



**STATEMENT ON BEHALF OF THE GROUP OF 77 AND CHINA
BY H.E. AMBASSADOR DIEGO MOREJON PAZMINO,
PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF ECUADOR TO THE
UNITED NATIONS, ON THE ORGANIZATION OF WORK OF
THE FIFTH COMMITTEE, AT THE MAIN PART OF THE
SEVENTY-SECOND SESSION OF THE UNITED NATIONS
GENERAL ASSEMBLY (NEW YORK, 5 OCTOBER 2017)**

Mr. Chair,

1. I have the honour to deliver this statement on behalf of the Group of 77 and China on the organization of work of the Fifth Committee for the main part of the 72nd Session of the General Assembly.

2. The Group of 77 and China wishes to congratulate the distinguish Ambassador Tommo Monthe for his election as Chair of the Fifth Committee, as well the other members of the Bureau on the assumption of this important duty. We have full confidence that under your guidance the Committee will reach a successful and timely conclusion of its work in this session.

3. The Group takes this opportunity to express our deepest appreciation to Ambassador Rhonda King and the bureau for their arduous work done during the 71st Session of the Committee.

4. The Group recognizes the presence of Ms. Bettina Tucci Bartsiotas, Assistant Secretary-General, Controller, Office of Programme Planning, Budget and Accounts, and Mr. Carlos Ruiz Massieu, Chair of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions (ACABQ).

Mr. Chair,

5. The Group of 77 and China thanks you and the Bureau and the Secretariat for providing the programme of work and the status of preparedness of documentation contained in document A/C.5/72/L.1. We are committed to a thorough consideration of the agenda items allocated to the Committee and trust that adequate time will be provided to important agenda items for their effective consideration.

Mr. Chair,

6. Although improvement has been noticeable, the late issuance of important reports remains a chronic problem affecting the work of the Committee. Systematic problems affecting the timely submission of reports from the Secretariat and the ACABQ in all official languages, according to the Rules of Procedure of the General Assembly, should be addressed. Failure to submit reports in time hinders the ability of the Committee to effectively undertake and complete its work.

7. In this regard, the Group emphasizes our desire to receive reports on items with financial implications and budgetary issues at the earliest possible date. We trust that the Bureau will work with all relevant stakeholders across the Organization to remind them of the virtues of brevity, clarity and punctuality.

8. In particular, the Group of 77 and China look forward to examining the relevant reports on the second performance report of the programme budget for the biennium 2016-2017, the Capital Master Plan, construction and property management, programme planning, human resources management, the United Nations common system and the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2018-2019, and stresses in this regard that the level of resources to be approved by the General Assembly must be commensurate with all mandated programmes and activities in order to ensure their full and effective implementation.

9. Furthermore, the Group will carefully examine the progress report of the enterprise resource planning project (Umoja), Resident Coordinator System, the Strategic Heritage Plan, Administration of Justice, and pay close attention to the progress of our deliberations on the scale of assessments for the apportionment of the expenses of the United Nations, revised estimates and Programme Budget Implications. The Group looks forward to having a constructive discussion on all items before the Fifth Committee in this session.

Mr. Chair,

10. Let me end by reiterating that despite the considerable amount and complexity of the work before the Committee this main session, the Group of 77 and China is committed to considering and concluding the items before us within the allocated timeframe of the programme of work to ensure the effective functioning of the Organization. We stress the importance of conducting negotiations in an open, inclusive and transparent manner. The Group believes that it is the collective responsibility of Member States to take decisions that are in the best interest of the Organization and which enable it to implement its mandates effectively and efficiently.

11. We stand ready to engage in constructive discussion with all stakeholders during this session to arrive at a successful outcome.

Thank you, Mr. Chair