

Europe

26. The situation in Cyprus

Decision of 28 June 1996 (3675th meeting): resolution 1062 (1996)

On 7 June 1996, the Secretary-General submitted to the Council a report on the United Nations operation in Cyprus, covering developments from 11 December 1995 to 10 June 1996 and providing an update of the activities of the United Nations Peacekeeping Force in Cyprus (UNFICYP).¹ In his report, the Secretary-General reported that UNFICYP had continued to carry out its functions effectively and that the overall situation on the island remained generally calm. He expressed concern, however, at the excessive levels of military forces and armaments in Cyprus and at the rate at which they were being strengthened. Furthermore, the opposing forces still had not heeded the Council's repeated calls to implement specific measures aimed at reducing the risk of confrontation along the ceasefire lines. Stressing the role of bicomunal contacts in facilitating an overall settlement, the Secretary-General urged both communities, and especially the Turkish Cypriot authorities, to lift all obstacles to such contacts. In the prevailing circumstances, the Secretary-General concluded that the presence of UNFICYP on the island remained indispensable to achieving the objectives set out by the Council and recommended the extension of the mandate of the Force for a further six months, until 31 December 1996.

On 25 June 1996, pursuant to resolution 1032 (1995) of 19 December 1995, the Secretary-General submitted to the Council a report on his mission of good offices in Cyprus, including a full assessment of his efforts towards reaching a settlement of the situation in Cyprus.² In his report, the Secretary-General reported that he had met personally with the leaders of the two communities in June 1996 and had expressed to them his concern that the negotiations had remained at a standstill for too long. The Greek Cypriot leader had reiterated his commitment to a negotiated settlement through direct talks, but had

emphasized that sufficient common ground had to exist before the negotiations began. The Turkish Cypriot leader had reaffirmed his readiness to participate in the negotiating process within the parameters of an equal partnership that would treat the Greek Cypriot and the Turkish Cypriot communities as equal in all aspects. The Secretary-General reiterated the importance of creating, as soon as possible, a basis for the resumption of direct talks between the two leaders and, to that end, called upon both parties to cooperate with the efforts of his representatives. He also stated that the decision of the European Union to begin accession negotiations with Cyprus was an important new development that should facilitate a settlement. He concluded that the international community had to build on those developments and give a new impetus to the negotiating process.

At its 3675th meeting, held on 28 June 1996 in accordance with the understanding reached in its prior consultations, the Council included the two reports of the Secretary-General in its agenda. Following the adoption of the agenda, the President (Egypt) drew the attention of the members of the Council to the text of a draft resolution prepared in the course of its prior consultations.³ The draft resolution was then put to the vote and adopted unanimously as resolution 1062 (1996), which reads:

The Security Council,

Welcoming the report of the Secretary-General of 7 June 1996 on the United Nations operation in Cyprus,

Welcoming also the report of the Secretary-General of 25 June 1996 on his mission of good offices in Cyprus,

Taking note of the recommendation in his report of 7 June 1996 that the Security Council extend the mandate of the United Nations Peacekeeping Force in Cyprus,

Noting that the Government of Cyprus has agreed that in view of the prevailing conditions on the island that it is necessary to keep the Force in Cyprus beyond 30 June 1996,

³ S/1996/477.

¹ S/1996/411 and Add.1 and Corr.1.

² S/1996/467.

Reaffirming its earlier relevant resolutions on Cyprus, in particular resolutions 186 (1964) of 4 March 1964, 939 (1994) of 29 July 1994 and 1032 (1995) of 19 December 1995,

Reiterating its concern that there has been no progress towards a final political solution, and agreeing with the assessment of the Secretary-General that the negotiations have been at an impasse for too long,

Regretting that no progress has been made in introducing measures to prohibit along the ceasefire lines live ammunition or weapons other than those which are hand-held and to prohibit the firing of weapons within sight or hearing of the buffer zone, or in extending the 1989 unmanning agreement,

Expressing concern about the restrictions placed upon the freedom of movement of the Force in the northern part of the island, as described in paragraph 27 of the report of the Secretary-General of 7 June 1996,

1. *Decides* to extend the mandate of the United Nations Peacekeeping Force in Cyprus for a further period ending on 31 December 1996;

2. *Welcomes* the appointment of Mr. Han Sung-Joo as the new Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Cyprus, and calls upon both parties to cooperate fully with him in his efforts to facilitate a comprehensive settlement of the Cyprus problem;

3. *Deplores* the tragic incident involving the fatal shooting of a Greek Cypriot National Guardsman inside the United Nations buffer zone on 3 June 1996, as well as the hindering by Turkish Cypriot soldiers of Force personnel attempting to assist the National Guardsman and investigate the incident, as documented in the report of the Secretary-General of 7 June 1996;

4. *Expresses serious concern* about the continuing modernization and upgrading of military forces in the Republic of Cyprus, the excessive levels of military forces and armaments and the lack of progress towards a significant reduction in the number of foreign troops in the Republic of Cyprus, once again urges all concerned to commit themselves to such a reduction and to a reduction in defence spending in the Republic of Cyprus to help to restore confidence between the parties and as a first step towards the withdrawal of non-Cypriot forces as described in the set of ideas, stresses the importance of eventual demilitarization of the Republic of Cyprus as an objective in the context of an overall comprehensive settlement, and calls upon the Secretary-General to continue to promote efforts in this direction;

5. *Expresses serious concern also* about recent military exercises in the region, including overflights in the airspace of Cyprus by military fixed-wing aircraft, which have increased tension;

6. *Calls upon* the military authorities on both sides:

(a) To respect the integrity of the United Nations buffer zone, ensure that no further incidents occur along the

buffer zone, prevent hostile actions, including live fire against the Force, grant the Force complete freedom of movement and extend their full cooperation to the Force;

(b) To enter immediately into discussions with the Force, in line with paragraph 3 of resolution 839 (1993) of 11 June 1993, with a view to adopting reciprocal measures to prohibit along the ceasefire lines live ammunition or weapons other than those which are hand-held and to prohibit also the firing of weapons within sight or hearing of the buffer zone;

(c) To clear all minefields and booby-trapped areas inside the buffer zone without further delay, as requested by the Force;

(d) To cease military construction in the immediate vicinity of the buffer zone;

(e) To enter immediately into intensive discussions with the Force with a view to extending the 1989 unmanning agreement to cover all areas of the buffer zone where the two sides are in close proximity to each other, on the basis of the updated proposals submitted by the Force Commander in June 1996;

7. *Welcomes* the measures that have been taken by the two parties in response to the humanitarian review conducted by the Force, regrets that the Turkish Cypriot side has not responded more fully to the recommendations made by the Force, calls upon the Turkish Cypriot side to respect fully the basic freedoms of the Greek Cypriots and Maronites living in the northern part of the island and to intensify its efforts to improve their daily lives, and calls upon the Government of Cyprus to continue its efforts to eliminate any discrimination against Turkish Cypriots living in the southern part of the island;

8. *Welcomes* the continuing efforts of the United Nations and diplomatic missions to promote bicomunal events, regrets the obstacles which have been placed in the way of such contacts, and strongly urges all concerned, and especially the Turkish Cypriot leadership, to lift and prevent all obstacles to such contacts;

9. *Requests* the Secretary-General to keep under review the structure and strength of the Force, with a view to its possible restructuring, and to present any new considerations he may have in this regard;

10. *Reiterates* that the status quo is unacceptable, and calls upon the parties to demonstrate concretely their commitment to an overall political settlement;

11. *Stresses its support* for the Secretary-General's mission of good offices and the importance of the concerted efforts to work with the Secretary-General towards an overall comprehensive settlement;

12. *Urges* the leaders of the two communities to respond positively and urgently to the Secretary-General's call upon them to work with him and with the many countries who support his mission of good offices to break the present impasse

and establish common ground on which direct negotiations can be resumed;

13. *Recognizes* that the decision of the European Union concerning the opening of accession negotiations with Cyprus is an important new development that should facilitate an overall settlement;

14. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit a report on the implementation of the present resolution by 10 December 1996;

15. *Decides* to remain actively seized of the matter.

