

E-5074/09
Reply
(7 December 2009)

The Council is aware of the matter referred to by the Honourable Member.

The European Union (EU) has repeatedly expressed its support for the process launched by the President of the Republic of Cyprus, Mr Demetris Christofias, and the leader of the Turkish Cypriot community, Mr Mehmet Ali Talat, to reach a fair, comprehensive and viable settlement of the Cyprus problem within the UN framework, in accordance with the relevant UN Security Council resolutions and in line with the principles on which the EU is founded.

In this context, Turkey's continued support for efforts to achieve such a comprehensive settlement, including steps to contribute to a favourable climate, the normalisation of bilateral relations between Turkey and all Member States, including the Republic of Cyprus, and recognition of all Member States, are among the requirements against which progress in the negotiation process will be measured. This is systematically stressed by the EU in the various fora for dialogue between the EU and Turkey, most recently during the EU (Troika) - Turkey Political Directors meeting held in Stockholm on 16 July 2009.