



**United Nations**

# **Report of the second High-level United Nations Conference on South-South Cooperation**

**Buenos Aires  
20–22 March 2019**





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*Note*

Symbols of United Nations documents are composed of letters combined with figures. Mention of such a symbol indicates a reference to a United Nations document.

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## Chapter I

### Resolutions adopted by the Conference

#### Resolution 1\*

#### **Buenos Aires outcome document of the second High-level United Nations Conference on South-South Cooperation**

*The second High-level United Nations Conference on South-South Cooperation, Having met in Buenos Aires from 20 to 22 March 2019,*

1. *Adopts* the Buenos Aires outcome document of the second High-level United Nations Conference on South-South Cooperation;<sup>1</sup>

2. *Recommends* to the General Assembly that it endorse at its seventy-third session the Buenos Aires outcome document of the second High-level United Nations Conference on South-South Cooperation, as adopted by the Conference.

#### **Buenos Aires outcome document of the second High-level United Nations Conference on South-South Cooperation\*\***

1. We, heads of delegations and high representatives of Governments, gathered in Buenos Aires from 20 to 22 March 2019 at the Second United Nations High-level Conference on South-South Cooperation, on the occasion of the fortieth anniversary of the 1978 United Nations Conference on Technical Cooperation among Developing Countries, which adopted the Buenos Aires Plan of Action for Promoting and Implementing Technical Cooperation among Developing Countries, reaffirm that the overarching theme of the present Conference is “Role of South-South cooperation and implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development: challenges and opportunities.”

2. We renew our commitment to the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, the Addis Ababa Action Agenda and reaffirm the resolution [33/134](#) of 19 December 1978, endorsing the Buenos Aires Plan of Action, which constitutes a major milestone in the evolution of South-South and triangular cooperation and the resolution [64/222](#), endorsing the Nairobi outcome document of the High-level United Nations Conference on South-South Cooperation.

3. We welcome the Paris Agreement, the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction and the New Urban Agenda and recall other relevant major United Nations conferences and summits in the economic, social and related fields, as well as all General Assembly resolutions relevant to South-South cooperation and triangular cooperation.

4. We take note of the Havana Programme of Action adopted by the first South Summit, the Marrakech Framework for the Implementation of South-South Cooperation and the Doha Plan of Action adopted by the Second South Summit.

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\* Adopted at the 5th plenary meeting, on 22 March 2019; for the discussion, see chap. VI.

\*\* The text of the outcome document ([A/CONF.235/3](#)) was reissued subsequent to its adoption to reflect the oral corrections made by the Secretariat before action by the Conference at its 5th plenary meeting, on 22 March; the orally corrected version, as adopted, is thus contained in the present report.

<sup>1</sup> [A/CONF.235/3\\*](#).

5. We note that significant changes are taking place in international political and economic relations, which create conditions conducive to promoting South-South cooperation and pursuing sustained economic development, and national and collective self-reliance.
6. We recognize that South-South and triangular cooperation contribute to the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and to achieving the overarching goal of eradication of poverty in all its forms and dimensions, as it shares the comprehensive vision of development contained in the 17 Sustainable Development Goals, that balance the three dimensions of sustainable development – the economic, social and environmental.
7. We recognize that South-South cooperation is conducted among countries of the South, including but not limited to the economic, social, cultural, environmental, and technical domains, that can take place in a bilateral, regional or interregional contexts, for developing countries to meet their development goals through concerted efforts, taking into account the principles of South-South cooperation.
8. We recognize the importance and different history and particularities of South-South cooperation, and we reaffirm our view of South-South cooperation as a manifestation of solidarity among peoples and countries of the South that contributes to their national well-being, their national and collective self-reliance and the attainment of internationally agreed development goals, including the Sustainable Development Goals, according to national priorities and plans. South-South cooperation and its agenda have to be set by countries of the South and should continue to be guided by the principles of respect for national sovereignty, national ownership and independence, equality, non-conditionality, non-interference in domestic affairs and mutual benefit.
9. We acknowledge the voluntary, participative, and demand driven nature of South-South Cooperation, born out of shared experiences and sympathies, based on their common objectives and solidarity. We further recognize that South-South cooperation leads to more diverse opportunities for development. South-South Cooperation should not be seen as Official Development Assistance.
10. We stress that South-South cooperation is not a substitute for, but rather a complement to, North-South cooperation.
11. We acknowledge the need to enhance the development effectiveness of South-South and triangular cooperation.
12. We further recognize that triangular cooperation complements and adds value to South-South cooperation by enabling requesting developing countries to source and access more, and a broader range of, resources, expertise and capacities, that they identify as needed in order to achieve their national development goals and internationally agreed sustainable development goals.
13. We recognize that developing countries tend to share common views on national development strategies and priorities when faced with similar development challenges. The proximity of experience is therefore a key catalyst in promoting capacity development in developing countries and, in this regard, it accentuates the principles of South-South cooperation. It is important to enhance South-South cooperation in order to fulfill its full development potential.
14. We underline the need to promote peaceful and inclusive societies for achieving sustainable development, and to build effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels. Good governance, rule of law, human rights, fundamental freedoms, equal access to fair justice systems, and measures to combat corruption and curb illicit financial flows will be integral to our efforts.

15. We recognize that South-South cooperation and triangular cooperation enables developing countries to achieve sustainable development through partnership and, inter alia, to promote unity and cooperation, which contribute to establishing a fair and equitable international economic order.

16. We note that in the past few decades, while North-South cooperation is the main modality for development cooperation, South-South cooperation has expanded its scope, facilitated regional, subregional and interregional integration, provided innovative approaches for collective actions and strengthened its contribution to sustainable development in its three dimensions. We acknowledge incremental institutionalization in South-South cooperation and its incorporation into policymaking by some countries and regions. There has been an expansion of the number of relevant actors in development, including multiple stakeholders, subnational entities and parliamentarians, civil society, private sector, volunteer groups, faith-based organizations, philanthropic organizations, scientific and technological communities, foundations and think-tanks, and academia, as appropriate. Multilateral institutions, international and regional banks and funds, including those newly established by developing countries, are providing financial support to South-South cooperation initiatives.

17. We acknowledge that developing countries continue to face serious challenges, as well as new and emerging challenges, in the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, and we recognize the need to enhance capacity in developing countries by enhancing resources, and by building local capabilities, institutions, expertise, human resources, where appropriate, in contribution to national development priorities, at the request of developing countries. We recognize the need for international development cooperation to better understand the multidimensional perspective.

18. We also recognize that South-South cooperation and triangular cooperation increasingly take different and evolving forms, including technical cooperation, the sharing of knowledge and experience, training, capacity building and technology transfer on mutually agreed terms, aimed at achieving sustainable development through the promotion of, inter alia, economic cooperation, including trade, investment, infrastructure development and connectivity, agriculture and rural development, food security and nutrition, food safety, health, energy, disaster risk reduction, addressing climate change, as well as mutual learning and the coordination of development policies and strategies among developing countries.

19. We recognize the contribution of South-South and triangular cooperation in promoting gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls in sustainable development and encourage further efforts to mainstream gender perspectives in these modalities of cooperation.

20. We note the role of trade in growth and economic development of developing countries and recognize the significant contribution of South-South and triangular cooperation in the area of trade and its ability to promote sustainable development, and in this regard reaffirm the importance of strengthening South-South trade in WTO-consistent manner, including the Global System of Trade Preferences among Developing Countries.

21. We reaffirm the key role of the United Nations funds, programs, specialized agencies, non-resident agencies, UN Regional Commissions, including UN country teams in supporting and promoting South-South cooperation and triangular cooperation while reiterating that every country has the primary responsibility for its own development.

22. We recognize the increasing role played by inclusive partnerships in South-South cooperation and triangular cooperation, acting as an instrument which help improve the impact and actions in the field, acknowledging that governments have the principal role of coordinating and leading development efforts, call upon all actors in development cooperation to be meaningfully engaged. We also welcome the increasing role that developing countries play through South-South cooperation and triangular cooperation towards the fulfillment of the Sustainable Development Goals.

23. We acknowledge the importance of sharing of knowledge, experiences and best practices on South-South and triangular cooperation, on a voluntary basis, in the attainment of sustainable development and the implementation of the 2030 Agenda Sustainable Development.

