

RESOLUTION NO.5/35-P
ON
THE SITUATION IN CYPRUS

The Thirty-Fifth Session of the Council of Foreign Ministers (Session of Prosperity and Development), held in Kampala, Republic of Uganda from 14-16 Jumad ul-Thani 1429 A.H (18-20 June 2008).

Recalling its resolution No. 6/31-P on the situation in Cyprus adopted by the 31st Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers, held in Istanbul on 14-16 June 2004, which enabled the Turkish Muslim people of Cyprus to participate in the OIC under the name of Turkish Cypriot State as envisaged by the UN Secretary General's comprehensive settlement plan;

Recalling its Resolution No. 3/11-P (IS) on the Situation in Cyprus adopted by the Eleventh Session of the Islamic Summit Conference, held in Dakar, Republic of Senegal, on 13-14 March 2008, which reaffirms the full equality of the two parties in Cyprus and strongly calls upon the international community to take, without further delay, concrete steps to end the isolation of the Turkish Cypriot people;

Reaffirming the previous resolutions of the Islamic Conferences on the question of Cyprus which express firm support for the rightful cause of the Turkish Muslim people of Cyprus who constitute an integral part of the Islamic world;

Reiterating its continued support for the efforts of the UN Secretary General under his mission of good offices towards a comprehensive settlement;

Reiterating once again its call on the two parties in Cyprus to reciprocally acknowledge each other's equal status;

Taking note of the results of the simultaneous referenda held separately on 24 April 2004 in both sides of Cyprus; and deeply regrets that contrary to international calls, the Greek Cypriot side overwhelmingly rejected the UN settlement plan, whereas the Turkish Cypriot side approved the plan with a clear majority for the reunification of the Island and the EU membership;

Expressing its solidarity with the Turkish Cypriots and its appreciation for their constructive efforts to attain a just and mutually acceptable settlement;

Noting the desire of the Turkish Muslim people of Cyprus to fully integrate with the international Community, whereas they are still left in isolation as the victim of an outcome in which they have no fault;

Recalling that the UN Plan of March 2004 for the comprehensive settlement of the Cyprus issue aimed to establish a new state of affairs in Cyprus, respecting the principle of equal political status of the Turkish Cypriot and Greek Cypriot sides and acknowledging that neither side may claim authority or jurisdiction over the other;

Monitoring the new process between the two parties in Cyprus with a view to laying the groundwork for the full-fledged negotiations envisaged to commence at the end of June 2008, aiming to reach a settlement on the basis of the political equality of the two sides and the equal status of the two constituent States which will bring about a new bi-zonal partnership State;

Referring to the proposal declared by the Republic of Turkey on 24 January 2006 for simultaneous lifting of all restrictions on both sides of Cyprus, which if implemented, will contribute to achieving a durable comprehensive settlement of the Cyprus issue;

Considering that the massive arms build-up and construction of air and naval bases by the Greek Cypriot side constitute a threat to peace and stability in the Island and the region;

Expressing regret that, the Greek Cypriot side unilaterally breached the understanding of mutual cancellation since 2001 of annual military exercises;

Noting the report of the Secretary General on the situation in Cyprus contained in document OIC/35-CFM/2008/POL/SG-REPORTS;

1. **Reaffirms** the full equality of the two parties in Cyprus as the principle enabling them to live side-by-side in security, peace and harmony without one having the ability to govern, exploit, oppress or threaten the other.
2. **Calls upon** the international community to encourage the Greek Cypriot side to work for an early comprehensive solution of the Cyprus question on the basis of the UN Settlement Plan, where it was left off in 2004.

3. **Repeats** its call to the international community to take, without further delay, concrete steps to end the isolation of the Turkish Cypriot people in line with the call made by the UN Secretary General in his Report of 28 May 2004 and the assessments made in the UN Secretary General's reports of 4 June 2007 (S/2007/328) and 3 December 2007 (S/2007/699) as well as the previous OIC resolutions.
4. **Calls upon** the Member States to strengthen effective solidarity with the Turkish Muslim people of Cyprus, closely associating with them, and with a view to helping them materially and politically to overcome the inhuman isolation which has been imposed upon them, to increase and expand their relations in all fields.
5. **Invites** the Member States in this framework:
 - to exchange business delegations with the Turkish Cypriot side with a view to exploring the opportunities of economic cooperation, investment in the areas such as direct transport, tourism, information;
 - to develop cultural relations and sports contacts with the Turkish Cypriot people;
 - to encourage cooperation with the Turkish Cypriot universities, including the exchanges of students and academicians.
6. **Strongly encourages** Member States to exchange high level visits with the Turkish Cypriot side.
7. **Reaffirms** its previous decisions to support until the Cyprus problem is solved, the rightful claim of the Turkish Muslim people of Cyprus, for the right to be heard in all international fora where the Cyprus problem comes up for discussion, on the basis of equality of the two parties in Cyprus.
8. **Requests** the Secretary General to secure the continuation of the necessary contacts with the Islamic Development Bank with a view to seek ways and means of the latter's assistance for the development projects of the Turkish Cypriot side.
9. **Decides** to hold the Forum entitled "Tourism in the Islamic World" in the Turkish Cypriot State from 27 to 29 October 2008.
10. **Acknowledges** the desire of the Turkish Cypriot people to travel freely to the OIC Member Countries.

11. **Decides** to remain seized of the request of the Turkish Cypriot side for full membership of the OIC.

12. **Urges** the Member States to inform the Secretariat of the action taken regarding the implementation of its previous resolutions and particularly Resolutions No.2/31-P, No.6/34-P and No. 3/11-P (IS).

13. **Requests** the Secretary General to take all necessary measures for the implementation of this resolution, make further recommendations as appropriate and to report thereon to the Thirty-sixth Session of the Council of Foreign Ministers.

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