**Decision of 23 December 1996 (3728th meeting):
resolution 1092 (1996)**

On 10 December 1996, the Secretary-General submitted to the Council a report on the United Nations operation in Cyprus, covering developments from 11 June to 10 December 1996 and providing an update on the activities of UNFICYP.⁴ In his report, the Secretary-General reported that the situation in Cyprus had deteriorated in the last six months, with incidents of violence along the ceasefire lines to an extent not seen since 1974. Tension had risen in anticipation of a symbolic motorcycle demonstration organized by Greek Cypriots, originating in Berlin and ending in Kyrenia, a route that would take the demonstrators across the United Nations buffer zone and the Turkish forces' ceasefire line. The Secretary-General noted that, although the Force had done its best to prevent the demonstrators from entering the buffer zone, control of the civilian population was the exclusive responsibility of the local authorities, who were perfectly capable of fulfilling that task. He stressed that the leaders on both sides needed to make a serious effort to reverse the negative trend of recent months and build an atmosphere of trust and goodwill between the two communities. The proposals of the Force towards that process included early agreement on the package of reciprocal measures to reduce tension along the ceasefire lines; implementation of the measures to improve the living conditions of the Greek Cypriots and Maronites living in the northern part of the island; and removal of all impediments to the movement of people and increased contacts and communication between the two sides. Under those circumstances, the Secretary-General believed that the continued presence of the Force on the island remained indispensable, and

⁴ S/1996/1016 and Add.1.

therefore recommended an extension of its mandate for a further period ending on 30 June 1997.

On 17 December 1996, pursuant to resolution 1062 (1996) of 28 June 1996, the Secretary-General submitted to the Council a report on his mission of good offices in Cyprus.⁵ The Secretary-General reported that, over the past six months, intensive efforts had been made to break the impasse and to establish common ground on which direct negotiations could be resumed. His Special Representative had met extensively with the two Cypriot leaders, in June and July 1996, and had found that their positions remained far apart on a number of issues. His second visit to the area, in mid-September, had been overshadowed by heightened tension between the two sides in the wake of the August incidents and the discussions had therefore focused on ways of reducing the tension. During a third visit, in mid-December, the gap in the position of the two sides had not narrowed and each of them continued to express serious doubts about the true intentions of the other, thus making it difficult to be optimistic about prospects for direct talks. The Secretary-General observed that the current situation offered the two communities, and the region, both a warning signal and an opportunity. The two leaders needed to recognize the seriousness of the moment and seize the opportunity by agreeing to negotiate a comprehensive settlement on the basis of mutual concessions.

At its 3728th meeting, held on 23 December 1996 in accordance with the understanding reached in its prior consultations, the Council included the two reports of the Secretary-General in its agenda. Following the adoption of the agenda, the President (Italy) drew the attention of the members of the Council to the text of a draft resolution prepared in the course of the Council's prior consultations.⁶

The draft resolution was then put to the vote and adopted unanimously as resolution 1092 (1996), which reads:

The Security Council,

Welcoming the report of the Secretary-General of 10 December 1996 on the United Nations operation in Cyprus,

⁵ S/1996/1055.

⁶ S/1996/1062.

Welcoming also the report of the Secretary-General of 17 December 1996 on his mission of good offices in Cyprus,

Noting that the Government of Cyprus has agreed that in view of the prevailing conditions on the island it is necessary to keep the United Nations Peacekeeping Force in Cyprus beyond 31 December 1996,

Reaffirming its earlier relevant resolutions on Cyprus, in particular resolutions 186 (1964) of 4 March 1964, 939 (1994) of 29 July 1994 and 1062 (1996) of 28 June 1996,

Gravely concerned by the deteriorating situation in Cyprus and by the fact that intercommunal tensions on the island have escalated and, over the last six-month period, violence along the ceasefire lines has reached a level not seen since 1974, as stated in the report of the Secretary-General of 10 December 1996,

Concerned at the increased use of and threat to use violence against the personnel of the Force,

Noting the beginning of indirect discussions, through the Force Commander, between the military authorities of the two sides on measures aimed at the reduction of military tensions,

Reiterating its concern that negotiations on a final political solution have been at an impasse for too long,

1. *Decides* to extend the mandate of the United Nations Peacekeeping Force in Cyprus for a further period ending on 30 June 1997;

2. *Deplores* the violent incidents of 11 and 14 August, 8 September and 15 October 1996, which resulted in the tragic deaths of three Greek Cypriot civilians and one member of the Turkish Cypriot Security Forces, as well as injuries to civilians and Force personnel, in particular the unnecessary and disproportionate use of force by the Turkish/Turkish Cypriot side, as well as the largely passive role played by the Cypriot police in response to civilian demonstrations;

3. *Reminds* both sides of their obligation to prevent acts of violence directed against Force personnel, particularly those involving firearms, which inhibit the Force from carrying out its mandated responsibilities, and demands that they ensure the Force complete freedom of movement and extend to it their full cooperation;

4. *Emphasizes* the need to maintain law and order and, in this context, demands that both parties prevent unauthorized incursions into the buffer zone and respond immediately and responsibly to any demonstrations which violate the buffer zone and any demonstrations near the buffer zone that might lead to an increase in tensions;

5. *Calls upon* the parties to accept as a package, without delay or preconditions, the reciprocal measures proposed by the Force, namely, (a) to extend the 1989 unarming agreement to other areas where the two sides remain in close proximity to each other; (b) to prohibit loaded weapons along the ceasefire lines; and (c) to adopt a code of conduct,

based on the concept of minimal force and proportional response, to be followed by troops of both sides along the ceasefire lines, and expresses its disappointment that no progress has been made towards implementing these measures thus far;

6. *Calls upon* the military authorities on both sides:

(a) To clear all minefields and booby-trapped areas inside the buffer zone without further delay, as requested by the Force;

(b) To cease military construction in the immediate vicinity of the buffer zone;

(c) To refrain from any military exercises along the buffer zone;

7. *Reiterates its grave concern* about the excessive levels of military forces and armaments in the Republic of Cyprus and the rate at which they are being expanded, upgraded and modernized, including by the introduction of sophisticated weaponry, as well as the lack of progress towards a significant reduction in the number of foreign troops in the Republic of Cyprus, which threaten to raise tensions both on the island and in the region and complicate efforts to negotiate an overall political settlement;

8. *Again calls upon* all concerned to commit themselves to a reduction in defence spending and a reduction in the number of foreign troops in the Republic of Cyprus to help to restore confidence between the parties and as a first step towards the withdrawal of non-Cypriot forces as described in the set of ideas, stresses the importance of eventual demilitarization of the Republic of Cyprus as an objective in the context of an overall comprehensive settlement, and calls upon the Secretary-General to continue to promote efforts in this direction;

9. *Expresses continuing concern* about military exercises in the region, including overflights in the airspace of Cyprus by military fixed-wing aircraft, which have markedly increased political tension on the island and undermined efforts towards achieving a settlement;

10. *Reiterates* that the status quo is unacceptable, and stresses its support for the Secretary-General's mission of good offices and the importance of the concerted efforts to work with the Secretary-General towards an overall comprehensive settlement;

11. *Welcomes* the efforts of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General, and of those working in support, to prepare the ground for open-ended direct negotiations in the first half of 1997 between the leaders of the two Cypriot communities in order to secure an overall settlement;

12. *Calls upon* the parties to cooperate with the Special Representative to that end, as well as with his intensified preparatory work in the first months of 1997, with the objective of clarifying the main elements of an overall settlement;

