



PERMANENT MISSION OF FINLAND

YKE7071-9

VERBAL NOTE

The Permanent Representative of Finland to the United Nations presents his compliments to the Secretary General of the United Nations and, with reference to note LA/COD/4 of 9 April 2010, has the honour to inform of the following incidents pursuant to paragraphs 10 and 12 of the United Nations General Assembly resolution 63/126 of 11 December 2008 entitled "Consideration of effective measures to enhance the protection, security and safety of diplomatic and consular missions and representatives".

On 21 October 2008 the chancery of the Embassy of Turkey was attacked by five men who threw petrol bombs against the Embassy's door. One person was slightly injured during the attack. The men were subsequently seized and sentenced to conditional imprisonment for sabotage and to pay compensation to the Embassy by the Helsinki District Court. The Finnish authorities strengthened security procedures around the Embassy for some time.

On 25 May 2009 damage was caused to the premises of the Embassy of Ukraine in Helsinki. The damage was caused by someone shooting a paintball weapon against the windows of the Embassy. The exploding paint pellets stained part of the Embassy's windows and paving. The incident was investigated by the police but the offender/s remained unknown. The Ministry for Foreign Affairs paid compensation to the Embassy for the repair work carried out because of the damages.

The Finnish authorities wish to assure the Secretary General that they take very seriously their duty to take all appropriate action to protect the premises of diplomatic missions against any intrusion or damage and to prevent any attack on the person of the staff members of the missions. Finland also wishes to emphasize the importance of co-operation on security matters not only at the international level, but also at the national level between the missions and the competent local authorities.

The Permanent Representative of Finland to the United Nations avails himself of this opportunity to renew to the Secretary General of the United Nations the assurance of his highest consideration.

New York, 27 May 2010



His Excellency
the Secretary-General
of the United Nations
New York