



Security Council

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Report of the Secretary-General on his mission of good offices in Cyprus

I. Introduction

1. The Security Council, in its resolution [2771 \(2025\)](#), requested the Secretary-General to submit a report on his good offices by 5 January 2026, in particular on progress towards reaching a consensus starting point for meaningful results-oriented negotiations to lead to a settlement. In the resolution, the Council encouraged the leaders of the Greek Cypriot and Turkish Cypriot communities to provide written updates to the Secretary-General's mission of good offices on the action that they had taken in support of the relevant parts of the resolution since its adoption, in particular with regard to paragraphs 6 to 9, with a view to reaching a sustainable and comprehensive settlement, and requested the Secretary-General to include the contents of those updates in the report. The updates submitted by the two leaders are contained in annexes I and II to the present report.

2. The report covers developments from 12 June 2025 to 15 December 2025. It provides an update on the activities carried out by the Secretary-General's mission of good offices. The report also covers the engagement of the Secretary-General and other senior United Nations officials, including the Personal Envoy of the Secretary-General on Cyprus, María Ángela Holguín Cuéllar, with the parties.

II. Significant developments

3. The intensification of dialogue and the engagement of the United Nations with the Greek Cypriot and Turkish Cypriot leaders and the guarantor Powers – Greece, Türkiye and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland – regarding the way forward on the Cyprus issue continued throughout the reporting period.

4. The Secretary-General convened an informal meeting in a broader format in New York on 17 July 2025, after the meeting held in a similar format in Geneva in March. In addition to the Greek Cypriot and Turkish Cypriot leaders, it brought together the Ministers for Foreign Affairs of Greece and Türkiye and the Minister of State for Europe, North America and the Overseas Territories of the United Kingdom. The participants took stock of the six trust-building initiatives agreed in March and came to a common understanding on four additional initiatives. They also agreed to hold another informal meeting in a broader format in the future. While some of the initiatives from the meetings in March and July have been implemented, there are



others that need further work and discussion. Subsequently, the Secretary-General hosted the two leaders for a trilateral meeting in New York on 27 September.

5. The Personal Envoy visited Cyprus in August, September and December, meeting the Greek Cypriot and Turkish Cypriot leaders. She also held joint rounds of discussions with the representatives of the two leaders and engaged with the technical committees and other key interlocutors during those visits to the island. In addition, the Personal Envoy engaged with the guarantor Powers and stakeholders from a range of Member States and the European Union.

6. Following the leadership election in the Turkish Cypriot community held on 19 October, Tufan Erhürman took office as the new Turkish Cypriot leader after winning with a large majority (more than 62 per cent of the vote) in the first round. He campaigned on a platform of overcoming political and social divisions within the Turkish Cypriot community and returning to talks on the basis of a federal solution to the long-standing division on the island.

7. The first meeting of the Greek Cypriot leader and the new Turkish Cypriot leader was held on 20 November in the United Nations Protected Area, with the Personal Envoy participating virtually, during which the two leaders exchanged views in a cordial atmosphere. A number of meetings of the representatives of the two leaders also took place in late November and December. The Personal Envoy facilitated another joint meeting of the two leaders on 11 December, during her most recent visit to the island. She went on to hold consultations with the guarantor Powers.

III. Background and context

8. Of the 10 trust-building initiatives agreed at the broader format meetings in March and July, several were either partially or fully implemented. The restoration of cemeteries was completed and the Technical Committee on Youth was established. Implementation of the demining initiative is pending the agreement of final technical details. The initiatives related to the environment and climate change have been tasked to the Technical Committee on Environment for development.

9. Limited progress was observed in advancing the implementation of other initiatives. This was due in part to preparations ahead of the Turkish Cypriot leadership election, but also to the seasonal slowdown in activities during the summer, tensions on the island arising from a spate of arrests of individuals accused of selling or marketing properties without permission from the dispossessed owners and other long-standing challenges. Specifically, there have been no concrete results achieved on the opening of new crossing points, the establishment of a solar plant in the buffer zone, the exchange of art and cultural artifacts and the establishment of a consultative body to engage with civil society.

10. Guarantor Powers Greece and Türkiye sustained efforts to improve bilateral relations during the reporting period, which is of specific significance in the context of the ongoing efforts to revive the dialogue on the Cyprus issue.

11. The security situation was relatively calm during a period of notable engagement and dialogue in the peace process, but violations and challenges to the integrity of the buffer zone and to United Nations authority remain a concern.

12. Regular meetings of representatives of Greek Cypriot and Turkish Cypriot political parties under the auspices of the Embassy of Slovakia continued during the reporting period, with the participation of 18 political parties from across the island. Two joint statements were issued, in which the political parties called for a resumption of negotiations, the adoption of confidence-building measures and the introduction of

both official languages (Greek and Turkish) as compulsory subjects in primary education in both communities.

13. Within the framework of the religious track of the Cyprus peace process, under the auspices of the Embassy of Sweden, efforts continued to further develop cooperation among various religious communities and faith-based institutions living on both sides of the island. They continued to advocate for all places of worship to be open and for communities to have free access to hold religious services.

IV. Status of the process: activities of the Secretary-General's mission of good offices

14. During the reporting period, the mission promoted intra-island contacts, cooperation and trust-building. There were 176 meetings with the representatives of the two Cypriot leaders, political parties, religious leaders, civil society organizations, including women and youth groups, the European Union, the World Bank and the diplomatic community, as well as with visiting senior officials from Member State capitals.

15. Both sides demonstrated their commitment to advancing the work of the technical committees, with meetings between the Greek Cypriot and Turkish Cypriot coordinators of the committees held on a mostly weekly basis. In addition, the majority of technical committees remained actively engaged, with 151 meetings convened across all 13 technical committees, under the auspices of the mission and with the support of the United Nations Peacekeeping Force in Cyprus.

16. The Technical Committee on Youth convened its first public event on 11 July. The event brought together young people who are not usually reached by bicomunal initiatives, demonstrating the Committee's potential to reach new constituencies across the island. From 31 October to 2 November, the Committee participated in a retreat with the Personal Envoy, organized with the support of the Folke Bernadotte Academy, in Amman. The retreat strengthened relationships among Committee members and fostered dialogue around a commitment to peacebuilding in Cyprus.

