

the Committee in 1988. We also note the points that the Legal Counsel has conveyed to the host country authorities, namely, that the Headquarters Agreement cannot be applied in a discriminatory manner; considerations of a bilateral diplomatic nature should not and cannot interfere with the application of the Headquarters Agreement; the Headquarters Agreement should be applied in a way so as not to impede the effective exercise of diplomatic activity; and inevitable differences in the interpretation and application of the Headquarters Agreement are to be addressed in a reasonable and finite period of time.

5 Singapore calls on the host country and other countries involved to engage with each other with seriousness and seek a resolution in accordance with international law. The active engagement in the process by the UN Secretary-General with the host country, as well as with relevant Member States, is also important. The United Nations is party to the Headquarters Agreement, and the Secretary-General, as its representative, plays a direct and central role in ensuring its effective implementation. In this regard, we appreciate the efforts of the Office of Legal Affairs to regularly meet the authorities of the host country. We also support the Committee's recommendation to encourage the Secretary-General to more actively engage in the work of the Committee with a view to ensuring the representation of the interests concerned.

6 Thank you

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