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Chairman: Mr. AZZAROUK (Libyan Arab Jamahiriya)

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The meeting was called to order at 10.10 a.m.

AGENDA ITEM 133: CONSIDERATION OF EFFECTIVE MEASURES TO ENHANCE THE PROTECTION, SECURITY AND SAFETY OF DIPLOMATIC AND CONSULAR MISSIONS AND REPRESENTATIVES: REPORT OF THE SECRETARY-GENERAL (A/42/485 and Add.1) (continued)

1. Mr. DJOKIC (Yugoslavia) said that, judging from the data published in the Secretary-General's report (A/42/485), over the past year there had been no acts against diplomatic and consular missions that had resulted in tragic consequences, but the situation was far from satisfactory. The host countries should become even more active in the prevention of such acts. The existing bilateral and multilateral forms of co-operation should therefore be continued and further developed. Consideration of the question by the General Assembly and the procedure of reporting to the Secretary-General could only facilitate such co-operation. The guidelines embodying the questions that States Members might wish to consider when reporting serious violations would be of great practical assistance to those States.
2. Unfortunately, terrorist activity was conveniently interpreted as being political; that did not contribute to the enhancement of the security and safety of diplomatic and consular representatives; if anything, it served to abet terrorism. Such an approach was unacceptable, since terrorism, regardless of interpretation, could not be justified. Terrorism could in no way be related to the struggle of peoples and of movements for liberation and independence. That struggle was a real negation of terrorism and enslavement, as reaffirmed in numerous United Nations resolutions.
3. Yugoslavia was in favour of strengthening bilateral and multilateral co-operation and supported all efforts to bring about the most efficient measures for the protection of diplomatic and consular missions and representatives. Host countries and diplomatic and consular missions should be willing to make their own contribution to resolving contentious issues. It was very important that an ever greater number of countries should accede to the existing international conventions.
4. However, the host countries had a special responsibility to adopt not only legal measures, but also measures of a practical nature designed to prohibit in their territories illegal activities of persons, groups and organizations that encouraged, instigated, organized and engaged in the perpetration of acts against the security and safety of diplomatic and consular missions and representatives. The United Nations had a special role to play in enhancing and broadening international co-operation in that area.
5. Mr. SKIBSTED (Denmark), speaking on behalf of the twelve member States of the European Community, said that the Secretary-General's report (A/42/385) showed that attacks on diplomatic and consular missions and representatives were continuing. Such crimes endangered international relations by attacking the very people whose task it was to work for harmonious and peaceful relations between States. The Twelve considered that the international community should continue its efforts in order to prevent such attacks, and they were committed to using all available legal resources to that end.

(Mr. Skibsted, Denmark)

6. All States should scrupulously observe the obligations incumbent on them by virtue of general international law and the relevant international Conventions, respecting both the letter and the spirit of those obligations and making no exceptions for individuals or groups.
7. The Twelve wished to emphasize that both the entitlement to special protection and the privileges and immunities enjoyed by diplomatic and consular representatives were conferred on them not for their personal benefit but with the aim of ensuring the efficient performance of their functions. While the sending State was entitled to expect adequate protection of its representatives, the duty of such representatives was to abide strictly by the laws and regulations of the receiving State. Abuses of their privileges and immunities could diminish public understanding of the need to protect missions and representatives. The Governments of the twelve member States of the European Community were determined to prevent abuses of diplomatic and consular immunity and were continuing their co-operation in that field.
8. The Twelve attached great importance to the existing legal instruments, which had worked well in the past and seemed sufficient for the time being. What was essential was the strict observance by sending and receiving States alike of their international obligations under those instruments to which they were parties and under general international law, and the adherence of as many States as possible to the Conventions in question, including the optional provisions for the settlement of disputes.
9. The Twelve expressed their firm conviction that the reporting procedures established under resolution 35/168 had served a useful function by drawing attention to the violations committed and measures taken in order to bring offenders to justice. In 1986 the Twelve had stressed that reports to the Secretary-General should contain only reports of serious violations previously brought to the attention of the State where the violations had taken place, or facts generally available through other channels. Reports criticizing a State should also reach the Secretary-General early enough for the State criticized to have its reply included in the report.
10. In view of the fact that the reporting procedures had been established several years before and that, fortunately, the number of serious incidents had diminished, the Twelve considered that it might not be necessary to include the item in the agenda every year. It was their hope that those new ideas appearing in paragraph 10 of General Assembly resolution 41/78, together with the helpful guidelines prepared by the Secretary-General in accordance with paragraph 11 of the resolution, would lead to a further improvement of the reporting procedures.
11. Mr. KOULOV (Bulgaria) said that two questions arose concerning the protection and security of missions and of diplomatic representatives: the degree of that protection and security, which depended on the conditions existing in the host State and on the identification and use of the possibilities available to the United Nations and under international law for strengthening that protection and security. As had been stressed many times, States were obliged to adopt measures

