

The Blue Beret

January 2003



UNFICYP
to the rescue



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With the New Year barely three weeks old, Mr. Clerides and Mr. Denktash have called on the United Nations to organise an open public competition for a new Cyprus flag and anthem in keeping with the proposal for a comprehensive settlement put to them by Secretary-General Kofi Annan on 10 December 2002.

Clearly, emblem and anthem would only be adopted in the event of an agreement by 28 February and "if the entire plan is approved in the separate referenda and a new state of affairs comes into being".

Both parties agreed to the competition as part of parallel arrangements that need to be in place, assuming a 28 February agreement and Greek Cypriot and Turkish Cypriot assent in the separate referenda of 30 March 2003.

As stipulated in Article 3 of Appendix B of the SG's proposals, the competition is only for the "common state" flag and anthem.

Details of the competition are to be found on the back cover of this issue.

Entries will be reviewed by bilateral committees, chaired by the UN, which, in turn, will pass their consensus recommendations on to the two leaders.

The UN announcement makes clear that the competition "should not be taken as an indication of the state of play in the ongoing negotiations".

Editorial

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Front Cover: UNFICYP to the rescue

Photograph by Maj. Ingrid Tomeková

After Copenhagen - Looking for a Settlement

Statement by Alvaro de Soto at the Ledra Palace, 13 January:

As you know, it was regrettably not possible to achieve a comprehensive settlement before decisions were taken by the EU at Copenhagen on 13 December, though agreement was very close in our estimation.

After Copenhagen I returned to New York and briefed the members of the Security Council in the presence of the Secretary-General. They strongly backed his decision to push ahead and try to achieve an agreement by 28 February on the basis of his revised proposal of 10 December. The EU at Copenhagen also restated its preference for a united Cyprus to accede to the EU and looks to both sides to continue efforts to achieve a comprehensive settlement by 28 February.

The Secretary-General has suggested to the two leaders, and to Greece and Turkey, that there are three areas of work that must move ahead, in parallel, in order to achieve this goal by the end of next month.

The most important is that the two leaders should come to terms on the basic, politically contentious issues that are dealt with in the Secretary-General's plan.

Second, Greece and Turkey have the responsibility to agree, in a manner fully acceptable to both parties in Cyprus, on certain aspects of the security chapter of the settlement.

Third, important technical work on treaties that are to bind the common state of Cyprus from the moment of entry into force of an agreement, and on common state laws that are to be in force at that time, must be completed by the target date. You will recall that the two leaders agreed on 4 October last year, in the presence of the Secretary-General, to create two ad hoc committees to address these issues. After an unfortunate delay, the committees began meeting last week here in Cyprus under UN chairmanship, and they are expected to intensify their important and voluminous work this week.

We are now on a pretty tight timeframe. As foreseen in the plan, the agreement of a comprehensive settlement, with all political issues resolved between the two leaders, all security issues between Greece and Turkey resolved, and all technical work completed, by 28 February, would allow just enough time for separate referenda to be prepared and conducted so as to enable the people to take an educated decision on 30 March. If the results of the referenda were positive, a new state of affairs in Cyprus would come into being on 31 March.

That would then allow just two weeks to put in place certain basic parts of the new institutions of the common state, and allow the EU to revise and approve the terms of the accession treaty to accommodate the new state of affairs in the manner foreseen in the plan, so that a reunited Cyprus could sign the Treaty of Accession on 16 April.

So by 16 April, the new state of affairs must be in place and up-and-running. If this is to be achieved, as we see it, an agreement is required by 28 February, since there must be time enough for the separate referenda in between. Therefore we only have about six weeks left to see negotiations through to a successful conclusion.

As you know, in his 11 November plan, the Secretary-General crystallized inchoate trade-offs that were emerging during the ten months of talks between the two leaders, and made bridging proposals where gaps remained.

After further intensive consultations, improvements were made and a revised plan suggested to the parties on 10 December last year. The plan as it stands therefore reflects nearly a year of intensive consultations and negotiations, and stands on the shoulders of decades of talks before that.

As it stands, this plan represents what the Secretary-General believes is a fair and honourable compromise which



addresses the core interests, aims, concerns, and even nightmares of each side. The plan foresees a new partnership in Cyprus on the basis of equality, to ensure peace, security and prosperity for both Greek Cypriots and Turkish Cypriots in a united island.

The plan has been accepted by both leaders, and by Greece and Turkey, as a basis for negotiation. The plan establishes an overall balance and provides the parameters which need to be respected if it is to serve as the basis for a negotiated settlement.

In these circumstances, it is obvious that further changes to the plan, should any be necessary, to be agreed by the two sides, will only be possible if the overall balance in the plan is preserved. If the overall balance is to be preserved, it will be necessary for both leaders to be very specific, measured, and focused regarding changes they wish to negotiate to the plan, should any be necessary, and to be prepared to give in order to take. Clearly, unilateral changes only in favour of one side are not likely to be acceptable to the other.

This means that the choice before the leaders and the people on each side is not between this plan and a substantially different one; the choice is between this plan, perhaps with balanced refinements here and there as needed, and no agreement at all.

Accordingly, the issues at stake are very clear. Will Greek Cypriots and Turkish Cypriots reunite as equals, in the European Union, or will the division of the island be further entrenched?

Will a reunited Cyprus become a beacon of cooperation between Greece and Turkey in the Eastern Mediterranean, maintaining the balance between them and strengthening Turkey's move towards European Union membership, or will a divided Cyprus continue to strain relations between Greece and Turkey and vis-à-vis Europe?

Will this island, now green from the winter rain, also feel the healing hands of peace and reconciliation, or will it remain divided by an ugly scar and an unresolved conflict totally out of place in modern Europe?

These are the choices that must be made during this month and the next. From my consultations in Turkey and my recent contacts with Greece, it is very clear that both motherlands strongly support the achievement of a negotiated settlement on the basis of the Secretary-General's plan, in the timeframe that it lays down.

Therefore, a great and historic responsibility rests on the shoulders of the Greek Cypriots and the Turkish Cypriots, and on their leaders. Let us all therefore focus on the task at hand.



Press Conference by Alvaro de Soto, Ledra Palace Hotel - Nicosia, 13 January 2003

Question: Do you expect a positive outcome regarding a referendum. The population, I think, also expects a settlement of the question of lost property of either side and the return of the refugees. Is there something like that in the making? Can this realistically be achieved by 28 February?

de Soto: Oh, very much so. A large portion of the plan is devoted in numerous pages to precisely that question. As we see it, it is necessary, among other reasons, to reach a completed settlement by 28 February so that the people will have a chance to actually examine in detail the plan and make their own judgement.

Question: Have you secured the cooperation of Turkey on the issue of security; have they started negotiating on that?

de Soto: I think so, yes. Well, negotiations have not begun. As I understand it, we hope they will begin very soon because they are part and parcel of the settlement.

