

Hand-over Ceremony of the G-77 Vienna Chapter, 2015, 17 February 2015
Statement of Jean-Luc Lemahieu, UNODC Director, Division of Policy Analysis and
Public Affairs, on behalf of Mr. Yury Fedotov, UNOV/UNODC Director-
General/Executive Director

Excellencies,
Distinguished colleagues,

Allow me to convey the regrets of Mr. Yury Fedotov, UNOV Director-General and UNODC Executive Director, who is on mission outside country and thus unable to attend this hand-over ceremony.

On his behalf, it is his and UNODCs pleasure and honour to thank Ambassador Lourdes Yparraguirre for her successful and productive leadership, and to welcome Ambassador Andereya Latorre.

The G-77 and China plays an invaluable role in uniting the international community to address shared concerns, including the challenges of drugs, crime, corruption and terrorism.

The strength of the G-77 and China lies in both the diversity of its membership and the unity the group demonstrates in pursuing common goals.

In this year, as mentioned several times by previous speakers, when we celebrate the 70th anniversary of the United Nations, and take an historic opportunity to define the post-2015 development agenda, your engagement is needed more than ever.

We rely on Chile's continued support during 2015 as Chair of the G-77, with many important events coming in the next months, including the 13th Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice in Doha in April, the outcomes of which can also contribute to the post-2015 development agenda.

And in just a few weeks in Vienna, there will be a special segment for preparations towards the 2016 UN General Assembly Special Session on the world drug problem ahead of the regular session of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs.

UNODC trusts we can count on the active and constructive engagement of G-77 and China to help ensure that these events have a real impact for people on the ground.

Excellencies, UNODC looks forward to continuing our work together. To conclude, we again express our gratitude to the outgoing Chair, Ambassador Yparraguirre, and issue a warm welcome to the new Chair, Ambassador Andereya Latorre. Thank you.