Permanent Mission of Cuba to the United Nations

NV-991

The Permanent Mission of Cuba to the United Nations presents its compliments to the Office of the Secretary General of the United Nations and, with reference to Note LA/COD/4 of 10 March 2014 concerning paragraph 12 of General Assembly resolution 67/94 entitled "Consideration of effective measures to enhance the protection, security and safety of diplomatic and consular missions and representatives", has the honour to transmit herewith the views of the Government of the Republic of Cuba.

Bearing in mind that the deadline for receipt of submissions from States has expired, we kindly request that the response of the Government of the Republic of Cuba be circulated as an addendum to the original report.

The Permanent Mission of Cuba to the United Nations takes this opportunity to convey to the Office of the Secretary-General of the United Nations the renewed assurances of its highest consideration.

New York, 14 August 2014

His Excellency Mr. Ban Ki-moon Secretary-General United Nations New York

REPLY BY THE REPUBLIC OF CUBA TO RESOLUTION A/RES/67/94

CONSIDERATION OF EFFECTIVE MEASURES TO ENHANCE THE PROTECTION, SECURITY AND SAFETY OF DIPLOMATIC AND CONSULAR MISSIONS AND REPRESENTATIVES

Cuba has a Multiple Response System for the Security and Protection of the Diplomatic Corps. The System is essentially preventive and its main objective is to promote a climate of safety and security so that accredited diplomats can go about their business unhindered.

The System is managed by the Department for the Security and Protection of the Diplomatic Corps, which is part of the Ministry of the Interior. The Department works closely and coordinates with other areas of the Ministry and entities that make up the System.

The Multiple Response System for the Security and Protection of the Diplomatic Corps ensures the full protection of diplomatic branches, offices and residences as well as of diplomatic personnel as a whole, including when outside the province of the capital, Havana, which is where such personnel generally work and reside.

1. The key strengths of the System include:

- In operation 24 hours a day
- English and French translation service 24 hours a day
- A three-digit telephone number available to accredited diplomatic personnel in the country which they may call from anywhere to request help
- Police response within five minutes to calls from diplomatic personnel in the municipalities of Playa, Plaza and Old Havana
- Video surveillance system in areas where most diplomatic buildings are located, in the municipalities of Playa, Plaza and Old Havana
- Patrol system operating 24 hours a day and specialized forces prepared to handle acts and events affecting the diplomatic corps
- Specialized training for forces involved in the System

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• A special protection agency for diplomatic offices, which ensures the physical protection of diplomatic buildings on the basis of reciprocal agreements or direct contracts.

2. Key results achieved by the Multiple Response System for the Security and Protection of the Diplomatic Corps:

- Zero occurrences of violent intrusions into diplomatic offices in Cuba. Break-ins have been isolated events committed by individuals rather than by organized groups.
- Decrease in the number of criminal acts. The number of reports of crime has fallen and only nine were recorded in 2013.
- Zero occurrences of violent acts. No cases of violent personal assaults were reported in 2013.
- The vast majority of criminal offences were minor and did not involve dangerous situations.
- Increase in follow-up and cases solved in the investigation of offences committed against the diplomatic corps.

Cuba will continue to give special attention to the protection and security of diplomatic missions and accredited representatives in the national territory, as evidence of its commitment to existing international norms on the issue, in particular the Vienna Convention on Diplomatic Relations.