



COUNCIL CONSEIL
OF EUROPE DE L'EUROPE

Strasbourg, 27 October 2006

ACFC/SR/II(2006)006

[English only]

**SECOND REPORT SUBMITTED BY CYPRUS
PURSUANT TO ARTICLE 25, PARAGRAPH 1
OF THE FRAMEWORK CONVENTION
FOR THE PROTECTION OF NATIONAL MINORITIES**

(received on 27 October 2006)

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PART I - INTRODUCTION

1. The Republic of Cyprus deposited its instrument of ratification of the *Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities* on 4 June 1996, following the approval of the Convention by the House of Representatives by Law No. 28(III)/1995. Pursuant to Article 169.3 of the Cyprus Constitution, the *Framework Convention*, having been published in the Official Gazette of the Republic and concluded in accordance with the said Article of the Constitution, is incorporated into the domestic law and takes precedence over any other domestic law.

2. Pursuant to Article 25, para. 1 of the *Framework Convention*, the Initial Periodic Report on the Application of the Framework Convention in Cyprus was submitted on 1 March 1999 (hereinafter the “Initial Report”), the Opinion on Cyprus of the Advisory Committee on the Framework Convention was adopted on 6 February 2001 (hereinafter the “Opinion”) and the Committee of Ministers’ Resolution Res CMN (2002)3 was adopted on 21 February 2002 (hereinafter the “Committee of Ministers’ Resolution”). Hence, the present Report is the Second Periodic Report of Cyprus (hereinafter “the present Report”) covering the results of the first monitoring cycle of the implementation of the *Framework Convention* by Cyprus and the measures taken by the Cypriot Authorities in the light of the Opinion of the Advisory Committee and the issues raised in the Committee of Ministers’ Resolution as well as the Questionnaire of the Advisory Committee for the State Report to be submitted by Cyprus in the second monitoring cycle of the Framework Convention.

3. The present Report has been prepared by the Law Commissioner of the Republic who, pursuant to a Decision of the Council of Ministers, is entrusted with ensuring compliance of Cyprus’ reporting obligations under international human rights instruments. The information and data, on the basis of which the present document was compiled, was provided by the Ministry of the Interior, the competent authority for the implementation of the Framework Convention, and Ministries competent for the specific matter (i.e. the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Ministry of Education and Culture, and the Statistical Service), as well as the Law Office of the Republic. Information was also obtained from the Representatives of the religious groups in Cyprus, namely the Armenians, the Maronites and the Latins and their respective Offices. The present Report was communicated to the National Institution for the Protection of Human Rights, which is chaired by the Law Commissioner and comprises representatives from all Government and Public Sector institutions, as well as NGOs dealing with human rights issues, professional associations including the Press Council and the University of Cyprus. It will also be communicated upon submission to the Representatives of the religious groups. Furthermore, the present Report will be translated into the national official languages and will be disseminated.

4. The present Report was due by 1 February 2004. It is deeply regretted that there has been a considerable delay in the submission of its Second Periodic Report. It is indeed an anomaly and a paradox that, despite the Government’s firm commitment in pursuing policies that all persons, including those belonging to national minorities, enjoy full and effective equality of rights and fundamental freedoms and benefit from the rule of law and democratic institutions, obligations in submitting reports (such as the present Report) may experience occasional delays due exclusively to bureaucratic deficiencies encountered in small administrations with limited resources which may hamper their reporting capacity.

5. During the period under review, Cyprus has submitted its Initial Periodic Report on the implementation of the European Charter for Regional or Minority Languages, (MIN – LANG/PR (2005) 1) and received the Report of the Committee of Experts on the Charter together with the Recommendation of the Committee of Ministers of 27 September 2006, (ECRML (2006) 3). During the preparation of the Report on the Charter, continuous consultations with the religious groups took place aiming at the safeguarding and promotion of their interests. This procedure will now be further enhanced in view of the Recommendation of the Committee of Ministers of 27 September 2006.

6. Furthermore, during the period under consideration, there have been monitoring visits to Cyprus from the Office of the Commissioner of Human Rights, ECRI, CPT, the Youth Committee, the Language Education and Policy Division, to name a few. All these monitoring processes support the efforts of the Government to pursue its policies and measures for the protection of the minorities in Cyprus.

7. Since the Initial Report, a significant development concerning minority rights and their protection took place in Europe. On 1 May 2004, ten new Member States joined the European Union, amongst them the Republic of Cyprus. This development coupled with the forthcoming accession of two new Member States to the EU on 1 January 2007, namely Bulgaria and Romania, will in no doubt, have a beneficial effect on the enhancement of the rights and protection of minorities throughout Europe. This is expected to lead to an improved cooperation among the European Union, the Council of Europe and the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE) on the matter.

PART II – GENERAL REMARKS ON THE OPINION AND ANSWERS TO THE QUESTIONNAIRE

8. The Government appreciates the fact that the Advisory Committee recognises the Constitutional difficulties in taking certain measures to remedy situations incompatible with the *Framework Convention* for which constitutional amendments would be required. In particular, the Government appreciates the fact that the Advisory Committee notes in the Opinion "...that the Constitution of Cyprus is exceptional in at least two respects, firstly that it was not adopted by the people of Cyprus but is a result of international agreements (the Zurich/London Agreements of 1959) to which Cyprus was not party (a "given" Constitution) and secondly that a number of provisions of the Constitution are rendered unchangeable: according to Article 182 of the Constitution, certain provisions are indeed considered "basic" and cannot, in any way, be amended. This state of affairs is guaranteed by three other states, Greece, Turkey and the United Kingdom. Another major element of an exceptional nature is the *de facto* situation on the island, with a substantial part of the country not being under Government control. Another aspect to bear in mind is that the international community is engaged in finding an overall solution for the situation of Cyprus which, it is expected, will include the adoption of a new Constitution. For these reasons the Advisory Committee recognizes that it could be inappropriate to initiate a review, at this stage, of the Constitution in terms of national minorities..."

9. Though the Government does not subscribe to the view that there are parts of the Constitution that can never be amended, it does consider that in view of its ongoing efforts to find a solution to the Cyprus problem, it is inappropriate at this stage, to initiate amendments of the Constitution relating to national minorities.

10. Despite the above, in an effort to comply with the requirements of the Framework Convention in the light of the Opinion, a number of legislative measures to the extent compatible with the present constitutional framework, have been adopted during the period under review.

11. The Government of the Republic of Cyprus regrets that due to the continuing illegal occupation and effective control of 37% of its territory by Turkish military forces, it is unable to ensure the enjoyment of the rights provided for in the *Framework Convention* in the whole of its territory and that, therefore, it is also deprived of its ability to apply the provisions of the *Framework Convention* to those living in the part of the country under foreign occupation. Due to this situation, no reliable information and data are available regarding the enjoyment of the relevant rights by the Cypriot population living in the area that is not under Government control. Therefore, all information presented in the present Report concerns the Government controlled areas.

12. It is earnestly hoped that a just and viable solution will soon be achieved and that the next Periodic Report of Cyprus will provide information and data for the whole of the territory of the Republic of Cyprus.

13. The Government stresses its continuous commitment to policies, legislation and practices ensuring the implementation of the Framework Convention.

PART III – MAIN PART

I. MEASURES TAKEN AT NATIONAL LEVEL FOR FOLLOWING UP THE RESULTS OF THE FIRST MONITORING CYCLE ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE CONVENTION.

A. Specific comments in respect of Articles 1 -19

Article 1

14. Since the submission of the Initial Report, Cyprus has become a party to a number of international human rights instruments. These include Protocols No. 12, 13 and 14 to the *Convention for the Protection of Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms* (CETS No. 177, 187 and 194, respectively), the 1999 *Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Elimination of all Forms of Discrimination against Women*, the 2000 *Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child, on the Sale of Children, Child Prostitution and Child Pornography*, etc., to name a few.

A comprehensive List of international human rights instruments to which Cyprus is a party is appended to the present Report. **(Appendix I)**

Article 3

(Re para. 20 of the Opinion)

15. (1) The Representative of the Latins in the House of Representatives expressed the view that the term “Latins” does not properly reflect the essential element of their Roman Catholic rite and requested a change of the name to “Latin Roman Catholic Religious Group”. This issue was discussed, within the framework of the dialogue with the Co-ordinator (see PART IV, paras 63-64 below), at meetings chaired by the Minister and/or the Permanent Secretary of the Ministry of the Interior. On 27.9.2004, the Attorney General of the Republic advised the Ministry of the Interior that the proposed change of the name does not amount to an amendment of the Constitution of Cyprus. The change could be implemented with an amendment of laws where reference is made to the religious groups recognised by the Constitution. Thus, in December 2004, a proposal to that effect was submitted to the Council of Ministers for approval.

(2) The Council of Ministers, at its meeting on 20.1.2005, whilst recognising the need to respect and strengthen the identity of the Latins, decided to postpone its decision so that time is given for further examination of the matter because the request had been associated by the Representative of the Latins with other issues that presented constitutional difficulties.

(Re para. 21 of the Opinion)

16. The general legal obligation to vote in elections applies to every citizen of the Republic. At this stage the Cyprus Government is not ready to address this issue. However, it should be noted that, since 2001, nobody has been prosecuted for not exercising his /her voting right.

(Re para. 22 of the Opinion)

17. (1) With regard to the existence of other groups, namely Roma Cypriot Gypsies, that might be covered by the Framework Convention, it is clarified that within the framework of the

1960 Constitution of the Republic of Cyprus, the Cypriot Gypsies (Athigganoi/Tsigganoi) living in Cyprus were automatically deemed to be citizens of the Republic, members of the Turkish Community, as they fell within the definition of Article 2 paragraph (2) thereof, which reads:

“For the purposes of this Constitution-

(1)

(2) the Turkish Community comprises all citizens of the Republic who are of Turkish origin and whose mother tongue is Turkish or who share the Turkish cultural traditions or who are Moslems;”

(2) In 1960 the number of Athigganoi/Tsigganoi living in Cyprus was 502¹. The precise number of Cypriot Gypsies at present is not known to the Authorities, since they moved in 1974 to the Turkish occupied areas.

(3) In recent years, Cypriot Gypsies, accompanied by their families have crossed to the Government controlled areas in search of better living conditions, job opportunities, and, as asserted, to escape discrimination to which they are subjected in the occupied part populated nowadays in majority by settlers from mainland Turkey and Turkish Cypriots constitute a minority.

(4) Cypriot Gypsies are afforded by the State welfare benefits to which they are entitled to as Cypriot citizens, such as, basic housing, health care, schooling for the children² and a monthly allowance to care for their basic needs until employed.

(5) Although precise figures are not available, it is estimated that 620-650 Cypriot Gypsies reside in the Government controlled area: 83 Gypsy families (360 persons) reside in the Limassol District and 73 Gypsy families (259 persons) reside in the Pafos District.

(6) In the Limassol District the vast majority of Cypriot Gypsies reside in Turkish Cypriot houses. In the Pafos District the vast majority of Cypriot Gypsies reside in Makounta, Stavrokonnou and Chrysochou villages.

(7) In 2005 the repairs/improvements for 20 Turkish Cypriot houses inhabited by Cypriot Gypsies in the Limassol District cost CYP80.000.

(8) The Government of Cyprus has also created two housing projects, one in Limassol and the other in Pafos, consisting of 16 and 24 prefabricated housing units respectively, for the Cypriot Gypsies. The aforementioned housing units are equipped with all basic amenities such as water (drinking water incl.) and electricity supply, telephone line installation, sewage etc. The cost for the 16 prefabricated housing units in Limassol amounted to CYP 320.675.

