
Translated from French

PERMANENT MISSION OF BURKINA FASO
TO THE UNITED NATIONS

MIPER/BF No. 11.568/TSD/ac

New York, 28 October 2011

The Permanent Mission of Burkina Faso to the United Nations presents its compliments to the Codification Division of the Office of Legal Affairs of the United Nations Secretariat and, with reference to its note verbale No. LA/COD/4 dated 15 July 2011 on a request for an explanation concerning the theft of the vehicle of the Ambassador of the Kingdom of Belgium to Burkina Faso, has the honour to transmit to it herewith the original of note verbale No. 2011-004819/MAE-CR/SG/DGAJC/DJAC/SAJC dated 20 October 2011 from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Regional Cooperation of Burkina Faso.

The Permanent Mission of Burkina Faso to the United Nations takes this opportunity to convey to the Codification Division of the Office of Legal Affairs of the United Nations Secretariat the renewed assurances of its highest consideration.

Codification Division
Office of Legal Affairs
United Nations Secretariat
380 Madison Ave., 13th Floor
New York, NY 10017

Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Regional Cooperation of Burkina Faso

No. 2011-004819/MAE-CR/SG/DGAJA/DAJC/SAJC

Ouagadougou, 20 October 2011

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Regional Cooperation of Burkina Faso presents its compliments to the United Nations Secretariat in New York and, in response to its note verbale No. LA/COD/4 of 15 July 2011 on a request for an explanation under paragraph 10 (b) of General Assembly resolution 65/30 concerning the theft of the vehicle of the Ambassador of the Kingdom of Belgium to Burkina Faso, has the honour to inform it of the following.

During the months of February to June 2011, Burkina Faso experienced a serious social and political crisis. In particular, a number of demonstrations by civilians and soldiers in several of the country's cities caused not only considerable material damage and loss of life but also concern among Burkina Faso's partners.

It was in this difficult context that the official vehicle of the Ambassador of the Kingdom of Belgium was seized on the afternoon of 14 April 2011, as the Ambassador returned home, by soldiers who had mutinied.

As soon as it was notified of the theft, the Government took the necessary measures and the vehicle was found and returned to the Embassy.

The Embassy also applied to the Government for compensation to cover the costs it had incurred in repairing the vehicle. That application is currently being processed.

In the light of this situation and in order to prevent this kind of incident from occurring in the future, the Government has taken the following measures:

- Dismissal from the national army of the 566 soldiers who mutinied;
- Establishment of a security mechanism for the special protection of diplomatic and consular missions and offices accredited to Burkina Faso, as well as persons enjoying diplomatic status.

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Regional Cooperation of Burkina Faso takes this opportunity to convey to the United Nations Secretariat in New York the renewed assurances of its highest consideration.

United Nations Secretariat
New York