



REPUBLIC OF UGANDA

STATEMENT

BY

**MR. BAGIIRE VINCENT WAISWA
PERMANENT SECRETARY
MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS**

AT THE

**THE 60TH ANNIVERSARY OF
GROUP OF 77 AND CHINA**

**25TH OCTOBER, 2024
NEW YORK**

[Please check against delivery]

Excellency Philemon Yang, President of the 79th Session of the United Nations General Assembly,
Excellency E. Courtenay Rattray, Chef de Cabinet, representing the Secretary-General of the United Nations,
Excellencies, Permanent Representatives,
Distinguished delegates

I congratulate our Group of 77 and China on this historic 60th anniversary of the establishment of our group. I commend all the G77 and China members for their commitment and dedication to the work of our Group, as well as your support to Uganda as Chair of the Group for this year 2024.

Excellencies,

As you know the Group 77 developing countries was founded in 1964 at the first session of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD), at the time when these countries were faced with challenges of basic development. It was the first organized effort by we as developing countries to unite and steer our countries on the path of economic development in the unjust and inequitable international economic order. Building on the joint declaration at the conclusion of first session of UNCTAD, the 77 developing countries, at their first Ministerial meeting held in Algiers, united by common aspirations, agreed to identify collective interests and to pursue their joint efforts towards economic and social development, peace and

prosperity. This unity and solidarity within the Group has enabled us to stay on course to promote and defend our collective economic interests at the United Nations.

Excellencies,

The Group's commitment to uphold its founding ideas and principles, including the principles of unity, complementarity, cooperation and solidarity among developing countries and our determination to strive for economic and social development, individually and collectively as articulated in Charter of Algiers, Heads of State and Government Summit declarations as well as Ministerial Declarations remains fundamental as we celebrate the sixtieth anniversary of the establishment of our Group. This commitment signifies our resolve to continue defending and promoting our collective interests in genuine international cooperation for development at the United Nations and other multilateral fora.

Excellencies,

We celebrate our sixtieth anniversary at the time of widening financial and technological divide between developed countries and developing countries, persistent inequalities, increasing climate and disaster related risks. All these global challenges continue to negatively affect our efforts to achieve our respective national development goals and accelerate the implementation of the 2030

Agenda for Sustainable Development and achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

Excellencies,

The G77 and China has continued to ensure that developing countries have the means that support their respective efforts to achieve development. It is in line with our Group's resolve, that we chose the theme for 60th anniversary celebration to be” ***60th years of Contribution of the Group of 77 and China to Global South Coalition in International Development and Politics***”. The Group has taken leadership on priorities areas, which include, inter alia, achieving sustainable development in its three dimensions- economic, social and environmental and financing for development. We therefore commend the Group for its continued efforts in championing its principled and long standing position of calling up the international community to provide the mobilize adequate means of implementation to the developing countries and ensuring that we have an international economic order that addresses the needs of developing countries.

Excellencies,

The G77 and China countries have contributed greatly to support their south counterparts to address the challenges that they face within the framework of South-South Cooperation. This was

evidenced during the recent outbreak of the COVID-19 pandemic, where some countries from within G77 and China were the first to provide support to others to respond to the pandemic.

Excellencies,

In conclusion, I reiterate our call for the G77 and China to remain united and strong in pursuing the collective interest of the group at the United Nations and other multilateral fora. Uganda remains steadfast to continue working with the entire G77 and China membership in defending and promoting the group's interests.

I thank you.