LATVIA

LEGAL BASIS

1. Has your State signed and/or ratified the *United Nations Convention on special missions* (1969)? If not, does your State intend to sign/ratify the Convention?

No, Latvia has not signed or ratified the Convention.

2. Does your State apply other international legal instruments in this area (ex.: bilateral, multilateral agreements or headquarters agreements)?

Other international legal instruments binding for Latvia related to this matter of immunities of representatives of other states are the Vienna Convention 1961 on Diplomatic Relations and the Vienna Convention 1963 on Consular Relations.

- 3. Has your State adopted a specific national legislation in the field of immunities of special missions?
 - a. If so, please provide information concerning the relevant legislative provisions (in particular title, source and content; if possible, please provide official translations in French or in English and/or references to online sources);
 - b. If not, is the issue of immunities of special missions covered by another part of your legislation? If so, please provide information concerning these relevant legislative provisions (in particular title, source and content; if possible, please provide official translations in French or in English and/or references to online sources).

Since Latvia has never had special mission sent or received any special mission, there is no national regulation regarding immunities of special missions.

4. Have the authorities of your State released official statements, reports or any other document concerning the status and the immunities of special missions? If so, please provide any relevant information relating to these documents.

No, Latvian authorities have not released official statements or other documents concerning the status and immunities of special missions.

Does your State consider that certain obligations and/or definitions regarding immunity
of special missions derive from customary international law? If so, please provide a
brief description of the main requirements of customary international law in this
respect.

Since Latvia has not had sent or received any special mission the customary law of diplomatic missions had never been applied.

- 6. Please provide information on the scope of the immunities of special missions, in particular:
 - a. The extent of the privileges and immunities granted to special missions and to their members;
 - b. The scope *ratione personae* (categories of individuals who may enjoy an immunity of special mission);
 - c. The scope *ratione materiae*, in particular by specifying if there are exceptions to the granting of the immunity;
 - d. The temporal limits of the immunities accorded to special missions.

NATIONAL PRACTICE AND PROCEDURE

7. Is there national case law in the field of immunities of special missions? If so, please provide information on these decisions (date of the judgment, authority that issued the judgment, name of the parties, main points of law, French or English translation of the judgment or summary of the judgment in English or in French).

n/a

- 8. Is there a mechanism of formal agreement of special missions, namely a process under which your State can accept in advance that an official visit constitutes or not a special mission?
 - a. If yes, which authority delivers these agreements? What weight do the courts attach to such agreements? Is there a formal notification or communication procedure between the governmental authorities and the courts?
 - b. In the absence of such a formal agreement, can an implied consent derive from the behaviour of the governmental authorities?

n/a