

PRESS RELEASE

KENYA TO HOST THE UNITED NATIONS HIGH-LEVEL CONFERENCE ON SOUTH-SOUTH CO-OPERATION: 1-3 DECEMBER, 2009

The United Nations General Assembly on 6th October, 2009 adopted a resolution deciding on the convening of the United Nations High-Level Conference on South-South Co-operation from 1-3 December, 2009 in Nairobi, Kenya. The Conference will be the first after the establishment of South-South Co-operation framework 30 years ago in Buenos Aires, Argentina.

The Conference in Nairobi was scheduled to coincide with the 30th anniversary of the adoption of the Buenos Aires Plan of Action that laid down the principles and modalities for co-operation among developing countries. Its main objective is to review progress and challenges within the South-South Co-operation framework.

South-South Co-operation is a broad framework for collaboration among countries of the South in political, economic, social, environmental and technical domains. It takes place on bilateral, regional, sub-regional and intra – as well as inter-regional bases. Developed countries and international organizations support and reinforce South-South Co-operation through arrangements referred to as triangular co-operation.

The resolution adopted yesterday, among others, decides on the venue, dates, main theme and sub-themes as well as expected outcome. It also urges all countries, partners that include non-governmental organizations, United Nations organizations and financial institutions to participate in the conference in accordance with the rules and procedures of the UN General Assembly.

After the adoption of the resolution, H.E. Ambassador Zachary D. Muburi-Muita, Permanent Representative of Kenya to the United Nations, New York, delivered a statement. In which he expressed appreciation to the President of the General Assembly for his spirited efforts to ensure the Conference takes place as had earlier been decided in other related UN resolutions. He pointed out that the Kenya Government strongly believes in South-South Co-operation as a viable mechanism for promoting the development of the South, including through sharing of experiences, promotion of trade, transferring appropriate and affordable technology and investment. It is because of the critical importance of South-South Co-

operation that the Kenya Government offered to host the conference as part of our contribution to a noble objective.

The Permanent Representative called upon all Member States, the United Nations system and other stakeholders to fully co-operate and support the preparatory process. He observed that the adoption of the resolution brought a high sense of urgency to all stakeholders. Each one had a responsibility that must be discharged efficiently and effectively.

H.E. Ambassador Muburi-Muita seized the opportunity to express appreciation to all countries for accepting and supporting Kenya's offer to host the Conference. He further welcomed all delegations to Nairobi to experience traditional Kenyan hospitality. The Conference is expected to play an important role in boosting tourism as well as the image of the country. It is expected that the Conference will attract between 2,000-3,000 participants.

For more information please visit www.ssc.undp.org.

**Kenya Mission to the United Nations
New York**