17. The Technical Committee on Cultural Heritage completed several conservation efforts at sites on both sides, including the monastery and church of Panagia Kanakaria in Lythrangomi/Boltasi and the Tuzla Mosque in Larnaca. The Committee renovated all the agreed Turkish Cypriot and Greek Cypriot cemeteries, thereby fully implementing the corresponding trust-building initiative agreed by the leaders in March 2025.

18. The Technical Committee on Health continued to address specific cases involving patients requiring treatment or medication. The Technical Committee on Crime and Criminal Matters, through the joint contact rooms in Nicosia and Pyla/Pile, exchanged information on 202 instances and exchanged three individuals in custody. The Technical Committee on Culture began work on a joint photo exhibition.

19. The Technical Committee on Crossings saw the long-awaited enlargement project for the existing Agios Dometios/Metehan crossing point in Nicosia begin. The project, implemented by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), started early in December. Completion is envisaged before the end of January 2026. The enlargement of this crossing, where persistent delays have been caused by a lack of sufficient lanes and personnel for document checks, is anticipated to significantly facilitate movement between the two sides.

20. The Technical Committees on Broadcasting and Telecommunication, on Humanitarian Affairs and on Economic and Commercial Matters, among others,

maintained engagement, although without any concrete outcome. The Technical Committee on Environment continued to develop proposals to implement the trust-building initiatives agreed at the March and July broader format meetings (including in the areas of environmental protection, climate change, microplastics and air quality), while also overseeing progress on ongoing projects related to agriculture and forest pests, youth engagement and awareness, science, technology, engineering and mathematics education (jointly with the Technical Committee on Gender Equality) and a reduction in the use of poisons to eradicate rodents.

21. Lastly, some technical committees faced challenges with irregular meetings or very limited progress, even though they cover issues that the Security Council has repeatedly highlighted. The Technical Committee on Gender Equality postponed a planned workshop and made no progress in advancing the implementation of its action plan. The Technical Committee on Crisis Management did not make progress on cooperation projects related to earthquake preparedness, wildfire response and the development of a joint crisis management protocol. The Technical Committee on Education did not meet during the reporting period, and there was no cross-community cooperation on student engagement or on the review of textbooks.

22. The second phase of the support facility to the technical committees continued to support the initiatives of the technical committees during the reporting period, raising the impact and visibility of their work. As of November 2025, approximately 86 per cent of the budgeted allocation had been utilized.

V. Observations

23. The two informal meetings in a broader format that were held in 2025, as well as the positive meetings in November and December of the Greek Cypriot leader and new Turkish Cypriot leader, were significant and showed that there is a new moment of opportunity to move forward on the Cyprus issue. I welcome the commitment shown by the Cypriot leaders and the guarantor Powers to sustain this kind of engagement, notwithstanding this being the longest gap in active negotiations in the history of the Cyprus peace process. I was particularly encouraged by the outcome of the joint meeting of the leaders facilitated by my Personal Envoy on 11 December, during which, for the first time in more than five years, discussions on core political issues took place. On that occasion, both leaders agreed that their goal was to achieve the solution of the Cyprus issue with political equality as described in the Security Council resolutions. Such a commitment has not been seen by the leaders since 2020.

24. At the same time, I urge the two sides to demonstrate a stronger determination with respect to those trust-building initiatives that have not yet been implemented. I encourage the two leaders to conclude an agreement on opening new crossing points without delay, given that crossings can have a tangible positive impact on the daily lives of people and increase contact between the people, which ultimately strengthens mutual understanding, trade and economic interdependency.

25. I am pleased to note that the technical committees have taken on a heightened role, with several trust-building initiatives agreed in March and July being assigned by the leaders to the committees for elaboration and implementation. This has underscored the added value of their work and their contribution to fostering dialogue and supporting broader peacebuilding efforts between the two sides. I commend the two sides for their efforts to insulate the committees from political dynamics so that they can continue dialogue and work on issues of shared concern.

26. The Technical Committee on Youth shows great promise, answering the Security Council's request to the two leaders to facilitate the meaningful participation of young

people in the peace process. The retreat of the Technical Committee on Youth, convened by my Personal Envoy, was particularly encouraging in bringing together young people from the island. This work also reminds us of the importance of education, to instil reconciliation, forgiveness and cooperation among school aged children. I once again echo the Council's call to the two leaders to reinvigorate the Technical Committee on Education and proceed on joint work on educational materials and programmes.

27. The range of trust-building initiatives related to the environment, including climate change, air quality and micro-plastics, demonstrates the critical importance of working together across the divide on environmental challenges. This is particularly true on an island in the eastern Mediterranean facing desertification pressures and scarcity of freshwater. I urge the leaders to support the Technical Committee on Environment in implementing concrete projects on the agreed areas without delay.

28. I appreciate the continuous support of the European Union for confidence and trust-building measures and to the technical committees through its support facility, administered by UNDP. I call upon the leaders and their representatives to ensure that this support is fully utilized in a mutually agreed manner.

29. I once again echo the call by the Security Council for greater engagement with civil society and urge the two leaders to encourage contact and cooperation between the two communities. The initiative agreed in July to form a consultative body to engage with civil society could enhance legitimacy and transparency in the dialogue, inject fresh thinking and increase public ownership of and engagement in the peace process. I urge the parties to begin work on this initiative without delay, to design such a body to be meaningful and to effectively involve women and other underrepresented groups, including religious minorities, young people and persons with disabilities.

30. I urge the two leaders to ensure the reinvigoration of the Technical Committee on Gender Equality and to make sure that any future peace agreement equally benefits men and women in Cyprus. While I commend the two sides on reaching gender parity within the established technical committees, I also encourage future negotiating teams to ensure women's full, equal and meaningful participation throughout the process. at a minimum in line with the commitment of the leaders in their action plan of April 2022. As urged by the Security Council, the leaders should provide the political support necessary to accelerate the full and effective implementation of all recommendations under the action plan.

