



**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**

Regarding the SDG 17, we appreciate the Co-Facilitators for including several crucial points for the Group in the Zero draft. We agree with the language proposals on reforming the international financial architecture, commitment to bridge the STI divides and enhance capacity-building initiatives, the implementation of MVI, and the meaningful involvement and participation of the international financial institutions in the HLPF.

However, many of our inputs in this section remains excluded from the zero draft.

First, on financing, while appreciating strong language on financing gaps and taking into account the placeholder from the FfD4 Outcome Document, several commitments from last year's Ministerial Declaration remains omitted in the zero draft. Given declining trend in development finance, we need stronger language and we firmly insist that those commitments be included in this year's Declaration as well as they remained unfulfilled. These elements are as follows:

- The call on developed countries to scale up and fulfil their respective ODA commitments. Given the declining trend of official assistance, it is more important than ever to reaffirm the ODA commitments.
- scaling up and improvement of access to finance, including concessional finance, capacity-building and technology transfer to developing countries;
- urgent voluntary rechannelling of additional special drawing rights for countries most in need;
- strengthening the inclusiveness and effectiveness of tax cooperation at the United Nations;
- strengthening commitment and international cooperation on preventing and combating illicit financial flows; and
- the call to initiate the UN-led intergovernmental process on measures beyond GDP.

Second, in relation to international development cooperation, we reiterate that North-South cooperation remains a fundamental catalyst for sustainable development. While recognizing that South-South cooperation is an important element of international cooperation for development, South-South cooperation is a complement to, not a substitute for, North-South cooperation.

Third, on AI, we wish to propose a paragraph urging the enhancement of the governance of artificial intelligence and the use of its applications as a cross-cutting enabler for achieving the SDGs and for addressing the digital divide.