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Statement by
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on Agenda Item 80
"Consideration of Effective Measures to Enhance the Protection, Security and Safety of Diplomatic and Consular Missions and Representatives"
atthe
Sixth Committee

21 October 2014
New York

Mr. Chairman,

My delegation has aligned itself with the statement delivered by the European Union. However I wish to add the following in my national capacity.

Diplomatic and consular missions and representatives play a key role that enables the conduct of international relations. Their protection is therefore essential to the development of friendly relations among nations.

That is why we welcome the continued interest of the Sixth Committee on this item. We also welcome the reports of the Secretary General on this matter, the latest one being the report (A/69/185) dated 24 July 2014.

Mr. Chairman,

Turkey is strongly attached to the Vienna Conventions on Diplomatic Relations of 1961 and on Consular Relations of 1963. Many of the provisions of the said conventions are well established norms of international law.

In particular, the special duty of the host country to protect premises and diplomatic agents is of utmost importance. We condemn all attacks perpetrated against diplomatic and consular missions and representatives worldwide.

I would like to underline that Turkey takes all measures to effectively protect missions and diplomats stationed on its territory. A constant effort of assessment and enhancement is being carried out by our relevant authorities in order to provide the best standard for their security.

Mr. Chairman,

Over the last two years, Turkish Diplomatic and Consular officers have been the subject of a number of attacks.

In this regard, I would like to express our gratitude to the delegation of the European Union who has condemned the attack perpetrated against our Consulate General in Mossoul in June 2014 and expressed their solidarity.

We believe that cooperation between countries can greatly contribute to the effective protection of diplomatic and consular missions and representatives, thus enabling them to safely carry out their functions, for the development of understanding, trust and friendly relations among nations.

Thank you Mr. Chairman.