Question: Given the positions of the two sides and all other factors that affect the Cyprus problem, how feasible do you think it is to achieve this goal of an agreement by the end of February? And also, how does the UN intend to go about achieving this goal between now and the end of February?

de Soto: As I said, we are not starting from scratch. There is a lot that has preceded this, but if the two sides respect the overall balance and are focused in the approach that they take in any changes that they might feel necessary to make, and if they are willing to give as well as to take, it should be possible.

Question: How do you see the economic aspect of the problem since there is a deep gap between the Turkish Cypriots and the Greek Cypriots? How do you think the economy will be balanced between the two sides between the two communities?

de Soto: It is one of the stated goals of the settlement to bring the two sides to the same level. And that is also the same goal as taken by the European Union.

Question: There are no measurements and details in the Secretary-General's plan regarding this?

de Soto: There are actually quite a few steps – we could go over those separately if you like, to bring these two sides up to par, but it is not a prior requirement to reunification or accession – it is a goal to be pursued after a settlement.

Question: You urge the parties to show respect for what you call the balance of the document. But I am sure that by now, you have discovered that what is considered a balanced document by one side is not by the other side. Who is going to judge whether the changes that will be suggested by one or the other side is within the balance of this document? You are saying this is take-it-or-leave-it.

de Soto: I am not sure that you have reflected accurately what I said. The parties can of course propose amendments, so long as they bear in mind the need to preserve a balance, so long as they realize that if they want something beyond what is offered to them they have to be prepared to give something in exchange as well. That is not take-it-or-leave-it as I see it.

Question: As I understand from your statement, the message today is that very few things can change in your plan and secondly this plan now becomes take-it-or-leave-it from your sentence here that the choice is between this plan, perhaps with balanced refinements...

and no agreement at all. Is that the message today until 28 February? The message is that there cannot be extensive changes from one or the other side. It is not a choice between a different plan, this is the plan. The choice is between this plan and no solution.

de Soto: The thing is that there is little time left, it is true, and there are nevertheless a few weeks – the two parties between themselves, who are the ones who have to actually agree to put forward this plan so that the people ultimately can make the choice, which they have the right to make, have to be judicious in their proposals for changes so that the changes are actually manageable. Luckily, one of the points you made there is already, the problem is resolved, which is that both sides have accepted that this is the basis on which they will negotiate on comprehensive settlement. There is no talk of a substitute plan.

Question: [inaudible]

de Soto: Well, that is the purpose of the negotiation between the two sides. They will work it out.

Question: Will both of them decide on whether these suggestions are within the balance (of the document) or will you, the United Nations, decide?

de Soto: No, the UN is not an arbiter here. We are here to help in order to reach a balance. We have made our suggestions, that is for them to decide whether this is worth being put to the people so that the people make the choice.

Question: At this time the Greek Cypriots find themselves in the middle of an election period. How do you appreciate this factor? And second what are you going to ask of the two leaders later today?

de Soto: First, of course I am aware that there are political goings-on amongst the Greek Cypriots, but of course what I have uttermost on my mind is that the Greek Cypriots like the Turkish Cypriots are reaching a point of decision on how to solve the problem and that is what I have to lend my attention to. I will be meeting Mr. Clerides later this afternoon at 4.30 pm and Mr. Denktash at 6.30 pm, and I will be discussing with both of them how we can quickly resume work.

Question: Can you give us any estimate to what extent the displaced persons can return?

de Soto: I think that the best thing would be for you to carefully study the plan in detail and perhaps then we can come back to that. Yes.

Question: Mr. Denktash is saying that 28 February is not the end of the world. What (do you think) of that?

de Soto: I agree entirely with Mr. Denktash that 28 February is not the end of the world. However, as I have explained. It is very difficult for the people to take an educated decision on the draft comprehensive settlement unless they have sufficient time to study it, and they should take that decision sufficiently in advance of the signature of the accession treaty of the European Union so that the basic institutions of a reunited Cyprus can be put in place and a reunited Cyprus can sign that. So that practically obliges them to finish by 28 February. It is not the end of the world, but we hope that they will make it possible to reach a settlement to put forward to the people on 28 February.

Question: In the worst case scenario what if there no agreement by the 28th. What happens from that point onwards?

de Soto: You know I am not very fond of answering “what if” questions. Let's just concentrate on the goal.

Question: Do you expect a face-to-face meeting with the two leaders tomorrow?

de Soto: It's conceivable, yes.

Question: [inaudible] that the two leaders can reach an agreement?

de Soto: I will wait to hear that from the leaders. Who knows, perhaps they will surprise me and there will be no major differences; they will accept that indeed the plan is all right as it is?

Question: Have you determined on the method of the negotiations between Mr. Denktash and Mr. Clerides? Are you going to follow the proximity talks method or direct talks?

de Soto: The methods that they have agreed to themselves in December 2002, sorry 2001, was direct talks and because of Mr. Denktash's health, it was not possible for a period of time to hold direct meetings. I will discuss that with Mr. Denktash.

Question: Reading again through the last paragraphs of your statement, you give the impression that now you are resorting to scare tactics. It can be conceived that if the two sides do not accept this plan there will be permanent division of the island?

de Soto: Well, I am sorry to have frightened you. That was not my intention at all. Well it seems to me that given the time factor and given the difficulties, that how things would change as of signature of the European Union accession treaty by a divided Cyprus will prove to be a rather serious setback, so I feel that it would be important to seize the opportunity that exists now because of the uncertainty in the future.

Question: To what extent have your talks in Turkey moved you closer to achieving this goal and having intensive substantive negotiations to reach an agreement?

de Soto: I come away with the impression that Turkey is determined to support the goal of achieving a completed settlement before the end of February.

Question: Does that impression come from talking to the government or to the generals?

de Soto: As I say, I have had consultations in the Foreign Ministry and I have also met with Mr. Erdogan and there is unanimity, unsurprisingly, as the ...

Question: But excuse me, Sir, you are aware of the power struggle going on in Turkey right now between the generals and the government?

de Soto: As I said, there is no difference between Mr. Erdogan and the Foreign Ministry, which is not surprising since the Foreign Ministry is an organ of the government and Mr. Erdogan is the leader of the party in government. I stand by what I said.

Question: You say the only changes that we should expect on fundamental issues is to fill in the gaps remaining on the number of troops?

de Soto: I have not spoken about a revised plan.

Question: [inaudible]

de Soto: Well, that is in the security chapter, that is fundamentally the number of troops, equipment, rules of the game and so on and so forth – there are some aspects of security, but the rest depends on what position the leaders take in the consultations today and in the coming days.

Question: It was published in the press that during the Copenhagen Summit you asked President Clerides to sign by himself your plan without having a signature from the other side. Also, you reportedly misled President Clerides and suggested that the Turkish Cypriot side was ready to sign the agreement.

de Soto: I think the information you have received has been garbled on the way. If you are asking me to confirm these two points, the answer is no on both counts.