(9) In 2003, the cost for the housing project in Pafos together with the repairs for 3 Turkish Cypriot houses inhabited by Cypriot Gypsies amounted to CYP270.000. Furthermore, in 2004 the Government of Cyprus paid CYP80.000 for the repairs/improvements for 10 Turkish Cypriot houses where Cypriot Gypsies reside.

Article 4

¹ Source: Statistical Service of the Republic. Census of Population 11.12.1960

² The Ministry of the Interior in order to encourage school attendance by Gypsy children subsidizes their school meals, school uniforms, school books and stationery etc. Cypriot-Gypsies' children, who are Turkish speaking, receive education in Turkish.

(Re paras 23-26 of the Opinion)

18. Following the Advisory Committee's Opinion, Cyprus has enacted important primary anti-discrimination legislation in the context of its harmonization with European Union acquis, which covers matters highlighted in the Opinion.

19. (1) Legislation enacted for harmonizing with Council Directive 2000/43 on the implementation of the principle of equal treatment irrespective of racial or ethnic origin, (**The Equal Treatment (Racial or Ethnic Origin) Law, 2004 – Law 59(I)/2004**) prohibits discrimination on any of the above grounds, in both public and private sectors, in matters of social protection, health treatment, social services, education, and access to goods and services. Violation of the provisions of the Law constitutes a criminal offence. The person who has been discriminated against is afforded the right to institute civil proceedings for compensation covering both pecuniary and non-pecuniary damage. In such a case if facts are proved from which it may be presumed that there has been contravention of the Law the burden shifts on the respondent to prove that there has been no such contravention. This statutory right is additional to the right established by case-law, to institute civil proceedings for recovery of just and reasonable compensation for human rights violations (see below para.21).

(2) On 12 September 2006 a bill amending Law 59(I)/2004 was laid before the House of Representatives for enactment the end of October 2006. The aim of the bill is to comply with the European Commission's recommendations as regards proper transposition into national legislation of the Racial Equality Directive (par.1 of article 8 of Directive No.2000/43/EC).

20. Legislation enacted for harmonizing with Council Directive 2000/78, (**The Equal Treatment in Employment and Occupation Law, 2004 – Law 58(I)/2004**) prohibits discrimination specifically in the spheres of employment and occupation on the grounds, of racism or ethnic origin, religion or beliefs, age, disability or sexual orientation, and contains provisions similar to those of Law 59(I)/2004 (see para. 19 above). This Law prohibits all forms of discrimination (direct, indirect, harassment, instruction to discriminate) in all areas covered by the Directive (access to employment, working conditions, access to vocational training etc.). It also covers the issues of positive actions, reversal of burden of proof and protection against victimization. Access to justice is safeguarded through actions for damages to the District Court or the Labour Court as well as access to an Independent Body for investigation of complaints. Criminal liability also exists for infringement of certain provisions of the law. Finally, there are provisions for reporting to the European Commission for the enforcement of the legislation.

21. In addition to the enactment of primary anti-discrimination legislation as above, there were case-law developments since the Opinion. It was established by case-law in 2001 (by Judgment of the Supreme Court of Cyprus in the Case of *Yiallourou v. Evgenios Nicolaou*), that violation of human rights is an actionable right which can be pursued in civil courts against those perpetrating the violation, for recovering from them, inter-alia, just and reasonable compensation for pecuniary and non-pecuniary damage suffered as a result. The result is, that a person who, on grounds of, inter alia, race, community, colour, religion, language, political or other beliefs, or national origin, is discriminated against, whether directly or indirectly, in the enjoyment of human rights and freedoms guaranteed by the Cyprus Constitution, (Part II of its provisions largely reproducing those of the European Convention of Human Rights) can sue the State or private persons for damages and or other appropriate civil law remedies, for violating his constitutional right (under Article 28 of the Constitution, safeguarding the right to non-discrimination and equal treatment) to enjoy the above rights and freedoms without such discrimination. The resulting remedy is additional, and of wider ambit than the statutory one

concerning violation of the provisions of the **Equal Treatment (Racial or Ethnic Origin) Law, 2004 (Law 59(I)/2004)** (see para. 19 above).

22. (1) Another law instrumental in combating discrimination, is **The Combating of Racism and Other Discrimination (Commissioner) Law, 2004 (Law 42(I)/2004)**, which vests the Commissioner for Administration, (“Ombudsman”) – an independent Officer - with special competences, duties, and powers for combating and eliminating discrimination in both public and private sectors.

(2) Under its provisions, any person or group may lodge a complaint to the Ombudsman for having been subjected to discrimination prohibited by any law, such as by the primary anti-discrimination laws referred to in paras 19 and 20 above.

(3) The complaint may be one of discrimination (based on community, race, language, colour, religion, political or other beliefs and national or ethnic origin) in the enjoyment of rights and freedoms safeguarded by the Cyprus Constitution or any of the human rights instruments ratified by Cyprus. Relevant instruments are specified in the law but the list is non-exhaustive. The result is that, a complaint can also be lodged as to discrimination in the enjoyment of the rights and liberties guaranteed by the European Convention for Human Rights (and all its Protocols including Protocol No.12), the Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities, the International Convention for the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination, the Covenant for Civil and Political Rights, the Convention Against Torture and Inhuman and Degrading Treatment or Punishment, the European Charter for Regional or Minority Languages and any other international or regional human rights instrument ratified by the Republic.

(4) The discrimination complained of may have been perpetrated by some treatment or conduct or the application of a provision, term, criterion or practice which may be specifically prohibited by law as discriminatory (for example under the provisions of primary anti-discrimination legislation) or which may constitute direct or indirect discrimination in the enjoyment of any of the rights and freedoms safeguarded by the Constitution and any human rights instruments as above. The Ombudsman can, thus, supervise the implementation not only of primary anti-discrimination, but also of the enjoyment without discrimination of the human rights provisions of the Constitution and any human rights instrument.

(5) The Law covers discriminatory provisions / terms / criteria / practices, which may be found in, inter alia, contracts of employment, collective agreements, articles of association of legal persons, societies, bodies, and institutions, contracts for the supply of goods and services, and terms of membership of organizations, including professional ones.

(6) In case of a finding of discrimination (following an investigation into the complaint), the Ombudsman is empowered to order the person or authority responsible to pay a fine, and/or to address recommendations to them to take specific practical measures, for putting an end to, or not repeating, the relevant treatment or conduct or application of the specific provision/term/criterion/practice, not only vis-a-vis the complainant, but also vis-a-vis all persons who are, or may find themselves in a similar situation.

(7) The Ombudsman can also carry out investigations ex proprio motu into incidents of discrimination, and also examine, following requests from persons or groups, whether some treatment or conduct or application of a provision / term / criterion / practice contemplated by them, constitutes discrimination. Among those who can lodge such requests are NGOs, organizations, associations, committees, societies, trade unions, funds, municipal councils and mayors, and public utility corporations/bodies. In such cases the Ombudsman can make

suggestions to the person or group as to alternative treatment/conduct, or abolition/substitution of the provision / term / criterion / practice.

(8) Findings and reports made by the Ombudsman, when involving discriminatory provisions/terms/criteria/practices found in legislation, must be communicated to the Republic's legal adviser, the Attorney-General, who is by the Constitution an independent Officer of the State. The Attorney-General will, thus, under the expressed provisions of the Law, be advising the State on the adoption of appropriate legislative/administrative measures, taking into account the Republic's international/treaty obligations and the Court's case-law, and prepare at the same time legislation for abolishing/substituting the relevant legislative provision.

(9) The Ombudsman also has power to prepare and publish Codes of Practice concerning any activity of a public authority or person in the private sector, obliging them to take practical measures specified in the Code, aimed at inter alia promoting equality of opportunity irrespective of community, racial, national or ethnic origin, religion, language, and colour. The Ombudsman has a duty to carry out surveys and statistics, including into activities as above, and to have regular contacts and consultations, and bring together, persons and groups in the public and private sector, of different or conflicting interests, so as to promote understanding, and finding agreements and consensual solutions. *See also Article 6 (para. 31) below.*

23. The Ministry of Justice and Public Order, in collaboration with the Law Office of the Republic, is currently considering the introduction of provisions in domestic legislation enabling the racist motives of the offender to be taken into account as an aggravating factor in sentencing.

24. In relation to civil marriages between members of the Greek and the Turkish community, remedial legislation was enacted on the advice of the Attorney-General, first in 2002, (Law 46(I)/2002) and then in 2003 (**The Application of the Marriage Law 2003 to Members of the Turkish Community (Temporary Provisions) Law, 2003 – Law 120(I)/2003**) in the context of reaching friendly settlement in an individual recourse concerning the matter (Friendly Settlement Judgment of 16.7.02 in the case of *Selim v. Cyprus*). Under the said legislation, pending the abnormal situation, members of the Turkish Community can now (since 2002) contract civil marriages in the Government controlled area of the island. These, like all civil marriages, are performed by Mayors acting as marriage officers under the **Marriage Law, 2003 (Law 104(I)/2003)** the Law governing civil marriage in Cyprus. Under that Law, members of the Turkish Community can also have a religious marriage ceremony, performed by a registered minister of the religion, sect, or body, to which the parties belong.

25. In the light of the Advisory Committee's Opinion (under Article 4 and 15 of the Framework Convention) to afford Turkish Cypriots the right to vote, a bill was tabled before the House of Representatives. Following the finding, on 27 June 2004, by the European Court of Human Rights of a violation of the right to free elections safeguarded by Article 3 of Protocol No.1 to the European Convention for Human Rights, alone and in conjunction with Article 14, in that the applicant, a Turkish Cypriot living in the Government controlled area of the Republic, was precluded under the electoral laws and the Constitution from registering in the Electoral Roll and exercising the right to vote in the Parliamentary elections of 27 May 2001, the original bill was replaced by a bill prepared, on the advice of the Attorney-General, in execution of that judgment, which was enacted and came into force on 10.2.06 (**The Exercise of the Right to Elect and Stand for Election of Members of the Turkish Community who have their Ordinary Residence in the Government Controlled Area of the Republic (Temporary Provisions) Law, 2006 – Law 2(I)/2006**). By virtue of this Law, Turkish Cypriot citizens, who have their ordinary residence in the Government controlled area, have the right to register in the

Electoral Roll and participate in all elections, including parliamentary, presidential, municipal and other local elections. The Law covers the right to vote and also to stand as a candidate.

26. As regards the National Institution for the Protection of Human Rights, it is expected that a bill will be laid before the Parliament early next year, providing for the evolution of the existing national human rights institution to a National Commission of Human Rights compatible with the “Paris Principles” as adopted by Resolution 48/134 of the General Assembly of the United Nations on national institutions for the promotion and protection of human rights of 20 December 1993, and Recommendation No.R (97) 14 of the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe for the establishment of the independent national institutions for the promotion and protection of human rights of 20 September 1997.

(Re para. 27 of the Opinion)

27. (1) According to information received by the Statistical Service of the Republic there were approximately 4800 Cypriot Maronites, 2600 Cypriot Armenians and 900 Cypriot Latins living in the Government controlled territory of Cyprus on 31.12.2004. Around 150 Cypriot Maronites, out of the 4800, live in Maronite villages in the territory that is not under the control of the Government.