31. I remain concerned over unilateral actions by both sides in and around the buffer zone, which undermine the military status quo of the area, the integrity of the buffer zone and the Security Council mandate there, and which are not conducive to the broader peace process. I continue to follow the situation in the fenced-off area of Varosha and reiterate that the position of the United Nations on Varosha remains unchanged. I recall the decisions of the Security Council on the matter, notably in its resolutions [550 \(1984\)](#) and [789 \(1992\)](#), and underscore the importance of adhering fully to those resolutions.

32. I am grateful for the active participation of the guarantor Powers of Greece, Türkiye and the United Kingdom in the dialogue to find a mutually acceptable way forward. I call upon them to continue to engage constructively in the ongoing efforts, fully recognizing the important role that they play in the Cyprus peace process.

33. The meeting of the leaders on 11 December represented an important step forward. While encouraging, the dialogue process between both leaders is at an early stage. More will need to be done to strengthen the nascent momentum and establish

a genuine climate of trust. I urge both sides to move forward on those in the coming period.

34. I remain committed to maintaining contact and dialogue with the sides, as well as with the guarantor Powers, in search of a path towards a peaceful settlement, and remain guided by relevant Security Council resolutions that have established United Nations parameters. The mission and my own good offices will remain at the disposal of the parties to the Cyprus issue.

35. I would like to once again thank the partners, including the European Union and the World Bank, that have continued to provide support to the work of the United Nations missions in Cyprus, UNDP and the Committee on Missing Persons in Cyprus, and that have contributed to the implementation of confidence-building measures. Lastly, I would like to thank my Personal Envoy on Cyprus and the personnel serving in my good offices mission in Cyprus for the dedication and commitment that they have brought to their work.

Annex I

Written update by the Greek Cypriot leader to the Good Offices Mission of the Secretary-General, pursuant to and in accordance with UNSCR 2771 (2025)

This submission is made in response to the encouragement in UN Security Council Resolution 2771 (2025), *“to provide written updates every six months to the Good Offices Mission of the Secretary - General on the actions they have taken in support of the relevant parts of this resolution since its adoption, in particular with regard to paragraphs 6, 7, 8 and 9, with a view to reaching a sustainable and comprehensive settlement...”*.

The present update includes all developments relevant to the effort to resume the peace process in the framework of the Good Offices Mission of the United Nations Secretary General. References to communities are without prejudice to the Republic of Cyprus as a Member State of the United Nations and references to UNFICYP are made without prejudice to the Republic of Cyprus as the Force's host country.

I. Efforts to resume the peace process

I maintain the steadfast conviction that a solution to the Cyprus problem on the mutually agreed federal basis endorsed by the UN Security Council constitutes the only viable and sustainable path forward, which can secure the vital interests of Cyprus and all Cypriots. It is also the only path towards ensuring and safeguarding security and stability in the wider Eastern Mediterranean region, a parameter which is of fundamental significance against the backdrop of the regional and international geopolitical landscape.

I wish to highlight that a peaceful solution to the Cyprus problem should be pursued exclusively within the basis prescribed by relevant UN Security Council Resolutions, the High-Level Agreements and in line with the UN Charter.

I reaffirm my commitment for the resumption of negotiations for a comprehensive settlement to the Cyprus problem, from where the Conference on Cyprus in Crans Montana, in July 2017, was left –off. This comprises the agreed basis of a bi-zonal, bi-communal federation with political equality as prescribed in relevant UN Security Council Resolutions, the convergences achieved on all negotiating chapters and the six points presented by the UN Secretary General in Crans Montana.

I wish to express my utmost appreciation to the UN Secretary General and his Personal Envoy Ms. María Angela Holguín Cuéllar – for their unwavering commitment and for their continued efforts. I also welcome the appointment of the new Special Representative of the UN Secretary General and Head of UNFICYP Mr. Khassim Diagne. As the government of the host country, we look forward to working closely with him in the context of the mandate of the peacekeeping force as prescribed by UN resolutions.

We are also profoundly grateful to the UN Security Council as the body entitled with the primary responsibility for maintaining international peace and security, for its steadfast and unwavering support and commitment to the efforts for a solution

I have genuinely engaged with the UNSG Personal Envoy throughout her mission, since 2024, in preparing the ground and in delivering outcomes on the

decisions reached in the informal broader meetings that took place in Geneva in March and in New York in July 2025 and in the meeting of the UNSG with myself and the leader of the Turkish Cypriot community in New York last September.

In the said meetings, as per the longstanding practice in meetings with broader format that include the contractual parties to the 1960 Treaties, I represented the Republic of Cyprus – through my capacity as President - as a contracting party to the said treaties, whilst also representing the Greek Cypriot community for the intercommunal aspects of the discussions.

I took part in the said meetings with the political will for a meaningful and substantial discussion and with the aim of achieving tangible outcomes towards a solution for the Cyprus problem. I reaffirmed my readiness to continue my efforts for the creation of win-win conditions for all involved in the context of the EU – Türkiye relations and beyond, and my earnest hope that an equivalent spirit will be manifested by Türkiye as well as my firm belief that an alternative paradigm based on the notion that respective interests can be mutually reinforcing instead of perpetually antagonistic, is both attainable and indispensable for the genuine long-term interests of all.

The Turkish side's position for a "two state solution" had *de-facto* restrained the prospect for a breakthrough through the resumption of talks and had thus confined us to the adoption of trust building initiatives. Even so, we consider these initiatives as very useful in the effort to build a conducive climate for the resumption of the political process.

So far we have implemented the following initiatives: establishment of a Technical Committee on Youth, projects in the field of the environment, climate change, including the impact on mining areas, the restoration of cemeteries. Discussions are still ongoing on the issues of: the opening of four crossing points, the creation of a solar power plant, the establishment of a Civil Society Consultative Body, exchange of artefacts and initiatives on air quality and micro plastic pollution.

