

## 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 82)

November 1<sup>st</sup>, 2024

*(check against delivery)*

Madam/Mister Chair,

Diplomatic and consular immunities are cornerstones of international law. They protect the means through which States can dialogue, cooperate and peacefully settle disputes. In thanking the Secretary-General for his latest report under this agenda item, my delegation notes with concern the high number of reported incidents. As recognized in the preamble of both 1961 and 1963 Vienna Conventions, the respect for rules and principles governing diplomatic and consular relations is of paramount importance to foster friendly relations among States.

The protections enshrined in the Vienna Conventions extend to a wide range of diplomatic activities. Archives and documents shall be inviolable at all times "wherever they may be". As clarified by the International Court of Justice and stressed in the

s duty to enable 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

Madam/Mister Chair,

Information technology has significantly evolved from the 1960s to our days. Today, communication is no longer dependent on physical support and can circulate through a wide array of new and emerging technological means. Archives and documents, in general, and diplomatic cables, in particular, exist not only on paper, but also on digital platforms. Despite the