Question: Would you describe the period from now to 28 February as a critical one? If there is no solution, can we continue after 28 February as we did after the June and after September and after December?

de Soto: I would describe this as the decisive period. I am very pleased that the possibility remains open because of the willingness of both sides to continue to negotiate on the basis of the Secretary-General's plan. But for the reasons that I have tried to walk you through, after 28 February, the possibilities of achieving a settlement that the people can pronounce on dwindle dramatically. This does not mean, of course, the end of the world, as Mr. Denktash puts it, but it does rather sharply diminish the realistic possibilities of a settlement any time soon there-after.

Question: You said you are going to visit Ankara immediately after Athens.

de Soto: Not necessarily immediately after, but I do expect to go back.

Question: Do you have any reason for visiting Ankara a second time? Do you expect to take a plan from Athens or Ankara?

de Soto: Well, I would expect that probably in the coming weeks I will go back to Athens and Ankara, both, more than once.

Question: In your opening statement you referred to the Secretary-General's suggestion that there are three areas of work that must move ahead in parallel which you explained to us. Are there other areas that are equally important that must be dealt with between now and the end of February?

de Soto: It's all there – it's all in those three areas. Then the rest is up to the people.

Question: How is the work of the technical committees going? Do you see it as positive? I know it hasn't started as rigorously as you have said, but for the time being, what do you think of the outlook?

de Soto: They are working very hard. As I say, it's technical work. They are meeting every day. They were meeting today. As I came directly to you – even before meeting the leaders – I have not been able to brief myself regarding what happened today. The work is proceeding intensively. There is a lot that has to be done.

Question: Since Copenhagen, it has become evident that there are divergent views among Turkish Cypriots as to how Mr. Denktash is handling the situation. Many Turkish Cypriots believe that he is no longer in a position to represent their views at this negotiating process. To what extent does the United Nations take this into consideration in their approach to the whole affair?

de Soto: Well my attitude to that is the same as to the question of the Greek Cypriot politics. If there are no further questions, thank you very much.

Life in the Mobile Force Reserve

By Capt. Garrett O'Leary

The recent festivities have brought more than a change of year to Sector 2. The return of 16th Regt RA to the UK has allowed 47th Regt RA to assume control of Sector 2. Commensurate with this change, the duties of leading the multinational Mobile Force Reserve (MFR) have been taken up by 21 (Gibraltar 1779-83) Air Assault Bty. The new MFR Commander, Maj. Steven Rosier RA, commands a force of 106 personnel, drawn from Argentina, Hungary, Slovakia and the United Kingdom. The MFR is, of course, the Force Commander's reserve, for him to allocate to any mission he feels is vital for the UN mission. Our duties are wide and varied and ensure that we are kept busy.

It has been a busy year for 21 Battery prior to its arrival here in Cyprus. This time last year elements of the Bty were preparing to deploy as part of the International Stabilisation and Assistance Force into Afghanistan, in the role of liaison teams as part of Britain's contribution in the war against terror. Thereafter the Bty has been heavily committed to supporting its parent Brigade, 16 Air Assault Brigade, on exercise throughout the year.

The Bty has considerable range of experience within its ranks. There are numerous Cyprus "old hands" from previous tours and a number of new gunners who are on their first tour. The youngest, Gnr Braddy, 18, has just joined the Bty from training. For Gnr Braddy, it is more than a chance to integrate into his new unit. "The weather is much better than the UK. It is helping me feel part of the Bty now. I am also learning better people skills when dealing with soldiers from different countries. I want to get experience out of the tour."

According to LBdr. Ahmed, married to Zahida and father of four: "I am looking forward to gaining experience in the peace-keeping role instead of our usual role of air defence and I am really looking forward to the opportunity of working with other nations". On the aspect of training, LBdr. Ahmed, a Regimental boxer, says: "The training opportunities are excellent and I am going to use them to regain my fitness level after the busy exercise period we have just left. However, this experience comes with a price and that is spending time away from my young family".

The Battery is keen to promote integration of all nationals as its main focus during its training period. Apart from creating friendships, this will also allow it to fulfil its

mission to a greater degree through greater cohesion. Maj. Rosier sees integration as "the key to a successful deployment by the force, by building trust and respect between the soldiers and their commander, and this was the greatest challenge facing the Platoon Commanders. Master Corporal Barad from the Hungarian Contingent, recognises the change; "In the nine months I have been in

the MFR, this is the best team I have seen. The leadership is very good, the officers and sergeants include us in everything, listen to other ideas and try them out. This gives us a good feeling. Because they are paratroopers, they do a lot of fitness training which is important as the MFR needs to be in top condition and you can feel the difference from the last battery. The soldiers are very quick to learn and training is more fun. It is a team which puts its soldiers first".

So far, the results have been impressive and they were displayed during a demonstration for the Commanding Officer of Sector 2, Lt. Col. Weighill RA, and Regimental Sergeant Major Reilly on 20 December. This demonstration, illustrating all elements of our role, passed off very successfully and allowed CO S2 to observe how our training and preparations were progressing.

The first five weeks of our deployment have been busy. The newcomers acquainted themselves with all of the sectors, and completed a training programme which included fire-fighting, Contingency Operation Plans, and rural and urban crowd control drills. The training was hard and in depth, but was maintained in conjunction with mounting "anti-hunting" patrols in Sectors 1 and 4 and regular physical training. Yet our efforts all paid off as on 27 December, the MFR paraded for the UNFICYP Chief of Staff, Col. Hamish Fletcher. On that day, the MFR deployed in a professional, confident and relaxed manner and proved its ability to meet all of its operational requirements and was passed as operationally effective as UNFICYP's MFR.

Now, in the first week of January and fully established in our routine, we are looking towards the future. This allows us to undertake more varied and challenging training programmes, this time focused on MEDEVAC skills and procedures in the event of a helicopter crash. We are also preparing demonstrations of our crowd and riot control capabilities for the Force Commander and all Sector Commanders.



The MFR deployed for action during crowd and riot control training



A link man signalling to his section commander



In traditional UNFICYP fashion, the Christmas Carol Service was held at the Holy Cross Church, Nicosia, this year on 18 December. The military, civilian and police elements of UNFICYP were all represented, with carols and blessings in all languages so that those present could follow at least a small part of the service. The carol singing by the soldiers was so unique that applause was heard throughout the church.

Thanks, as usual, must go to Father Barrato for his kind permission to use the church on this special occasion. Thanks also go to Padre Lee Gandiye from Sector 2 who organised the event, as well as Padres Abhram Maidana and Polt'ák Ján from Sectors 1 and 4 respectively.

