**Statement delivered by the Special Adviser of the Secretary-General on Cyprus Mr. Espen Barth Eide on behalf of the Greek Cypriot leader Mr. Nicos Anastasiades and the Turkish Cypriot leader Mr. Mustafa Akıncı**

Monday, 12th October 2015

Today, the Greek Cypriot leader Mr. Nicos Anastasiades, and the Turkish Cypriot leader, Mr. Mustafa Akıncı, deliberated on the outstanding issues in the negotiations. Conscious of the need to build on the current momentum, they had a constructive exchange on remaining divergences and instructed the negotiators on the way forward.

The leaders welcomed the initiation of the work of the bi-communal ad-hoc committee on EU preparation, which aims at preparing the future Turkish Cypriot Constituent State for the implementation of the EU acquis upon entry into force of the settlement agreement.

The leaders recognise that serious work still lies ahead and re-iterated their commitment to significantly intensify the pace of their negotiations following their next meeting on Friday 30th October.

End.