



STATEMENT ON BEHALF OF THE GROUP OF 77 AND CHINA BY MS. SIRITHON WAIRATPANIJ, COUNSELLOR, PERMANENT MISSION OF THE KINGDOM OF THAILAND TO THE UNITED NATIONS, ON AGENDA ITEM 134: PROPOSED PROGRAMME BUDGET FOR THE BIENNIUM 2016-2017, SUPPORTING THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE 2030 AGENDA FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT AND THE ADDIS ABABA ACTION AGENDA FOR THE THIRD INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON FINANCING FOR DEVELOPMENT, AT THE SECOND PART OF THE RESUMED SEVENTIETH SESSION OF THE FIFTH COMMITTEE OF THE UNITED NATIONS GENERAL ASSEMBLY (NEW YORK, 24 MAY 2016) (New York, 24 May 2016)

Mr. Chairman,

1. I have the honor to speak on behalf of the Group of 77 and China on agenda item 134: Proposed programme budget for the biennium 2016-2017 on supporting the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the Addis Ababa Action Agenda for the Third International Conference on Financing for Development.

2. First and foremost, the Group expresses its appreciation to the Chair and the Bureau in coming to the consensual agreement on the Group's request for scheduling the introduction of this agenda item at this second resumed session.

3. The Group would also like to thank Ms. Bettina Tucci Bartsiotas, Assistant Secretary-General and Controller, for introducing the report of the Secretary-General on supporting the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the Addis Ababa Action Agenda for the Third International Conference on Financing for Development, contained in document A/70/794, and Mr. Carlos Ruiz Massieu, Chairperson of the Advisory Committee on the Administrative and Budgetary Questions (ACABQ) for introducing the respective report, contained in document A/70/883.

Mr. Chairman,

4. As you and other delegations are fully aware, the Group of 77 and China, at several occasions and especially in the context of the Fifth Committee, has expressed its clear position in supporting the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the Addis Ababa Action Agenda of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development, particularly in the provision of adequate financing for the implementation thereof. In this connection, the Group wishes to reemphasize the critical role of the Secretary-General and the Secretariat in the process that leads to a successful implementation of the two Agendas and also thank them for the efforts in preparing and presenting a budget proposal addressing the effective and efficient implementation of the two Agendas.

5. However, the Group is disappointed that not only does the submission of the present report of the Secretary-General fail to meet the timeframe set out by the General Assembly, as emphasized by the Advisory Committee, but also it does not comply with the General Assembly's request for a comprehensive proposal for the effective and efficient delivery of mandates in support of the two Agendas.

6. The Group concurs with the Advisory Committee that the report of the Secretary-General lacks

detailed presentation and justification as well as a request for appropriation of related additional resource requirements, making it incomplete and incoherent. The Group stresses that Member States should be provided a full picture of the resources related to the effective and efficient delivery of the mandates in order to make a well-informed financial decision in this regard.

7. The Group also notes that the Secretary-General's report lacks the details as to how each proposal relating to departments/offices for (a) the strengthening of existing substantive role; (b) the expansion of existing substantive activities; and/or (c) new substantive activities is categorized under this approach. In this regard, the Group wishes to stress the importance of adhering to the content and the spirit of paragraph 14 of the resolution 70/247 in which the General Assembly requested the Secretary-General to provide a comprehensive proposal addressing the effective and efficient delivery of mandates in support of the two Agendas by the Secretariat, within the broader United Nations system, including the Department of Economic and Social Affairs, the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, the regional commissions and the United Nations Development Account.

Mr. Chairman,

8. The Group wishes to stress once again that, for future budget proposals, it is necessary that the Secretariat has to comply with relevant mandates, especially timeframe, while observing relevant rules, regulations and established practice in budgetary process, and to include a clear and fully justified request for appropriation of resources, for the consideration and decision of the General Assembly. We cannot afford another missed opportunity. Further delaying the consideration of this issue will only hamper the credibility and the ability of the organization in delivering its services according to the given mandates on this very important issue.

9. In closing, the Group of 77 and China looks forward to actively and constructively participating in consideration of this agenda item at the earliest opportunity.

I thank you, Mr. Chairman.