



STATEMENT OF THE G77 AND CHINA G77 AND CHINA FOR THE 1ST MEETING OF THE INTERGOVERNMENTAL WORKING GROUP ON GOVERNANCE AND FINANCE IN VIENNA, 19TH OCTOBER 2009 DELIVERED BY H.E. EUGENIO MARIA CURIA, PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF ARGENTINA

Madam and Mister Co-Chairs,

The Group of 77 and China welcomes this very beginning of the activities of the standing working group, and reiterates its congratulations to both Co-Chairs for their election to coordinate our work.

The Group confirms the vision that inspired its intense efforts towards the constitution of the working group: the setting up of a permanent, open, constructive, transparent and Member-State driven mechanism to deal effectively with the governance and financial challenges that UNODC increasingly faces to fulfill its mandate, in particular as regards the two Commissions that are the backbone of such mandate. We commit to uphold this vision against the notion of making of this group a bureaucratic instance to discuss endlessly about problems that remain unsolved.

In the above context, the Group reiterates its disposition to contribute to what in our view are the most urgent tasks of the working group, namely:

- a) Strengthening the financial situation of UNODC, mainly by addressing its current unpredictable, highly fragmented and constrained funding structure.
- b) Ensuring an adequate matching of the funding provided for the activities of UNODC with the priorities fixed by Member States regarding the mandate of the Office, mainly as reflected in its medium-term strategy.
- c) Reinforcing the comparative advantage of UNODC as the body of the UN best suited to provide capacity-building and technical assistance to address its mandate.
- d) Ensuring an effective and adequate implementation and follow up of the decisions taken by the CND and the CPCCJ, and reinforcing the role of the two Commissions as governing bodies.
- e) Developing a more effective response of UNODC in the field.

The Group believes that, in order to better address these tasks, it is necessary to have a strong dialogue and cooperation between all of us, Member States, with the assistance of the Secretariat, respecting at the same time our different capabilities and needs. To this regard, the concept of "common and differentiated responsibility" as used in other fora, appears also most pertinent to this working group.

Time is of the essence. Let's start to produce results.

Thank you, Madam and Mister Co-Chairs.