



STATEMENT ON BEHALF OF THE GROUP OF 77 AND CHINA
BY MR. SEBASTIÁN DI LUCA OF THE PERMANENT MISSION OF ARGENTINA
TO THE UNITED NATIONS, ON THE ORGANIZATION OF WORK OF THE
FIFTH COMMITTEE AT THE MAIN PART OF THE SIXTY-SIXTH SESSION OF
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Mr. Chairman,

1. I have the honour to speak on behalf of the Group of 77 and China.
2. The Group of 77 and China wishes to congratulate you, Mr. Chairman, as well as the other members of the Bureau on your election. We thank the Bureau for preparing the programme of work for the Fifth Committee for the sixty-sixth session of the General Assembly.

3. The Group expresses its deep appreciation to H.E. Mr. Gerardo R. Blandino, Chairman, Ambassador and former Permanent Representative of Guatemala, as well as to the other

Mr. Chairman,

4. We are concerned about the delay in the timely submission of documents for the Fifth Committee in accordance with the mandated timeframes. The goal of 90 per cent compliance, however, has not been met. The Group in this regard would like to stress on the necessity of the timely issuance of all documents in all official languages, in accordance with the six weeks rule, and expects that further progress be made, inter alia, through an approach that explores solutions to the occasional difficulties of the submission of documents in all languages. This week concludes the effective work of the Committee and we intend to discuss this

Mr. Chairman,

5. Given the heavy agenda to deliberate upon during the main session, the Group would like to commend the efforts of the Bureau in preparing a tentative programme of work which will be adjusted throughout the session based on the progress made by the Committee in the negotiations. In this regard, we are pleased to see that the programme of work presented on the understanding that it will be reviewed and amended as needed, as well as the work to be done

6. The Group of 77 and China as always stresses the importance of respecting the fundamental principles of the Fifth Committee in conducting the negotiations in an open, inclusive and not in small group configurations. In this regard, the Group wishes to emphasize that the exercise that must be allowed to run its course:

7. At this stage, the Group wishes to thank the work of the Bilateral Meeting Unit, headed by Mrs. Emma Pioche during the High Level Segment and General Debate of the current session of the General Assembly.

8. In conclusion, Mr. Chairman, the Group of 77 and China wishes to state that we stand ready with our partners for a successful outcome for this session.

I thank you, Mr. Chairman.