

ANNEX VIII: RECONCILIATION COMMISSION

Article 1 *Establishment*

1. There shall be an independent, impartial Reconciliation Commission.
2. The authorities of the federal government and the constituent states shall render the Commission full cooperation and shall issue instructions to that effect to all concerned.

Article 2 *Aims*

With the objective of promoting understanding, tolerance and mutual respect between Greek Cypriots and Turkish Cypriots, the Reconciliation Commission shall, *inter alia*:

- a. Promote a dispassionate dialogue between Greek Cypriots and Turkish Cypriots regarding the past, by addressing, *inter alia*, historical perspectives, experiences, and memories;
- b. Prepare a comprehensive report on the history of the Cyprus Problem as experienced and interpreted by Greek Cypriots and Turkish Cypriots;
- c. Make specific recommendations for action by the federal government and the constituent states aimed at promoting reconciliation, including guidelines for publications and school textbooks so as to promote mutual understanding of different perspectives on the past;
- d. Make recommendations for the implementation of the requirement in the Constitution for the teaching of the official languages to all secondary school students; and
- e. Make recommendations on guidelines for the observance of secular public holidays by the constituent states.

Article 3 *Powers*

1. In furtherance of these aims the Reconciliation Commission may, among other things:
 - a. Convene public or private hearings and set up research groups or committees to discuss and/or inquire into questions, facts, events and time periods related to its work;
 - b. Receive information from varied sources, from parties, governments or individuals inside or outside Cyprus;

- c. Request a person attending a hearing of the Commission to give their statement or answer under oath or affirmation, and administer such oath or affirmation;
 - d. Consult experts in relevant fields;
 - e. Request and receive prompt, full and unhindered access to any and all records, archives or information;
 - f. Administer and determine the final status and management arrangements for monuments and memorial sites connected to the events of or between 1963 and 1974, that are located in areas subject to territorial adjustment;
 - g. Prepare and publish interim reports, findings and recommendations;
 - h. Adopt and publish rules, regulations and procedures required for the performance of its functions; and
 - i. Perform other tasks which may be incidental or related to the performance of its functions.
2. The Commission shall have no prosecutorial or other criminal legal function or powers.
 3. The Commission may decide to protect the confidentiality of its sources and proceedings.
 4. The work, proceedings, reports and recommendations of the Commission shall be without prejudice to the work of other existing bodies or committees, including the Committee on Missing Persons in Cyprus.

Article 4 *Composition*

1. The Reconciliation Commission shall be composed of seven men and women, including at least one non-Cypriot member, committed to reconciliation in Cyprus and possessing appropriate integrity, credibility and expertise. The Cypriot members shall hail in equal numbers from each constituent state.
2. The Secretary-General is invited to appoint the members of the Commission, after consultation with the federal government and the constituent states and the public, and to appoint any replacements in the same way.
3. The Commission shall be assisted by a group of qualified staff.

Article 5 *Duration*

1. The process of consultation for appointment of the members of the Reconciliation Commission shall commence no later than 90 days after entry into force of the Foundation Agreement. The Commission

members shall be appointed within a further 60 days and be inaugurated within a further two weeks.

2. Unless the Secretary-General, in consultation with the federal government, the constituent states and the members of the Commission, decides to grant an extension of up to one year, the Commission shall submit its final report on its conclusions and recommendations no later than three years after the constitution of the Commission.

Article 6 *Costs*

The costs of establishing and running the Reconciliation Commission shall be met by the federal government, which may request contributions from the guarantor powers and other international donors.

Article 7 *Remuneration*

The remuneration of the non-Cypriot members of the Reconciliation Commission shall be at the level of the salary of the non-Cypriot members of the Property Board.

Article 8 *Recommendations and reports*

1. The Reconciliation Commission shall submit its reports and recommendations to the Secretary-General of the United Nations, the federal government and the constituent states.
2. The final report and all recommendations by the Reconciliation Commission shall be given wide dissemination by the constituent states. The final report shall be published in English, Greek and Turkish. The findings of the final report shall be reflected in relevant school textbooks.

Article 9 *Follow-Up Procedures*

1. After the submission of the Commission's final report, a follow-up committee, appointed by the Presidential Council after consultation with the constituent states, shall monitor the implementation of the Commission's recommendations.
2. The authorities of the federal government and each constituent state shall be required to submit reports every 120 days to the committee on the implementation of recommendations. Such reports shall explain the reasons for failure to implement specific recommendations.