



**STATEMENT OF THE GROUP OF 77 AND CHINA  
AT THE INFORMAL CONSULTATIONS ON THE ZERO DRAFT  
OF THE 2025 HLPF MINISTERIAL DECLARATION  
MONDAY, 5 MAY 2025**

*Co-Facilitators, Excellencies, Colleagues, Ladies and Gentlemen*

I have the honour to deliver these opening remarks on behalf of the Group of 77 and China.

From the onset, we wish to thank you, Distinguished Co-facilitators, for all your efforts thus far in the process, and especially for the zero draft of the Ministerial declaration, which the Group sees have taken into account several of the Group's inputs towards the elements paper, as a very good basis for our deliberations.

However, we also see that many elements that are important to the Group have not been properly reflected. Therefore, the Group looks forward to engaging constructively on the Zero Draft from 29 May 2025, as we go through the document line-by-line.

Co-facilitators, I would just say a few brief words on the general expectations of our Group and then I will allow our esteemed coordinators to deliver the groups positions as you go through the document section-by-section today.

The Group wishes to reiterate that it is crucially important for us to stay focused on the review of the 2030 Agenda and its SDGs, especially the SDGs under review this year. We must refrain from rewriting or renegotiating the Agenda, as well as the various other intergovernmentally agreed frameworks and instruments.

Within the current global environment that we are facing let us not shy away from committing to produce a document that would not only speak to the development challenges but move toward durable solutions and of course means of implementation, because let us face it, we are less than 5 full years from 2030 and implementation of the SDGs are extremely daunting. We therefore must accelerate action if we are to achieve the ambitious agenda we set in 2015.

Lastly, let us not forget that our exercise is not to just produce a concise document but it is to help chart a better course for the billions of people of this world who are suffering in so many different ways.

Please be assured, distinguished co-facilitators, of the G77's commitment to work constructively to ensure that we deliver for our people and countries, so that we leave no one behind.

I thank you.