



# BRAZIL

## **Second Committee**

### **Item 22 - Globalization & Interdependence**

**18 October 2012**

*(Please check against delivery)*

Mr. Chairman,

At the outset, allow me to thank the Secretary-General for presenting report A/67/274 on “International Challenges for Sustainable Development: global policy coherence and the role of the United Nations”.

My delegation fully aligns itself with the statement delivered by Algeria, on behalf of the G77 and China and would like to make the following additional remarks in its national capacity.

Brazil is pleased to participate in a debate that stresses the urgent need to address the imbalances of globalization in today’s world. As set out by the Secretary-General’s report, these imbalances are deeply embedded in the current institutional structure of global governance dealing with international trade, technology and financial matters.

Globalization is not a neutral process and the international community must work in coordination, based on the principles of equity, sovereign equality, interdependence, common interest, cooperation and solidarity among all States, in order to correct all those international institutional frameworks that are biased against the development of developing countries. This is the reason why my country believes that the resolution on a new international economic order still carries a powerful message, whose validity is even more pressing in these days of economic disarray and social unrest.

As the world grapples with economic stagnation and the upcoming recession, ongoing concerns over food security and energy prices, famine and poverty eradication, as well as the challenges posed by climate change, there seems to be increasing disquiet about the balance of costs and benefits of globalization. Rather than reverting to protectionism and xenophobia, we believe it is possible to curb the excesses and address the shortcomings of globalization, while preserving its dynamism and vitality. Globalization can produce unprecedented opportunities, but it also raises considerable risks. It is crucial therefore to carefully manage globalization, taking into particular account the needs and vulnerabilities of developing countries.

Mr. Chairman,

The report presented by the Secretary-General allows us to draw worth-noting conclusions and points to the urgency of the present global juncture.

First of all, the tremendous expansion of global trade we witnessed in recent decades has been promoted by an across-the-board reduction of tariff barriers for industrial products and further erosion of the policy space available for developing countries to overcome their heavy reliance on the commodity sector. Trade liberalization and its binding obligations for industrial products ended up curbing or prohibiting government policies targeted to supporting local firms and industrialization. Nowadays, developing countries cannot resort to tools historically associated with industrialization, neither benefit from the liberalization of agricultural and commodity goods. Unfortunately, the developing countries have long been denied their part of the bargain.

Secondly, the WTO Agreement on Trade-Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights (TRIPS) raised the costs associated with acquisition and transfer of technology, therefore negatively impacting developing economies. Intellectual property rights cannot work as an incentive for technological innovation, if countries have not yet put in place the research and technological infrastructure that innovation requires. It is worrying to note that the limited flexibilities available to developing countries under TRIPS have proven to be insufficient as regards development and public health.

And thirdly, the deregulation discourse and practice of the last decades set the stage for the financial crisis and short-term capital volatility, which subsequently contributed to spreading economic uncertainty. It is still difficult to assess the real scope and time length of this financial crisis. It is certain though that durable solutions cannot be reached without a greater voice and vote of the developing world in the global financial bodies. Brazil truly believes that the G20 can offer a positive contribution for coordinated action towards the strengthening and recovery of the world economy. New financial schemes for South-South cooperation, as the South Bank and a similar financial institution of the BRICS, will also in time play a vital role in this regard. Brazil very much supports an enlarged and strengthened role for the United Nations, in coordination with the IMF and the World Bank in ensuring the political and policy cohesion in economic and financial matters.

Mr. Chairman,

Brazil welcomes the introduction of the subject of international migration in the agenda of the II Committee, as our country has been and still is a destination for immigrants as well as a source of the 3 million Brazilians living abroad. International migration was a decisive element in shaping our unique national identity, based on tolerance and respect for human diversity and richness. Historically, international migration has played a key role in bringing in new energy and creativity to Brazil's economic dynamism.

Brazil understands that overcoming the challenges of international migration is crucial to promote development, be it in the country of origin or destination. The most significant outcome from major international conferences remains to be, as stated by the Secretary General in his report 67/254, the chapter ten of the Programme of Action of the International Conferences on Population and Development, held in Cairo in 1994. The annual Global Forum on Migration and Development is also a decisive platform to advance the rights and interests of migrants.

Brazil looks forward to discussing with all stake-holders the preparation of the forthcoming 2013 High Level Dialogue on International Migration and Development and welcomes the recommendation made by the Secretary General in his report 67/254.

Mr. Chairman,

Brazil will put to the consideration of the Second Committee a draft resolution based on the principles promoted by the Global Initiative on Fiscal Transparency. We hope other delegations could join Brazil and other co-sponsors in supporting this Initiative in the coming weeks.

Thank you.