



THE PRESIDENT  
OF THE  
GENERAL ASSEMBLY

22 August 2017

Excellency,

Further to my letter dated 18 August and following the passing of the silence procedure, I have the honor to forward herewith the final draft resolution entitled 'High Level United Nations Conference on South-South Cooperation'.

The General Assembly will take action on the draft resolution on Monday, 28 August 2017. Member States are advised to consult the UN Journal for further updates.

Please accept, Excellency, the assurances of my highest consideration.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Peter Thomson', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Peter Thomson

To All Permanent Representatives  
and Permanent Observers of the United Nations  
New York



# General Assembly

16 August 2017

Original: English

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**Seventy-first session**

Agenda item 13

**Final draft resolution (16 August 2017)****High-level United Nations Conference on South-South Cooperation***The General Assembly,*

*Reaffirming* its resolution 33/134 of 19 December 1978, in which it endorsed the Buenos Aires Plan of Action for Promoting and Implementing Technical Cooperation among Developing Countries,<sup>1</sup>

*Reaffirming* also its resolution 64/222 of 21 December 2009, in which it endorsed the Nairobi outcome document of the High-level United Nations Conference on South-South Cooperation,

*Recalling* its resolutions 71/244 of 19 December 2016, in which it decided to convene a High-level United Nations Conference on South-South Cooperation on the fortieth anniversary of the adoption of the Buenos Aires Plan of Action for Promoting and Implementing Technical Cooperation among Developing Countries, no later than the first half of 2019,

*Stressing also* that South-South cooperation is not a substitute for, but rather a complement to, North-South cooperation,

*Taking note* of the growing importance of South-South Cooperation and recognizing the increased role undertaken by the United Nations to support economic and technical cooperation activities among developing countries as well as other forms of Triangular Cooperation,

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<sup>1</sup> *Report of the United Nations Conference on Technical Cooperation among Developing Countries, Buenos Aires, 30 August-12 September 1978* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.78.II.A.11 and corrigendum), chap. I.



*Stressing* that South-South cooperation, as an important element of international cooperation for development, offers viable opportunities for developing countries in their individual and collective pursuit of sustained economic growth and sustainable development,

*Recalling* the United Nations resolutions relevant to South-South cooperation and the outcomes of the major United Nations conferences and summits in the economic, social and related fields, acknowledging the Havana Programme of Action adopted by the first South Summit,<sup>2</sup> the Marrakesh Framework for the Implementation of South-South Cooperation<sup>3</sup> and the Doha Plan of Action adopted by the Second South Summit<sup>4</sup>,

1. *Decides* that the High-level United Nations Conference on South-South Cooperation:

- (a) Will be held in Buenos Aires from 20 to 22 March 2019;
- (b) Will be held at the highest possible level including Heads of State/Government;
- (c) Will consist of plenary meeting on 20 March from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. and from 3 p.m. to 6 p.m., a plenary meeting on 21 March from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m., interactive panel discussions on the sub-themes will be held in parallel with the plenary meeting from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. and from 3 to 6 p.m., and a closing plenary meeting, on 22 March from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.;
- (d) Will result in concise, focused, forward-looking and action-oriented intergovernmentally agreed outcome; and
- (e) Will also result in summaries of the meetings by the Chairperson.

2. *Requests* the Secretary-General, to provide all necessary assistance to the preparatory process and the Conference, including preparing a comprehensive report, consistent with the overarching theme of the Conference no later than August 2018; reviewing the trends in South-South cooperation and triangular cooperation, reviewing also the progress made by the international community, in particular the United Nations, in supporting and promoting such cooperation and identifying new opportunities, as well as challenges and suggestions to overcome them,

3. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to prepare a background note, by the end of January 2018, including proposals for the overarching theme of the conference taking into account the important role of South-South and Triangular Cooperation and the implementation of 2030 Agenda, and sub-themes for the interactive panel discussions, for the consideration of Member States,

<sup>2</sup> A/55/74, annex II.

<sup>3</sup> A/58/683, annex II.

<sup>4</sup> A/60/111, annex II.

4. *Requests* the United Nations Office for South-South Cooperation to continue to provide the necessary substantive and technical support to the preparatory process for the Conference,

5. *Encourages* Member States and their partners, including non-governmental organizations, to consider preparing reports on South-South and triangular cooperation for the purpose of the Conference, on a voluntary basis, taking into account the themes of the Conference and the outcomes of regional, sub regional or sectoral United Nations meetings prior to the Conference,

6. *Requests* the President of the General Assembly to initiate by the end of November 2018 informal intergovernmental negotiations with all Member States in an open, inclusive and transparent manner, commencing at an appropriate date to enable sufficient discussion, with a view to producing a draft outcome document prior to the Conference by February 2019,

7. *Decides* that the intergovernmental conference and its preparatory process shall be open to participation by all States Members of the United Nations and all members of specialized agencies that have observer status with the General Assembly.

8. *Invites* other relevant stakeholders, including organizations and bodies of the United Nations, intergovernmental organizations, international financial institutions and non-governmental organizations, civil society organizations, academic institutions, the scientific community, the private sector and philanthropic organizations, whose work is relevant to the Conference, to participate as observers in the Conference and its preparatory meeting, and:

(a) *Invites* non-governmental organizations that are in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council to register with the Secretariat in order to participate in the intergovernmental Conference;

(b) *Requests* the President of the General Assembly to draw up a list of representatives of other relevant non-governmental organizations, civil society organizations, academic institutions, the scientific community, the private sector and philanthropic organizations, whose work is relevant to the Conference, who may participate in the Conference and its preparatory meeting as observers, taking into account the principles of transparency and of equitable geographical representation, and submit the proposed list to Member States for their consideration on a non-objection basis and bring the list to the attention of the General Assembly<sup>5</sup>."

9. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to proceed with the organizational arrangements for the Conference in cooperation with the Government of Argentina, and further requests the Secretary-General to provide a note on the organizational aspects of the Conference;

<sup>5</sup> The list will include proposed as well as final names. The general basis of any objections, if requested by one or more States Members of the United Nations or State members of the specialized agencies, will be made known to the Office of the President of the General Assembly and the requester.

10. *Encourages* all Member States and other relevant stakeholders that are in a position to do so to consider supporting the participation of developing countries, in particular the least developed countries, including by making voluntary contributions through the United Nations Fund for South-South Cooperation, in order to ensure the broadest possible participation;

11. *Recalls* paragraph 30 of its resolution 71/244, in which it decided that all costs relating to the Conference and its preparations shall be financed through extra budgetary resources,

12. *Welcomes* the generous offer by the Government of Argentina to host and assume all the costs of the Conference,

13. *Decides* to postpone the twentieth session of the High-level Committee, which is to be held in 2018, to one convenient day in June 2019.

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