



13 EAST NORTH STREET  
NEW YORK, N.Y. 10016-0178

TEL.: (212)-481-6023

THE PERMANENT MISSION OF THE REPUBLIC OF CYPRUS TO THE UNITED NATIONS

Ret: 202/9

The Permanent Representative of the Republic of Cyprus to the United Nations presents his compliments to the Secretary-General of the United Nations and further to the former's note verbal of even reference dated 9 May 1996, and the letter of the Under Secretary-General for Development Support and Management Services, dated 8 July 1996, has the honour to draw to the Secretary-General's attention Annex No. IV of the Official Gazette (Resmi Gazete) of the illegal "Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus» no. 37, dated 25.6.96. The Annex contains the latest purported "decision" of the so-called "Council of Ministers" no. 284-96 by which geographical names, toponyms, in the area of the village Dikomo in the occupied part of Cyprus, are changed. Similar decisions concerning the toponyms of other areas were taken in the past. A list of the latest toponyms thus changed as published in the above-mentioned publications is attached to the not.

The names thus changed are centuries-old names preserved through the ages and recorded in maps and other publications in Cyprus over the years. So far the Government of the Republic of Cyprus has collected more than thirty-three thousand geographical names arbitrarily changed by the Turkish side in occupied Cyprus.

These arbitrary changes are in violation of Resolution 111/16 adopted by the Fifth United Nations Conference on the Standardization of Geographical Names as well as Resolution 4 of the First United Nations Conference on the Standardization of Geographical Names. At the same time, these actions are tantamount to a forgery of History and aim at destroying our thousands- years old culture and heritage.

The Cyprus Government in strongly protesting these illegal acts by the Turkish side calls for full respect of recommendation A of Resolution 4 of the First United Nations Conference on the Standardization of Geographical Names which states that "It is recommended that any changes made by other authorities in the names standardized by the competent National Geographical Named Authority should not be recognized by the United Nations".

The Permanent Representative of the Republic of Cyprus to the United Nations avails himself of this opportunity to renew to the Secretary-General of the United Nations the assurances of his highest consideration.

NEW YORK, 7 January 1997

H.E. Mr. Kofi ANNAN  
Secretary-General of the  
United Nations  
New York, N.Y. 10017