Christmas celebrations were held throughout camps in UNFICYP during the festive season. In Sector 1, preparations started as early as 8 December, when soldiers put up trees at each camp, observation post and patrol base. Christmas Eve was really busy with masses held in all the camps. In the evening, dinner continued until midnight when everyone exchanged greetings.



Christmas Eve in Roca Camp

After the stroke of midnight, Santa Claus arrived at San Martín Camp, this time in a four-wheel drive vehicle, with his sack of gifts and letters from the soldiers' families that he distributed. Musicians from each camp encouraged the soldiers to join in the fun as they played folkloric songs as well as international music. Due to the five-hour time difference, some soldiers stayed up until 5 a.m. (midnight in Argentina) to exchange greetings with their families back home.

New Year was celebrated with a special dinner and the belated arrival of Santa at Roca Camp. He apologised for not appearing on Christmas Eve, blaming difficulties he had reaching the north checkpoint before it closed, and also "not being able to find his ID in his bag of gifts..."

Christmas In The Camps

At Famagusta's General Stefanik Camp, around 230 Slovaks celebrated Christmas Eve with a traditional meal to the sounds of popular Christmas folk songs. "This was my first Christmas in the peacekeeping mission, but it was not that different to what I had experienced in the past at the units back home in the Slovak Republic", the Contingent Commander Lt. Col. Ivan Hirka said. "Only this weather here reminds me of the Easter holidays, rather than Christmas", he added. Perhaps the eastern part of the island, where Sector 4's camp is situated, could arrange a nice snowfall next year to remind the Slovak soldiers of the Christmas holiday season.



Dinner is served!

For New Year, the Slovak soldiers entertained the contingent with the sounds of popular rock and folk music. Partygoers enjoyed a dinner of traditional cabbage soup with sour cream, followed by potato salad and steak and homemade Slovak cakes.

Another celebration took place on 25 December when the officers and senior NCOs of Headquarters UNFICYP served the more junior ranks to a full Christmas meal in the NCOs' Mess. As can be seen in the photo above, the Force Commander was on duty! This long-standing British custom, which originated when officers and NCOs decided to repay their soldiers for services offered during the year, was well received by UNFICYP members previously unfamiliar with the tradition.

Slovaks celebrating in General Stefanik Camp



Year 2002 - In Review

Greek Cypriot leader, H.E. Glafcos Clerides and Turkish Cypriot leader, H.E. Rauf Denktaş got the new year off to an auspicious start with direct talks on 16 January when they met for 90 minutes in the Nicosia Conference Centre, a refurbished wing of the UNDP/UNOPS complex in the UNPA.

The two leaders met in the presence of the Secretary General's Special Adviser Alvaro de Soto, having been welcomed on arrival by UNFICYP Chief of mission, Zbigniew Wlosowicz.

In statements afterwards to some 150 Turkish and Greek Cypriot press and TV reporters as well as foreign correspondents, Mr. de Soto described the meeting as "a very encouraging start" and pointed out that the two leaders had "engaged immediately on the substance".

On 3 January 2002, Lt. Gen. Jin Ha Hwang from the Republic of Korea took over command from Maj. Gen. Victory Rana from Nepal, UNFICYP's outgoing Force Commander, who departed on 15 December 2001.

February saw the breakthrough in negotiations for the start of a road safety project within the buffer zone mixed village of Pyla. Funding for the project to construct road safety measures in front of the two village primary schools was granted by UNDP/UNOPS, and a joint team of local Greek and Turkish Cypriot workers were soon hard at work.

International Women's Day on 8 March was celebrated by UNFICYP and women from the two communities at a bicomunal gathering at Ledra palace. Featured speakers included Madeline Garlick (Civil Affairs Political Officer) who highlighted the pernicious abuses of the trafficking of women, while Laura Vaccari from the Good Offices Mission stressed that IWD is a "celebration of women's solidarity, and the creativity, resilience, strength and beauty of women around the world".

Alvaro de Soto held a press conference at Ledra Palace on 8 April, noting the Security Council has registered its concern at the slow progress in the talks in view of the targets set. "The leaders should address with a sense of urgency, political determination and flexibility and in a spirit of give and take, the task at hand," he said.

The President of the Slovak Republic, Mr. Rudolf Schuster visited UNFICYP headquarters on 23 April in the course of his two-day visit to the island. It was the first visit by a Slovak head of state to Cyprus.

May marked Kofi Annan's historic working visit to Cyprus. The SG said he had come to the island to discuss with the two leaders how they could move the talks process forward more effectively. He met separately with Mr. Clerides and Mr. Denktaş on 15 May before hosting a working dinner for the two leaders at Chief of Mission Wlosowicz's residence.

At the end of his visit, the SG told the press that he was leaving, "sobered by the challenge at hand," yet more convinced than ever, "that this is the time to press on" and that "an historic opportunity exists now to reach a comprehensive settlement". Both leaders had given him their commitment "to go about this effort in a genuine spirit of give and take," he said. He was convinced that they could resolve the core issues (governance, security, territory and property) "between now and the end of June". The UN he said, is here to help the leaders – not impose ideas or conclusions on them.

The SG visited UNPA and met with UNFICYP staff, uniformed, un-uniformed local and international. He and his wife Nane inspected old Nicosia airport and went on a walking tour of the Green line. It

was the first visit to Cyprus by a UN Secretary-General since May 1979 when Kurt Waldheim spent two days on the island.

As the fourth round of talks wrapped up in June, the hopes of the SG that the core issues be resolved were not met. Before leaving for Vienna where he was to meet the SG, Alvaro de Soto said: "more political will and an increased spirit of compromise" would be necessary if an agreement was to be reached. The talks would continue into July "to see whether it is possible to compensate for the work that has not been accomplished".

Meanwhile, Chief of Mission Wlosowicz and Force Commander Hwang took a break from the peacekeeping scene to watch "the clash" between Poland and Korea's football teams during the World Cup.

The fifth round of talks ended in July with an announced pause "for evaluation, reflection and rest". A date for talks to resume was set for 27 August. However, the SG invited the two leaders to meet him in Paris on 6 September "to take stock and see if a course can be charted for the way ahead". Both accepted the invitation. Explaining the invitation de Soto pointed out that "doubts have grown about the possibility that the two leaders have of reaching the goal of a comprehensive settlement in a reasonable time limit and with the methods they are using at present".

While everyone seemed to take a vacation in August, the UNFICYP force Engineer and his Slovak team began excavation and preparation work to renovate and upgrade Foxtrot Gate. As usual, peacekeepers continued to lend a helping hand to the local population.

The SG met the two leaders in Paris on 6 September and highlighted issues he hoped they would tackle on their return to Nicosia and before their next meeting with him in New York in early October.

The gaps between the parties can be bridged, he said adding that some "are quite a bit smaller than when these talks began".

