

**BİRLEŞMİŞ MİLLETLER NEZDİNDE
TÜRKİYE DAİMİ TEMSİLCİLİĞİ**

**PERMANENT MISSION OF TURKEY
TO THE UNITED NATIONS**

2008/Turkuno DT/21248

The Permanent Mission of Turkey to the United Nations presents its compliments to the Secretary-General of the United Nations and in response to the report submitted by Greece to the Secretary-General concerning the General Assembly resolution 61/31 entitled "Consideration of effective measures to enhance the protection, security and safety of diplomatic and consular missions and representatives" (Ref:LA/COD/4 of 22 August 2008) has the honour to further report the following.

In connection with paragraph II (b) of the report submitted by Greece, the Permanent Mission of Turkey to the United Nations would like to draw the attention to the last sentence of paragraph (1) of its previous report (Ref: 2008/Turkuno DT/9988 of 15 May 2008) which reads as follows: "Furthermore, in spite of the requests of the Turkish Embassy that demonstrators be kept at a distance from the Embassy, Greek police in some cases want to negotiate **with the officials of the Turkish Embassy** so that the demonstrators can approach the entrance of the Embassy building in order to post their declarations on the door" (emphasis added). The Permanent Mission of Turkey to the United Nations would like to underline that it is the subject matter of the negotiation, rather than its addressee that might adversely affect the security and safety of diplomatic missions.

The reporting mechanism established pursuant to the relevant General Assembly resolutions on the agenda item "Consideration of effective measures to enhance the protection, security and safety of diplomatic and consular missions and representatives" is functional both in terms of bringing the serious violations of the protection, safety and security of diplomatic and consular missions and representatives to the attention of States and informing them about measures taken and results achieved. For, it was appraised only through the report submitted by Greece of the steps taken by the Greek authorities as regards the simultaneous arson attacks committed against the vehicles of the personnel of the Turkish Embassy and Consulate General in Athens, since the repeated requests of the Turkish authorities seeking information in this regard remain unresponded to date. In connection with paragraph I (a) of the report submitted by Greece, the Permanent Mission of Turkey to the United Nations wishes to recall that the local police authorities themselves described these arson attacks as "terror acts".

H.E. Mr. Ban Ki-moon
Secretary-General of the United Nations
New York

On 16 July 2008, shortly after the submission of the previous report, the car of the Attache of the Turkish Embassy in Athens was damaged by unknown person(s). With its Note Verbale dated 16 July 2008, the Turkish Embassy has brought the incident immediately to the attention of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Greece and requested the Ministry to inform the relevant Greek authorities. The response from the Greek Ministry of Foreign Affairs was however received on 4 September 2008 which only states that the relevant authorities have been informed about the incident and omits any substantive information as to the follow up of the said incident.

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

