Thank You
and
Good Luck!
Dear colleagues and friends,

Almost a year has passed since I joined you in this great mission. First and foremost, I wish to thank each and every one of you for the dedication, hard work, and positive spirit with which you have carried out your tasks. It has been an eventful, inspiring, and interesting year. I hope you can all say the same as you look back on what has happened over the past 12 months.

I am happy at the progress we have achieved together in making UNFICYP a more coherent and integrated tool at the service of our ultimate objective: a peaceful and unified Cyprus. I am also happy that, with our encouragement and assistance, the Greek Cypriots and Turkish Cypriots have started a dialogue aimed at resolving negotiations towards a comprehensive settlement. I sincerely hope that the hard work we have carried out together over this past year has laid a solid foundation for substantial and rapid progress in 2007.

As we end the year, we say goodbye to Secretary-General Kofi A. Annan, with gratitude for his inspiring leadership and his steadfast support to our work. His ten years at the helm of our Organisation brought profound changes in the way we carry out our business both conceptually and operationally. I know that I speak for all of us in wishing him and his wife the very best as they move on to the next chapter of their lives.

As we start the coming year, we welcome Secretary-General Ban Ki-Moon, with high hopes and expectations for his tenure as our next leader. Again, I speak on behalf of all of us in wishing him every success as he takes on the world’s most impossible job and assure him of our full and unconditional support as we, together, make our individual contributions to making this world a better place.

I wish you and your families the very best for the holiday season and for the New Year and look forward with anticipation to another exciting and successful year in your company.

Michael Møller
Special Representative of the Secretary-General and Chief of Mission

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UNFICYP began the countdown to the holiday season with the annual Christmas Carol Service hosted by Chief of Staff Col. Peter Fraser-Hopewell at St. Columba’s Church in the UNPDA on 13 December. The Church was packed with a representative turnout of UNFICYP’s uniformed and civilian personnel, as well as a distinguished array of diplomatic guests. Padres from the three sectors presided during the service, which featured readings by CAD Frank Clancy, the Chief of Staff, SPA Carla van Maris, CCAO Kyoko Ishiotani and SPO Brian Kelly. Highlights of the carol service included a rock-n-roll jingle bells (in Hungarian) by a talented quartet of HUNG CON singers accompanied by an accordionist and a guitarist. Not to be outdone, ARGC CON (augmented by several children) sang songs from home with guitar and drums backup. Choirs from SLOVC ON and BRIT CON gave equally good value.

This year, a number of UNFICYP units and departments opted to invite colleagues to join them for a festive breakfast coffee and cake. PIO went one step further with a staff talent show to entertain its breakfast guests (see photo), in the process raising £170 for local children’s charities north and south.
These are:

- That we are all responsible for each other's security.
- That we are also responsible for one another's welfare.
- That governments must be accountable for their actions in the international as well as the domestic arenas and that this accountability is only achievable through multilateral institutions.
- That multilateral institutions must, therefore, be organised in a fair and democratic way, giving the poor and weak some influence over the activities of the rich and strong, which, when it comes to the privilege and responsibility of SC members, means acknowledging that the SC is not a stage for acting out national interests but rather the management committee of our fledgling global security system.

Then, reminding us yet again that the essence of the United Nations continues to be "We, the Peoples", the SG said it is up to the people of the world to see to it that the world's leaders are up to this responsibility.

In New York earlier this month, the SG and his wife United Nations continues to be "We, the Peoples", the SG said it is up to the people of the world to see to it that the world's leaders are up to this responsibility.

"Forty-four years later, here I am, still in the Organisation. In an op ed article in one of the major newspapers complaining that I had not reformed the UN yet." We are responsible for one another's security.

When he was elected SG 34 years later (it was Friday, 13 December 1996), he had two weeks to prepare to takeover. While he was lucky, being familiar with the Organisation, he felt compelled to persuade Member States that his successor should be appointed earlier in order that he would have a decent transition set.

