



Permanent Mission
of the Federal Republic of Germany
to the United Nations
New York

Note No. 269/2012

The Permanent Mission of the Federal Republic of Germany to the United Nations presents its compliments to the Secretary-General of the United Nations and, with reference to Note Verbale LA/COD/4 of 14 June 2012, has the honor to transmit the following information:

Following the soiling of the Embassy of the Syrian Arab Republic with red paint during the night of 31 May to 1 June 2011, preliminary proceedings were initiated by the public prosecution office for criminal damage to property. In addition, the frequency of mobile police patrols in front of the Embassy premises was increased.

Following the storming of the Syrian Embassy in the late evening of 31 May 2011, during which several individuals broke through the Embassy premises' entry gate, entered the Embassy building, destroyed photos and stole a Syrian flag (retrieved by the Police and returned to the Ambassador the next day), permanent property protection by the Police was ordered and a perimeter fence placed on the street. Preliminary proceedings were initiated by the public prosecution office for infringements of the law concerning assemblies and processions, disturbance of the public peace, and violation of flags and state symbols of foreign states.

Following the storming of the Syrian Embassy on 3 February 2012, during which approximately 50 individuals climbed the Embassy fence, broke a backdoor of the Embassy building and damaged the Embassy interior, the Police quickly removed the individuals from the premises and established their identities. Preliminary proceedings were initiated by the public prosecution office for infringements of the law concerning assemblies and processions, disturbance of the public peace, and criminal damage to property.

The Federal Foreign Office has expressed to the Embassy of the Syrian Arab Republic its sincere regrets for the incidents and has *ex-gratia* offered to cover the costs arising from the repair of the damages.

In order to prevent further attempts by demonstrators to enter premises of the Syrian Embassy, the Embassy was encouraged to increase the height of the Embassy fence, currently only approx. one meter in height.

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

New York 06 July 2012

To
H.E. Mr. Ban Ki-moon
Secretary-General of the United Nations
Room NL 3019
New York, NY 10017

