

## Acknowledgement

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H.E. Mr. Nassir Abdulaziz Al-Nasser  
Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary  
President of the High Level Committee on South-South Cooperation  
Permanent Representative of the State of Qatar to the United Nations

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On behalf of the United Nations General Assembly High-Level Committee on South-South Cooperation and its Secretariat the Special Unit for South-South Cooperation in UNDP, we wish to thank a great number of individuals and organizations whose tireless support and encouragement made the inaugural Global South-South Development Expo, which took place from 17-19 December 2008 in conjunction with the Fifth United Nations Day for South-South Cooperation, a resounding success.

We especially thank President of the General Assembly Father Miguel d'Escoto Brockmann for honoring this historical event with his personal presence and addresses at both the opening and the closing. He encouraged us that “we can transform this period of complex crises into opportunities for increased solidarity.”

We are particularly indebted to Secretary General Ban Ki-moon for his continued support and his aspiring message to the event that “South-South cooperation helps developing countries learn how best to apply successful policies and practices in a context that reflects their national priorities.”

We would also like to thank the Chairman of the Group of 77 and China John Ashe, Deputy Secretary-General Dr. Asha-Rose Migiros, Under-Secretary-General Zukang Sha, Under-Secretary-General Ibrahim Gambari, and Under-Secretary-General Check Diarra for their direction, backing and insightful contributions.

Our special tribute goes to former UNDP Administrator Kemal Dervis, who provided us the initial opportunity and platform and challenged us to transform the EXPO from a concept to a reality. We thank him for his vision that the global South realize its shared aspirations for achieving sustainable and equitable development through the sharing and transfer of Southern-grown development solutions.

We would especially like to acknowledge H. E. Percival Patterson, Former Prime Minister of Jamaica for chairing the Leadership Roundtable and for stressing that “the Development EXPO will help developing countries capitalize on their achievements.”

The solution exchanges that took place at the EXPO could not have happened without the participation of the governments of Argentina, Benin, Botswana, Brazil, Bulgaria, Chile, China, Colombia, Czech Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, France, Germany, Haiti, India, Indonesia, Israel, Japan, Kenya, Laos, Malaysia, Mongolia, Moldova, Morocco, Mozambique, Pakistan, Peru, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Rwanda, Senegal, Slovakia, South Africa, Thailand, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, United Kingdom, United States, Venezuela and Vietnam, among others. We thank these Member States for sending their representatives.

Our thanks also go to a number of UNDP country teams - particularly in Afghanistan, Botswana, Brazil, China, Mexico, Paraguay, South Africa, Tajikistan, Timor Leste, Tunisia and Venezuela, among many others - for their invaluable advice and assistance at every step along the way.

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participation and contributions of these leaders resulted in a rich and rewarding exchange of available Southern development solutions to help address both old and emerging Southern challenges.

Throughout the global South, there exists an enormous wealth of innovative, successful and scalable inclusive development solutions. For helping us to navigate the equally huge demands in search of these solutions we owe our gratitude to Georg Kell, Executive Director of the UN Global Compact Office, and to Dr. Hanifa D. Mezoui, former Chief of the NGO Section of the United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs.

By closing ranks, our public and private sector partners are creating a win-win situation: Citizens are enjoying better public services, while companies are reaping financial profits. This was made possible by the engagement and participation of: The Africa Channel, Aguas Santiago Poniente, Asian Disaster Preparedness Center, BBC World Service, Columbia University, the Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development of Germany (BMZ), Global Facility for Disaster Reduction and Recovery, International AIDS Vaccine Initiative, Inter Press Service News Agency (IPS), Islamic Chamber of Commerce and Industry (ICCI), Management Analysis Inc., Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT), Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD), Organization of the Islamic Conference (OIC), Pan American Health Organization (PAHO), ProVention Consortium, RPN-TV Channel 9 (Manila), the Secretaria General Iberoamericana (SEGIB), The Songhai Centre, UNDP Partnership Bureau, UN International Strategy for Disaster Reduction (UNISDR), UN Environment Program (UNEP) Clearinghouse, UN Population Fund (UNFPA), the World Bank and the World Health Organization (WHO).

Bringing their respective strengths together at the EXPO to launch a joint global pilot mechanism to be known as the South-South Human Development Stock Exchange (SS-HDSX) were: South Africa's Global Social Investment Exchange (GSIX) and the South Africa Social Investment Exchange (SASIX); Brazil's Bolsa de Valores Sociais & Ambientais/Social and Environmental Stock Exchange (BOVESPA); United States' eBay GivingWorks; India's GiveIndia; China's Shanghai United Assets and Equity Exchange (SUAE); and the South-South Global Assets and Technology Exchange (SS-GATE).

We would also like to thank Aiichiro Yamamoto, Chief Representative of the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) for co-sponsored the very successful session for governments to review the successes and failures of 30 years of South-South and triangular cooperation. This provided the space for donors to speak about enhancing effectiveness.

We appreciate the support of Mitch Landrieu, Lieutenant Governor of Louisiana, especially for his commitment to capitalize on existing innovations and facilitate networks of knowledge sharing.

All those who have been part of the EXPO process would agree that an event of this magnitude - attempting to truly capture the imagination and the aspirations of the countries of the South, to provide what the developing world has been asking for - has been quite an undertaking, requiring creativity and dedication.

The team that has translated the Global South's search for a solution-exchange mechanism from a distant dream to an inspiring reality is the Special Unit for South-South Cooperation. This would not have been possible without the leadership of its visionary Director Yiping Zhou and the conviction of his creative team. Thanks must also go to Senior Deputy Director John O. Kakonge, Chief of Staff Rogel Nuguid, Chief of Policy and Advocacy Cosmas Gitta, Chief of Knowledge Management and Operations Francisco Simplicio, Chief of Resources and Partnerships Mami Yamada, Chief of the Asia and Pacific Regional Unit Denis Nkala, Disaster Risk Management Coordinator Wilson Zenadez, Chief of the Africa Regional Support Unit Francois Ekoko and their dedicated staff, who worked with purpose and passion to bring the EXPO to fruition.

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With the unequivocal commitment of the new UNDP Administrator, Helen Clark, to encourage developmentally-focused South-South flows of finance, technology, and know-how, we have every reason to expect tremendous success with future EXPOs.