As of October this year Mr Tufan Erhurman has become the new leader of the Turkish Cypriot community. I congratulated Mr. Erhurman upon assuming his role and we have met twice under UN auspices in Nicosia, on 20 November and 11 December 2025. Our first meetings have provided us with an opportunity for an initial exchange of views on the way ahead and I look forward to further steps with the aim of resuming negotiations and reviving the prospect for a solution.

We have also instructed our negotiators to resume their regular meetings with the aim of undertaking the preparatory work in view of the next steps.

Among the decisions of the informal broader meeting that took place in New York last July was the agreement for a next informal meeting in the same format. It is paramount that the next broader meeting produces outcomes that will not be confined to trust building issues but will touch on the core aim of our effort which is to achieve the resumption of negotiations.

As Cyprus has assumed the Presidency of the Council of the European Union for the first half of 2026, I wish to reiterate that the effort for a solution remains my top

priority and I reiterate my readiness to fully use this opportunity to reinforce the prospects of our endeavor.

In this regard, I express my strong support for the EU Special Envoy for Cyprus Mr. Johannes Hahn, who was designated by the President of the European Commission, with a view to complimenting the primary role of the United Nations, lending EU's support to the effort and providing tools through which we can identify mutually beneficial factors for all involved that can be catalytic and conducive for progress.

In the context of my strong belief to the need for building a broader conducive environment, I have undertaken initiatives in this regard. Türkiye's Foreign Minister Mr. Fidan participated in the informal meeting of EU Foreign Affairs Ministers in August 2024 and in the Gymnich meeting in May 2025 and Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs Mehmet Kemal Bozay participated in the informal meeting of Ministers for European Affairs in Warsaw and in Copenhagen in September 2025. These, manifest both at the symbolic level but also at the level of substance, that an alternative paradigm in our relations can be both feasible and mutually beneficial. Moreover, the Republic of Cyprus has not blocked the candidacy of Türkiye for the post of the Secretary General of the OSCE. It is noted that our candidacy for the Chairpersonship of the OSCE for 2027 has been submitted.

We also continue to implement our policy of unilateral measures towards our Turkish Cypriot compatriots, which is yet another manifestation of our concrete determination to work for a conducive environment towards reaching a breakthrough. Also notable is the fact that the value of Green Line Trade reached €11.830 million until the end of October 2025, maintaining the strong trend of recent years. The unobstructed trade of products from the government controlled to the non-government-controlled area is further required to enhance confidence between the communities.

Regrettably, the creation of an appropriate environment, conducive to the resumption of negotiations, continues to be undermined by Türkiye's policies which raise tensions and create new *faits accomplis* on the ground.

This approach is manifested, *inter alia*, by the following:

- i. The illegal exploitation of properties in the occupied part of Cyprus belonging to Greek Cypriot displaced persons, which has acquired new dimensions, contrary to fundamental principles of International Law and relevant rulings by the European Court of Human Rights. Such actions constitute yet another attempt to solidify the illegal *fait accompli* and to further curtail prospects for a solution.
- ii. The continuation of the upgrading of Türkiye's military capabilities and infrastructure in the occupied part of Cyprus.
- iii. The continued refusal and lack of compliance with relevant UNSC Resolutions calling for the return of Varosha to its lawful inhabitants and the continuation of efforts to "open the city as part of the "trnc"", along with a continued limitation on the movement of UNFICYP therein.

- iv. The continuation of “moves forward” into the buffer zone, south of the Turkish Forces’ ceasefire line.
- v. The continuous threats to proceed with the construction of a road in the buffer zone in the Pyla area, linking the occupied areas with the TK15 advanced position of the Turkish Forces in the buffer zone, in violation of the status quo and the understanding reached in October 2023.
- vi. The efforts in pursuit of the international upgrading of the illegal secessionist entity, contrary to international law and relevant UN Security Council Resolutions, in particular 541(1983) and 550(1984).
- vii. The demand of the Turkish Cypriot side for the conclusion of a “Status of Forces Agreement (SOFA)” with the UN, contrary to the legally binding principle that such agreements are being concluded only between the UN and the governments of UN Member States that host peacekeeping operations; in this case, the Republic of Cyprus, as enshrined in UN Security Council Resolution 186(1964) and reaffirmed in numerous subsequent Resolutions.

II. Effective mechanism for military contacts

Given the need to defuse tensions, I maintain my readiness to discuss the establishment of a mechanism for military contacts between the opposing forces in Cyprus, facilitated by UNFICYP.

Such a mechanism will comprise the National Guard and the Turkish occupation forces, at the level of their Commanders or their designated representatives, facilitated by UNFICYP at the respective level, in accordance with its mandate as prescribed by UN Security Council Resolution 186(1964).

III. Missing Persons

The work of the Committee on Missing Persons in Cyprus (CMP) remains a fundamental aspect of the peace process and the support of all parties is indeed imperative. To draw attention and to express support to the vitally important humanitarian work of the CMP, a joint visit by myself and Mr Erhurman to the anthropological laboratory of the CMP took place on 11 December 2025 and a joint call has been issued to accelerate the process of location, exhumation and identification of remains of missing persons.

Türkiye has a legal and an ethical obligation to account for the fate of persons who went missing in life threatening circumstances, while in Turkish custody or control. This obligation is not discharged by the Committee of Missing Persons. Türkiye is at the very least required to provide full information from its archives, to help determine the fate of missing persons in Cyprus and possible burial sites, as well as to provide full and unhindered access to the CMP to suspected burial sites.

Given the critical passage of time, I wish to reiterate my call for information from all countries and organizations that had a military or police presence in Cyprus in 1963, 1964 and 1974, and might be in possession of relevant archives.

IV. Enclaved Greek Cypriots

At a moment when we endeavour to build confidence, severe restrictions continue to be imposed on the enclaved Greek Cypriots in the Karpas peninsula and the Maronites in Kormakitis. These include censorship of school textbooks and the rejection of teachers appointed to the schools, which has obstructed the operation of the Kormakitis kindergarten. The prohibition of access to the schools in Rizokarpaso by technical and educational staff continues to undermine its smooth operation. It is regrettable that recently there have been further demolitions of houses in Maronite villages, while requests for relocation to all Maronite villages, for the restoration of churches and for unhindered access and the conduct of religious services, are still pending.

