



PERMANENT MISSION OF THE DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF TIMOR-LESTE  
TO  
THE UNITED NATIONS

Statement by

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Counsellor

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

(AGENDA ITEM 84)

The Sixth Committee

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Check Against Delivery

Thank you Mr. Chairman,

My delegation welcomes the comprehensive report of the Secretary-General of the United Nations, contained in document A/73/189. The report highlights serious violations of the protection, security and safety of diplomatic and consular missions and representatives, as well as missions and representatives with diplomatic status to intergovernmental organizations. The report also underlines measures to bring offenders to justice in accordance with applicable laws, with a view to preventing a repetition of such violations.

My delegation believes that respect for the principles and rules of international law governing diplomatic and consular relations is a prerequisite for the normal conduct of relations among States and for the fulfilment of the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations.

Mr. Chairman,

The role of diplomatic and consular missions and representatives continues to be considered a noble mission to strengthen the relationship between member States, Intergovernmental Organizations and any other Parties governed by the international law. However, acts of violence against diplomatic and consular missions and representatives have also increased. Indeed, such acts jeopardize or take innocent lives and seriously impede the normal work of such representatives. As such, this requires serious measures taken by all member States to prevent and end such violations.

Mr. Chairman,

As a young State, Timor-Leste reaffirms its commitment to uphold international legally binding instruments, international customary law, and other international principles governed by international law. This in particular holds true the Vienna Conventions on both Diplomatic and Consular Relations which explicitly stipulate for the diplomatic and consular functions, as well as guarantee rights for privileges and immunities of our respective missions and representatives in the receiving States.

As a State party to the international legal instruments, Timor-Leste condemns any acts of violence against diplomatic missions and its officials and believes that such acts should be fully investigated with a view to bringing offenders to justice and preventing impunity.

Mr. Chairman,

My delegation encourages, without prejudice to sovereignty rights and the non-intervention principle, all member States to take into account the applicable principles and rules of international law on the diplomatic and consular relations, as well as practical measures to prevent and prohibit illegal activities of persons, groups and organizations that support, instigate, organize or engage in the perpetration of acts against the security and safety of the missions, representatives and officials.

My delegation also reiterates that the diplomatic and consular members are duty bound to respect the laws and regulations of the receiving States.

Mr. Chairman,

To conclude, my delegation emphasizes the importance of the diplomatic and consular functions performed by the respective representatives in developing and strengthening friendly relations and cooperation among States and other Parties recognized under international law. To this end, the privileges and immunities of the representatives and the premises of the diplomatic and consular missions are inviolable and must be protected.

I thank you for your attention.