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REPORT OF THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL

Letter dated 12 June 1989 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the
Permanent Mission of El Salvador to the United Nations addressed
to the Secretary-General

On instructions from my Government, I have the honour to refer to the note dated 9 June sent to you by the Minister for Foreign Affairs of El Salvador, Mr. José Manuel Pacas-Castro, concerning the assassination of Dr. José Antonio Rodríguez-Porth, Minister for the Presidency.

I wish to reiterate the request made by my Government in the above-mentioned note and to ask you to have the information in question circulated as an official document of the General Assembly, under item 12 of the preliminary list.

(Signed) Guillermo MELENDEZ
Chargé d'affaires a.i.

* A/44/50/Rev.1.

Annex

NOTE FROM THE MINISTER FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS OF EL SALVADOR
CONCERNING THE ASSASSINATION OF THE MINISTER FOR THE
PRESIDENCY

I have the honour to inform you of the cowardly assassination this morning of the recently appointed Minister for the Presidency, Dr. José Antonio Rodríguez-Porth, a notable patriot and a distinguished Salvadorian public figure, together with his driver and an aide, honourable and humble people who were completely unarmed.

The Salvadorian Government is highly indignant at and strongly condemns this treacherous crime perpetrated by units referring to themselves as "commandos of the Farabundo Martí National Liberation Front" (FMLN), which continue their irrational use of violence and terror in disregard of the wish repeatedly expressed by the Salvadorian people to live in freedom and under democracy.

The FMLN decision to order that this vile and abominable assassination should be carried out is in keeping with the clearly-stated goal of the FMLN, which is to exacerbate the armed conflict by means of provocation and a growing number of acts of terrorism, in contrast with the willingness to engage in a dialogue and to seek mechanisms for achieving a peaceful solution displayed by the Constitutional President of the Republic since 1 June, the day on which he took office, as a way of contributing to peace and national reconciliation.

In addition to constituting a serious attack on democratic institutions, such irrational acts constitute a flagrant violation of the right to life and an open rejection of both national and international endeavours to bring about, and appeals for, a humanization of the conflict and peace in El Salvador.

The Salvadorian Government will take strong but nevertheless lawful action in order to ensure that the detestable act that has been perpetrated does not go unpunished, and will see to it that the authorities take appropriate action. Moreover, any attacks that may be made on individuals connected with or sympathizing with the FMLN are equally to be condemned and rejected, and the Government will investigate any such attacks equally thoroughly, in accordance with the law.

Having stated the foregoing, the Salvadorian Government wishes to request you to make a statement on this contemptible act, and to ask you to have this communication brought to the attention of all States Members of the United Nations.