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## **Human Rights Council**

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Agenda item 2
Annual report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights and reports of the Office of the High Commissioner and the Secretary-General

## Note verbale dated 10 June 2022 from the Permanent Mission of Cyprus to the United Nations Office at Geneva addressed to the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights

The Permanent Mission of the Republic of Cyprus to the United Nations Office at Geneva and other international organizations in Switzerland wishes to refer to the note verbale dated 30 March 2022 from the Permanent Mission of the Republic of Turkey addressed to the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) (A/HRC/49/G/20), requesting its circulation with an attachment.

Turkey's propensity to circulate letters on behalf of individuals purporting to represent its subordinate local administration in the occupied area of Cyprus makes a mockery of the United Nations official documents system. The provisions of Security Council resolutions 541 (1983) and 550 (1984) are well known to all international civil servants, including all those at OHCHR.

Furthermore, it is worth recalling that the mandate of the report of the Office of the High Commissioner (A/HRC/49/22) is clearly laid out in resolution 4 (XXXI) of 13 February 1975, which was adopted by the Commission on Human Rights in the aftermath of the Turkish invasion of Cyprus in 1974. In this and subsequent resolutions on Cyprus, the Commission called for the full restoration of all human rights to the people of Cyprus, and in particular to refugees, expressing alarm at "changes in the demographic structure of Cyprus" through the continuing influx of settlers. It called for accounting for missing persons in Cyprus and for the restoration and respect of the human rights of all Cypriots, including freedom of movement and the right to property. At present, it is also highly relevant to recall Commission resolution 1987/50, in which it unequivocally stated that it considered attempts to settle any part of Varosha by people other than its inhabitants illegal, and called for the immediate cessation of such activities.

Although the secessionist entity in Cyprus has once again chosen OHCHR as its propaganda conduit, the Government of Cyprus will not concern itself with the substance of the letter and its attachment.

It would be appreciated if the present letter could be recorded as a document of the Human Rights Council, under agenda item 2, and that it be published on the OHCHR website.



