



JOINT STATEMENT
BY GREEK CYPRIOT LEADER DEMETRIS CHRISTOFIAS
AND TURKISH CYPRIOT LEADER MEHMET ALI TALAT
25 July 2008

Today the Leaders undertook the final review of the work of the Working Groups and Technical Committees. They noted the results achieved and commended their members for all their efforts.

Having made their final review, the Leaders decided to start their full-fledged negotiations on 3 September 2008, under the good offices mission of the United Nations Secretary-General.

The aim of the full-fledged negotiations is to find a mutually acceptable solution to the Cyprus problem, which will safeguard the fundamental and legitimate rights and interests of Greek Cypriots and Turkish Cypriots. The agreed solution will be put to separate simultaneous referenda.

Regarding the Technical Committees, the Leaders today approved sixteen more measures in the areas of environment, cultural heritage, crisis management, crime and criminal matters, and gave instructions for their immediate and full implementation.

As a reflection of their heightened engagement, the Leaders have agreed to establish a secure hotline to facilitate direct contact between them.

The Leaders welcome the appointment of Mr. Alexander Downer as the Secretary-General's Special Adviser for Cyprus, and look forward to working with him and the UN team in the coming period.

They also instructed their Representatives to take up the issue of Limnitis/Yeşilirmak and other crossings.