



**Statement of the Group of 77 and China during the Sixth Meeting of the Working Group on the Regular Budget and TCF Targets for 2022-2023, delivered by H.E. Ambassador Alejandro Solano Ortiz, Permanent Representative of Costa Rica**

Vienna, 28 April 2021

Co-Chairs,

1. The Group wishes to thank you Ambassador Robertson and Ambassador Khokher, for your efforts to build consensus on the Programme and Budget and the determination of TCF Targets for 2022-2023.

2. The Group once again notes that some of the views expressed and concerns raised during the deliberations of this Working Group have found reflection in the working paper. Moreover, the Group notes that future Agency Draft Programme and Budget proposals will include budgetary information by items of expenditure, as well as the level of Full Time Equivalents by staff category and an annex on cost-savings, efficiencies and productivity increases.

Co-Chairs,

3. The Group observes that the balance in the allocation of resources to promotional and non-promotional activities remains unachieved to the desired extent and should remain the goal in the years to come.

4. The Group takes note that the Co-Chairs have proposed the TCF targets for 2022 and 2023 as €91 075 000 and € 92 600 000 respectively. The Group is willing, reluctantly and in the spirit of compromise, to accept these figures. We want to reiterate that these figures do not constitute a precedent as they have been agreed during the present extraordinary times and the current difficult global financial situation.

5. The Group will continue its sustained efforts to ensure that resources for the TCP are sufficient, assured and predictable in order to enable the Agency to effectively deliver on its main statutory function.

Thank you, Co-Chairs.