

Statement by the Deputy Permanent Representative Ambassador Norberto Moretti Organizational Session of the Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee on the United Nations Framework Convention on International Tax Cooperation

February 3, 2025

Distinguished Chair, Colleagues,

We congratulate you, Mr. Chairman, on your election. You can count on Brazil's full support as you guide us through these important negotiations.

Brazil warmly welcomes this organizational session as we embark on negotiations for the UN Framework Convention on International Tax Cooperation. This moment is particularly critical as we face an unprecedented crisis in funding the Sustainable Development Goals, requiring urgent and coordinated action.

We welcome that these negotiations are taking place at the United Nations, whose universal membership ensures all nations have a voice in shaping international tax cooperation.

While globalization has increased wealth, it has also widened inequality. Developing nations need smart tax strategies to attract poverty-reducing investments without engaging in harmful tax competition. Additionally, the challenges of base erosion and profit shifting continue to erode domestic revenues, placing the greatest strain on developing countries.

The success of this convention will depend on our ability to find common ground. The Chair has a vital role in fostering an environment of open dialogue and mutual understanding. We encourage comprehensive consultations with all delegations to bridge different positions and ensure that all voices are genuinely heard and reflected in our outcomes.

Brazil has been a strong advocate for addressing tax evasion and avoidance by high-net-worth individuals as a second early protocol. There is broad consensus that income taxes should be progressive. The wealthiest should contribute a larger share to the national treasury. However, despite this principle being embedded in most tax systems, it does not seem to apply to billionaires, who usually have the legal and financial means to avoid paying their fair share. Of course, we remain open to engaging with all member states to identify a protocol topic that commands substantial support across the membership.

Brazil stands ready to engage constructively to craft a convention that contributes to a more equitable global economic system.

Thank you.