

**New York** 

The Permanent Mission of Sweden to the United Nations presents its compliments to the Secretary-General of the United Nations and has the honour to refer to his note LA/COD/4 of 31 December 2008 drawing attention to 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". In response to the Secretary-General's request in the aforementioned note, Sweden would like to provide the following report.

"Report on serious violations of the protection, security and safety of diplomatic and consular missions and representatives in Sweden 2008-2009 (General Assembly Resolution 63/126 of 11 December 2008)"

The Permanent Mission of Sweden 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, May 2010



#### Memorandum

#### REGERINGSKANSLIFT

### Utrikesdepartementet

11 May 2010

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Copy to:

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Head of the Department for International Law, Human Rights and Treaty Law
Wessblad Hårdh, Department for International Law, Human Rights and Treaty Law
For further discussion to the delegation in New York Chief of Protocol
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Report on serious violations of the protection, security and safety of diplomatic and consular missions and representatives in Sweden 2008–2009 (General Assembly Resolution 63/126 of 11 December 2008)

During the last two years the following incidents involving the protection, security and safety of diplomatic and consular missions and representatives have occurred in Sweden.

### Argentina

On 18 January 2008 an unidentified person said on the telephone to an employee of the Embassy that they would be filled with gas and then blown up. The person then made subsequent calls in which they targeted more threats and insults at Embassy staff.

### Denmark

On 14–17 August 2009 an unidentified person threw white paint and eggs at the Consulate's entrance and wall. 'Stop the deportations' was written on the wall.

#### Georgia

On two separate occasions an unidentified perpetrator stole the Embassy's national flag. This occurred on the night of 27 September 2009 and the night of 31 October to 1 November 2008.

## Greece

A break-in occurred at the residence on 26 September 2009 and objects worth approximately SEK 1.5 million were stolen. The investigation has been abandoned due to a lack of new leads.

### Iran

On 26 June 2009 a demonstration against the Embassy took place, during which a scuffle broke out when some 20 participants shouted offensive slogans, pushed down the Embassy fence and proceeded to punch five Embassy officials and throw stones at the Embassy roof and windows, and at Embassy cars. The investigation into violent riot has been abandoned due to a lack of conclusive evidence. However, an investigation into vandalism is under way.

In addition the Embassy received telephone threats on a number of occasions during the autumn of 2009, including a threat to blow up the Embassy building with bombs and ammunition.

#### Israel

On 4 February 2009 Israel's Ambassador gave a presentation at a university and had a shoe and books thrown at him by two people. One person turned out to be suspected of harassment in this matter.

#### Tapan

On 16 November 2009 the Embassy received a letter stating that a bomb would be placed at the Embassy and detonated via a timer. The investigation was abandoned due to a lack of evidence.

# <u>Libya</u>

On 20 October 2008 a private individual (a Libyan citizen and asylum seeker) subjected the Embassy to gross vandalism by breaking down the gate with an iron bar and then tearing down plants and a poster of Gaddafi and smashing a window in the reception. He was sentenced to three years' imprisonment for unlawful intrusion and gross vandalism. However, the judgment has been appealed.

#### Pakistan

On 24 February 2009 a member of the administrative and technical staff had a copper bullet shot at their apartment, smashing a window. On 5

April 2009 unidentified persons threw stones at the home of another of the Embassy's administrative and technical staff, which resulted in a window being smashed and several stones landing in the bedroom.

# **Philippines**

On 7 August 2008 an email was sent by an individual to the Embassy stating that he was going to kill at least five unspecified individuals. He referred to an incident in 2005 when his wife was accidentally killed by a rallying mob of five students who were being chased by a police officer.

### Saudi Arabia

On 6 May 2009 a man set fire to his car with lighter fluid and then tried to set fire to the main door of the Embassy. He was arrested following the intervention of the Embassy's security guards and has been given a two-month prison sentence with an electronic ankle and a probationary period until September 2010 for attempted vandalism.

# United States of America

On 12 June 2008 an Embassy official received a text message containing the words 'Tomorrow at the latest. Otherwise we'll send a suicide bomber'. A person who had threatened that there were bombs inside and outside the Embassy building was ruled out as he was sentenced for another crime.

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Moreover, a number of minor violations of the protection, security and safety of diplomatic and consular missions and representatives in Sweden were reported during this period. These incidents included trespass on embassy premises, low-level threats, petty thefts and burglaries, and some cases of harassment of visitors to missions. There have also been a couple of cases involving various kinds of graffiti on embassy premises and some minor damage to embassy property.