



**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 SDG 5, we appreciate the co-facilitators for reflecting priorities and concerns raised by the Group in formulating the zero draft.

1. We believe the overall structure of the section can be improved to make it more targeted and purposeful, through focusing each paragraph on a priority area to be addressed for the achievement of SDG 5.
2. We urge the usage of language that is more driven to SDG5 - achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls, and to utilize formulations that will have the most impact while respecting the diversity of viewpoints and perspectives.
3. We emphasize the importance of highlighting economic empowerment as necessary to achieve SDG 5, and measures to ensure equal access to economic participation, leadership and entrepreneurship, and to lift women and girls out of poverty.
4. We need to including reference to targeted and comprehensive social protection policies, public services, and legal and institutional measures.
5. We call for the inclusion of targeted language on women and girls' access to education, training, and career development opportunities, including in STEM fields.
6. We must reiterate the importance of committing to prevent and eliminate all forms of discrimination and violence against women and girls.
7. We must highlight the importance of encouraging and enabling the full, equal and meaningful participation of women and girls. We reiterate that women and girls' contribution to sustainable development accelerates the achievement of all SDGs.

We look forward to working together in the upcoming informal consultations to streamline and strengthen the text to remove ambiguities and make it fit for purpose.