13. *Underlines* the fact that the success of this process will require the creation of genuine mutual confidence on both sides and the avoidance of actions which increase tension, and calls upon the leaders of both communities to create a climate of reconciliation and confidence;

14. *Reaffirms* its position that a Cyprus settlement must be based on a State of Cyprus with a single sovereignty and international personality and a single citizenship, with its independence and territorial integrity safeguarded, and comprising two politically equal communities as described in the relevant Security Council resolutions, in a bicomunal and bi-zonal federation, and that such a settlement must exclude union in whole or in part with any other country or any form of partition or secession;

15. *Welcomes* the continuous efforts by the Force to implement its humanitarian mandate in respect of Greek Cypriots and Maronites living in the northern part of the island, and Turkish Cypriots living in the southern part, and regrets that there has been no further progress on the implementation of recommendations arising out of the humanitarian review undertaken by the Force in 1995;

16. *Welcomes* the continuing efforts of the United Nations and others in the international community to promote bicomunal events, regrets the obstacles which have been placed in the way of such contacts, and strongly urges all concerned, and especially the Turkish Cypriot community leadership, to lift all obstacles to such contacts;

17. *Reaffirms* that the decision of the European Union concerning the opening of accession negotiations with Cyprus is an important new development that should facilitate an overall settlement;

18. *Requests* the Secretary-General to keep under review the structure and strength of the Force, with a view to its possible restructuring, and to present any new considerations he may have in this regard;

19. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to submit a report by 10 June 1997 on the implementation of the present resolution;

20. *Decides* to remain actively seized of the matter.

**Decision of 27 June 1997 (3794th meeting):
resolution 1117 (1997)**

On 5 June 1997, the Secretary-General submitted to the Council a report on the United Nations operation in Cyprus, describing developments from 11 December 1996 to 5 June 1997 and providing an update of the activities of UNFICYP.⁷ In his report, the Secretary-General observed that although the number of serious

incidents had decreased in comparison to the preceding period, tension along the ceasefire lines remained higher than in the past. Moreover, there had been no change in the levels of military forces and armaments, nor had the military authorities accepted the UNFICYP package of reciprocal measures. He urged both sides to reconsider their positions and to reach an agreement on the package without further delay. He also urged them to facilitate and encourage direct contacts between the two communities. The Secretary-General continued to believe that the presence of the Force on the island remained indispensable and, therefore, recommended that the Council extend the mandate of the Force for a further period ending on 31 December 1997.

By a letter dated 20 June 1997 addressed to the President of the Security Council,⁸ the Secretary-General informed the Council that he had written to the leaders of the two Cypriot communities, inviting them to a session of face-to-face discussions on a comprehensive settlement of the Cyprus issue, to be held in New York, from 9 to 13 July 1997. The first session would be followed by another in August and by a third one, if necessary. The Secretary-General noted that a number of Governments, as well as the Presidency of the European Union, had appointed special representatives in support of the initiatives within the framework of his mission of good offices. The support of all concerned, and particularly of the Security Council, was also indispensable to ensure the success of the current efforts. The Secretary-General asked the Council to urge the parties to commit themselves to the process of direct negotiations and to fully cooperate with his efforts and those of his Special Adviser.

At its 3794th meeting, held on 27 June 1997 in accordance with the understanding reached in its prior consultations, the Council included the report and the letter of the Secretary-General in its agenda. Following the adoption of the agenda, the President (Russian Federation) drew the attention of the members of the Council to the text of a draft resolution prepared in the course of the Council's prior consultations.⁹

The draft resolution was then put to the vote and adopted unanimously as resolution 1117 (1997), which reads:

The Security Council,

⁷ S/1997/437 and Corr.1 and Add.1.

⁸ S/1997/480.

⁹ S/1997/492.

Welcoming the report of the Secretary-General of 5 June 1997 on the United Nations operation in Cyprus,

Welcoming also the letter dated 20 June 1997 to the President of the Security Council from the Secretary-General on his mission of good offices in Cyprus,

Noting that the Government of Cyprus has agreed that in view of the prevailing conditions on the island it is necessary to keep the United Nations Peacekeeping Force in Cyprus beyond 30 June 1997,

Reaffirming its earlier relevant resolutions on Cyprus, in particular resolutions 186 (1964) of 4 March 1964, 939 (1994) of 29 July 1994 and 1092 (1996) of 23 December 1996,

Noting with concern that tensions along the ceasefire lines remain high, despite the decrease in the number of serious incidents over the last six months,

Reiterating its concern that negotiations on a final political solution have been at an impasse for too long,

1. *Decides* to extend the mandate of the United Nations Peacekeeping Force in Cyprus for a further period ending on 31 December 1997;

2. *Reminds* both sides of their obligation to prevent any violence directed against Force personnel, to cooperate fully with the Force and to ensure its complete freedom of movement;

3. *Underlines* the importance of agreement by both sides to the reciprocal measures for the reduction of tension along the ceasefire lines proposed by the Force, as set forth in resolution 1092 (1996), deeply regrets the fact that, in spite of the efforts of the Force, neither side has so far accepted such measures as a package, and reiterates its call upon both sides to do so without further delay or preconditions;

4. *Calls upon* the military authorities on both sides to refrain from any action, particularly in the vicinity of the buffer zone, which would exacerbate tensions;

5. *Reiterates its grave concern* at the continuing excessive level of military forces and armaments in the Republic of Cyprus and the rate at which they are being expanded, upgraded and modernized, including by the introduction of sophisticated weaponry, and the lack of progress towards any significant reduction in the number of foreign troops in the Republic of Cyprus, which threaten to raise tensions both on the island and in the region and complicate efforts to negotiate an overall political settlement;

6. *Again calls upon* all concerned to commit themselves to a reduction in defence spending and a reduction in the number of foreign troops in the Republic of Cyprus to help to restore confidence between the parties and as a first step towards the withdrawal of non-Cypriot forces as described in the set of ideas, stresses the importance of eventual demilitarization of the Republic of Cyprus as an objective in the context of an overall comprehensive settlement, and calls upon the Secretary-General to promote efforts in this direction;

7. *Reiterates* that the status quo is unacceptable, and stresses its support for the Secretary-General's mission of good offices and the importance of the concerted efforts to work with the Secretary-General towards an overall comprehensive settlement;

8. *Welcomes* the decision of the Secretary-General to launch a sustained process of direct negotiations between the leaders of the two Cypriot communities with the aim of securing an overall comprehensive settlement;

9. *Calls upon* the leaders to commit themselves to the process of direct negotiations, including participation in the first session of such negotiations to be held from 9 to 13 July 1997, urges them to cooperate actively and constructively with the Secretary-General and his Special Adviser on Cyprus, Mr. Diego Cordovez, to that end, and stresses that full support of all concerned is necessary for this process to produce results;

10. *Calls upon* the parties to create a climate for reconciliation and genuine mutual confidence on both sides and to avoid any actions which might increase tension;

11. *Reaffirms* its position that a Cyprus settlement must be based on a State of Cyprus with a single sovereignty and international personality and a single citizenship, with its independence and territorial integrity safeguarded, and comprising two politically equal communities as described in the relevant Security Council resolutions, in a bicomunal and bi-zonal federation, and that such a settlement must exclude union in whole or in part with any other country or any form of partition or secession;

12. *Welcomes* the continuous efforts by the Force to implement its humanitarian mandate in respect of Greek Cypriots and Maronites living in the northern part of the island, and Turkish Cypriots living in the southern part, and regrets that there has been no further progress on the implementation of recommendations arising out of the humanitarian review undertaken by the Force in 1995;

13. *Welcomes also* the efforts of the United Nations and others concerned to promote the holding of bicomunal events so as to build trust and mutual respect between the two communities, urges that these efforts be continued, acknowledges the recent cooperation from all concerned on both sides to that end, and strongly encourages them to take further steps to facilitate such bicomunal events and to ensure that they take place in conditions of safety and security;

14. *Reaffirms* that the decision of the European Union concerning the opening of accession negotiations with Cyprus is an important development that should facilitate an overall settlement;

15. *Requests* the Secretary-General to keep under review the structure and strength of the Force with a view to its possible restructuring, and to present any new considerations he may have in this regard;

16. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to submit a report by 10 December 1997 on the implementation of the present resolution;

17. *Decides* to remain seized of the matter.