"When I became Secretary-General, I realized that there were quite a few things that needed to be done. I felt that the Organisation needed a long-term political vision in line with today's requirements, and so I embarked on a very early reform. I needed to reorient the SG's role, to be more administrative and financial processes of the Organisation. I put forward the first package, and I believe six weeks after I announced it the paper was published. We are together to fight poverty and to do about that?"

"I also felt that if you are going to help people, we needed to focus on inequality – inequality within states and between states, and that we had to really come..."

"I think as Secretary-General, there have been more conflicts and tensions, and we also had to be active in the area of infectious diseases – whether it is HIV/AIDS, or containing the avian flu. Also, we had to argue that globalization must benefit all people, and globalization must have a human face." This had led him to propose the Global Compact – encouraging multinational corporations to embrace basic principles in areas of human rights, core labour standards, the environment and their determination to fight corruption, and encouraging them to work in partnership with the UN at the country level and at the international level, and many have responded. Today, over 3,000 corporations around the world have adopted the compact.

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Since the UN was operating on almost bare bones budgets and needed to find ways of increasing capacity, the SG decided the best way to do that was to make the UN a true partner to the private sector. "In the SG's view, the argument was half way settled when the SG decided to bring in the private sector. "I had ambassadors asking the question, 'Who gave the Secretary-General the power to pull in the private sector?' I had representatives from the private sector. 'I had ambassadors asking the question, 'Who gave the Secretary-General the power to pull in the private sector?" They talk and write about the UN as if it is some satellite out there which their governments and others have nothing to do with. But the UN is the failed nation, the failed nations. Sometimes I hear a president or head of state say, 'The UN must do this because we are there, they write it down. They don't ask, 'Mr. Prime Minister or Mr. President, how many battalions are you going to give to make this UN act and work?'

Another question, the SG acknowledged that there are things he wished he had done differently, where, in his judgment, things would have been different. Cyprus was a case in point. One issue that we devoted quite a lot of time to, but in the end did not succeed, was Cyprus. I am saying this because it has become very topical, and it is also complicating other issues. In the SG's view, the argument was half way settled when the SG decided to bring in the private sector. "I had ambassadors asking the question, 'Who gave the Secretary-General the power to pull in the private sector?"

SG and Wife Nane look back

A long, long holiday – a vacation. "And then we will try to devise a way to give us a balance between action and reflection. We will be spending our time between Africa and Europe. We would of course also do other things in addition – probably write a book. After the people, and really ensure food security. We would of course also do other things in addition – probably write a book. After the people, and really ensure food security. We would of course also do other things in addition – probably write a book. After the people, and really ensure food security. We would of course also do other things in addition – probably write a book. After the people, and really ensure food security. We would of course also do other things in addition – probably write a book. After the people, and really ensure food security. We would of course also do other things in addition – probably write a book. After the people, and really ensure food security. We would of course also do other things in addition – probably write a book. After the people, and really ensure food security. We would of course also do other things in addition – probably write a book. After the people, and really ensure food security. We would of course also do other things in addition – probably write a book. After the people, and really ensure food security. We would of course also do other things in addition – probably write a book. After the people, and really ensure food security. We would of course also do other things in addition – probably write a book. After the people, and really ensure food security. We would of course also do other things in addition – probably write a book. After the people, and really ensure food security. We would of course also do other things in addition – probably write a book. After the people, and really ensure food security. We would
The Blue Beret
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By Netha Kreouzos

Kurt Waldheim's two-day stopover in May 1979. SG Annan made a working visit to the island between 14-16 May 2002. He met separately with Mr. Clerides and Mr. Denktash on 15 May, and before he and they the next SG in New York in early May 1990, he invited them to meet with him in Paris and tour the site if a course can be charted for the way ahead.

In Paris on 8 September, the SG announced an effort to meet with the leaders to establish a framework for negotiations. SG Annan appointed Dr. Gro Harlem Brundtland as the SG's new Special Adviser, proximity talks began in New York with the two leaders. These continued throughout his tenure as SG to help bring about a UN-brokered settlement of the Cyprus problem.