24. In order to step up South-South and triangular cooperation and to bolster support for national and regional development efforts towards achieving the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, we:

(a) *recognize* that poverty reduction policies and strategies, in conformity with national conditions and circumstances, have enabled some developing countries to lift millions of their citizens out of extreme poverty and we invite all relevant stakeholders to share their knowledge and experience, particularly homegrown development approaches, in order to intensify efforts towards the eradication of poverty in all its forms and dimensions through South-South and triangular cooperation;

(b) *call* upon developed and developing countries and all relevant stakeholders to strengthen the efforts to implement the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development by promoting the economic, social and environmental dimensions of sustainability, including in all South-South and triangular cooperation policies and activities to ensure a more holistic and coherent approach to sustainable development;

(c) *call* upon multilateral, regional and bilateral financial and development institutions to consider increasing financial resources and technical cooperation to promote South-South and triangular cooperation;

(d) *emphasize* the need to leverage the role of South-South cooperation and triangular cooperation as a means to promote and support industrial and semi-industrial ventures and ensure food security and nutrition, including through the promotion of sustainable agriculture and food systems, food processing agro-industries, which have the potential to link with global value chains and effectively address the market needs of developing countries;

(e) *note* the establishment of new institutions regional and global banks and funds, which will contribute to the advancement of South-South cooperation and the implementation of 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, and we highlight the importance for these institutions to be run in a transparent and efficient way;

(f) *note* with concern the increase in debt levels globally and call on borrowers and creditors to address the challenges linked to debt sustainability as a matter of priority in order to prevent negative impact on long-term development and achieving the Sustainable Development Goals;

(g) *encourage* developing countries to adopt or strengthen national policies to advance South-South cooperation and triangular cooperation, and to enhance the capacity of national and sub-national coordination mechanisms, as appropriate, in order to improve policy coordination, the sharing of knowledge, lessons learned and good practices, and the adaptation of such practices, including through the voluntary exchange of experience and expertise according to national policies and priorities for development;

(h) *encourage* developed and developing countries to promote, through South-South and triangular cooperation, access to and the transfer of technology on mutually agreed terms, taking into account national legal frameworks of developing countries, and encourage broader South-South collaboration on technological developments, including collaboration on the acquisition of capabilities for research and development, the management of technology and information networks inclusive of technology producers and users as well as those working on infrastructure and human resources development. We also emphasize the need to promote the development, transfer, dissemination and diffusion of environmentally sound technologies to developing countries on mutually agreed terms;

(i) *call* upon relevant centers of excellence, in accordance with national development policies and priorities, to strengthen South-South platforms and the exchange of experience among sub-regional and regional groupings, as appropriate, for the purpose of building multi-stakeholder partnerships and cross-border collaborative frameworks and programmes to scale up best practices with the potential to benefit many developing countries;

(j) *commend* the contribution of think tanks, communities of practice, networks and expert groups to the improvement of South-South cooperation and triangular cooperation practices, and encourage United Nations entities to continue to engage, as appropriate, these organizations more effectively in efforts to better understand the role and impact of South-South and triangular cooperation to successfully implement the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and regional development frameworks such as the African Union Agenda 2063;

(k) *note* that corruption and illicit financial flows impede economic development, deepen income inequality, and reduce the domestic resources mobilization for sustainable development in developing countries. In this regard, we call upon all countries and encourage greater South-South and triangular cooperation, including the sharing of knowledge and best practices, to prevent and combat corruption and illicit financial flows, including through strengthened good practices on assets return;

(l) *reaffirm* our support for the High-level Committee on South-South Cooperation and call upon the Committee, within existing resources, to continue to engage Member States, in inclusive and transparent consultations, during its regular sessions, for further enhancing South-South and triangular cooperation through peer-learning, sharing knowledge and experiences as well as best practices on a voluntary basis, by convening, inter alia, round table discussions and interactive dialogues, and to present recommendations, as deemed appropriate, to the General Assembly; and

(m) *recognize* that South-South and triangular cooperation represents an opportunity for support to developing countries in designing implementable strategies to strengthen Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) as agents of sustainable development, including sustainable industrialization. Also recognize that South-South and triangular cooperation should enhance the capacity of developing countries to develop strategies for creating an enabling environment for MSMEs to grow and thrive, and to build their capacity to contribute more to decent work for all and sustained economic growth.

25. We encourage developing countries to develop country-led systems to evaluate and assess the quality and impact of South-South and triangular cooperation programs and improve data collection at the national level to promote cooperation in the development of methodologies and statistics to that end, as appropriate, while bearing in mind the specific principles and unique characteristics of South-South cooperation, and encourage all actors to support initiatives for information and data collection,

coordination, dissemination and evaluation of South-South cooperation, upon the request of developing countries.

26. In this regard, we invite interested developing countries to engage in consultations, within the regional commissions, relevant intergovernmental fora on South-South and triangular cooperation, or regional organizations, as appropriate, on non-binding voluntary methodologies, building upon existing experiences, taking into account the specificities and different modalities of South-South cooperation and respecting the diversity within South-South cooperation and within national approaches. In this regard, we take note of the efforts of certain developing countries that have developed methodologies for planning, monitoring, measuring and evaluating South-South and triangular cooperation in their regions on a voluntary basis and acknowledge the interest of some developing countries in order to establish a methodology for accounting and evaluating South-South and triangular cooperation.

27. Stressing the need to reinvigorate the United Nations development system in supporting and promoting South-South cooperation and triangular cooperation, aiming at implementing the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, we:

(a) *note* with appreciation that many United Nations entities have integrated South-South and triangular cooperation into their respective strategic frameworks or work plans and designed innovative South-South and triangular cooperation initiatives to benefit developing countries; and have established or strengthened specialized units and set up programmes with dedicated human and financial resources to advance South-South cooperation and triangular cooperation; in this context, we encourage the United Nations development system to continue incorporating South-South cooperation and triangular cooperation into policies, programmes, strategic frameworks and other planning instruments, including appropriate indicators and methodologies, as agreed by the governing bodies, and provide support for the exchange of good practices on innovative policies and approaches between developing countries, while taking into account the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, the Addis Ababa Action Agenda of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development that sets the global framework for financing sustainable development;

(b) *request* the United Nations development system, within existing resources and with the approval of respective governments, to continue its support to the strengthening of relevant public research institutions, academic institutions, think tanks, knowledge networks and relevant regional or thematic centers of excellence, as institutional spaces for knowledge development and sharing on South-South and triangular cooperation initiatives;

(c) *call* upon the United Nations Development System to assist developing countries, upon request, in building the human and institutional capacity needed to formulate and implement national development policies, strategies and programmes for South-South and triangular cooperation, including the sharing of good practices and experiences from the South, especially with the least developed countries, and in a manner consistent with their mandates and strategic plans, and to encourage the transfer of technologies on mutually agreed terms for the benefit of developing countries to address poverty eradication and sustainable development;

(d) *urge* the United Nations Development System to enhance its assistance to developing countries in seeking for potential cooperation partners in strategic areas identified by developing countries, in line with their national development policies and plans, and to act, upon request and in a manner consistent with the respective mandates of United Nations Development System entities, as enablers of the building of these partnerships;

(e) *request* the United Nations Development System, within existing resources, to enhance, within existing resources, its support to South-South and triangular cooperation inter alia in the areas of promoting capacity-building, regional integration, interregional linkages, infrastructure interconnectivity and the development of national productive capacities through policy coordination, exchanges of knowledge, technological innovations and technology transfer on mutually agreed terms, and in several areas of sustainable development, such as poverty eradication and gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls.

