

UNITED STATES MISSION TO THE UNITED NATIONS  
NEW YORK

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HC-25-15

The United States Mission to the United Nations presents its compliments to the Permanent Missions to the United Nations and has the honor to inform them of the policies for the use of Mission premises for social events.

In accordance with international law, Permanent Mission premises must not be used in any manner incompatible with diplomatic functions. The United States Government interprets this provision to mean that Mission premises, including the residence of the Permanent Representative, may not be leased or rented for social events or used for functions that are not related to the conduct of diplomatic functions.

If a Permanent Mission wishes to use all or a portion of its property for a purpose that is incompatible with its existing status as a diplomatic facility (i.e., commercial activities, including hosting wedding receptions or other private functions for a fee), the mission must first request approval from the Department of State's Office of Foreign Missions (OFM) for the proposed change of use. The consequence of obtaining OFM's approval to use all or a portion of its property for

**DIPLOMATIC NOTE**

commercial activities will be the loss of both inviolability and any existing authorization for an exemption of real estate taxes for that portion of the property.

The United States Mission recognizes, however, that the use of chancery premises for social events organized in support of charitable causes is well-established and furthers the promotion of friendly relations between states. The decision whether to host such events is entirely within the discretion of the Permanent Representative. Any fees charged in connection with these events should be limited to the cost incurred by the mission as host and not intended to make a profit.

Inquiries regarding this matter may be directed to OFM's New York Regional Office at (646) 282-2825 or [OFMNYCustomerService@state.gov](mailto:OFMNYCustomerService@state.gov).

A handwritten signature, possibly "S.M.", enclosed within a hand-drawn oval.