



STATEMENT ON BEHALF OF THE GROUP OF 77 AND CHINA BY MS. MEGAYLA AUSTIN, MINISTER COUNSELLOR OF THE PERMANENT MISSION OF THE COOPERATIVE REPUBLIC OF GUYANA TO THE UNITED NATIONS ON AGENDA ITEM 141: PROPOSED PROGRAMME BUDGET FOR 2021 - REQUEST FOR A SUBVENTION TO THE EXTRAORDINARY CHAMBERS IN THE COURTS OF CAMBODIA AT THE FIFTH COMMITTEE DURING THE MAIN PART OF THE SEVENTY-FIFTH SESSION OF THE UNITED NATIONS Gj -02Mp37RMJACGroupn Agenda Item

141: "Request for a Subvention to the Extraordinary Chambers in the Courts of Cambodia". The Group wishes to thank Mr Chandru Ramanthan, Controller and Assistant Secretary-General for Programme Planning, Finance and Budget; and Mr Abdallah Bachar Bong, Chair of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions for introducing their respective reports.

We would like to join the Secretary-General in commending the judicial officials and staff of the Extraordinary Chambers in the Courts of Cambodia for their dedication and determination in fulfilling the mandate of the Chambers under trying circumstances, especially amid the COVID-19 pandemic. We note the progress made in the judicial proceedings and encourage the Chambers to take all necessary measures to expedite case completion, including through more effective planning, while fully respecting the requirements of the judicial progress.

- 3. The Group remains seized with the efficient and effective operation of the Chambers. In this regard, we commend the Chambers for fully implementing the four recommendations by the Office of Internal Oversight Services (OIOS) in its August 2019 report, which had also concluded that controls over the Chambers' general operating expenditure were adequate. We continue to stress that ensuring adequate and sustainable financing for the Chambers remains a priority for the Group. This will ensure the smooth and efficient progress in the dispensation of justice in the Chambers.
- 4. The Group commends Cambodia, the Host Country, for its commitment to provide in-kind contributions and the majority of funding of the national component over the past five years. We further commend Member States who have provided extrabudgetary resources towards the important work of the Chambers. However, we