



STATEMENT ON BEHALF OF THE GROUP OF 77 AND CHINA AT THE JOINT BOARD MEETING OF THE UNDP, UNFPA, UNICEF AND WFP FOLLOWING PRESENTATIONS ON THE THEME: "FEEDBACK FROM DELIVERING AS ONE" (New York, 28 January 2008)

1. The Group of 77 and China welcomes the comprehensive presentations, which will offer Board Members the opportunity to review and analyze the feedback received and the lessons learned as part of delivering as one process. This session will help to enrich the broad exchange of ideas on the experience of the pilots in the implementation of the concept of "One UN".

The views of the G77 and China on the One UN approach are as follows:

2. The "Pilots" for the one-country approach in several developing countries should be, as recognised in the Panel's Report, entirely voluntary, decided and led by the national governments taking into account national particularities and conditions. These should neither create any systemic changes in the methods of formulating, approving and financing country programmes, nor lead to any systematic expansion of the number of pilots, without further open and inclusive intergovernmental consideration.

3. There is no "one size fits all", as also recognized by the Panel. There should be no restrictions on the ability and sovereignty of national governments to determine their own development priorities or select their development partners, as well as the type of relation with the UN development entities they wish to establish at the country level. The UN development system should continue to support development efforts of developing countries principally by assisting in the implementation of nationally determined development plans, strategies and priorities.

4. It is important that our current discussion not prejudice the ongoing negotiations on the recommendations of the HLP on system-wide coherence. In a letter addressed to all member states, the President of the General Assembly urged us to continue consultations to arrive at a final decision. We look forward to continuing these consultations in an open, inclusive and transparent process.

5. In this regard, the Group of 77 and China, in conjunction with the NAM, will continue working closely on this critical issue, and looks forward to the start of new rounds of open, transparent and inclusive consultations.

6. Again out thanks to the presenters for the valuable information, which will prove useful as we enter into the coming discussions.

Thank you, Mr. Chairman.