



**STATEMENT ON BEHALF OF THE GROUP OF 77 AND CHINA  
BY MS LOURDES PEREIRA SOTOMAYOR, FIRST SECRETARY, PERMANENT  
MISSION OF ECUADOR TO THE UNITED NATIONS, ON AGENDA ITEM 143:  
UNITED NATIONS COMMON SYSTEM, AT THE MAIN PART OF THE  
SEVENTY-SECOND SESSION OF THE UNITED NATIONS  
GENERAL ASSEMBLY  
(New York, 16 October 2017)**

Mr. Chairman,

1- I have the honour to speak on behalf of the Group of 77 and China on agenda item 143, entitled " United Nations Common System " .

2-The Group wishes to thank Mr. Kingston Rhodes, Chairman of the International Civil Service Commission (ICSC) for presenting the report of the Commission as well as Mr Carlos Ruiz Massieu, Chairman of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions, for introducing the related report on this agenda item.

3-We also wish to thank Mr. Johannes Huisman, Director of the Program Planning and Budget Division for presenting the Statement of the Secretary-General on the administrative and financial implications of the decisions and recommendations contained in the report of the ICSC for the year 2017, and Mr. Diab El-Tabary, President of the Federation of International Civil Servants Associations , and Mr. Ian Richards, President of the Coordinating Committee for International Staff Unions and Associations at the United Nations System for their statements.

**Mr Chairman,**

4-The Group of 77 and China would like to reaffirm its support to the ICSC's mandated role and take note with appreciation of the report of the Commission. However, like the ACABQ we note that all the annexes and the report of the ICSC were not translated into all the official languages, while the recommendations of the Commission are contained in these annexes.

6-The Group regrets this situation which contradicts the Statute of the ICSC according to which all the Recommendations and important Decisions of the Commission are published in the official languages.

7-In this regard, we look forward to receive very soon a fully translated report of the ICSC, for a better consideration of the recommendations and decisions of the Commission.

Mr. Chairman,

8-Turning to some of the specific recommendations of the ICSC, the Group notes that the new guidelines for the employment of National Professional Officers authorize their duty

assignments for a short-term period, outside the country of their employment, with the payment of local salaries.

9-In this connection, the Group recalls the principle that all staff serving under similar conditions should receive equal treatment across the United Nations Common System. During the informal consultations, we will be interested to receive further information on all the implications of this recommendation.

10-Regarding the performance management, the Group takes note of the intention of the Commission to reaffirm its earlier recommendation to the General Assembly on this issue, with two revisions to the recognition and rewards framework. We would like to learn more about the add value of a bonus system in the United Nations, the criteria for granting merit award and its funding.

Mr. Chairman,

11-With respect to the decision of the Commission related to the danger pay, the Group will seek further clarification on the three years periodicity, taking account this allowance is critical in duty stations with most difficult conditions of work and life.

12-With regard to the issue of Post adjustment, the Group takes note that the results of the cost-of-living survey for 2016 reflected both decreases and increases in salaries of Professionals staff across different duty stations. We also take note of the intention of some Organizations based in Geneva to not implement the decision of the Commission on this issue.

13-In these conditions, the Group will be interested to receive more information of the impact of this situation on the preservation of the Common system, as well as the lessons learned for the next surveys.

Mr. Chairman,

14-In conclusion, the Group of 77 and China would like to assure you of its active and constructive participation in the informal consultations on this important agenda item.

I thank you Mr. Chairman,