At the meeting in New York at the beginning of October, it was decided to create two advisory ad hoc bilateral technical committees to focus on treaties and future (common state) laws. The SG said a comprehensive settlement had to be "a complex, integrated, legally binding and self-executing agreement where the rights and obligations of all concerned are clear, unambiguous and not subject to further negotiation". Greece and Turkey would have an important role to play. Mr. Denktaş's heart surgery on 6 October subsequently affected the momentum of the peace effort.

UN day was celebrated on 20 October at Ledra Palace with a record attendance of some estimated 7,500 people from north and south.

In November the SG submitted a proposal for a comprehensive settlement to the two sides and in revised version on 10 December.

In December, Cyprus was invited to join the European Union preferably, but not conditionally as a united island. Efforts to secure a settlement had failed in the dying hours of the EU Copenhagen summit despite an all-out diplomatic campaign spearheaded by Alvaro de Soto.

However in issuing its invitation to join, the European Council welcomed the commitment of the Greek Cypriots and Turkish Cypriots for a comprehensive settlement on the basis of the SG's revised proposals and to do so by 28 February.

Slovak Republic President Rudolf Schuster

SG and the two leaders

SG and Mrs. Annan walk the Green Line

A helping hand

Working dinner at the CM's round table

UN Day consultations

FC and CM get to grips with the World Cup



Walk into the Hwang household and the first feeling is of peace. Bo Hwang greets me with a warm smile that would make any stranger feel welcome. Behind her are her three children, all in Cyprus on holiday from their studies in the United States.

Bo is married to Lieutenant General Jin Ha Hwang, the UNFICYP Force Commander. It was, in fact, her mother who introduced her to her future husband. "My mother and mother-in-law met at work and became friends, so it was natural that their children should meet".

And meet they did. In 1977 they married, and five years later, theirs was a family of five. Kyn Ho (23) is currently studying electrical engineering in Texas, while Sung Ho (22) is in Virginia, doing a course in political sciences. Mee Kyung (20) is also in Virginia, studying to become a systems integration engineer.

Bo did not come from an army family, and neither did her husband. So marrying into the military world was a move into the unknown. At first, Bo found it a little strange. It is customary to move around Korea from base to base and she quickly adapted to her new lifestyle. So much so that she looked forward to the next posting. The children, too, enjoyed moving. Says Sung Ho, "We really liked changing schools. In fact, we went to five different primary schools and it was really enjoyable meeting new people and making new friends. We never had any trouble changing location."

However, leaving Korea for the States was a huge step for the family to take. The first move was in 1982 when the Hwangs arrived in Kansas where Lt. Gen. Hwang attended a course at the US Army Command and Staff College, and again in 1992-93 when he attended the RAND Corporation (think tank) in California. Then in 1998, he was posted to Washington DC as the Military Defence Attaché.

Moving to Cyprus meant an even greater change. Bo arrived two weeks after her husband in January 2002. Even though she knew little of the island, she soon settled down in her role as the wife of the senior military man in UNFICYP.

She finds the people of Cyprus very kind-hearted and hospitable. Although she does not speak the local languages, she is courteously received wherever she goes. "I like the Cyprus face – people are very kind and considerate". She has already met three Korean women resident on the island and they sometimes get together for a coffee and chat. Asked where she meets people, she replies: "Everywhere, from

The Hwang Household

the supermarket to my dance classes. Every week I go to the Deaf School in Nicosia with some Cypriot ladies and diplomatic wives, and we learn traditional dances".

Bo is also very artistic. Whilst in the States, she took a course in paper craft and many of her creations can be seen as soon as you enter her home, as the photos accompanying this article show. She is now planning to take art classes run by the Australian High Commissioner's wife, Marion Ingruber.

Bo is a keen keep-fit enthusiast. She has joined the gym here in the UNPA and power walks most mornings in and around the married quarters, sometimes persuading friends and neighbours to join her. She is such a keen walker that almost every Saturday, she and her husband drive to the Troodos mountains where they follow the mountain trails "because they remind us of the ranges in Korea". When she has some spare time, Bo likes listening to music and reading.

Bo admits that she wished she could speak better English, but – according to her children, who obviously adore her – her English is much better than when she first arrived! For Bo it was never much of a problem, but where she did find difficulties to begin with was on the roads. This was the first time she had to cope with driving on the left, "but, like everything else, I have now got used to it". Another problem was cooking traditional Korean food for the family. "In the States, it was easy to get the basic ingredients for our special dishes. But here in Cyprus it is not so easy to find what I need. However, having lived in both places, it's not so hard eating the Western way. It makes us look forward to Korean food even more when we go home."

Asked about their father, Sung Ho said: "He is very faithful to the family as well as to his profession. Even when he is really busy at work, he will always find time to organise some family activity". These take place when the kids are home from university. Last summer, they all visited Italy. Then at the beginning of this month, the family went on a tour of Egypt.

This is a family which has lived away from home and experienced much. They love their stay in Cyprus, and look forward to the many adventures awaiting them on the island. **MP**



A Happy Ending...

It was New Year's Eve. Two Slovak soldiers, Sgt. Lubomir (Lubo) Mahut and Sgt. Juraj (Jimmy) Hlavka, were driving back to the UNPA having escorted heavy engineer equipment to a UN location close to OP 124 in the mixed village of Pyla.

Suddenly, Lubo was hailed to the side of the road in a cry for help. Selim Ergant, a four-year old Turkish Cypriot boy, had been hurt in a hit-and-run accident. He was bleeding profusely from the head and was in urgent need of medical attention.

The Slovaks took the boy, together with his father and mother, straight to the emergency ward at Larnaca General Hospital where the boy was examined. He had sustained two head wounds, which happily turned out to be minor. Nevertheless it was decided to transfer Selim to the Nicosia General Hospital where a CT scan was carried out to ensure that there were no internal injuries. He was kept in hospital for observation, and was discharged on 3 January.



Just before Selim left the Nicosia General Hospital, Lubo and Jimmy visited him. Selim's parents expressed their deep gratitude to the peacekeepers who acted so quickly, and also to the hospital authorities who treated their son in such an efficient and professional manner.

Says Lubo, "We were so glad to see Selim on the road to recovery. It is our job to help the people in the Cypriot community". And, as Jimmy added, "this is a very happy ending to what could have been a sad story".

New Military Public Information Officer

Newly appointed Military Public Information Officer, Maj. Ingrid Tomeková, arrived at HQ UNFICYP HQ at the beginning of December 2002. She arrived from Bratislava, capital of the Slovak Republic, where she recently served as Special Forces Section Member at the General Staff.

Maj. Tomeková joined the Slovak Armed Forces in 1989. In 1995 she attended Peacekeeping Terminology Course in Budapest, Hungary. Later she served as a translator for the Slovak Armed Forces. From 1995 to 1996, she served in the UNTAES

mission in the HQ Registry Office. She later served as an interpreter and visit coordinator in the Department of International Relations in the Slovak MOD. She subsequently took part in different PFP International Exercises and Conferences. At the same time, she attended postgraduate studies in International Relations and Diplomacy.

