



GROUP OF 77

G-77 Newsletter

Vienna Chapter

10 June 2014 - Issue 1

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Subtheme of the 50th Anniversary
celebrations of Vienna chapter of G-77

“Living Well: Celebrating Unity for
Prosperity”

Introduction

Welcome to the first edition of the quarterly G-77 Newsletter of the Vienna Chapter! As the Group celebrates its 50th anniversary, there will be no more apposite moment than today to celebrate and record the activities of the Group and reach out to the world!

We hope that by sharing information, best practices and success stories of our Members and their unique cultural and social identity, we could create a greater understanding and appreciation of the Group that is the G-77. We extend a warm invitation to all our friends to join us from 23-27 June 2014 to celebrate this unique milestone at the Rotunda of the VIC.



Message from UNOV Director General Yury Fedotov

June 2014



It is a pleasure and honour to offer my warmest congratulations to the countries of the Group of 77 on its 50th anniversary.

The Group of 77 plays an active and instrumental role in our work at the United Nations Office at Vienna (UNOV) and the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC).

The strength of the Group of 77 lies in both the diversity of its membership and the solidarity and unity the group demonstrates in pursuing common goals.

This commitment to multilateralism can be seen most vividly in the Group's continued constructive engagement in the work of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs and the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice, which are the governing bodies of UNODC.

UNODC supports Member States to confront the threats of illicit drugs, transnational organized crime, corruption and terrorism. The contribution of the Group of 77 in uniting the international community to address these shared challenges remains invaluable.

Congratulations once again on this milestone anniversary. I look forward to continuing our work together, and I wish you every success in 2014 and beyond.

Yury Fedotov

*Director-General, United Nations Office at Vienna
Executive Director, United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime*

Message from UNIDO Director General LI Yong

June 2014



It is with great pleasure and honor that I join the international community in celebrating the 50th anniversary of the Group of 77. Since the establishment of the Vienna Chapter within UNIDO in May 1998, this Organization has been a dedicated supporter and committed partner of the Group.

As a specialized agency of the United Nations system that promotes inclusive and sustainable industrial development for poverty reduction, inclusive globalization and environmental sustainability, UNIDO has always worked closely with the Group of 77.

I am confident that together we can continue the drive to eradicate poverty with our focus on, amongst others, achieving youth employment by helping young people to acquire skills and create new businesses, gender equality and the empowerment of women, enhancing South-South and triangular cooperation, and building effective partnerships – with all development actors including increasingly the private sector.

I am grateful for the support the Group of 77 has provided to help UNIDO accelerate inclusive and sustainable industrial development and to push for the inclusion of industrialization as a Sustainable Development Goal.

Once again, I offer my most sincere congratulations and wish you every success on this memorable occasion. It will be a great pleasure to continue strengthening this long-lasting, excellent working relationship between the G-77 and UNIDO as we implement the post-2015 development agenda.

LI Yong

Director General, United Nations Industrial Development Organization

Message from the Chair of the G-77

June 2014



I welcome the publication of the first edition of the G-77 Vienna Chapter newsletter.

The 50th Anniversary of the Group is a historic event celebrating the coming together of 77 countries and China to articulate their common objectives on a single platform on 15th June 1964. Today, the G-77 membership has grown to over 130 and vibrantly pursues the common objectives articulated by our founders half a century ago.

The G-77 continues to evolve and has become even more relevant today in actively addressing global issues of concern for developing countries. The G-77 Vienna Chapter has been a dynamic and vibrant participant and has made a significant contribution towards the Vienna processes since its creation. UNIDO and its staff need to be commended for the sustained support extended to the Group, including by providing facilities for the G-77 office and its staff.

I invite you all to join in our celebrations in the coming week as we commemorate half a century of unity for prosperity.

A.L.A. Azeez
Chairman

History of G-77

By Annemarie Heuls, G-77 Liaison Officer, UNIDO

The Group of 77 (G-77) was established on 15 June 1964 by seventy-seven developing countries during the first session of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) in Geneva. Although the membership of the G-77 has increased to 133 countries, the original name has been retained because of its historic significance.

The G-77 is the largest intergovernmental forum of developing countries in the United Nations system, and as such provides the means for the countries of the South to articulate and promote their collective economic interests. Furthermore, it enhances their joint negotiating capacity on all major international economic issues within the United Nations system, and promotes South-South cooperation for development.

