12 December 2018

Excellency,

I have the honour to transmit herewith a letter dated 12 December 2018 from Her Excellency, Ms. Audra Plepyté, Permanent Representative of Lithuania to the United Nations, and His Excellency, Mr. Adonia Ayebare, Permanent Representative of Uganda to the United Nations, Co-facilitators to lead the informal intergovernmental negotiations with all Member States, with a view to producing a draft outcome document prior to the Second High-level United Nations Conference on South-South Cooperation.

The Co-facilitators are circulating the zero draft of the outcome document of the said High-level Conference and inviting Member States to provide feedback in writing by Friday, 21 December 2018.

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

María Fernanda Espinosa Garcés

All Permanent Representatives and
Permanent Observers to the United Nations
New York
Excellency,

We have the honor to address you in our capacity as Co-facilitators to lead the informal intergovernmental negotiations with all Member States in a view to producing the outcome document prior holding the High-level conference in Buenos Aires, Argentina, on 20-22 of March 2019.

We would like to take this opportunity to express our sincere gratitude to the Member States for their constructive participation and useful suggestions during the first informal consultations held on 27 November 2018. Guided by the views expressed by the Member States at the above-mentioned informal consultations, we are pleased to submit the zero draft of the outcome document of the Second High-level United Nations Conference on South-South Cooperation.

We would like to ask the Member States to submit in writing their feedback on the text of the zero draft to the e-mail address inputstobapa40@unoscc.org by 21 December 2018. Depending on the feedback received, the Co-facilitators will revise the zero draft and present to the Member States the revised text of the document for consideration.

Please be informed that the first round of negotiations is planned for the mid of January. Regarding the exact time and venue of the meeting, the Member States will be informed accordingly. We remain at your disposal to provide any clarification on the process.

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

Yours sincerely,

H.E. Audra Plepytė
Permanent Representative of the Republic of Lithuania

H.E. Adonia Ayebare
Permanent Representative of the Republic of Uganda

Permanent Mission of the Republic of Lithuania to the United Nations
Permanent Mission of the Republic of Uganda to the United Nations
New York, 12 December 2018
Preamble
1. We, heads of delegations and high representatives of Governments, gathered in Buenos Aires, from 20 to 22 March 2019 at the Second United Nations High Level Conference on South-South Cooperation, on the occasion of the fortieth anniversary of the 1978 United Nations Conference on Technical Cooperation among Developing Countries, which issued the Buenos Aires Plan of Action for Promoting and Implementing Technical Cooperation among Developing Countries recognize the goal of the Conference to strengthen and further invigorate South-South and triangular cooperation.

2. We recall and renew our commitment to the implementation of 2030 Agenda, the Addis Ababa Action Agenda and the outcomes of all other major United Nations conferences and summits in the economic, social and related fields, and all General Assembly resolutions relevant to South-South and triangular cooperation. We reaffirm resolution 33/134 of 19 December 1978, endorsing the Buenos Aires Plan of Action, which constitutes a major milestone in the evolution of South-South and triangular cooperation and resolution 66/222, endorsing the Nairobi outcome document of the High-level United Nations Conference on South-South Cooperation.

3. We recognize that South-South and triangular cooperation contributes to the promotion of peaceful and inclusive societies and to the creation of effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels, and reaffirm that good governance, rule of law, human rights, fundamental freedoms, achieving gender equality, empowering all women and girls, equal access to fair justice systems, and measures to combat corruption and curb illicit financial flows will be integral to our efforts.

4. We note that in the past few years, South-South cooperation has expanded its scope, facilitated regional, subregional and interregional integration, provided innovative approaches for collective actions and strengthened its contribution to sustainable development in its three dimensions. South-South cooperation has achieved a prominent level of institutionalization, moving into the mainstream of policymaking at the national, regional and global levels. There has been an expansion of the number of actors, including subnational entities and non-State actors such as civil society, private sector, volunteer groups, and academia. Multilateral institutions, including those newly established, are financing South-South cooperation initiatives. The United Nations system has strengthened its institutional support for South-South cooperation towards the implementation of the 2030 Agenda, including through mainstreaming South-South cooperation and triangular cooperation into the policy frameworks and corporate strategies of UN Agencies.

