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26 June 2026

Excellency,

Upon instructions from my Government, I am writing in response to the letter, dated 11 May 2026, addressed to Your Excellency by the Greek Cypriot representative in New York that has been circulated as a document of the General Assembly (A/80/735). As Greek Cypriot representatives have long been exploiting the absence of the Turkish Cypriot side at international platforms to blatantly distort historical and legal facts about Cyprus, I am compelled to respond in writing in order to set the record straight.

Unfortunately, the Greek Cypriot side continues to be presented as if it is the sole representative and sole authority on the island, when in fact there exists two separate Peoples and two separate States in Cyprus. Allow me to underline, once again, that there is no single authority in Cyprus capable of representing, legally and factually, both the Turkish Cypriot people and the Greek Cypriot people or the island as a whole. Thus, statements made by Greek Cypriot representatives under their purported title as the representatives of the so-called “Republic of Cyprus” are legally null and void.

Greek Cypriot representatives have long been disinforming the international community by portraying the Cyprus problem as one of “invasion” and “occupation”. As a matter of fact, none of the UN Security Council resolutions on Cyprus describe the legitimate and justified intervention of Türkiye in the island, carried out in line with the International Cyprus Treaties, as “invasion” or its subsequent presence on the island as “occupation”. Therefore, characterizing Türkiye’s intervention as an “unlawful use of force” overlooks both the legal grounds outlined in the treaties and the historical realities of the island.

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

cc: H.E. Ms. Annalena Baerbock
President of the General Assembly
of the United Nations
New York

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As is well known, the Cyprus issue commenced not in 1974, but in 1963 when the Greek Cypriot co-founder of the 1960 Partnership Republic of Cyprus tried to impose its political will on the Turkish Cypriot co-founder by force of arms and illegally converted the bi-national Republic into a purely Greek Cypriot entity by expelling its Turkish Cypriot partner from all state organs. This was followed by eleven years of Turkish Cypriot suffering at the hands of the Greek Cypriot militia, which culminated into the coup organized by the military junta in Athens and its Greek Cypriot collaborators, aiming for the annexation of the entire island to Greece (*Enosis*) and the total annihilation of the Turkish Cypriot people in line with the notorious *Akritas Plan*.

In the wake of the aforementioned eleven-year period of suffering endured by the Turkish Cypriot people, Guarantor Türkiye was obliged to intervene, in accordance with her rights and obligations under the Treaty of Guarantee, in response to the Greek junta backed coup d'état of 1974. In fact, the Greek Cypriot side is also well aware that the intervention of Guarantor Türkiye brought peace to the island 52 years ago by putting an end not only to the violence inflicted against the Turkish Cypriot people, but also to the violence committed by the Greek Cypriot militia against its own people.

It is also particularly telling that Greek Cypriot representatives continue to make repeated references to the Cyprus issue and rules of international law while conveniently making no reference to the ethnic cleansing campaign against the Turkish Cypriot people that the Greek Cypriot militia took part in during the years from 1963 to 1974 or the inhumane isolation that has long been imposed upon the Turkish Cypriot people in all walks of life, which not only clearly runs counter to the UN Charter and other important rules of international law, but is also the most important obstacle to building trust between the two peoples.

It should be emphasized in this regard that there is no general rule in international law that categorically prohibits or criminalizes acts aimed at establishing separate statehood, particularly when a people have been subjected to severe atrocities, as was the case for Turkish Cypriot people prior to Guarantor Türkiye's intervention in 1974. The proclamation of the Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus (TRNC) in 1983 was not an abrupt development but rather the culmination of a process that began with the forceful expulsion of the Turkish Cypriot partner from all the state organs of the 1960 partnership Republic and followed by mass displacement of Turkish Cypriot people. Having been compelled to administer their own affairs following years of hardships of atrocities, oppression and forced displacement, the Turkish Cypriot people developed their own governance structures, culminating initially in the establishment of the Turkish Cypriot Autonomous Administration 1967-1974 and subsequently in the establishment of the Turkish Federated State of Cyprus in 1975 and ultimately in the proclamation of the TRNC in 1983. The Turkish Cypriot side has since ruled itself, exercising sovereignty over its own territory, while the Greek Cypriot side has continued to unlawfully claim that it is the "Government of Cyprus".

