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Rt Hon Sir Roger Gale MP  
House of Commons  
London  
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Our ref: MC2021/09715  
Your ref:

7 May 2021

*Dear Sir Roger,*

Thank you for your letter of 13 April as the Chair of the All-Party Parliamentary Group for Cyprus to the Foreign Secretary. I am replying as the Minister for the European Neighbourhood and the Americas.

On 27-29 April, in support of the efforts led by the UN Secretary General to find common ground on a way forward to resolve the Cyprus Issue, the Foreign Secretary represented the UK as a Guarantor Power at informal UN talks in Geneva.


At the meeting, the Foreign Secretary continued to urge all sides to demonstrate flexibility and compromise to find a solution to the Cyprus Issue within the UN Security Council parameters. This followed his messaging delivered to the parties ahead of the talks, and by me during my visit to the island on 7-9 April.

Unfortunately, at the end of the meeting the UN Secretary General concluded that the sides had not yet found enough common ground to allow for the resumption of formal negotiations. While this was disappointing, we welcome the prospect of further UN-led informal talks between the parties.

With regard to EU attendance at the talks, the UK was clear that the decision was for the UN and the parties alone to decide. The EU will have an important role to play in any formal negotiations, as they have done in the past.

Ahead of a further round of talks, the UK will continue to engage with all parties to Settlement. As part of this engagement, we will continue to urge the parties to refrain from any actions or rhetoric, including in Varosha or in the waters around Cyprus, which would damage the prospects of further talks. On these issues, the British Government continues to make its position clear in public and in private.

I assure you that the UK remains committed to supporting the UN process to reach a Settlement in Cyprus, which will be in the best interest for all Cypriots and enhance regional stability and security.

Yours ever,  


**Wendy Morton MP**  
**Minister for the European Neighbourhood and the Americas**