STATEMENTOF THE CHAIRMAN OF THE COMMITTEE ON RELATIONS WITH THE HOST COUNTRY

Agenda item 165: Report of the Committee
on Relations with the Host Country in the Sixth Committee

Introducing the Report of the Committee on Relations with the Host Country in the Sixth Committee, Sixth Committee, 3 November 2016

Mr. Chairman, distinguished delegates,

It is an honour for me to serve as Chairman of the Host Country Committee and to address the Sixth Committee in that capacity in order to int~oduce this year's Report of the Committee on Relations with the Host Country contained in document All1/26, Supplement No. 26.

The Report was prepared in accordance with General Assembly resolution 70/121 of 14 December 2015 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

H

Mr. Chairman, distinguished delegates,

The Committee on Relations with the Host Country continues to provide an open environment where members and interested delegations, participating as observers to the work of the Committee, can follow its work and raise any concerns that fall within the Committee's domain. As such, it provides a forum, where discussions can take place in a constructive manner and within the framework of the relevant international law, including the Headquarters Agreement between the United Nations and the Host Country.

During the reporting period issues relating to the issuance of entry visas and the timeliness of issuance of entry visas, to representatives of Member States have been raised. The Committee anticipates that such issues shall be duly addressed in accordance with the applicable international law and in a spirit of cooperation.

The Report's Recommendations and Conclusions moreover express the Committee's anticipation that the host country will continue to assist the permanent missions accredited to the United Nations and their staff in obtaining appropriate banking services. This follows last year's reference to welcoming the significant efforts of the host country to facilitate the opening of bank accounts for permanent missions with other financial institutions, and is reflective of that currently there are no outstanding related issues.

Mr. Chairman,

In closing, I would like to seize this opportunity to express my gratitude to the Members
of the Committee, to the Host Country section of the United States Mission to the United Nations, to the Mayor's Office for International Affairs, and to all observer delegations who participated in the meetings, in particular for their commitment to addressing all issues in a constructive manner. I also wish to express my gratitude to the Secretary of the Committee and finally to the Secretariat for their guidance, support and cooperation throughout the reporting period.

I thank you Mr. Chairman.