problem in December 1963 (when secret Greek Cypriot armies launched their attacks on the Turkish Cypriots with a view to hellenizing the bi-communal State) and of prolonging it until the coup of July 1974 (by refusing to re-establish the bi-communality of the State through a negotiated settlement).

Mr. Kranidiotis is trying to make a point about the fact that the Turkish Federated State of Cyprus "has not been recognized by any other State or any international organization" while consoling himself of the recognition of "The Cyprus Government". I should like to point out immediately that the Turkish Federated State of Cyprus is in direct contact with more than 45 countries, we have sought no international recognition as a separate State as yet, and have clung to our "Federated" status in good-will, hoping that the Greek Cypriot co-partners of the bi-communal State (which they had tried to eliminate by criminal overt acts for 11 years) would understand the futility of their attempt and would join hands in re-establishing this bi-communality. Instead they have chosen to stick to a title which they had usurped by force of arms and which has no legal or moral standing vis-a-vis the international treaties which gave life to the bi-communal State of Cyprus and its resultant bi-communal Government.

It is an oddity of Greek Cypriot approach to the problem of Cyprus that, at a time when Mr. Kranidiotis is trying to convince your Conference that the purely Greek Cypriot wing of the bi-communal State of Cyprus is in a position to represent (contrary to the Constitution and the Treaties) the bi-communal Government of Cyprus (which, from 1963 to 1974 and to this day has not been allowed - by usurpation of powers by the Greek side - to function or even to be deemed to exist), the Greek Cypriot leaders in Cyprus proclaim that they are going to hold a presidential election under the 1960 Constitution which, again, since the 1963 attack on us they had declared to be "dead and buried" and never applied until this day.

It is very unfortunate that Mr. Kranidiotis has chosen this occasion to pour vile accusations against Turkey who, as a guarantor power, came to the rescue of Cyprus at the eleventh hour and prevented a final take-over of Cyprus by the Greek junta who had planned the total murder of the Turkish population on its way to annexing Cyprus to Greece. Mr. Kranidiotis who stands on record as having served the Greek leaders in Cyprus and in Athens for annexing Cyprus to Greece from December 1963 to July 1974 has chosen to forget the ordeal of the Turkish Community during these years at the hands of what he calls "The Government of Cyprus" which, however, to us, was the Enosis-bound armed Greek Cypriot wing of the bi-communal Government. The list of horrors, discrimination, injustice and denial of all our human rights make a sad story in the reports of the Secretary-General of the United Nations from March 1964 to July 1974. Mr. Kranidiotis cannot obliterate this record by false accusations against Turkey or against the Turkish Cypriot community. Had we not resisted the Greek Cypriot leaders for 11 years, today there would have existed no "Republic of Cyprus" albeit in its present form.

I feel that the realities of Cyprus are too obvious for anyone to be taken in by Mr. Kranidiotis's outbursts. The 4 March 1964 resolution which gave UNFICYP a mandate in Cyprus recognized and endorsed the bi-communal partnership character of the State and in fact the mandate became operational only upon the signature of the two leaders of the two Communities in Cyprus. Without such mutual consent there could be no legal authority for the force to be in Cyprus and to this day, each time the mandate is to be extended (twice a year) the consent of both sides is obtained by the Secretary-General, which proves that the Greek Cypriot wing by itself can claim no legitimacy to the title of "The Government of Cyprus". As the Turkish wing of this bi-communal State, our representatives have been attending international conferences all over the world. The Greek Cypriot attempt (a good example of which Mr. Kranidiotis has given in his letter under reply) to silence the Turkish co-partner's voice has sometimes been successful. The world is newly awakening to the realities of Cyprus and to the brutal, inhuman treatment of the Turkish Cypriot Community for 11 years in the island at the hands of usurpers of power and under Greek mainland occupation.

