



**STATEMENT BY AMBASSADOR CLAUDE HELLER
PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF MEXICO
TO THE UNITED NATIONS**

ON BEHALF OF THE RIO GROUP

**IN THE REVISION OF CHAPTER III IN THE PREPARATION OF
THE FOLLOW-UP CONFERENCE TO REVIEW THE
IMPLEMENTATION OF THE MONTERREY CONSENSUS**

MAY 19th, 2008

(check against delivery)

**Intervention of Ambassador Claude Heller, Permanent Representative of Mexico
as Secretary Pro-Tempore of the Group of Rio in the revision of Chapter III in
preparation of the Follow-up Conference to Review the Implementation of the
Monterrey Consensus**

19 May 2008

Mrs. Co-Facilitators, I take the floor in order to share the thoughts of the member countries of the G-Rio in relation to this consultation process.

In this last meeting we wish to congratulate the Co-Facilitators for their great efforts in building substantive, open, inclusive and transparent discussions. Also, we express our appreciation for the support received by the President of the General Assembly, which has been key to the success of this stage of the preparatory process.

The delegation of Chile which will take the floor afterwards, in its capacity as Coordinator of the Working Group on Financing for development of the G-Rio, to refer to the substance of today's meeting, "International Trade as an engine for development". However, it is relevant for the member countries of the Group to take advantage of this occasion in order to also refer to the process that will lead us towards Doha.

First, the open dialogue we have had during the last months demonstrates the need to continue fostering a multisectoral approach, which goes beyond the inherent thematic compartmentalization of issues and the division of responsibilities among the different national ministries and international institutions in charge of the various topics included in the Monterrey Consensus. From our point of view we must continue to promote a vision that ensures the consistency of policies impacting on the financing of development.

Another important element, which is a cornerstone of the process, is that Monterrey was able to build a consensus on important and complex issues between both developing and developed countries. We hope to continue advancing in that light, and in that regard we will continue proposing measures to promote transparency, dialogue and trust amongst participants. For example, in addition to reiterating the imperative need for donor countries to fulfill their commitments regarding Official Development Assistance, it might be useful to identify the domestic obstacles they face in meeting those commitments (the role of public opinion and the importance to sensitize the political class of donor countries on development matters, to name a few).

In a similar vein, the G-Rio countries consider that the institutional mechanism for following-up the Consensus provides a privileged space for dialogue among the main players involved with the financing of development. From our point of view the objective is not to duplicate or go beyond the individual mandates of the organisms involved, but to ensure the "coherence" of policies for development. In this logic, we are reflecting on different options to strengthen the existing monitoring mechanisms,

and look forward to sharing with the full Membership the results of that reflection as soon as possible.

With regards to the specific topics of interest to members of the G-Rio, allow me to bring to the attention of the Membership once again the substantive documents that we have been submitting for each of the chapters of the Consensus.

Finally, Mrs. Co-Facilitators, I wish to reiterate the readiness of the Group of Rio to continue participating in this process in the most constructive way possible, as well as the trust we have built around your skilful leadership in the process.

Thank you.