

THE JOINT COORDINATING COMMITTEE



United Nations New York

STATEMENT ON BEHALF OF THE JOINT COORDINATING COMMITTEE OF THE GROUP OF 77 AND CHINA AND THE NON-ALIGNED MOVEMENT, DELIVERED BY AMBASSADOR ABDULLAH M. ALSAIDI, PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF THE REPUBLIC OF YEMEN TO THE UNITED NATIONS AND CHAIRMAN OF THE GROUP OF 77, AT THE FIRST MEETING OF THE INFORMAL CONSULTATIONS OF THE PLENARY ON SYSTEMWIDE COHERENCE

New York, 4 February 2010

Mr. President, Excellencies, Distinguished Delegates,

- 1. I have the honor to deliver this statement on behalf of the Joint Coordinating Committee of the Group of 77 and China and the Non-Aligned Movement.
- 2. At the outset, allow me to thank you for organizing this timely meeting in order to discuss the issue of system-wide coherence, which we consider of great importance. I would also like to congratulate the two distinguished Ambassadors, the Permanent Representatives of Tunisia and Estonia respectively, on their appointment as co-facilitators on this issue. We are confident of their able stewardship to guide this process and assure you in this context of our constructive engagement and cooperation.
- 3. Furthermore, I would like to thank the Secretary-General for all his efforts in moving this process forward and for providing us with the two reports A/64/588 and A/64/589 in accordance with General Assembly resolution 63/311. I would also like to thank the Deputy Secretary-General for all her efforts in this regard and for the comprehensive briefing provided to us today on the two reports before us.

Mr. President,

4. The JCC would like to reaffirm that General Assembly resolution 63/311 remains our main reference point in moving forward on the issue of system-wide coherence. The Group is still in the process of studying the two reports and will come back with detailed comments during the upcoming period. Having said that, however, I would like to reaffirm the JCC's comments made during previous informal plenary meetings throughout last year, and I would like to highlight the following points:

<u>First:</u> The JCC considers the issue of funding as key and top priority issue in system-wide coherence. Accordingly, the JCC strongly believes that it is vital to achieve substantive progress on this topic during the 64th session of the General Assembly. Discussions on this issue should be conducted in an action-oriented and proactive manner, building on previous notes and discussions on strengthening funding of operational activities, particularly with regard to addressing the continued imbalance between core and non-core funding, as well as the urgent need to increase the quantity of funding.

Second: On Governance, the JCC stresses the need for all partners to work together to make progress on this front during the 64th session of the General Assembly in order to improve the governance of operational activities, which should not only focus on existing intergovernmental bodies. Our upcoming consultations should build on the previous discussions held last year on strengthening the governance of operational activities. Additionally, on operative paragraph seven of General Assembly resolution 63/311 requesting the Secretary-General to propose modalities to the 64th session of the General Assembly on the submission and approval of common country programmes on a voluntary basis, the JCC stresses that our main terms of reference in the coordination of these proposals remains paragraph 139 of General Assembly resolution 62/208 (the TCPR) on the need for an independent evaluation of the voluntary efforts at the country level of some programme country pilots, as well as preamble paragraph 5 of General Assembly resolution 62/277 on system-wide coherence, and paragraphs 19 and 20 of General Assembly resolution 63/311 addressing the same issue.

<u>Third</u>: The JCC supports the consolidation of the four entities dealing with gender issues within the UN system into a composite entity taking fully into account their existing mandates. In the same context, and based on operative paragraph 3 of General Assembly resolution 63/311, the JCC looks forward to interactive, intensive intergovernmental negotiations in the 64th session of the General Assembly on all details related to the new composite entity, including among others, it's mission statement, organizational arrangements, intergovernmental oversight, funding and executive board. The JCC looks forward to the appointment of an Under-Secretary to lead the work of the new gender entity upon its establishment.

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5. Finally, the JCC reiterates its continued intention to engage actively and constructively on all issues related to system-wide coherence during the 64th session within an integrated approach, as stipulated in paragraph 22 of General Assembly resolution 63/311, with a view to achieving the same level of progress on all five issues under discussion through a single resolution or decision at the conclusion of this process of system-wide coherence. Accordingly, the JCC looks forward to an extensive process of intergovernmental consultations on any future draft resolution or decision on system-wide coherence. The

intergovernmental negotiating process should follow a precise work plan at an early stage to ensure an open, transparent and all-inclusive intergovernmental negotiating process that would lead to the desired agreement by consensus.

6. In conclusion, we thank the two facilitators for outlining their vision today on how they intend to move forward with the process. The JCC will consult on the work plan outlined today and provide our comments accordingly.

I thank you.