**Decision of 23 December 1997 (3846th meeting):
resolution 1146 (1997)**

On 8 December 1997, the Secretary-General submitted to the Council a report on the United Nations operation in Cyprus, covering developments since 6 June 1997 and providing an update of the activities of UNFICYP.¹⁰ In his report, the Secretary-General observed that, while the situation in Cyprus was calmer, it nevertheless continued to be marked by tension and an increased number of restrictions to the freedom of movement of the Force. Moreover, the continued lack of progress towards an overall settlement, coupled with increasing belligerent rhetoric, had contributed to a growing sense of frustration in both communities. He had appealed to both sides, as well as to Greece and Turkey, to refrain from any action that could raise tension and negatively affect the negotiating process. He had also urged the military authorities to be more responsive to the UNFICYP observations and protests concerning their responsibilities along the ceasefire lines. He further noted that, despite the Council's repeated appeals, the levels of military forces and armaments in Cyprus continued to grow, and the UNFICYP package of reciprocal measures still had not been implemented. Maintaining that the presence of UNFICYP on the island remained indispensable, he, therefore, recommended the extension of the mandate of the Force for a further period ending on 30 June 1998.

On 12 December 1997, pursuant to resolution 1117 (1997), the Secretary-General submitted to the Council a report on his mission of good offices in Cyprus.¹¹ In that report, he informed the Council that the first round of talks between the leaders of the two Cypriot communities had been held in New York where the two leaders had discussed a draft statement for launching the process of negotiations that would set out the principles and objectives of the settlement and establish the modalities for future negotiations. The second round of talks had been held in Switzerland,

where the Turkish Cypriot leader had stated that, pending clarification of some of the statements contained in a document published by the European Union entitled "Agenda 2000", his delegation would not be in a position to adopt any formal understandings or agreements. The talks had ended inconclusively. Under those circumstances, the Secretary-General had considered that a third round of talks would have been unproductive.

At its 3846th meeting, held on 23 December 1997 in accordance with the understanding reached in its prior consultations, the Council included the two reports of the Secretary-General in its agenda. Following the adoption of the agenda, the President (Costa Rica) drew the attention of the members of the Council to the text of a draft resolution prepared in the course of the Council's prior consultations.¹² The draft resolution was then put to the vote and adopted unanimously as resolution 1146 (1997), which reads:

The Security Council,

Welcoming the report of the Secretary-General of 8 December 1997 on the United Nations operation in Cyprus,

Welcoming also the report of the Secretary-General of 12 December 1997 on his mission of good offices in Cyprus,

Noting that the Government of Cyprus has agreed that in view of the prevailing conditions on the island it is necessary to keep the United Nations Peacekeeping Force in Cyprus beyond 31 December 1997,

Reaffirming all its earlier relevant resolutions on Cyprus, in particular resolutions 186 (1964) of 4 March 1964, 367 (1975) of 12 March 1975, 939 (1994) of 29 July 1994 and 1117 (1997) of 27 June 1997,

Noting with concern that tensions along the ceasefire lines remain high, despite the further decrease in the number of serious incidents in the last six months, and that restrictions to freedom of movement of the Force have increased,

Reiterating its concern that negotiations on a comprehensive political solution have yet to make progress, despite the efforts made at the two rounds of direct negotiations, held in July and August 1997, between the leaders of the two communities, at the initiative of the Secretary-General,

1. *Decides* to extend the mandate of the United Nations Peacekeeping Force in Cyprus for a further period ending on 30 June 1998;

¹⁰ S/1997/962 and Add.1.

¹¹ S/1997/973.

¹² S/1997/997.

2. *Reminds* both sides of their obligation to prevent any violence directed against Force personnel, to cooperate fully with the Force and to ensure its complete freedom of movement;

3. *Underlines* the importance of early agreement to the reciprocal measures for the reduction of tension along the ceasefire lines proposed and subsequently adapted by the Force, notes the fact that only one side has so far accepted this package, calls for early agreement to and rapid implementation of reciprocal measures, and encourages the Force to continue its efforts towards that end;

4. *Calls upon* the leaders of the two communities to continue the discussions on security issues begun on 26 September 1997;

5. *Calls upon* the military authorities on both sides to refrain from any action, particularly in the vicinity of the buffer zone, which would exacerbate tensions;

6. *Reiterates its grave concern* at the continuing excessive and increasing level of military forces and armaments in the Republic of Cyprus and the rate at which they are being expanded, upgraded and modernized, including by the introduction of sophisticated weaponry, and the lack of progress towards any significant reduction in the number of foreign troops in the Republic of Cyprus, which threaten to raise tensions both on the island and in the region and complicate efforts to negotiate an overall political settlement;

7. *Calls upon* all concerned to commit themselves to a reduction in defence spending and a reduction in the number of foreign troops in the Republic of Cyprus to help to restore confidence between the parties and as a first step towards the withdrawal of non-Cypriot forces as described in the set of ideas, stresses the importance of eventual demilitarization of the Republic of Cyprus as an objective in the context of an overall comprehensive settlement, and encourages the Secretary-General to continue to promote efforts in this direction;

8. *Reiterates* that the status quo is unacceptable, and stresses its support for the Secretary-General's mission of good offices and the importance of concerted efforts to work with the Secretary-General towards an overall comprehensive settlement;

9. *Expresses its full support* for the intention of the Secretary-General to resume in March 1998 the open-ended process of negotiations initiated by him in July 1997 and aimed at achieving a comprehensive settlement;

10. *Calls upon* the leaders of the two communities to commit themselves to that process of negotiations and to cooperate actively and constructively with the Secretary-General and his Special Adviser on Cyprus, and urges all States to lend their full support to these efforts;

11. *Calls upon*, in this context, all parties concerned to create a climate for reconciliation and genuine mutual confidence on both sides and to avoid any actions which might increase tension, including further expansion of military forces and armaments;

12. *Reaffirms* its position that a Cyprus settlement must be based on a State of Cyprus with a single sovereignty and international personality and a single citizenship, with its independence and territorial integrity safeguarded, and comprising two politically equal communities as described in the relevant Security Council resolutions, in a bicomunal and bi-zonal federation, and that such a settlement must exclude union in whole or in part with any other country or any form of partition or secession;

13. *Welcomes* the ongoing efforts by the Force to implement its humanitarian mandate in respect of Greek Cypriots and Maronites living in the northern part of the island, and Turkish Cypriots living in the southern part, and welcomes also the progress in the implementation of recommendations arising out of the humanitarian review undertaken by the Force in 1995, as mentioned in the report of the Secretary-General;

14. *Welcomes also* the agreement reached between the leaders of the two communities on 31 July 1997 on the issue of missing persons in Cyprus;

15. *Welcomes further* the efforts of the United Nations and others concerned to promote the holding of bicomunal events so as to build cooperation, trust and mutual respect between the two communities, commends the increase in such bicomunal activity in the last six months, acknowledges the recent cooperation from all concerned on both sides to that end, and strongly encourages them to take further steps to facilitate such bicomunal events and to ensure that they take place in conditions of safety and security;

16. *Recognizes* that the decision of the European Union concerning the opening of accession negotiations with Cyprus is an important development;

17. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit a report by 10 June 1998 on the implementation of the present resolution;

18. *Decides* to remain actively seized of the matter.

