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**Technical cooperation among developing countries**

## **Report on the implementation of South-South cooperation\***

### **Introduction**

1. The present report has been prepared by the Special Unit for South-South Cooperation to elaborate on the goals of South-South cooperation as requested by the Board at its first regular session in January 2004.<sup>1</sup> It may be worth noting that the Special Unit is in the process of formulating the third cooperation framework for South-South cooperation (2005-2007), for submission to the Board at its second regular session in September 2004. This report is not intended to be exhaustive, but a brief overview designed to elicit ideas and guidance from the Board prior to finalizing the forthcoming cooperation framework. The paper also highlights opportunities for enhancing South-South cooperation based on previous lessons learned and recommendations made to the Special Unit in recent months.

### **The broad goals of South-South cooperation**

2. South-South cooperation involves interaction between two or more developing countries that pursue their individual or collective development goals through cooperative exchanges of knowledge, skills, resources and technical know-how. Support to South-South exchanges by UNDP and the United Nations system in general dates back to the 1970s following the adoption of the Buenos Aires Plan of Action at the United Nations Conference on Technical Cooperation among Developing Countries (TCDC). Many resolutions and decisions have since been

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<sup>1</sup> The High-level Committee on the Review of South-South Cooperation decided in its decision 13/1 to change the name of the Special Unit for Technical Cooperation Among Developing Countries to the Special Unit for South-South Cooperation. Likewise, in its resolution 58/220, the General Assembly, endorsing the decision by the High-level Committee, decided to change the name of the committee to the High-level Committee on the Review of South-South Cooperation.

\*The collection of data required to present the Executive Board with the most current information has delayed submission of the present document.