5. We acknowledge that many developing countries continue to face serious challenges for the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and we recognize the need to enhance local capacity in developing countries by supporting enhanced local capabilities, institutions, expertise, human resources and national systems, where appropriate, in contribution to national development priorities, at the request of developing countries.

6. We stress that South-South cooperation, as an important element of international cooperation for development, contributes to the implementation of the 2030 Agenda and to fulfilling our pledge to leave no one behind by offering viable opportunities for developing countries in their individual and collective pursuit of sustained economic growth and sustainable development to eradicate poverty in all its forms and dimensions.

7. We recognize the importance and unique history and particularities of South-South cooperation, and we reaffirm our view of South-South cooperation as a manifestation of solidarity among peoples and countries of the South, born out of shared experiences and sympathies and based on their common objectives, that contributes to their national well-being, their national and collective self-reliance and the attainment of the Sustainable Development Goals. South-South cooperation enables developing countries to play a more active role in international policy and decision-making processes, in support of their efforts to achieve sustainable development.
8. We acknowledge that developing countries tend to share common views on national development strategies and priorities when faced with similar development challenges. The proximity of experience is therefore a key catalyst in promoting capacity development in developing countries and, in this regard, accentuates the principles of South-South cooperation. It is important to enhance South-South cooperation in order to fulfil its full development potential.

9. We stress that South-South cooperation is a complement to, and not a substitute for, North-South cooperation and constitutes a partnership among equals based on solidarity, not to be equated to Official Development Assistance. South-South cooperation and its agenda must be set by countries of the South and should continue to be guided by the principles of respect for national sovereignty, national ownership and independence, equality, non-conditionality, non-interference in domestic affairs and mutual benefit.

10. We recognize that South-South cooperation takes different and evolving forms, including the sharing of knowledge and experience, training, technology transfer, financial and monetary cooperation and in-kind contributions, and encompasses a diversity of modalities such as technical cooperation and exchange of knowledge including but not limited to trade, investment, infrastructure development and connectivity as well as coordination of policies and development strategies among developing countries.

11. We underline that triangular cooperation can bring an added value to bilateral and multilateral cooperation by mobilizing additional resources, bundling experiences and combining affordable and context-based development solutions from Southern partners with the strengths of other partners, including but not limited to developed countries and multilateral organizations.

12. We recognize the value of the increasing support provided by developed countries, international organizations, civil society and other stakeholders to developing countries, upon their request, in improving their expertise and national capacities through triangular cooperation mechanisms, including direct support or cost-sharing arrangements, joint research and development projects, third-country training programmes and support for South-South centres of excellence, as well as by providing the necessary knowledge, experience and resources, so as to support other developing countries, in accordance with their national development priorities and strategies.

13. We reaffirm the key role of the United Nations, including its funds, programmes, specialized agencies and regional commissions, in supporting and promoting South-South cooperation and triangular cooperation while reiterating that every country has the primary responsibility for its own development.

14. We recognize the increasing role inclusive partnerships play in South-South cooperation and triangular cooperation, acting as an instrument for generating high impact in the field and ensuring sustainability of actions and, while acknowledging that governments have the principal role of coordinating and leading development efforts, call upon all actors in development cooperation to be meaningfully engaged through suitable legal and institutional frameworks, in line with SDG’s 17.6 and 17.17.

15. We welcome efforts by multilateral, regional and bilateral financial and development institutions to increase financial resources to promote South-South and triangular cooperation.

16. We value the contribution of non-governmental organizations, the private sector, civil society, academia, think tanks and other actors in South-South cooperation and triangular cooperation multi-stakeholder approaches to meeting development challenges and objectives of developing countries and implementing the 2030 Agenda, in line with national development strategies and plans.

17. We acknowledge the need to gather and analyze the data and information on the contribution of South-South and triangular cooperation to the implementation of the 2030 Agenda in efforts to facilitate greater sharing of knowledge and experiences as well as best practices in the attainment of sustainable development.