**Decision of 29 June 1998 (3898th meeting):
resolutions 1178 (1998) and 1179 (1998)**

By a letter dated 20 April 1998 addressed to the President of the Security Council,¹³ the Secretary-General informed the Council that his Special Adviser had visited Nicosia from 17 to 22 March 1999, for consultations with the leaders of the two Cypriot communities on the resumption of the negotiations process. He noted that although both leaders had reiterated that the resolution of the Cyprus problem should be pursued through the United Nations, they strongly disagreed on the parameters that should

¹³ S/1998/410.

govern that process. As a result, it had not been possible to find a common basis for the resumption of the negotiations.

By a letter dated 19 May 1998,¹⁴ the President of the Security Council informed the Secretary-General that his letter had been brought to the attention of the members of the Council, and that they strongly supported his mission of good offices for Cyprus.

On 10 June 1998, the Secretary-General submitted to the Council a report on the United Nations operation in Cyprus, covering developments from 8 December 1997 to 8 June 1998 and updating the activities of UNFICYP.¹⁵ In his report, the Secretary-General observed that the situation along the ceasefire lines remained relatively calm, despite minor violations. Moreover, both sides continued to dispute the delineation of their respective lines in certain areas within the buffer zone, often challenging the authority of the Force, and had continued to ignore the protests by UNFICYP against violations of the status quo by continuing military construction along and in close proximity to the ceasefire lines. He noted that the repeated Council appeals for a reduction in defence spending and in the number of foreign troops had not been heeded by either side and there had also been no progress concerning the package of reciprocal measures. He regretted the decision by the Turkish Cypriot authorities to suspend all bicomunal activities on the island and urged both sides, in particular the Turkish Cypriot leadership, to allow the resumption of those events. Therefore, he concluded that the presence of UNFICYP on the island remained indispensable and recommended its extension for a further period ending on 31 December 1998.

On 16 June 1998, pursuant to resolution 1146 (1997), the Secretary-General submitted to the Council a further report on his mission of good offices in Cyprus.¹⁶ In his report, the Secretary-General informed the Council that during the visit to the island by the Special Adviser, from 17 to 22 March 1998, the President of Cyprus had reiterated his readiness to resume direct talks on the basis of the relevant Council resolutions. The leader of the Turkish Cypriot community, on the other hand, had called for a new

approach based on the "acknowledgment of the existence of two fully functioning democratic States on the island". The Secretary-General, however, regretted that, so far, and in spite of all efforts, it had not been possible to resume the negotiations. He hoped that all parties would abstain from any action that could further exacerbate tensions and called upon them to cooperate with the United Nations efforts to resume the process of direct talks.

At its 3898th meeting, held on 29 June 1998 in accordance with the understanding reached at its prior consultations, the Council included the two reports of the Secretary-General in its agenda. Following the adoption of the agenda, the President (Portugal) drew the attention of the members of the Council to the text of two draft resolutions prepared in the course of the Council's prior consultations. The first draft resolution¹⁷ was thereupon put to the vote and adopted unanimously as resolution 1178 (1998), which reads:

The Security Council,

Welcoming the report of the Secretary-General of 10 June 1998 on the United Nations operation in Cyprus,

Noting that the Government of Cyprus has agreed that in view of the prevailing conditions on the island it is necessary to keep the United Nations Peacekeeping Force in Cyprus beyond 30 June 1998,

Reaffirming all its earlier resolutions on Cyprus,

Noting with concern that tensions along the ceasefire lines and restrictions to the freedom of movement of the Force continue,

1. *Decides* to extend the mandate of the United Nations Peacekeeping Force in Cyprus for a further period ending on 31 December 1998;

2. *Reminds* both sides of their obligations to prevent any violence directed against Force personnel, to cooperate fully with the Force and to ensure its complete freedom of movement;

3. *Calls upon* the military authorities on both sides to refrain from any action, particularly in the vicinity of the buffer zone, which would exacerbate tensions;

4. *Underlines* the importance of early agreement to the reciprocal measures for the reduction of tension along the ceasefire lines proposed and subsequently adapted by the Force, notes the fact that only one side has so far accepted this package, calls for early agreement to and rapid implementation of reciprocal measures, and encourages the Force to continue its efforts towards that end;

¹⁴ S/1998/411.

¹⁵ S/1998/488 and Add.1.

¹⁶ S/1998/518.

¹⁷ S/1998/575.

5. *Reiterates its grave concern* at the continuing excessive and increasing levels of military forces and armaments in the Republic of Cyprus and the rate at which they are being expanded, upgraded and modernized, including by the introduction of sophisticated weaponry, and the lack of progress towards any significant reduction in the number of foreign troops in the Republic of Cyprus, which threaten to raise tensions both on the island and in the region and complicate efforts to negotiate an overall political settlement;

6. *Calls upon* all concerned to commit themselves to a reduction in defence spending and a reduction in the number of foreign troops in the Republic of Cyprus to help to restore confidence between the parties and as a first step towards the withdrawal of non-Cypriot forces as described in the set of ideas, stresses the importance of eventual demilitarization of the Republic of Cyprus as an objective in the context of an overall comprehensive settlement, and encourages the Secretary-General to continue to promote efforts in this direction;

7. *Calls upon* the leaders of the two communities to resume the discussions on security issues begun on 26 September 1997;

8. *Welcomes* the ongoing efforts by the Force to implement its humanitarian mandate in respect of Greek Cypriots and Maronites living in the northern part of the island, and Turkish Cypriots living in the southern part, and welcomes also the progress in the implementation of recommendations arising out of the humanitarian review undertaken by the Force in 1995, as mentioned in the report of the Secretary-General;

9. *Welcomes also* the appointment of the new third member of the Committee on Missing Persons, and calls for implementation without delay of the agreement on missing persons of 31 July 1997;

10. *Reiterates its support* for the efforts of the United Nations and others concerned to promote the holding of bi-communal events so as to build cooperation, trust and mutual respect between the two communities, regrets the suspension of such activity by the Turkish Cypriot leadership, and urges both sides, and in particular the Turkish Cypriot side, to facilitate arrangements within which bicomunal contacts can take place uninterrupted and without formalities;

11. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit a report by 10 December 1998 on the implementation of the present resolution;

12. *Decides* to remain actively seized of the matter.

The second draft resolution¹⁸ was also put to the vote, and was adopted unanimously as resolution 1179 (1998), which reads:

¹⁸ S/1998/576.

The Security Council,

Welcoming the report of the Secretary-General of 16 June 1998 on his mission of good offices in Cyprus,

Reaffirming all its earlier resolutions on Cyprus,

Calling once more upon all States to respect the sovereignty, independence and territorial integrity of the Republic of Cyprus, and requesting them, along with the parties concerned, to refrain from any action which might prejudice that sovereignty, independence and territorial integrity, as well as from any attempt of partition of the island or its unification with any other country,

Reiterating its growing concern that negotiations on a comprehensive political solution have yet to make progress, despite the efforts of the Secretary-General and his Special Adviser and others in support of the United Nations efforts to promote a comprehensive settlement,

1. *Reaffirms* that the status quo is unacceptable and that negotiations on a final political solution of the Cyprus problem have been at an impasse for too long;

2. *Reaffirms* its position that a Cyprus settlement must be based on a State of Cyprus with a single sovereignty and international personality and a single citizenship, with its independence and territorial integrity safeguarded, and comprising two politically equal communities as described in the relevant Security Council resolutions, in a bicomunal and bi-zonal federation, and that such a settlement must exclude union in whole or in part with any other country or any form of partition or secession;

3. *Stresses its full support* for the Secretary-General's mission of good offices and for the efforts of his Special Adviser on Cyprus to resume a sustained process of direct negotiations aimed at achieving a comprehensive settlement on the basis of the relevant Security Council resolutions, and stresses also the importance of concerted efforts to work with the Secretary-General to that end;

4. *Welcomes* the intention of the Secretary-General to continue to explore possibilities that may lead to a new momentum in that process of negotiations;

5. *Calls once again upon* the leaders of the two communities, in particular the Turkish Cypriot side, to commit themselves to this process of negotiations, to cooperate actively and constructively with the Secretary-General and his Special Adviser and to resume the direct dialogue without further delay, and urges all States to lend their full support to these efforts;

6. *Calls upon*, in this context, all parties concerned to create a climate for reconciliation and genuine mutual confidence on both sides, and to avoid any actions which might increase tension, including through further expansion of military forces and armaments;

7. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit a report by 10 December 1998 on the implementation of the present resolution;

8. *Decides* to remain actively seized of the matter.

