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General Assembly
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Question of Cyprus**Security Council**
Sixty-first year**Letter dated 14 July 2006 from the Permanent Representative of
Turkey to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General**

I have the honour to transmit herewith a letter dated 10 July 2006, addressed to you by Mr. Murat Soysal, charge d'affaires a.i. of the Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus, forwarding the letter of His Excellency Mr. Mehmet Ali Talat, President of the Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus (see annex).

I should be grateful if the present letter and its annex could be circulated as a document of the General Assembly under agenda item 19, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) Baki İlkin
Ambassador
Permanent Representative



**Annex to the letter dated 14 July 2006 from the Permanent
Representative of Turkey addressed to the Secretary-General**

I have the honour to convey herewith a copy of a letter dated 6 July 2006 addressed to you by H.E. Mr. Mehmet Ali Talat, President of the Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus (see enclosure).

(Signed) Murat Soysal
Chargé d'affaires a.i.

Enclosure

The Turkish Cypriot side continues to give full support to the efforts to find a comprehensive settlement of the Cyprus problem under the auspices of your good offices mission and on the basis of the Annan Plan.

As you are well aware, the Turkish Cypriot people have demonstrated their will and resolution to achieve the unification of the island in line with international treaties on Cyprus and United Nations parameters through its favourable vote for your Comprehensive Settlement Plan. It should also be reiterated that, following the referenda, the Turkish Cypriot side has maintained its vision and quest for a settlement in Cyprus.

The complex nature of the Cyprus problem compels us to work meticulously in search for a comprehensive solution. It is our view that the setbacks we encounter on this path should not deter us from rendering our efforts in this regard.

With this in mind, we have decided to come forward with another initiative. We believe that by creating an improved environment of mutual confidence this initiative will contribute to the efforts towards a lasting solution.

The content of our proposal is outlined below:

1. Unmanning: to enter into intensive discussions with the United Nations Peacekeeping Force in Cyprus (UNFICYP) with a view to extending the 1989 Unmanning Agreement to cover those 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 UNFICYP in June 1996.

2. Military exercises: the military authorities on both sides to refrain from conducting any military exercises involving mechanized and battle tank companies along and within sight or hearing range of the buffer zone.

3. Ledra Street crossing point: cooperation with UNFICYP, with a view to completing the opening of the crossing point at Ledra Street. The Turkish Cypriot side is prepared to discuss formulations which would enable the opening of this crossing point.

4. Reconciliation Commission: establishment of a Reconciliation Commission to promote understanding, tolerance and mutual respect between Turkish Cypriots and Greek Cypriots. The Reconciliation Commission shall be composed of an equal number of Turkish Cypriots and Greek Cypriots.

In this context, I would like to emphasize that the Turkish Cypriot side is ready to get involved in substantial discussions with UNFICYP and the Greek Cypriot side to finalize an agreement on the modalities of the implementation of these confidence-building measures.

Furthermore, we are committed to the extension of demining operations, which has recently been communicated between the Turkish Cypriot authorities and UNFICYP.

In conclusion, I would like to reiterate once again the firm commitment of the Turkish Cypriot side to the comprehensive settlement of the Cyprus problem under the auspices of your good offices mission and on the basis of the Annan Plan.

(Signed) Mehmet Ali **Talat**
President of the Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus
