

15 December 2009

**Statement of H.E. Mr. Ali Abdussalam Treki,
President of the 64th Session of the General Assembly,
at the "Second Global South-South Development Expo"**

President of the High-Level Committee on South-South Cooperation,

Excellencies,
Ladies and Gentlemen,

I am pleased to be with you at the Second Global South-South Development Expo. Coming in the wake of the successful Conference on South South Cooperation in Nairobi, this is an excellent opportunity to build and strengthen and to showcase partnerships around evidence-based Southern Development Solutions.

South South cooperation has flourished remarkably over the last 30 years. Relationships within the South and with the countries of the North have assumed new dynamism, and new patterns of trade and investment are rapidly emerging among other economic complementarities.

Cooperation between developing countries and the generation of solutions within the global South are crucial to address the development challenges, both current and emerging. The food, energy and financial crises, hunger, poverty and disease, and climate change - all demand collaborative action, sharing of knowledge, expertise and technological solutions, backed by adequate resources.

We must employ our collective strength, in identifying and tackling problems specific to developing countries' circumstances.

At Nairobi, we recognized the increasing power of South-South cooperation in the decades since Buenos Aires.

We have created regional common markets, customs unions, inter-State transport mechanisms, communications networks and bilateral capacity-building projects involving developing countries as well as middle-income countries and developed countries in the context of "triangular" cooperation.

We have also urged the United Nations funds, programmes and specialized agencies to help achieve our goals - to help us share concrete solutions, to support South-South cooperation by acting as catalysts for cooperation, and to strengthen the capabilities of regional organizations.

Today - building on the commitment to partnership made in Nairobi - let us seize the opportunity presented by this Expo to explore alternative paths that take the concerns and aspirations of developing countries fully into account.

In 2008 for example, the Expo was the launching pad for many pioneering collaborations, including the South-South Global Assets and Technology Exchange which was designed to overcome some of the physical, financial and technical obstacles that have often constrained cooperation, this initiative provides a structure for developing countries to share best practices and transfer technologies for development more efficiently.

We look forward to the new initiatives and partnerships to be launched this year specially ones that will create development opportunities for the most vulnerable people from the South.

So much is possible with deliberate and concerted action. I am confident that this EXPO will go a long way in promoting the objectives of South-South cooperation.

I wish you all the success.

Thank you.