

Statement made by the SASG on behalf of the leaders following the meeting of 17 September 2014

- **The leaders welcomed my appointment by the Secretary General as his new Special Advisor on Cyprus.**
- **The leaders met today in a friendly and constructive atmosphere following their fruitful discussions at dinner last night. They have reviewed the state of play in the talks thus far. They agreed that their negotiators and teams had completed submitting proposals on all issues and recognised the enormous amount of work that had been conducted to conclude the second phase of the negotiations.**
- **The leaders have reaffirmed their commitment to lead the negotiations in an interdependent, results-oriented manner, through a win win approach, with the aim to reach a settlement as soon as possible, and hold separate simultaneous referenda thereafter, in order to put an end to the unacceptable status quo, as outlined in the Joint Declaration.**
- **The leaders agreed to move to the next phase of structured negotiations. They have instructed their negotiators to enter into active negotiations with a view to**

bridging the gaps through real negotiation on unresolved core issues and to increase the pace of their meetings.

- **The leaders agreed to increase also the frequency of their meetings, as appropriate, and to hold meetings at least twice per month.**
- **Finally, the leaders would like to thank Ms. Bittenheim for her tireless efforts in facilitating the talks during the past five months as acting Special Advisor to the Secretary General on Cyprus.**