(Mr. Koulov, Bulgaria)

to prohibit in their territories all illegal acts by persons, groups and organizations that encouraged, organized or perpetrated acts against diplomatic and consular missions and representatives. The adoption of the practical measures listed in paragraph 5 of General Assembly resolution 41/76 was particularly important in that connection.

12. Concerning the identification and utilization of opportunities available to the United Nations and provided by international law in that regard, his delegation would like to point out that there was an indissoluble link between the effectiveness of the measures taken and broad international co-operation. Paragraph 6 of resolution 41/78 also drew attention to that link. Such co-operation could take three forms, starting with use of the reporting procedure. In that connection, the guidelines embodying the relevant questions which States might wish to consider when reporting violations were very useful and contained numerous questions which might enhance the effectiveness of international co-operation in that area. Nevertheless, broader information, analysed as appropriate, would certainly help States to formulate and take practical preventive steps in that regard. His delegation wished to draw particular attention to the usefulness of any information which might be transmitted in accordance with items 8 and 11 of the guidelines.

13. Secondly, such co-operation should be geared to strengthening the international legal basis of efforts to combat violations. To that end the number of States parties to relevant international conventions must increase and, in addition, it would be desirable to obtain, at the national level, a positive settlement of issues relating to the ratification of international instruments regarding diplomatic law or to accession to such instruments. Thirdly, co-operation should also relate to exchanges of information and the establishment of contacts with a view to taking measures to prevent or to combat violations.

14. Violations generally occurred in receiving States which permitted acts by groups which did not conceal their hostility towards diplomatic and consular missions of certain sending States. That attitude was often accompanied by systematic dissemination of tendentious information and the adoption of measures that discriminated against foreign missions and representatives and it created an atmosphere which was favourable to such violations. Observance of the relevant provisions of the international instruments would greatly increase the security of diplomatic and consular missions and representatives. It was also very important to undertake to guarantee the inviolability of diplomatic and consular missions and representatives, including the diplomatic pouch. His delegation would continue to press for strict observance of the commitments stemming from the principle of the inviolability of the diplomatic pouch and it could not agree to any exception to that rule of international law.

15. Mr. LI Huanting (China) said that the inviolability of diplomatic and consular missions and representatives was a customary rule of very long standing; it was generally recognized by international law and played a leading role in promoting and preserving normal relations between States. As international relations increased, protection of diplomatic and consular representatives became more and

(Mr. Li Huanting, China)

more important for international life. Since 1986 there had been further violations of the security of diplomatic and consular representatives. How to prevent a recurrence of that type of incident was a subject of great concern to the international community; in recent years it had made tremendous efforts in that regard, both bilaterally and multilaterally, inter alia, by adopting a number of conventions.

16. The Chinese Government whole-heartedly endorsed the results thus obtained. It also supported the efforts made by the competent organs of the United Nations, particularly the General Assembly's practice of regularly considering the question and the reports submitted by Governments to the Secretary-General concerning serious violations of the security of diplomatic and consular missions and representatives, and it was prepared to consider further measures in that area. His delegation was, however, convinced that, while seeking to enhance security and seeing to it that offenders were prosecuted, it was necessary to respect international law, particularly the United Nations Charter, and not to use such incidents as a pretext for interfering in the domestic affairs of other countries and violating their sovereignty. Furthermore, diplomatic personnel must respect the laws and regulations of the receiving countries and must not abuse the privileges and immunities granted them.

