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Excellency,

I am writing in response to the statement made by the Greek Cypriot representative at the Informal Meeting of the UN General Assembly on Your Excellency's comprehensive report on the implementation of the Resolution entitled "Missing Persons" (A/RES/77/220) held on 2 April 2025, which once again blatantly distorted facts pertaining to Cyprus. The Greek Cypriot side has been exploiting the absence of the Turkish Cypriot side at international platforms in order to mislead the international community and to divert attention from its sole responsibility for the creation as well as the continuation of the Cyprus issue. Therefore, I am compelled to respond in writing in order to set the record straight.

Greek Cypriot representatives have long been misinforming the international community by portraying the Cyprus problem as one of "invasion" and "occupation". As a matter of fact, none of the United Nations Security Council resolutions on Cyprus describe the legitimate and justified Turkish intervention in the island, carried out in line with the 1959 International Cyprus Treaties, as "invasion" or its subsequent presence on the island as "occupation". As is known, Guarantor Türkiye had to intervene after eleven years of Turkish Cypriot suffering at the hands of the Greek Cypriot militia, which culminated into the coup attempt organized by the military junta in Athens and its Greek Cypriot collaborators, aiming at the annexation of the entire island to Greece (*Enosis*) and the total annihilation of Turkish Cypriot people. In view of past experiences and current human sufferings inflicted by recent conflicts worldwide, it is without any doubt that the Guarantee system in Cyprus is now more relevant and necessary than ever.

**H.E. Mr. António Guterres**  
**Secretary-General of the United Nations**  
**New York**

**cc: H.E. Mr. Philemon Yang**  
**President of the General Assembly**  
**of the United Nations**  
**New York**

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Furthermore, it should be underlined that the Cyprus problem commenced in 1963, not in 1974, when the Greek Cypriot side forcibly usurped the title of the partnership Republic of Cyprus and expelled the Turkish Cypriot partner from all state organs. During the years from 1963 to 1974, a period that the Greek Cypriot representative has conveniently chosen to ignore, the Greek Cypriot militia, aided and encouraged by Greece, took part in an ethnic cleansing campaign against the Turkish Cypriot people, known as the *Akritas Plan*, with the ultimate aim of achieving *Enosis*. This large-scale violence and ensuing gross human rights violations necessitated the UN Security Council to deploy UNFICYP in 1964 in order to stop the bloodshed and atrocities perpetrated against the Turkish Cypriot people. Notwithstanding the plethora of UN documents attesting to these crimes against humanity, the fact that there is no single reference to them in the said statement is testimony to the fact that these remarks are not fact-based, but another episode of the well-known Greek Cypriot propaganda machinery.

With regard to the statements made in relation to the issue of missing persons, I would like to reiterate that the Turkish Cypriot side is doing its utmost on this humanitarian issue which affects both Turkish Cypriot people and Greek Cypriot people alike by contributing to the work of the Committee on Missing Persons (CMP) so that the CMP can successfully deliver on its mandate. Despite the humanitarian stance of the Turkish Cypriot side, the sole aim of the Greek Cypriot side, *alas*, is to politicize this humanitarian issue for political propaganda purposes before international platforms, including the UN, rather than to engage positively in the work of the CMP.

With a view to supporting the work of the CMP, the Turkish Cypriot side has established an Archive Committee in 2016, which is composed of military authorities, police authorities, experts from the Ministry of Health and National Archives as well as other relevant units of the Government, to examine the relevant archives for the information requested by the CMP regarding the location of missing persons. In this connection, access was given to the Turkish Cypriot Member's Office to check aerial photos from 1974. The Turkish Cypriot side has also established an investigation unit under the TRNC Presidency to examine all relevant archives in order to gather information requested by the CMP regarding the potential locations of missing persons, as well as the Missing Persons Unit (MPU) which conducts criminal investigations into the cases of the identified Greek Cypriot missing persons under the supervision of the constitutionally independent TRNC Attorney-General's Office. Furthermore, upon finding evidence of potential burial places, the Turkish Cypriot side accommodates the access of the CMP to any area throughout the TRNC, be it by interrupting the construction of a major road or giving access to military areas that the CMP asks for according to its work plan. So far, 99 excavations were carried out in the military areas located in the TRNC and an additional 3 excavations were carried out in the buffer zone with the consent of the military authorities of the TRNC, which were registered only in the Foreign Affairs registration Act as an agent of the Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus. This material is filed with the Department of Justice where the required registration statement is available for public inspection. Registration does not indicate approval of the contents of this material by the United States Government.

TRNC and Türkiye continue to support the CMP financially.

Busy with spreading disinformation about the Turkish Cypriot side and Türkiye, the Greek Cypriot side is yet to give any response to the call of the CMP to search its military or police reports, logbooks, medical reports or any other document that may include information about potential burial sites or remains belonging to missing persons. None of the criminal investigations conducted into the deaths of Turkish Cypriot missing persons resulted in the identification of the perpetrators or the prosecution of those identified. Moreover, to this day, the Greek Cypriot side has failed to reciprocate in terms of facilitating access to all military areas as well as the archives of the Greek Cypriot police who were involved firsthand in the mass atrocities against the Turkish Cypriot people, particularly during 1963-1964.

Against this background, it is clear that the misleading remarks of the Greek Cypriot representative are not corroborated by legal and historical facts pertaining to the island. Thus, instead of levelling unfounded accusations, which only create an environment of mistrust and hostility between the two peoples of the island, the Greek Cypriot side should make more effort to create an atmosphere conducive to cooperation between the two sides in Cyprus as also called upon in Your Excellency's Report of 3 January 2025 (S/2025/6).

Availing myself of the present opportunity, I would like to also remind the Greek Cypriot administration that its counterpart is, and has always been, the Turkish Cypriot side, not Türkiye.

I would be grateful if the present letter is circulated, under agenda item 40 of its 79<sup>th</sup> Session, as an official document of the General Assembly and of the Security Council.

Please accept, Excellency, the assurances of my highest consideration.



(p.p.) Mehmet Dâna  
Representative  
Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus

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