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Human Dimension Implementation Meeting 2012  
Republic of Cyprus  
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Tolerance and Non-discrimination I  
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The delegation of Cyprus would like to remind that the HDIM is neither a political forum nor a platform for channeling political positions and/or historical revisionism through non-governmental organisations.

As to the non-participation of Turkish-Cypriot women athletes in the Olympic games, it is recalled that all Turkish-Cypriot athletes have a standing invitation to participate in the Cyprus national team, which they are prevented from doing for the sake of promoting separatism. We would like to remind that the United Nations Security Council has *called upon all States to respect the sovereignty, independence, and territorial integrity of the Republic of Cyprus not to recognize the purported state of the "Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus" set up by secessionist acts and not to facilitate or in any way assist the aforesaid secessionist entity.*

Neither the aggression against and partial occupation of Cyprus nor the unilateral withdrawal of Turkish Cypriots from state institutions of the Republic of Cyprus in 1964 affect the constitutional order of Cyprus in any way or the fact that the Republic of Cyprus is the only subject of international law, which represents all its citizens, and is recognized internationally as such.

This delegation deploras that the consequences of the aggression against Cyprus are presented as affecting primarily the occupying power and its subordinate local administration in the occupied part of the island. The International Court of Justice specifically cites Cyprus as a case where there was "unlawful use of force or other egregious violations of norms of general international law, in particular those of a peremptory character (jus cogens)". Judgments of the European Court of Human Rights have repeatedly stipulated that Turkey is responsible for violations of human rights in the occupied part of Cyprus precisely because it exercises effective control of that area as a consequence of military action, regardless whether this control is exercised directly, through

its armed forces or through a subordinate local administration, such as the one established by Turkey in the northern part of Cyprus.

The Republic of Cyprus attaches the highest importance to the enjoyment of the highest level of human rights by all its citizens. If the Government of Cyprus is unable to guarantee the human rights of most Turkish Cypriots, that is because most of them reside in the occupied area of Cyprus, where the occupying power and not the legitimate Cyprus Government exercises effective control (see relevant ECHR judgments).

The so-called isolation of Turkish-Cypriots is another manifestation of efforts to partition Cyprus in recent years. No sanctions or embargoes have ever been imposed on the Turkish Cypriot community, either by the United Nations Security Council, by the Government of Cyprus or by any other State. The lack of sufficient economic development of Turkish Cypriots was the result of the invasion, occupation and constant attempts by the occupying power to set up an illegal separatist regime in occupied Cypriot territory, attempts that have been condemned by the UN Security Council.

The Government of Cyprus is committed to addressing the occupying power-inflicted economic underdevelopment of the Turkish Cypriot community, notwithstanding the continuing occupation and its consequences or the fact that most Turkish Cypriots reside in the occupied area of Cyprus. As citizens of the Republic of Cyprus, Turkish Cypriots have equal access to all the rights and benefits enjoyed by all other Cypriots and have recourse to independent courts if any of their rights are violated.