

CFAMM STATEMENT ON CYPRUS - 2023

The Commonwealth member states, having been briefed by the Foreign Minister of Cyprus, reaffirm herewith the status of Varosha as set out in relevant UN Security Council Resolutions, including Resolutions 550 (1984), 789 (1992) and 2674 (2023). We express deep regret regarding unilateral actions that run contrary to previous UNSC resolutions and statements on Varosha and reiterate the call made by the UN Security Council and most recently by our Heads of Government in Kigali in June 2022 for the immediate reversal of this course of action and of all steps taken on Varosha since October 2020. In this regard, we fully support and reiterate the call made by the UN Security Council in its Presidential Statements S/PRST/2021/13 of 23 July 2021 condemning the announcement in Cyprus by Turkish and Turkish Cypriot leaders and S/PRST/2020/9 of 9 October 2020 following the announcement in Ankara. We underscore the importance of full respect and implementation of UN Security Council Resolutions and take due note of the Security Council's caution in its most recent Resolution 2674 (2023) against any further actions in relation to Varosha that are not in accordance with its resolutions, emphasising that any further unilateral action may prompt its response. We support the commitment reaffirmed by the UN Security Council and our Heads of Government to an enduring, comprehensive and just settlement in accordance with the wishes of the Cypriot people and based on a bicommunal, bizonal federation with political equality, as set out in relevant Security Council resolutions. We note that UN Security Council Resolution 2674 (2023) urges all sides to step up their efforts to promote intercommunal contacts, intra-island trade, reconciliation, and active engagement of civil society. We recall CHOGM Communiqués and reaffirm our full and enduring support for the sovereignty, independence, territorial integrity and unity of the Republic of Cyprus. We reiterate our support for the resumption of negotiations, under the auspices of the UN Secretary General's Good Offices Mission, for a comprehensive settlement of the Cyprus problem based on the UN Charter and the UN Security Council's Resolutions on Cyprus.