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The SG's hopes that the core issues would be resolved were not met, with Alvaro de Soto noting the need for “more political will and an increased spirit of compromise”. The SG announced on 15 March, direct talks resumed on 24 April, the SG's new Special Adviser, proximity talks began in New York with the two leaders. These continued throughout his tenure as SG to help bring about a UN-brokered settlement of the Cyprus problem.

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The SG invited the two leaders to meet him in Paris “to take stock and see if a course can be charted for the way ahead.”

“We have reached the end of the road,” the SG said, but his plan remained on the table “ready for the Greek Cypriots and the Turkish Cypriots to pick up and carry it forward to a solution, if they summon the will to do so.”

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“arose as a genuine spirit of give and take”. Hestressed that the UN was here to help – not impose ideas or conclusions on the leaders.

On 24 April, the people of Cyprus, for the first time ever, voted on a new plan for a reunited island to enter the EU on 1 May. Both sides agreed the talks should revert to Nicosia, where they would continue with the SG's Good Offices team led by Special Adviser de Soto from 29 February to 22 March. If at that point there were still outstanding issues, Turkey and Greece would join the two sides for a further week to try and resolve them. Only in the continuing absence of agreement would the SG then step in to finalise the plan. This text would be put to separate simultaneous referenda, north and south, on 24 April.

On 1 May, the Security Council adopted resolution 1548, welcoming the SG's intention to conduct a review of UNFICYP's mandate, force levels and concept of operation. The UNPA premises of the Good Offices also closed down.

On 22 October, the Security Council adopted resolution 1568, endorsing the SG's Force Review recommendations including a 30% downsizing of the force levels.

On 28 February 2006, the SG and President Paşakopulos met in Paris to review the Cyprus situation and look for ways to move the process forward. They agreed that resumption of the negotiating process was the priority. Following this meeting, the SG invited the two leaders to meet him in Paris “to take stock and see if a course can be charted for the way ahead.”

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On 31 March, still lacking a settlement, all (including Mr. Talat) convened in Burgenstock, Switzerland, where the SG presented leaders with the final version of his proposal for a Comprehensive Settlement of the Cyprus Problem. The time had arrived for “decision and action”, he said, noting that, inevitably, the proffered plan represented a compromise. He believed the “core of compromise” and addressed “the key concerns of people on both sides” be clear. The choice is October. Some further settlement plan and some other magical or mythical solution. In reality at this stage, the SG said, “there is a settlement and no settlement.”

On 24 April, the people of Cyprus, for the first time ever, voted on a referendum on a new plan for a reunited island to enter the EU on 1 May. A majority “no” vote in the south cancelled out a majority “yes” vote in the north. The plan proposed in the plan known as the “Annan Plan”. Acknowledging the result, the SG said the decision on how to vote had been a difficult one for most Cypriots. While respecting the outcome, he proposed as an alternative that the plan offers a fair, viable and balanced compromise that meets the basic needs of all concerned. The SG's new Special Adviser, proximity talks began in New York with the two leaders. These continued throughout his tenure as SG to help bring about a UN-brokered settlement of the Cyprus problem.

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1. The present report on the United Nations operation in Cyprus covers developments from 18 May to 27 November 2006. My Special Representative in Cyprus, Michael Møller, has continued to engage with the Greek Cypriot and Turkish Cypriot leaders and their representatives. His efforts have focused on assisting them to re-engage in the implementa-
tion of their agreements and undertakings aimed at the resumption of negotiations leading to a comprehensive settlement.

1. Introduction

2. Following the briefing of the President of the Security Council the Under-Secretary-General on the outcome of his mission, the Under-Secretary-General’s suggestions. The stage is therefore now set for positive forward movement, and I urge both leaders on 15 November meeting in the presence of the Under-Secretary-General, where they agreed on and signed a set of principles and... prevailing for this process to be successful, including by ending mutual recriminations (see S/2006/572, annexes I and II).

