



**United Nations General Assembly | Sixth Committee**  
**Consideration of effective measures to enhance the protection, security and**  
**safety of diplomatic and consular missions and representatives**  
**(Agenda item 84)**  
11 November 2020

*(check against delivery)*

Mr. Chairman,

Diplomatic and consular immunities lie at the core of international law, since they protect the channels through which States can dialogue, cooperate and peacefully settle disputes. As recognized in the preamble of both 1961 and 1963 Vienna Conventions, the respect for rules and principles governing diplomatic and consular relations is essential for developing and strengthening friendly relations among States.

The Vienna Conventions affirm that archives and documents shall be inviolable at all times "wherever they may be". They also recognize the inviolability of official correspondence and clearly establish the receiving State's duty to permit free communication of diplomatic and consular missions for all official purposes. These treaties clearly acknowledge that, in order to communicate with their headquarters or

other posts, diplomatic and consular missions may employ "all appropriate means".

Information technology has significantly evolved from the 1960s to our days. Today, communications are no longer dependent on physical support and can circulate through technologically sophisticated channels. Archives and documents exist not only on paper, but also on digital platforms. Regardless of all these changes, it remains beyond doubt that diplomatic and consular communications, archives and documents must be protected both offline and online.

Mr. Chairman,

My delegation remains convinced that resolutions adopted under this agenda item need to adequately address the challenges faced in promoting all dimensions of the protection, security and safety of diplomatic and consular missions. Brazil stands ready to continue to engage in this regard, both in the current session and in future ones.

Thank you.