(f) *call* upon all United Nations entities to improve the effectiveness, the coherence and coordination and complementarity of their operational activities in support of South-South and triangular cooperation, in accordance with national development plans, the United Nations Development Assistance Framework (UNDAF) and their respective mandates. In this context we take note of the measures taken to develop the United Nations System-wide Strategy on South-South Cooperation that is being led by the United Nations Office for South-South Cooperation (UNOSSC) through the United Nations Inter-Agency Mechanism for South-South and Triangular Cooperation, while taking into account the ongoing repositioning of the United Nations Development System and keeping Member States fully informed;

(g) *commend* United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) for its many years of hosting the UNOSSC and for its commitment in the promotion of South-South approaches to sustainable development; we call upon UNDP to continue hosting UNOSSC under the oversight of the UNDP Executive Board and call upon the General Assembly to continue providing guidance, and request the Secretary-General to remain engaged on this matter;

(h) *reaffirm* the mandate and the central role of the United Nations Office for South-South Cooperation as the focal point for promoting and facilitating South-South and triangular cooperation for development on a global and United Nations system-wide basis. In this regard, we call on the United Nations Office for South-South Cooperation to continue supporting policy dialogues, programmes, and capacity-building, providing support for Member States to build South-South and triangular cooperation partnerships, as well as enabling the sharing of good practices and experiences;

(i) *recognize* the role of the United Nations Regional Commissions in supporting South-South and triangular cooperation initiatives, in accordance with their respective mandates, and bearing in mind the ongoing United Nations Development System reform, by ongoing activities such as enhancing connectivity, harnessing the human and other resources of relevant knowledge networks, partnerships, technical and research capacity to enhance sub-regional, regional and interregional South-South and triangular cooperation and by continuing their technical, policy and research support for countries of their regions and by cooperating, as appropriate, with United Nations country teams to continue to support the capacity of Member States in areas in which South-South and triangular cooperation could have the highest development impact; and

(j) *urge* the United Nations system to continue its support to regional and subregional organizations for the continued promotion of transparent, sustainable and accountable development practices, and to enable more partnerships, with a view to promoting and scaling up best practices to benefit developing countries.

28. We recognize that triangular cooperation is a modality that builds partnerships and trust, between all partners, and that combines diverse resources and capacities, under the ownership of the requesting developing country, to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals; and that it provides added value by leveraging and mobilizing

additional technical and financial resources, sharing a wider range of experiences, promoting new areas of cooperation, and combining affordable and context-based development solutions under flexible arrangements and agreed shared modalities, we:

(a) *recognize* the support provided by developed countries, international organizations, civil society and other relevant stakeholders to developing countries, upon their request, in improving their expertise and national capacities through triangular cooperation mechanisms, including direct support or cost-sharing arrangements, joint research and development projects, personnel exchange, third-country training programs and support for relevant centers of excellence, as well as by providing the necessary knowledge, experience and resources, so as to support developing countries, in accordance with their national development priorities and strategies. In this context, we encourage these partners to enhance their support to the activities;

(b) *note* the inclusive and diverse nature of triangular cooperation that supports partnerships where each partner can contribute according to its own capacities and means, and call upon establishment and promotion of innovative development solutions and partnerships, involving various stakeholders at different levels, including local and regional authorities, civil society, the private sector, academia, research centers and non-governmental organizations;

(c) *calls* upon Member States for increased use of triangular cooperation, which allows the mobilization of additional resources, knowledge and expertise under the leadership of beneficiary country necessary to deliver on the Sustainable Development Goals and to increase cooperation capacities and to foster strong partnerships to implement the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development;

(d) *recognize* the need to better understand triangular cooperation and to provide more evidence and rigorous information on its scale, scope and impact. We encourage the continuation of information and knowledge sharing and mutual learning from various experiences of triangular cooperation and to make best use of its comparative advantages, sharing knowledge, learning jointly, and co-creating development solutions;

(e) *note* that triangular cooperation offers an adaptable and flexible approach to evolving development challenges, builds on the complementary strengths of different actors to find innovative and cost-effective, flexible context-specific solutions to development challenges, and can arise from a combination of South-South and North-South cooperation, creating partnerships around the pursuit of shared development goals. In this regard, we welcome ongoing efforts to enhance the development effectiveness of triangular cooperation, in order to reduce transaction costs and maximize the impact of triangular cooperation projects, and invite interested developed and developing countries and organizations to further engage in these efforts;

(f) *welcome* the ongoing voluntary efforts to map and document good practices in triangular cooperation, and note that scaling up effective private sector involvement, where appropriate, can multiply the potential of development cooperation and mitigate risks when resources are limited; and in this context, we note voluntary initiatives such as Global Partnership for Effective Development Cooperation, including the Global Partnership Initiative on Effective Triangular Cooperation.

(g) *call* upon all partners to further increase their support to South-South and triangular cooperation initiatives for achieving sustainable development.

29. We acknowledge the need to enhance the effectiveness of South-South and triangular cooperation by continuing to increase their respective mutual

accountability and transparency, in accordance with national development plans and priorities. We also recognize that the impact of South-South cooperation should be assessed with a view to improving, as appropriate, its quality in a results-oriented manner. In this regard, we encourage relevant partners to further enhance development effectiveness of both modalities, and to assess their impact, taking into account, as applicable, the provisions of the Nairobi outcome document of the High-level United Nations Conference on South-South Cooperation and the Addis Ababa Action Agenda of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development.

30. Recognizing that South-South cooperation and triangular cooperation are important complementary modalities for scientific cooperation, innovation, the application of information and communication technology to development and for making the transfer of technologies on mutually agreed terms, more accessible, adaptable and affordable to developing countries, we:

(a) *note* with appreciation the initiatives supported by the Technology Facilitation Mechanism and the Technology Bank for the Least Developed Countries;

(b) *call* upon countries that have established institutions with world-class expertise in science, technology and innovation to consider providing more scholarships and other relevant arrangements that would enable students and young scientists, including women and girls, from countries of the South to gain greater access to such institutions for higher studies and research; we also welcome the measures taken by some regions to grant visa-free entry to the citizens of their respective member states;

(c) *call* for more regional mechanisms to share and strengthen successful science, technology and innovation policies and strategies, to explore new opportunities and to promote cross-border and interregional coordination and collaboration between various science, technology and innovation initiatives, as well as research in scientific areas. More support for the Commission on Science and Technology for Development, the Technology Facilitation Mechanism and for the Technology Bank for Least Developed Countries, especially financial contributions to its operations, and related initiatives can assist developing countries in building human and institutional capacity in science, technology and innovation, including for the better representation of women and girls;

(d) *call* upon Member States and the United Nations Development System to further incorporate South-South cooperation and triangular cooperation in technology facilitation mechanisms at a global and regional level, where appropriate, in order to increase matchmaking between technology needs and solutions, support project implementation, and to assess opportunities for triangular partnership-building; and

(e) *recognize* emerging technological advances that pose new opportunities and challenges, and we encourage Member States, with the support of United Nations entities, to conduct relevant studies and convene dialogues to explore policy options for developing countries to individually and collectively manage challenges and enhance the benefits from the evolution of technologies such as artificial intelligence, big data, robotics and other technological innovations, according to national plans and policies.

31. Recognizing the value of inclusive multi-stakeholder approaches to South-South and triangular cooperation led by Member States whereby governments create enabling environments that mobilize collective action by a growing number of diverse actors in South-South and triangular cooperation, we:

(a) *encourage* Member States and all relevant stakeholders, as appropriate, to establish or strengthen, coordinated mechanisms at sub-national, national, regional and global levels to leverage the expertise and other resources of multi-stakeholder

partnerships to support South-South cooperation and triangular cooperation initiatives towards the attainment of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development;

(b) *encourage* Member States to share relevant knowledge, experience and best practices on public-private partnerships, including risk assessment, and regulatory frameworks, to further contribute to sustainable development, and in this regard, we welcome the ongoing work of the United Nations Development System, including the United Nations Regional Commissions, within existing resources, including studies on possible models of international public-private partnership in support of South-South and triangular cooperation;

(c) *recognize* that the shortage of resources continues to hinder the expansion of South-South and triangular cooperation. We thus underscore the need for further mobilization of resources and to engage, inter-alia, the private sector in South-South and triangular initiatives for sustainable development. We also encourage business practices to be aligned with the sustainable development goals and their targets, in line with national plans and priorities, to contribute to the development and transfer of science, technology and innovation-based solutions on mutually agreed terms, across the South; and

(d) *recognize* that South-South and triangular cooperation has the potential to enhance capacity-building, strengthen human resources and leverage the catalytic role of education and human development in the creation of employment opportunities and encourage developed and developing countries to strengthen South-South and triangular cooperation in the field of education, particularly in the area of science technology, innovation and technical and vocational education to enhance developing countries' capacities to eradicate poverty, reduce inequality and produce more high-value goods and services.

32. We recognize trends towards rapid urbanization in developing countries and call for greater South-South and triangular cooperation initiatives aimed at eradication of poverty in all its forms and dimensions in urban and rural areas through more coordinated policies and sharing of knowledge, solutions and experience, by raising the productivity, resilience and sustainability at the local level, including of urban centers where 68 per cent of the world's population is projected to live by 2050. An important means to this end is sharing of good practices in participatory urban planning and management. We stress the importance of scaling up South-South and triangular cooperation towards decent work for all, local community development and service delivery in rural areas to address the drivers of rural-to-urban migration and related challenges.

33. We recognize the need to mobilize adequate resources from all sources, including public, private, domestic and international, for enhancing South-South and triangular cooperation and, in this context, we commend developing countries that have partnered with United Nations entities and established financing facilities and trust funds to advance South-South cooperation for addressing development challenges. We commend developed countries for their support, to South-South cooperation and engagement in triangular cooperation and encourage them to further scale it up.

34. We welcome contributions to the Pérez-Guerrero Trust Fund for South-South Cooperation and the United Nations Fund for South-South Cooperation and invite all developed and developing countries to keep up and scale up their efforts in this regard. In this context, we encourage UNOSSC to support these efforts by undertaking resource mobilization initiatives to facilitate the effective and efficient use of financial and in-kind resources for the United Nations Fund for South-South Cooperation, in line with the overall UNDP resource mobilization strategy and strategic plans while avoiding fragmentation of financing arrangements. We also

encourage UNOSSC and relevant United Nations entities, upon request, to facilitate developing countries to access South-South cooperation funds.

35. We welcome the progress made since Monterrey Consensus on Financing for Development to develop and mobilize support for innovative sources and mechanisms of additional financing, and we encourage countries to further explore new sources and instruments of innovative financing for funding the Goals at the global, regional, national and subnational levels, as appropriate.

36. We call upon the Secretary-General to report, on the implementation of this outcome document, in his existing reports to the General Assembly and the High-Level Committee on South-South Cooperation, as appropriate.

37. We convey our appreciation and gratitude to the Republic of Argentina and its people for the excellent organization and hosting of the Second United Nations High-level Conference on South-South Cooperation and the warm hospitality extended to us in the city of Buenos Aires.

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**Resolution 2\***  
**Expression of thanks to the people and Government of Argentina**

*The second High-level United Nations Conference on South-South Cooperation,*  
*Having met* in Buenos Aires from 20 to 22 March 2019, at the invitation of the Government of Argentina,

1. *Expresses its deep appreciation* to the President of Argentina, His Excellency Mauricio Macri, for his outstanding contribution, as President of the second High-level United Nations Conference on South-South Cooperation, to the successful outcome of the Conference;

2. *Expresses its profound gratitude* to the Government of Argentina for having made it possible for the Conference to be held in Argentina and for the excellent facilities, staff and services so graciously placed at its disposal;

3. *Requests* the Government of Argentina to convey to the people of Argentina and to the city of Buenos Aires the gratitude of the Conference for the hospitality and warm welcome extended to the participants.

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\* Adopted at the 5th plenary meeting, on 22 March 2019; for the discussion, see chap. VII.

**Resolution 3\***  
**Credentials of representatives to the second High-level  
United Nations Conference on South-South Cooperation**

*The second High-level United Nations Conference on South-South Cooperation,*

*Having considered* the report of the Credentials Committee and the recommendation contained therein,<sup>1</sup>

*Approves* the report of the Credentials Committee.

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\* Adopted at the 5th plenary meeting, on 22 March; for the discussion, see chap. V.

<sup>1</sup> [A/CONF.235/5](#), para. 19.

## Chapter II

### Organization of work and other organizational matters

#### A. Date and venue of the Conference

1. The second High-level United Nations Conference on South-South Cooperation was held in Buenos Aires from 20 to 22 March 2019, pursuant to General Assembly resolutions [71/244](#) and [71/318](#) and decisions 72/544 and 73/543. During that period, the Conference held five plenary meetings and three interactive panel discussions.

#### B. Attendance

2. The following 145 States and the European Union were represented at the Conference: Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Botswana, Brazil, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cabo Verde, Cameroon, Canada, Chile, China, Colombia, Congo, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czechia, Democratic Republic of Congo, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Estonia, Eswatini, Ethiopia, European Union, Fiji, Finland, France, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Guatemala, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, Holy See, Honduras, Hungary, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Ireland, Israel, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kiribati, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libya, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Romania, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, Somalia, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, State of Palestine, Sudan, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, United States of America, Uruguay, Vanuatu, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

3. The following intergovernmental organizations and other entities were represented: African Union; African, Caribbean and Pacific Group of States; Andean Development Corporation; Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN); Caribbean Community (CARICOM); Central American Integration System; Commonwealth Secretariat; Fund for the Development of the Indigenous Peoples of Latin America and the Caribbean; Ibero-American Conference; Inter-American Institute for Cooperation on Agriculture; International Chamber of Commerce; International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies; International Organization for Migration (IOM); International Organization of la Francophonie (OIF); Islamic Development Bank (IDB); Latin American and Caribbean Economic System (SELA); League of Arab States (LAS); Fund for International Development of the Organization of the Petroleum Exporting Countries; Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD); Organization of American States (OAS); Organization of Islamic Cooperation (OIC); Pacific Islands Development Forum; Partners in Population and Development; South Centre; and Southern Common Market (MERCOSUR).

4. The following specialized agencies and related organizations were represented: Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO); International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA); International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD); International Labour Organization (ILO); International Maritime Organization (IMO); International Telecommunication Union (ITU); United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO); Universal Postal Union (UPU); World Bank; and World Health Organization (WHO).

5. The following entities of the United Nations system were represented: United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD); Economic Commission for Africa (ECA); Economic Commission for Europe (ECE); Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC); Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP); Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR); United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF); United Nations Development Programme (UNDP); United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO); United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP); United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO); United Nations Global Compact; International Trade Centre (ITC); United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs; United Nations Office For Disaster Risk Reduction; Office of the High Representative for Least Developed Countries, Landlocked Developing Countries and Small Island Developing States; United Nations Office for Project Services (UNOPS); Office of Counter-Terrorism; United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA); Technology Bank for the Least Developed Countries; United Nations Volunteers (UNV); and World Food Programme (WFP).

6. A large number of non-governmental organizations and other stakeholders also attended the Conference.

7. The list of participants is contained in document [A/CONF.235/INF/2](#).

### **C. Opening of the Conference**

8. The Conference was opened on 20 March 2019 by the Secretary-General of the United Nations, in his capacity as temporary President, in accordance with rule 17 of the provisional rules of procedure.

9. At the formal opening of the Conference, during its 1st plenary meeting, on 20 March, statements were made by the President of the Conference, Mauricio Macri; the President of the General Assembly, María Fernanda Espinosa Garcés; the Secretary-General, António Guterres; the President of the Economic and Social Council, Inga Rhonda King; the Administrator of the United Nations Development Programme, Achim Steiner; the President-designate of the High-level Committee on South-South Cooperation, Adonia Ayebare; the Assistant Secretary-General of the Islamic Chamber of Commerce, Industry and Agriculture of Pakistan, Attiya Nawazish Ali Khan, representing the private sector; and the Executive Director of Reality of Aid Africa Network, Vitalice Meja, representing civil society.

### **D. Election of the President and other officers of the Conference**

10. At its 1st plenary meeting, on 20 March, the Conference elected its officers, pursuant to rule 6 of its rules of procedure.

#### **President of the Conference**

11. The President of Argentina, Mauricio Macri, was elected by acclamation as President of the Conference.

**Vice-Presidents**

12. The following Vice-Presidents were elected by acclamation:

African States: Guinea and Morocco

Asia-Pacific States: Bangladesh and Islamic Republic of Iran

Eastern European States: Estonia and Lithuania

Latin American and Caribbean States: Brazil

Western European and other States: Ireland

**Vice-President ex officio**

13. Argentina was elected ex officio Vice-President of the Conference by acclamation.

**Rapporteur-General**

14. Sven Jürgenson (Estonia) was elected by acclamation as Rapporteur-General of the Conference.

**E. Adoption of the rules of procedure**

15. At the same meeting, the Conference adopted its rules of procedure (see [A/CONF.235/2](#)).

**F. Adoption of the agenda**

16. Also at the same meeting, the Conference adopted the following agenda on the basis of the provisional agenda ([A/CONF.235/1](#)):

1. Opening of the Conference.
2. Election of the President.
3. Adoption of the rules of procedure.
4. Adoption of the agenda.
5. Election of officers other than the President.
6. Organization of work.
7. Credentials of representatives to the Conference:
  - (a) Appointment of members of the Credentials Committee;
  - (b) Report of the Credentials Committee.
8. General debate on the role of South-South cooperation and the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development: challenges and opportunities.
9. Interactive panel discussions:
  - (a) Panel 1: Comparative advantages and opportunities of South-South cooperation and sharing of experiences, best practices and success stories;
  - (b) Panel 2: Challenges and the strengthening of the institutional framework of South-South cooperation and triangular cooperation;

- (c) Panel 3: Scaling up the means of implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development in support of South-South cooperation and triangular cooperation;
  - (d) Summaries by the Co-Chairs.
10. Adoption of the outcome document of the Conference.
  11. Adoption of the report of the Conference.
  12. Closing of the Conference.

## **G. Organization of work**

17. Also at the 1st plenary meeting, the Conference approved the organization of work as contained in document [A/CONF.235/4](#).

18. At its 5th plenary meeting, on 22 March, the Conference was reminded that agenda items 5 and 6, which had been considered at a previous meeting, still remained open. As there were no other matters to be discussed under the items, the Conference decided to conclude its consideration of agenda items 5 and 6.

## **H. Credentials of representatives to the Conference**

19. At its 1st plenary meeting, on 20 March, the Conference, in accordance with rule 4 of its rules of procedure, appointed the following States as members of the Credentials Committee, on the basis of the composition of the Credentials Committee of the General Assembly at its seventy-third session: Antigua and Barbuda, Chile, China, Finland, Ghana, Russian Federation, Sierra Leone and United States of America.

## **I. Documentation**

20. The list of documents before the Conference is contained in the annex to the present report.

## Chapter III

### **General debate on the role of South-South cooperation and the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development: challenges and opportunities**

21. At its 1st plenary meeting, on 20 March, under agenda item 8, the Conference heard addresses by the President of Uruguay, Tabaré Vázquez; the Head of State of Eswatini, King Mswati III; the President of Paraguay, Mario Abdo Benítez; and the President of Estonia, Kersti Kaljulaid.

22. At the same meeting, the Conference heard statements by the Vice-Premier of China, Hu Chunhua; the First Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Foreign Affairs of Serbia, Ivica Dačić; the Minister for Foreign Affairs of the State of Palestine, Riad Al-Malki (on behalf of the Group of 77 and China and in his national capacity); the Minister for Foreign Affairs and Worship of Costa Rica, Manuel Ventura Robles (on behalf of the Like-minded Group of Supporters of Middle-Income Countries and in his national capacity); the Minister for Foreign Affairs and Foreign Trade of Barbados, Jerome Xavier Walcott; the Minister for Foreign Affairs of Peru, Néstor Popolizio Bardales; the Minister for Foreign Affairs of Malaysia, Dato' Saifuddin bin Abdullah; the Minister for Foreign Affairs and Cooperation of Mozambique, José Condungua António Pacheco; the Minister for Foreign Affairs and Human Mobility of Ecuador, José Valencia; the Minister of National Development Planning of Indonesia, Bambang Brodjonegoro; the Minister of Investment and International Cooperation of Egypt, Sahar Ahmed Mohamed Abdelmoneim Nasr; the Minister of Financial Services, Trade and Industry and Immigration of the Bahamas, Theodore Brent Symonette; the Minister of State for Foreign Affairs of Qatar, Soltan bin Saad Al-Muraikhi; and the Minister for Foreign Affairs of Maldives, Abdulla Shahid.

23. At its 2nd plenary meeting, on 20 March, the Conference heard statements by the Deputy Prime Minister for Strategic Partnership of Romania, Ana Birchall; the Commissioner for International Cooperation and Development of the European Union, Neven Mimica; the Secretary of Socioeconomic Planning, National Economic and Development Authority of the Philippines, Ernesto Pernia; the Minister for Foreign Affairs of Azerbaijan, Elmar Maharram oglu Mammadyarov; the Minister for Foreign Affairs and Communities and Minister of Defence of Cabo Verde, Luis Filipe Lopes Tavares; the Minister of Foreign Trade and Investment of Cuba, Rodrigo Malmierca Díaz; the Minister for Foreign Affairs of Georgia, David Zalkaliani; the Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Dominican Republic, Miguel Vargas Maldonado; the Minister for Presidential Affairs, Governance and Public Information of Botswana, Nonfo Molefhi; the Minister of State for Economic and Social Development of Angola, Manuel José Nunes Júnior; the Minister for Cooperation and African Integration of Guinea, Diene Keita; the Minister of Food, Agriculture and Light Industry of Mongolia, Ulaan Chultem; the Minister for Foreign Affairs of Bangladesh, Abul Kalam Abdul Momen; the Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Plurinational State of Bolivia, Diego Pary Rodríguez; the Union Minister for International Cooperation of Myanmar, Kyaw Tin; the Minister of Economy, Planning and Regional Development of Cameroon, Alamine Ousmane Mey; the Minister for Foreign Affairs of Nepal, Pradeep Kumar Gyawali; the Vice Minister for Multilateral Affairs and Human Rights of Mexico, Martha Delgado Peralta; the Vice Minister for Foreign Affairs of Norway, Jens Frølich Holte; and the Vice Minister for Foreign Affairs of Guatemala, Jairo Estrada, (also on behalf of the Countries of the Central American Region).

24. At its 3rd plenary meeting, on 20 March, the Conference heard statements by the Vice Minister for Foreign Affairs of Armenia, Artak Apitonian; the Vice Minister

for Foreign Affairs of Viet Nam, Son Thanh Bui; the Minister of State, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Ministry of Social and Family Development of Singapore, Sam Tan Chin Siong; the Vice Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Lao People's Democratic Republic, Thongphane Savanphet; the Secretary of State for International Cooperation and for Ibero-America and the Caribbean of Spain, Juan Pablo de Laiglesia y González de Peredo; the Vice Minister for Foreign Affairs of Liberia, Elias Shoniyin; the Vice Minister for International Relations and Cooperation of South Africa, Luwellyn Landers; the Secretary for Foreign Trade and Financial Policy of Brazil, Norberto Moretti; the Vice Minister for Foreign Affairs of Turkey, Sedat Önal; the Principal Secretary, State Department for Planning, National Treasury of Kenya, Julius Muia; the Vice Minister for Foreign Affairs and East African Cooperation of the United Republic of Tanzania, Damas Daniel Ndumbaro; and the Vice Minister for Foreign Affairs and Regional Integration of Ghana, Charles Owiredo.

25. At the same meeting, the Conference heard statements by the representatives of the United States of America, the Syrian Arab Republic, Solomon Islands, the Islamic Republic of Iran, Yemen, Andorra and Namibia.

26. At its 4th plenary meeting, on 21 March, the Conference heard statements by the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs and Cooperation of Portugal, Teresa Ribeiro; the State Secretary and Special Envoy of Ireland to the Conference, David Cooney; and the Minister delegate to the Minister for Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation, in charge of African Cooperation of Morocco, Mohcine Jazouli.

27. At the same meeting, the Conference heard statements by the representatives of Thailand (on behalf of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations and in its national capacity), Israel, Djibouti, Tunisia, India, Eritrea, the Holy See, Panama, Jamaica, Japan, Burundi, El Salvador, Kuwait, Algeria, the Russian Federation, Antigua and Barbuda, the Republic of Korea, Albania, Bahrain, the United Arab Emirates, Honduras, Pakistan, Libya, Canada, Burkina Faso, Nicaragua and the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela.

28. At its 5th plenary meeting, on 22 March, the Conference heard a statement by the Minister for Foreign Affairs, International Cooperation and Gambians Abroad of the Gambia, Mamadou Tangara.

29. At the same meeting, the Conference heard statements by the representatives of Fiji, Italy, Switzerland, Ethiopia, Guyana, Zimbabwe, the Sudan, Chile, Nigeria, Colombia, Belize, Senegal, Rwanda and Kiribati.

30. Also at the same meeting, the Conference heard statements by the representatives of IOM, SELA, the Fund for the Development of Indigenous Peoples of Latin America and the Caribbean, OECD, the International Chamber of Commerce, the Pacific Islands Development Forum, and the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies.

31. Also at the 5th plenary meeting, statements were made by the representatives of FAO (also on behalf of IFAD and WFP); ILO; IAEA; ECLAC; ESCAP; UNV; ECE; OHCHR (Special Rapporteur on the right to development of the Human Rights Council); the United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs; UNESCO; the United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction; ITC; and the Office of Counter-Terrorism.

32. At the same meeting, the Conference heard statements by the representatives of the following non-governmental organizations and other stakeholders: International Trade Union Confederation; South-South Cooperation Research and Policy Centre (Articulação SUL); Oxfam International; and Economic and Social Consultative Forum.

## Chapter IV

### Report on the interactive panel discussions

33. At the 1st plenary meeting, on 20 March, the President announced the appointment of the following Co-Chairs for the interactive panel discussions of the Conference: Minister for Foreign Affairs of Bangladesh, Abul Kalam Abdul Momen, and Minister of Investment and International Cooperation of Egypt, Sahar Ahmed Mohamed Abdelmoneim Nasr, for the first interactive panel discussion; Minister of National Development Planning of Indonesia, Bambang Brodjonegoro, and Vice Minister of Human Mobility of Ecuador, Santiago Chávez, for the second interactive panel discussion; and Permanent Representative of Canada to the United Nations, Marc-André Blanchard, and Minister for African Cooperation and Integration of Guinea, Diene Keita, for the third interactive panel discussion.

34. At the 5th plenary meeting, on 22 March, the President invited the Co-Chairs of the three interactive panel discussions to present the summaries of the respective discussions to the Conference. The President also reminded the Conference that the summaries of the three interactive panel discussions would be contained in the report of the Conference.

#### A. Panel 1: Comparative advantages and opportunities of South-South cooperation and sharing of experiences, best practices and success stories

35. On 21 March, the Co-Chair (Bangladesh) of the first interactive panel discussion, opened the discussion and made a statement. The Co-Chair (Egypt) also made a statement.

36. The following panellists made presentations: Vice Minister of Agriculture and Rural Affairs of China, Dongyu Qu; Deputy President of the Turkish Cooperation and Coordination Agency, Rahman Nurdun; Director of the OECD Development Co-operation Directorate, Jorge Moreira da Silva; Vice President of IFAD, Cornelia Richter; and Director of Advocacy and Campaigns, Oxfam Intermón, Enrique Maruri.

37. An interactive discussion ensued, during which statements were made by the representatives of Indonesia, Nigeria, Guinea, Jordan, South Africa, Canada, Cuba, Brazil and Sierra Leone.

38. Statements were made by the representatives of the following intergovernmental organizations and other entities: Fund for the Development of the Indigenous Peoples of Latin America and the Caribbean; OECD; SELA; and Commonwealth Secretariat.

39. Statements were also made by the representatives of the following specialized agencies, funds and programmes and other entities of the United Nations system: ECE; Office of Counter-Terrorism; OHCHR; UNEP; ILO; and FAO.

40. Statements were also made by the representatives of the following non-governmental organizations and other stakeholders: South American Institute of Government in Health and International Trade Union Confederation.

41. The panellists responded to comments made and questions raised during the interactive discussion.

42. The Permanent Representative of Bangladesh to the United Nations, on behalf of the Co-Chair (Bangladesh), reflected on the views expressed. The Co-Chair (Egypt) delivered closing remarks and declared the first interactive panel discussion closed.

**Summary**

43. At the 5th plenary meeting, on 22 March, the Co-Chair (Egypt) of the first panel, presented the following points and recommendations, which had emerged from the discussions, to the Conference:

- (a) (a) South-South cooperation instilled a sense of ownership, contributed to a faster learning process and reduced the cost of doing business. It also benefited consumers in markets of the global South and had an impact on net job creation;
- (b) (b) South-South cooperation initiatives included the establishment of South-South think tanks, the compilation of success stories, the production of digital capacity catalogues and the promotion of peer learning;
- (c) (c) South-South cooperation partners were providers, facilitators and beneficiaries of development cooperation. They led and developed the scope of South-South initiatives according to the principles of South-South cooperation;
- (d) (d) The transformative, innovative and adaptive capacity of people in rural and urban areas of the global South was a major comparative advantage and opportunity;
- (b) (e) Key areas where South-South cooperation could have an impact included trade; climate-resilient pathways and disaster risk reduction; infrastructure connectivity; digital economy; investment in human capital; education and health; youth and gender mainstreaming; agriculture; rural transformation and opening of markets for farm products; humanitarian crisis; support in a post-conflict context; combating violent extremism and terrorism; and science and technology. It would also be important to promote e-commerce, digitization of agriculture, and rural economy for the benefit of small farmers;
- (f) (f) There was a need to create interregional and global frameworks in order to provide a platform for sharing best practices;
- (g) (g) South-South partners could continue to promote mutual respect on equal footing, mutual benefits and win-win outcomes and to advocate synergy and cooperation for the benefit of all players;
- (h) (h) Several United Nations agencies stated that South-South cooperation was a central pillar of their work. Participants encouraged agencies to play a greater role in facilitating South-South and triangular cooperation. The need to promote more exchanges between both South-South and North-South partners was stressed;
- (i) (i) Participants highlighted the importance of developing a methodology to measure the impact of South-South cooperation and gather empirical evidence in order to mobilize additional resources for achieving the ambitious 2030 Agenda. It was also necessary to develop a system for monitoring through joint efforts hosted at the United Nations level;
- (j) (j) Participants could learn from initiatives to improve effectiveness, including the Global Partnership for Effective Development Cooperation; the Global Partnership Initiative on Effective Triangular Co-operation; and Total Official Support for Sustainable Development, a new methodology developed by OECD and developing countries to capture development cooperation. Some participants suggested that South-South cooperation needed to be designed and analysed through a “right to development lens”;

- (k) Participants highlighted the need to share new methodologies in order to engage the private sector in areas including blended financing and social impact investment. It was also necessary to learn from international financial institutions;
- (l) To leverage the transformative role of South-South cooperation, participants stressed the need to enhance access to funding and the involvement of more civil society organizations, as well as to connect more with social organizations and transformative processes and strengthen knowledge sharing. They also emphasized the need to promote the diversification of funding and facilitate interaction and follow-up on implementation at all levels of governance;
- (m) To harness the full potential of South-South cooperation, it was necessary to expand women's leadership in decision-making and policy debates;
- (n) Participants highlighted the need to ensure accountability, combat corruption and develop statistics and a composite database in order to capture the flow of assistance from the South;
- (o) Many participants shared their experiences, including initiatives relating to knowledge and technology transfer in agriculture, environmental performance review, combating violent extremism and humanitarian assistance in crisis situations.

## **B. Panel 2: Challenges and the strengthening of the institutional framework of South-South cooperation and triangular cooperation**

44. On 21 March, the Co-Chair (Indonesia) of the second interactive panel discussion opened the discussion and made a statement. The Co-Chair (Ecuador) also made a statement.
45. The following panellists made presentations: Executive Director of the Brazilian Cooperation Agency, Ruy Pereira; Executive Director of the Peruvian Cooperation Agency, Antonio González Norris; Secretary-General of the Ibero-American Conference, Rebeca Grynspan; United Nations High Representative for the Least Developed Countries, Landlocked Developing Countries and Small Island Developing States, Fekitamoeloa Katoa 'Utoikamanu; and, Director General at the Research and Information System for Developing Countries, Sachin Chaturvedi.
46. An interactive discussion ensued, during which statements were made by the representatives of Indonesia, Morocco, Bangladesh and Guinea.
47. Statements were made by the representatives of the following intergovernmental organizations and other entities: SELA and Commonwealth Secretariat.
48. A statement was also made by the Special Rapporteur on the right to development of the Human Rights Council, representing OHCHR in its capacity as an entity of the United Nations system.
49. The panellists responded to comments made and questions raised during the interactive discussion.
50. The Co-Chair (Ecuador) delivered closing remarks and declared the second interactive panel discussion closed.

