

12 September 2014

**Message of H.E. John W. Ashe
President of the 68th Session of the United Nations General Assembly,
on the United Nations Day for South-South Cooperation**

On this United Nations Day for South-South Cooperation, I encourage the international community to recognize the vast strides we have made in supporting countries of the global South in our collective pursuit of sustainable economic growth and development.

As we look to adopt and implement a Post-2015 Development Agenda, we recognize that South-South cooperation is an essential component of international cooperation and offers viable opportunities for countries of the global South to explore new avenues for technical collaboration as a part of North-South and triangular engagement.

According to UN estimates, South-South cooperation has doubled in terms of actual numbers between 2006 and 2011. Through this form of cooperation, which is a complement to the traditional North-South cooperation, countries of the global South can gain additional access to finance, technology and markets. Investments by developed and developing partners in infrastructure can also help diversify economies, lead to further agricultural productivity, and advance overall economic development of the countries of the global South.

I call on the international community to celebrate these achievements and to share stories of development successes in the global south. I also encourage all relevant United Nations organizations and multilateral institutions to intensify their efforts to mainstream the use of South-South cooperation in the design, formulation and implementation of their regular programmes and to consider increasing allocations of human, and technical and financial resources to this cause.

The rising prospects of the countries of the global South open the landscape of possibilities and we must work together to harness these opportunities in the service of truly, globally inclusive prosperity and harmony.