MISYON NG PILIPINAS SA MGA NAGKAKAISANG BANSA



PHILIPPINE MISSION TO THE UNITED NATIONS

No.

The Permanent Mission of the Republic of the Philippines to the United Nations presents its compliments to the Office of Legal Affairs of the United Nations, and has the honor to refer to the latter's Note No. LA/COD/4 dated 11 January 2022 requesting information on serious violations of the protection, security and safety of diplomatic and consular missions and representatives as well as missions and representatives.

The Permanent Mission submits the enclosed information from the Republic of the Philippines. The electronic version of inputs will be sent to 6thcommittee@un.org.

The Permanent Mission of the Republic of the Philippines to the United Nations avails itself of this opportunity to renew to the Secretariat of the United Nations the assurances of its highest consideration.

New York, 24 May 2022

THE SECRETARIAT OF THE UNITED NATIONS

Attention: Codification Division, Office of Legal Affairs

Email: 6thcommittee@un.org

PROTECTION, SECURITY AND SAFETY OF DIPLOMATIC AND CONSULAR MISSIONS AND REPRESENTATIVES

- 1. The Philippine Government provides the following information on incidents affecting the security and safety of diplomatic missions or their personnel that have taken place within its territory during the relevant reporting period:
 - a. Incidences of theft and robbery in the diplomatic missions and residences:
 - b. Demonstrations in front of the Embassy of the Kingdom of Netherlands;
 - c. Cases of intrusions into diplomatic mission properties by a real estate developer and agents of a government agency;
 - d. Fire causing property damages to the Embassy of the Russian Federation; and
 - e. Apprehension and custody of two diplomats for alleged violation of guidelines on the mandatory wearing of face masks, and for reportedly committing offenses such as alarm and scandal, disobedience to a person in authority, resisting arrest, and obstruction of justice.
 - 2. For a and b above, the Philippine National Police investigated the incidences of crime and increased security personnel presence outside the premises of the diplomatic missions and residences. For c, the Philippine Department of Foreign Affairs facilitated discussions with the developer and the government agency for the resolution and/or reparation of damages to the diplomatic premises.
 - On d, the employees of the Embassy were promptly evacuated and attended to. Finally, for e, the Philippine Department of Foreign Affairs made representations with law enforcement authorities and facilitated the release of the diplomats. Investigation is both ongoing on the cause of the fire and to establish the facts leading to the apprehension and custody and the alleged mistreatment of the diplomats.
- 3. The Philippines is cognizant of its obligations under the conventions with regard to the protection, security and safety of diplomatic and consular missions and representatives. In particular, the Philippines upholds its 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 (Article XXII, Section 2) and to take all appropriate steps to prevent any attack on the person, freedom, and dignity of a diplomatic agent (Article XXIX).
- 4. In compliance with its international obligations to uphold the inviolability of diplomatic premises as well as to protect diplomatic agents in its territory, the Philippine Government has established a specific unit under the Philippine National Police, namely the Police Security and Protection Group (PSPG), mandated to secure and protect national government officials, members of the

diplomatic corps and visiting foreign dignitaries in the country. Requests for the deployment of the PSPG to the embassy or consular premises are sent to the Department of Foreign Affairs and considered by its Intelligence and Security Unit.

The PSPG specifically caters to the security and protection needs of the members of the diplomatic corps. In addition to deployment of permanent and round-the-clock guards at the premises, the PSPG is equipped with a specific set of training to effectively enhance security of the persons of diplomatic agents and thwart unwanted incidents against them.

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Permanent Mission of the Republic of the Philippines to the United Nations, New York, 24 May 2022