3. On 15 June, the Security Council adopted resolution 1595 (2005), which relocated the Greek Cypriot and Turkish Cypriot leaders to Cyprus.

4. On 29 August, the Security Council was briefed by the Under-Secretary-General on the outcome of his mission. Following the briefing, the President of the Security Council read a statement by the members of the Council expressing support for my continued efforts aimed at reaching a comprehensive settlement of the Cyprus problem. The Special Representative welcomed the 8 July agreement reached during the Under-Secretary-General’s mission to the region and called for full implementation of the 8 July agreement without further delay.

5. Since then, my Special Representative has been engaged in various activities aimed at complementing the 8 July agreement. On 19 September, I met with Mr. Papadopoulos in New York and discussed the Cyprus problem, including implementation of the 8 July agreement. In the light of the differences that emerged between the two sides regarding the implementation of the agreement, the Under-Secretary-General wrote to the two leaders on 15 November suggesting a way forward.

6. Both leaders replied on 18 November, formally accepting the Under-Secretary-General’s suggestions. The stage is therefore now set for positive forward movement, and I urge both leaders on 15 November meeting in the presence of the Under-Secretary-General, where they agreed on and signed a set of principles and... the spirit of the 8 July agreement.

7. On 20 November, I met with Mr. Talat in Geneva. I reiterated the commitment of the Turkish Cypriot side to a comprehensive settlement of the Cyprus question. I welcomed his positive response to the Under-Secretary-General’s suggestions. Mr. Talat promised to do his utmost in that context to ensure that the Turkish Cypriot side fulfills its obligations under the agreement. I responded that I continued to stand by my appeal to both sides to refrain from taking any new initiatives or exercises.

8. The impasse continued over the dismantling of a National Guard observation post in Strovilia, with an increased number of soldiers manning that position. There has been no change in control of the area of Varosha. The United Nations continues to hold the Government of Turkey responsible for the status quo in Varosha.

9. Other efforts undertaken by the international community in the course of the reporting period include an initiative of the Finnish Presidency of the European Union to hold a seminar on the situation in Cyprus, and a series of meetings aimed at elucidating the Green Line and overall goal of a comprehensive settlement, they may have a catalytic effect and efforts in this regard should be welcomed.

10. The military and security situation along the ceasefire lines has stabilized, after a disturbing trend that impinges on the ability of organizations and individuals to carry out activities and projects designed to contribute to bi-communal co-operation in the areas affected by the Green Line. As a result, the United Nations, in particular the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), has identified a number of projects that benefit both Greek Cypriots and Turkish Cypriots in areas of common concern.

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12. The efforts of UNFICYP to achieve demilitarization of the ceasefire lines have stalled. In June, UNFICYP invited the National Guard to participate in an exercise, “Nikiforos”, from 10 to 15 October with the participation of the General Staffs from Greece. The Turkish Forces/Turkish Cypriot Security Forces continued to resist this invitation. UNFICYP continues to be hampered by the presence of United Nations personnel and their dependants from Lebanon and supported United Nations humanitarian and other... faci-lities were provided to personnel of the International Independent Investigation Commission (established pursuant...
The formal proceedings of the lawsuit filed by the Turkish Cypriot Teachers’ Trade Union with the Supreme Court to guarantee Turkish Cypriots the right to an education in Turkish was accepted on 17 July, and approximately 70 Greek Cypriots attended services at Ayios Neophytos Church in Troulli on 27 September.

During the reporting period, UNFICYP facilitated 13 assignments of four additional teachers for the Greek Cypriot secondary school in Rizokarpaso in the north for the school year beginning in September 2006.