Decision of 22 December 1998 (3959th meeting): resolutions 1217 (1998) and 1218 (1998)

On 7 December 1998, the Secretary-General submitted to the Council a report on the United Nations operation in Cyprus, covering developments from 9 June to 8 December 1998 and providing an update of the activities of the Force.¹⁹ In his report, he observed that there had been no change with regard to reducing tension, the increasing levels of military forces and armaments, demilitarization and discussion on security issues. Moreover, as a result of the suspension of bicomunal contacts by the Turkish Cypriot authorities in December 1997, Turkish Cypriot participation in those events had ceased. He further noted that UNFICYP continued to maintain the ceasefire by controlling the buffer zone and responding quickly to any incidents. He concluded that the presence of the Force on the island remained indispensable and, therefore, recommended an extension of its mandate for a further period ending on 30 June 1999.

By a letter dated 14 December 1998 addressed to the President of the Security Council,²⁰ the Secretary-General reported on his mission of good offices in Cyprus since the adoption of resolution 1179 (1998). In his report, the Secretary-General stated that his Deputy Special Representative had begun “shuttle-talks” with a view to reducing tension and promoting a lasting settlement. Both leaders had expressed their support for the process and promised to cooperate in a constructive and flexible manner. The issues under discussion included, inter alia, a commitment to reject the use of force; a commitment to prevent further military expansion; and an agreement to the United Nations Peacekeeping Force in Cyprus package of measures for reducing tension along the ceasefire lines, including demining. Several meetings and consultations had also been held with representatives of Greece and Turkey. The Secretary-General urged the two leaders to promote a climate of reconciliation and

mutual confidence, especially by avoiding any actions that might increase tension, including the further expansion of military forces and armaments.

At its 3959th meeting, held on 22 December 1998 in accordance with the understanding reached in its prior consultations, the Council included the report and the letter of the Secretary-General in its agenda. Following the adoption of the agenda, the President (Bahrain) drew the attention of the members of the Council to the text of two draft resolutions prepared in the course of the Council’s prior consultations.

The first draft resolution²¹ was then put to the vote and adopted unanimously as resolution 1217 (1998), which reads:

The Security Council,

Welcoming the report of the Secretary-General of 7 December 1998 on the United Nations operation in Cyprus,

Welcoming also the letter from the Secretary-General dated 14 December 1998 addressed to the President of the Security Council on his mission of good offices in Cyprus,

Noting that the Government of Cyprus has agreed that, in view of the prevailing conditions on the island, it is necessary to keep the United Nations Peacekeeping Force in Cyprus beyond 31 December 1998,

Reaffirming all its earlier resolutions on Cyprus,

Calling once more upon all States to respect the sovereignty, independence and territorial integrity of the Republic of Cyprus, and requesting them, along with the parties concerned, to refrain from any action which might prejudice that sovereignty, independence and territorial integrity, as well as from any attempt of partition of the island or its unification with any other country,

Noting with concern that restrictions to the freedom of movement of the Force continue,

Noting with satisfaction that the situation along the ceasefire lines has remained generally calm, notwithstanding numerous minor violations,

Reiterating the need to make progress on a comprehensive political solution,

1. *Decides* to extend the mandate of the United Nations Peacekeeping Force in Cyprus for a further period ending on 30 June 1999;

2. *Reminds* both sides of their obligations to prevent any violence directed against Force personnel, to cooperate fully with the Force and to ensure its complete freedom of movement;

¹⁹ S/1998/1149 and Add.1.

²⁰ S/1998/1166.

²¹ S/1998/1207.

3. *Calls upon* the military authorities on both sides to refrain from any action, particularly in the vicinity of the buffer zone, which would exacerbate tensions;

4. *Reiterates its grave concern* at the continuing excessive levels of military forces and armaments in the Republic of Cyprus and the rate at which they are being expanded, upgraded and modernized, including by the introduction of sophisticated weaponry, and the lack of progress towards any significant reduction in the number of foreign troops in the Republic of Cyprus, which threaten to raise tensions both on the island and in the region and complicate efforts to negotiate an overall political settlement;

5. *Calls upon* all concerned to commit themselves to a reduction in defence spending and a reduction in the number of foreign troops in the Republic of Cyprus to help to restore confidence between the parties and as a first step towards the withdrawal of non-Cypriot forces as described in the set of ideas, stresses the importance of eventual demilitarization of the Republic of Cyprus as an objective in the context of an overall comprehensive settlement, and encourages the Secretary-General to continue to promote efforts in this direction;

6. *Reaffirms* that the status quo is unacceptable and that negotiations on a final political solution of the Cyprus problem have been at an impasse for too long;

7. *Reaffirms* its position that a Cyprus settlement must be based on a State of Cyprus with a single sovereignty and international personality and a single citizenship, with its independence and territorial integrity safeguarded, and comprising two politically equal communities as described in the relevant Security Council resolutions, in a bicomunal and bi-zonal federation, and that such a settlement must exclude union in whole or in part with any other country or any form of partition or secession;

8. *Stresses its full support* for the Secretary-General's mission of good offices and for the efforts of his Special Adviser and Deputy Special Representative in Cyprus to resume, when appropriate, a sustained process of direct negotiations aimed at achieving a comprehensive settlement on the basis of the relevant Security Council resolutions, and stresses also the importance of concerted efforts to work with the Secretary-General to that end;

9. *Calls once again upon* the leaders of the two communities to commit themselves to this process of negotiations, to cooperate actively and constructively with the Secretary-General, his Special Adviser and his Deputy Special Representative and to resume when appropriate the direct dialogue, and urges all States to lend their full support to these efforts;

10. *Welcomes* the ongoing efforts by the Force to implement its humanitarian mandate in respect of Greek Cypriots and Maronites living in the northern part of the island, and Turkish Cypriots living in the southern part, as mentioned in the report of the Secretary-General;

11. *Welcomes also* the resumption of work of the Committee on Missing Persons, and calls for implementation without delay of the agreement on missing persons of 31 July 1997;

12. *Reiterates its support* for the efforts of the United Nations and others concerned to promote the holding of bicomunal events so as to build cooperation, trust and mutual respect between the two communities;

13. *Welcomes* the efforts made to improve the efficiency of the Force, including by the establishment of a new Civil Affairs Branch;

14. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit a report by 10 June 1999 on the implementation of the present resolution;

15. *Decides* to remain actively seized of the matter.

