



**Statement by Mr. Pradeep K. Deb, Joint Secretary  
Department of Economic Affairs, Ministry of Finance, New Delhi, on  
Agenda Item 7: South-South Cooperation: Third cooperation  
framework for South-South cooperation in the First Regular Session  
2005 of the Executive Board of UNDP/UNFPA (New York – January 20-  
28, 2005) on 26 January 2005**

Mr. President,

Permit us to welcome our new Director of the special unit. We are sure that he will bring a new dynamism to the functions of the unit.

We thank the Administrator for comprehensive report on the third cooperation framework for South-South cooperation (2005-2007). We appreciate the methodical manner in which various elements of the report have been presented and examined.

Mr. President,

The present document details a forward looking agenda based on the resources available and to be mobilized under a second UNDP MYFF for the period 2004 – 2007. We note that the framework builds on two previous frameworks and has benefited from a cross-section of consultations. May I echo the sentiments of the D.R. from Cameroon in hoping that there will be continuity despite the changes that must come about.

We agree with the conclusion of report that the realities and changing fundamentals in the South are helping to reshape development cooperation. We also agree that demand-driven South-South or triangular initiatives also involving developing countries that are willing to share expertise could be mobilized to act as catalysts in their collective effort to meet the MDGs.

We would also like to recall the decision of the Executive Board in its Second Regular Session 2004 that South-South cooperation should be considered a driver of development effectiveness and be incorporated into the MYFF. In this context, we are pleased to note that UNDP would place greater emphasis on establishing or strengthening self-sustaining mechanisms and platforms rather than simply supporting ad hoc forums and conferences. We also take a positive view of the special unit's aspiration to become a South-South knowledge management center. We would, however, appreciate some explanation on how this would be carried out in practice.



Mr. President,

The report refers to the evaluation of the second cooperation framework and its suggestion that to overcome resource constraints, the work of the Special Unit could be linked to other initiatives supported at various levels by UNDP and other organizations of the UN system. We would appreciate further details about what is envisaged. Such linking should not dilute the importance of the work of the special unit.

We have also noted that a strategy for the mobilization of additional resources will be developed and will be based on concrete initiatives designed in partnership with stakeholders from the South and the North, organizations of the UN system, donor agencies and other partners. We do, nevertheless, feel that the agenda set forth is an ambitious one and the element of funding would perhaps be crucial in determining the success of the framework. We would like some further explanation in this regard.

India has been, and continues to be, a staunch supporter of South-South Cooperation. We also support triangular cooperation. We lend overall support to the proposed framework for South-South cooperation, we would like the Administrator to expand on the indicators listed in the annex to the report under the three platforms in the resources and results framework 2005 – 2007.

Thank you, Mr. President.

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