

G-77 Handover Ceremony delivered by H.E. Ambassador Alejandro Solano Ortiz, Permanent Representative of Costa Rica and Chairperson of the Vienna Chapter during 2021

Ms María Carmela Teresa A. Cabreira. Charge d'Affaires. Permanent Representative of Philippines

- **Ms. Ghada Fathi Waly**, Director General of UNOV and Executive Director of UNODC
- **Mr. LI Yong**, Director General, UNIDO
- **Mr. Rafael Mariano Grossi**, Director General, IAEA
- **Mr. Lassina Zerbo**, Executive Secretary, CTBTO
- **Ms. Anna Joubin-Bret**. Secretary, UNCITRAL
- **Ms. Simonetta di Pippo**. Director UNOOSA

Distinguish Ambassadors and members of Permanent Missions in Vienna.

Let me express on behalf of my country, the honor to assume today, for the first time, the chairmanship of G-77, Vienna Charter. This is a challenge we take with enthusiasm and responsibility, based on the conviction that unity and solidarity between our countries is the best way for achieving the objectives we have set up among ourselves. But also for my country is a very special year. We are celebrating our 200 Anniversary of Independence.

I would like to express my appreciation and recognition to Ambassador Dato' Ganeson Sivagurunathan of Malaysia and Ambassador Maria Cleofe Natividad, of Philippines, for the excellent and great work done as the chairs of the Group during the last year, in spite of the difficulties due the COVID-19 pandemic. Be this opportunity to express to both Ambassadors, my best wishes in your new endeavors.

I also like to acknowledge the important role that the Secretariat has always provided to the work of the G-77 plus China. We know that we will continue having its full support for the definition and implementation of our objectives. Thank you Annemarie and your staff.

As a Latinoamerican and member of GRULAC, certainly I would like to recall the interest of our region in continue working and supporting the work of the different Vienna – based Organizations. Fostering the multilateralism will be the cornerstone of our Presidency.

Today, more than ever, the G-77 should emerged as the most important forum of the developing countries for harmonizing their views on global issues, evolving common positions and advancing new ideas and strategies to respond to the current challenges.

The impact of the pandemic in our life and work will be still for some time and that's imply, we need to continue been flexible and innovative in our working methods. With this spirit, I am confident as a group, one strong voice, we can continue through consensus and common positions, building up in the different International Organizations. Today, our citizens need answers from us. Today, not tomorrow, is the time to respond to this call.

I would like to highlight that, once the conditions getting better, our idea is to call some technical and ambassador`s meetings in order to exchange views in how to improve our working methods and how to foster relevant topics as the international cooperation, efficiency and further representation in the staff.

Also I would like to reinforce the multilinguism in our declarations. This idea goes in line with the principle call in several meetings by different states.

As usual, I would like to inform that by the time, the following diplomats will assume the task forces coordination.

UNODC. Mr. Carlos Garcia from Permanent Mission of Guatemala during the first semester and Ms. Astrid Portillo from El Salvador during the second semester and UNIDO Mr. Bolivar Bao from Permanent Mission of Philippines.

We are in close coordination with the chairs of the regional groups in order to fulfill the designation of the others task forces coordinators, as soon as possible. We are trying to get full gender and geographical balance in these appointments.

I want to thank the Ambassadors of Guatemala, El Salvador and Philippines for your support and from now, I also express my grateful to the several task forces coordinators for your commitment in taking these responsibilities.

Finally, distinguished Directors and Ambassadors, I want to thank once again your trust in our delegation. I hope with the full support of all of you, we accomplish with our responsibilities and continue with the ideals proposed by the founders of our group – Unity and solidarity. I thank.