



Permanent Mission of the Islamic Republic of Iran to the United Nations

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In the name of God, the Compassionate, the Merciful

No. 766

The Permanent Mission of the Islamic Republic of Iran to the United Nations presents its compliments to the Secretary-General of the United Nations and with reference to the Note No. LA/COI/4 dated 28 March 2014 concerning the report of the Permanent Mission of Saudi Arabia about a diplomatic member of the Embassy of Saudi Arabia in Tehran which has been submitted under the 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 honor to bring to the attention of the latter the followings:

1- According to the report provided by the Permanent Mission of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, the diplomatic agent, Yasser bin Mohammed Al-Qarni, former attaché with the Saudi Arabian Embassy in Tehran "has been involved in a motor vehicle accident on 14/3/2013". This report simply reveals part of the actual incident and does not reflect the role of Mr. Al-Qarni in the car accident in which he was involved.

2- Based on the report provided by the Tehran Traffic Police: on the morning of 14 March 2013 at 5:30 am, Mr. Al-Qarni was exceeding the speed limit and considerably endangered the lives of other motorists and pedestrians, causing the car to swerve out of control, killing an Iranian civilian and seriously injuring two others including a police cadre. The cause of the accident was proved to be high-speed and reckless driving of the motorist while intoxicated under the influence of alcohol which constitute a serious crime under Iranian national laws.

3- The Embassy of the Saudi Arabia had been duly informed of the previous cases of alcohol-related driving violations by Mr. Al-Qarni which was in serious violation of Article 41.1 of the 1961 Vienna Convention on Diplomatic Relations. Repeated recurrence of his acts that finally caused the above-mentioned fatal accident proves that the Saudi Embassy had failed to properly address serious violations of its staff.



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4- While Mr. Al-Qarni has committed a criminal act with aggravating elements (driving over the speed limit while intoxicated), the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Islamic Republic of Iran, within the framework of the Vienna Convention, expressed its expectation to the Saudi Arabian Embassy to cooperate with the Iranian judicial authorities to complete the judicial processes initiated including by the victim's family, and to consider the possibility of waiver of immunity of the concerned diplomat. It was also, *inter alia*, recommended that the offender remained present in the country until due investigation by law enforcement authorities were properly undertaken. It seems the Saudi Arabian Embassy has misinterpreted this request by the Iranian Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

5- Following the return of Mr. Al-Qarni to his home country without being prosecuted due to his diplomatic status, the Islamic Republic of Iran expects the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia to pursue the case before its judicial authorities and ensure that impunity is not tolerated for the offender of such crime under any circumstances.

The Permanent Mission of the Islamic Republic of Iran to the United Nations avails itself of this opportunity to renew to the Secretary-General of the United Nations the assurances of its highest consideration.

New York, 19 August 2014

Secretary-General
United Nations
New York

