



REPUBLIC OF MOZAMBIQUE

STATEMENT

BY

THE DELEGATION

OF THE REPUBLIC OF MOZAMBIQUE

AT THE SIXTH COMMITTEE DURING THE

79TH SESSION OF THE UNITED NATIONS

GENERAL ASSEMBLY

ON THE

**AGENDA ITEM 82: CONSIDERATION OF
EFFECTIVE MEASURES TO ENHANCE THE
PROTECTION, SECURITY AND SAFETY OF
DIPLOMATIC AND CONSULAR MISSIONS
AND REPRESENTATIVES**

01 November 2024 (15:00)

United Nations

New York

Mr. Chair,

1. My delegation would like to thank the Secretary General and the contributing States for the Report on "Consideration of effective measures to enhance the protection, security and safety of diplomatic and consular missions and representatives".

2. Compliance with the principles and norms governing diplomatic and consular relations is essential to foster peaceful and friendly relations among States.

3. Regrettably, and as we can read from the Secretary General's Report, diplomatic and consular missions and their representatives, missions, and representatives to international organizations continue facing violent incidents and attacks. Despite the decreasing number of States reporting such incidents, from 15 in 2022 to 11 in 2024, which is worth noting, the matter remains of great concern.

4. In this connection, we strongly condemn the violations of principles and norms governing diplomatic and consular relations. We urge all States to enhance, as required, their obligation of protection, security, and safety of those missions and representatives.

5. We express our solidarity with Colleagues, victims of such illegal acts.

Mr Chair,

6. From Article 29 of the Vienna Convention on Diplomatic Relations, it is clear that the personal inviolability of diplomats includes anything that is offensive to the dignity of their position. And I quote: "The receiving State shall treat him with due respect and shall take all appropriate steps to prevent any attack on his person, freedom or dignity". End of quote. The Vienna Convention also determines that this inviolability continues even in the event of armed conflict or breaking of diplomatic relations.

In our view, the protection of the inviolability should also include practical measures to prevent and prohibit illegal activities of persons, groups, and organizations that call into question such inviolability.

7. As international legal experts, we should keep the message to our national authorities of the precise legal meaning of the inviolability of diplomatic missions and their representatives and its priority, notwithstanding the duty to respect the laws and regulations of the receiving State. Each failure to comply should touch us directly.

Mr Chair,

8. We understand that the debate on this topic in the Sixth Committee aims essentially to reinforce the commitment of States to comply with their international obligations. In that connection, we welcome the measures that have been taken and reinforced by States in conformity with their international obligations.

9. As the United Nations and its Member States have been applying a positive partnership on this matter, the well-established practice of reporting to the Secretary-General, and the urgent response from the State in which the violation occurs has enabled improvements and compliance. We, therefore, encourage the consolidation of this good practice.

Mr Chair,

10. Regarding measures to enhance protection of diplomatic and consular missions and their representatives, we share the understanding that States must cooperate closely, mainly through the required and unconditional availability of the receiving State for contacts with the diplomatic and consular missions concerning practical measures, including those of a preventive nature, as well as the timely exchange of information on the circumstances of all serious violations.

11. To conclude, Mr. Chair, we reiterate the importance of debating this topic in the Sixth Committee. The inviolability and other privileges and immunities granted to diplomatic and consular missions and representatives, as well as missions and representatives to international intergovernmental organizations and officials of such organizations, are of great importance. Without it, it would not be possible for the diplomatic institution itself to exist.

I thank you!