07.09.2023

***His Excellency Antonio Guterres***

***Secretary-General of the United Nations***

As the "This Country is Ours Platform", representing a large portion of the Turkish Cypriot Community residing in North Cyprus; created by ~~the~~ political parties, trade unions and non-governmental organisations, we are actively engaged in supporting the United Nations-mediated efforts to find a peaceful solution to the Cyprus problem~~.~~

We strongly protest and condemn the attack on the United Nations officials by those who have resorted to violence instead of choosing dialogue to resolve the issues about the construction of the new road in Pyla.

With a profound understanding that peace is a virtue, we firmly believe in the importance of dialogue in bringing the two communities on our island closer, eliminating prejudices, eradicating racism, and reaching a solution that unites our island.

As the people of a country who had experienced wars and migrations over many decades, we have learned that politics that encourage violence, bloodshed and tears will lead us to *nowhere*.

With total disregard of international law and employing methods that intend to create conflict, we view the attempt to construct the new road in Pyla which falls under the 1974 ceasefire conditions, as a premeditated provocation aimed at inciting tension between the two communities.

We demand that an international investigation be carried out immediately and in accordance with international law and decisions of the European Court of Human Rights those who planned and organized these actions in Pyla, namely the members of the current “subordinate local administration of Türkiye” in north Cyprus as well as those responsible parties in Türkiye be prosecuted in.

Kind Regards,

***This Country Is Ours Platform***