Enhancement of South-South cooperation and triangular cooperation

18. In order to step up South-South cooperation, in accordance with its principles, and to bolster support for national and regional development efforts towards achieving the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, we:
recognize that certain national policies and strategies have enabled many developing countries to lift millions of their citizens out of extreme poverty and we invite such countries to share their knowledge and experience in order to help other countries intensify efforts towards the eradication of poverty in all its dimensions through South-South cooperation and triangular cooperation;

(b) call upon developing countries and all relevant stakeholders to consider the integrated nature of the 2030 Agenda by reflecting the environmental, economic and social dimensions of sustainability in all South-South cooperation policies and activities to ensure a more holistic and coherent approach to sustainable development;

(c) note the recent establishment of new institutions including regional and global banks for the advancement of South-South economic cooperation and call upon relevant Member States to ensure that these institutions are run in a manner consistent with the objectives of the 2030 Agenda and related international agreements;

(d) encourage developing countries to formulate or strengthen national policies to advance South-South cooperation and triangular cooperation and to enhance the capacity of national coordination mechanisms, as appropriate, in order to improve South-South policy coordination, the dissemination of relevant information, the sharing of lessons and good practices, and the replication or adaptation of such practices, including through the voluntary exchange of experience and expertise according to national policies and priorities for development;

(e) emphasize the need for developing countries to promote, through South-South and triangular cooperation, access to and the transfer of technology on concessional, preferential and mutually agreed terms; we also encourage broader technological developments, including the acquisition of capabilities for the management of technology and information networks that are demand-driven and inclusive of technology producers and users as well as those working on infrastructure and human resources development;

(f) welcome the rise of South-South flows of renewable technologies and call upon developing countries to adopt policies to facilitate widespread diffusion of such technologies and to foster the creation of green jobs across the South.

(g) commend the establishment of frameworks for intraregional and interregional South-South cooperation as well as the summits that set agendas and strategies that have enhanced policy coordination and launched joint programmes to strengthen South-South trade, investment, infrastructure development, connectivity and capacity development.

(h) call upon the Southern centres of excellence to strengthen intraregional and interregional South-South platforms and the exchange of experience among sub-regional and regional groupings for the purpose of building more partnerships and cross-border collaborative frameworks and programmes to scale up best practices with the potential to benefit many developing countries;

(i) commend Southern professionals who increasingly organize themselves into think tanks, communities of practice, networks and expert groups to foster South-South experiential learning and other exchanges and call upon United Nations organizations to engage these professionals and their organizations more effectively in efforts to support developing countries to improve human and institutional capacities to achieve the global 2030 Agenda and regional development goals such as Agenda 2063 in Africa.

(k) recognize with appreciation the developed countries that play a pivotal role in triangular cooperation and invite such countries, international organizations and multilateral institutions to enhance their support for South-South cooperation and triangular cooperation, including for knowledge sharing, capacity-building, and in the application of science, technology and innovation to sustainable development, on mutually agreed terms, to contribute to the implementation of SDG 17.6 and SDG 17.9 in addressing the development challenges faced by developing countries;

(l) invite Member States to conduct country-led and inclusive reviews of the contribution of South-South and triangular cooperation to the implementation of the 2030 Agenda, at the national and sub-national levels as a basis for voluntary, state-led reviews by the High-level Committee on South-South Cooperation;
(m) recognize and reaffirm our support for the High-level Committee on South-South Cooperation and call upon the President and Bureau of the High-level Committee to increasingly engage Member States and all relevant stakeholders in inclusive and transparent consultations on the making and follow-up to its decisions, by convening regular roundtable discussions focused on South-South and triangular cooperation in strategic areas such as infrastructure development, food security, youth unemployment, women’s empowerment, gender equality, good governance, resilience to natural disasters, regional integration, cross-border and interregional initiatives, South-South flows of trade, investment and finance with the participation of Member States as well relevant experts, development practitioners, representatives of Southern centres of excellence, think tanks, trust funds and financing facilities as well as United Nations entities and other stakeholders, including civil society and the private sector.

United Nations support to South-South cooperation and triangular cooperation

19. Stressing the need to reinvigorate the United Nations development system in supporting and promoting South-South cooperation, we:

Mainstreaming via policy and programming frameworks
(a) note with appreciation that in efforts to eradicate poverty, many United Nations entities have integrated South-South and triangular cooperation into their respective strategic frameworks or work plans and designed innovative South-South and triangular cooperation initiatives to benefit least developed countries, small island developing states, land locked developing countries as well as low-income and middle-income countries; in addition, many United Nations organizations have established and/or strengthen specialized units and set up programmes with dedicated human and financial resources to advance South-South cooperation and triangular cooperation; in this context, we encourage the United Nations development system to continue mainstreaming South-South cooperation and triangular cooperation into policies, programmes, strategic frameworks and other planning instruments, with appropriate indicators and methodologies, and provide support for the exchange of good practices on innovative policies and approaches between developing countries, while taking into account the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, including the Addis Ababa Action Agenda of the Third International Conference on Finance for Development (AAAA) that sets the global framework for financing sustainable development.

