

PERIODIC REPORT ON THE CYPRUS QUESTION

---

COMMUNICATION

FROM

**THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES**

TRANSMITTING

PROGRESS TOWARD A NEGOTIATED SETTLEMENT OF THE CYPRUS  
QUESTION COVERING THE PERIOD FEBRUARY 1-MARCH 31,  
2000, PURSUANT TO 22 U.S.C. 2373(c)



MAY 23, 2000.—Referred to the Committee on International Relations and  
ordered to be printed

---

U.S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE



THE WHITE HOUSE,  
*Washington, DC, May 18, 2000.*

Hon. J. DENNIS HASTERT,  
*Speaker of the House of Representatives,*  
*Washington, DC.*

DEAR MR. SPEAKER: In accordance with Public Law 95-384 (22 U.S.C. 2373(c)), I submit to you this report on progress toward a negotiated settlement of the Cyprus question covering the period February 1-March 31, 2000. The previous submission covered events during December 1999 and January 2000.

As noted in my last submission, the United Nations has held two sessions of proximity talks, December 3-14, 1999, in New York and January 31-February 8 in Geneva. The next session of talks was scheduled to begin on May 23 in New York. This session will likely be postponed several weeks to allow President Clerides time to recover from surgery on May 5.

The United States, under the guidance of my Special Presidential Emissary Alfred H. Moses and Special Cyprus Coordinator Thomas G. Weston, has been actively engaged in supporting the United Nations effort to bring about a comprehensive Cyprus settlement. Ambassador Moses and his team were present during the Geneva talks and afterwards traveled to Cyprus in March to prepare for the next sessions of talks.

Sincerely,

WILLIAM J. CLINTON.



PRESIDENT'S BIMONTHLY REPORT ON CYPRUS, FEBRUARY-MARCH  
2000

As reported in the previous Bimonthly Report, United Nations Secretary-General Kofi Annan resumed proximity talks on Cyprus in Geneva on January 31. UNSYG Annan and Special Advisor Alvaro de Soto continued the discussions with the leaders of the two communities that began in New York in December. Special Emissary Moses, Special Coordinator Weston and U.S. Ambassador to Cyprus Bandler were also in Geneva and held consultations with Mr. de Soto as well as separate meetings with both sides. On February 8, Mr. de Soto reported that following a total of 14 meetings with both parties, the process is on track and was scheduled to resume on May 23 in New York. Resumption will likely be postponed for several weeks to allow President Clerides time to recover from surgery on May 5.

Under Secretary of State for Political Affairs Thomas Pickering traveled to Greece on February 2. He met with Prime Minister Simitis, Foreign Minister Papandreou and Defense Minister Tsohatzopoulos. Under Secretary Pickering applauded Greek and Turkish efforts to forge stronger ties and hoped they could open a way to a negotiated settlement on Cyprus.

U.S. Ambassador to Cyprus Donald Bandler traveled to the Karpas region in northern Cyprus on February 23 to meet with representatives of the Greek Cypriot population and discuss their living conditions.

On February 25, Ambassador Bandler met with Cypriot President Clerides to follow up on the Geneva proximity talks. The next day Ambassador Bandler met with Foreign Minister Kasoulides.

Secretary of State Madeleine K. Albright testified before the Senate Appropriations Committee on March 2. During the question and answer session, Senator Mikulski asked Secretary Albright about the prospects for a Cyprus settlement. The Secretary assured Senator Mikulski that the Administration was working hard to facilitate a comprehensive Cyprus settlement.

Ambassador Bandler met with Turkish Cypriot leader Denktash on March 2 and discussed the February UN-sponsored talks.

Special Coordinator for Cyprus Thomas Weston traveled to Berlin to meet with German Cyprus Coordinator zu Rantzau and Foreign Office Southern Europe Director Pauls on March 2. Mr. Weston then attended the March 3 bi-annual EU-Troika meeting in Brussels and met with the EU Presidency Representative on Cyprus Mathias and EU Commission Southern Europe Director van der Linden. He held separate meetings with EU Commission Director General Landaburu, EU Commission Cyprus Negotiator Maurer, Belgian MFA Director General de Ruyt, Turkish Ambassador to NATO Oymen, Turkish Ambassador to the EU Akyol and

Greek Ambassador to the EU Tsilas. Mr. Weston then joined Ambassador Alfred Moses in Cyprus on March 7.

UN Secretary-General Special Advisor on Cyprus Alvaro de Soto traveled to Cyprus March 1–7 for meetings with Messrs. Clerides and Denktash. He then traveled to Ankara and Athens for meetings with Turkish Foreign Minister Cem and Greek Foreign Minister Papandreou.

Special Presidential Emissary Alfred Moses and Special Cyprus Coordinator Weston visited Cyprus from March 7–10. Ambassador Moses met with Mr. de Soto prior to Mr. de Soto's departure from Cyprus on March 7. Ambassador Moses and Mr. Weston, accompanied by Ambassador Bandler met separately with Messrs. Clerides and Denktash to help prepare for the third session of UN-sponsored Cyprus talks. They encouraged both parties to remain flexible and make further progress in moving toward a comprehensive settlement. During their visit, Ambassador Moses and Mr. Weston also met with other prominent Greek Cypriots and Turkish Cypriots, visited Varosha and Famagusta, and traveled to the Karpas region to meet with Greek Cypriots living there.

Ambassador Bandler met with Messrs. Clerides and Kasoulides on March 27 to exchange views on the current UN process.