28. During the reporting period, UNFICYP conducted 62 humanitarian convoys and humanitarian visits in support of the 389 Greek Cypriots and 145 Maronites living in the buffer zone. Of particular note during the reporting period have been humanitarian visits to the Troodos Mountain area and the identification and return of the remains of missing persons in Cyprus. Intrinsic to the project is its bi-communal structure. Supported by a small team of international experts, both Greek Cypriot and Turkish Cypriot scientists are participating in the project. The project is managed by the Committee’s anthropological laboratory located in the United Nations Protected Area in Nicosia. The final DNA identification results have been released to the families, and the identity of the remains will be carried out at a local forensic laboratory by another bi-communal team.

39. The project is currently financed by voluntary contributions from Cyprus and other sources, including Member States. The Committee is continuing its fundraising efforts.

V. Financial and administrative aspects

40. The General Assembly, by its resolution 60/270 of 30 June 2005, decided to extend the mandate of UNFICYP for a further period of six months, until 15 June 2007.

41. Should the Security Council decide to extend the mandate of UNFICYP for a further period of six months, the cost of maintaining the Force would be limited to the amount approved by the General Assembly.

42. In the absence of a comprehensive settlement, I believe that UNFICYP continues to play a vital role, and I therefore recommend that the Security Council extend the mandate of the Force by a further period of six months, until 15 June 2007.

43. In the absence of a comprehensive settlement, the presence of UNFICYP remains necessary in maintaining the ceasefire. In this context, I am concerned about the increasing number of civilians farming and/or an increase in the number of persons wanted for serious crimes from one side to the other. As a result of the slow pace of the refurbishment of the troop accommodation at the Ledra Palace Hotel and Camp San Martin, and in this connection I wish to stress the urgency and importance of speeding up the required repairs in the interest of the health and safety of the mission’s troops.

VI. Observations

44. I am concerned at the slow pace of the refurbishment of the troop accommodation at the Ledra Palace Hotel and Camp San Martin. As a result of the delay in the receipt of assessed contributions, reimbursement of troop and contingent-owned equipment costs has been made only for the period up to 30 April 2006 and 31 March 2006, respectively.

45. During the reporting period, the situation in Cyprus remained calm and stable with no major violations of the ceasefire lines. Although both opposing forces continued to challenge the positions of the other, the overall cooperation with UNFICYP resulted in a lack of any serious incidents, and both communities continued to believe that full cooperation by both forces based on the 1989 agreement will ensure the situation and it is expected the sides will continue to consult and improve cooperation within the framework of the Committee’s efforts on the island.

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39. The Committee launched its project on the exhumation, identification and return of the remains of missing persons in late August. Intrinsic to the project is its bi-communal structure. Supported by a small team of international experts, both Greek Cypriot and Turkish Cypriot scientists are participating in the project. The project is managed by the Committee’s anthropological laboratory located in the United Nations Protected Area in Nicosia. The final DNA identification results have been released to the families, and the identity of the remains will be carried out at a local forensic laboratory by another bi-communal team.

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42. As at 30 September 2006, the total outstanding assessed contributions from Cypriot and other sources, including Member States. The Committee is continuing its fundraising efforts.

43. In conclusion, I wish to express my concern at the continuing impasse in the political process and the missed opportunities. Despite a decade of almost continuous efforts by the United Nations, an agreement on a comprehensive settlement has not proved possible.

51. At this juncture, it is important, as indicated by the Secretary-General to the Security Council, that the implementation of the 8 July agreement begin without further delay. The process should lead to the establishment of a bi-communal framework of the mechanism of good offices. In this connection, it should be noted that only if progress is achieved in the near future will it be in a position to appoint a special adviser on Cyprus.

52. The continued active involvement of the international community in Cyprus, through the presence of UNFICYP, should not be taken for granted. In this context, both leaders may consider extending the mandate of the Force for a further period of six months, until 15 June 2007.

53. In the absence of a comprehensive settlement, I believe that UNFICYP continues to play a vital role, and I therefore recommend that the Security Council extend the mandate of the Force by a further period of six months, until 15 June 2007.

