

**Handover ceremony of the Chairmanship of the Group of 77
(from the State of Palestine to the Co-operative Republic of Guyana)**

INDIA STATEMENT

By

**Ambassador K. Nagaraj Naidu
Deputy Permanent Representative**

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Thank you, Mr. Chairman,

My delegation would join the other members in extending a very warm welcome to H.E. Mr. Moses Nagamootoo, Prime Minister and First Vice President of Guyana and H.E. Mr. Riad Al-Malki, Foreign Minister of the State of Palestine.

President of the General Assembly and Secretary-General,

Excellencies,

Ladies and Gentlemen,

My delegation joins the other delegations in congratulating the Palestinian delegation under Ambassador Mansour for his seasoned Chairmanship of the G77.

The sagacious leadership and guidance that you have offered during an extremely tumultuous year when multilateralism was tested at its seams and the finesse with which you have conducted the proceedings within the G77 has strengthened the G77 movement and our vision for a glorious and sustainable future.

2019 has been a substantial year for G77. The group worked together in full solidarity on a wide variety of issues including climate change, universal health coverage, financing for development, mid-term review of the Vienna program of action, BAPA+40, sustainable development and lastly the successful conclusion to the much-awaited expansion of the ACABQ.

For the excellent stewardship of the Group in 2019, we owe Palestine – particularly, the PR and his dedicated team out heartfelt gratitude.

Chair,

My delegation also extends its sincere congratulations and a very warm welcome to Guyana as it takes over the Chairmanship of the Group for the year 2020. Guyana has led our group in the past in 1999 and we are delighted that it would be leading our group again after 20 years, particularly in a year when we will be commemorating 75 years of the founding of the UN.

India has full confidence in the leadership of Guyana under Ambassador Rudolph Ten-Pow and believe that the delegation will work towards strengthening the principles of unity, complementarity, cooperation and solidarity of the G77 countries and their determination to strive for economic and social development, individually and collectively.

Chair,

2020 kicks off the Decade of Action and delivery for the implementation of the SDGs. We look forward to the successful hosting of the 3rd South Summit of the G77 in Kampala, the Ocean's Conference, the Bio-diversity summit and review of the formal of the HLPF/VNR.

While we have a very busy agenda, we are confident that the group will tremendously benefit from the vibrancy and spiritedness that Guyana will bring to the Chair of the G77.

To conclude, on behalf of my delegation, I would wish the incoming Chairman and the entire Group a productive and successful 2020.

I Thank you.