17. The Chinese Government had always condemned all violations of diplomatic and consular law, particularly terrorist activities directed against diplomatic personnel. In order to enhance its efficiency, China, which was already a party to the Vienna Convention on Diplomatic Relations of 1961, and to the Vienna Convention on Consular Relations of 1963, had recently acceded to the Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of Crimes against Internationally Protected Persons, including Diplomatic Agents of 1973. The Chinese Government had decided that any action regarded as a crime under the relevant treaties constituted a crime under domestic law, and it would therefore exercise its jurisdiction over the perpetrators. That demonstrated the importance which it attached to the issue. China was very anxious to maintain friendly relations with other countries, and it was prepared to take practical steps to further enhance the security and safety of diplomatic and consular representatives.

18. Mr. MUENCH (German Democratic Republic) said that the report submitted by the Secretary-General (A/42/485) testified to the growing readiness of States to fulfil their obligations under international law with regard to ensuring the protection and security of diplomatic and consular missions and representatives, as evidenced by the growing number of States acceding to the relevant instruments. If diplomatic and consular missions and representatives, which were the major instruments of international dialogue and mutually beneficial co-operation, were to perform their functions it was essential to guarantee fully their protection and security. The conventions listed in the Secretary-General's report offered an adequate basis for that task.

19. Despite the existence of such legal instruments, there had been a number of attacks on internationally protected missions during the period under review. The instances cited in the report of the Secretary-General illustrated the need for

(Mr. Muench, German Democratic Republic)

international co-operation in combating and suppressing such acts of violence. The German Democratic Republic was on record as vigorously condemning all terrorist acts no matter who perpetrated them or what their motives might be. Any act committed against internationally protected missions or persons adversely affected the international climate and relations between the sending and the receiving State. Furthermore, terrorist acts endangered the lives of innocent people and caused substantial material damage.

20. The key to preventing such acts was the removal of the underlying causes of such acts and strict observance of international obligations arising from the relevant conventions. That also involved general and non-discriminatory legislation and practical measures at the national level.

21. The German Democratic Republic was meticulous in fulfilling its obligations under international law and the relevant conventions; it had been able to prevent acts of violence against diplomatic and consular missions and representatives because it had taken comprehensive measures for their protection.

22. It would be inadmissible that the level of protection provided under international law should be weighed against the state of bilateral relations or that acts of violence should be condoned or abetted, directly or indirectly, by Government agencies or State-controlled institutions. A State should be held financially and otherwise responsible when it had been unable to protect effectively the diplomatic and consular representatives and missions in its territory. He would like that obligation to be reflected more explicitly in the draft resolution.

23. The reporting system played a useful role in strengthening the protection and security of diplomatic and consular missions and the practice should be pursued. In that way, mutual confidence and understanding could be strengthened in those areas.

24. Mr. SOKOLOVSKIY (Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic) said that in addition to the 1961 Vienna Convention on Diplomatic Relations, specifically articles 22, 29 and 37, there were a number of international legal instruments which, if respected, would ensure the protection and security of diplomatic and consular missions and representatives and enable them to perform their functions in a favourable climate. While international law was clear in that area, however, in practice, not a month went by without an instance of a violation of the protection and security of diplomatic and consular representatives and missions. The situation in that area was therefore unsatisfactory, as the most recent report of the Secretary-General (A/42/485 and Add.1) showed.

25. General Assembly resolution 41/78 had established a system for submitting reports concerning acts of terrorism and measures taken by States to prosecute the perpetrators. That system should be continued and extended to all acts of aggression against the headquarters of international organizations and their

(Mr. Sokolovskiy, Byelorussian SSR)

personnel. The reports should also take into account the state of ratification and of accessions to the Vienna Convention on the Representation of States in Their Relations with International Organizations of a Universal Character. Consideration should be given to the Convention on the Privileges and Immunities of the United Nations, the Convention on the Privileges and Immunities of Specialized Agencies, the Agreement on the Privileges and Immunities of the International Atomic Energy Agency and the Protocol on the Privileges and Immunities of the International Maritime Organization. Those instruments could not, however, be used in practice unless the States showed the necessary goodwill. It was disturbing that certain authorities seemed to be the accomplices of extremist groups that attacked missions.

26. The media had an important role to play in creating a suitable climate for the normal operation of diplomatic and consular missions. The media had an obligation to inform the public of the importance of the role of missions in strengthening international peace and security and improving relations between States, particularly States with different social systems.

