



South-South cooperation for development

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High-level Committee on South-South Cooperation

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South-South cooperation

The High-level Committee,

Reaffirming General Assembly resolution 33/134 of 19 December 1978, in which the General Assembly endorsed the Buenos Aires Plan of Action for Promoting and Implementing Technical Cooperation among Developing Countries,¹

Reaffirming also General Assembly resolution 64/222 of 21 December 2009, in which the General Assembly endorsed the Nairobi outcome document of the High-level United Nations Conference on South-South Cooperation, held in Nairobi, from 1 to 3 December 2009,²

Taking note of the Declaration of the South Summit³ and the Havana Programme of Action⁴ adopted by the first South Summit of the Group of 77, held in Havana, from 10 to 14 April 2000, the Doha Declaration⁵ and the Doha Plan of Action⁶ adopted at Doha, by the second South Summit of the Group of 77, held from 12 to 16 June 2005, the Marrakech Declaration⁷ and the Marrakech Framework for the Implementation of South-South Cooperation⁸ adopted by the High-level Conference on South-South Cooperation held in Marrakesh, Morocco, from 15 to 19 December 2003, and other high-level follow-up conferences, which accorded high priority to South-South cooperation in order for developing countries to meet new development challenges,

* On behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China.

¹ *Report of the United Nations Conference on Technical Cooperation among Developing Countries, Buenos Aires, 30 August-12 September 1978* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.78.II.A.11 and corrigendum), chap. I.

² A/64/504.

³ See A/55/74, annex I.

⁴ Ibid., annex II.

⁵ A/60/111, annex I.

⁶ Ibid., annex II.

⁷ A/58/683, annex I.

⁸ Ibid., annex II.



Recalling its decision 16/1 regarding the action needed for the implementation of the Nairobi outcome document of the High-level United Nations Conference on South-South Cooperation,

1. *Takes note* of the reports on the state of South-South cooperation entitled “Review of progress made in implementing the Buenos Aires Plan of Action, the new directions strategy for South-South cooperation and the Nairobi outcome document of the High-level United Nations Conference on South-South Cooperation”⁹ and “Consideration of reports of the Administrator of the United Nations Development Programme”;¹⁰

2. *Adopts* the Framework of operational guidelines on United Nations support to South-South and triangular cooperation,¹¹ with the modification that footnote 2 and any references in the framework guidelines drawn from the outcome document of the Fourth High-level Forum on Aid Effectiveness, held in Busan, Republic of Korea, in 2011, be removed;

3. *Stresses* that the High-level Committee on South-South Cooperation is the central multilateral policymaking body in the United Nations system for reviewing and assessing global and system-wide progress on and support for South-South cooperation and triangular cooperation, and for providing overall guidance on future directions;

4. *Also stresses* that South-South cooperation and its agenda must be driven by the countries of the South, reiterates that South-South cooperation is a complement to, rather than substitute for, North-South cooperation and reaffirms that South-South cooperation is a collective endeavour by developing countries based on the principle of solidarity and on premises, conditions and objectives that are specific to the historic and political context of developing countries and to their needs and expectations and as such, South-South cooperation deserves its own separate and independent promotion as reaffirmed in the Nairobi outcome document of the High-level United Nations Conference on South-South Cooperation² and in the Development Platform for the South of the Group of 77, launched in 2008 in implementation of the Doha Plan of Action;⁶

5. *Reaffirms* the importance of strengthening South-South cooperation, especially in the current international economic environment, and reiterates its support for South-South cooperation as a strategy to sustain the development efforts of developing countries and also as a means of enhancing their participation in the global economy;

6. *Stresses* that any policy debate on South-South cooperation outside the United Nations system should be guided by the principles and objectives for such cooperation established in such internationally agreed documents as the Buenos Aires Plan of Action for Promoting and Implementing Technical Cooperation among Developing Countries,¹ as adopted by General Assembly resolution 33/144 of 19 December 1978 and the Nairobi outcome document of the High-level United Nations Conference on South-South Cooperation, as well as other relevant resolutions of the General Assembly and the Yamoussoukro Consensus on South-South cooperation;

⁹ SSC/17/1.

¹⁰ SSC/17/2.

¹¹ See SSC/17/3.

7. *Urges* all relevant bodies of the United Nations system to explicitly incorporate South-South cooperation into their operational programmes and coordinate among various entities in the most effective way to support it, and in this context welcomes the recent initiatives undertaken by various United Nations bodies to establish new units and work programmes to support and promote South-South cooperation, and urges other entities of the United Nations system to intensify their efforts to include South-South cooperation in the mainstream of their activities;

8. *Reiterates* its call to United Nations funds and programmes as well as the specialized agencies to take concrete measures to mainstream support for South-South cooperation, including triangular cooperation, in order to help developing countries to build capacities for maximizing the benefits and impact of South-South and triangular cooperation;

9. *Recognizes* the need to mobilize adequate resources for enhancing South-South cooperation and, in this context, invite all countries in a position to do so to contribute to such cooperation through, inter alia, the Pérez-Guerrero Trust Fund for South-South Cooperation and the United Nations Fund for South-South Cooperation;

10. *Reaffirms* the mandate of the Special Unit for South-South Cooperation, hosted by the United Nations Development Programme, as a separate entity and coordinator for promoting and facilitating South-South and triangular cooperation for development on a global and United Nations system-wide basis, and, with a view to strengthening its capacities, decides to rename the Special Unit for South-South Cooperation “United Nations Office for South-South Cooperation”, and, to strengthen and upgrade the Unit, suggests the following measures:

(a) Reclassify the post of the head of the Special Unit to the level of Assistant Secretary-General, to be funded by resources from the regular budget, through the use of a grant arrangement;

(b) Request the Secretary-General, in his capacity as Chair of the United Nations System Chief Executives Board for Coordination, and the Administrator of the United Nations Development Programme, in her capacity as Chair of the United Nations Development Group, to ensure that the head of the United Nations Office for South-South Cooperation be invited to all meetings pertaining to development issues;

(c) Request the Secretary-General to present a proposal for funding of system-wide coordination, advocacy and mainstreaming activities of the United Nations Office for South-South Cooperation, in the context of the proposed programme budget 2014-2015, through the use of a grant arrangement;

(d) Request the Administrator of the United Nations Development Programme to take measures to avoid the reduction of the amount allocated annually to the fixed line for South-South cooperation, under the programming arrangements for the Programme;

(e) Request the heads of specialized agencies, funds and programmes to pay special attention to the implementation of South-South cooperation projects managed or supported by the United Nations Office for South-South Cooperation, regardless of their financial scale;

11. *Invites* the executive boards of the United Nations funds and programmes to consider measures to reduce the cost-sharing fees charged from the budget for South-South cooperation programmes and projects implemented with their support;

12. *Decides* to consider the report of the Joint Inspection Unit on South-South and triangular cooperation in the United Nations system¹² as part of the agenda and official documentation of its seventeenth session, to hold proper discussions on the recommendations contained therein, and to take further action upon it;

13. *Decides* that the present decision shall be submitted during the quadrennial comprehensive policy review for explicit direction on mainstreaming South-South cooperation into the work of United Nations agencies;

14. *Requests* the Secretary-General of the United Nations to submit a comprehensive report to the High-level Committee at its eighteenth session on progress made in implementing the present resolution.

¹² See A/66/717 and Add.1.