Research, analysis and policy development
(b) request the United Nations system to continue their support for policy development, coordination and dialogues through research and analysis and support to think tanks and research institutions in the developing countries to advance thought leadership and evidence-based policy making on South-South and triangular cooperation in efforts to meet the sustainable development goals. This should be implemented through the strengthening of knowledge networks and Southern regional or thematic centers of excellence as institutional spaces for knowledge development and sharing.

Knowledge sharing and capacity development
(c) call upon the United Nations Development System to assist developing countries in building the human and institutional capacity needed to formulate and implement national development policies, strategies and programmes for South-South cooperation, including the sharing of good practices and experiences from the South, especially with the least developed countries, upon request and in a manner consistent with their mandates and strategic plans, and to encourage the transfer of technologies on mutually agreed terms for the benefit of developing countries to address poverty eradication and sustainable development;

Partnership-building and innovative financing
(d) urge the United Nations Development System to enhance its assistance to developing countries towards the identification of potential cooperation partners in strategic areas such as industry, trade, investment, technology transfer and natural resources management;

Innovation systems
(e) encourage the United Nations development system to increasingly support South-South and triangular cooperation initiatives to harness the potential of science, technology and innovation including through the strengthening of
innovation systems to accelerate the achievement of the SDGs in developing countries while at the same time mitigating the risks of new technologies.

South-South trade and investment

(f) recognize the significant contribution of dynamic South-South trade to sustainable development, and in this regard reaffirm the importance of strengthening South-South trade cooperation arrangements, including the Global System of Trade Preferences among Developing Countries (GSTP). We thus call upon the relevant United Nations organizations to continue to support developing countries in deepening and enlarging South-South trade integration and cooperation arrangements.

Coherence and coordination of UN support to South-South and triangular cooperation

(g) call upon the United Nations funds, programmes and specialized agencies to improve the coherence and coordination of their operational activities in support of South-South and triangular cooperation, in accordance with national development plans and their respective mandates, and to produce practical results, taking into account South-South characteristics and approaches; in this context we welcome the measures taken to develop the United Nations System-wide Strategy on South-South Cooperation that is being led by the United Nations Office for South-South Cooperation (UNOSSC) through the United Nations Inter-Agency Mechanism for South-South and Triangular Cooperation.

(h) reaffirm the mandate of the United Nations for South-South Cooperation, hosted by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), as a separate entity and coordinator for promoting and facilitating South-South cooperation and triangular cooperation for development on a global and United Nations system-wide basis. In this regard, we call on the United Nations Office for South-South Cooperation to continue supporting policy dialogues and partnerships in South-South and triangular cooperation, as well as the facilitation of the sharing of good practices and experiences, including through the Global South-South Development Expo.

(i) commend the UNDP for its many years of hosting the United Nations Office for South-South Cooperation (UNOSSC) and for its outstanding role in the promotion of South-South approaches to sustainable development; we call upon UNDP to continue hosting UNOSSC and request the Secretary-General to ensure the implementation of the measures he has recommended in his recent reports on strengthening the UNOSSC.

(k) recognize the important role played by UNOSSC in coordinating, promoting and mainstreaming South-South and triangular cooperation on a regional, global and United Nations system-wide basis and welcome its support to Member States and other partners in enhancing and expanding their South-South cooperation efforts. In this regard, we encourage the strengthening of interagency mechanisms, coordinated by UNOSSC to further mainstream and boost joint support to south-south and triangular cooperation initiatives;

(l) welcome the progress made by the South-South and Triangular Cooperation Task Team of the United Nations Sustainable Development Group and call upon the Chair of the United Nations Sustainable Development Group to give the UNOSSC the opportunity to be represented regularly in strategic and coordination mechanisms of the United Nations Sustainable Development Group when matters affecting South-South and triangular cooperation are being discussed, with a view to strengthening the coordination and facilitation role of UNOSSC;

