

**STATEMENT OF THE CHAIRMAN OF THE COMMITTEE ON RELATIONS WITH
THE HOST COUNTRY, H.E. MR KORNELIOS KORNELIOU, PERMANENT
REPRESENTATIVE OF THE REPUBLIC OF CYPRUS TO THE UNITED NATIONS**

**Agenda item 166: 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, 2 November 2017

Mr. Chairman, distinguished delegates,

It is an honor for me to serve as Chairman of the Host Country Committee and to address the Sixth Committee in that capacity in order to introduce this year's Report of the Committee on Relations with the Host Country contained in document A/72/26, Supplement No. 26.

The Report was prepared in accordance with General Assembly resolution 71/152 of 13 December 2016 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 of the Report contains the recommendations and conclusions of the Committee, approved by its members at the Committee's 285th meeting of 20 October 2017.

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

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 raised at the meetings include, issues arising in connection with the implementation of the Agreement between the United Nations and the United States of America regarding the Headquarters of the United Nations and the question of privileges and immunities, issues relating to the security of missions and the safety of their personnel, issues relating to the issuance of entry visas and the timeliness of issuance of entry visas, to representatives of Member States, issues relating to Host Country travel regulations, as well as banking issues. The Committee anticipates that such issues shall be duly addressed in accordance with the applicable international law and in a spirit of cooperation.

Moreover, the Report's Recommendations and Conclusions contain new language, *inter alia*, on privileges and immunities applicable to the premises of the permanent missions to the United Nations.

In addition, in line with the Recommendations and Conclusions I wish to reiterate my personal commitment towards addressing all issues raised within the Committee and encourage Delegations to avail themselves of my assistance as they deem necessary.

In closing, I would like to seize this opportunity to warmly thank the Members of the Committee, the Host Country section of the United States Mission to the United Nations, the Mayor's Office for International Affairs, and all observer delegations who participated in the meetings, with a constructive approach. 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