

**UAE's EXPLANATION OF VOTE BY MS ASMA ALZAROONI, ACTING DIRECTOR OF INTERNATIONAL TAX DEPARTMENT, MINISTRY OF FINANCE AFTER THE VOTE ON THE DRAFT TERMS OF REFERENCE FOR A UNITED NATIONS FRAMEWORK CONVENTION ON INTERNATIONAL TAX COOPERATION, 16 AUGUST 2024**

---

Chairperson,

We would like to express our deep appreciation to the Chair and Secretariat for their commitment and dedication in developing the Terms of Reference for a United Nations Framework Convention on International Tax Cooperation.

We agree with many in this room that the current international tax architecture has challenges that have contributed to global inequitable growth. We therefore recognize the critical importance of this initiative in enhancing inclusive global tax cooperation and promoting a fair and equitable global tax system. The proposed framework has the potential to address significant challenges in international taxation and foster greater collaboration among nations.

However, it is important that we have a collective approach to these challenges. This will provide the basis of which we can agree on solutions.

While we strongly support the overall objectives, we have concerns regarding certain paragraphs that lack sufficient clarity on the optionality of all protocols. We believe that such clarity is essential to ensure the framework's effectiveness and widespread adoption. It is for this reason that my delegation abstained on the resolution.

I wish to emphasize that our abstention does not diminish our commitment to the goals outlined in the Terms of Reference. The United Arab Emirates remains dedicated to constructive engagement in global tax matters and will continue to actively participate as part of the Bureau.

We look forward to further discussions and refinements of this important initiative to address our concerns and strengthen international tax cooperation.

Thank you, Mr. Chair.