

DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS MINISTÈRE DES AFFAIRES EXTÉRIEURES

communiqué

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CANADIAN STATEMENT ON CYPRUS

The Honourable Allan J. MacEachen, Deputy Prime Minister and Secretary of State for External Affairs, issued the following statement concerning events on Cyprus:

"The Government of Canada deeply regrets the decision taken by the Turkish Cypriot Community to declare unilaterally the establishment of an independant Republic in Northern Cyprus on November 15, 1983. Canada recognises only one Cypriot State, the Republic of Cyprus, which is under the leadership of President Kyprianou. We have no plans to recognize the self-proclaimed new state on Cyprus.

This act exacerbates the ongoing efforts strongly supported by Canada which have been undertaken by the UN Secretary General to bring about the reconciliation of the Greek and Turkish communities on Cyprus.

The situation on Cyprus is calm and Canadian citizens do not appear to be in any danger. Our diplomatic representatives are on the island and will be in a position to respond to any requests for consular assistance.

Consultations are currently taking place at the United Nations in New York and as a major troop contributor to UNFICYP, I have requested that Canada speak in the special session of the Security Council expected later this week".

