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Nicosia, 6<sup>th</sup> May 2021

Mr Manfred Weber Chairman EPP Group

Dear Manfred,

As you are aware, the informal conference on Cyprus took place last week in Geneva between the  $27^{th}$  and  $29^{th}$  of April.

At the informal conference the Greek Cypriot side reaffirmed its strong will for a resumption of the talks to reach a comprehensive settlement on the Cyprus issue which will be based on the parameters set by the Security Council Resolutions and the principles on which the European Union is founded.

The solution must be within the agreed framework of a bi-zonal bi-communal federation with political equality. The President of the Republic Mr Nicos Anastasiades has repeatedly stated this.

However, the Turkish Cypriot side and Turkey have proposed a two state solution at the conference, which is completely out of line with the Resolutions of the Security Council of the United Nations and the positions of the European Union.

I would like to kindly ask you for the EPP Group to reaffirm its position that the framework of the solution to the Cyprus problem cannot deviate from the agreed basis of a bi-zonal bi-communal federation with political equality and that the two state solution as proposed by the Turkish Cypriot side and Turkey, cannot in any way be accepted.

In view of the announced intention of the UN Secretary General to convene a new informal meeting in the coming months, we underline that the Greek Cypriot side remains committed to the goal of achieving a lasting and viable solution to the Cyprus problem, according to international law, UN resolutions, on the agreed basis of a bi-zonal, bi-communal federation. A solution which will ensure respect for the human rights and the fundamental freedoms of all Cypriots and will be in line with the acquis and European principles and values.

At this critical time for Cyprus and its people we call on the EPP Group to exercise its influence in order for Turkey to abandon its proposals for a two state solution, to comply with international law and to cooperate in good faith to resolve the Cyprus problem.

I would appreciate if you could forward my letter to the EPP Group members as well.

I thank you in advance and I remain at your disposal.

Averof Neofytou

President, Democratic Rally