V. Technical Committees

The Technical Committees continue their work under UN auspices aiming to alleviate the daily life of people from the adverse effects of the status quo, on the basis of their terms of reference as agreed between the leaders of the two communities since 8 July 2006. They constitute an integral part of the peace process and of the overall effort for a solution. The Technical Committees continue to benefit from the invaluable support provided by the European Union, for which I would like to reiterate my utmost appreciation.

The Technical Committee on Youth held its first networking event in July 2025 bringing together young people from both communities. Envisioning a common future through the perspective of young people carries great significance for our effort.

Regrettably, there are still cases of the Technical Committees' work being impeded, as a result of attempts to turn the Committees into vehicles for the promotion of cooperation between "separate administrations" and to strip them of their role in promoting reunification.

The most indicative example remains the Technical Committee on Education, where, despite repeated calls by our side, as well as by the UN and international partners, the Turkish Cypriot side maintains the policy it adopted since October 2022 to suspend its participation in the award-winning peace education project "Imagine", and continues to refuse the implementation of other Committee projects that promote peace and reconciliation through education.

The Technical Committee on Culture is implementing ideas from the follow-up networking event bringing together Greek Cypriot and Turkish Cypriot artists. A photo exhibition under the title "Through Ordinary Eyes" is scheduled to be launched in January 2026, showcasing photographs of everyday life in Nicosia.

The Technical Committee on Crossings continues its work in the direction of improvement of the operation of existing crossing points. Works to improve the road network at the Ayios Dometios crossing point, begun in December 2025.

The Technical Committee on Gender Equality has continued its work in the context of the Action Plan for women's full, equal and meaningful participation in the peace process.

The Technical Committee on Economic and Commercial Matters continues discussions on ways to further advance trade through the "Green Line Regulation" and on other issues of economic and trade nature. Notable developments during the second semester of 2025 include the commencement of procedures for the exchange of the worn-out euro notes in possession of the Turkish Cypriot community by the Central Bank of Cyprus and the organisation of the first ever bicomunal businesswomen event entitled "How companies can support women in the workplace".

The Technical Committee on Crime and Criminal Matters has maintained a well-functioning channel for contact and communication through the two Joint Contact Rooms (JCRs), in the effort to effectively respond to criminal activity and occasional humanitarian cases.

The Technical Committee on Health has further continued its exchange of information relating to infectious diseases, including the monitoring of epidemics and dangerous mosquito species. It has also continued to provide a channel to respond to requests on behalf of the Turkish Cypriot community for the provision of certain medicines and health treatments. An exercise to coordinate responses to possible future epidemics is planned to take place during the next reporting period.

The Technical Committee on Crisis Management has continued discussions on a simplified proposal for a crisis response procedure, prescribing the steps to be undertaken for effective response in the event of a natural or human-caused disaster, and has initiated a discussion on earthquake preparedness and response.

The Technical Committee on the Environment has maintained strong engagement across a range of issues and has undertaken initiatives to foster trust in environmental and climate-related matters, including five Confidence-Building Measures: Environment, Climate Change, Mining, Air Pollution, and Microplastics. Particular attention has been given to managing quarantine pests that have invaded Cyprus, through a series of expert meetings and the establishment of methodologies to address the issue at an island-wide level. Additionally, a project aimed at protecting the bee population was approved during the reporting period.

The Technical Committee on Telecommunications and Broadcasting continues its work to implement the project "Transition to Green Energy: The Future of Electronic Telecommunications", while maintaining a channel to address radiofrequency interference.

The Technical Committee on Humanitarian Issues has agreed to implement two projects titled "Forum on disability and sustainability" and "The Role of Digital Technology in the Socialization of Older People in Cyprus".

The Technical Committee on Cultural Heritage continues its outstanding work for the restoration of monuments of Cyprus' cultural heritage, including the restoration of cemeteries. The Committee has rightfully received broad acknowledgement and

recognition over the years, and should be further supported to be able to continue and further enhance its important work.

Lastly, I concur with the Secretary General's assessment in the Report on his Good Offices Mission of July 2024, that *"While underscoring the importance of the work of the technical committees and the positive impact that confidence-building measures could have, I believe that only genuine progress towards reaching a consensus starting point for negotiations leading to a mutually acceptable settlement will reassure Cypriots as well as the international community that a peaceful and shared future on the island truly remains possible."*

Annex II

Written update by the Turkish Cypriot side on the actions taken in support of the relevant parts of the UN Security Council Resolution 2771 (2025)

Following the presidential elections held in the north on 19 October 2025, in accordance with the democratic mandate entrusted to me by the Turkish Cypriots, I immediately acted upon my vision for achieving a conducive climate with a view to bringing solution to the long-overdue Cyprus problem.

A political settlement in Cyprus has eluded us for more than 60 years, despite numerous efforts. The Turkish Cypriots have suffered significant consequences as a result of this non-settlement. They have faced the denial of their inherent rights as one of the two equal co-founding partners on the island. In spite of their repeated expressed will for a fair, just and lasting settlement in Cyprus, they have continued to endure severe and unjust isolation across all aspects of life, and have been prevented from having their voice heard in the international arena. Furthermore, in the two recent critical negotiations - the Annan Plan and the Crans-Montana processes - they continued to be left out in the cold when both attempts ultimately failed through no fault of their own.

Today, they still face exclusion from international political and economic structures, alongside significant social, cultural and sporting restrictions on international engagement. Specifically, our youth and children are barred from international tournaments and even from friendly bilateral games. This also applies to friendly games with the Greek Cypriot youth. Furthermore, most of the children from mixed marriages are denied EU citizenship, and those who were born in Cyprus but whose parents were not are prevented even from crossing to the southern part of the island.

Consequently, the gap between the two sides is increasing significantly in nearly all aspects of life. The UN Secretary-General and the UN Security Council have both explicitly emphasized the widening socio-economic disparity between Turkish Cypriots and Greek Cypriots, highlighting the risk of further estrangement on the island and the need to address this concern.

