



BANGLADESH

Statement under Agenda Item 166: Report of the Committee on the Relations with the Host Country at the Sixth Committee of the 72nd Session of the UN General Assembly

Statement by: Mr. Mohammad Humayun Kabir, First Secretary

Date and Venue: Thursday, 2 November 2017 at Trusteeship Council Chamber

Mr. Chairman

We condemn the cowardly terrorist attacks in our host city the day before yesterday and convey our solidarity with the victims and their families and compatriots.

We would like to thank the Chair of the Committee on the Relations with the Host Country for his report and thank the Committee members for their hard work. We wish to thank the United States as the host country for making every effort to facilitate the functioning of the member states and observer states accredited to the United Nations and its officials. The US mission and other US authorities in New York deserve appreciation for the facilities and logistical support they provide to Member States including during the high-level segment of General Assembly. The overall arrangements of protocol and security enables all delegations to effectively participate in General Assembly's works.

We take note of the issues mentioned in the Committee's report on reported violations of privileges and immunities under host country agreement, 1961 Vienna Convention on Diplomatic Relations and other international law and norms. We believe, observance of privileges and immunities of diplomats and Mission's properties are premised on legal grounds. We hope the Committee will consider various concerns raised and continue to work to find out suitable solutions in cooperation with the host country as also evident in the committee's report.

Mr. Chairman, my delegation wishes to highlight two points-

First, issuance of visa. We underscore the importance of issuing and facilitating visa for high-level officials from capital for participating in important meetings in the United Nations. We also recommend addressing occasional delay in issuance of visa or extension of visa of diplomats and officials in the Mission.

Second, opening bank accounts for diplomats. It has been, perhaps, an outstanding concern of many delegations that, few banks don't allow the opening of account for Permanent Mission's diplomats on different pretexts.

To conclude, we urge that bilateral or political issues be kept above consideration in providing support to Member and Observer States to United Nations.

I thank you.