

**6<sup>th</sup> Committee - Report of the Committee on Relations with the Host Country,**  
**6 November 2019**  
**HCC Chairman's Statement**

Mr. Chair, distinguished delegates,

At the outset, let me say that it is a privilege for me to serve again as the Chair of the Committee on Relations with the Host Country. It is a pleasure to address today the Sixth Committee in this capacity, in order to introduce this year's Report of the Committee on Relations with the Host Country contained in document A/74/26, Supplement No. 26.

The Report was prepared in accordance with General Assembly Resolution 73/212 of 20 December 2018 and follows the structure of previous years. It is divided into four chapters:

- Chapter 1 contains a brief introduction.
- Chapter 2 elaborates on the membership, composition, terms of reference and organization of the work of the Committee.
- Chapter 3 summarizes the discussion on the topics dealt with by the Committee during the reporting period.
- Finally, Chapter 4 contains the recommendations and conclusions of the Committee.

Annexed to the Report is the list of topics that are under consideration by the Committee, as adopted in 1982 and modified in 1994, as well as a list of documents addressed to the Committee.

Mr. Chair,

The Committee on Relations with the Host Country is an important forum in which representatives of Member States seek to resolve different problems faced by the diplomatic community through a frank and constructive exchange of views and cooperation of all concerned. It has proved to be an open, transparent and flexible body. Any interested delegation can participate in it as an observer. Moreover, the Committee is of a unique nature since it is the only body in the UN system which is

mandated to consider matters in relation to the host country and then report thereon to the General Assembly.

During the reporting period, issues important to the UN Membership were raised regarding the implementation of the Headquarters Agreement between the United Nations and the United States. Issues concerning entry visas and travel restrictions were of particular concern.

The Committee will continue its efforts in addressing all issues that are on its agenda a spirit of cooperation and in accordance with international law.

Mr. Chair,

In the Report and the Recommendations and Conclusions therein, we have tried to fully reflect our discussions throughout the year. Hence, there is new language, *inter alia*, on issuance of entry visas to representatives of Member States and members of the Secretariat, on travel regulations issued by the host country with regard to personnel of certain missions, as well as on the role of the Secretary General in the work of the Committee, in line with General Assembly resolution 2819 of 1971, and with respect to the implementation of the Headquarters Agreement.

Mr. Chair, distinguished delegates,

In line with these Recommendations and Conclusions, I wish to reassure you of my personal commitment to help address all these issues, in a spirit of compromise and in full regard for the interests of the Organization. I intend to continue to engage with the representatives of the host country, affected Member States and with the Secretariat to find solutions to the issues raised.

Before I conclude, I would like to take this opportunity to thank the Members of the Committee, the Host Country section of the United States Mission to the United Nations, the New York Mayor's Office for International Affairs, and all observer delegations who participated in the meetings of the Committee during this reporting period, for their support and excellent cooperation. I also wish to express my appreciation to the Secretary of the Committee and to the UN Secretariat, in particular the United Nations Legal Counsel, and the Deputy Legal Counsel for their continuous guidance and support throughout the year.

I thank you Mr. Chairman.