The second draft resolution²² was then put to the vote, and was adopted unanimously as resolution 1218 (1998), which reads:

The Security Council,

Reaffirming all its earlier resolutions on Cyprus,

Reiterating its grave concern at the lack of progress towards an overall political settlement on Cyprus,

1. *Expresses its appreciation* for the letter dated 14 December 1998 from the Secretary-General addressed to the President of the Security Council on his mission of good offices in Cyprus, in particular on the work of his Deputy Special Representative;

2. *Endorses* the initiative of the Secretary-General announced on 30 September 1998 within the framework of his mission of good offices, with the goal of reducing tensions and promoting progress towards a just and lasting settlement in Cyprus;

3. *Expresses* its appreciation for the spirit of cooperation and constructive approach the two sides have demonstrated thus far in working with the Deputy Special Representative of the Secretary-General;

4. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in view of the objectives of promoting progress towards a just and lasting settlement and of reducing tension, set out in his initiative of 30 September 1998, and building on the serious engagement already demonstrated by the two sides to continue to make progress towards these two objectives, on the basis of relevant Security Council resolutions;

5. *Also requests* the Secretary-General, in particular, to work intensively with the two sides on the following, taking into account resolution 1178 (1998) of 29 June 1998:

²² S/1998/1208.

(a) An undertaking to refrain from the threat or use of force or violence as a means to resolve the Cyprus problem;

(b) A staged process aimed at limiting and then substantially reducing the level of all troops and armaments in Cyprus;

(c) Implementation of the package of measures of the United Nations Peacekeeping Force in Cyprus aimed at reducing tensions along the ceasefire lines, and a commitment to enter into discussions with the Force with a view to early agreement on further specific and related tension-reducing steps, including demining along the buffer zone;

(d) Further progress in the area of tension-reduction;

(e) Efforts to achieve substantive progress on the core aspects of a comprehensive Cyprus settlement;

(f) Other measures that will build trust and cooperation between the two sides;

6. *Calls upon* the two sides to show compliance with all the objectives in paragraphs 4 and 5 above, in full cooperation with the Secretary-General;

7. *Requests* the Secretary-General to keep the Security Council informed of progress made on his initiative;

8. *Decides* to remain actively seized of the matter.

**Decision of 29 June 1999 (4018th meeting):
resolutions 1250 (1999) and 1251 (1999)**

On 8 June 1999, the Secretary-General submitted to the Council a report on the United Nations operation in Cyprus, covering developments from 9 December 1998 to 9 June 1999 and providing an update on the activities of the Force.²³ The Secretary-General said that the situation along the ceasefire lines remained stable and the United Nations Peacekeeping Force in Cyprus continued to respond quickly to incidents between the two sides. While most were minor, the increase in provocative behaviour by members of the opposing forces along the lines heightened the risk of more serious problems. He underlined that the best way to prevent incidents was through enforcement of strict discipline along the ceasefire lines and cooperation with the Force on the basis of long-standing principles and practices. The adoption of measures by UNFICYP to reduce tension would further contribute to stabilizing the situation. More direct contact between Greek and Turkish Cypriots would also influence the atmosphere positively. In the existing circumstances, the Secretary-General

concluded that the presence of the Force remained indispensable and, therefore, recommended its extension for a further period, until 31 December 1999.

On 22 June 1999, pursuant to resolution 1218 of (1998), the Secretary-General submitted to the Council a report on his mission of good offices in Cyprus.²⁴ In his report, the Secretary-General observed that his Deputy Special Representative had continued to meet with both Cypriot leaders. Although the substance of those “shuttle-talks” remained confidential, the discussions had reconfirmed the importance of the issue of political equality. The Turkish Cypriot leadership had contended, however, that some aspects of the situation placed the Turkish Cypriots at a disadvantage and undermined the commitment to political equality. The Secretary-General noted that, while there had been no resumption of fighting between the two sides for the past 25 years, the absence of a settlement remained a source of instability and tension, and neither side had anything to gain from waiting any longer. A compromise on the remaining core issues of security, distribution of powers, property and territory would remove the remaining obstacles towards a lasting settlement of the Cyprus question. It was essential, however, that those issues be addressed without preconditions and in a realistic and straightforward manner in comprehensive negotiations. In the light of the above and subject to the Council’s guidance, the Secretary-General was ready to invite both leaders to resume the direct dialogue without further delay, without preconditions and in a spirit of compromise and cooperation.

At its 4018th meeting, held on 29 June 1999 in accordance with the understanding reached in its prior consultations, the Council included the two reports of the Secretary-General in its agenda. Following the adoption of the agenda, the President (Gambia) drew the attention of the members of the Council to the text of two draft resolution prepared in the course of the Council’s prior consultations.

The first draft resolution²⁵ was then put to the vote and adopted unanimously as resolution 1250 (1999), which reads:

²⁴ S/1999/707.

²⁵ S/1999/724.

²³ S/1999/657 and Add.1.

The Security Council,

Reaffirming all its earlier resolutions on Cyprus, particularly resolution 1218 (1998) of 22 December 1998,

Reiterating its grave concern at the lack of progress towards an overall political settlement on Cyprus,

Appreciating the statement of the heads of State and Government of Canada, France, Germany, Italy, Japan, the Russian Federation, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the United States of America on 20 June 1999 calling for comprehensive negotiations in the autumn of 1999 under the auspices of the Secretary-General,

1. *Expresses its appreciation* for the report of the Secretary-General of 22 June 1999 on his mission of good offices in Cyprus;

2. *Stresses its full support* for the Secretary-General's mission of good offices as decided by the Security Council and, in this context, for the efforts of the Secretary-General and his Special Representative;

3. *Reiterates its endorsement* of the initiative of the Secretary-General announced on 30 September 1998, within the framework of his mission of good offices, with the goal of reducing tensions and promoting progress towards a just and lasting settlement in Cyprus;

4. *Notes* that the discussions between the Special Representative of the Secretary-General and the two sides are continuing, and urges both sides to participate constructively;

5. *Expresses the view* that both sides have legitimate concerns that should be addressed through comprehensive negotiations covering all relevant issues;

6. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in accordance with the relevant Security Council resolutions, to invite the leaders of the two sides to negotiations in the autumn of 1999;

7. *Calls upon* the two leaders, in this context, to give their full support to such a comprehensive negotiation, under the auspices of the Secretary-General, and to commit themselves to the following principles:

- No preconditions;
- All issues on the table;
- Commitment in good faith to continue to negotiate until a settlement is reached;
- Full consideration of relevant United Nations resolutions and treaties;

8. *Requests* the two sides in Cyprus, including military authorities on both sides, to work constructively with the Secretary-General and his Special Representative to create a positive climate on the island that will pave the way for negotiations in the autumn of 1999;

9. *Requests* the Secretary-General to keep the Security Council informed of progress towards the implementation of the present resolution and to submit a report to the Council by 1 December 1999;

10. *Decides* to remain actively seized of the matter.

The second draft resolution²⁶ was also put to the vote, and was adopted unanimously as resolution 1251 (1999), which reads:

The Security Council,

Welcoming the report of the Secretary-General of 8 June 1999 on the United Nations operation in Cyprus,

Noting that the Government of Cyprus has agreed that in view of the prevailing conditions on the island it is necessary to keep the United Nations Peacekeeping Force in Cyprus beyond 30 June 1999,

Reaffirming all its earlier resolutions on Cyprus, in particular resolutions 1217 (1998) and 1218 (1998), of 22 December 1998,

Calling once more upon all States to respect the sovereignty, independence and territorial integrity of the Republic of Cyprus, and requesting them, along with the parties concerned, to refrain from any action which might prejudice that sovereignty, independence and territorial integrity, as well as from any attempt at partition of the island or its unification with any other country,

Noting that the situation along the ceasefire lines is essentially stable, but expressing its grave concern at the increasing practice by both sides of engaging in provocative behaviour along the ceasefire lines, which heightens the risk of more serious incidents,

Reminding the parties that the package of measures of the Force aimed at reducing tensions along the ceasefire lines was designed to reduce incidents and tensions, without affecting the security of either side,

Reiterating the need to make progress on a comprehensive political solution,

1. *Decides* to extend the mandate of the United Nations Peacekeeping Force in Cyprus for a further period ending 15 December 1999;

2. *Reminds* both sides of their obligation to prevent any violence directed against Force personnel, to cooperate fully with the Force and to ensure its complete freedom of movement;

3. *Calls upon* the military authorities on both sides to refrain from any action, including acts of provocation in the vicinity of the buffer zone, which would exacerbate tensions;

²⁶ S/1999/725.

