



STATEMENT ON BEHALF OF THE GROUP OF 77 AND CHINA BY MS. MEGAYLA AUSTIN, MINISTER COUNSELLOR OF THE PERMANENT MISSION OF THE COOPERATIVE REPUBLIC OF GUYANA TO THE UNITED NATIONS, ON AGENDA ITEM 140: PROGRAMME BUDGET FOR 2020: UN OFFICE FOR PARTNERSHIPS, AT THE FIFTH COMMITTEE DURING THE MAIN PART OF THE SEVENTY-FIFTH SESSION OF THE UNITED NATIONS GENERAL ASSEMBLY (New York, October 5th, 2020)

Mr. Chair,

1. I have the honour to deliver this statement on behalf of the Group of 77 and China on agenda item 140: Programme budget for 2020- United Nations office for Partnerships (UNOP).
2. The Group thanks the Secretary General for his report contained in document A/75/230 on the activities of the United Nations Office for Partnerships, as per the request of General Assembly decisions 52/466 and 53/475.

Mr. Chair,

3. The Group commends the United Nations Office for Partnerships for its outstanding work in advancing the implementation of the 2030 Sustainable Development Goals and for providing partnership advisory and outreach services in response to the demands of the United Nations system and its Member States.
4. The Group emphasizes that the year 2020 marks the beginning of the Decade for Action, and appreciates the initiatives undertaken by UNOP for advancing the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, through addressing many of our global challenges among them global health issues, women and girls' rights as well as climate, energy and the environment. In this context, the Group notes that UNOP has enhanced its collaboration and coordination with the Development Coordination Office, the United Nations Global Compact and the Department of Economic and Social Affairs and all stakeholders in the United Nations system to help mobilize and advance the global response to COVID-19 and the recovery from its impacts. The Youth Demographic Dividend continues to be of importance to the Group and we hope to see more initiatives such as these.

Mr. Chair,

5. The Group recalls Goal 17 of the SDGs which calls for the revitalisation of global partnerships, including through multi-stakeholder partnerships, and urges UNOP to continue engaging with partners and to explore opportunities for collaboration within the United Nations system in support of Member States in their implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the Addis Ababa Action Agenda on Financing for Development.
6. Finally, the Group encourages UNOP to strengthen partnerships with regional and sub-regional organisations and to support the development efforts of developing countries. The Group also encourages UNOP to enhance accountability and transparency in the future.

I thank you.