

**Report of the Committee on Relations with the Host Country
(Agenda item 167)**
Introduction of draft resolution A/C.6/73/L.18 by Mr. Doros VENEZIS
(Republic of Cyprus)
Sixth Committee, 13 November 2018

Mr. Chairman,

I have the honour to introduce, on behalf of the Bureau, the draft resolution contained in document A/C.6/73/L.18, entitled "Report of the Committee on Relations with the Host Country".

In the process of preparing the draft resolution, the content of this year's Report of the Committee (A/73/26), as well as the views of Member States, have been taken into account.

On 29 October 2018, the draft resolution was circulated to delegates for their consideration, ahead of informal consultations held on 2 November 2017. Agreement *ad referendum* was then reached on the draft, which was circulated on the same day under silence procedure. Following the lapse of the silence procedure which ensued, the agreed text was submitted for processing on 6 November 2018.

The text of the draft resolution is co-sponsored by Bulgaria, Canada, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, [...], and, of course, Cyprus.

I would like to note the following changes and additions to the text of the resolution compared to last year's text that overall reflect the recommendations and conclusions as contained in paragraph 111 of the Report of the Committee (A/73/26). I would also like to commend the constructive spirit of all the members of the Sixth Committee to agree to these changes and additions.

I will focus my remarks on the operative paragraphs that are new or have been amended.

- Operative paragraphs 1 and 16 contain technical updates;

- Operative paragraph 2 refers to the observance of privileges and immunities and contains new language that refers to the recent concerns raised by permanent missions regarding the normal performance of their functions;

- Operative paragraph 3 refers to the premises issue and contains new language regarding alleged ongoing violations and restrictions applied to the premises of a Permanent Mission and also refers to the lack of resolution of these matters;

- Operative paragraph 4 is a new paragraph regarding the necessary steps and the nature of consultations required for a representative of a Member State to be requested to leave the host country, a text formulated based on provisions of the Headquarters' Agreement;

- Operative paragraph 6 refers to travel restrictions issued by the host country and also includes new language referring to the recurring nature of the request for their removal and the seriousness with which recent concerns are evaluated;

- Operative paragraph 8 refers to the issue of the timely issuance of entry visas and contains additions so as to also refer to the members of the Secretariat, as well as additions regarding the necessity for them, in addition to persons assigned as members of permanent missions, to be enabled to take up their assignment as promptly as possible and to travel to New York on UN business.

- Operative paragraph 14 refers to the role of the Secretary-General regarding the work of the Committee on relations with the Host Country and the observance of the relations between the UN with the Host Country. The new text incorporated in this paragraph refers to the active engagement of the Secretary-General to the work of the Committee with a view to ensuring the representation of the interests concerned.

Mr. Chairman,

This concludes my introduction of draft resolution A/C.6/73/L.18.

I would like to, once again, thank all delegates for their constructive approach and cooperation on the matter.

In view of the above, I recommend it that the Sixth Committee adopts this resolution without a vote.

Thank you.