54. Significant progress has been achieved during the reporting period and I would like to express my appreciation to the Force Commander, Major General Rafael Barni, and the men and women serving in UNFICYP, for the efficiency and dedication with which they have discharged the responsibilities entrusted to them by the Secretary-General.
**HIV/AIDS mission update**

In 2000, heads of state made a commitment to reverse the spread of AIDS by 2015. But new reports by UNAIDS and the World Health Organisation (WHO) indicate that, as of 2006, the epidemic is unlikely to be brought under control in every region of the world. By now more than 65 million people have been infected with HIV and well over 25 million people have died of AIDS since 1981, 2.9 million in 2006 alone. At this rate, the WHO predicts that in the next 25 years another 117 million people will die, making AIDS the third leading cause of death worldwide. With "accountability" the theme of this year's World AIDS Day (1 December), campaigners across the globe called leaders to account not just for good intentions, but for action to make those promises a reality.

UNFICYP military and civilian personnel will share receive information about the HIV/AIDS pandemic through an enhanced mission-wide campaign, which will be launched in January. Of the three methods of HIV transmission (sex, intravenous drug use and contaminated blood), unprotected sex remains the greatest threat for transmission of the virus. Condom use has proven to be one of the most effective means of preventing the spread of HIV and other sexually transmitted diseases.

HIV/AIDS offers an opportunity for the global community to support initiatives which will contribute to the success of the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs). Prevention of HIV/AIDS and access to life-saving medication is an integral part of the MDGs.

**Secretary-General's World AIDS Day Message (1 December)**

The eradication of the AIDS epidemic within a generation remains a possibility. This requires political will, leadership, and resources.

"I am deeply concerned that the unprecedented financial generosity of the global community is being matched by a woeful lack of political will, commitment and resources. We have made huge strides in expanding HIV/AIDS treatment programmes, but much remains to be done. This year’s World AIDS Day is an opportunity to correspond to what we can achieve by shifting our focus from the provision of treatment to prevention. We can undo the gains of country after country in short order unless we are unified in our resolve to get to zero - zero new infections and zero AIDS deaths.

"We have the scientific and technological knowledge to provide access to prevention and treatment, but the political will is still lacking. One of the greatest threats we face today is apathy. People can become complacent because of the scientific progress we have made in the battle against AIDS. We can also become complacent because so many people are resistant to making the necessary sacrifices in order to defeat this disease. We will not win this battle if we fail to mobilise the public in every country, and if we are not united.

"My fellow citizens, it is time to get to zero. Now is the moment for political action based on the values that have guided our work over the past 10 years. Let us join hands to end AIDS because this year we mark a turning point in the struggle against this disease. Let us all unite to make the world a safer place for all.

"As we commemorate World AIDS Day, let us reaffirm our commitment to make the world a safer place for all. Let us join hands to bring an end to AIDS because this year we mark a turning point in the struggle against this disease. Let us all unite to make the world a safer place for all."

**Car Treasure Hunt in Aid of Charity**

### Cyprus International Four-Day Challenge 2006

The fourth and final day saw us take on a 10 km road run through Paphos. This started at Paphos Castle in the harbour and was open to other runners too, so there was a large field at the start. All competitors set off a little gingerly, even LBdr. Stuart who was back and fit again. We could really tell that we’d been running for three days before - our legs just didn’t have any spring in them. There was just enough for a sprint finish in at the end, and then a huge sense of achievement and relief with legs going and feet blistered, everyone finally finished the challenge.

The organiser thanked everyone for taking part, and presented us with our medals for finishing. There was then a photo of all the 120 runners who’d started the challenge, and the 90 who actually finished all four days. Afterwards, we were treated to a delicious dinner in the sun, and the atmosphere was fantastic. All in all it was a wonderful day, and the challenge truly brought the teams and individuals together, even those who hadn’t been running with us since the beginning. The final beer was excellent.

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Hungarian President Visits UNFICYP