



**Statement by Mr. Bilal Ahmad, Permanent Representative of Pakistan on
the occasion of the commemoration of the 60th Anniversary of G-77 and
China
(13th September 2024)**

**Chair of G77 & China of Geneva Chapter Ambassador Prasith Suon,
Secretary-General of UNCTAD Madame Rebeca Grynspan,
Excellencies,
Distinguished delegates,
Ladies and gentlemen,**

At the outset, we express our sincere condolences to our colleagues from Peru for the unfortunate demise of Ambassador Gervaci Diaz, who as Vice Chair of G77 and China was a source of strength and support for this group.

Pakistan aligns itself with the statement delivered by Cambodia on behalf of the G77 and China and by Bangladesh on behalf of the APG.

On the historic occasion of the 60th anniversary of the G77 and China, we take this opportunity to commend the progress delivered by this Group as well as to renew our commitment to its shared vision. This moment not only marks six decades of our unity and cooperation but also reaffirms our commitment to a just, equitable, and sustainable global economic order.

Since its inception in 1964, G-77 and China has been a ray of hope for the Global South, ensuring that the voices of developing countries are heard on the global stage.

Over the past six decades, our group has made significant strides in addressing trade asymmetries, promoting sustainable development, and advancing South-South cooperation. Initiatives like the establishment of the New International Economic Order and advocating for the reflection of developing country priorities in the United Nations' Development Agenda highlight our commitment to equitable development and multilateralism.

As we reflect on our achievements, we must also acknowledge the evolving challenges.

Mr. Chair,

Today we stand at a crossroads, facing a confluence of global crises, including the impact of climate change, geopolitical conflict, food insecurity, and economic instability. Achieving the SDGs remains a distant dream for many of our nations.

According to the 2024 SDG report, only 17 percent of SDGs are currently on target to be met and we are regressing on roughly half of them.

The widening gap between developed and developing nations requires us to redouble our efforts and take some bold steps.

Firstly, a comprehensive overhaul of the international financial architecture is vital to achieving the SDGs. This requires a fairer re-allocation of Special Drawing Rights, increase in concessional financing, the fulfilment of ODA targets, and a wide-ranging debt relief and restructuring mechanism.

Secondly, global cooperation through the fulfilment of climate finance commitments and transfer of green technology are pivotal to the achievement of the climate agenda. As we near COP 29, we must emphasize that the international community deliver on its target of mobilizing US\$ 100 billion per year for climate action.

Thirdly, we urgently need to bridge the digital divide. It is unacceptable that, in this day and age, the global south struggles to improve digital literacy, address digital fragmentation and develop inclusive digital policies to strengthen e-commerce for all. To this end, scaled up technical assistance, capacity building and technology transfer is urgently needed.

Finally, UNCTAD's role as an institution for Global South interests needs to be revitalized. While its support has benefited many global south countries in navigating the complex global economic landscape, enhancing UNCTAD's capacity to fulfill its mandate is not just a priority but a necessity. We must ensure that it remains a robust and relevant institution capable of assisting developing countries in our pursuit of the SDGs.

To conclude, let us take this opportunity to renew our collective resolve, unity and cooperation to drive transformative change and to build a future that leaves no one behind.

I thank you.

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