



United Kingdom Mission
to the United Nations

One Dag Hammarskjold Plaza
(885 Second Avenue)
New York, NY 10017

Email: uk@un.int
http://twitter.com/UKUN_NewYork

UNITED KINGDOM OF GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND

UNITED NATIONS GENERAL ASSEMBLY, SIXTH COMMITTEE,
UNGA 77, AGENDA ITEM 168

Report of the Committee on relations with the Host Country

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Delivered by Chanaka Wickremasinghe
Legal Adviser

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As a member of the Host Country Committee, the UK was pleased to participate in the work of the Committee in the reporting period. We pay tribute to Ambassador Hadjichrysanthou, the Chair of the Committee, and his Team for their patient and skilful work in guiding the Committee. We also commend the cooperation amongst the members of the Committee in agreeing the recommendations and conclusions contained in the Committee's Report.

The Committee has considered a number of issues this year, including issues concerning visas, travel restrictions and banking. There has been progress in resolving some aspects of them, but there are also others aspects which remain unresolved for some States. The Office of Foreign Missions of the Host State has expressed its ongoing willingness to work with all States to overcome difficulties, and the work of that Office has been widely appreciated by members of the Committee. The Secretary General has also continued his dialogue with the Host State authorities, led on the UN side by the Under Secretary-General de Serpa Soares and Assistant Secretary-General Mathias. And it is clear that both sides remained committed to those talks on an ongoing basis.

The United Kingdom continues to believe therefore that the most appropriate resolution of outstanding issues is through continuing dialogue, whether that be bilateral (i.e. between a concerned State and the Host state authorities, in particular the Office of Foreign Missions), or in the ongoing dialogue between the Secretary General and the Host State authorities or in the continuing work of the Committee itself. Thank you Mr President.