



VIENNA CHAPTER

STATEMENT BY THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF ECUADOR, AMBASSADOR CARLOS JATIVA IN HIS CAPACITY OF CHAIRMAN OF THE GROUP OF 77, TWENTIETH ANNIVERSARY OF THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE G-77 VIENNA CHAPTER

VIENNA, SEPTEMBER 11TH 2018

Excellencies,

Distinguished Delegates,

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the pleasure to greet and welcome you to this meeting commemorating the twentieth anniversary of the establishment of the Vienna chapter of the Group of 77.

The heads of all the Vienna based organizations honor us with their presence this evening. I will have the privilege of giving them the floor, so they can share their thoughts on the contribution of the G-77 to the work of their respective agencies during these past years, as well as their perspectives for the future. I also welcome my brother, the Director General of OFID, Mr. Suleiman Al-Herbish.

The office of the G-77 in Vienna was inaugurated on May 19th 1998 by then UNIDO Director General Carlos Magariños under the chairmanship of the Ambassador of South Africa. It serves as a Focal Point for the Group and its institutional memory, in preparation of meetings of all Vienna organizations.

Since its establishment, the Vienna chapter has been financed by UNIDO, which also covers the expenses of the External Relations Officer, who provides guidance to the chair and members of the Group, keeping documents and minutes of meetings and other relevant information for members to consult.

As head of the Group, I am pleased to reiterate our deep appreciation to UNIDO and Director General LI Yong for harboring us in its premises and providing support through the daily contributions of Madam Anne Marie Heuls.

As the largest intergovernmental organization of developing States in the United Nations, the G-77 has offered in all its venues the means for the countries of the South to articulate and promote their collective economic interest, enhance their joint negotiating capacity on all major international economic issues within the United Nations system, and promote South – South cooperation for development.

The G-77 has overcome the test of time, confronting the different and successive challenges it has faced since its inception on June 15th, 1964. The fine aspirations for social development, economic sovereignty and political independence were at the basis of its creation.

The growing importance of the Group, together with the activities undertaken by several emerging economies, has rendered it possible to strengthen unity and cooperation among its members and to consolidate its ideals and objectives. Indeed, the emerging new dynamic economies of the South have provided potential opportunities for promoting trade, investment and technological cooperation.

The G-77 and China is convinced that industrialization remains an essential factor for sustained economic growth, sustainable development and eradication of poverty in our countries. We reaffirm our full support in the Organization and call for enhancing its role and maintaining its institutional integrity during the implementation of the current reform process of the UN development system.

Over the years, we have declared, and we reiterate here, once again, the basic rights of all States to research, develop and produce nuclear energy for their own sustainable development and for exclusive peaceful purposes.

We recognize the role of the IAEA in supporting sustainable development through its efforts in areas such as food and agriculture, human health, industry, water resource management, environment, climate change and nuclear energy planning and production. Further, we deem it essential for the Agency to strengthen its Technical Co-operation Program on the peaceful uses of nuclear energy, and to preserve an appropriate balance between all its mandated activities.

We are now more than ever committed to countering the world drug problem and enhancing the international drug control system, in which the fight against demand and supply requires an integrated approach of preventive and enforcement measures. We will continue to actively participate in the work of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs in order to reach these and other objectives, which require new and additional financial resources and technical assistance.

In the field of crime prevention, G-77 and China have advocated for adherence to and effective implementation of all UN related conventions, including the 2005 one against corruption, the 2000 against Transnational Organized Crime and the Protocols thereto, the three drug control instruments, as well as the international treaties and protocols on countering terrorism, as they reflect the collective commitment to promote cooperation in this field and to adequately address the root causes of crime.

The G-77 is convinced of the vital importance and urgency of the entry into force of the CTBT, as a universal and effectively verifiable Treaty, which represents a fundamental instrument in the field of nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation.

While bearing in mind the Treaty's objective, we recognize the fact that the IMS and the IDC have also demonstrated their utility in bringing tangible scientific and civil benefits, including for tsunami warning systems. We will continue to encourage ways to ensure that these benefits can be broadly shared by the international community, in conformity with the Treaty and to promote the widest possible participation of developing countries on the verification regime, through capacity building and training.

We are also committed to the rule of law and the promotion of commercial law. We are encouraged to achieve a 2030 space agenda and the possibility of having space technologies to improve the living conditions of our peoples.

In conclusion, as the body that accounts for more than two-thirds of the world population, the G-77 commits today to contribute to the strengthening of a more democratic, sustainable and equitable world, with increasingly horizontal power relations.

This pledge is even more pertinent as we acknowledge that progress with respect to structural transformation, employment and distributional outcomes has been uneven, and in some cases, has even experienced a reversal. Overcoming poverty constitutes the major moral imperative of our day. Indeed, for the first time in the history of humanity, poverty is not the inevitable consequence of resource scarcity or natural factors, but the result of unfair and exclusionary trade and political practices and systems.

In a broader ambition, the G-77 needs to demonstrate that a more cooperative model of integration can offer the basis for reinvigorating development cooperation at the global level, through the realization of the SDGs. In the case of Vienna, we will strive to achieve progressively these goals through our work within the Vienna based UN organizations. To this end, we count on our membership, on the good faith of other negotiating groups and on the secretariats, which serves the common purpose of strengthening multilateralism, which is being questioned as never before, providing the UN family with a substantive capacity to fully and effectively meet the purposes and principles enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations and consolidating its democratic character and transparency as the central forum for dialogue and negotiation.

Thank you.

TRIBUTE TO MS. ANNEMARIE HEULS ON THE OCCASION OF THE
TWENTIETH ANNIVERSARY OF THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE VIENNA
CHAPTER OF THE GROUP OF 77

11 SEPTEMBER 2018

Before concluding this ceremony, I would like to express my gratitude to all task force coordinators and delegates, whose professional and dedicated work make possible the many statements and explanations of the positions of the Group of G77 on substantial issues in this venue.

Finally, on behalf of the Member States of G77, I would like to pay tribute to Ms. Annemarie Heuls, our External Relations Officer, who has been at the heart of Vienna Chapter since the very date of its establishment.

Throughout these years, she has seen several generations of diplomats pass through the negotiation rooms. Some of them today are distinguished heads of mission.

Her commitment and professionalism are values to highlight. I would like to emphasize the dedication, support and friendship that she offers to each and every one of the delegates of the G77, which far exceeds her work responsibilities.

Annemarie, please accept this present as a gesture of appreciation by hundreds of delegates that are part of this great family.