

**UNITED STATES MISSION TO THE UNITED NATIONS
NEW YORK**

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October 3, 2011

To Whom It May Concern:

This is to certify that I, Russell F. Graham, Minister Counselor for Host Country Affairs of the United States Mission to the United Nations, am responsible for overseeing the registration and maintaining the official records of members of Permanent Missions and Observer Offices to the United Nations, and officials of the United Nations.

The official records of the United States Mission indicate that Ambassador Lokugan Hewage Shavendra C. Silva was notified by the Permanent Mission of Sri Lanka to the United Nations in New York as Minister, Deputy Permanent Representative on October 25, 2010, and promoted to Ambassador, Deputy Permanent Representative on May 23, 2011. He continues to serve in this capacity.

Pursuant to Article IV, Section 11 of the Convention on Privileges and Immunities of the United Nations, 21 UST 1418, TIAS 6900, and Article V, Section 15 of the Agreement between the United Nations and the United States of America Regarding the Headquarters of the United Nations, 12 Bevans 956, TIAS 1676, Ambassador Lokugan Hewage Shavendra C. Silva is entitled to the same privileges and immunities in the United States as the United States accords to diplomatic envoys who are accredited to it. Such diplomatic immunity is defined by the Vienna Convention on Diplomatic Relations, 23 UST 3227, TIAS 7502, 500 UNTS 95.

DIPLOMATIC NOTE

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Article 31 of the Vienna Convention provides in part:

1. A diplomatic agent shall enjoy immunity from the criminal jurisdiction of the receiving State. He shall also enjoy immunity from its civil and administrative jurisdiction, except in the case of:
 - (a) A real action relating to private immovable property situated in the territory of the receiving State, unless he holds it on behalf of the sending State for the purposes of the mission;
 - (b) an action relating to succession in which the diplomatic agent is involved as executor, administrator, heir or legatee as a private person and not on behalf of the sending State;
 - (c) an action relating to any professional or commercial activity exercised by the diplomatic agent in the receiving State outside his official functions.

2. A diplomatic agent is not obliged to give evidence as a witness.

Article 30 of the Vienna Convention provides that a diplomatic agent's papers, correspondence and property shall enjoy inviolability.



Russell F. Graham
Minister Counselor
Host Country Affairs