Prior to her appointment, Ingrid was attached to the Public Information Division of the Slovak Ministry of Defence. Currently she is continuing her doctorate studies in the field of diplomacy.



Face Lift for Sector 4 Medical Centre



The new face of Sector 4's Medical Centre

The Medical Centre in Sector 4 took on a new appearance recently, when repairs of a major scale were implemented. The Force Commander, Lt. Gen. Jin Ha Hwang, inaugurated the centre on 10 December during a ceremony attended by the Chief of Staff, Force Medical Officer, Force Hygiene Officer, Force Engineer and CO and DCO Sector 4.

The Medical Centre, named Isak House after an Austrian soldier who was killed in the 1974 troubles, was repaired in the record time of three weeks by Slovak engineers. The new Centre provides in- and out-patient treatment, first aid, medical evacuations (MEDEVACs and CASEVACs), hygiene checks (of food products, storage conditions, etc), cooperation with the local medical authorities and basic medical training for troops stationed with Sector 4.

As Sector 4 Medical Officer Dr. Valastyan said: "These are marvellous moments for us, because our staff's mood and the service we offer depend largely on the working conditions. The renovation of the Medical Centre has made it so much easier for us to provide a better service".

The Cultural Heritage of Cyprus: Part IX

Nea (New) Pafos - Island Capital

Nea Pafos is located on the island's southwest coast, looking out over the Mediterranean, and is this month's destination for The Blue Beret's continuing series on the cultural heritage of Cyprus.

Many of the monuments of Nea Pafos are a living reminder of its importance during Hellenistic, Roman, Byzantine and Crusader times on the island, and in fact UNESCO recognised this in 1980, when it included Nea Pafos on its list of World Cultural Heritage sites.

Today, a large archaeological park near the harbour provides access to many of the sites, while others are scattered through the town.

Throughout the centuries, New Pafos has been known by various names, including Erythrae, Augusta Claudia Flavia (during the Roman Flavian period) and Ktima. It gained its current name of New, or Nea, Pafos to avoid confusion with Old Pafos (Palaepafos), some 16 kilometres to the southeast where the village of Kouklia now stands. It is also called Kato, or lower, Paphos, to distinguish it from present-day Ktima, three kilometres to the northeast.

New Pafos was founded towards the end of the 4th century BC by Nikokles, the last king of the Pafian kingdom, to serve as the kingdom's political and commercial capital. The city gradually grew in importance under the Ptolemies in the Hellenistic period, and by the beginning of the 2nd century BC, it had replaced Salamis as the island's capital. With its harbour and nearby forests (a ready source of lumber), it was a natural choice for both the seat of government and a shipbuilding centre.

Under the Ptolemies, Cyprus was organised as a military command, though Pafos, like the other cities, enjoyed certain forms of liberty: a boule (council), a demos (popular assembly) and a grammateus (city secretary).

The importance of Pafos was such that, along with Salamis and Kition, it preserved the right to issue coins throughout the Ptolemaic period. In fact, the Pafian mint was the most important on the island, and it was the only one still issuing coins in Roman times. A joint organisation called the Koinon Kypriou (the Union of the Cypriots), already functioning under the Ptolemies, continued during the Roman period: its chief functions seem to have been the maintenance of the imperial cult and control of the coinage.

Based on the evidence of inscriptions, it appears that Aphrodite, Zeus, Apollo, Artemis and Leto were worshipped in Nea Pafos, though of these, only the sanctuaries of Apollo and probably Artemis are known.

The town was prosperous and most peaceful during Roman times (58 BC to 395 AD). The status of New Pafos as the capital – a position that it retained until the 4th century AD – is confirmed in the Acts of the Apostles, which describe the visit of St. Paul and St. Barnabas to Pafos, the seat of the Roman pro-consul Sergius Paulus, whom they converted to Christianity (Acts 13: 6-12).

At some time in the 4th century AD, Pafos ceased to be the metropolis of Cyprus, yielding its place to Salamis. This may have been the result of the earthquakes of 332 and 342, when both Pafos and Salamis were badly hit. Salamis was soon rebuilt under the name of Constantia, but Pafos remained in ruins for some time. When it was eventually rebuilt, it never regained its old glory, even though it was the seat of a bishop.

Pafos survived throughout Byzantine and mediaeval times, but only as a provincial town. During the Crusades, many pilgrims rested here before proceeding to the Holy Land. It was on one of these visits, in 1103, that King Eric the Good of Denmark died in Pafos. He was buried at the cathedral near the present church of Ayia Kyriake (or Chrysopolitissa).

What You'll See Today

The Tombs of the Kings

The area of the tombs lies at the northernmost end of the northern necropolis of Pafos. The tombs likely belonged to local aristocracy or officials, not royalty, and owe their name to their impressive character. They consist of an open peristyle (columned) court in the centre, with burial chambers all around. This construction is entirely cut into the rock below ground level, and is entered by a flight of steps, also cut into the rock. The peristyle is Doric in design: each side of the open court is decorated as a temple façade with Doric columns, topped with a frieze of alternating rectangular panels and vertical grooves (metops and triglyphs). Three of the tombs are preserved in good condition, and probably belong to the 3rd century BC.

The Mosaics

The multi-coloured mosaics that originated during the Hellenistic period became very popular during the Roman period in Cyprus. A number of houses northwest of the harbour have been excavated over the past several decades, and have revealed some of the finest mosaics in the eastern Mediterranean. The houses have been named based on the primarily mythological themes depicted in their mosaics – the Houses of Aion, Orpheus, Dionysos and Theseus, for example – although the tesserae, or stone cubes, that form the mosaic patterns also depict animal scenes and intricate geometric patterns. The house of Theseus is notable for its palatial dimensions, and contains elements characteristic of the late Roman Empire's official residences.

The Odeon and the Lighthouse

The odeon in the ancient Greek world was a roofed, semi-circular theatre having the usual auditorium, orchestra and stage building. The Pafos odeon is built entirely of stone. Originally, it had 25 rows that could accommodate an estimated 3,000 spectators. The odeon faces east towards the agora (market place) near the lighthouse, and dates from the 2nd century AD.

Saranda Kolones

Some sources indicate that Saranda Kolones, the Castle of the Forty Columns, was first a Byzantine castle overlooking the harbour, probably built in the third quarter of the 7th century AD to protect the port against Arab raiders. If this is correct, the castle must have stood unoccupied during the long period when Cyprus was demilitarised by agreement between the Arabs and the Byzantines, and would have been reconditioned after the Byzantines recovered full control of the island in 963. Other sources describe the castle's first construction as Lusignan, towards the end of the 12th century.

