

Translated from Spanish

Permanent Mission of El Salvador to the United Nations

DNU-0075

The Permanent Mission of the Republic of El Salvador to the United Nations refers to resolution 67/94, entitled “Consideration of effective measures to enhance the protection, security and safety of diplomatic and consular missions and representatives”, in which States were requested to submit their views with respect to “any measures needed or already taken to enhance the protection, security and safety of diplomatic and consular missions and representatives as well as missions and representatives with diplomatic status to international intergovernmental organizations”.

In this connection, the Permanent Mission of El Salvador to the United Nations has the honour to submit ... the report of the Republic of El Salvador on the matter in question.

New York, 21 April 2014

Republic of El Salvador in Central America

“Consideration of effective measures to enhance the protection, security and safety of diplomatic and consular missions and representatives”

Report by the Republic of El Salvador in reference to United Nations General Assembly resolution 67/94

The Republic of El Salvador submits this report in reference to resolution 67/94, in which States were requested to submit their views with respect to “any measures needed or already taken to enhance the protection, security and safety of diplomatic and consular missions and representatives as well as missions and representatives with diplomatic status to international intergovernmental organizations”.

With regard to the matter in question, the Republic of El Salvador, as a State party to the Vienna Convention on Diplomatic Relations, stresses the importance of article 22.2 of that Convention, which states that: “The receiving State is under a special duty to take all appropriate steps to protect the premises of the mission against any intrusion or damage and to prevent any disturbance of the peace of the mission or impairment of its dignity”.

On the basis of that provision, El Salvador has procedures in place to ensure the protection of diplomatic and consular representatives. Generally, at the request of a diplomatic mission, international organization or their accredited officials in the country, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, through the Directorate-General of Protocol and Honours, is able to instruct the VIP Protection Division of the National Civil Police of El Salvador to provide round-the-clock protection. In addition, internal practice indicates that it is possible to apply to the VIP Protection Division directly for protection.

As reported at previous sessions, the level of protection afforded may vary according to the specific requests made by diplomats or international organizations; however, it should be noted that the National Civil Police of El Salvador has the organizational structure in place to meet any needs that may arise. .

This is a key point, since guaranteeing the security and safety of diplomatic missions and their representatives is a duty of all States, with a view to ensuring that diplomats can carry out their functions effectively in the country in which they are accredited and, above all, guaranteeing respect for their human rights, including their right to life, to personal integrity and to freedom.

To date, the records prove that all submitted requests have been met and that the requested security and protection measures were provided by the Salvadoran authorities. In addition, the National Civil Police has been made aware of all cases in which diplomats, their premises and international organizations have been the targets of crime, so that a proper investigation can be launched and any necessary legal action brought before the competent authorities.