(2) The Statistical Service does not solely rely on the Census of Population to assess the size of the national minorities, as it recognizes that they are underreported in a Census. It bases its estimates on the number of registered voters, as indeed all persons aged 18 and over are included in the electoral register and have the possibility to vote in the parliamentary elections as well as for the election of their special representative in the House of Representatives.

(3) Statistical data on the school population at all levels of education collected annually also provide information on the size of minority groups within the educational system. The above statistics will be supplemented annually with information extracted from the Civil Register concerning births and deaths.

Article 5

(Re para. 29 of the Opinion)

28. (1) According to statistical data provided by the Statistical Service of the Republic for the year 2004, the total number of the Maronites living in the Government controlled area is 4.650 persons. The number of Cypriot Maronites who live permanently in the occupied territory totals 150.

(2) The Cypriot Government pays particular attention to the promotion of the conditions necessary for the Maronites to maintain and develop the essential elements of their identity. The opening of the crossing points on the Green Line has facilitated the freedom of movement of the Maronite community. The Maronites maintain free and frequent contacts with members of their community living in the occupied part of Cyprus. About 500 Maronites from the Government controlled area visit their villages every weekend. In the territory, which is not under the control of the Government, there are 4 Maronite villages, namely: Kormakitis, Karpasha, Asomatos and Agia Marina, the last now being a Turkish military camp and thus not inhabited.

(3) In order to facilitate links between Cypriot Maronites living in the Government controlled territory and those living in the territory that is not under its control, the Government of Cyprus, provides the following:

- Free transportation twice a week to all Maronites living in the territory not under the control of the Government in order to visit their children or other family members and in order to seek medical care.
- Free housing in the Government Refugee Housing Estates to the Maronites who live permanently in the territory not under the control of the Government in order to visit their children who attend school in the Government controlled area and in order to seek medical care (upon application).
- Free food supplies once a week.
- Government aid for the repairs of -

- (i) houses, Maronite churches and cemeteries in the occupied territory,
- (ii) the transport network (roads) and water supply in Kormakitis.

(4) Furthermore, the Government Budget provides funds for tuition subsidies (primary and secondary education), for the purchase of books and for an annual grant of CYP 25.000 to the Maronite Church as well as for the payment of priests' salaries. It should also be noted that CYP 500.000 was allocated for the repair and improvement of the houses of enclaved persons in the occupied area according to the State Budget for 2006.

(5) In relation to the Cypriot Maronite Arabic, the authorities will duly examine the Recommendation of the Committee of Experts under the European Charter of Regional or Minority Languages of 27 September 2007.

(6) On 1st June 2006, the Council of Ministers decided to increase the subsidies for Latin, Armenian and Maronite students attending their "national" private schools, as from the school year 2005-2006, and for a period of at least 5 school years, as follows:

Terra Santa Nicosia (Latins and Maronites):

Kindergarten – The subsidy of CYP120 yearly per student remains the same.

Primary School (1st -6th Class) - From CYP600 to CYP700 yearly per student.

Secondary School (1st -8th Class) - From CYP1.000 to CYP1.600 yearly per student.

St. Mary's School Limassol (Latins and Maronites):

1st-3rd Class - From CYP800 to CYP 900 yearly per student.

4th-5th Class - From CYP800 to CYP 1.000 yearly per student.

6th Class - From CYP800 to CYP 1.100 yearly per student.

(7) Other than the above private secondary schools, the subsidy of CYP 450 for Maronite, Armenian and Latin students attending private secondary schools (1st-6th Class) remained the same.

(8) It was also decided that as of 1.1.2007, the Maronite, Armenian and Latin students that attend secondary schools (private and public) shall be offered additional afternoon classes on their religion, culture, history, civilisation and language in specified public schools in each district.

(9) It should also be noted that the Melkonian Educational Institute, (“national” secondary education school for the Armenians), has closed down as from the academic year 2005-2006³. The Government of Cyprus has decided to operate the Armenian Secondary School at the NAREG Armenian School (pending the Melkonian issue). As this will be done at stages, eleven Melkonian pupils who should attend the 2nd and 3rd forms enrolled in other private schools. On 31.8.2006, the Council of Ministers decided that the Government would undertake the cost of their education until their graduation.

(10) It has been standard practice to fully subsidize Turkish Cypriot pupils who reside at the Government controlled area, to attend the English School (a private secondary school with very high fees). For Turkish Cypriot pupils who reside in the territory that is not under the control of the Government and wish to attend this school, a lump sum of CYP 20.000 is allotted towards their fees. The subsidy is given regardless the financial status of the pupils’ parents⁴.

See also “In respect of Article 5” (para. 47) below.

Article 6

(Re para. 30 of the Opinion)

29. (1) The measures listed below aim to further support the Turkish Cypriots, the Maronites, the Armenians and the Latins and sensitize pupils, educationists and the broader public, on the issue of difference and promote tolerance, understanding and cooperation:

- The syllabus of the History of Cyprus includes texts and illustrations on the history of the Maronite, the Armenian and the Latin religious communities.
- The St. Maronas School established in 2001, offers extra curricular lessons on the Cyprus Arabic Maronite language as well as Maronite history and traditions.
- The Armenian School NAREG, pre-primary, primary and secondary is fully funded by the State. The Government also provides books in the Armenian language free of charge and pays for a teacher of Armenian dances.
- In the implementation of the Agreement on Co-operation in the Fields of Culture, Education and Science between the Government of the Republic of Cyprus and the Government of the Republic of Armenia, occasionally various groups are visiting Cyprus. In 2005, the Armenian State Philharmonic Orchestra was invited and performed at the “Cypria” Festival. In 2005, Aristophanes play “Nefeles” was staged by the State Theatre of Yerevan at the Pafos Ancient Drama Festival. Performances by the Armenian State Dance Ensemble took place in September 2005 at the “Cypria” Festival.
- In general, festivals, such as the annual “Cypria”, offer a range of performances which reflect Cultural diversity. The Cultural Services of the Ministry of Education and Culture subsidize each year various programmes and activities of the Armenians and cooperate

³ The decision to close down the school was taken by the Central Board of the Armenian General Benevolent Union (A.G.B.U), at its headquarters in U.S.A. The Government had made every possible effort to prevent this. See also answer to Question 49 in “Answers to Comments/Questions submitted to the Government of Cyprus regarding its Initial Periodical Report” on the European Charter for Regional or Minority Languages, submitted by Cyprus in July 2005, and Report of the Committee of Experts ECRML (2006)3, paras, 63 and 88-92

⁴ The practice does not apply to Greek-Cypriot pupils.

with them for their implementation.

- A more organised and regular cooperation exists with the “Cyprus-Armenia Friendship Society” for organizing concerts, lectures and exhibitions, for the establishment of closer ties between Cyprus and Armenia.

(2) It should also be noted that it is the policy of the Government of Cyprus to support Turkish Cypriots and promote and encourage activities which favour “rapprochement” of the two communities. Such activities include the following:

- Under the auspices of the Council of Europe, the Ministry of Education and Culture monitors and supports meetings of Greek and Turkish Cypriot teachers, in an effort to write supplementary material on cultural and social issues of the History of Cyprus.
- The “Agios Antonios” primary school in Limassol, attended by a majority of Turkish-Cypriot pupils, has been included in the scheme of “All-day” schools and 2 Turkish-Cypriot teachers have been employed to teach Turkish Cypriot pupils their culture.
- Turkish Cypriot children, whose families reside in the Government controlled area, are assisted by the State to attend private schools of their choice. The State covers part of the expenses of Turkish Cypriot pupils who attend private pre-primary and primary schools. The Government also provides financial aid to low-income Turkish Cypriot families for pupils’ transportation fees and school uniforms.
- After a written request from their parents or guardians, all pupils who are not Greek Orthodox are excluded from the teaching of the subject of Religious education. Where there is an adequate number, Turkish Cypriot pupils are taught Turkish as well as History and Religious education in their mother language (12 teaching periods per week).
- Free breakfast is provided to all Turkish speaking pupils who attend public pre-primary and primary schools. Moreover free breakfast is also provided to all pupils who attend schools which fall into the Educational Priority Zones. This measure involves 31 schools around the island and a total of 1745 pupils.
- Free lunch is provided to all Turkish speaking pupils who attend “All day” public primary schools, as well as to other children who have low socioeconomic status.
- The Adult Education Centers offer Turkish language and Greek language lessons to Turkish-Cypriot children and their parents free of charge.
- Turkish language is an optional language in the upper circle of Secondary Education. It is taught to adults at the State Institutes for Further Education and the Adult Education Centres free of charge.
- In the school year 2005-2006, Turkish Cypriot teachers were employed to teach Turkish language, History, Culture and Religious education to Turkish Cypriot pupils including Cypriot Gypsy pupils.
- As from the school year 2005-2006, two Greek Cypriot teachers of Turkish Language

were employed to support Turkish Cypriot pupils.

- A review is being made of the report sheets and the leaving certificates so that personal data are not indicated. The suggestion will be implemented to delete such information as origin or faith.

(3) It should also be noted that as a consequence of Cyprus' accession to the European Union on 1 May 2004 and the opening of the crossing points along the Green Line, a large number of Turkish Cypriots have applied to the Ministry of the Interior (District Administration Offices) to be issued with birth certificates, identity cards and passports of the Republic.

(4) The table bellows shows the number of the Turkish Cypriots who were holders of birth certificates, identity cards and passports before 1.5.2004 and the number of Turkish Cypriots who obtained the said documents since 1.5.2004.

Official Documents Issued to Turkish Cypriot Citizens of the Republic (Birth Certificates, Identity Cards and Passports)				
Before Cyprus' Accession to the EU		From 1.5.2004 - 27.9.2006		TOTAL
Birth Certificates	51019	Birth Certificates	36.496	87.515
Identity Cards	36759	Identity Cards	34.311	71.070
Passports	17540	Passports	25.500	43.040

See also Article 9 (para. 35) and "In respect of Article 6" (para. 48) below.

(Re para. 31 of the Opinion)

30. Concerning the lack of data on discrimination cases, it is submitted that funding inadequacies, shortages in staff and a heavy workload of claims to be examined by the Ombudsman's Office, render practically impossible the conduct of independent surveys at present. These shortcomings are a consequence of Cyprus' efforts to join the Economic and Monetary Union, which, unavoidably, places the Government under economic temperance and, therefore, limits the funding possibilities that would otherwise be open to the Cyprus Anti-Discrimination Body. As a solution, the Ombudsman, whenever funding (usually from the European Commission) allows it, assigns the collection of data and the conducting of independent surveys to an already established Research Centre. An example would be of a recent survey into the public's attitudes on the issue of homosexuality, which was assigned to

and carried out by Intercollege⁵. The results of the survey were later presented to the public as part of a seminar hosted by the Ombudsman's Office.

(Re para. 32 of the Opinion)

31. (1) The laws ratifying the United Nations Convention Against Torture were amended on 13 December 2002, (by Law 36(III)/2002), introducing a specific offence directed at police officers in charge of police stations and officers who are in charge of the investigation of cases in relation to which arrests or detentions are effected. By virtue of the new provisions, in cases where ill-treatment is alleged to have been committed at police stations during detention of the complainant, it is not only the members of the police actually perpetrating the acts of ill-treatment who are subject to criminal liability (for torture, or inhuman, or degrading treatment or punishment, or for assault, as the case may be), but also the aforesaid officers, provided that it is ascertained by medical examination carried out at any time before the complainant's release from the station, or immediately after, that he bears any external injuries which he did not bear at the time of his admission.

