

in line with the general policy to deliberate deterioration of relations with Russia and abuse of the status of the host country of the UN for these purposes.

Mr. Chairman,

Since last January the Russian delegation has undertaken in good faith the efforts to convince the host country on the need to resume implementation of its international legal obligations. We should like to thank the Committee on relations with the host country for its attention to this problem.

We are compelled to note that despite this requests the unprecedented behavior of the US authorities has continued unfortunately.

The Committee in its recommendations has reacted to this situation and urged the host country to lift all restrictions from the premises of the Permanent Mission inconsistent with its privileges and immunities and ensure for their respect in a future.

We expect that violations of international law will be discontinued and the host country provide guarantees that they will not be repeated in the future. It is necessary to ensure strict compliance with international legal norms in their entirety that regulate privileges and immunities of real estate facilities used for diplomatic purposes by the permanent representatives of UN member states. We refer to the UN Headquarters Agreement and relevant provisions of the 1961 Vienna Convention on Diplomatic Relations and other documents applicable to the issue of the status of permanent missions to the UN.

It is important that the Committee confirms the inadmissibility of abuse b(8)-12()-5(i).

Mr. Chairman,

We still expect that the authorities of the host country will rectify as soon as possible the current situation. However, if this does not happen, it will establish an extremely dangerous precedent for the UN on the whole. No UN member state will be safe from unexpected demand to vacate the office, residence or any other premise of the permanent mission, the denial of access there or its employees suddenly thrown out in the streets.

In accordance with its report the Committee will continue to deal with that matter. It is our understanding that the Committee will work on substance in order to unwind the situation with the premises of the Permanent Mission of Russia in Upper Brookville until all illegal restrictions are lifted.

We are grateful to Mr. Korneliou for his active mediation and will welcome any steps of the Chairman of the Committee going in this direction. We also expect that the issue of diplomatic property of the Permanent Mission of Russia will remain in focus of the Secretary-General.

We believe that the General Assembly through its Sixth Committee and Committee on Relations with the Host Country with the assistance of the Secretariat should strengthen the monitoring of compliance by the US authorities with their obligations with respect to privileges and immunities of permanent missions including their property and premises in order to properly react to any violations and abuses.