Regardless of its beginnings, the castle was most certainly named for the numerous broken granite columns that were formerly the site's most prominent feature. (The columns were likely brought from the nearby Roman agora.) Saranda Kolones was one of the castles surrendered to Richard the Lionheart in 1191, and survived in Lusignan times until the earthquakes of 1222 AD destroyed it.

The Mediaeval Castle

This small mediaeval building is located at the base of the western ancient breakwater. It is one of the two "kastellia" or castles that protected the port from the sea, and was built by the Lusignans in the 13th century to replace the Byzantine castle of Saranda Kolones. The nucleus of the fort is a Lusignan tower with a walled yard around it. The Venetians dismantled it in 1570, but the Ottomans restored and strengthened it between 1580 and 1592, after they captured the island.

St. Paul's Pillar

The traditional pillar of St. Paul can be seen at a short distance west of the 15th century church of Ayia Kyriake (Chrysopolitissa). St. Paul visited Nea Pafos in 46 AD. According to legend, he was bound to this pillar and given 39 lashes as punishment for preaching Christianity. The ruins of a 4th century AD, seven-aisled basilica can also be seen here, including green and white marble columns and stretches of mosaics.

The Catacombs

The catacombs of Ayia Solomoni on the east side of the main Pafos road and Ayios Lamprianos on the west side consist of a complex of underground chambers opening onto an open court in imitation of the Tombs of the Kings. The catacomb of Ayia Solomoni underwent further alterations in Byzantine times, when one of its chambers was transformed into a chapel. This was decorated at the beginning of the 12th century AD with interesting fresco paintings; however, these have been badly damaged by rainwater and visitors. Indeed, some of the names scratched onto the walls date back to the 13th century, and include Crusaders.



Nea (New) Pafos

The catacombs



An example of the beautiful mosaics



Pafos Castle



So... What's Your New Year Resolution?

By Charlotte Mortensen

The same thing happens exactly the same time every single year – memberships at health clubs boom in early January and you don't have to look any further than in the Endorphin Club in UNPA for proof. As an avid exerciser myself, more often than not, I find my name as the only one having visited the gym on any given day, except in January and February when I suddenly notice other names appearing on the sign-in list. Then it slows down in March – and by July I am all alone again.

I think we all know what is happening here ... it's the same old new year resolutions of "getting into better shape" or wanting "to lose those extra 5 kg" kicking in. As I said, there are the old serial familiars, figuring as prominently as ever. Like "this year I WILL stop smoking!" (I never hear anyone saying "this year I will stop drinking"). What is that all about? Aren't we talking about unhealthy habits? No, I won't get started on that one, but I am intrigued as to whether people go further and deeper in their more or less sincere New Year Resolutions.

Sooooooo, I opted for one of my usual very thorough statistical surveys and took a walk around the UNPA.

The first two people I met were women and both of them wanted to lose a bit of weight. OK, so I got that classic one out of the way and decided next time to point out that I was not interested in weight loss or exercise routines.

A female colleague of mine told me that this year, she would: "try not to leave till tomorrow things that could be done today". That's a good one we could all learn from.

Then I saw a cute, young-looking soldier and ran over to him. After getting my breath back, I asked him about his New Year Resolution. He looked at me for a very long time, in silence, then pointed to his left ring finger and said: "I'm married". Did he think I was flirting with him, or was he signifying a belief that the married don't make New Year Resolutions? I don't know.

Things were getting tough statistically speaking.

Answers on weight loss and exercise hopes were out. Young men were a no-no, so what was I to do? Ah, solution was coming my way – a woman I know was walking towards me. Would I not be able to get some honest responses out of her? "Hey, did you make any New Year Resolutions this year?" I asked without really letting her know that it was more than just a friendly question (I wonder if she would have been just as honest had she known I was collecting information for a scientific public statistic) because man, oh man, had she thought this one over! We are talking resolutions enough to cover the whole year, from liposuction to spider vein removals (ouch!) to permanent colouring of eyelashes (I thought Michael Jackson was the only one doing permanent make-up these days), better diet, eating out less, listening more



to her children AND getting her husband in better shape.....

I was exhausted. She probably didn't even have time to celebrate New Year's Eve. She must have been sitting with a note pad in front of her writing and writing and writing.

Exhausted as I was, I managed to crawl back to my office, throw myself in to my chair, feeling like I had just done a whole day's work.

Regardless of what sort of resolution you make (if you even bother) I personally feel that there is always room for some sort of reflection on your life – maybe in your mind naming a few goals or dreams you have for yourself.

It doesn't have to be a major change; it doesn't even have to be on New Year's Eve. But it can never hurt to stop for a minute and focus on where you are in life, what you do and what you would like to do better.

I do it every year. However, I find my birthday a more profound start of a new year than the actual turnover of the calendar. But whatever works for you – it's your life – it's your resolution. Give it a thought and maybe decide that 2003 is going to be the best year yet.

Good luck and have a fabulous New Year!

SOUND FAMILIAR?

A major research institution has recently announced the discovery of the heaviest element yet known to science, with an atomic mass of 312. This new element has been tentatively named administratium. Administratium has one neutron, 12 assistant neutrons, 75 deputy neutrons, and 111 assistant deputy neutrons.

These particles are held together by a force called morons, which is surrounded by vast quantities of lepton-like particles called peons. Since administratium has no electrons, it is inert. However, it can be detected, as it impedes every reaction with which it comes into contact. A minute amount of administratium causes one reaction to take more than four days to complete when it would normally take only a few minutes.

Administratium has a normal half-life of three years; it does not decay but instead undergoes a restructure, in which a portion of the assistant neutrons and deputy neutrons and assistant deputy neutrons exchange places and additional peons are added. In fact, administratium's mass will actually increase over time, since each restructure causes some morons to become neutrons forming isodopes. This moron-promotion leads scientists to speculate that administratiums formed whenever morons reach a certain concentration. This hypothetical quantity is referred to as criticalmorass.

Change of Command in Sector 2

Sector 2's command was handed over to 47 Regiment Royal Artillery by 16 Regiment Royal Artillery on 5 December. Pictured right are the two Commanding Officers at the flag ceremony in Wolseley Barracks on 5 December.

The new CO Sector 2 is Lt. Col. Rob Weighill. Educated at Sandhurst, his first posting was in 1982 to 2nd Field Regiment in Munster. He then joined 2nd Regt, which included a tour to Northern Ireland and four deployments to BATUS, Canada. Following postings in Aldershot, Shrivenham, Camberley, and Hong Kong, came a posting to a Rapier Battery, during which time he was deployed to the USA on Exercise Purple Star.

In 1997, he was promoted to Lieutenant Colonel and was posted to the HQ Allied Rapid Reaction Corps, Germany for three years, a tour which included an operational deployment to Macedonia and subsequently Kosovo with HQ KFOR.



