



**STATEMENT ON BEHALF OF THE GROUP OF 77 AND CHINA
BY H.E. AMBASSADOR CAROLYN RODRIGUES-BIRKETT, PERMANENT
REPRESENTATIVE OF THE PERMANENT MISSION OF THE
CO-OPERATIVE REPUBLIC OF GUYANA TO THE UNITED NATIONS, CHAIR OF
THE GROUP OF 77, AT THE 104TH MEETING OF MINISTERS AND GOVERNORS
OF THE INTERGOVERNMENTAL GROUP OF TWENTY-FOUR
(13 October 2020)**

Mr. Chairman,
Honorable Ministers,
Excellencies Ladies and Gentlemen,

1. I have the honor to deliver this statement on behalf of the Group of 77 and China.
2. The Group communicated its grave concerns in this forum in April, when the COVID-19 pandemic was rapidly spreading around the world. Apart from concerns about the direct health impacts of the virus, an economic crisis of unknown proportions now seems inevitable for our countries, with the potential to reverse past development gains. We remain preoccupied by these challenges, with the economic impacts of the Global crisis certain to go beyond 2020 for many developing countries.
3. In this regard, our theme “*Managing the Impact of COVID-19*” is crucial in ensuring that developing countries are able to safeguard their development progress and achieve the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, with eradication of poverty in all its forms and dimensions as its overarching objective.
4. The Group emphasizes the importance of national policies and strategies to manage the COVID-19 impacts, within an enabling international economic environment. Coherent and mutually supportive trade, monetary and financial systems, and strengthened global economic governance mechanisms are essential to this objective. Coordinated measures must be pursued to maintain the stability of global financial markets and supply chains for an effective recovery.

5. We reaffirm that a renewed and strengthened multilateral system is crucial in managing the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic. Our common problems require comprehensive, inclusive and coordinated global solutions, derived with the full participation of all members of the international community.

I thank you