

**Statement by Nigeria at the Second Session of the Ad Hoc Committee to
Draft the Terms of Reference for a United Nations Framework Convention
on International Tax Cooperation**

28 July 2024

Mr. Chair,

Excellencies,

I align our national statement with that of the African Group that I just delivered.

2. Nigeria extends its profound gratitude to the Chair and the Bureau members for their tireless efforts in preparing the draft terms of reference (ToR) and its revised version for the UN Framework Convention on International Tax Cooperation. Nigeria equally warmly welcomes the new members of the Bureau and encourage them to continue with the spirit of solidarity and dedication to this vital cause.

3. While the African Group has collectively emphasised the need for timely progress and adherence to the established timeline (and Nigeria agrees with that), Nigeria wishes to highlight specific national priorities and concerns.

4. Firstly, Nigeria stresses the need for an inclusive approach that respects the unique challenges faced by each country (developed or developing). We call for the recognition of the diverse economic realities and developmental stages of member states, ensuring that the framework allows flexibility and adaptability to their respective needs and circumstances.

5. Secondly, Nigeria supports the establishment of mechanisms to combat illicit financial flows (IFFs) and enhance tax transparency. Addressing these issues are vital for creating a fairer global tax environment. This will enable all countries (and particularly, developing countries) to mobilise domestic resources more effectively in order to achieve the SDGs. For Nigeria, combating IFFs is particularly key as it directly impacts our ability to finance essential development projects and infrastructure, impeding our progress towards sustainable development.

6. The aim of Resolution 78/230 is to achieve a robust framework for international tax cooperation that ensures a balanced allocation of taxing rights, profit allocation and full participation of developing countries in the decision-making processes. While we reiterate the necessity of these goals, simplicity and stability of the tax rules must be adequately emphasised. The taxation of the digitalised economy from a developing country perspective.

7. While we do aim and will work for consensus, inability to achieve it should not deter us from concluding the tasks within the allocated timeframe. Certainly, failure is not be a good decoration on the CVs or reputation of any member of this Committee.

8. Therefore, we invite all Member States to remain focused on the task at hand, prioritise the important issues, make maximum use of each minute and ensure that we deliver the prize for our world.

8. On our part, we commit to engaging in these discussions in a transparent, open and honest manner. We reiterate our strong commitment to this process and look forward to constructive and fruitful negotiations.

I thank you.