At the regional and global levels, tensions are escalating, exclusionary alliances are solidifying, and the two sides are becoming increasingly distant from one another politically and strategically, leading to a state where dialogue is further hampered and mutual understanding is further deteriorated. This deepening disparity suggests a trajectory toward greater polarization and potential instability, making cooperative approaches to shared global challenges significantly more difficult to achieve.

For all these reasons, it is my firm conviction that finding a sustainable solution to the Cyprus problem, without further delay, should constitute our ultimate common

objective. A settlement in Cyprus holds the key to unlocking the potential for stability and prosperity, not just on our island, but also throughout the wider region and beyond.

Nevertheless, past experience has demonstrated that there is a need to prepare the ground and build trust between the two sides to facilitate engagement in a new negotiating process, which would finally lead us towards a comprehensive settlement to the Cyprus problem.

A new methodology: learning from the past failed negotiating processes

During our first meeting with the Greek Cypriot leader, Mr. Nikos Christodoulides, held on 20 November 2025, with the participation of the Personal Envoy of the UN Secretary-General, Ms. Maria Angela Holguin Cuellar, as well as the Special Representative of the UN Secretary-General, Mr. Khassim Diagne, I expressed my commitment to a sustained dialogue on all issues related to Cyprus and to reaching a just, viable and sustainable solution, which I believe is in the best interest of both Turkish Cypriots and Greek Cypriots as well as of the Eastern Mediterranean region.

However, as the UN Secretary-General underlined on many occasions, “this time must be different”, so that we can have a real prospect of finally solving the long-overdue Cyprus problem. Accordingly, I officially put on the table a new methodology, comprising four steps:

1. The commitment to the principle of political equality, including rotating presidency and effective participation (including at least one favourable vote), will be reconfirmed;
2. The convergences leading up to the Crans-Montana conference on Cyprus will not be re-negotiated;
3. The new process will be results-oriented and time-framed;
4. Turkish Cypriots will not be condemned this time to their current status in the eventuality that the process does not reach a successful conclusion despite our best efforts.

This methodology constitutes, in no way, a set of pre-conditions, but having learnt from our past experiences, is a way forward that can unlock the door to finally bring the solution of the Cyprus problem through a structured and results-oriented approach.

If the Greek Cypriot side agrees to this methodology, a new negotiating process can begin immediately. Confirming this approach would demonstrate to all parties that the goal is not merely to negotiate for the sake of negotiations in an open-ended manner, but to finally achieve a solution in Cyprus in a very short period of time.

I would like to stress that negotiations are not an end in itself, but a means to an end, which is the solution of the Cyprus problem once and for all. We should keep in mind that every failed negotiating process takes us further away from a settlement by creating further frustration and disillusionment.

As far as our methodology is concerned, we have taken a small, but important step in the right direction with my Greek Cypriot counterpart in our meeting held on 11 December 2025. In this regard, we have confirmed that the issue of political equality is of utmost importance in our efforts to find a comprehensive settlement to the Cyprus problem by making a specific reference to it within the context of the UN Security Council Resolutions, without mentioning any labels. This, however, does not satisfy on its own the need to address the issue of political equality as we are yet to confirm the rotating presidency, which is an integral part of political equality. Furthermore, it is the understanding of the Turkish Cypriot side that political equality, as well as an ultimate settlement of the Cyprus issue in any form, shall derive from and be grounded on the inherent and inalienable equal sovereignty rights of each of the two peoples on the Island. I have reiterated during the meeting that a new negotiating process can only start once we agree in principle on our 4-point methodology in its entirety. Subsequently, we can start negotiating the substance.

The way forward: creating a climate conducive to solution

During our meetings with my Greek Cypriot counterpart, I furthermore underlined the fact that there had unfortunately been limited meaningful discussion and interaction for the last eight years between the two sides, and that several developments had taken place that further deteriorated our relations. In this context, I stressed that it was necessary to work towards “creating a climate conducive to solution”. Accordingly, I put forward my ten-point proposal, also indicating that this was not an exhaustive list and that my counterpart was welcome to contribute to it by adding more points.

My ten-point proposal includes:

1. Overcoming problems faced by our citizens who are commonly referred to as “people in mixed marriages” and their children: These people and their children should not face arbitrary treatment and therefore discrimination. Most of these children are deprived of EU citizenship. There are even families where one of the siblings was given EU citizenship but the other was denied the same right. As a result, despite the fact that both parents are the same, siblings are treated exactly the opposite. Moreover, the spouses in these marriages are not allowed to drive in the south although they could have done so in the recent past. Additionally, the children born in Cyprus to parents who were not born on the island are not allowed to cross to the south.

2. Enabling the smooth traffic through the crossings, in particular Metehan/Agios Dometios: Additional booths should be placed at the Metehan/Agios Dometios crossing and they should be staffed at all times. Furthermore, road tax service should be provided at the Bostancı/Astromerid and Derinya crossings as well.

3. Enabling more contacts between the youth on both sides, particularly in relation to sports: Youth contact, particularly in sports, should be promoted. In this context, for example, U-14 teams and individual athletes from both sides should be allowed to compete with one another in friendly games.

4. Supporting the Committee on Missing Persons (CMP): It should be ensured that the humanitarian work of the CMP remains de-politicized. The recent attempt in this regard in the European Parliament was very unfortunate and counterproductive. In this context, I proposed to show support to the invaluable and humanitarian work of the CMP and pay a joint visit to its premises.

5. Discontinuing property-related arrests: Both Turkish Cypriots and Greek Cypriots have affected properties as a result of the events between 1963-1974. Therefore, the property issue, as one of the main chapters of the comprehensive settlement, can only be ultimately resolved at the negotiation table. However, the Greek Cypriot approach to instrumentalize the issue through court cases and lately through arrest warrants further complicates it and poisons the relationship between Turkish Cypriots and Greek Cypriots. The goal should not be seeking ways to intimidate Turkish Cypriots or foreigners who deal with business in the north, but showing genuine political will to solve the issue within the comprehensive settlement of the Cyprus problem. Nevertheless, those Greek Cypriots who do not want to wait for the comprehensive settlement can apply to the Immovable Property Commission (IPC), which was established in 2005 and has been accepted by the European Court of Human Rights (ECtHR) as an effective domestic remedy. It is also worth mentioning in this regard that such a mechanism does not exist in the south for similar property claims of Turkish Cypriots.

