



Delegation of the Republic of Cyprus

WORKING SESSION 13: Rule of law III

Statement by the Delegation of Cyprus in exercise of its Right of Reply

The Delegation of Cyprus wishes to refer to the Statement delivered under this Session by the Turkish Cypriot Human Rights Foundation, and offer the following clarifications.

In the wake of the bi-communal conflict of 1963-64, the Turkish Cypriot community withdrew from all the constitutional organs of the State and refused to participate in the administration of public affairs.

Furthermore the abnormal situation created as a result of the Turkish invasion of 1974 persists. Following the invasion and the forcible transfer of the Greek Cypriots from the occupied area to the area controlled by the Government, the members of the two communities have been leaving separately, as the Turkish Cypriots, responding to Turkey's instructions, were also forced to move to the occupied area of the Republic of Cyprus.

In addition to the absence of the Turkish Cypriot community as a whole, the Constitutional arrangements have been rendered inactive as a result of the insistence of the Turkish Cypriot leadership in promoting the illegal secessionist

entity in the occupied area. It is unconceivable supporting secessionist actions and at the same time recalling selectively articles of the 1960 Constitution.

Regarding properties belonging to Greek Cypriots in the occupied part of the Republic of Cyprus, the Delegation wishes to remind that in 2002 the occupation regime allowed the current possessors of occupied properties to “transfer” such properties to third parties and since the April 2004 referenda, the Turkish side has intensified the illegal construction on Greek Cypriot properties.

Cyprus delegation wishes to reiterate the willingness of the Government to reach a settlement to the Cyprus question that will lead to the reunification of the country, its institutions, society and economy. Greek Cypriots rejected the Annan Plan precisely because it would not lead to a genuine reunification.