27. The Byelorussian SSR condemned the abuse of privileges and immunities. It had adopted a number of legislative measures in accordance with international law to ensure full respect for the inviolability and immunity of diplomatic and consular missions and personnel and to provide for the prosecution of those who attacked them. It had signed the above-mentioned Conventions and observed them scrupulously. It was disturbing to note that some States Members had not yet ratified the 1961 Vienna Convention on Diplomatic Relations and that less than half of them had by 4 August 1987 acceded to the 1973 Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of Crimes against Internationally Protected Persons, including Diplomatic Agents. It would also be desirable for the 1975 Vienna Convention on the Representation of States in Their Relations with International Organizations of a Universal Character to enter into force and that the States in whose territory such organizations had headquarters should accede to them.

28. Miss WILLSON (United States of America) said that her country placed high priority on the protection of diplomats, which was the responsibility of each State as well as of the international community as a whole. Unfortunately, attacks against diplomatic security continued to occur. It was shocking that missions could sometimes be attacked without the Government of the host country doing anything to protect diplomatic premises. The international community must therefore reaffirm the duty of each State to fulfil its obligations in that area.

29. States also had a duty to ensure that their representatives posted in other countries did not abuse their privileges and immunities. Such abuses were doubly serious, because illegal acts did direct harm and also because they eroded support for the privileges and immunities themselves.

30. The report submitted by Austria (A/42/485/Add.1) indicating that the modernisation of communications equipment had improved the protection and security of diplomatic and consular missions was encouraging, but the suggestion of another State that States should adopt measures to limit the dissemination of information

(Miss Willson, United States)

by the media was rather alarming. To inhibit the freedom of expression and of the press for any reason was a dangerous precedent.

31. The protection of diplomats was the responsibility of the entire international community and the United Nations had a constructive role to play, in that connection, particularly in formulating measures to enhance the protection and security of diplomatic missions, including the drafting of the Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of Crimes against Internationally Protected Persons. The United States delegation urged the States that had not yet become parties to that Convention to consider accession. The Secretariat itself had made a worth-while contribution by preparing guidelines pursuant to paragraph 11 of General Assembly resolution 41/78, which should help unify future reports and facilitate the co-operation of States in sharing information.

32. The reports submitted confirmed the fact that the States continued to co-operate with each other and with the international organizations concerned. That was essential because actions against individual diplomats or facilities not only injured the individuals and States involved but also attacked the concept of diplomacy and constructive communication within the international community.

33. Mr. MIKULKA (Czechoslovakia) said that his country's position on the question under consideration was reflected in the report in document A/42/485/Add.1. His country had always supported the strictest respect by all States of the norms of diplomatic and consular law embodied in the Vienna Conventions on Diplomatic Relations (1961), on Consular Relations (1963), and on Special Missions (1969), in the Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of Crimes against Internationally Protected Persons (1973) and in the Vienna Convention on the Representation of States in Their Relations with International Organizations of a Universal Character (1975), to which Czechoslovakia had long been a party.

34. As his country had taken the necessary steps to ensure that those conventions were enforced in full, during the past year it had had no occasion to decry any attack on diplomatic or consular missions in its territory. His delegation unequivocally condemned acts of violence against diplomatic and consular officials and premises and the staff of international organizations. It was willing to join in considering what steps were needed to afford such officials and premises still greater protection and to bring those guilty of terrorist acts to justice.

35. States should no longer tolerate activities in their territory by extremist groups and organizations that encouraged, organized or committed violent acts against diplomatic missions or hindered them in the performance of their functions. Every State should make sure its communications media were not led into systematically inciting hatred and hostility against other States or nations or their representatives. The media had an important role to play in creating a climate in which missions could readily carry out their functions. Enhancing the security of diplomatic missions was closely linked to confidence-building between States, measures to promote better understanding between nations, and the improvement of the international climate.



