



## THE GROUP OF 77 & CHINA ROME CHAPTER

### Handover of the Chairmanship of the G77 & China – Rome Chapter

*Rome, Italy, 14 January 2015*

The Rome Chapter of the G77 & China held its first Plenary meeting of the year 2015 and Handover of the Chairmanship on 14 January 2015. The meeting was attended by Member States of the G77 and China accredited to the 3 Rome-based United Nations Agencies for Food and Agriculture. The Deputy Director – General Operations, Mr. Daniel Gustafson, was also present at the handover plenary on behalf of Mr. José Graziano Da Silva, Director General of FAO.

At the end of his mandate, **H.E. Dominique Awono Essama**, Ambassador and Permanent Representative of the Republic of Cameroon, Chairperson of the G77 & China – Rome Chapter during 2014, recalled the main accomplishment of the Group during the year and made special reference to the celebrations for the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the G77 & China (1964 – 2014). He thanked all Members for their active participation during the Ministerial Event (17 June 2014), the special event “Dialogue on Nutrition” with counted with the presence of H.E. Evo Morales Ayma, President of the Plurinational State of Bolivia and Chairperson of the G77 & China worldwide (30 October 2014), the painting exhibition (2 – 19 December 2014), the photographic exhibition (9 December 2014), and the creation of the publication “G77 & China: 50 years of South solidarity”, which “*serves as an historical document of reference*”, he said.

Afterwards, **H.E. Dominique Awono Essama** handed over the Chairmanship to Mr. Alireza Mohajer, Chargé d’Affaires a.i. of the Islamic Republic of Iran, on behalf of **H.E. Majid Dehghan Shoar**, Ambassador of the Islamic Republic of Iran and incoming Chairperson of the G77 & China – Rome Chapter during 2015.

Mr. Alireza Mohajer expressed his sincere gratitude to the G77 and China Members and specially to the Near East Regional Group, for the trust and confidence placed in proposing the Islamic Republic of Iran to lead the Group. He also congratulated **H.E. Dominique Awono Essama** on his outstanding work carried out as Chairperson of the G77 & China – Rome Chapter during 2014. Finally, he encouraged the G77 & China to “*continue its leadership as spokesperson of developing countries focusing on their goals and challenges in an intergovernmental forum such as the Food & Agriculture Organization (FAO).*”

On behalf of their Members, the Chairs of the Regional Groups expressed their recognition to **H.E. Dominique Awono Essama** for his performance as Chairperson of the G77 & China – Rome Chapter in 2014. They also welcomed the incoming Chairperson, **H.E. Majid Dehghan Shoar**, expressing their full support and ensuring their collaboration in order to work together with the Chairmanship during 2015, for the benefit of all G77 & China Member countries.

**Left to Right:** Mr. Alireza Mohajer, Chargé d’Affaires a.i. of the Islamic Republic of Iran, on behalf of H.E. Majid Dehghan Shoar, Ambassador of the Islamic Republic of Iran and incoming Chairperson of the G77 & China – Rome Chapter during 2015, and H.E. Ambassador Dominique Awono Essama, Ambassador and Permanent Representative of the Republic of Cameroon, Chairperson of the G77 & China – Rome Chapter during 2014, exchanging certificates.