Support for regional integration

(m) commend regional commissions for their support for South-South initiatives that help nurture multilateralism in their respective regions and call these commissions to play a more effective role in supporting and promoting South-South and triangular initiatives by harnessing the human and other resources of relevant knowledge networks, partnerships, technical and research capacity to enhance sub-regional, regional and interregional South-South cooperation and by strengthening their technical, policy and research support for countries of their regions and by

---

1 In addition, the UNCTAD report “Forging a Path Beyond Borders: The Global South” that was launched during the EXPO 2018 will include narrative and non-binding substantive recommendations that the UNOSSC may want to consider. (UNCTAD)

2 Frontier technologies includes the Internet of Things (IoT), Artificial Intelligence, robotics, biotechnology, nanotechnology, blockchain technologies, and big data
cooperating, as appropriate, with United Nations country teams in reinforcing the capacity of member States in areas in which South-South and triangular cooperation could have the highest development impact;

(n) urge the United Nations system to continue its support to regional and subregional organizations, enabling their member countries to build more partnerships and cross-border frameworks, with a view to promoting and scaling up best practices with the potential to benefit many developing countries;

**Science, technology and innovation**

20. Recognizing that South-South cooperation and triangular cooperation offer an important complementary modality for scientific collaboration, indigenous innovation and the transfer of technologies that are more accessible, adaptable and affordable to developing countries, we:

(a) note with appreciation the initiatives supported by the Technology Facilitation Mechanism, the Technology Bank for the Least Developed Countries, the South-South Global Assets and Technology Exchange, the South-South Technology Transfer Facility for the Small Island Developing States, the South-South Technology Transfer Facility for the Landlocked Developing Countries and the South-South Technology Transfer Facility for the Least Developed Countries;

(b) call upon developing countries that have established institutions with world-class expertise in science, technology and innovation to consider providing more scholarships and other relevant arrangements that would enable students from other countries of the South to gain greater access to such institutions for higher studies and research; we also welcome the measures taken by some regions to grant visa-free entry to the citizens of their respective member states. In this regard, we encourage developing countries to adopt policies that would ease cross-border and interregional movements of Southern experts in various strategic disciplines essential to meeting the SDGs;

(c) call for more regional mechanisms to share successful science, technology and innovation policies and strategies, to explore new opportunities and to promote cross-border and interregional coordination and collaboration between various science, technology and innovation initiatives. More support for the Technology Facilitation Mechanism and for the Technology Bank for Least Developed Countries and related initiatives is also essential to overcome challenges that developing countries face in building human and institutional capacity in science, technology and innovation.

(d) call upon Member States and the United Nations Development System to further mainstream South-South cooperation and triangular cooperation in technology facilitation mechanisms at a global and regional level, in order to increase matchmaking between technology needs and solutions, support project implementation, and assess opportunities for triangular partnership-building.

(e) recognize emerging mega trends that pose new opportunities and challenges, and we call upon member States with the support of United Nations entities to conduct relevant studies and convene dialogues to explore policy options for developing countries to individually and collectively avoid risks and enhance the benefits from the evolution of artificial intelligence, big data, robotics and other technological innovations;

**Multi-stakeholder partnerships**

21. Recognizing the value of institutional frameworks to foster more effective multi-stakeholder approaches to South-South and triangular cooperation whereby governments create enabling environments through laws, regulatory frameworks and financing arrangements that mobilize collective action by a broad range of public and private sector actors. We thus call for new forms of multilateralism based on more inclusive partnerships that galvanize diverse stakeholders including non-State actors such as civil society, private sector, volunteer groups, academic and research institutions, philanthropic organizations and think tanks. We also recognize the growing number of actors in South-South cooperation and triangular cooperation that includes subnational entities such as local municipal and provincial governments as such, we:

(a) call upon Member States and other relevant stakeholders to create more mechanisms at national regional and global levels to leverage the expertise and other resources of multi-stakeholder partnerships to support South-South cooperation and triangular cooperation initiatives for the attainment of the 2030 Agenda.
(b) call upon Member States to share knowledge and experience to improve laws and regulatory frameworks governing South-South public-private partnerships to better contribute to sustainable development.