(2) The criminal liability of the officers as above, is not dependent on whether the actual perpetrators are identified by the investigation. The ascertainment of injuries as above, gives rise to a presumption that the complainant was ill-treated by a member of the police at the police station of his detention and that the police officers in charge of the station and of the investigation bear responsibility for the ill-treatment, unless they give a reasonable explanation, as to the injuries having been caused otherwise than by ill-treatment of the complainant by a member of the police (as for example by way of self-infliction, or infliction by another detainee or visitor at the station). In the absence of a reasonable explanation, the officer concerned is found to have committed a criminal offence for the ill-treatment which is presumed to have been committed at the relevant police station by a member of the police. The offence carries a term of imprisonment for up to 2 years, and if the ill-treatment qualifies as torture or as inhuman, cruel or degrading treatment or punishment, for up to 4 and 3 years, respectively.

(3) The introduction of the specific offence aims at eliminating the possibility of impunity, in cases in which, although there may be sufficient evidence of injuries having been sustained by the complainant at a police station under circumstances pointing to ill-treatment by a member of the police, there is no sufficient, or any evidence as to the identity of the policeman concerned, so that criminal proceedings can be instituted. At the same time, police officers in charge of police stations and investigations, being persons who under the new provisions are subject to criminal liability for ill-treatment during detention, have more reason to be vigilant of such occurrences and to pursue and apply strenuously relevant measures for preventing them.

32. (1) It is no longer a prerequisite for the appointment by the Attorney-General of the Republic of independent criminal investigators, to investigate instances of human rights violations by members of the police (constituting criminal offences), that a written complaint be addressed to him. By a decision of the Council of Ministers taken upon the advice of the Attorney-General, dated 22.3.2001, his power of appointment of independent criminal investigators was extended, enabling him to appoint independent criminal investigators for investigating allegations of commission of criminal offences by members of the police which come to his knowledge in any manner whatsoever, and not only upon a written complaint addressed to him.

⁵ Intercollege is an independent, co-educational, equal opportunity institution of higher education, which offers a wide range of programs to students from around the world.

(2) As a result of the above, the Attorney-General can now order a criminal investigation by independent investigators appointed by him, irrespective of the fact that the complainant has not addressed to him a written complaint and the allegations have reached him through other sources or channels of information, such as for example, through, inter alia, newspaper reports, press agencies, television and radio broadcasts, and reports by any organization, committee, body, or tribunal, domestic or other. On the basis of the contents of a report by the Ombudsman pointing to human rights violations by members of the police, which also constitute criminal offences, the Attorney-General can now appoint independent criminal investigators, to carry out an investigation, which is capable of leading to identification and prosecution, and ensuing trial of culprits, even though there was no complaint addressed to him.

33. Cyprus Police now appears determined to uphold respect of human rights and the law, and their leadership appears not to hesitate to order disciplinary actions and/or to suggest criminal prosecutions against members of the Police who violate the law and/or human rights. Cases of police officers who face criminal charges for human rights violations are known and publicized, as well as cases where, following a conviction, the involved officer is dismissed from service.

(Re para. 33 of the Opinion)

34. Since the August 1999 arson attempt on the Hala Sultan Mosque at Larnaca (Tekke area), all the mosques in the Government controlled area are guarded on a 24 hours basis by periodic police patrols. There is a relevant provision in the Budget of the Turkish Cypriot Properties Management Service for the repair, maintenance and cleaning of Turkish Cypriot ancient monuments, mosques and cemeteries. Provision is also made in the Budget of the Department of Antiquities of the Ministry of Communications and Works which covers the maintenance and repair of such ancient monuments.

EXPENDITURE FOR THE MAINTENANCE / REPAIRS OF TURKISH MOSQUES, ANCIENT MONUMENTS AND CEMETERIES							
District	Year 2000 CYP	Year 2001 CYP	Year 2002 CYP	Year 2003 CYP	Year 2004 CYP	Year 2005 CYP	Budget Year 2006 CYP
Nicosia	2.000	1.495	9.990	18.955	88.295	92.462	162.000
Limassol	5.700	3.700	8.167	9.321	76.195	80.921	107.000
Larnaca	28.181	20.717	47.604	13.852	72.251	73.484	146.550
Pafos	24.150	17.757	2.745	20.329	105.524	35.753	72.000
TOTAL	60.031	43.669	68.506	62.457	342.265	282620	487.550

It is evident from the above table, that during the period 2000-2005, the Cyprus Government spent CYP 859.548 for the repair and maintenance of the Turkish Cypriot mosques, ancient monuments and cemeteries. Furthermore, in the Budget of the Turkish Cypriot Properties Management Service for 2006, there is provision for CYP 487.550.

Article 9

(Re para. 36 of the Opinion)

35. (1) In recent years the public television, Cyprus Broadcasting Corporation (“CyBC”) has upgraded its programmes addressed to Maronites, Latins and Armenians. Currently the CyBC operates two television (RIK1 and RIK2) and four radio channels. Issues concerning the Maronite, Latin and Armenian communities are covered in various television news and discussion magazine programmes as well as in certain culture magazines. Each year on 6 January (Armenian Christmas day), CyBC (RIK1) carries an hourly festive programme in Armenian.

(2) CyBC Second Radio Channel carries an international programme that covers a variety of information and entertainment programmes in Turkish, Armenian and English addressed mainly to all foreign residents and tourists in Cyprus. It broadcasts daily a programme in Armenian consisting of a news bulletin and Armenian music, as well as, three news bulletins in Turkish .

(3) During the last three years the CyBC has also significantly upgraded its radio and TV programmes for Turkish Cypriots.

Radio Programmes :

- CyBC - First Programme

- The Latin Community of Cyprus – Yesterday and Today
Every Friday 16.30 – 17.00
- The Voice of the Maronites
Every Friday 17.10 – 18.00

These programmes existed before but now their duration has doubled.

- CyBC - Second Programme:

- Turkish language broadcasts: 06.00 - 17.00 Cyprus Local Time (CLT)
- Three news bulletins at: 07.30, 13.15, 16.50 (CLT)
- “Good Morning Cyprus”:
Variety Programme Mondays – Saturdays 07.35 – 10.00 (CLT)
- Ondan Sonra:
News magazine Mondays – Saturdays 10.00 – 12.00 (CLT)
- Greek language lessons
for Turkish Cypriots Mondays – Thursdays 16.00 – 16.15 (CLT)

- Multicultural Programme “ELELE” (hand-to-hand): Fridays – Sundays 16.00 – 16.50 (CLT) (broadcasting in four languages Greek, Turkish and English)
- Classical Music: Daily (Monday–Friday) 13.40 – 16.00 (CLT) With announcements in three languages (Turkish, Greek and English)
- Panorama: - news programme Mondays 16.15 – 16.30 (CLT)
- Two programmes, hosted by the Turkish Cypriot poet Nese Yasin, who talks to people of the arts and letters from Turkey and occupied Cyprus: Thursdays 16.15 -16.30
- “Greek Turkish Friendship through party”: Saturday 15.00 – 15.15 (CLT) References to articles published in the Greek Cypriot press.
- Entertainment Programme”: Saturdays 14.00 – 14.30 (CLT) and Tuesdays 16.10 – 16.30 (CLT)
- Comedy “Shall we cry? Shall we laugh?” Sundays 11.00 – 11.15 CLT)
- “Vatan Bolunmez”: (A country, can not be divided) Bilingual culture programme for Greek and Turkish Cypriots.
- Armenian Programme: Mondays – Sundays 17.00 – 18.00 (CLT)
- *Television Programmes:*
- News bulletins: daily 18.25 (CLT) in English
19.00 (CLT) In Turkish
- Magazine programmes: Mondays – Fridays “BIZ” 19.00 (CLT)

Furthermore, a considerable proportion of news, discussion programmes, news analysis programmes and talk shows, is devoted to the relations between Greek and Turkish Cypriots and recent efforts to settle the Cyprus problem. It is noted that the Turkish Cypriot journalists, people of the arts and letters, technocrats and politicians are well represented in the TV magazine programme “BIZ”.

Article 15

(Re para. 40 of the Opinion)

36. (1) The issue of Turkish Cypriots’ voting rights in Parliamentary and Presidential elections has been regulated by the Law 2(I)/2006, which entered into force on 10.2.2006 so that it could be implemented for the purposes of the May 2006 Parliamentary elections. See under Article 4, (para. 25) above.

(2) According to Ministry of the Interior data, 266 Turkish-Cypriots who permanently reside in the Government controlled area of the Republic have registered in the Electoral Roll and 229 have exercised their voting rights in the Parliamentary elections of May 2006. For the local elections that are due in December 2006, the number of registered Turkish Cypriots voters has risen to 309.

(3) The application form for registration in the Electoral Roll with guidelines for its completion, exists, with identical content, in the Greek and Turkish languages. A specimen of the form in Turkish is posted on the website of the Ministry of the Interior. This appears in **Appendix II**.

(Re para. 41 of the Opinion)

37. As already explained in the Initial Report, the Armenian, Maronites and the Latins, as citizens of the Republic of Cyprus who opted to belong to the Greek Community, enjoy the right to vote, and the right to stand as candidates for the House of Representatives. A member of the religious groups elected as member of the House of Representative has the same legislative powers as any other member of the Greek Community elected to the House. The “Parliamentary Representative” is an additional right given to the religious groups, now regulated by Law 58/1970 as amended. The issue of improving the effective participation of the Representative on religious and educational issues could be discussed within the framework of the dialogue with the Co-ordinator at the Ministry of the Interior (see PART IV, paras 62-64, below). In fact, from information supplied by the Representatives of the three religious groups during consultations at the preparation stage of the present Report, it appears that discussion on the matter has began.

(Re para. 42 of the Opinion)

38. Since the Opinion there were developments. A more consultative process has been adopted in line with the Opinion. See PART IV, paras 62-64, below.

(Re para. 43 of the Opinion)

39. According to statistical data of the Public Service Commission, which has competence for the appointment, promotion, transfer, secondment, placement and disciplinary control of civil servants, in 1999 112 persons belonging to the three religious groups were members of the civil service (103 Maronites, 6 Armenians and 3 Latins); they constituted 0.9% of the total number of civil servants (12.481). In proportion to the size of their population at that time⁶, that was a fair representation.

(2) Nevertheless, such data for the religious groups is no longer available, because the application form for employment/promotion in the civil service no longer requires information about the applicant’s/candidate’s membership to one of the three religious groups. This is due to a Supreme Court judgement which pronounced that, unless such information is required by the civil service terms of employment, reference to the religion or community of an applicant/candidate, on a document submitted before the Public Service Commission, might entail negative or discriminatory consequences for the person concerned.

(3) It should also be noted that **The Processing of Personal Data (Protection of Individuals) Law (Law 138(I)/2001, as amended)**, prohibits the compilation and processing of personal data revealing racial or ethnic origin, political opinions, religion or philosophical belief, trade-union

⁶ At the seminar organised by the Ministry of the Interior on 29.1.2004 the Armenian Representative to the House of Representatives said that out of a total number of 39.000 civil servants, there were 20 Armenians members of the civil service.

membership, as well as personal data concerning health or sex. The same applies to personal data relating to criminal prosecutions or conviction. Such data are not collected or processed automatically unless, for example, the data subject has given his explicit consent to the processing of those data, except, where other national Laws provide that the aforementioned prohibition may not be lifted by the data subject's consent.