**Summary**

51. At the 5th plenary meeting, on 22 March, the Co-Chair (Ecuador) of the second panel, presented the following points and recommendations, which had emerged from the discussions, to the Conference:

(a) Developing countries had the prerogative to design and validate measurements of South-South cooperation on a voluntary basis and as appropriate. The qualitative measurement of processes and results was crucial to reinforce the idea that cooperation was central to any form and model of development. Private sector participation in developing countries should include performance indicators to measure job creation, tax increases, technology transfer, environmental sustainability and respect for local norms;

(b) Several panellists shared information about positive initiatives that had been adopted by their respective cooperation agencies and were aimed at advancing South-South and triangular cooperation and promoting sustainable development. It was noted that cooperation institutions were defined by their vision, objectives and values;

(c) Recent decades had seen an increase in South-South cooperation on trade, technology transfer and development finance, and in approaches to global climate change, health and migration, including in vulnerable small island States, where sea level rise was not an abstract issue but a real threat. There was an urgent need to establish an institutional framework at the national, regional and global levels in order to ensure the rapid expansion of South-South cooperation;

(d) With its multiple actors and broad reach, South-South cooperation had a philosophy that was essentially one of inclusion. However, there was also a need for plural institutional arrangements. In that context, South-South cooperation could be reviewed in global and regional reports on institutional frameworks and, in particular, in the high-level political forum on sustainable development;

(e) It was important to integrate or strengthen South-South cooperation in national development plans and identify programmes related to development, economic governance and good governance issues. It was also important to recognize the value of non-State actors and their potential contribution to achieving the Goals through crowdfunding and blended finance;

(f) The current institutional framework had been unable to address the challenges facing South-South cooperation, and the Buenos Aires Plan of Action had not been fully implemented, although there had been significant progress. United Nations entities should fully integrate South-South cooperation by appointing a focal point to coordinate work with country teams. It would also be useful to establish a Southern forum that included finance, foreign affairs and development ministers;

(g) It was recommended that the institutional map of South-South cooperation management at the regional and international levels be strengthened and that measures be taken to ensure that the related data continued to be preserved not only by developed donor countries but also by developing countries;

(h) Participants emphasized that the Goals were key to fostering a new development model in which South-South cooperation was a crucial element, but a number of challenges needed to be addressed in that area, in particular regarding the creation of an enabling environment;

(i) In sum, the panel highlighted the importance of South-South and triangular cooperation, emphasizing that the current priority was to integrate the growing challenges at the global level, fully incorporating the commitments required to

achieve the 2030 Agenda and integrating South-South and triangular cooperation with the Goals. That end could be achieved, inter alia, through greater and better systematization, conceptualization, methodology, training and participation. In that way, consensus could also be reached and cooperation adequately adapted to the different development approaches and processes, integrating new actors and using technological tools from a more human perspective in which solidarity prevailed.

### **C. Panel 3: Scaling up the means of implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development in support of South-South cooperation and triangular cooperation**

52. On 21 March, the Co-Chair (Canada) of the third interactive panel discussion, opened the discussion and made a statement. The Co-Chair (Guinea), also made a statement.

53. The following panellists made presentations: Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs and Cooperation of Portugal, Teresa Ribeiro; Executive Director of the South Centre, Carlos María Correa; Administrator of the United Nations Development Programme; and Director of the BRICS Policy Center, Paulo Esteves.

54. An interactive discussion ensued, during which statements were made by the representatives of Bangladesh, Costa Rica, Indonesia, Pakistan, the Philippines, South Africa, the Russian Federation, Morocco, Botswana, Brazil, the United Republic of Tanzania and Honduras.

55. Statements were made by the representatives of the following intergovernmental organizations and other entities: SELA; African, Caribbean and Pacific Group of States; and MERCOSUR.

56. Statements were also made by the representatives of the following specialized agencies, funds and programmes and other entities of the United Nations system: IMO and UNV.

57. The panellists responded to comments made and questions raised during the interactive discussion.

58. The Co-Chair (Guinea) delivered closing remarks and declared the third interactive panel discussion closed.

#### **Summary**

59. At the 5th plenary, on 22 March, the Co-Chair (Guinea) of the third panel presented the following points and recommendations, which had emerged from the discussions, to the Conference:

(a) There was a need to tap into the enormous potential of South-South and triangular cooperation aimed at ensuring that no one was left behind. It was vital to mobilize additional resources in order to accelerate the implementation of the 2030 Agenda. Access to technology was essential for the economic empowerment of developing countries and the facilitation of their development process, especially through the implementation of policies to help them to enter the fourth industrial revolution. In that regard, South-South cooperation could play a significant role in the transfer of technology among the countries of the South;

(b) It was emphasized that South-South cooperation was an important instrument with which developing countries could serve their collective self-reliance;

(c) Participants also stressed the importance of the involvement of all actors in establishing mechanisms to follow up on the results of the declaration of the

Conference, and of a common venue to facilitate agreement among Southern and Northern partners agree on common objectives while respecting the diversity of methodologies of work;

(d) There was a need to find ways to incentivize national and international financial systems in order to invest in the future and make it easier for the private sector to invest in sustainable development;

(e) It was important to develop capacities for widening the tax base through initiatives like Tax Inspectors Without Borders, and to leverage investments in technology advancements;

(f) Participants also stressed the need to ensure coherent private sector engagement with a view to leveraging its comparative advantages, including through South-South and triangular cooperation, and to track results and demonstrate the impact of private sector involvement in the implementation of the Goals;

(g) Participants underlined the necessity of harnessing the potential of South-South cooperation and of enhancing the means of implementation of the 2030 Agenda in support of that cooperation. In that connection, they stressed that development partners must fulfill their official development assistance commitments;

(h) Speakers highlighted that triangular support should be aimed at capacity development of the South for economic and environmental sustainability, and that the United Nations System should further mainstream South-South and triangular cooperation in its work and support schemes;

(i) Participants emphasized that the Goals were key to fostering a new development model in which South-South cooperation was a crucial element. However, several challenges must be addressed in that regard, in particular relating to the creation of an enabling environment;

(j) The United Nations system, and the United Nations Office for South-South Cooperation in particular, should implement programmes on trilateral arrangements based on experiences within the United Nations System and partner countries;

(k) In addition to the efforts to promote technical cooperation among developing countries, more needed to be done to address other means of implementation, such as trade, investment, ethical business practices by the private sector, and tax reforms, as well as to tackle major challenges such as illicit financial flows;

(l) Participants highlighted the importance of a new system-wide strategy on South-South cooperation, which should aim to maintain robust South-South and triangular cooperation in the international development agenda.

## Chapter V

### Report of the Credentials Committee

60. Rule 4 of the rules of procedure for the second High-level United Nations Conference on South-South Cooperation provides that:

A Credentials Committee of nine members shall be appointed at the beginning of the Conference. Its composition shall be based on that of the Credentials Committee of the General Assembly of the United Nations at its seventy-third session. It shall examine the credentials of representatives and report to the Conference without delay.

61. At its first plenary meeting, the Conference, in accordance with rule 4 of its rules of procedure, appointed a Credentials Committee consisting of the following States: Antigua and Barbuda, Chile, China, Finland, Ghana, Russian Federation, Sierra Leone and United States of America.

62. The Credentials Committee held one meeting, on 21 March 2019.

63. At the meeting on 21 March 2019, Anthony Liverpool (Antigua and Barbuda) was elected Chair of the Credentials Committee.

64. The Credentials Committee had before it a memorandum by the Secretary-General dated 21 March 2019 concerning the credentials of representatives of States and of the European Union. A representative of the Office of Legal Affairs of the Secretariat made a statement related to the memorandum.

65. As indicated in paragraph 1 of the memorandum of the Secretary-General, as updated by the statement of the representative of the Office of Legal Affairs, formal credentials of representatives to the Conference, in the form required under rule 3 of the rules of procedure of the Conference, had been submitted to the Secretary-General at the time of the meeting of the Committee by the European Union and the following 49 States: Andorra, Angola, Austria, Bahamas, Bahrain, Barbados, Belize, Botswana, Brazil, Bulgaria, Burundi, Cameroon, China, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czechia, Ecuador, Estonia, Eswatini, Finland, Ghana, Greece, Guinea, Guyana, Holy See, Hungary, Indonesia, Italy, Japan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Malaysia, Mexico, Oman, Pakistan, Peru, Philippines, Romania, Russian Federation, Slovakia, South Africa, Sweden, Thailand, Tunisia, Uganda, United States of America, Uruguay, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of) and Viet Nam.

