70th General Assembly - Second Committee
Groups of Countries in Special Situations
Statement by Brazil
29 October, 2015

Mr. Chairman,

I wish to thank USG Acharya for introducing the reports before us this morning. My delegation aligns itself with the statements delivered by South Africa on behalf of the G-77/China and by Ecuador on behalf of CELAC. We wish to add the following remarks in our national capacity.

Our Heads of State have just adopted a universal, transformative agenda that aims at eradicating poverty on the basis of a new paradigm of sustainable development where no one is left behind. Our priority must therefore be placed, first of all, on those groups of countries that are furthest behind.

Four years after the adoption of the Istanbul Programme of Action and one year after the adoption of the Vienna Programme of Action, we were encouraged to note that the Agenda 2030 for Sustainable Development and the Addis Ababa Action Agenda incorporated a number of commitments centered on the priority needs of the Least Developed Countries and Landlocked Developing Countries.

We noted with appreciation the positive consideration given by the High-Level Panel for the establishment of the Technology Bank for the LDCs, which, in our view, should build synergies with the Technology Facilitation Mechanism adopted in Addis and launched at the Summit for the Adoption of the 2030 Agenda.

Building upon these recent outcomes, the current Second Committee session can already make a significant contribution to a successful outcome at the high-level midterm review of the Istanbul Programme of Action, to be held in Antalya, Turkey, in June 2016.

Mr. Chairman,

Brazil undertakes many regional cooperation initiatives with developing countries in general and with LDCs in particular. I wish to mention the recent publication of the independent assessment of the first phase of the South-South Cooperation project with the Coton-4 countries, Benin, Burkina Faso, Chad and Mali for the development of the cotton sector in those countries. The second phase of the project started in 2014, and it also includes Togo.

The Project consists in the transfer of technology developed by the Brazilian Agricultural Research Institute (EMBRAPA) to the Cotton-4 countries with the objective of increasing yields and productivity in general as well as improving the quality of the cotton produced.
The first phase of the project, as showed by the independent assessment, fulfilled the objectives of sharing knowledge and transferring technologies for genetic improvement of crops, integrated pest management and no-till farming systems.

Among the concrete results, the report highlights: first, that the revitalization of the Sotuba Station in Mali, with the construction of the C4 Cotton Centre, equipped with offices and an entomology laboratory; second, that knowledge has been introduced and validated, adaptive research has been carried out and 10 Brazilian cotton-seed varieties were transferred to the countries and adapted by the local institutions; third, that researchers, technicians and farming leaders were trained in new cotton production technology, in 22 courses held in Brazil and the partner countries.

Mr. Chairman,

Last September, while our heads of State were adopting the Agenda 2030 for Sustainable Development, Brazil hosted the Second Forum on International Cooperation on Maternal Milk Banks, with representatives of 22 countries. The event established the Global Network on Maternal Milk Banks to enhance cooperation to share knowledge and technology in a critical area for food security of newborns and children below 6 months.

The Brazilian institutions engaged in this project are extremely proud to see that a South-South Cooperation project, initially focused only on Latin-American countries, is now disseminating knowledge and technologies for a larger number of developing countries, especially in Africa, helping to reduce preventable diseases and neonatal mortality.

Mr. Chairman,

Brazil reaffirms its commitment with the implementation of the Vienna Programme of Action for Landlocked Developing Countries for the Decade 2014 – 2024.

In our region, UNASUR has created a South American Infrastructure and Planning Council, whose projects include the establishment of road links between Paraguay and Bolivia and ports in Brazil, Argentina, Chile and Uruguay and power lines linking Itaipu Dam, on the border of Brazil and Paraguay, to Asuncion and Yacireta Dam, in Paraguay. This project received more than US$ 400 million through MERCOSUR’s Trust Fund for Structural Convergence of MERCOSUR – FOCEM.

Brazil believes that projects involving infrastructure integration to the benefit of LDCs and LLDCs should be granted special and differentiated treatment by international development banks and financial institutions.

Mr. Chairman,
We are ready to continue to work with others, bilaterally, regionally and internationally, to address particular needs of developing countries, particularly the LDCs and the LLDCs.

Thank you, Mr. Chairman,