STATEMENT ON BEHALF OF THE GROUP OF 77 AND CHINA BY H.E. MR. SACHA LLORENTTY SOLIZ, AMBASSADOR, PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF THE PLURINATIONAL STATE OF BOLIVIA TO THE UNITED NATIONS, CHAIR OF THE GROUP OF 77, AT THE HIGH-LEVEL POLITICAL FORUM ON SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT UNDER AUSPICIES OF ECOSOC (New York, 7 July 2014)

Mr. President,

I have the honor to deliver this statement on behalf of the Group of 77 and China.

At the outset, the Group of 77 wishes to thank you for your efforts in convening this special Ministerial Segment of the High-Level Political Forum (HLPF) on sustainable development under the auspices of ECOSOC, with this meeting we are entering a new phase in institutional governance for sustainable development, one that will be able to address challenges we will be facing in implementing the "rio+20" outcome "the future we want".

The Group of 77 and China has engaged in this process from its outset in a spirit of constructiveness and flexibility, with the concern of having a strong, feasible High-Level Political Forum that would bring added value, and would be able to fulfill its mandate with respect to moving forward the implementation of Sustainable Development and the integration of its three dimensions, as per Rio+20 outcome document and resolution 67/290. In this context, we as G77 and China wish for a strong outcome of the HLPF, agreed in accordance with what is already established in resolutions 61/16 and 68/1.

The High-Level Political Forum on sustainable development, under the auspices of ECOSOC, shall conduct regular reviews, starting in 2016, on the follow-up and implementation of sustainable development commitments and objectives, including those related to the means of implementation and international cooperation, long term measures to make poverty eradication irreversible and reduce inequalities; integrated decision-making and how to review progress in implementation; strengthening science-policy interface through discussing scope and methodology for a global sustainable development report and giving our recommendations; sustainable consumption and production including 10-year Framework of Programmes on Sustainable Consumption and Production Patterns and giving recommendations to its board; countries in special situation and regional perspectives as well as future pathways and strengthening the forum should foster international cooperation to promote sustainable consumption and production patterns.

We recognize the intrinsic interlinkage between poverty eradication and the promotion of sustainable development. In this regard we underline the need for a synergistic and coherent approach to the post-2015 development agenda that integrates in a balanced manner the three dimensions of sustainable development. This coherent approach involves working towards a single framework and set of goals, universal in nature and applicable to all countries, while taking into account differing national circumstances and respecting national policies and priorities in line with principle of common but differentiated responsibilities (CBDR).

We are also satisfied that the institutional structure for sustainable development has been significantly strengthened through the establishment of the High-Level Political Forum on sustainable development that will be essential for monitoring and reviewing the post-2105 development agenda including sustainable development goals.

In this regard, we are looking forward to the regular reviews on the follow-up and implementation of sustainable development commitments and objectives, including those related to the means of implementation that will be done in HLPF when it meets under the auspices of ECOSOC beginning in 2016. We are ready to engage in the discussion in how to make them the most useful tools for supporting implementation of the post-2015 development agenda including sustainable development goals.

Mr. President,

We reiterate our resolve from the outcome document of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development "The Future We Want" to strengthen science-policy interface through inclusive, evidence-based and transparent scientific assessments, as well as access to reliable, relevant and timely data in areas related to the three dimensions of sustainable development, building on existing mechanisms. In this sense, we especially emphasize the importance of capacity-building for developing countries, including in conducting their own monitoring and assessments.

The Group also welcomes a prototype of the Global Sustainable Development Report and is looking forward to getting constructively engaged in a consultation process with the aim of reaching an agreement on the scopes and modalities for the Report, which will inform the work of the High-Level Political Forum on sustainable development and help in agenda-setting as well as reviewing sustainable development goals and post-2015 development agenda.

G-77 and China believe the scope and methodology of the global sustainable development report still warrant further consideration, in light of the prototype presented by UN-DESA, and taking into account the outcomes of ongoing processes dedicated to the sustainable development goals and their means of implementation. The next session of the high level political forum should devote adequate time for such issue, in accordance with the mandate of resolution 67/290.

The global sustainable development report should be global and balanced, taking into account different national realities, capacities and levels of development and respect national policies and priorities. It should also comprise progress in eradicating poverty, promoting sustainable development and fulfilling commitments regarding means of implementation, while integrating the three dimensions of sustainable development.

