

THE GROUP OF 77 AT THE UNITED NATIONS
THIRD SERIES

The Collected Documents of **THE
GROUP
OF
77**

VOLUME VI
Fiftieth Anniversary Edition

Edited by
Mourad Ahmia



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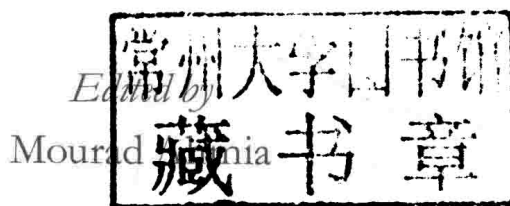
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In memoriam of my beloved mother
Houria Sekki (1936–2014)

1964 - 2014



THE **GROUP** OF 77
AT THE UNITED NATIONS

Foreword

When it was established on June 15, 1964, the signing nations of the well-known *Joint Declaration of Seventy-Seven Countries* formed the largest intergovernmental organization of developing countries in the United Nations to articulate and promote their collective interests and common development agenda.

Since the First Ministerial meeting of the Group of 77 held in Algeria in October 1967, and the adoption of the *Charter of Algiers*, the G-77 laid down the institutional mechanisms and structures that have contributed to shaping the international development agenda and changing the landscape of the global South for the past five decades.

Over the years, the Group has gained an increasing role in the determination and conduct of international relations through global negotiations on major North-South and development issues. The Group has a presence worldwide at United Nations centers in New York, Geneva, Nairobi, Paris, Rome, Vienna, and Washington D.C., and is actively involved in ongoing negotiations on a wide range of global issues including climate change, poverty eradication, migration, trade, and the law of the sea.

Today, the Group of 77 remains the only viable and operational mechanism in multilateral economic diplomacy within the United Nations System. The growing membership is proof of its enduring strength. From 77 founding member states in 1964 to 134 and counting in 2014, it is the largest intergovernmental organization of the global South dealing with the Development Agenda.

The Group was created with the objective to collectively boost the role and influence of developing countries on the global stage when it became clear that political independence, to be meaningful, required changes in the economic relations between North and South. Thus, political independence needed to be accompanied by economic diplomacy with the ultimate objective of the reform of the international economic order.

Today, the Group of 77 represents the greatest coalition of humanity and remains a vital negotiating instrument in economic multilateral diplomacy, and for ensuring international peace and justice through international cooperation for development within the framework of the United Nations. This has been the thrust of the joint expression of South-South solidarity since the Group's creation, and its collective voice has spread to every institution and international organization representing the hopes and aspirations of the majority of humanity.

The integral role played by the Group of 77 in economic diplomacy and projecting the development interests of the global South is a testimony to its continued relevance in the global development dialogue. The Group has, through its compact Executive Secretariat's limited resources, managed to work successfully with its development partners to analyze issues and propose alternative solutions to development challenges.

For fifty years the Group of 77 contributed to the formulation and adoption of numerous U.N. resolutions, programmes, and plans of action, most of which address the core issues of development. Its role in generating global consensus on the issues of development has been widely acknowledged by world leaders, diplomats, parliamentarians, academia, researchers, media and civil society.

It is a tribute to the historical validity of the conception, purposes, and endeavors of the Group, which have withstood the test of time. The essential rationale for the Group was, and remains, to strive for a wider participation of developing countries in global economic decision-making and for inserting a development dimension in international institutions and policies within the framework of the United Nations System.

The Group presently consists of 134 countries, comprising over 80 per cent of the world's population and approximately two-thirds of the United Nations membership. The Group is the second largest intergovernmental organization in the world after the United Nations and many countries, from emerging developing economies to Least Developed Countries and Small Island Developing States have chaired the Group, ranging from regions in Africa and Asia-Pacific to Latin America and the Caribbean.

2014 marks a milestone in the life of the Group with the celebration of the 50th year of its establishment, a period during which it has nearly doubled in membership and multiplied its South-South cooperation achievements while continuing to operate as a coalition of nations in promoting North-South dialogue for development. It is remarkable that with such a diverse membership and without a formal constitution it has managed to endure the world's political and economic turbulences for 50 years and remain true to its original mission in promoting the United Nations development agenda.

The Group of 77 has devoted five decades working to achieve development. It adheres to the principle that nations, big and small, deserve an equal voice in world affairs. Today the Group remains linked by common geography and shared history of struggle for liberation, freedom and South-South solidarity.

In its 50 years, the Group of 77 has solidified the global South as a coalition of nations, aspiring for a global partnership for peace and development. Today, the Group of 77 is recognized for its work to promote international cooperation for development towards a prosperous and peaceful world. The commitment and dedication of the Group in selflessly shaping world affairs has benefited billions of lives worldwide, and such recognition of its significant contribution during the Group's 50th Anniversary is most appropriate.

Mourad Ahmia,
September 2014

Preface

This special anniversary edition of the third series is launched to coincide with the 50th anniversary of the establishment of the Group of 77 with the objective of further carrying forward the documentary process and its institutional memory.

The present publication is the result of a compilation effort that provides a chronological record of the main documents adopted by the Group of 77 since its creation in 1964, with a special focus on all major events of the Group of 77 that took place during the period 1964-2014.

This special volume comprises of eight chapters:

Chapter I provides an overview of the constitutional documents of the Group of 77 since 1964.

Chapter II includes the outcomes adopted by various ministerial meetings of the Group of 77 in preparation for the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) sessions since 1967.

Chapter III presents the statements made by the Group of 19 of the Group of 77 related to the Conference on International Economic Cooperation held in Paris, France, in 1976.

Chapter IV includes the Declarations adopted by Special Ministerial Conferences and other High-level Meetings of the Group of 77 on various occasions including commemorative anniversaries of the Group of 77 since 1972.

Chapter V presents the outcomes adopted by the G-77 High-level Conferences on Economic Cooperation among Developing Countries that are Members of the Group of 77 since 1976.

Chapter VI includes the Ministerial Declarations adopted by the Annual Meetings of the Ministers for Foreign Affairs of the Group of 77 since 1977.

Chapter VII presents the outcomes adopted by various sessions of the Intergovernmental Follow-up and Coordination Committee (IFCC) related to South-South cooperation since 1982.

Chapter VIII presents the Declarations and Plans of Action adopted by the Group of 77 South Summits held respectively in Havana, Cuba (2000) and Doha, Qatar (2005).

Three annexes are included in the Volume: *Annex I* pertains to Acronyms while *Annex II* lists the 77 original countries signatories of the Joint Declaration and *Annex III* details the evolution of membership of the Group of 77 since 1964.

This volume is dedicated to the memory of my late beloved mother *Houria Sekki (1936–2014)*. Indeed, her prayers and wishes always served as great sources of inspiration towards successfully accomplishing my undertakings and I will remember her with profound love, respect and gratitude. May Almighty God rest her departed soul in eternal peace.

In compiling this documentary record, I am most indebted to Karl P. Sauvant, for his encouragement and guidance. Words of appreciation are also due to the staff members of the Executive Secretariat of the Group of 77 at the United Headquarters in New York for their continued support and valuable contribution to the publication of this special anniversary edition.

As in previous volumes in this series, typographical errors and minor editorial inconsistencies in the original texts were corrected. However, apart from these technical changes, the documents are presented in their original form.

Finally, the views expressed in this series do not necessarily reflect the views of the United Nations.

Mourad Ahmia,
September 2014

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