The work of the G-77 is organized through the various Chapters based in New York, Geneva, Nairobi, Paris, Rome and Vienna. The Group sponsors and negotiates resolutions and decisions at global conferences and other meetings dealing with international cooperation, economy and development that are held under the aegis of the United Nations. Every year

coordination meetings among all the G-77 Chapters are organized. The Chairmanship of the Group rotates on a yearly basis among the three regions of the Group (Africa, Asia and Pacific and Group of Latin American and Caribbean countries).

The Vienna Chapter of the G-77 was inaugurated on 19 May 1998 by the then Director-General of UNIDO, Mr. Carlos Magariños, and the Chairperson H.E. Ambassador Ms. Nozipho Mxakato-Diseko, the then Permanent Representative of South Africa.

The main focus of the G-77 Vienna Chapter, which is financially supported by the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO), is the promotion of technical cooperation activities and international cooperation. The Liaison Officer coordinates the work of the Group in Vienna throughout all the Vienna-based UN organizations (namely: UNIDO, UNODC, IAEA and CTBTO) and liaises with other chapters. An average of 150 group meetings per year are being organized by this Chapter. On the Vienna Chapter's website all the statements, positions and activities can be followed. The Chapter's website serves among others, as institutional memory of the Group.

Bolivia to host Executive Summit of Head of States and Governments of Group of 77

Bolivia will play host to the historic 50th Anniversary Summit of the Group of 77 in Santa Cruz from 14-15 June 2014. Speaking of this landmark event, Bolivian President Evo Morales described it as a “gathering of five continents in Santa Cruz, and that calls for greater commitment, greater responsibility, so that the event must turn out very well.” The theme of the Summit reflects current global issues, particularly relevant to the 133 Member Countries of the G-77, that of sustainable development, eradication of poverty and respect for the environment.

President Morales, outlining the objective of the Summit said that “our great hope is that from Santa Cruz, Bolivia, there emerges a document for the lives of those who inhabit planet earth.” Hence, the theme of the event “Living Well: Towards a Prosperous New World Order”.

The Summit is expected to attract over 30 Heads of State and over 100 high level delegates, including the Secretary General of the United Nations, Ban Ki-moon.

Bolivia has also organised several events in the run up to the Summit, including seminars, workshops, debates and meetings, including an International Women’s Summit and a Latin American Youth Summit.

Bolivia currently holds the Chairmanship of the G-77. The Group, which was established on 15th June 1964 originally, consisted of 77 Member States signatory to the Joint Declaration of the Seventy Seven Developing Countries issued at the end of the first session of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) in Geneva. Today, the Group consists of 133 Member States and represents over 60% of the world’s population. The Group of 77 is the largest intergovernmental organization of developing countries in the United Nations, which provides the means for the countries of the South to articulate and promote their collective economic interests and enhance their joint negotiating capacity on all major international economic issues within the United Nations system, and promote South-South cooperation for development.



Event organised by the Egyptian Mission

The Permanent Mission of Egypt organised an Egyptian musical performance by Saber Abdel-Sattar Oriental Instruments on 26th May as a run-up to the G-77 50th Anniversary celebrations. Below are some glimpses of the celebrations.



Event organised by the Indian Mission

The Permanent Mission of India organised an Indian Classical Kathak Dance performance and a reception as a run-up to the celebrations of the 50th anniversary of G-77 on 28th May. The Kathak troupe led by Ms. Rujuta Soman was sponsored by the Indian Council for Cultural Relations (ICCR), New Delhi. Below are some glimpses of the celebrations.



JOIN US FOR A WEEK OF CELEBRATIONS!!

23 – 27 June 2014 at the VIC Rotunda from 13.00 – 15.00 hrs

Join us as the G-77 commemorates its 50th Anniversary in a week-long celebration at the VIC Rotunda from 23-27 June 2014.

Come and experience the rich and diverse cultural heritage of our Members, as the VIC Rotunda comes alive with sounds and rhythms of the G-77 as we present music, songs and dance from our Member States, as well as showcasing our cultural and artistic diversity with exhibitions of on-site painting, calligraphy and kickboxing.

You could also taste the culinary delights from many parts of the globe as G-77 Member States present a gastronomic festival with traditional food from Asia,

the Middle East and Africa. Cool off during these warm summer days with cocktails from Latin America or a refreshing cuppa tea. You can also savor the food from our partners, EUREST.

Become a celebrity, and have your image printed on a stamp at the UNPA stall. It's a wonderful way to send greetings to your families and friends around the world.

This is also your chance to win some fabulous prizes at the Tombola, where lucky winners are offered a range of fantastic prizes. Tickets will be on sale at the Rotunda during the festivities. Proceeds from the Tombola will be donated to charity.



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