PERMANENT MISSION OF THE REPUBLIC OF SERBIA TO THE UNITED NATIONS СТАЛНА МИСИЈА РЕПУБЛИКЕ СРБИЈЕ ПРИ УЈЕДИЊЕНИМ НАЦИЈАМА

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The Permanent Mission of the Republic of Serbia to the United Nations presents its compliments to the Secretary-General of the United Nations and, with reference to the latter's Note No. LA/COD/4 of 29 February 2008 relative to UNGA resolution 61/31 entitled Consideration of effective measures to enhance the protection, security and safety of diplomatic and consular missions and representatives, has the honour to forward, enclosed herewith, a report on some practical measures taken by competent Serbian authorities to enhance the protection, security and safety of diplomatic and consular missions and representatives.

The Permanent Mission of the Republic of Serbia to the United Nations avails itself of this opportunity to renew to the Secretary-General of the United Nations the assurances of its highest consideration.

New York, 10 June 2008

Secretary-General United Nations New York

THE REPUBLIC OF SERBIA: PRACTICAL MEASURES TAKEN TO ENHANCE THE PROTECTION, SECURITY AND SAFETY OF DIPLOMATIC AND CONSULAR MISSIONS AND REPRESENTATIVES

The Republic of Serbia has been very strict in implementing UNGA resolution 61/31, with the aim of enhancing the protection, security and safety of diplomatic and consular missions and representatives.

The competent Serbian authorities took a number of measures following the spontaneous demonstrations that broke out in Belgrade and in some other parts of the country in the wake of the unilateral declaration of independence of Kosovo and Metohija in the period between 17 and 22 February 2008. The Police Department of Belgrade apprehended 196 persons on suspicion of having committed a criminal offence and/or an offence of misdemeanour. Out of that number, 130 persons have been charged; 34 of them have been detained under Art. 229 of the Law on Criminal Procedure of the Republic of Serbia because of the commission of the criminal offence of Grand Larceny from Art. 204 of the Criminal Code of the Republic of Serbia and Participation in the Group Which Committed a Criminal Offence from Art. 349 of the Criminal Code of the Republic of Serbia. Out of the 34 detained persons, 7 persons have been arraigned, while requests to institute proceedings for the commission of an offence of misdemeanour have been made against 19 persons. Evidence against 47 persons is being collected in order to try them before competent courts of law,

During the demonstrations, 204 persons requested medical assistance in the territory of the Belgrade Police Department; 188 of them sustained light and 16 grievous bodily harm. Out of the overall number, 96 persons were police officers (7 of them sustained grievous and 89 light bodily harm).

A number of official police vehicles were damaged during the demonstrations.

Except in the building of the Embassy of the United States, no investigation has been carried out in other affected diplomatic/consular missions because no approval and/or damage claims have been received yet.

The Ministry of Internal Affairs of the Republic of Serbia continues to take measures to identify persons that made threats or damage the buildings, vehicles and/or equipment of a diplomatic/consular mission. In addition to the provision of 24-hour physical security, regular measures have also been taken to protect the life, rights and freedom of movement of members of diplomatic/consular missions in the entire territory of the Republic of Serbia