Article 18

(Re para. 46 of the Opinion)

40. (1) An Agreement on Cultural, Educational and Scientific Cooperation between the Government of the Republic of Cyprus and the Government of the Lebanese Republic was signed in July 2002, which is in the process of ratification. Bearing in mind that Maronites in Cyprus have close ties to Lebanon due to their origin, religion and the linguistic affinity of Cyprus Maronite Arabic with Lebanese Arabic, the implementation of the said Agreement will open new possibilities for the promotion of transnational exchanges. It is the intention of the competent Cypriot authorities to consult in due course with the Maronite Representative in order to identify areas of cooperation in the framework of the said Agreement.

(2) The same applies concerning the implementation of the 1998 Agreement on Cooperation in the Fields of Culture, Education and Science between the Government of the Republic of Cyprus and the Government of the Republic of Armenia, which is already in force. Consultations will likewise continue to be conducted with the Armenian Representative. See also Article 6 (para. 29) above.

B. Proposal for conclusions and recommendations by the Committee of Ministers

In respect of Article 3

The Committee of Ministers concludes that it would be possible to consider the inclusion of persons belonging to other groups in the application of the Framework Convention on an article-by-article basis and recommends that Cyprus consider this issue in consultation with those concerned.

41. See Article 3 (para.17) above.

The Committee of Ministers *concludes* that the obligation for religious groups and their members to choose adherence to the Greek Cypriot or to the Turkish Cypriot community, as provided for by Article 2 of the Constitution, is not compatible with Article 3 of the Framework Convention.

42. See Part II (paras 8-10) above.

The Committee of Ministers concludes that the legal obligation for persons belonging to religious groups to elect their representatives is not compatible with Article 3. It recommends that the Cyprus Government address this issue.

43. See Article 3 (para. 16) above.

In respect of Article 4

The Committee of Ministers concludes that the existing legislation prohibiting discrimination, as well as providing for remedies, is not comprehensive. Notably, legal provisions outlawing acts

of discrimination by private entities in societal settings still need to be developed, as well as effective remedies, particularly those allowing individuals to obtain compensation for damages. The Committee of Ministers recommends that the Cyprus Government should review its anti-discrimination legislation in order that all acts of discrimination are outlawed and that effective remedies are available to all persons who suffer from discrimination, both by public authorities and private entities in societal settings.

44. The anti-discrimination legislation has been totally reviewed in the lines of the Committee of Ministers' Recommendations – See Article 4 (paras 18 - 23) above.

The Committee of Ministers concludes that the impossibility for a Greek Cypriot and a Turkish Cypriot to conclude a civil marriage together in Cyprus, and for Turkish Cypriots resident in Government controlled areas to cast a vote in parliamentary and presidential elections, is not compatible with Article 4 paragraph 1 of the Framework Convention. The Committee of Ministers recommends that the Government remedy these two problems, at least in part and in a provisional or transitional way.

45. Both these issues are now regulated by Law. See Article 4 (paras 24 and 25) above.

The Committee of Ministers concludes that, as the Government recognises, there is a possibility that census data do not accurately reflect the number of persons belonging to national minorities. The Committee of Ministers recommends that the Government consider ways and means of obtaining reliable statistical data to assess the size of the national minorities.

46. The Statistical Service has established procedures to obtain more reliable statistical data on the minorities on an annual basis. See Article 4 (para. 27) above.

In respect of Article 5

The Committee of Ministers concludes that since the 1974 events, the Maronites are threatened in their survival as a distinct group. In addition to the measures already taken in the field of education, the Committee of Ministers recommends that the Cyprus authorities adopt further measures aimed at preserving and developing the culture and the identity of the Maronites.

47. (1) On 21.3.2006, the Council of Ministers approved a proposal for a yearly total subsidy of CYP30.000 to be allocated to the three religious groups in order to strengthen their printed media, such as newspapers published by the Maronites, the Armenians and the Latins. The relevant proposal was submitted by the Ministry of the Interior, having taken into consideration Cyprus' commitment under the Framework Convention and the European Charter for Regional or Minority Languages.

(2) The Ministry of the Interior has also decided to provide financial assistance to the three religious groups, in order to create and/or strengthen their individual websites. The Press and Information Office of the Republic will be responsible for coordinating the process of developing the three sites.

(3) The websites will include information on the cultural heritage of the religious groups (history, religion, civilization), as well as on topics regarding youth and information on activities, hence raising awareness both locally and abroad. The three sites will be in Greek and English, while the Armenian site will also be in Armenian. The Representatives of the three religious groups have undertaken the task of providing the content.

(4) The Government has also decided to create a website, consistent with the format of all Government sites, which will include succinct information about the three religious groups and links to their respective websites. This website, which will be in Greek and English, will present the Government's policy on issues pertaining to the religious groups.

See also Article 5 (para. 28) above.

In respect of Article 6

The Committee of Ministers concludes that the Cyprus Government has made efforts to encourage a spirit of tolerance and intercultural dialogue but that further action should be taken along these lines. It recommends in particular that the Government seek to encourage the media to contribute positively to intercultural understanding. It also recommends that the Government enhance the awareness and understanding of minority cultures in the field of education.

48. (1) Through a variety of information and entertainment programmes in Greek, Turkish, Armenian, and English broadcasted by the Cyprus Broadcasting Corporation ("CyBC"), the Cyprus Government brings minority issues to the attention of the public minority issues and encourages a spirit of tolerance and intercultural understanding.

(2) Within this framework, CyBC Second Programme broadcasts a multicultural programme in the Armenian language daily. This one-hour programme (from 5.00-6.00 in the afternoon) includes news coverage, extensive interviews, cultural reports, Armenian music and covers a variety of subjects, such as health, literature and religion. This programme reaches Armenians outside Cyprus, in Lebanon, Syria, Iran, Bulgaria and Greece. It has an estimated 250.000 listeners. It is the only broadcast in the Armenian language in the area (Eastern Europe to Middle East).

(3) On television, there are no programmes in Armenian on a regular basis, except from the Armenian Christmas Day (6 January), when a one-hour variety of entertainment programme in the Armenian language is shown on CyBC television, and includes the active participation of the Armenian schools with music, choir and dance groups. The students regularly perform in multicultural events representing the Armenians of Cyprus.

(4) The CyBC has also allocated about an hour of its airtime to a radio show dedicated to Cypriot Maronites, which deals mostly with matters of religion, culture and news about the Maronites of Cyprus. See also answer Article 9 para. 35 above.

(5) It should also be noted that, the Armenian and Maronite have their own newspapers.

The two main Armenian monthly newspapers, "Artsangang" [est. 1995] and "Azad Tzayn" [est. 2003], provide national and international news, primarily in Armenian, although certain columns and cultural reviews are printed in Greek and in English. The Armenian Church in Cyprus brings out its own monthly bulletin, "Keghart" in Armenian. The Melkonian Educational Institute used to publish a multilingual periodical "Hayatsk (est. 1998) in Armenian, Greek, English, Russian and Bulgarian.

(6) There are also a number of websites relating to Armenian issues, the main one being "Gibrahayer" and a number of websites relating to Maronite issues.

(7) The Maronite Welfare Foundation publishes a bimonthly newspaper, in Greek, entitled "Koinotiko Vima" which deals with the matters of the community as well as matters of general interest and occasionally hosts interviews with prominent members of the Cypriot society. "O

Typos tou 21 Aiona” (“The 21st Century Press”) is a monthly newspaper published in Greek and dedicated to Maronite issues.

(8) Furthermore, it must be mentioned, that the mass media demonstrate awareness and sensitivity on issues concerning the linguistic groups of Cyprus. Generally, they reflect occasionally on different issues, instigated either by current events or by anniversaries; otherwise their focus is oriented towards more popular issues.

(9) Another measure aim at promoting a balanced participation of the religious groups in the mass media, is the Council of Ministers’ decision of March 2006, to grant a yearly budget of CYP 30.000 (approx. € 50.000) for the newspapers and other publications by the three religious groups.

(10)The Cypriot-Armenian Friendship Society (est.1998) continues to organise concerts, lectures and exhibitions, promoting closer ties between the Cyprus and Armenia. The Armenian churches throughout the island have allocated space within their premises to encourage cultural events such as the annual Autumn Book Exhibition.

(11) There are also local associations that function in all towns from their own premises throughout the year. A G B U [Armenian General Benevolent Union] and A Y M A [Armenian Young Men’s Association], both with their affiliated organisations, mount a wide variety of cultural and social activities, catering for all interests.

(12) The Pharos Trust (est.1993 by Garo Keheyan) is a cultural institution with its premises in Nicosia. To date, it has organized several national and international cultural events.

(13) Some Armenians have left their mark in the history of the island. Georges der Parthogh, journalist and photographer, has contributed to the world of reporting since the 1950s. He is featured in the Ministry of Education and Culture publication (2000): “Pioneers of Cypriot Photojournalism”, edited by Dr A. Sophocleous, Ministry of Education and Culture, 2000. He is also co-founder, publisher and editor of the English newspaper, “Cyprus Weekly”, established in 1979. Masis der Parthogh, editor and Shavash Bokhjalian, publisher founded the weekly “Financial Mirror”, established in 1993.

See also Article 6 (para. 29) above.

The Committee of Ministers concludes that no governmental agency appears to be collecting or registering data on cases of discrimination. It recommends that the Government review this state of affairs.

49. See Article 6 (para. 30) above.

The Committee of Ministers concludes that there is reason for concern about reports from Turkish Cypriots on cases of ill-treatment committed by police officers, as well as difficulties in instituting criminal proceedings against official under suspicion. It recommends that the Cyprus authorities ensure that these proceedings are properly conducted.

50. See Article 6 (paras 31-33) above.

The Committee of Ministers concludes that there is reason for concern about complaints from Turkish Cypriots that unused mosques have been vandalized. It recommends that the Government closely monitor the situation and take further steps to prevent such occurrences from happening in the future.

51. See Article 6 (para. 34) above.

In respect of Article 9

The Committee of Ministers concludes that access to sound radio broadcasting and the possibility to have printed media are generally satisfactory. The Committee of Ministers however recommends that the Cyprus Government review the area of public television broadcasting with a view to enhancing access for persons belonging to national minorities.

52. (1) The Government policy statement on public service broadcasting, issued in January 2003, states that "...Cyprus Broadcasting Corporation (CyBC) provides radio and television programmes for all Cypriot communities. Special importance is placed on the significant proportion of its programming devoted to the Turkish Cypriot Community...". These programmes contribute, inter alia, to keeping the Turkish Cypriots informed on political issues, as well as regarding the developments ahead of Cyprus' membership in the EU. It further states that "...the CyBC is generally regarded an especially reliable source of information and representation of the news...". In this way (the public service broadcasting organisation) enriches public dialogue ensuring the balanced participation of all citizens in public life.

(2) The Cyprus Broadcasting Corporation Law (Cap 300A, as amended) specifies:

"The Cyprus Broadcasting Corporation shall ensure the provision of public radio television service with unbiased attention and respect to the interests and sensitivities of the Greek Cypriot and Turkish Cypriot communities, the religious groups and the various minorities in Cyprus" (section 19)

(3) Regulations, issued in 2003 under the Cyprus Broadcasting Corporation Law, (P.I. 616/2003), require that the CyBc, for the purpose of fulfilling its obligations to provide "a balanced service" must provide, inter alia, -

(i) news bulletins in Greek, Turkish, English and sign language for the hard of hearing;

(ii) information programmes addressed to the overseas Cypriots, the Turkish Cypriots, and the minority religious groups;

(iii) programmes on the environment, art and traditional cultural activities of the communities of Cyprus, such as, for example, their activities in music, dance, poetry, pantomime painting and sculpture.

