



EGYPT

**G77 Chairmanship
2018**

**STATEMENT ON BEHALF OF THE GROUP OF 77 AND CHINA
BY MR. MOHAMED FOUAD, COUNSELLOR AT THE PERMANENT MISSION OF
THE ARAB REPUBLIC OF EGYPT TO THE UNITED NATIONS, ON AGENDA ITEM
136: PROGRAMME BUDGET BIENNIUM 2018-2019 - REVISED ESTIMATES
RESIDENT COORDINATOR SYSTEM, AT THE FIFTH COMMITTEE DURING THE
MAIN PART OF THE SEVENTY-THIRD SESSION OF THE UNITED NATIONS
GENERAL ASSEMBLY
(New York, 28 November 2018)**

Madam Chair,

1. I have the honour to speak on behalf of the Group of 77 and China on agenda item 136: programme budget for the biennium 2018-2019, the revised estimates in respect of the resident coordinator system.

2. At the outset, the Group thanks Mr. Chandru Ramanathan, Acting Controller, Office of Programme Planning, Budget and Accounts, and Mr. Carlos Ruiz Massieu, Chair of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions, for the introduction of their respective reports on this important agenda item.

Madam Chair,

3. The Group of 77 and China reiterates its full support to the entire United Nations Development System and in particular to the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), which continues to provide substantial support to the progressive achievement of national development priorities.

4. Over the years, our countries - some of the smallest and most vulnerable Member States - have been able to rely on the vital contribution of the resident coordinator system for the operationalization of our county-level development plans. The Group, therefore, continues to attach great significance to the Resident Coordinator system given its fundamental role within the Development Pillar of the United Nations.

5. As the Organization undertakes the broader implementation of the repositioning of the United Nations Development system, the Group recognizes the need to guarantee accountability to national governments, transparency, and strong leadership in the implementation of a reinvigorated resident coordinator system, as outlined in our collective commitment in General Assembly resolution 72/279. This is especially critical as the United Nations Development System will rely heavily on the resident coordinator system to fulfill the mandates of the 2030 Agenda, and all other inter-governmentally agreed outcomes related to sustainable development.

Madam Chair,

6. Adequate funding of mandates approved by intergovernmental bodies of the United Nations remains a core principle of the Group of 77 and China. In this regard, the Group recognizes the need for the resident coordinators to have the adequate and predictable funding in order to ensure the delivery of coherent, effective and accountable responses, as expected by Member States.

7. The Group notes that the Development Operations Coordination Office (DOCO), housed in the Secretariat and tasked with the managerial and oversight function of the resident coordinator system, will be managed financially through a United Nations special purpose trust fund which will pool the resources from the three funding sources.

8. The Group also notes that the Secretariat's share of the United Nations Sustainable Development Group (UNSDG) cost-sharing arrangement for 2019 is reported to be \$13.6 million. Based on the information received from the Secretariat during our consideration of this item, and the recommendations from the Advisory Committee, the Group will carefully examine the assessed resource requirements requested by the Secretary General to support the new resident coordinator system.

9. In light of the foregoing, and with reference to post related resource requirements, the Group underscores the importance of the consideration of gender parity and geographical representation in the recruitment process by the Secretary General to support the work of the new resident coordinator system, including through the transformed UN DOCO and its regional offices.

10. Further to the decision of the General Assembly (72/279) to double the amount contributed to the resident coordinator system through the United Nations Sustainable Development Group (UNSDG) cost-sharing agreement, the Group is looking forward to receive the comprehensive report from the Secretary General, through the relevant intergovernmental bodies, which would elaborate on the new cost sharing formula for 2020 onwards, among other components of the reinvigorated resident coordinator system.

Madam Chair,

11. In closing, the Group of 77 and China assures you of our commitment to engage constructively on this item, which we recognize is an integral part in supporting a repositioned United Nations Development System essential for the successful achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

I thank you.



EGYPT

**G77 Chairmanship
2018**

**STATEMENT ON BEHALF OF THE GROUP OF 77 AND CHINA
BY MR. KARIM ISMAIL, FIRST SECRETARY, PERMANENT MISSION OF EGYPT
TO THE UNITED NATIONS, ON AGENDA ITEM 136: PROGRAMME BUDGET FOR
THE BIENNIUM 2018-2019: REQUEST FOR A SUBVENTION TO THE RESIDUAL
SPECIAL COURT FOR SIERRA LEONE, AT THE FIFTH COMMITTEE DURING
THE MAIN PART OF THE SEVENTY-THIRD SESSION OF THE UNITED NATIONS
GENERAL ASSEMBLY
(New York, 28 November 2018)**

Madam Chair,

1. I have the honor to speak on behalf of the Group of 77 and China. At the outset, the Group wishes to thank Mr. Chandru Ramanathan, Acting Controller of the Office of Programme Planning, Budget and Accounts (OPPBA), as well as Mr. Carlos Ruiz Massieu, Chair of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions, for introducing their respective reports.

2. The Group of 77 and China would like to reiterate its strong support to the work of the Residual Special Court for Sierra Leone. We wish to recall that since the commencement of its operations in January 2014, the Court has continued to carry out important residual functions of the Special Court for Sierra Leone, including supporting witness protection, supervising the enforcement of sentences, assistance to national prosecuting authorities, and the management and preservation of archives. In addition, the Court conducts ad hoc proceedings, and has the power to prosecute the remaining fugitive, if arrested, or to refer his case to a competent national jurisdiction for trial. In this regard, the Group attaches great importance to ensuring the adequacy of resources for the effective implementation of the Court's mandate.

Madam Chair,

3. The Group notes with serious concern that despite the intensive fundraising endeavors by the Secretary General, the Oversight Committee and the principal officials of the Court, voluntary contributions have been insufficient for the operations of the Court since 2015, with no prospects of predictable and reliable voluntary contributions in the current biennium. We believe that this situation poses serious challenges to the sustainability of the work of the Court, and the effective implementation of its mandate.

4. While the Group supports the approval of the full amount of the subvention requested by the Secretary General, we remain mindful of the fact that subvention is only a temporary measure. In this regard, the Group of 77 and China reiterate the need for a long-term sustainable funding mechanism for the Court, preferably, through assessed contributions from Member States.

Madam Chair,

5. The Group would like to convey its profound thanks and appreciation to the Government of Sierra Leone for its sustained support and commitment towards the functioning of the Court, as well as other Member States and partners for their invaluable support towards the work of the Residual Special Court for Sierra Leone.

6. In conclusion, the Group would like to assure you of our readiness to engage constructively in the consideration of this agenda item with a view to reaching conclusion in a timely manner.

I thank you.