QUN/500/2011

The Permanent Mission of the State of Qatar to the United Nations presents its compliments to the United Nations’ Department of Economic and Social Affairs, and with reference to the note verbale (ref. DESA-11/0021) dated 20 January 2011 regarding General Assembly resolution 64/94 of 8 December 2010 entitled “The United Nations in global governance”, has the honour to attach herewith the views of the State of Qatar on this issue.

The Permanent Mission of the State of Qatar to the United Nations avails itself of this opportunity to renew to United Nations’ Department of Economic and Social Affairs the assurances of its highest consideration.

New York 5 May 2011

Department of Economic and Social Affairs
Financing for Development Office
Two United Nations Plaza
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Attachment to the note verbale QUN/500/2011 dated 05 May 2011

Position of the State of Qatar in the role of the United Nations in global governance

While we appreciate the efforts exerted by the members of the G-20 and other non-multilateral bodies in order to improve global governance, their undertakings will still need global legitimacy, since the overwhelming majority of countries have a say in global economic and financial issues.

We would like to stress that any development agenda should be in line with the work being done by the United Nations and its multilateral bodies to address the scourge of poverty and income gap across countries and within countries. On the other hand, any development agenda should take into account the relevance of South-South cooperation and Triangular Cooperation as key driven forces for the achievement of strong and sustainable economic growth for all.

In the same vein, we think, on the basis of its universal membership and legitimacy, the United Nations is well positioned to participate in the global reform process aimed at improving and strengthening the functioning of the global financial system and architecture.

Bearing in mind that the UN Secretary General attends the G-20 on behalf of the whole UN membership, we believe he can play a central role in pushing developed countries to take the interests and concern of developing and least-developed countries into consideration. The first step in that regard should be the resumption of negotiations of the Doha Development Round, which are stalled since 2008.

Flexibility is needed from developed countries to succeed in the negotiations of the round when resumed again, including by agreeing on a Special and differential treatment for developing countries.

There are shared but differentiated responsibilities between developed countries, and on the other hand, developing countries. This fact should be observed and taken into account during future negotiations. Developed countries should also refrain from economic protectionism and unjust tariffs.
Bearing in mind that resolving the deadlock in the negotiations in Doha Development Round will benefit the economies of south and north countries alike, including during the aftermath of the global crises, we believe that developed countries should refrain from providing enormous support to their national actors and private sector in the form of agricultural subsidies. This will constitute an important confidence-building step.