

Statement at the 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration of the Group of 77 and China in Geneva

## 13 September 2024

Excellencies,

It is my honour to address you on behalf of the South Centre on the occasion of the 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the establishment of the Group of 77, and to reaffirm our unwavering commitment to supporting the G-77 and China in advancing the collective interests and raising the voice of developing countries in the international arena.

The Group of 77 and China have made important and notable contribution over the past six decades to promoting the global development agenda and the strengthening of the United Nations system in addressing global issues, particularly in the economic and social fields. In the face of greater development challenges owing to the overlapping crises and increasing geopolitical tensions, a strong and active G-77 and China is needed to defend and promote the interests of the Global South.

Since its creation, the South Centre has provided support to the member states of the G-77 and China within the remit of its mandates, working as a think tank for developing countries. We recognize the common challenges facing our countries in their sustainable development, as well as the unique positions and circumstances of each developing nation. We remain dedicated to providing the research, advisory, and technical assistance to enhance the capacity of Global South countries to implement development-oriented policies and engage effectively in critical debates and negotiations at the regional and multilateral levels.

In the outcome document of the 3<sup>rd</sup> South Summit, held in Kampala, Uganda in January this year, the G-77 and China recognized the important role of the South Centre as think tank of the countries of the South and emphasized its relevance in enhancing South-South cooperation through providing the intellectual and policy support required by developing countries for collective and individual action in the international arena, and promoting solidarity and mutual understanding among the countries and peoples of the South. It also called upon the South Centre to support more effectively developing countries in multilateral negotiations with the view to enhance the capacity of the South in addressing current and emerging challenges.

The South Centre remains resolute in its mission to support the member states of the Group of 77 and China. We will continue to advocate for fairer global governance and stronger multilateralism, and to provide the analyses and advice necessary to ensure that the voices of developing countries are not only heard but shape the international agenda in ways that promote inclusivity, equity, and sustainable development in the Global South.

Thank you.