66. As indicated in paragraph 2 of the memorandum of the Secretary-General, as updated by the statement of the representative of the Office of the Legal Affairs, information concerning the appointment of representatives of States to the Conference had been communicated to the Secretary-General at the time of the meeting of the Committee by means of a facsimile communication from the Head of State or Government or the Minister for Foreign Affairs or by means of a letter or note verbale from the Ministry, Embassy or Mission concerned by the following 110 States: Albania, Algeria, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Azerbaijan, Bangladesh, Belarus, Belgium, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Burkina Faso, Cabo Verde, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Fiji, France, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Guatemala, Haiti, Honduras, India, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Ireland, Israel, Jamaica, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kiribati, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lebanon, Liberia, Libya, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Maldives, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Norway, Palau, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea,

Rwanda, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Sao Tome and Principe, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, Somalia, Spain, Sri Lanka, State of Palestine, Sudan, Suriname, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Timor-Leste, Togo, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, Vanuatu, Yemen, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

67. As indicated in paragraph 3 of the memorandum, the Secretary-General had not received formal credentials or the information referred to in paragraph 7 above from the following 36 States invited to participate in the Conference: Afghanistan, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, Central African Republic, Chad, Côte d'Ivoire, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Dominica, Gabon, Grenada, Guinea-Bissau, Iceland, Iraq, Latvia, Lesotho, Liechtenstein, Mali, Malta, Marshall Islands, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Montenegro, Nauru, Niger, North Macedonia, Republic of Moldova, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Samoa, San Marino, South Sudan, Tajikistan, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tuvalu and Uzbekistan.

68. The Chair of the Credentials Committee recommended that the Committee accept the credentials of the representatives of the States listed in paragraphs 1 and 2 of the memorandum, as updated, on the understanding that formal credentials for representatives of the States referred to in paragraph 2 of the memorandum, as updated, as well as for representatives of the States referred to in paragraph 3 of the memorandum, where applicable, would be communicated to the Secretary-General as soon as possible.

69. The Committee adopted the following draft resolution without a vote:

*The Credentials Committee,*

*Having examined* the credentials of the representatives to the second High-level United Nations Conference on South-South Cooperation,

*Accepts* the credentials of the representatives of the States and of the European Union referred to in paragraphs 1 and 2 of the memorandum of the Secretary-General, as updated.

70. The representative of the United States of America dissociated from the adoption of the Committee's resolution, solely with respect to the acceptance of the credentials submitted by the Maduro regime on behalf of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela.

71. The representative of Finland joined the consensus, but stated that the presidential elections of last May in Venezuela were neither free, fair, nor credible and that Finland fully supported the National Assembly, which was the democratic legitimate body of Venezuela. The representative stressed that the multidimensional crises on Venezuela could only be solved by political, democratic and peaceful means, and renewed the call for the restoration of democracy through free, transparent and credible presidential elections.

72. The representative of Chile stated that Chile recognized Interim President Juan Guaidó as the only legitimate President of Venezuela and dissociated from the adoption of the Committee's resolution, solely with respect to the acceptance of the credentials submitted by the Maduro régime on behalf of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela.

73. The representative of the Russian Federation stated that the credentials issued by the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela were issued in full accordance with the rules of procedure of the Conference and, after recalling that the credentials of the delegation of Venezuela to the seventy-third session of the General Assembly were

approved by the Assembly, noted that the Russian Federation was opposed to politicizing the work of the Conference and the Committee.

74. The representative of China joined the consensus and noted that the General Assembly at its seventy-third session had already taken a decision on the representatives of Venezuela and that China was opposed to discussions on the representation of Venezuela at the Conference.

75. The Committee decided, without a vote, to recommend to the Conference the adoption of a draft resolution approving the report of the Committee.

#### **Action taken by the Conference**

76. At its 5th plenary meeting, on 22 March, the Conference considered the report of the Credentials Committee (A/CONF.235/5) as introduced by the Chair of the Committee (Antigua and Barbuda), who also informed participants that, since the formal meeting of the Committee, credentials in due form had been received from El Salvador, Guatemala, Myanmar, Serbia, Singapore and Lesotho.

77. The Conference adopted the draft resolution recommended by the Credentials Committee in its report and accepted the additional credentials mentioned by the Chair of the Credentials Committee (for the text, see chap. I, resolution 3).

78. After the adoption of the resolution, statements were made by the representatives of the European Union, Peru (also speaking on behalf of the Lima Group, (composed of Argentina, Brazil, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Guatemala, Honduras, Panama, Paraguay and Peru), as well as Australia, the Dominican Republic, Georgia, Israel, the Republic of Korea, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the United States of America), Czechia, the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, the Russian Federation, Cuba, China, the Plurinational State of Bolivia, Nicaragua, the Islamic Republic of Iran, Japan, South Africa and the Syrian Arab Republic.

## Chapter VI

### Adoption of the outcome document of the Conference

79. At its 5th plenary meeting, on 22 March, the Conference had before it a draft resolution on the outcome document of the Conference, entitled “Buenos Aires outcome document of the second High-level United Nations Conference on South-South Cooperation”, submitted by the President of the Conference ([A/CONF.235/L.1](#)).

80. At the same meeting, the Secretary of the Conference made a statement, in the course of which she orally corrected the Buenos Aires outcome document of the second High-level United Nations Conference on South-South Cooperation as contained in document [A/CONF.235/3](#).

81. Before the adoption of the resolution, a statement was made by the representative of the State of Palestine, on behalf of the Group of 77 and China.

82. Also at the 5th plenary meeting, the Conference adopted draft resolution [A/CONF.235/L.1](#), thereby adopting the Buenos Aires outcome document of the second High-level United Nations Conference on South-South Cooperation, as orally corrected (for the text, see chap. I, resolution 1).

83. After the adoption of the resolution, a statement was made by the representative of the United States of America.

## Chapter VII

### Adoption of the report of the Conference

84. At the 5th plenary meeting, on 22 March, the Conference adopted draft resolution [A/CONF.235/L.2](#), entitled “Expression of thanks to the people and Government of Argentina”, as introduced by the State of Palestine, on behalf of the Group of 77 and China (for the text, see chap. I, resolution 2).

85. At the same meeting, the Rapporteur-General of the Conference (Estonia), made a statement, in the course of which he introduced the draft report of the Conference ([A/CONF.235/L.3](#)).

86. Also at the same meeting, the Conference adopted the draft report and authorized the Rapporteur-General to finalize it.

## **Chapter VIII**

### **Closure of the Conference**

87. At its 5th plenary meeting, on 22 March, the Secretary-General of the Conference and Administrator of the United Nations Development Programme made a statement.

88. At the same meeting, the President of the seventy-third session of the General Assembly, made a statement.

89. Also at the same meeting, the Minister for Foreign Affairs and Worship of Argentina, Jorge Faurie, in his capacity as *ex officio* Vice-President of the Conference, made a statement and declared closed the second High-level United Nations Conference on South-South Cooperation.

## Annex

**List of documents**

<i>Symbol</i>	<i>Agenda item</i>	<i>Title or description</i>
<a href="#">A/CONF.235/1</a>	4	Provisional agenda
<a href="#">A/CONF.235/2</a>	3	Provisional rules of procedure
<a href="#">A/CONF.235/3*</a>	10	Buenos Aires outcome document of the second High-level United Nations Conference on South-South Cooperation
<a href="#">A/CONF.235/4</a>	6	Organizational and procedural matters
<a href="#">A/CONF.235/5</a>	7 (b)	Report of the Credentials Committee
<a href="#">A/CONF.235/6</a>	11	Report of the second High-level United Nations Conference on South-South Cooperation
<a href="#">A/CONF.235/L.1</a>	10	Draft resolution: Buenos Aires outcome document of the second High-level United Nations Conference on South-South Cooperation
<a href="#">A/CONF.235/L.2</a>	11	Draft resolution: Expression of thanks to the people and Government of Argentina
<a href="#">A/CONF.235/L.3</a>	11	Draft report of the second High-level United Nations Conference on South-South Cooperation
<a href="#">A/CONF.235/INF/1</a>		Information for participants
<a href="#">A/CONF.235/INF/2</a>		List of participants

