

New York City, 16 August 2024

Closing Remarks by the Chair of the Ad Hoc Committee

Mr. Ramy M. Youseff

Excellencies,

Distinguished delegates,

Dear colleagues!

with the adoption of the Draft Terms of Reference for a United Nations Framework Convention on International Tax Cooperation, the Ad Hoc Committee has successfully delivered on its mandate under resolution 78/230.

Let me express my sincere congratulations to all Members of the Ad Hoc Committee and all delegates for the very constructive engagement throughout this Second Session. I have greatly enjoyed the privilege to engage with all of you over the last months. All of you are exceptional international tax professionals and great to work with.

As this Ad Hoc Committee comes to a close, let me share a few personal views on the process and its outcome. The process was certainly intense for everyone involved, and I think we reached an outcome that leaves no winners or losers, rather it is my honest belief that the outcome the Committee was able to achieve makes all of us and the Member States, and the citizens of the world you collectively represent, clearly winners.

Over the course of the Committee's work, we had fascinating debates, exchanged our views, we agreed on things and disagreed on others, but always we discussed in good faith, in pursuit of a goal we all share: Creating a better world for everyone on this planet and leaving no one behind.

The adoption of the Draft Terms of Reference for a United Nations Framework Convention on International Tax Cooperation today is a big, maybe even historic, step towards our shared goal — regardless of your individual vantage point.

I close this Session by reiterating my huge congratulations to everyone in the room and in this world for help making this step possible!

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Before we adjourn this meeting, I want to deliver a special thanks to the champions of this success story, who worked around the clock and on every single day, sacrificed their vacations, weekends and even their family time to make this moment true. A massive thank you message for the UN Secretariat on behalf of myself and the entire Committee for their hard work and invaluable support throughout the Committee's work.

Thank you again, everybody, and wishing you all safe travels back home!