(P.I 616/2003, regulations 4 and 5)

See also to Article 6 above.

53. (1) The press in Cyprus is a free and independent institution, not subject to any form of intervention, control or censorship by any State authority. The freedom of the press is enshrined in the Constitution, which stipulates:

"1. Every person has the right to freedom of speech and expression in any form.

2. This right includes freedom to hold opinions and receive and impart information and ideas without interference by any public authority and regardless of frontiers". (Article 19, paras 1 and 2 of the Constitution).

(2) The proliferation of newspapers in Cyprus - both Cypriot and foreign - reflecting a wide range of opinions and ideologies, attests to the plurality of views prevailing in the country and the freedom they enjoy. Criticism of persons in office, public figures, state institutions and government policies, and the freedom to expose malpractices where these occur, are accepted as a healthy manifestation of democracy.

(3) **The Press Law (Law 145/1989, as amended)** safeguards the freedom of the press, the unhindered circulation of newspapers, the right of journalists not to disclose the sources of their information and access to official information. Under the Press Law, a Press Council is established entrusted with the responsibility of promoting the freedom and independence of the Cyprus press; All journalists, Cypriot or foreign, have the right to free access to state sources of information, freedom to seek and acquire information from any competent authority of the Republic and the freedom to make this public. The authority concerned must provide the requested information, unless it pertains to state or public security, constitutional or public order, public morals or the protection of the honour and rights of third parties.

54. (1) The Cyprus Radio-Television Authority⁷ is an independent regulatory body established under the **Radio and Television Stations Law (Law 7(I)/1998, as amended)**. It is solely concerned with regulating private radio and television stations broadcasting in Cyprus. Its remit does not cover the Cyprus Broadcasting Corporation (CyBC), which is a state-funded public service broadcasting organisation. The responsibilities of the Authority, are laid down by Law 7(I)/1998 and Regulations of 2000.

(2) The Authority, also, has the responsibility for the implementation of the European Convention on Transfrontier Television with regard to the content of the private broadcasters' programmes.

(3) Law 7(I)/1998, prescribes the principles governing the broadcast of radio and television programmes and commercials. These include:

- Plurality of views and maximum accessibility of the civil society.
- Respect for the personality, dignity and private lives of persons.
- Respect for democratic principles and human rights.
- Preservation of the national identity and the cultural inheritance of the people of Cyprus.
- Protection of minors from harmful programmes such as films portraying gratuitous violence or glamorising anti-social behaviour.
- The right of individuals to reply or redress in the event that reports affecting them or their activities are inaccurate or misleading.
- Maintaining linguistic standards.
- Stations are obliged to ensure that the transmissions do not in any way incite hatred or encourage discrimination on account of race, gender, religion or nationality.

55. (1) The Cyprus News Agency (CNA)⁸ is an independent and autonomous corporation functioning under the **Cyprus News Agency Law⁹ (Law 87/1989, as amended)**. As a national

⁷ It is composed of the Chairman, Vice-Chairman and five members, appointed by the Council of Ministers for a six-year term.

⁸ CNA is a member of the European Alliance of News Agencies, the Alliance of Mediterranean News Agencies (AMAN) and the Commonwealth Press Union (CPU).

⁹ The Agency is governed by a seven-member Board composed mainly of journalists representing the Union of Journalists, the Publishers' Association, the Cyprus Broadcasting Corporation, the Press and Information Office and the Ministry of the Interior.

news agency, CNA focuses its attention on events in Cyprus or statements and activities that have some bearing on Cyprus or are of particular interest to the island and the region. The subjects it covers are home news, domestic politics, foreign policy, economic affairs, culture and sports. CNA material is distributed to newspapers, radio and television stations, news agencies, foreign Embassies based on the island, the Cyprus diplomatic missions abroad and the organizations of overseas Cypriots.

(2) As of May 2002, CNA also offers news in the Turkish language, which is distributed to Turkish Cypriot news media and political parties, as well as to the news media of Turkey. CNA news in English is distributed to international news agencies such as Reuters, AFP and ITAR-TASS.

(3) In addition to news, CNA offers photographs of news events in Cyprus, Greece and the world, in cooperation with ANA (Athens News Agency) and international photo agencies. Its services include distribution of news releases, useful information and informative bulletins for overseas Cypriots.

In respect to Article 15

The Committee of Ministers concludes that the religious groups have a right to elect their own representatives in the House of Representatives, who attend as observers and have an advisory role on religious and educational matters affecting their group. The Committee of Ministers recommends that the Government consult the Armenians, the Maronites and the Latins on these arrangements with a view to making their participation more effective.

56. See Article 15 (para. 37) above.

The Committee of Ministers concludes that there is a differentiation in language requirements introduced for applicants belonging to religious groups as concerns access to civil service. It recommends that the Cyprus authorities ascertain whether a fair number of persons belonging to religious groups are recruited and employed in the civil service and, should the result prove to be unsatisfactory, adopt the necessary measures to promote a fair representation of the minorities in the civil service.

57. See Article 15 (para. 39) above.

II. MEASURES TAKEN IN RESPONSE TO THE RESOLUTION ADOPTED BY THE COMMITTEE OF MINISTERS

58. The Government of Cyprus wishes to reiterate its commitment to the objectives and principles pursued by the Framework Convention. At the same time it acknowledges and appreciates that the Advisory Committee and the Committee of Ministers have taken into account the particular circumstances prevailing in Cyprus.

59. The present Report contains information on the implementation of the Framework Convention up to the cut off time it was drafted. It includes steps taken to resolve certain shortcomings and difficulties highlighted in the Opinion and the Committee of Ministers' Resolution as well as the developments that have occurred to this day.

60. On 29.1.2004, an awareness-raising Seminar on the Framework Convention was organised by the Ministry of the Interior, in Nicosia. Participants in the Seminar were: The Representatives of the Maronite, Armenian and Latin religious groups, governmental bodies,

Turkish Cypriot independent experts and representatives from TV and radio stations and NGOs. The Council of Europe Secretariat was represented by Mr. Tonio Ellal, Council Expert on the Framework Convention and Mrs Arteniza Chisca of the Secretariat. The Minister of Interior addressed the Seminar. The Initial Report, the Advisory Committee's Opinion, the Comments of the Government on the Opinion of 13 November 2000 and the Committee of Ministers Resolution were distributed to participants in the English and Greek languages as documentation for the Seminar.

61. Finally, the Initial Report, the Advisory Committee's Opinion, the Comments of the Government on the Opinion of 19 November 2000 and the Committee of Ministers' Resolution have been posted, in English and Greek, on the official website of the Ministry of the Interior (www.moi.gov.cy), as well as on the official website of the Press and Information Office of the Republic (www.moi.gov.cy/pio).

PART IV - QUESTIONNAIRE OF THE ADVISORY COMMITTEE FOR THE STATE REPORT TO BE SUBMITTED BY CYPRUS IN THE SECOND MONITORING CYCLE OF THE FRAMEWORK CONVENTION FOR THE PROTECTION OF NATIONAL MINORITIES

Question 1:

Explain the reasons justifying the suppression of the post of Presidential Commissioner for religious groups, overseas Cypriots and repatriates and indicate what steps have been taken or will be taken to provide an alternative body or office.

62. In 2003 it was decided that, since most of the issues of concern fall within the competence of the Ministry of the Interior, a Co-ordinator within the Ministry of the Interior would better serve the handling of issues of concern to the religious groups, which may fall within the competence of two or more Ministries. Thus, with the consent of the Representatives of the three religious groups, the competence of co-ordination was assigned by the President of the Republic to the Ministry of the Interior.

63. The Ministry of the Interior, being the competent Ministry for the protection of the religious groups, is in constant consultation and dialogue with the Representatives of the religious groups. Matters of concern to the religious groups are thoroughly discussed in meetings chaired by the Minister of the Interior or the Permanent Secretary, in the presence of representatives from all relevant Ministries, in order to promote and effectively deal with them.

64. The new consultation mechanism deals, among others, with the following issues:

- the implementation of relevant treaties, such as the Framework Convention and the European Charter for Regional or Minority Languages;
- the competences of the Representatives of the religious groups;
- the preservation of the social cohesion of the religious groups;
- the maintenance and restoration of monasteries, churches and other monuments of the religious groups;
- the fair participation of members of the religious groups in the Public Service and Public Corporations;
- the subsidization of students of religious groups (tuition subsidies for primary and secondary education and purchase of books);
- the granting of Government land for cemeteries;
- payment of priests' salaries;
- Government financial assistance to farmers, members of the Maronite religious group, living in the occupied territory of Cyprus;
- special measures to facilitate links between Cypriot Maronites living in the Government controlled territory and those living in the occupied territory of Cyprus (i.e. free transportation twice a week, free housing in the Government Refugee Housing Estates, free food supplies once a week, government aid for the repairs of houses, Maronite churches, cemeteries in the occupied territory as well as for the repair of roads and water supply in Kormakitis);
- co-ordination of efforts for better utilization of the grants given by the various Ministries.

Question 2:

Regarding the efforts made by the Cypriot authorities and the international community to find a comprehensive settlement of the Cyprus issue, in particular through the United Nations Plan “Basis for agreement on a Comprehensive Settlement of the Cyprus Problem”, please answer the following questions:

- a. What efforts have been made by the authorities of Cyprus to ensure that a comprehensive settlement of the Cyprus issue complies with the principles enshrined in the Framework Convention?
- b. How did the Cypriot authorities consult representatives of the Turkish Cypriots Maronites, Armenians and Latins on the United Nations Plan “Basis for agreement on a Comprehensive Settlement of the Cyprus Problem”?
- c. How might a comprehensive settlement of the Cyprus issue impact on the rights of Turkish Cypriots, Maronites, Latins and Armenians?
- d. To what extent would territorial readjustments in a comprehensive settlement of the Cyprus issue ensure the treatment of the Maronite village as a unity, in particular the Kormakitis village and the land around it, and what efforts have been made by the Cypriot authorities in this respect?

65. Concerning the efforts exerted to find a comprehensive settlement of the Cyprus problem through the United Nations Plan “Basis for agreement on a Comprehensive Settlement of the Cyprus Problem” the Government of the Republic of Cyprus submits the following:

(a). In preparing the Authorities’ positions relating to a comprehensive settlement, consideration was given to the principles enshrined in the Framework Convention in line with the Government’s efforts, throughout all the relevant initiatives of the UN, to safeguard full respect and protection of human rights and fundamental freedoms, as embodied in international and European human rights treaties ratified by the Republic of Cyprus. Nevertheless, it should be noted that the Turkish Cypriot community rejected a number of UN proposals to that effect. An indicative example is the following: During the 2004 negotiations it had been proposed by the UN that not only religious minorities, but also the Roma minority (known as the “Gurbet” by the Turkish Cypriot community), should enjoy similar protection to these minorities. The European Court of Human Rights in *Cyprus v. Turkey*, 10 May 2001, had found evidence that individuals who were members of the Roma minority had been subjected to violations of human rights in the Turkish-occupied area. When the Turkish Cypriot side objected to the proposed protection for the Roma, the UN team removed this from the Plan.