In view of the importance of such issue for the future implementation of the Post-2015 Development Agenda, the Group submitted draft decision E/HLPF/2014/L.1 to the Forum in order to include deliberations on the report in the agenda of the next session of the Forum under the auspices of ECOSOC.

We welcome the support already expressed by Member States to our initiative and we hope informal consultation could take place as soon as possible, allowing for consideration of the document and its adoption by the Forum on Wednesday.

Mr. President,

International cooperation and support are essential. We are, therefore looking forward to the summary and recommendations of the structured dialogues taking place in the General Assembly on possible arrangements for a technology facilitation mechanism to promote such technologies. We are also looking forward to concrete proposals on the modalities and organization of such a mechanism. We hope we will be able to reach a conclusion in this regard already at the upcoming session of the General Assembly in order to establish such a mechanism in a timely manner to support national and regional implementation of post-2015 development agenda including sustainable development goals.

The development transfer and dissemination of clean and environmentally sound technologies to developing countries including capacity building in accordance with national plans are critical means of implementation for the post-2015 development agenda. The summary and recommendations of the structured dialogues convened pursuant to resolution 68/210 of December 2013, with a view to consider possible arrangements for a technology facilitation mechanism to promote the development, transfer and dissemination of clean and environmentally sound technologies could offer practical ways of dealing with this issue. However new technologies and scientific findings that have the potential to address global sustainable development challenges should be given careful consideration for use in this regard.

The Group of 77 recognizes the vital role that science and technology, including environmentally sound technologies, can play in development and in facilitating efforts to confront global challenges. These challenges include eradicating poverty, achieving food security, fighting diseases, improving education, protecting the environment, accelerating the pace of economic diversification and transformation, and improving productivity and competitiveness.

Mr. President,

The Group of G77 and China, acknowledge the importance of the regional dimension of sustainable development, and the contribution the United Nations regional commissions could provide to the processes related to SDGs and Post-2015 development agenda, including through annual regional meetings, with the involvement of other relevant regional entities, major groups and other relevant stakeholders, as appropriate.

The Group believes it is necessary to continue to promote an open, rules-based, non-discriminatory and equitable multilateral trading system. In this regard, recognizes the role of the UN development system in undertaking global economic and financial coordination to reduce macroeconomic volatility and risks.

The UN should further promote multilateral coordination, coherence and accountability within the system to ensure proper functioning of its institutional framework for the review and follow up in the General Assembly, ECOSOC and the newly created High-Level Political Forum. The UN should also promote greater coordination and interaction with relevant international financial and economic institutions to ensure coherence with the UN development agenda, particularly in the post-2015 era.

The allocation of resources for implementation of a Post-2015 agenda should take into consideration the needs of countries in special situations: African countries, Least Developed Countries (LDCs), Landlocked Developing Countries (LDCs), and Small Island Developing States (SIDS), countries emerging from conflict and in vulnerable situations as well as the specific challenges facing middle-income countries.

The Group of 77 and China reiterates that the international community must uphold its commitments as detailed in paragraph 27 of the Rio+20 outcome document to take collective measures to remove the obstacles to the full realization of all the rights, including self-determination, of peoples suffering under foreign occupation which continues to adversely affect their economic and social development, inconsistent with the dignity and worth of the human person.

The Group also reiterates the significance and full support for the full participation and decision making power of the State of Palestine in the High-Level Political Forum.

Mr. President,

The Group reaffirms the importance of children and youth in the Post-2015 development agenda, and encourages youth to participate in decision-making processes, engage in meaningful employment, achieve their desired level of education and realize their full potential as active members of society. The ECOSOC Youth Forum should continue to serve as a platform for youth engagement in the dialogue on poverty eradication and sustainable development.

We stress the capital importance of the outcome of the Third International Conference on Small Island Developing States, and the effective, coherent and coordinated monitoring of the implementation of its outcome will be an important contribution to tackling their special challenges as part and parcel of the pursuit of sustainable development objectives.

The Group of 77 and China attaches great importance to all the issues related to development, the very reason of the creation of this Group.

We are looking also forward to adopting HLPF declaration as the outcome of these meetings. We are looking forward to a comprehensive political declaration that addresses concerns of all countries.

Thank you.