

**Statement by the Republic of Turkey  
on Agenda Item 84  
(Consideration of effective measures to enhance the protection, security and  
safety of diplomatic and consular missions and representatives)  
at the Sixth Committee  
10 November 2020**

Mr. Chair,

We thank the Secretary-General for his report on the consideration of effective measures to enhance the protection, security and safety of diplomatic and consular missions and their representatives.

Diplomatic and consular relations form the foundation of international relations. The realization of the fundamental purposes and principles enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations, such as developing friendly relations among states, peaceful settlement of disputes, and achieving international cooperation in solving international problems of an economic, social, cultural or humanitarian character, require diplomatic and consular missions to be able to function with full protection, safety and security.

Respect for the rules of international law governing diplomatic and consular relations is of paramount importance in this regard. It is on this basis that the international community can effectively work towards achieving peace, security, human rights and development. The proper functioning of this system is also crucial for States to be able to protect their rights and interests, as well as those of their citizens, in line with the

regulations of the receiving State. In recent years, we have witnessed violations of these principles, which must be upheld by all.

Mr. Chair,

When talking about the ever current and pertinent topic of the protection of diplomats, we would be remiss not to highlight a different aspect of this matter, namely the glorification of crimes, including assassinations, committed by terrorist and other groups against representatives of diplomatic and consular missions.

Turkey has lost many diplomats, including one international civil servant, to such attacks and assassinations. Next week, we will mark the 36th anniversary of the loss of Mr. Evner Ergun, who was the target of a terrorist attack while working as deputy director at the United Nations Office in Vienna, to whom a commemorative plaque is devoted in this very building.

We take this opportunity to honor with respect the memory of our citizens and diplomats who have been subject to these heinous and despicable attacks, and express our strongest condemnation of such attacks, as well as of any attempts to glorify their perpetrators.

Thank