

**STATEMENT ON BEHALF OF THE GROUP OF 77 AND CHINA BY  
Mr. JULIO MOLLINEDO, MINISTER COUNSELLOR IN THE PERMANENT  
MISSION OF THE PLURINATIONAL STATE OF BOLIVIA TO THE UNITED  
NATIONS, AT THE SPECIAL MEETING ON INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION IN  
TAX MATTERS  
(New York, 5 June 2014)**

Mr. President,

I have the honor to deliver this statement on behalf of the Group of 77 and China.

At the outset, the Group of 77 wishes to thank you for your efforts in convening this Special Meeting, as mandated by Resolution 2013/24 of 24 July 2013. We also wish to thank the Secretariat for the documents prepared for this meeting.

The Group of 77 welcomes this opportunity to continue our discussion on the strengthening of institutional arrangements to promote international cooperation in tax matters. We maintain that while there is increasing recognition of the central role of tax systems in development, the fact remains that there is still no global, inclusive norm-setting body for international tax cooperation at the intergovernmental level. There is also not enough focus on the development dimension of these issues.

The Group of 77 & China reiterates its call to change the status of the Committee of Experts on Tax Matters, transforming it from experts acting in their own capacity, to an intergovernmental subsidiary body of the Council, with experts representing their respective governments. This transformation is necessary and important in order to allow all member States, including developing countries, to have an equal say on issues related to tax matters. The role of the United Nations on international cooperation in tax matters is especially important as it is the only true global forum with universal relevance and participation.

Mr. President,

The G77 & China acknowledges the major achievements of the Committee, namely the revision of the UN Model Double Taxation Convention between Developed and Developing Countries (the UN model), and the approval of the UN Practical Manual on Transfer Pricing for Developing Countries (UN Transfer Pricing Manual). The Committee has also done exemplary work in the area of capacity building on international tax matters – an area of particular importance to developing countries. These significant accomplishments have demonstrated a prominent role of the United Nations in the area of international tax cooperation.

In this connection, the Group of 77 believes that the Committee should be strengthened further, with an emphasis on better integrating the Committee's work into the programme of work of the Council following its reform, and on enabling the Committee to effectively contribute to the post-2015 development agenda.

Finally, we urge all countries and institutions interested in providing financial assistance to the Committee's activities to make voluntary contributions to the trust fund. This extra-budgetary contribution is necessary to support the work of the Committee and its sub-Committees, as well as increase the participation of experts from developing countries.

Thank you.