Mr. Chairperson,

I have the honour to speak on behalf of the Non-Aligned Movement.

First and foremost, we would like to extend our gratitude to the Chairman of the Host Country Committee for the presentation of the report of the Committee on Relations with the Host Country and take note of the report as well as its recommendations and conclusions therein contained in document A/77/26.

We would also like to reiterate our principled position to put forth our utmost efforts to not only uphold and defend the principles of the UN Charter but also promote and preserve multilateralism. Multilateralism serves as an indispensable platform wherein we can collectively work with a spirit of mutual understanding and cooperation. In this context, we underline the importance of the maintenance of appropriate conditions for delegations and missions accredited to the United Nations as well as support enabling the UN to fully and efficiently discharge its responsibilities and fulfill its purposes.

The position of the NAM regarding the agendas that are under the consideration of this Committee is well established. The Non-Aligned Movement underlines the critical role of the host countries of the United Nations Headquarters and Offices in preserving multilateralism as well as facilitating multilateral diplomacy and inter-governmental norm-making processes.

In this regard, the NAM also calls upon all States which host the United Nations Headquarters and Offices to facilitate, in accordance with their obligation under the related Headquarters Agreements and the Vienna Convention on diplomatic relations, the presence of the representatives of Member States in relevant meetings of the United Nations, as well as recalls that the provisions of the Headquarters Agreement shall be applicable irrespective of the bilateral relations existing between the Governments and the Host Country.

With reference to the denial of or the delay in the issuance of entry visas to the representatives of any NAM Member States by the Host Country of the United Nations Headquarters, the Non-Aligned Movement expresses its serious and grave concerns while reiterating that political considerations shall not interfere with the provision of facilities required under the Headquarters Agreement for the Member States to participate in the United Nations activities.

The NAM also expresses its serious concern regarding the arbitrary movement restrictions imposed on the diplomatic officials of some missions of NAM Member States by the Host Country of the United Nations Headquarters. Such restrictions constitute flagrant violations of the Vienna Convention on Diplomatic Relations, the Headquarter Agreements and international law. In this regard, the NAM opposes these restrictions as well as their continued application and urges the Host Country to take all necessary measures to remove them without delay.

To conclude, the Non-Aligned Movement (NAM), recalls the decision adopted by its Heads of State and Government within the framework of the 18th Summit Conference held from 25 to 26 October 2019 in Baku, Republic of Azerbaijan, to present a short and action-oriented draft resolution before the General Assembly demanding the fulfillment of Host Country responsibilities by virtue of relevant Headquarter Agreements and the Vienna Convention on Diplomatic Relations, including the timely issuance of entry visas and the removal of arbitrary movement restrictions. Such efforts aim to ensure that the delegations of Member State have the capacity to fully exercise their right of participation in multilateral meetings, as well as their diplomatic duties and official responsibilities, in a proper manner.

I thank you, Mr. Chairperson.