

Statement on behalf of the European Union and its Member States

By

**Ms. Simona Popan, Counsellor, Delegation of the European Union to the
United Nations**

at the Sixth Committee

on the Agenda item 168:

"Report of the Committee on Relations with the Host Country"

United Nations

New York

7 November 2021

CHECK AGAINST DELIVERY

Mr. Chair,

I have the honour to speak on behalf of the European Union and its Member States.

The Candidate Countries Türkiye, Montenegro , Serbia and the Republic of Moldova, the country of the Stabilisation and Association Process and potential candidate Bosnia and Herzegovina, as well as Georgia align themselves with this statement.

We thank the Committee on Relations with the Host Country for the report on its activities conducted during the reporting period (A/77/26). The Committee is an effective and transparent forum of discussion of issues of mutual concern relating to the implementation of the UN Headquarters Agreement and the Convention on the Privileges and Immunities of the United Nations.

During the reporting period, the Committee examined a number of important topics, including the security of premises of Missions, issuance of visas, travel regulations issued by the Host Country, and banking services. On the issue of the issuance or renewal of entry visas to representatives of certain Member States, we would like to acknowledge the degree of progress that has been made since June 2021. We stress the importance of the full participation of all delegations in the work of the UN, and the unrestricted right of the persons mentioned in Section 11 of the Headquarters Agreement to enter the United States for the purpose of proceeding to the Headquarters district. We would further like to stress that the Headquarters Agreement and the Convention on the Privileges and Immunities of the United Nations apply only to exercise of functions in connection with the United Nations.

Concerning travel regulations, we acknowledge the eGOV system, which facilitates a streamlined and more efficient process for the submission of requests for waivers. We further take into consideration

We note the view of the Host Country and some Member States that the Committee has made significant progress on outstanding issues this year, including on visas, as well as the view and concerns of some other members of the Committee and affected Member States.

Mr. Chair,