(c) call upon Southern centres of excellence and related networks to continue fostering South-South cooperation and the provision of courses for Southern development actors on topics such as science diplomacy, intellectual property rights and the commercialization of Southern technologies.

(d) recognize with concern that the shortage of resources continues to hinder South-South cooperation. We thus underscore the need to engage the private sector in co-designing and implementing South-South initiatives for sustainable development based on the established principles of corporate social responsibility and we call for South-South business practices aligned with the sustainable development goals and their targets to help foster the commercialization and transfer of science, technology and innovation solutions across the global South.

(e) recognize with concern the huge asymmetries between the per capita incomes of developed and developing countries and encourage developing countries to strengthen South-South collaboration in tertiary education, including in the field of science technology and innovation to enhance their capacities to produce more high-value goods and services.

(f) note with appreciation the expansion of intra and interregional South-South cooperation frameworks and summits that have set strategies and agendas, enhanced policy coordination and launched joint ventures that have strengthened South-South trade, investment, infrastructures development and capacity development.

**Triangular cooperation**

22. Recognizing that the concept and practice of triangular cooperation has evolved into a modality that is closely linked to and supportive of South-South cooperation, we:

(a) acknowledge that triangular cooperation complements South-South cooperation by building trust through horizontal partnerships that tackle the world’s most pressing economic, social and environmental challenges, connecting all regions and contributing to the achievement of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development;

(b) note the inclusive character of triangular cooperation that supports partnerships throughout the world where each can contribute according to their own capacities and means. It paves the way for the development of new and innovative partnerships, offers the opportunity to directly engage with all traditional and emerging partners of international cooperation, and allows involving various stakeholders at different levels, including local and regional authorities, civil society organizations, the private sector, academia, research centers and non-governmental organizations;

(c) acknowledge that triangular cooperation allows the mobilization of additional knowledge and expertise necessary to deliver on the Sustainable Development Goals and to increase cooperation capacities outside the traditional paths of development cooperation; that it offers traditional donors the opportunity to directly cooperate with providers of South-South cooperation to develop and increase their expertise and capacity and foster strong partnerships to implement the 2030 Agenda.

**City-to-City cooperation**

23. We recognize trends towards rapid urbanization in the global South and call for greater South-South and triangular cooperation to coordinate policies, share knowledge, solutions and experience on the eradication of poverty in all its dimensions by raising the productivity, resilience and sustainability of urban centers where 68 per cent of the world’s population is projected to live by 2050. We also call for South-South cooperation to improve job creation and service delivery in rural area to reduce rural-to-urban migration and related challenges.

**Funding**
24. We recognize the need to mobilize adequate resources for enhancing South-South and triangular cooperation and, in this context, we commend developing countries that have partnered with United Nations entities and established financing facilities and trust funds to advance South-South cooperation for addressing development challenges including climate change, rural development and resilience to disasters; we invite all countries in a position to do so to contribute their support through, inter alia, the Pérez-Guerrero Trust Fund for Economic and Technical Cooperation among Developing Countries and the United Nations Fund for South-South Cooperation. In this context, we encourage UNOSSC to undertake additional resource mobilization initiatives to attract more financial and in-kind resources, while avoiding the proliferation and fragmentation of financing arrangements;

***

25. Call upon the Secretary General to report on the implementation of the above listed measures to reinvigorate the United Nations development system in supporting and promoting South-South and triangular cooperation in his reports to the General Assembly and the High-Level Committee on South-South Cooperation;

26. Decide to convene a United Nations High-Level Conference on South-South Cooperation every four years to lead a regular and dynamic process to review the trends in South-South and triangular cooperation, their contribution to the implementation of the 2030 Agenda and the progress made in this regard by the international community and the United Nations System. This process will be led by a troika of Member States that have hosted these meetings;

27. Welcome with appreciation the generous offer by the Government of…. to host the third United Nations High-Level Conference on South-South Cooperation, in 2023 and invite Member States and relevant stakeholders to participate.

28. We convey our appreciation and gratitude to the Republic of Argentina and its people for the excellent organization and hosting of the Second United Nations High Level Conference on South-South Cooperation and the warm hospitality extended to us in the city of Buenos Aires.