6. Overcoming the barriers to the Green Line trade: As the UN Secretary-General notes in his subsequent reports, there are persistent administrative and bureaucratic barriers and obstacles to trade across the Green Line, including as regards to crossing of goods, banking and financial transactions. As a result, intra-island trade level does not reach its full potential. We must work on finding ways to overcome these barriers and obstacles, and increase economic ties on the island.

7. Finalizing the hellim/halloumi issue: In order to enable the necessary inspections and controls of hellim/halloumi produced in the north, the process of the delegation of Bureau Veritas Paris should be completed. Moreover, I proposed the

establishment of a new technical committee dedicated to the registration of PDO/PGI to complement the work of the working group and to enhance communication.

8. Lifting the blockage on the EU Ad-hoc Committee: Harmonization of our rules and regulations with that of the EU should not be seen as an end in itself, but rather as a process that would facilitate a smooth transition in the event of a settlement.

9. Direct dialogue between Turkish Cypriot and Greek Cypriot security forces: The establishment of a direct channel of communication between the two security forces would help manage possible misunderstandings in a timely manner.

10. Launching together the agreed renovation project at Metehan/Agios Dometios crossing point.

What led me to make these proposals is my firm conviction that creating a climate conducive to solution is paramount to building trust between the two sides and preparing our respective publics to regain faith in a renewed process after decades of failure and frustration. My 10-point proposal, the ten initiatives from the previous 5+1 meetings in a broader format as well as the work of the technical committees all have an important role to play in this context.

In our meeting, I also expressed to my counterpart that we should deliver tangible results before the next 5+1 informal meeting. Securing agreements in Cyprus on these initiatives and measures are of particular importance in terms of the positive impact they would create in boosting the political climate. Subsequently, at the 5+1 meeting, building on the agreements we achieved in Cyprus, we will be able to finalize further important and meaningful initiatives.

Trust-building initiatives agreed in 5+1 meetings in Geneva and New York

As is known, among the three of the agreed initiatives, the Technical Committee on Youth commenced its meetings; the Technical Committee on Cultural Heritage advanced its work on the restoration of cemeteries; and the Technical Committee on Environment continued its work on the impact of the climate change, the monitoring of air quality and addressing microplastic pollution.

It is evident by the scientific research that climate change will continue to exponentially complicate the existing and evolving environmental challenges in the upcoming period. Nevertheless, climate crises and environmental problems, including natural and human-made disasters, recognize no borders. In that regard, it is imperative that their work is translated expeditiously into effective collaboration between the two sides for the well-being of Turkish Cypriots and Greek Cypriots as well as the future of our island.

As for the initiatives on establishing a consultative body for civil society engagement and the exchange of artifacts, the two sides have had their initial discussions and will continue to further their efforts.

As regards the opening of new crossings, I would like to underline that this is the expectation of both Turkish Cypriots and Greek Cypriots, and thus should not be approached from a zero-sum perspective. In fact, the sides had come very close to an agreement in New York. Accordingly, I am ready to continue working on this issue with a view to opening the four new crossings, namely Haspolat /Mia Milia, Akıncılar/Louroujina-Limya/Lymbia, Kiracköy/Athienou-Gaziler/Piroi, and Eğlence/Aglantzia.

I firmly believe that we can finalize a deal as long as the integrity of the buffer zone is not affected, which could otherwise create foreseen and unforeseen complications not just for the Turkish Cypriot side but also for the UNFICYP.

In relation to the establishment of the solar power plant in the buffer zone, progress continues to be impeded by the Greek Cypriot side's insistence on direct control over the electricity generated, specifically its transfer exclusively to its grid. To identify possible options for the realization of this project, the EU had conducted a feasibility study and came up with four options. At such an advanced stage, it was unfortunate to hear that none of these options were acceptable to the Greek Cypriot side, which proposed an entirely different option that brought us back to square one. A more balanced arrangement, whereby both sides would receive energy directly, remains essential.

On demining, our vision, as the Turkish Cypriot side, is to have a mine-free Cyprus. In this context, we propose to have a holistic approach on the issue and realize our ultimate objective to clear our island of all mines. We, therefore, stress that we should devise a comprehensive work plan with a time-table, which would cover every minefield throughout the island.

Technical Committees

The technical committees are an important medium for formal dialogue as well as structured cooperation between the two sides. The committees address issues that directly impact the daily lives of Turkish Cypriots and Greek Cypriots as well as those of island-wide concern that require concerted action by both sides to deliver results.

In spite of their crucial role they play in creating a conducive climate, they have not reached their full potential, largely due to the reluctance of the Greek Cypriot side to ensure their effective functioning under the pretext that they may lead to the "upgrading" of our status. In this regard, I underscore the repeated call of the UN Secretary-General to the effect that the so-called "concerns about recognition should

not in themselves constitute an obstacle to increased cooperation”. In this context, appointing officials with decision making capabilities to these committees would constitute a step in the right direction. I remain firmly committed to encouraging their work with a focus both on their effectiveness and visibility.

The Technical Committee on Cultural Heritage continues to intensively advance its work for the preservation of the island’s cultural heritage. The Committee has expanded its activities in line with additional tasks assigned to it following the informal 5+1 meetings in a broader format held in Geneva in March and in New York in July. Within this framework, the Committee is progressing with initiatives concerning the reciprocal restoration of cemeteries on both sides and the exchange of cultural artefacts.

The Technical Committee on Crime and Criminal Matters continues to work on strengthening police cooperation between the two sides. There is a need to enhance mechanisms and cooperation on criminal matters which will be greatly facilitated by putting in place guidelines for the handover of persons as well as for exchange of information regarding cross-border crimes. The committee has been working on two draft documents to this end. It is unfortunate that there are persons in the south who continue to be detained despite having served their term in jail.