4. *Requests* the Secretary-General and his Special Representative to continue to work intensively with the two sides with a view to early agreement on further specific tension-reducing steps, with full consideration of its resolution 1218 (1998);

5. *Calls upon* the two sides to take measures that will build trust and cooperation and reduce tensions between them, including demining along the buffer zone;

6. *Urges* the Greek Cypriot side to agree to the implementation of the package of measures of the Force, and encourages the Force to continue its efforts towards the rapid implementation of the package by both sides;

7. *Reiterates its grave concern* at the continuing excessive levels of military forces and armaments in the Republic of Cyprus and the rate at which they are being expanded, upgraded and modernized, including by the introduction of advanced weapon systems by either side, and at the lack of progress towards any significant reduction in the number of foreign troops in the Republic of Cyprus, which threaten to raise tensions both on the island and in the region and complicate efforts to negotiate an overall political settlement;

8. *Calls upon* all concerned to commit themselves to a reduction in defence spending, a reduction in the number of foreign troops in the Republic of Cyprus, and a staged process aimed at limiting and then substantially reducing the level of all troops and armaments in the Republic of Cyprus as a first step towards the withdrawal of non-Cypriot forces as described in the set of ideas, to help to restore confidence between the sides, stresses the importance of eventual demilitarization of the Republic of Cyprus as an objective in the context of an overall comprehensive settlement, welcomes in this context any steps either side may take to reduce armaments and troops, and encourages the Secretary-General to continue to promote efforts in this direction;

9. *Calls upon* both sides to refrain from the threat or use of force or violence as a means to resolve the Cyprus problem;

10. *Reaffirms* that the status quo is unacceptable and that negotiations on a final political solution to the Cyprus problem have been at an impasse for too long;

11. *Reaffirms its position* that a Cyprus settlement must be based on a State of Cyprus with a single sovereignty and international personality and a single citizenship, with its independence and territorial integrity safeguarded, and comprising two politically equal communities as described in the relevant Security Council resolutions, in a bicomunal and bi-zonal federation, and that such a settlement must exclude union in whole or in part with any other country or any form of partition or secession;

12. *Welcomes* the ongoing efforts by the Force to implement its humanitarian mandate in respect of Greek Cypriots and Maronites living in the northern part of the island

and Turkish Cypriots living in the southern part, as mentioned in the report of the Secretary-General;

13. *Reiterates its support* for the efforts of the United Nations and others concerned to promote the holding of bicomunal events so as to build cooperation, trust and mutual respect between the two communities, and calls upon the Turkish-Cypriot leadership to resume such activities;

14. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit a report by 1 December 1999 on the implementation of the present resolution;

15. *Decides* to remain actively seized of the matter.

Decision of 15 December 1999 (4082nd meeting): resolution 1283 (1999)

On 29 November 1999, the Secretary-General submitted to the Council a report on the United Nations operation in Cyprus, covering developments from 10 June to 29 November 1999 and giving an update of the activities of the United Nations Peacekeeping Force in Cyprus.²⁷ The Secretary-General said that the situation along the ceasefire lines had remained stable and that the prevention of incidents depended on the discipline imposed upon the troops on both sides and upon sustained cooperation with the Force. He further stated that on-island contact between the two communities remained limited, owing to early restrictions imposed by the Turkish Cypriot authorities. Meanwhile, the Force continued to promote civilian activities in the buffer zone, subject to operational and security arrangements. Reporting on his mission of good offices, the Secretary-General said that the leaders of the two Cypriot communities had agreed to start proximity talks, in New York, on 3 December 1999, in order to prepare the ground for meaningful negotiations towards a comprehensive settlement. Under the existing circumstances, he concluded that the presence of the Force on the island remained indispensable, and he therefore recommended the extension of the mandate of the Force for a further period ending on 15 June 2000.

At its 4082nd meeting, held on 15 December 1999 in accordance with the understanding reached in its prior consultations, the Council included the report of the Secretary-General in its agenda. Following the adoption of the agenda, the President (United Kingdom) drew the attention of the members of the Council to the text of a draft resolution prepared in the course of the Council's prior consultations.²⁸ The draft

²⁷ S/1999/1203 and Corr.1 and Add.1.

²⁸ S/1999/1249.

resolution was then put to the vote and adopted unanimously as resolution 1283 (1999), which reads:

The Security Council,

Welcoming the report of the Secretary-General of 29 November 1999 on the United Nations operation in Cyprus, and in particular the call to the parties to assess and address the humanitarian issue of missing persons with due urgency and seriousness,

Noting that the Government of Cyprus has agreed that in view of the prevailing conditions in the island it is necessary to

keep the United Nations Peacekeeping Force in Cyprus beyond 15 December 1999,

1. *Reaffirms* all its relevant resolutions on Cyprus, in particular resolution 1251 (1999) of 29 June 1999;
2. *Decides* to extend the mandate of the United Nations Peacekeeping Force in Cyprus for a further period ending 15 June 2000;
3. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit a report by 1 June 2000 on the implementation of the present resolution;
4. *Decides* to remain actively seized of the matter.

27. Items relating to the situation in the former Yugoslavia

A. The situation in the former Yugoslavia

Decision of 1 October 1996 (3700th meeting): resolution 1074 (1996)

At its 3700th meeting, held on 1 October 1996 in accordance with the understanding reached in its prior consultations, the President (Honduras), with the consent of the Council, invited the representative of Bosnia and Herzegovina, at his request, to participate in the discussion without the right to vote. The President, with the consent of the Council, also invited Mr. Vladislav Jovanović to sit at the Council table.

At the same meeting, the President drew the attention of members of the Council to a draft resolution prepared in the course of the Council's prior consultations.¹ The President further drew the attention of the Council to a letter dated 1 October 1996 from the Secretary-General addressed to the President of the Security Council, transmitting a letter and a report by the High Representative for the Implementation of the Peace Agreement on Bosnia and Herzegovina. The letter from the High Representative also noted that, with the certification by the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE) of the results of the elections held on 14 September in accordance with annex 3 of the Peace Agreement, conditions had been met for the decisions envisaged in paragraph 4 of resolution 1022 (1995) to be taken regarding the termination of measures imposed by resolutions 757 (1992), 787 (1992), 820 (1993), 942 (1994), 943

(1994), 988 (1995), 992 (1995), 1003 (1995) and 1015 (1995).²

At the same meeting, the draft resolution was put to the vote and adopted unanimously as resolution 1074 (1996), which reads:

The Security Council,

Recalling all its previous relevant resolutions concerning the conflicts in the former Yugoslavia, and reaffirming, in particular, its resolution 1022 (1995) of 22 November 1995,

Reaffirming its commitment to the political settlement of the conflicts in the former Yugoslavia preserving the sovereignty and territorial integrity of all States there within their internationally recognized borders,

Expressing its appreciation to the High Representative, the Commander and personnel of the multinational Implementation Force, personnel of the United Nations and the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe, as well as other international personnel in Bosnia and Herzegovina for their contributions to the implementation of the General Framework Agreement for Peace in Bosnia and Herzegovina and the annexes thereto (collectively the "Peace Agreement"),

Welcoming the progress in the implementation of the Peace Agreement,

Welcoming also the process of mutual recognition, and stressing the importance of full normalization of relations, including the establishment of diplomatic relations, among all successor States to the former Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia,

Noting with satisfaction that the elections called for in annex 3 of the Peace Agreement have taken place in Bosnia and Herzegovina,

¹ S/1996/815.

² S/1996/814.