



**GROUP OF 77 & CHINA  
G E N E V A**

**Statement by Ecuador on behalf of the Group of 77 and China in Geneva  
at the Trade and Development Board, sixty-seventh executive session**

**Item 4 - Report of the Investment, Enterprise and Development Commission  
*Geneva, 5 February 2019***

Mr. President, Ambassador Salim Baddoura,  
Ms. Isabelle Durand, Deputy-Secretary General of UNCTAD  
Excellencies,  
Distinguished delegates,

I have the honor to deliver this statement on behalf of the Group of 77 and China.

1. The Group of G77 and China recognizes the essential role of investments in the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals. UNCTAD's fruitful labor in the investment frameworks reflects the importance of continue working across the three pillars. The Group would like to emphasize the value of the Investment Policy Reviews and its subsequent follow up.
2. The Group of G77 and China finds the Report on Investments a result of an invaluable research effort and encourages UNCTAD to continue delivering this kind of documents. The group is aware of the significance of the World Investment Forum. An event of such magnitude is a source of innumerable opportunities. The Group have a strong interest in improving the advantage Member States would take in the forthcoming editions of the Forum.
3. The Group of G77 and China reckons the value of work on investment agreement and investment policies.
4. The Group of G77 and China is aware of the fundamental role of access to technology and knowledge sharing. The policy space and the use countries may do with it are key elements to narrow the digital divide. Innovation and knowledge are fundamental in order to obtain attain the SDGs, moreover, they are crucial in relation of the positive impact investments may have on development.
5. The Group of G77 and China confers great value to UNCTAD'S flags reports related to technology and knowledge. Recognize the efforts of the Secretary on this field and recalling the conclusion of the Report being considered in this meeting "Reaffirms the need for substantive work on matters of science, technology and innovation for development"
6. Finally, The Group of G77 and China backs the view presented by the report in the examined areas and recommends to the Trade and Development Board to endorse the agreed conclusions presented in the Report of the Investment, Enterprise and Development Commission on its tenth session.

Thank you.