Lt. Col. Rob Weighill (left)
taking command from Lt. Col. David Scouller

Lt. Col. Weighill assumed command of 47 Regt in December 2000. He is married to Caroline and they have three children, Louisa, Oliver and Sophia.

His hobbies include skiing, orienteering, shooting and paying school fees.

Visitors to UNFICYP



The R.H. Adam Ingram on the Green Line tour

UNFICYP received a number of visitors over the holidays.

The Right Honourable Adam Ingram JP MP visited 47th Regiment RA in Sector 2 on 19 December. He was taken on a Green Line tour, where he met soldiers and officers on



H.E. Mr. Walter Schwimmer
inspecting the Guard of Honour

to Chief Wlosowicz.

On 8 January, the Secretary-General of the Council of Europe, H.E. Mr. Walter Schwimmer, visited HQ UNFICYP. Following a Guard of Honour inspection, he paid an office call on the Chief of Mission.

On 18 January, a group of graduate students from George Mason University, Virginia, USA, stopped in at UNFICYP as part of their visit to Cyprus. They were given a Green Line tour in Sector 2, and



H.E. Mr. Imre Iváncsik with
the Chief of Mission

then attended briefings by the CCAO and the Spokesperson. Their visit ended with a visit to the Nicosia International Airport.



George Mason University students

ANNOUNCEMENT OF FLAG AND ANTHEM COMPETITIONS

H.E. Mr. Glafcos Clerides, and H.E. Mr. Rauf Denktash, have together asked the United Nations to seek submissions through open public competition for the design of a flag and the composition of an anthem for Cyprus. It is envisaged that the flag and anthem would be part of a comprehensive settlement to be submitted to separate referenda.

The two competitions are open to all people without age restrictions. Joint entries from Greek Cypriots and Turkish Cypriots are particularly welcome.

Entrants are encouraged to bear in mind that both Greek Cypriots and Turkish Cypriots, as equal partners in a new state of affairs, should be able to identify with their flag and anthem. Accordingly, the flag and anthem should reflect a commitment to a common future in a spirit of mutual respect, tolerance and reconciliation in an independent and united Cyprus.

FLAG COMPETITION

Flag entries will be accepted provided they arrive within and not beyond the deadline set in this announcement and that they fully comply with the regulations contained within this announcement.

The following guidelines apply:

- The flag design should be striking, easily recognisable, pleasing to the eye, and simple enough for a child to draw.
- The flag should be rectangular and of the proportions of 2:3.
- Lettering should be avoided.

The following regulations apply:

- Competition entries must be submitted in a sealed envelope as follows:
 - flag design(s) in full colour on an A4 sheet of paper (only one design per sheet). Name and contact details must not be written on the sheet containing the submitted flag design.
 - a separate A4 sheet of paper containing the following information: first and last names, address(es), telephone number(s), date(s) and place(s) of birth of the entrant(s), as well as a reduced copy of the submitted flag design(s) on the same sheet.
 - either an indication of the origin of the design(s) or, in the case of an original design(s), a declaration by the entrant(s) for each such design as follows:
"This is my/our own work. I/we authorise the selection committee to publish or display the design both during and after the competition. If my/our design is selected, I/we authorise its use as the flag of Cyprus without restrictions of time or form, and without claims for royalties or other remuneration."
- If more than one design is submitted, each individual design must be shown on a separate A4 sheet. The designer(s)'s name(s) and contact details must be clearly marked on one or more additional A4 sheets together with reductions of all the designs submitted.
- Flag designs may be accompanied by a brief description (no more than 150 words) of the rationale behind the concept, written on a separate sheet of paper in English, or in Greek or Turkish (with an English translation).
- Once an entry has been submitted, the entrant(s) may not publish, show or use the design in any public display until after the competition has been finalised and a flag selected. Failure to comply with this regulation may result in immediate disqualification.

ANTHEM COMPETITION

This competition is chiefly for music, and not for lyrics. However, lyrics may be included in the entry, preferably in both Greek and Turkish. If an anthem with lyrics is selected, its official version will be in both Greek and Turkish.

Anthem entries will be accepted provided they arrive within and not beyond the deadline set in this announcement and that they fully comply with the regulations contained within this announcement. They may be of any musical genre.

The following guidelines apply:

- The composition should be easily recognisable.
- The length of the composition should be not less than 30 seconds and not more than 60 seconds.

The following regulations apply:

- Competition entries must be submitted in a sealed envelope as follows:
 - a legible copy of the full score, as well as a copy of the piano score
 - a recorded version of the composition (tape, CD or similar)
 - a document containing the following information: first and last names, address(es), telephone number(s), date(s) and place(s) of birth of the entrant(s)
 - either an indication of the origin of the composition(s) or, in the case of an original composition(s), a declaration by the entrant(s) for each such composition as follows:
"This is my/our own work. I/we authorise the selection committee to publish or perform the composition both during and after the competition. If my/our composition is selected, I/we authorise its use as the anthem of Cyprus without restrictions of time or form, and without claims for royalties or other remuneration."
"I/we also forego the right to perform or use my/our submitted score(s) in any way whatsoever for 3 months from the day immediately after the announcement of the selected composition."
- Any lyrics must be provided in either Greek or Turkish, preferably both. An English translation must also be provided.
- Anthem compositions may be accompanied by a brief description (no more than 150 words) of the inspiration behind the composition, written on a separate sheet of paper in English, or in Greek or Turkish (with an English translation).
- Once an entry has been submitted, the entrant(s) may not perform or use the composition in any public way until 3 months after the competition has been finalised and an anthem selected. Failure to comply with this regulation may result in immediate disqualification.

Entries for both competitions must be received no later than 5.00 p.m. (Nicosia time) on 17 February 2003.

Competition entries may be posted in a plain envelope clearly marked as follows:

Flag and Anthem Competition

P.O. Box 27684, 2432 Nicosia

Alternatively, competition entries may be submitted in person, Monday to Friday between 27 January and 17 February from 9.00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. (Nicosia time), at the following address:

4b Korytsas St., Ayios Andreas 1107 Nicosia, Tel: 22 773 972

Participation in the competitions implies the full acceptance of these regulations. Failure to observe these regulations may result in the disqualification of an entry.

Bilateral committees comprising an equal number of Greek Cypriots and Turkish Cypriots and chaired by the United Nations will examine the flag designs and anthem scores entered in accordance with the provisions and terms of this announcement. They will make recommendations by consensus to the two leaders for their consideration from among the entries received.

Entrants whose flag design or anthem composition are ultimately selected for inclusion in the comprehensive settlement will be advised by registered letter. They will also receive recognition through public announcement, but they will not receive any financial remuneration from the competition organisers.

Questions pertaining to either competition can be addressed by electronic mail to: info@flagandanthem.com

The competition organisers will not accept responsibility or liability for any legal action arising from the submission of plagiarised materials, or otherwise arising from the conduct of the competition.