Statement by Finland

on behalf of the Nordic countries

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Consideration of effective measures to enhance the protection, security and safety of diplomatic and consular missions and representatives

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(check against delivery)

Mr/Madam Chair,

I have the honour to speak on behalf of the five Nordic countries:

Denmark, Iceland, Norway, Sweden and my own country Finland. This item on Consideration of effective measures to enhance the protection, security and safety of diplomatic and consular missions and representatives was originally included in the agenda of the General Assembly on the initiative of the Nordic countries. We continue to pay particular attention to this topic.

It is a matter of great concern for us that diplomatic agents and premises keep falling victims of serious violations in the receiving States despite the general rec

the functions of the diplomatic missions and the consular posts. We urge States to honour their obligations under international law to provide protection to foreign missions, and to do their utmost to prevent such attacks from taking place on their territory. Where attacks have occurred, they have to be fully investigated and prosecuted. States are also encouraged to engage in a dialogue with the diplomatic missions in their territory with a view to finding the most effective ways in ensuring the full protection of diplomatic premises and representatives.

Mr/Madam Chair,

Despite all the efforts to