Greek Cypriot leaders have taken undue and illicit advantage of their usurpation of power and of the niceties of international etiquette and of the good-will of the Turkish Community. The fact is that the writ of this illegitimate so-called Government of Cyprus (which is nothing but a Greek administration representing the Greek Cypriot Community only) has not run in Turkish areas and over one-fourth of the population of Cyprus since December 1963. The Ambassadors "accredited" to Cyprus have continued to deal with the Turkish leadership by crossing into the Turkish area (where the writ of the Greek administration never ran) and have taken their views regarding the affairs of the bi-communal State. The representation of Cyprus by the Minister of Foreign Affairs can only be legal and constitutional when the person designated as "The Foreign Minister of Cyprus" is legally and constitutionally appointed by the two Heads of the two Communities. Since December 1963, the Greek Cypriot side has failed in applying this part of the Constitution, with the result that the Turkish Cypriot side has had to designate its own Minister of Foreign Affairs who attends international conferences and is heard for, and on behalf of, the Turkish Cypriot co-partners of the bi-communal State.

Mr. Kranidiotis has shown the mental approach of his leaders to the Cyprus problem by arguing that his delegation represents the Government of Cyprus and as such no one should look behind his title to find out whether he has a mandate from the Turkish co-partners of the bi-communal Government. He continues an argument which has been used by the Greek Cypriot leaders in deceiving world public opinion by alleging that "if the reasoning of the Turkish delegation were to be followed then every State represented here should have more than one delegation". This false logic might have helped the Greek Cypriots in deceiving the world at the beginning of the Cyprus problem in 1963, but is no avail to them now 14 years later, when countries have had the time to look at Cyprus in detail.

Mr. Kranidiotis's approach to the problem of Cyprus, as depicted in the above paragraph, runs contrary to the inter-communal talks which have continued from June 1968 to this day on and off, and it also contradicts in a very sad way the approach of his late leader Archbishop Makarios when we met, in the presence of the Secretary-General of the United Nations on 27 January and 1st February 1977, while it destroys - in a few words - the very basis of the foundation of the bi-communal State of Cyprus which 11 years' continuous attack had failed to destroy. (Vis. the co-founder partnership status of the two ethnic communities in the establishment of the bi-communal State). There is no other country in the world which was established as a State by two ethnic groups under a partnership agreement embodied in an international treaty. Therefore, Mr. Kranidiotis's view that Greek Cypriots can represent the Turkish Cypriots by claiming to represent "The Cyprus Government" is wrong in law, untenable in fact and in morality, and has no constitutional backing. "The Cyprus Government" can legitimately represent both Communities when both Communities, as co-founders of it, are in charge of their joint administrative powers in compliance with an agreed Constitution. In the present case it is the Greek side which declared the 1960 Constitution and the Treaties which gave life to the State and its Government to be "dead and buried" as soon as they launched their attack on us in 1963 with the sole purpose of destroying this bi-communal partnership and of laying hands by force of arms on the State. Our resistance to this aggression for 11 years from 1963 to 1974 prevented a final take-over of Cyprus, and our salvation in 1974, as a result of the Turkish Peace Operation put a complete end to all Greek designs to hellenize Cyprus at our expense. Since December 1963, the joint Government split into two and all affairs of Cyprus (vis-à-vis the international world) have been carried out by separate consultations with both sides. Mr. Kranidiotis's position that, in these circumstances and in spite of all the foregoing, he is representing Cyprus as a whole, is an indication of the Greek Cypriot intention to continue their aggression against our legitimate rights and partnership status, and a continuation of denial of all our inalienable liberties. I hope that this Conference will not help Mr. Kranidiotis fulfil his dreams of a Greek Cyprus in complete disregard of the political and factual reality of a bi-communal partnership State which has to be restructured by agreement of the two ethnic partners in the form of a bi-zonal Federal State, as agreed between the late Archbishop Makarios and myself in our January and February 1977 meetings.

I shall be grateful if the present reply to Mr. Kranidiotis's letter is circulated to all participants of the Conference.

(Signed): Rauf R. DENKTAS
President
Turkish Federated State
of Cyprus