36. Mr. ELTCHENKO (Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic) emphasized that maintaining diplomatic relations meant that diplomats must be protected, and that that was the principal purpose of the 1961 Vienna Convention on Diplomatic Relations and the 1973 Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of Crimes against Internationally Protected Persons, including Diplomatic Agents, and other international agreements. Constant, scrupulous respect by all States for such international accords ought to be a guarantee of normal, peaceful relations between States, within international organizations and otherwise. As an indication of the growing importance of the diplomatic function in maintaining international peace and security, the United Nations General Assembly kept the protection, security and safety of diplomatic and consular missions and representatives under constant review, and drew the attention of the international community to the problem.
37. The report of the Secretary-General (A/42/485) made it clear, however, that interference in diplomatic affairs and acts of terrorism against diplomats, including hostage-taking, were still commonplace and disturbing. His delegation emphatically condemned international terrorism and violence in all their forms, notably all attacks against diplomatic and consular missions and missions to international organizations and their personnel. It was also disturbed by the abuse of diplomatic privileges and immunities, but was categorically opposed to the use of such abuse as a pretext for discriminatory measures against certain missions.
38. In his delegation's view, the General Assembly should, in the resolution it adopted on the item, condemn anew all attacks against diplomats, demand that States which tolerated such acts should respect the rules and standards governing international relations, and call on all States to take all necessary measures to ensure the protection, security and safety of diplomatic and consular missions and representatives, including missions to international organizations and their staff. His delegation believed the item should remain on the General Assembly's agenda.
39. Mr. HAYACHI (Japan) said that one of the oldest principles of international law was the duty of States to protect diplomatic and consular missions and representatives.
40. Violations of that principle was still being committed, although the frequency had lessened over the past year. Violations could not be effectively prevented except through concerted efforts by the international community. The United Nations had done a great deal in that direction, notably by codifying the international rules in the 1961 Vienna Convention on Diplomatic Relations, the 1963 Vienna Convention on Consular Relations and, in particular, the 1973 Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of Crimes against Internationally Protected Persons, including Diplomatic Agents. The General Assembly had also adopted resolutions urging all States to enhance international co-operation in order to ensure the protection of diplomatic and consular missions and representatives. His delegation wished to pay tribute to the Nordic countries, which had taken the initiative in drafting resolutions on the subject. It had regularly supported their efforts and co-sponsored the resolutions, which had commanded a broad consensus reflecting the general will of the community of nations.

(Mr. Hayashi, Japan)

41. His country strongly supported the purposes and aims of the 1973 Convention, to which it had acceded in June 1987 after making the necessary adjustments in its domestic law. His delegation earnestly hoped that other States which had not yet done so would accede to the Convention as soon as possible.
42. As the Finnish representative had stressed, a central feature of the annual resolution adopted on the matter was the reporting procedure for serious violations of the protection and security of diplomatic and consular missions and representatives and of missions and representatives to international organizations. Thanks to that procedure, violations and measures taken by States to bring their perpetrators to justice were reported to the Secretary-General and, through him, to Member States. His delegation was generally satisfied with the objective and factual nature of the reports submitted, but wished to make some comments nevertheless.
43. First, some of the reports submitted by Governments were too terse. While respecting the need for discretion, given the overriding interest of the State concerned, his delegation would like reports to provide rather more detail. In that connection, it commended the "guidelines" prepared by the Secretariat, which States might wish to consider when drawing up their reports.
44. Secondly, a simple but very helpful improvement could be made to the Secretariat's covering note transmitting reports from Governments to Member States. The better to draw the attention of the mission concerned to the contents of the report, his delegation suggested that the Secretariat should give its note a title, which might read: "Consideration of effective measures to enhance the protection, security and safety of diplomatic and consular missions and representatives: communication by ...", naming the State that had submitted the report.
45. Mr. GAUDREAU (Canada) said that in many regions of the world incidents that adversely affected the security of diplomatic and consular missions and representatives continued to occur, some of them serious ones. Since the United Nations could not disregard such situations, in 1980 the General Assembly had established a procedure for reporting violations of the security of diplomatic missions and representatives. The Nordic countries were to be commended for the efforts they had made in that connection.
46. His delegation noted that, in response to General Assembly resolution 41/78, paragraph 11, the Secretary-General had set forth in the annex to his current report (A/42/485) guidelines embodying the relevant questions that States might consider when reporting violations, and it was convinced that Governments would find the guidelines very useful when they reported incidents affecting the security of diplomatic and consular missions and representatives that had occurred on their territory. However, the guidelines would have to stand the test of time, before any useful comments could be made on possible amendments.

(Mr. Gaudreau, Canada)

47. The previous year his delegation had expressed the view that the General Assembly should give the Secretary-General a mandate that would enable him, in instances where he had knowledge of incidents that he believed to be serious, to request the States concerned to provide him with information; Canada believed that the guidelines would make the Secretary-General's task easier and that the Secretary-General would take the necessary steps to ensure that they were actually followed.

