

108TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. CON. RES. 79

Expressing support for a peaceful, just, and lasting settlement to the Cyprus problem.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MARCH 6, 2003

Mr. BEREUTER submitted the following concurrent resolution; which was referred to the Committee on International Relations

CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

Expressing support for a peaceful, just, and lasting settlement to the Cyprus problem.

Whereas the United States believes there exists a historic opportunity to bring a peaceful, just, and lasting settlement to the Cyprus problem, to the benefit of all people of Cyprus and the wider region;

Whereas a resolution of the Cyprus problem is consistent with American values of promoting stability, freedom, and democracy in the world;

Whereas a resolution of the Cyprus problem is in the strategic interests of the United States, given the important location of Cyprus at the crossroads of Europe, Africa, and Asia;

Whereas the United States strongly supports the efforts of the office of the United Nations Secretary General to achieve a comprehensive settlement with respect to Cyprus in full consideration with relevant United Nations Security Council resolutions and international treaties;

Whereas a just and lasting resolution of the Cyprus problem, in full consideration of United Nations Security Council resolutions and international treaties, must safeguard the security and fundamental rights of all the population of Cyprus;

Whereas the United Nations Secretary General, Kofi Annan, on November 11, 2002, submitted a proposal for the comprehensive settlement of the Cyprus problem, referred to as the “Basis for an Agreement on a Comprehensive Settlement of the Cyprus problem”, which he revised on December 10, 2002;

Whereas negotiations between the two sides, which had been ongoing, were encouraged to intensify their efforts in order that that full agreement could be reached by February 28, 2003, in conformity with the timetable proposed by the United Nations Secretary General in his proposals;

Whereas United Nations Secretary General Koffi Annan again on February 26, 2003, gave the two leaders on Cyprus, and the guarantor powers, the United Kingdom, Greece and Turkey, a second revision of his plan in order to accommodate input from both sides;

Whereas the revised plan is the result of exhaustive efforts by the United Nations and would lead to a peaceful, just and lasting settlement of the longstanding division of Cyprus;

Whereas the Secretary General on February 28, 2003, at the conclusion of a productive trip to Turkey, Greece, and Cyprus, invited the 2 leaders to meet with him at The Hague on March 10, 2003, the purpose of the meeting being to sign a commitment to submit the plan to approval in separate, simultaneous referenda on March 30, 2003, in order to achieve a comprehensive settlement of the Cyprus problem, and the guarantor powers were also invited to attend the meeting and to sign the commitment; and

Whereas both leaders on Cyprus agreed to attend the meeting at The Hague, the Secretary General stated, upon his departure from Cyprus on February 28, 2003, “if one party or the other says no [to a referenda] there should be no doubt that we are at the end of the road . . . [a] lot of effort has gone into [a settlement] and I am not sure this opportunity will come again soon, if it ever comes again”: Now, therefore, be it

1 *Resolved by the House of Representatives (the Senate*
 2 *concurring), That Congress—*

3 (1) appreciates the efforts of the United Na-
 4 tions Secretary General to seek a peaceful, just, and
 5 lasting settlement of the Cyprus problem for the
 6 benefit of the people of Cyprus and the region;

7 (2) urges the Greek Cypriot and Turkish Cyp-
 8 riot sides, as well as the guarantor powers, the
 9 United Kingdom, Greece and Turkey, to agree to
 10 sign the commitment to put in place the Secretary

1 General's plan to separate, simultaneous referenda
2 on the island on March 30, 2003;

3 (3) expresses its view that the referenda must
4 be carried out in a transparent and fair manner so
5 that the will of the people of Cyprus can be demo-
6 cratically expressed; and

7 (4) urges the people of Cyprus to participate in
8 the referenda and to vote in support of the United
9 Nations plan for a comprehensive settlement of the
10 Cyprus problem in order to bring a peaceful, just
11 and lasting settlement which will benefit all people
12 of Cyprus.

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