

The next step belongs to the Cypriot leaders. Canada applauds the readiness of the two parties to renew, after a five-year gap, difficult but necessary high-level talks, under the auspices of the UN Secretary General. Canada hopes that the goodwill and spirit of compromise shown by this decision will be rewarded and will lead to a satisfactory solution for all Cypriots. Canada encourages the participants to persevere despite the obvious difficulties ahead. Failure to do so could well consecrate partition, a result which is desired by no one.

The congratulations and best wishes of the Canadian government also go to the UN Secretary General whose constant faith and continued efforts have made this opening possible."