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Report of the Committee on Relations with the Host Country

Report of the Sixth Committee

Rapporteur: Mr. Salvatore **Zappalà** (Italy)

I. Introduction

1. The item entitled “Report of the Committee on Relations with the Host Country” was included in the provisional agenda of the sixty-ninth session of the General Assembly pursuant to Assembly resolution 68/120 of 16 December 2013.
2. At its 2nd plenary meeting, on 19 September 2014, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the General Committee, decided to include the item in its agenda and to allocate it to the Sixth Committee.
3. The Sixth Committee considered the item at its 29th meeting, on 14 November 2014. The views of the representatives who spoke during the Committee’s consideration of the item are reflected in the relevant summary record ([A/C.6/69/SR.29](#)).
4. For its consideration of the item, the Committee had before it the report of the Committee on Relations with the Host Country ([A/69/26](#)).
5. At the 29th meeting, on 14 November, the Vice-Chair of the Committee on Relations with the Host Country introduced the report of that Committee (see [A/C.6/69/SR.29](#)).

II. Consideration of draft resolution [A/C.6/69/L.19](#)

6. At the 29th meeting, on 14 November, the representative of Cyprus, on behalf of Bulgaria, Canada, Costa Rica, Côte d’Ivoire, Cyprus and Trinidad and Tobago, introduced a draft resolution entitled “Report of the Committee on Relations with the Host Country” ([A/C.6/69/L.19](#)). The representative of Canada requested the withdrawal of Canada from the list of sponsors of the draft resolution.
7. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution [A/C.6/69/L.19](#) without a vote (see para. 8).



III. Recommendation of the Sixth Committee

8. The Sixth Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolution:

Report of the Committee on Relations with the Host Country

The General Assembly,

Having considered the report of the Committee on Relations with the Host Country,¹

Recalling Article 105 of the Charter of the United Nations, the Convention on the Privileges and Immunities of the United Nations,² the Agreement between the United Nations and the United States of America regarding the Headquarters of the United Nations³ and the responsibilities of the host country,

Recalling also that, in accordance with paragraph 7 of General Assembly resolution 2819 (XXVI) of 15 December 1971, the Committee should consider, and advise the host country on, issues arising in connection with the implementation of the Headquarters Agreement,

Recognizing that effective measures should continue to be taken by the competent authorities of the host country, in particular to prevent any acts violating the security of missions and the safety of their personnel,

1. *Endorses* the recommendations and conclusions of the Committee on Relations with the Host Country contained in paragraph 55 of its report;¹

2. *Considers* that the maintenance of appropriate conditions for the normal work of the delegations and the missions accredited to the United Nations and the observance of their privileges and immunities, which is an issue of great importance, are in the interest of the United Nations and all Member States, requests the host country to continue to solve, through negotiations, problems that might arise and to take all measures necessary to prevent any interference with the functioning of missions, and urges the host country to continue to take appropriate action, such as training of police, security, customs and border control officers, with a view to maintaining respect for diplomatic privileges and immunities and if violations occur to ensure that such cases are properly investigated and remedied, in accordance with applicable law;

3. *Notes* the problems experienced by some Permanent Missions to the United Nations in connection with the implementation of the Parking Programme for Diplomatic Vehicles,⁴ and notes that the Committee shall remain seized of the matter, with a view to continuing to maintain the proper implementation of the Parking Programme in a manner that is fair, non-discriminatory, effective and therefore consistent with international law;

4. *Requests* the host country to consider removing the remaining travel restrictions imposed by it on staff of certain missions and staff members of the

¹ *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-ninth Session, Supplement No. 26 (A/69/26).*

² Resolution 22 A (I).

³ See resolution 169 (II).

⁴ [A/AC.154/355](#), annex.

Secretariat of certain nationalities, and in this regard notes the long-standing positions of affected States, of the Secretary-General and of the host country;

5. *Recalls* article IV of the Agreement between the United Nations and the United States of America regarding the Headquarters of the United Nations,³ and notes the concerns expressed by some delegations concerning the denial and delay of entry visas to representatives of Member States;

6. *Notes* that the Committee anticipates that the host country will continue to enhance its efforts to ensure the issuance of entry visas to representatives of Member States pursuant to article IV, section 11, of the Headquarters Agreement and in a timely manner, to enable travel to New York on United Nations business, that the Committee remains seized of the matter of the host country's not issuing a visa to a designated Permanent Representative of a Member State, and that the Committee anticipates that the host country will continue to enhance efforts, including visa issuance, to facilitate the participation of representatives of Member States in other United Nations meetings, as appropriate;

7. *Also notes* that a number of delegations have requested shortening the time frame applied by the host country for issuance of entry visas to representatives of Member States since the time frame poses difficulties for the full-fledged participation of Member States in United Nations meetings, and invites the host country to inform the Committee, as appropriate, of efforts to address such difficulties;

8. *Notes with concern* the difficulties that continue to be experienced by some Permanent Missions to the United Nations in obtaining suitable banking services, welcomes the continued efforts of the host country to facilitate the opening of bank accounts for those Permanent Missions, and also welcomes the adoption of General Assembly resolution 68/306 of 9 September 2014 in this respect;

9. *Expresses its appreciation* for the efforts made by the host country, and expects that the issues raised at the meetings of the Committee will continue to be resolved in a spirit of cooperation and in accordance with international law, including the Headquarters Agreement;

10. *Affirms* the importance of the Committee being in a position to fulfil its mandate and meet on short notice to deal with urgent and important matters concerning the relations between the United Nations and the host country, and in that connection requests the Secretariat and the Committee on Conferences to accord priority to requests from the Committee on Relations with the Host Country for conference-servicing facilities for meetings of that Committee that must be held while the General Assembly and its Main Committees are meeting, without prejudice to the requirements of those bodies and on an "as available" basis;

11. *Requests* the Secretary-General to remain actively engaged in all aspects of the relations of the United Nations with the host country, and recalls that the Secretary-General may bring to the attention of the Committee issues of mutual concern relating to the implementation of the Headquarters Agreement and the Convention on the Privileges and Immunities of the United Nations;²

12. *Requests* the Committee to continue its work in conformity with General Assembly resolution 2819 (XXVI) and, in this framework, to consider additional appropriate measures to enhance the work of the Committee and its effectiveness;

13. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventieth session the item entitled "Report of the Committee on Relations with the Host Country".