48. Barely half the States Members of the United Nations had so far ratified the Convention of 1973 on the Prevention and Punishment of Crimes against Internationally Protected Persons. The Secretary-General should be given the necessary mandate to invite, on behalf of the General Assembly, all States that had not already done so to ratify or accede to the Convention. It would in fact be desirable for the Secretary-General to be authorized to ask such States what obstacles there might be to their ratification or accession.

49. There were still many issues relating to the enhancement of the protection and security of missions that required close consideration, and the relevant item should therefore be included once again in the agenda of the General Assembly at its forty-third session.

50. Mr. KANDZIE (Kenya) said that his country had acceded to the Vienna Convention on Diplomatic Relations and to the additional protocol thereto, as well as to the Vienna Convention on Consular Relations in July 1965 - not even two years after having gained independence. Since that time, internal legislative steps had been taken to give effect to all the major provisions of the conventions. The chief obligation of States under the conventions was to ensure the protection and security of diplomatic missions and representatives, because the existence of international relations and the promotion of friendly relations between States depended almost entirely on the maintenance of permanent diplomatic relations both between States and between States and international organizations.

51. Cordial diplomatic relations could be guaranteed only through co-operation between sending and receiving States. Although receiving States had a duty to ensure the security of diplomatic missions and representatives, sending States had an obligation to observe the laws of the receiving State. Kenya urged all States to observe the laws of receiving States and to apply the principles of co-operation and reciprocity, which were in keeping with the international customary law governing diplomatic relations.

52. Although his delegation was convinced of the usefulness of the guidelines provided by the Secretariat for the reporting system, it believed that it was perhaps time for the Sixth Committee itself to consider, as suggested by the Asian-African Legal Consultative Committee, the possibility of drafting guidelines on practical measures that could be adopted by States in implementation of the conventions. Member States had enacted legislation and adopted measures with a view to ensuring the inviolability of diplomatic missions and giving effect to the provisions of the conventions, but it was possible that certain areas had not been

(Mr. Kandzie, Kenya)

dealt with in their legislation. Such guidelines would do much to foster a climate conducive to good diplomatic relations and to enhance the protection and security of diplomatic missions and representatives.

53. The Kenyan Government was willing to co-operate with all States in creating a suitable climate for normal diplomatic relations and strongly condemned all criminal and other acts directed against diplomatic missions and staff. His delegation continued to support the important initiative taken by the Nordic countries concerning the question of the protection and security of diplomatic missions and representatives and would fully support the resolution that was to be adopted on that issue. It thanked the Secretary-General for the decisive role that he continued to play in monitoring the implementation of the relevant resolutions and for the reports that he had submitted to the Sixth Committee.

54. Miss PHALA (Botswana) said that Botswana endorsed the provisions of General Assembly resolution 41/78, particularly paragraph 9 (a) concerning the reports that Governments were requested to submit to the General Assembly. In the course of the period under consideration, no act of violence had been committed in Botswana against internationally protected persons.

55. Botswana had signed both the Vienna Convention on Diplomatic Relations of 1961 and the Optional Protocol Concerning the Settlement of Disputes. Articles 22, 29 and 31 of the Vienna Convention listed and laid down the privileges and immunities extended to diplomatic agents so that they could perform their duties normally and without hindrance. However, the benefits thus enjoyed by diplomatic agents were limited by the provisions of certain articles - for example, article 9, which gave the receiving State the right to declare any member of the diplomatic staff persona non grata, without giving any reasons, and article 32, which provided that the sending State might waive the immunity from jurisdiction of diplomatic agents. Those two articles prevented any abuses that might arise from the immunity of diplomatic and consular agents, but they were not sufficient to prevent all forms of abuse. There had been instances where dangerous criminals had been harboured on diplomatic premises and even where members of the diplomatic staff had committed offences and taken refuge in their privileges. In such cases the wronged party might have no recourse if the head of a mission refused to waive his agent's immunity, and the problem could be further exacerbated if the receiving State was reluctant to declare the offender persona non grata. Such situations could be dealt with satisfactorily only if the diplomatic staff had an obligation to observe the receiving State's legislation fully and the sending State recalled diplomatic agents who had abused the privileges and immunities extended to them. The protection and security of the diplomatic agents of all countries would be ensured only if the relevant laws were observed.

The meeting rose at 11.45 a.m.