



*25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the G77 Vienna Chapter Silver Jubilee (1998 - 2023)*

*Statement by H.E Mr Azzeddine FARHANE,  
Ambassador, Permanent Representative of the Kingdom of Morocco*

*Vienna, 31 May 2023*

**Your Excellency, Ms. Ghada Fathi Wali Director General of UNOV and Executive Director of UNODC;**

**Your Excellency, Mr. Gerd Muller, Director General of UNIDO;**

**Your Excellency, Ms. Anna Joubin-Bret, Secretary of UNCITRAL;**

**Your Excellency, Mr. Niklas Hedman, Director of UNOOSA;**

**Mr. Hua Liu, Deputy Director General of IAEA;**

**Mr. Junan Zhang, Director Legal and External of CTBTO;**

**Distinguish Ambassadors, members of Permanent Missions in Vienna, Ladies and Gentlemen;**

1. It is both an honor and a pleasure to stand before you today to share with Group Members and our Honorable Guests a few thoughts as former Chairperson of the G77 and China, the largest intergovernmental organization of developing countries within the United Nations, whose objective is the promotion of collective economic interests throughout joint dialogue and negotiation.
2. The commemoration of the Silver Jubilee of G77 Vienna Chapter is a special opportunity to appreciate our continued commitment to the core principles that unite us and drive our multilateral actions and renew our confidence in the merit of joint efforts and collaborative endeavors in promoting Peace, Development and Prosperity.

**Excellencies and ladies and gentlemen,**

3. Looking back at my experience serving the G77 last year, in a context shaped by unprecedented international and geopolitical strains, it can be observed that the Group emerged (once again) as a major catalyst for action driven multilateralism. **Our collective actions were taken based on consensus, which is not every time the easiest road to take although it is certainly the safest and the most fruitful.** Our role in forging consensus for IAEA budget update for 2023, our contributions to **UNODC, UNIDO, IAEA, UNCITRAL, and UNOOSA**, as well as our discussions held with non G77 partners on a diversity of issues, is a **clear message** of our **collective commitment** towards **action** and towards **consensus driven multilateralism**.
4. **I would like to share with you that the Group succeeded in consensus building which is the driving force** for the success of multilateral diplomacy and the efficiency of the **Vienna spirit**. Thanks to the support of the Group Members, the Coordinators and the G77 Secretariat, I based our work, throughout my tenure as Chairperson, on three pillars: **(1) Ensuring visibility, (2) Forging consensus and (3) Strengthening multilateralism.**

**FIRST: Ensuring visibility:**

5. Our collective actions in the different international organizations based in Vienna have offered the Group and its members a vast array of opportunities to advance our work, even during difficult international context and challenging times. Let me take stock of this collective effort which required many Plenary meetings including with the Executive Heads present today. Last year 72 Task Force meetings and 2 Working Groups; for an impressive total of 79 meetings and 62 statements delivered in different settings in the Vienna Based International Organisations.

**SECOND: Forging consensus:**

6. It is relevant to point out that the 10 resolutions submitted by the G77 related to Technical Cooperation and the peaceful uses of nuclear technology were adopted by consensus during the 66th General

Conference, which shows the Group's leadership and strong support it enjoys in different thematic areas.

- 7. Furthermore, History will recall that G77 played a central role facilitating the approval of the IAEA budget update for 2023, by engaging the different actors and bridging their positions on the proposed budget, which was consensually adopted, by the Special Session of the IAEA General Conference, after a lengthy process of negotiation to which our Group helped forging common grounds and constructive outcomes.**

### **THIRD: Strengthening multilateralism:**

- 8.** A good illustration of the G77 efforts to strengthen multilateral actions was the resolution presented by Angola and Peru, which was adopted after laborious negotiations by consensus during the 31st session of the CCPCJ last May, on "the Strengthening the international legal framework for international cooperation to prevent and combat illicit trafficking in wildlife." This resolution enjoyed wide support from non G77 members and was negotiated within the Committee of the Whole chaired by Morocco.
- 9.** In addition, Last June, I was pleased to co-chair with the EU a meeting on ways and means to strengthen political dialogue between the G77 and the other regional groups and launch constructive initiatives that could reinforce the Vienna spirit of consensus on topics related to the different organizations. I am confident that this dialogue will allow us to engage further in order to strengthen synergies and complementarities between different Groups. This complementarity was highlighted during the process of negotiation of the resolutions presented by the G77 and China which were supported by the EU Member States.

### **Excellencies and ladies and gentlemen,**

- 10.** In order to **capture the essence of our action last year, and to portray the diversity and the full extent of our effort**, I am honored to present to you, on the occasion of the Silver Jubilee of our Group, a book that was just issued, **encompassing all statements the Group made in 2022, reflecting our substantial contribution to strengthening multilateralism.**
- 11.** I would like to sincerely thank His Excellency Mr. Gerd Müller, who wrote the Forward of the book. This book, which includes all the resolutions and statements the G77 made last year, will be presented to the Chairperson of the G77 and to the Executive Directors of VBOs, to serve as an institutional memory for the Group and as a highlight for the contributions of the G77 Vienna Chapter.
- 12.** Finally, I would like to express my gratitude for the contribution, the commitment and the support of all G77 Ambassadors throughout last year. Also, I would like to wish our Distinguished Chairperson, Ambassador Aftab of Pakistan huge success in his Mission leading G77, Vienna Chapter.

**I thank you.**