Significantly, the rationale behind the proclamation of the TRNC is also reflected in the continued unwillingness of the Greek Cypriot side to enter into a genuine power-sharing partnership with the Turkish Cypriot people. The TRNC exercises full control and sovereignty over its territory, and its competent authorities are the sole bodies responsible for maintaining law and order. The Montevideo Convention on the Rights and Duties of States, clearly states in Article 1 that a state, as a person of international law, must possess four qualifications, namely a permanent population, a defined territory, a government and the capacity to enter into relations with the other states. Furthermore, according to Article 3 of the said Convention, “*the political existence of the state is independent of recognition by the other states,*” and “*even before recognition the state has the right to defend its integrity and independence, to provide for its conservation and prosperity, and consequently to organize itself as it sees fit, to legislate upon its interests, administer its services, and to define the jurisdiction and competence of its courts.*”

As co-owners of the Island of Cyprus, the Turkish Cypriot people have inherent rights over all of the natural resources on and around the island. Due to the unilateral drilling activities of the Greek Cypriot side in the Eastern Mediterranean, the TRNC, as a fully-fledged state, concluded an international agreement with Türkiye, namely “the Continental Shelf Delimitation Agreement” signed between Türkiye and the TRNC on 21 September 2011. This agreement takes into account the legitimate, equal and inherent rights not only of the Turkish Cypriot people, but also the Greek Cypriot people over the whole continental shelf of the island.

The non-recognition of the TRNC by the international community does not automatically follow that all acts undertaken by the Turkish Cypriot authorities are devoid of legal effect or that every arrangement concluded by the TRNC is null and void ab initio. Significantly, international practice and jurisprudence, including that of the International Court of Justice and the European Court of Human Rights, recognize that states lacking widespread recognition may nevertheless perform acts producing legal consequences in certain contexts, particularly where required for the administration of daily life, the protection of rights, and the maintenance of legal certainty.

Accordingly, the sweeping proposition that all agreements concluded by or with the Turkish Cypriot side are inherently null and void lacks support in international law and is inconsistent with both international practice and the realities acknowledged throughout the UN-facilitated negotiation process. Therefore in light of the relevant provisions of the Montevideo Convention on the objective criteria for statehood, the assertion that the aforementioned Delimitation Agreement is null and void cannot be sustained under international law.

It should also be noted that the UN Security Council resolutions mentioned by the Greek Cypriot representative, namely resolutions 541 (1983) and 550 (1984), constitute the basis of the status disparity between the Turkish Cypriot side and the Greek Cypriot side. Consequently, these resolutions remain among the principal causes of the deadlock in the Cyprus issue.

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, as an official document of the 80th session of the General Assembly.

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



Murat Soysal
Representative
Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus



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June 26, 2026

U.S. Department of Justice/NSD
FARA Registration Unit
175 N Street, NE – 3CON
Room 1.300
Washington, D.C. 20530

Re: Office of the Representative of the Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus
Registration No. 2619
Filing of Copy of Document Disseminated June 26, 2026.

Dear Madam/Sir:

Enclosed for filing please find the following disseminated document:

- 1. Dissemination Date: June 26, 2026.** A four (4) page letter dated June 26, 2026 from H.E. Mr. Murat Soysal, Representative of the Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus in New York to H.E. Mr. António Guterres, Secretary-General of the United Nations and H.E. Ms. Annalena Baerbock, the President of the General Assembly, for its circulation to all members of the General Assembly as an official UN document.

Sincerely yours,

Murat Soysal
Representative