(b). Throughout the various efforts to reach a Cyprus Settlement, representations were made to the Government of the Republic of Cyprus (as well as to the UN Secretariat) by the Maronite, Armenian and Latin religious groups/communities. These were fully taken into consideration by the Greek Cypriot negotiators. Although the Turkish Cypriot community was represented in the negotiations by the Turkish Cypriot leadership, the Greek Cypriot negotiators, in preparing their positions, took into account the various international and European human rights treaties and promoted full respect and protection of such rights for all the people of Cyprus irrespective of community or religious group membership. During the 2004 negotiations under the UN auspices, additional rights for Maronites, Armenians and Latins were not submitted, because the UN proposals put forward regarding such rights were in accordance with and in response to the representations made by the minority communities. Nevertheless, as a result of tight timetables as well as a lack of political will on the part of the Turkish Cypriots to engage in substantive and result oriented negotiations, there was no substantive discussion of core issues, let alone

consultation on re-opening of issues which were at that stage considered less controversial. Regrettably, the UN Secretary General's finalized plan failed to a large extent to abide by the principles enshrined in the international and European human rights instruments, including the Framework Convention.

(c). In previous negotiating phases, there was no comprehensive discussion of the details concerning rights of Maronites, Latins and Armenians who constituted minorities inside federal units. Thorough discussion of these matters was formally suggested by the Government of Cyprus to the UN, in May and June 2005 and constitutes a basic demand requiring full consideration, especially as a result of our membership in the European Union and its obligations emanating from international and European human rights instruments to which Cyprus is a party. Negotiations have not yet been resumed, so it is too early to determine at this point what the specific impact of any settlement is likely to be. Nonetheless, whatever the final outcome may be, the protection of the rights of National Minorities (at least to the extent required by the Framework Convention) will be the aim of the Government of Cyprus. With regard to the Turkish Cypriots, the various proposals put forward by the UN over the years depart from the 1977 and 1979 High-Level agreements for a bizonal, bicomunal federal settlement of the Cyprus issue. All negotiations so far have been bicomunal in nature, being conducted between the leaders of the two communities, the Greek Cypriot and the Turkish Cypriot communities.

(d). The issue of treating the Maronite villages as a unity was not discussed in the previous negotiations. However, the UN when finalizing the Comprehensive Settlement Plan in March 2004, decided to accord preferential rights to Maronite inhabited villages to the extent of facilitating their return and acquisition of land, compared to the same rights of the members of the Greek Cypriot community and those of the Armenian and Latin religious groups whose rights were severely curtailed in the finalized plan.

APPENDIX I

LIST OF INTERNATIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS INSTRUMENTS TO WHICH CYPRUS IS A PARTY

UNIVERSAL INSTRUMENTS

INTERNATIONAL BILL OF HUMAN RIGHTS

1. International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights
New York, 16 December 1966
Cyprus ratification: 2 April 1969
Law No. 14/1969
2. International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights
New York, 16 December 1966
Cyprus ratification: 2 April 1969
Law No. 14/1969
3. Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights
New York, 16 December 1966
Cyprus ratification: 15 April 1992
Law No. 17(III)/1992
4. Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights,
Aiming at the Abolition of the Death Penalty
New York, 15 December 1989
Cyprus accession: 10 September 1999
Law No. 12(III)/1999 and No. 10(III)/2003

PREVENTION OF DISCRIMINATION

5. International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination
New York, 7 March 1966
Cyprus ratification: 21 April 1967
Law No. 12/1967, No. 11/1992 and No. 28(III)/1999

Amendment to article 8 of the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms
of Racial Discrimination
New York 15 January 1992
Cyprus acceptance: 28 September 1998
Law No 6(III)/1995
6. Convention (No. 111) concerning the Discrimination in Employment and Occupation
Geneva, 25 June 1958

Cyprus ratification: 2 February 1968
Law No. 3/1968

7. Convention against Discrimination in Education
Paris, 15 December 1960
Cyprus acceptance: 9 June 1970 Law No. 18/1970
8. Protocol Instituting a Conciliation and Good Offices Commission to be Responsible for Seeking the Settlement of any Dispute which may arise between States Parties to the Convention
Paris, 10 December 1962
Cyprus acceptance: 9 June 1970
Law No. 18/1970
9. Convention (No. 100) concerning Equal Remuneration for Men and Women Workers for Work of Equal Value
Geneva, 29 June 1951
Cyprus ratification: 19 November 1987
Law No. 213/1987

RIGHTS OF WOMEN

10. Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women
New York, 18 December 1979
Cyprus accession: 23 July 1985
Law No. 78/1985

Amendment to article 20, paragraph 1 of the Convention of the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women
New York, 22 December 1995
Cyprus acceptance: 30 July 2002
(Not yet in force)
11. Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women
New York, 6 October 1999
Cyprus ratification: 26 April 2002
Law No. 1(III)/2002
12. Convention on the Political Rights of Women
New York, 31 March 1953
Cyprus ratification: 12 November 1968
Law No. 107/1968

RIGHTS OF THE CHILD

13. Convention on the Civil Aspects of International Child Abduction (Hague XXVIII)
The Hague, 25 October 1980
Cyprus accession: 4 November 1994
Law No. 11(III)/1994

14. Convention on the Rights of the Child
New York, 20 November 1989
Cyprus ratification: 7 February 1991
Law No. 243/1990

Amendment to article 43(2) of the Convention on the Rights of the Child
New York, 12 December 1995
Cyprus acceptance: 20 September 2001
Law No. 5(III)/2000
15. Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the Sale of Children, Child Prostitution and Child Pornography
New York, 25 May 2000
Cyprus ratification: 6 April 2006
Law No. 6(III)/2006
16. Convention on Protection of Children and Co-operation in respect of Intercountry Adoption (Hague XXXIII)
The Hague, 29 May 1993
Cyprus ratification: 20 February 1995
Law No. 26(III)/1994
17. Convention (No. 182) concerning the Prohibition and Immediate Action for the Elimination of the Worst Forms of Child Labour
Geneva, 17 June 1999
Cyprus ratification: 27 November 2000
Law No. 31(III)/2000

SLAVERY, SERVITUDE, FORCED LABOUR, ORGANISED CRIME AND SIMILAR INSTITUTIONS AND PRACTICES

18. International Agreement for the Suppression of the White Slave Traffic, signed at Paris on 18 May 1904, amended by the Protocol
Lake Success, New York, 4 May 1949
Cyprus declaration assuming obligations: 16 May 1963
19. Slavery Convention, signed at Geneva on 25 September 1926 and amended by the Protocol
New York, 7 December 1953
Cyprus succession: 21 April 1986
20. Supplementary Convention on the Abolition of Slavery, the Slave Trade, and Institutions and Practices Similar to Slavery
Geneva, 7 September 1956
Cyprus declaration assuming obligations: 11 May 1962
21. Convention (No. 29) concerning Forced or Compulsory Labour, as modified by the Final Articles Revision Convention, 1946
Geneva, 28 June 1930
Cyprus ratification: 23 September 1960

22. Convention (No. 105) concerning the Abolition of Forced Labour
Geneva, 25 June 1957
Cyprus ratification: 23 September 1960
23. Convention for the Suppression of the Traffic in Persons and of the Exploitation of the Prostitution of Others
Lake Success, New York, 21 March 1950
Cyprus accession: 5 October 1983
Law No. 57/1983
24. United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime
New York, 15 November 2000
Cyprus ratification: 22 April 2003
Law No. 11(III)/2003
25. Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children, supplementing the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime
New York, 15 November 2000
Cyprus ratification: 6 August 2003
Law No. 11(III)/2003
26. Protocol against the Smuggling of Migrants by Land, Sea and Air, supplementing the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime
New York, 15 November 2000
Cyprus ratification: 6 August 2003
Law No. 11(III)/2003

HUMAN RIGHTS IN THE ADMINISTRATION OF JUSTICE

27. Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment
New York, 10 December 1984
Cyprus ratification: 18 July 1991
Law No. 235/1990, No. 35(III)/1993 and No. 36(III)/2002
- Amendments to Articles 17(7) and 18(5) of the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment
New York, 8 September 1992
Cyprus acceptance: 22 February 1994
Law No. 35(III)/1993 and No. 36(III)/2002
(Not yet in force)

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION

28. Convention on the International Right of Correction
New York, 31 March 1953
Cyprus ratification: 13 November 1972
Law No. 68/1972

FREEDOM OF ASSOCIATION

29. Convention (No. 87) concerning Freedom of Association and Protection of the Right to Organise
San Francisco, 9 July 1948
Cyprus ratification: 24 May 1966
Law No. 17/1966
30. Convention (No. 154) concerning the Promotion of Collective Bargaining
Geneva, 19 June 1981
Cyprus ratification: 16 January 1989
Law No. 241/1988

MARRIAGE, FAMILY AND YOUTH

31. Convention on Consent to Marriage, Minimum Age for Marriage and Registration of Marriages
New York, 10 December 1962
Cyprus accession: 30 July 2002
Law No. 16(III)/2002

SOCIAL WELFARE

32. Convention (No. 143) concerning Migrations in Abusive Conditions and the Promotion of Equality of Opportunity and Treatment of Migrant Workers
Geneva, 24 June 1975
Cyprus ratification: 28 June 1977
Law No. 36/1977

NATIONALITY, STATELESSNESS, ASYLUM AND REFUGEES

33. Convention on the Nationality of Married Women
New York, 20 February 1957
Cyprus succession: 26 April 1971
34. Convention on certain Questions relating to the Conflict of Nationality Laws
The Hague, 12 April 1930
Cyprus succession: 27 March 1970
35. Protocol relating to Military Obligations in certain Cases of Double Nationality
The Hague, 12 April 1930
Cyprus succession: 27 March 1970
36. Protocol relating to a certain Case of Statelessness
The Hague, 12 April 1930
Cyprus succession: 3 April 1978
Law No. 64/1977

37. Protocol 1 annexed to the Universal Copyright Convention, as revised at Paris, concerning the application of that Convention to the Works of Stateless Persons and Refugees
Paris, 24 July 1971
Cyprus accession: 19 September 1990
Law No. 151/1990
38. Convention relating to the Status of Refugees
Geneva, 28 July 1951
Cyprus declaration assuming obligations: 16 May 1963
39. Protocol relating to the Status of Refugees
New York, 31 January 1967
Cyprus accession: 9 July 1968
Law No. 73/1968

WAR CRIMES AND CRIMES AGAINST HUMANITY, INCLUDING GENOCIDE

40. Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide
New York, 9 December 1948
Cyprus accession: 29 March 1982
Law No.59/1980
41. Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court
Rome, 17 July 1998
Cyprus ratification: 7 March 2002
Law No. 8(III)/2002

HUMANITARIAN LAW

42. Conventions for the Protection of War Victims:
- I. Convention for the Amelioration of the Condition of Wounded and Sick in Armed Forces in the Field (First Convention)
 - II. Convention for the Amelioration of the Condition of Wounded, Sick and Shipwrecked Members of Armed Forces at Sea (Second Convention)
 - III. Convention relative to the Treatment of Prisoners of War (Third Convention)
 - IV. Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War (Fourth Convention)
- Geneva, 12 August 1949
Cyprus accession: 23 May 1962
Law No. 40/1966
43. Protocol Additional to the Geneva Conventions of 12 August 1949, and relating to the Protection of Victims of International Armed Conflicts (Protocol I), with Annexes, Final Act and Resolutions
Geneva, 8 June 1977
Cyprus ratification: 1 June 1979
Law No. 43/1979

44. Protocol Additional to the Geneva Conventions of 12 August 1949, and relating to the Protection of Victims of Non-International Armed Conflicts (Protocol II), with Annexes, Final Act and Resolutions

