

Division (JLA) of FAC. The Conventions are available online at <http://laws.justice.gc.ca/en/F-29.4/index.html>.

3.2 b) The purpose of the privileges and immunities set out in the Vienna Conventions is not to benefit the individuals concerned but to ensure the efficient performance of the diplomatic or consular posts of which they are members. Nor do such immunities and privileges derive from the possession of a diplomatic passport, but rather by the acceptance by the foreign state of that individual. The prerogative to invoke or waive diplomatic or consular immunities, once granted, rests with the Minister of Foreign Affairs – representatives should not misrepresent themselves as having been delegated this authority.

3.2 c) Under the Vienna Conventions, it is the duty of all representatives and their dependents, even if they are in receipt of such diplomatic or consular immunities, to respect the laws and regulations of the receiving state. If they do not, they can be asked to leave by the host government. Even if the host government does not take action, the Government of Canada will not tolerate abuse of immunities and privileges by its representatives abroad. Should questions arise concerning aspects of compliance with local laws and regulations, they should be referred to the HOM, in consultation with the Values and Ethics Division of FAC, for guidance.

3.2 d) Representatives and their dependents should pay close attention to, among other issues, limitations to immunities and privileges as they apply to traffic regulations, commercial