

Translated from Spanish

Permanent Mission of Mexico to the United Nations

[12 June 2024]

Ref. No. ONU02119

Annex

1. With regard to the incident on 1 June 2022, the Embassy of the Russian Federation, by note verbale No. 282/n received on 7 June 2022, reported that a Swedish citizen had reported an explosive planted in the Embassy premises. In response, the Directorate-General of Protocol of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, through official letter PRO-06217 of 6 June 2022, requested the Department of Public Security of Mexico City to increase the size of patrol teams and the frequency of their rounds. By note verbale PRO-06218 of 6 June 2022, the Russian Federation was informed that the request had been transmitted to the competent authorities of the Department of Public Security. In line with its procedures, the Department of Public Security took special security measures and determined that it had been a false threat.
2. With regard to the incident reported on 6 June 2022, the Embassy of the Russian Federation, by note verbale No. 288/n received on 7 June 2022, reported receipt of an email notifying it of the alleged presence of explosives in the Embassy and the Consulate. In response, the Directorate-General of Protocol of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, by official letter PRO-06217 of 6 June 2022, requested the Department of Public Security of Mexico City to increase the size of patrol teams and the frequency of their rounds. In addition, by note verbale PRO-06218 of 6 June 2022, the Embassy was informed that the request had been transmitted to the authorities of the Department of Public Security. The Department of Public Security implemented security and surveillance measures to safeguard people and the premises. During its search of the premises, a special unit of the Department of Public Security determined that it had been a false threat.
3. The Embassy of the Russian Federation did not report the incident of 26 June 2022 to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. Nevertheless, the Department of Public Security of Mexico City responded to the incident upon instructions from the Secretary for Security of Mexico City. The affected individual was a Russian businessman and not an official accredited by the Embassy. The Office of the Public Prosecutor of Mexico City opened investigation file No. CI-FIVC/TUR-2/UI-3 S/D/00078/06-2023.
4. With regard to the incident of 8 July 2022, the Embassy of the Russian Federation, by note verbale No. 354/n received on 14 July 2022, reported a shooting in the vicinity of the

Embassy, in which some bullets hit the Embassy railings and a warhead damaged an official vehicle. The Directorate-General of Protocol of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, by note verbale PRO-08032 of 26 July 2022, expressed its regret over the incident and offered support for any action required, pending the filing of a complaint. The Auxiliary Police of Mexico City, which surveils the property, reported the incident and made an informal request that the security of the premises be strengthened. It was determined to have been an isolated incident.

5. With regard to the incident of 18 November 2023, the Embassy of the Russian Federation, by note No. 860/n received on 21 November 2023, reported an armed attack at a traffic light near the Embassy. In response, the Directorate-General of Protocol of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, through official letter PRO-15849 of 1 December 2023, requested the Department of Public Security of Mexico City to enhance security and explore the feasibility of installing a camera operated by Mexico City's centre for command, control, computing, communications and public contact at the site of the incident. Investigation file No. CI-FIMH/UAT-MH-4/UI-1 S/D/02121/11-2023 was also forwarded to the Directorate-General of Legal Affairs for follow-up. The Department of Public Security has yet to respond to the request for closed-circuit television recording.

6. With regard to the incident of 13 March 2024, the Embassy of the Russian Federation, by note No. 166/n received on 19 March 2024, reported an attempted robbery of a diplomatic official in the vicinity of the central market. In response, the Directorate-General of Protocol of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, by note verbale PRO-04298 of 19 April 2024, recommended that the Embassy follow up on the complaint filed. The attempted robbery was determined to have been an isolated incident.

7. By note verbale No. 113/n, received by email on 28 February 2022, the Embassy of the Russian Federation requested security reinforcements due to the presence of demonstrators outside the Embassy. In response, on 2 March 2022, the Directorate-General of Protocol of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs issued official letters PRO-02357, addressed to the Head of Government of Mexico City, and PRO-02353, addressed to the Department of Public Security, requesting that they protect the Embassy's premises and set up security fences at the entrance of Embassy, in addition to the round-the-clock security already provided.

8. By notes verbales Nos. 192/N of 12 April 2022 and 206/N of 18 April 2024, the Embassy of the Russian Federation requested support due to the presence of demonstrators outside the Embassy. In response, the Directorate-General of Protocol of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, by note verbale PRO-04866 of 2 May 2024, acknowledged the regime of privileges and immunities conferred on the Embassy under the Vienna Convention on Diplomatic Relations, specifically articles 22, 25, 26 and 29 thereof, in relation to the demonstrations referred to in the notes verbales from the Embassy.

The Directorate-General of Protocol informed the Embassy that, in accordance with article 22 of the Vienna Convention on Diplomatic Relations, in addition to the 24-hour-a-day security provided to the Embassy on an ongoing basis, the authorities had been instructed to strengthen the surveillance of the Embassy and the continuous patrols provided by the city protection unit for embassies, emphasizing that that protection was provided even though the Embassy of Mexico to the Russian Federation did not have a round-the-clock surveillance service.

It emphasized that the free expression of ideas, as well as freedoms of expression and assembly, were protected under the Mexican legal system. Therefore, a peaceful demonstration cannot be restricted or prohibited if it does not pose a threat to the security of public spaces, private property or the premises of a diplomatic mission. It was brought to the attention of the Embassy of the Russian Federation that the Ministry of Foreign Affairs had been in continuous communication with the city protection unit for embassies in connection with reinforcing security in response to the demonstrations outside the Embassy, and that the unit had reported that the demonstrations had been peaceful and that neither the security of the premises of Embassy, nor that of its staff, had been endangered.

In addition, the Directorate-General of Protocol pointed out that the demonstrations had taken place on a Sunday, that is, outside the working hours of the Embassy, a factor that had been taken into consideration for the security of all parties involved. Therefore, it considered the actions of the city protection unit for embassies to have been in compliance with articles 22, 25, 26 and 29 of the Vienna Convention on Diplomatic Relations, since those actions had made it possible to ensure the security of the Embassy and its staff, while ensuring respect for freedom of expression. To that end, the city protection unit for embassies had recommended to the Embassy staff that they enter through the secondary entrances and not the main entrance; however, said staff did not comply with the request.

In connection with the foregoing, the Embassy of the Russian Federation was reminded of the obligation of its staff to abide by the Mexican legal system, in accordance with article 41 of the Vienna Convention on Diplomatic Relations. In that regard, the Embassy of the Russian Federation was urged to issue a reminder to its staff regarding the need for compliance with the requests of the city protection unit for embassies, since the unit's purpose is to ensure the security of the premises and diplomatic staff of the Embassy in accordance with article 29 of the Vienna Convention on Diplomatic Relations, while respecting the freedoms that are protected under the Mexican legal system in connection with peaceful demonstrations. The facilities provided for in article 25 of the Vienna Convention on Diplomatic Relations must be understood in the context of the aforementioned Mexican legal framework, since such facilities cannot result in the contravention of local laws.

Lastly, the Directorate-General stated that the government of Mexico City had reported that it had conducted a visit to the premises of the Embassy of the Russian Federation in order to ascertain the feasibility of installing the requested metal fences; however, it had indicated that the fences could not be left at the Embassy because, to date, there was no one there to guard them.