The Technical Committee on Economic and Commercial Matters continues to work on finding effective means to develop and deepen economic and commercial interaction between the business communities on both sides of the island. Progress has recently been achieved on the long-standing issue of exchanging damaged euro banknotes. The modalities to be followed regarding the exchange of euro banknotes have been finalized, notwithstanding the fact that a much longer period is foreseen for its completion than originally envisaged. The committee also decided to organize a networking event aimed at bringing together businesspeople from both sides.

As regards the issue of hellim/halloumi, I was reassured by the Greek Cypriot leader in our last meeting that the process of the delegation of Bureau Veritas Paris would be completed latest before the end of January 2026.

The Technical Committee on Humanitarian Affairs is advancing initiatives aimed at supporting vulnerable groups. There are two ongoing projects; one concerning persons with disabilities and another intended to strengthen interaction between young people and the elderly. Two events are foreseen soon on these two projects.

The Technical Committee on Broadcasting continues to address technical issues related to radio, television and wireless frequencies, with a view to preventing interference and improving coordination between both sides.

The Technical Committee on Crisis Management has not met in the reporting period. Neither has its subcommittee on earthquake preparedness. The Turkish Cypriot proposal for a seminar on earthquake preparedness has also not progressed.

The Technical Committee on Environment has been entrusted with three new tasks relating to climate change and is currently working on this issue.

The Technical Committee on Health is actively working on cross-border public and animal health risks, including medicine supply, communicable diseases and related issues. The project on mosquito borne diseases is ongoing and a tabletop exercise on measles took place in December 2025. However, the Greek Cypriot side needs to remove its objection to the implementation of the four-point action plan for enabling the crossings of pets on the island.

The Technical Committee on Crossings continues its efforts to facilitate and improve administrative problems faced by individuals whilst using the crossings. Works for widening of Metehan/Agios Dometios crossing began on 4 December 2025 and are expected to be completed by the end of January 2026. Additional issues under the Committee's consideration include the conduct of personnel carrying out checks on identification documents as well as reducing delays at the crossings.

Following my proposal to increase the number of booths and the staff at the Metehan/Agios Dometios crossing, mirroring the arrangements in place at the Turkish Cypriot side, and the introduction by the Greek Cypriot side of road tax service at the Bostancı/Astromerid and Derinya crossings as well, in our meeting with my Greek Cypriot counterpart on 11 December 2025, we have reached an agreement on these two issues. It is important that these measures are put in place immediately.

The Technical Committee on Culture is moving towards the implementation stage of two cultural initiatives: a photographic exhibition entitled "through ordinary eyes in North and South Nicosia" as well as the procurement of equipment enabling subtitles in theatres on both sides.

The Technical Committee on Education is continuing its work in order to finalize a thematic project on climate change involving students from a variety of age groups, including from universities located on both sides of the island.

The Technical Committee on Gender Equality is advancing a joint project with the Environment Committee examining the negative impacts of climate change on working women.

Additionally, full, equal and meaningful participation of women in the process is of utmost importance, based on the principles embedded in UN Security Council resolution 1325 (2000) on Women, Peace and Security, and other related resolutions,

which recognize that the active and meaningful participation and leadership of women is essential in building peace in Cyprus and will contribute to making any future settlement sustainable. In this regard, I am ready to fully support to accelerate the thorough and effective implementation of all the recommendations under the Action Plan adopted in 2022.

The Technical Committee on Youth, established in May 2025, has rapidly structured and launched its activities. Its first event, a networking reception entitled “Nice to Meet You`th,” was held in July. Subsequently, the committee organized a study visit to Jordan between 31 October-3 November, with the participation of the Personal Envoy of the UN Secretary-General, Ms. María Ángela Holguín Cuéllar. In Jordan, participants discussed how to foster trust among young people, particularly through sports activities, and considered the organization of friendly games at U-14 level. We expect that the Greek Cypriot leadership will revisit its position on this matter. Furthermore, the committee has recently agreed on a project on mental health and other related issues.

The Committee on Missing Persons (CMP)

The issue of missing persons in Cyprus is an important humanitarian matter. As such, the work of the Committee on Missing Persons (CMP) merits particular attention. The CMP deals with the Turkish Cypriot missing persons and the Greek Cypriot missing persons relating to the period between 1963 and 1974.

I am committed to maintaining my full support to and cooperation with the CMP, so that it fulfils its work effectively and brings closure to the families of Turkish Cypriot missing persons and Greek Cypriot missing persons.

Cognizant of the conciliatory role of the CMP, at the first leaders’ meeting held on 20 November 2025, I proposed to Mr. Christodoulides a joint visit, which took place on 11 December 2025. The visit provided us the opportunity to express our appreciation to the work of the CMP. We also noted the critical importance of keeping the CMP’s work free from political interference, urging all to refrain from politicizing this humanitarian process to ensure sustenance of this Committee’s effective work.

In the reporting period, the Turkish Cypriot side has provided further access to the Office of the Turkish Cypriot Member to aerial photographs from 1974 to support the CMP in making informed decisions before proceeding on excavations in specific sites. Since January 2025, the Office has searched aerial photos in 55 separate coordinates across 42 different regions. From 2018 to date, the Office of the Turkish Cypriot Member reviewed a total of 360 coordinates in 227 different regions in search of corroborative evidence.

In 2025, the CMP carried out excavations at 91 suspected burial locations within the TRNC, 16 of which were situated in military areas. At present, there are 8 excavation teams operating simultaneously across the island, 7 operating in the TRNC - including 1 in a military area - and 1 on the Greek Cypriot side.

Furthermore, in 2025, the amount donated by the Turkish Cypriot side has increased to €120,000, and the Republic of Türkiye also donated \$100.000.

As a result of the successful work of the CMP, the families of 12 more missing persons on its official list, 4 Turkish Cypriots and 8 Greek Cypriots, could have a dignified burial of their loved ones.
