



Rome, 25 – 30 June 2017

24th I.A.O. General Assembly

Subject: «*The Christian dimension of global crisis and ways to address it*»

Resolution on Cyprus issue

The General Assembly of the Interparliamentary Assembly on Orthodoxy, which held its 24th annual meeting in Rome, from the 25th until the 30th of June 2017,

Recalling the ongoing occupation of territory of the Republic of Cyprus by Turkey for 43 years, contrary to the principles of European and international law, especially to the relevant UN resolutions, and in breach of the human rights of the Cypriot people,

Further recalling its prior Resolutions, condemning the deprivation of rights and freedoms of religion and worship of Greek Cypriots, both those entrapped and refugees, as well as the destruction of cultural and religious heritage in the Turkish-occupied territory of Cyprus,

Stressing once again that the Cyprus issue is a problem of invasion and ongoing occupation,

Unanimously:

1. *Reaffirms* its support and solidarity for the struggle of the Cypriot people to achieve a fair and sustainable solution to the Cyprus problem, on the basis of the relevant UN resolutions and the principles and values of the European Union.
2. *Looks forward* to a successful outcome of the current phase of talks for a comprehensive resolution of the Cyprus issue.
3. *Invites* Turkey to end the occupation and settlement, as well as to restore the fundamental human rights and basic freedoms of the entire Cypriot people, essentially contributing to the resolution of the Cyprus issue, which will restore the sovereignty,

independence and territorial integrity of the Republic of Cyprus and serve the best interests of all Cypriots.

4. *Invites* Turkey to also respect the places of worship and cemeteries of the Orthodox Church of Cyprus and contribute constructively to their restoration and maintenance, proceeding to the necessary actions to the occupation army to avert further desecration and looting of religious and cultural heritage in the Cypriot territory under its occupation.
5. *Expects* that, the content of the solution will safeguard the freedom of religion and the right of worship for all Cypriot citizens, while in parallel every possible effort will be made to restore and preserve the cultural and religious heritage all over the country.
6. *Appeals* to all Members of the Assembly and the international community to contribute in the efforts for a solution, exercising their influence on Turkey to this effect.