Geneva, 8 June 1977

Cyprus accession: 18 March 1996

Law No. 7(III)/1995

**INSTRUMENTS ADOPTED WITHIN THE FRAMEWORK
OF EUROPEAN INTERGOVERNMENTAL ORGANISATIONS**

COUNCIL OF EUROPE

HUMAN RIGHTS (CONVENTIONS AND PROTOCOLS ONLY)

45. Convention for the Protection of Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms (CETS No. 5)

Rome, 4 November 1950

Cyprus ratification: 6 October 1962

Law No. 39/1962

46. Protocol to the Convention for the Protection of Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms (CETS No. 9)

Paris, 20 March 1952

Cyprus ratification: 6 October 1962

Law No. 39/1962

47. Protocol No. 2 to the Convention for the Protection of Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms, conferring upon the European Court of Human Rights competence to give advisory opinions (CETS No. 44)

Strasbourg, 6 May 1963

Cyprus ratification: 22 January 1969

Law No. 118/1968

48. Protocol No. 3 to the Convention for the Protection of Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms, amending Articles 29, 30 and 34 of the Convention (CETS No. 45)

Strasbourg, 6 May 1963

Cyprus ratification: 21 January 1969

Law No. 118/1968

49. Protocol No. 4 to the Convention for the Protection of Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms, securing certain rights and freedoms other than those already included in the Convention and in the first Protocol thereto (CETS No. 46)

Strasbourg, 16 September 1963

Cyprus ratification: 3 October 1989

Law No. 52/1989

50. Protocol No. 5 to the Convention for the Protection of Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms, amending Articles 22 and 40 of the Convention (CETS No. 55)
Strasbourg, 20 January 1966
Cyprus ratification: 22 January 1969
Law No. 118/1968
51. Protocol No. 6 to the Convention for the Protection of Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms concerning the abolition of the Death Penalty
(CETS No. 114)
Strasbourg, 28 April 1983
Cyprus ratification: 19 January 2000
Law No. 11(III)/1999
52. Protocol No. 7 to the Convention for the Protection of Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms (CETS No. 117)
Strasbourg, 22 November 1984
Cyprus ratification: 15 September 2000
Law No. 18(III)/2000
53. Protocol No. 8 to the Convention for the Protection of Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms (CETS No. 118)
Vienna, 19 March 1985
Cyprus ratification: 13 June 1986
Law No. 35/1986
54. Protocol No. 9 to the Convention for the Protection of Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms (CETS No. 140)
Rome, 6 November 1990
Cyprus ratification: 26 September 1994
Law No. 25(III)/1992
55. Protocol No. 10 to the Convention for the Protection of Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms (CETS No. 146)
Basel, 25 March 1992
Cyprus ratification: 8 February 1994
Law No. 41(III)/1993
56. Protocol No. 11 to the Convention for the Protection of Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms, restructuring the control machinery established thereby (CETS No. 155)
Strasbourg, 11 May 1994
Cyprus ratification: 28 June 1995
Law No. 8(III)/1995
57. Protocol No. 12 to the Convention for the Protection of Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms (CETS No. 177)
Rome, 4 November 2000
Cyprus ratification: 30 April 2002
Law No. 13(III)/2002

58. Protocol No. 13 to the Convention for the Protection of Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms, concerning the abolition of the death penalty in all circumstances (CETS No. 187)

Vilnius, 3 May 2002

Cyprus ratification: 12 March 2003

Law No. 1(III)/2003

59. Protocol No. 14 to the Convention for the Protection of Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms, amending the control system of the Convention (CETS No. 194)

Strasbourg, 13 May 2004

Cyprus ratification: 17 November 2005

Law No. 31(III)/2005

OTHER HUMAN RIGHTS INSTRUMENTS

60. European Social Charter, with appendix (CETS No. 35)

Turin, 18 October 1961

Cyprus ratification: 7 March 1968

Law No. 64/1967 and No. 203/1991

61. Protocol amending the European Social Charter (CETS No. 142)

Turin, 21 October 1991

Cyprus ratification: 1 June 1993

Law No. 10(III)/1993

62. Additional Protocol to the European Social Charter Providing for a System of Collective Complaints (CETS No. 158)

Strasbourg, 9 November 1995

Cyprus ratification: 6 August 1996

Law No. 9(III)/1996

63. European Social Charter (revised) (CETS No. 163)

Strasbourg, 3 May 1996

Cyprus ratification: 27 September 2000

Law No. 27(III)/2000

64. European Convention for the Prevention of Torture and Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment, with Annex (CETS No. 126)

Strasbourg, 26 November 1987

Cyprus ratification: 3 April 1989

Law No. 24/1989

65. Protocol No. 1 to the European Convention for the Prevention of Torture and Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (CETS No. 151)

Strasbourg, 4 November 1993

Cyprus ratification: 10 September 1997

Law No. 8(III)/1997

66. Protocol No. 2 to the European Convention for the Prevention of Torture and Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (CETS No. 152)

Strasbourg, 4 November 1993

Cyprus ratification: 10 September 1997

Law No. 8(III)/1997

67. European Agreement relating to Persons participating in Proceedings of the European Commission and Court of Human Rights (CETS No. 67)

London, 6 May 1969

Cyprus ratification: 23 November 1970

Law No. 76/1970

68. European Agreement relating to Persons participating in Proceedings of the European Commission and Court of Human Rights (CETS No. 161)

London, 5 March 1996

Cyprus ratification: 9 February 2000

Law No. 26(III)/1999

69. European Charter for Regional or Minority Languages (CETS No. 148)

Strasbourg, 5 November 1992

Cyprus ratification: 26 August 2002

Law No. 39(III)/1993

70. Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities

(CETS No. 157)

Strasbourg, 1 February 1995

Cyprus ratification: 4 June 1996

Law No. 28(III)/1995

71. Convention on Cybercrime (CETS No. 185)

Budapest, 23 November 2001

Cyprus ratification: 19 January 2005

Law No. 22(III)/2004

72. Additional Protocol to the Convention on Cybercrime concerning the Criminalisation of Acts of a Racist and Xenophobic Nature committed through Computer Systems (CETS No. 189)

Strasbourg, 28 January 2003

Cyprus ratification: 23 June 2005

Law No. 26(III)/2004

INSTRUMENTS RELATED TO RIGHTS OF CHILDREN

73. European Convention on the Legal Status of Children born out of Wedlock

(CETS No. 85)

Strasbourg, 15 October 1975

Cyprus ratification: 11 July 1979

Law No. 50/1979

74. European Convention on Recognition and Enforcement of Decisions concerning Custody of Children and on Restoration of Custody of Children (CETS No. 105)

Luxembourg, 20 May 1980

Cyprus ratification: 13 June 1986

Law No. 36/1986

75. European Convention on the Exercise of Children's Rights (CETS No. 160)

Strasbourg, 25 January 1996
Cyprus ratification: 25 October 2005
Law No. 23(III)/2005

**ORGANIZATION FOR SECURITY AND COOPERATION IN EUROPE
(OSCE)**

76. Final Act of the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe

Helsinki, 1 August 1975

Cyprus: 1 August 1975

Document of the Copenhagen Meeting of the Conference on the Human Dimension of the CSCE, Copenhagen 1990

Charter of Paris for a New Europe, Paris 1990

Document of the Moscow Meeting of the Conference on the Human Dimension of the CSCE, Moscow 1991

Report of the CSCE Meeting of Experts on National Minorities, Geneva 1991

CSCE Helsinki Document 1992: The Challenges of Change

Summary of Conclusions of the Third Meeting of the Council of the Stockholm Council Meeting, 1992

Compiled by the Office of the Law Commissioner.
Nicosia, October 2006

APPENDIX II

İÇİŞLERİ BAKANLIĞI — NÜFUS KAYIT DAİRESİ

SEÇİM KURULU

..... Kaza Amirine

BAŞVURUNUN AMACI:

 Seçmen Listesine kaydolmak Ev Adresi Değişti Adı Değişti

Seçmen kartını değiştirmek, çünkü:

 Sayfaları Doldu Yıprandı/Kayboldu

BAŞVURANLA İLGİLİ BİLGİLER (Büyük harflerle yazılmalı)

Adı				Soyadı			
Kimlik Kartı Numarası				Doğum Tarihi			
Seçmen Kartı No				Cinsiyeti			
Ev Adresi							
Kaza							
Belediye/Muhtarlık				Semt			
Adres				Numara		Apart. Dair. No	
Posta Kodu		Ev telefonu		İşyeri telefonu			

BAŞVURANLA İLGİLİ BİLGİLER

Göçmense nereli: Kaza							
Belediye/Muhtarlık				Semt			
Göçmen Kartı Numarası							
Mensup olduğu dini grup (Bununla ilgili tasdikname verilmeli)				<input type="checkbox"/> Maronit	<input type="checkbox"/> Ermeni	<input type="checkbox"/> Latin	

BABAYA AİT BİLGİLER

Adı				Soyadı			
Kimlik Kartı Numarası							

ANNEYE AİT BİLGİLER

Adı				Kızlık Soyadı			
Kimlik Kartı Numarası							

EŞE AİT BİLGİLER

Adı				Soyadı			
Kimlik Kartı Numarası							

BAŞVURU YAPANIN BEYANNAMESİ

Yukarıda yazılı verilen bilgilerin doğru olduğunu beyan ediyorum.							
İmza				Tarih/...../.....			

MUHTARIN TASDİKAMESİ

Bildiğim kadarıyla, başvuranın yukarıdaki adreste yaşadığı tasdik edilir.							
Muhtarın imza ve mührü				Tarih/...../.....			

BAŞVURUNUN ALINDIĞI İLE İLGİLİ MAKBUZ

Basvuranın adı ve soyadı:				Kimlik Kartı No:			
Başvurunun verildiği tarih/...../.....							

BAŞVURUYU SUNMAK İÇİN TALİMATLAR

Başvuruyu vermek: Başvuru, başvuran tarafından Kaza Amiri Dairesine verilir.

BU BAŞVURUYLA BERABER SUNULMASI GEREKEN BELGELER

1. Seçmen Listesine kaydolmak için.

- (a) Bir fotoğraf
- (b) Ev adresi için başvurunun muhtar tarafından tasdiki.
- (c) Kimlik Kartı.
- (d) Adın bir evlenme yüzünden değiştiği durumunda Evlenme Belgesi'nin nüshası verilmelidir.

Özel not: Dini Gruplar mensubu olan Maronit, Ermeni veya Latinler, başvurulanna Kiliselerinden özel bir tasdikname eklemelidir.

2. Ev adresinin değiştiği için.

- (a) Seçmen Kartı.
- (b) Ev adresinin değiştirilmesi için başvuru muhtar tarafından tasdik edilmelidir.
- (c) Bir fotoğraf.
- (d) Kimlik Kartı.

3. Yıpranma veya Kayıp nedeniyle Seçmen Kartını değiştirmek için.

- (a) Bir fotoğraf.
- (b) Seçmen Kartı.
- (c) Kimlik Kartı.

4. Sayfaları dolduğu nedeniyle Seçmen Kartını değiştirmek için.

- (a) Bir fotoğraf.
- (b) Seçmen Kartı.
- (c) Kimlik Kartı.

5. Adın değiştiği nedeniyle Seçmen Kartını değiştirmek için.

- (a) Bir fotoğraf.
- (b) Evlenme Belgesi.
- (c) Seçmen Kartı.