

Statement by Mr. Ali Nasimfar  
The Representative of the Islamic Republic of Iran  
Before the Sixth Committee  
72<sup>th</sup> Session of the United Nations General Assembly  
On Agenda item 166:  
"Report of the Committee on Relations with the Host Country"  
New York, 2 November 2017

In the name of God, the Compassionate the Merciful

Mr. Chairman,

My delegation thanks the Chair of the Committee on Relations with the Host Country for presenting the report of the Committee. We also thank the Secretariat of the Committee for their support.

"The Committee on Relations with the Host Country" is a forum in which a full range of pertinent issues concerning the relationship between the Host Country and the UN could and should be discussed.

The ultimate objective of diplomatic privileges and immunities is to provide a normal atmosphere for effective functioning of Foreign Missions, an essential issue which is also stipulated in various GA resolutions.

Mr. Chairman,

Although our deliberations in the Host Committee in several cases has produced favorable results, there are some unresolved cases which make it clear that the mandate and power of the Committee does not match with its objective. As a consequence, the Committee has failed to address the challenges in a timely manner. As such, we would welcome any initiative aimed at increasing the effectiveness of the committee. Also, the working methods of the Host Committee needs to be improved. We continue to believe that the Committee on relation with the Host Country enjoys certain potentials which could be constructively utilized to address the issues referred to it. In this regard, we would welcome presentation of a report by the Secretary-General on the status of implementation of the Headquarter Agreement to the Committee as requested in the founding Resolution of 2819, establishing the Committee in 1971. We firmly believe that the Secretary-General is a party to the Headquarter Agreement and should ensure that its provisions are implemented continuously and in full. However, this has not been the case in recent years and we urge the Secretariat to consider reviving this practice.

We note with concern that while all Member-States have a great interest in the work of the Committee, only a small portion of the current membership are members of the Committee.

Mr. Chairman,

We regret that the Host country has not been able to pay heed to the call made by the GA with regard to the remaining travel restrictions it has imposed on the staff of certain Missions and its discriminatory regulations including by issuing one-time entry visas which hinders well-functioning of the Missions. It is important that the host country make necessary readjustment in this regard.

Furthermore, my delegation wishes to take this opportunity to put on record its concern about the application of discriminatory Secondary Screening procedures on diplomats from certain nationalities in airports during the journey to and from New York which undermine the respect and dignity of state representatives and diplomatic community. We support the recommendation of the Host Committee which urges the host country to take appropriate action, with a view to maintaining respect for diplomatic privileges and immunities.

Finally, we note the report of the Committee contained in document A/72/26, in particular its recommendations and conclusions, which inter alia, urges the host country to address alleged violations pertaining diplomatic premises of a Permanent Mission and to remove any restrictions inconsistent with those privileges and immunities.

Thank you