



Madame Chair,  
Excellencies,  
Distinguished delegates,

- I am so pleased to be here with you all.
- First, please let me congratulate Her Excellency Ambassador Gil of Colombia on her election as the Chairperson of the Group for 2024.
- I look forward to working with you and increasing the already significant cooperation between UNIDO and the G-77.
- My greatest thanks also to His Excellency Ambassador Khokher of Pakistan.
- You have been a truly excellent leader for the G-77 Vienna Chapter during 2023, and you played a key role in the successes of the UNIDO Programme and Budget Committee last year.
- Through your outstanding competence, your experience and personal commitment, you achieved a lot for your country and G-77 member states.
- I thank you for your great support of UNIDO's work and mandate and I sincerely wish you all the best in your future endeavours.
- At the G-77 Handover Ceremony in January last year, I promised to work closely with you all.
- UNIDO is ready to strengthen cooperation in our main priorities: food security, energy, green minerals and digitalization.
- Over 80 per cent of our projects are implemented in G-77 countries.
- Technical cooperation delivery has been increased by 25 per cent in 2023.
- We strengthened our field representation.

- Together with China, I was able to launch a new flagship project, a Center of Excellence for agritech, renewable energy and digitalization, in Ethiopia last week.
- G-77 countries need investors and motivation in the fields of sustainable industrialization, food security, local value creation and fair value chains.
- I will introduce these topics at the Summit of the Future in September in New York.
- Beyond this, last year I had a chance to visit the Latin American region.
- In May of this year, I will travel to the region again to reinforce our cooperation and make the Latin American and Caribbean voice louder.
- I will strengthen the representation and visibility of the G-77 in UNIDO in the coming weeks.

Excellencies,  
Distinguished delegates,

- The Group is an important and longstanding partner of UNIDO.
- I am proud to say that we have already shown that there is so much we can achieve together, especially when we celebrated the 25th anniversary of the G-77 Vienna Chapter last year.
- I once again want to thank you, Ambassador Khokher and to congratulate you, Ambassador Gil.
- I wish you both all the greatest of success.
- I look forward to our next steps together!

Thank you so much!