The Asia-Pacific Regional Commemoration of the UN day for South-South Cooperation
Bangkok, Thailand (12 September 2018)

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On 12 September 2018, members of diplomatic corps, the UN agencies and delegation of youths in Thailand jointly celebrated the UN Day for South-South Cooperation. The high-level, regional commemoration in Bangkok celebrated South-South Cooperation and its role in fostering sustainable development.

Jointly organized by the UN Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP), the UN Office for South-South Cooperation (UNOSSC), and the Government of Thailand (Ministry of Foreign Affairs), today’s commemoration marked the 40th anniversary of the adoption of the of the Buenos Aires Plan of Action for Promoting and Implementing Technical Cooperation among Developing Countries (BAPA).

In their remarks at the high-level opening session by H.E. Mr. Vijavat Isarabhakdi, Advisor to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Kingdom of Thailand representing the Minister of Foreign Affairs, Mr. Kaveh Zahedi, Deputy Executive Secretary of ESCAP and Ms. Deirdre Boyd, UN Resident Coordinator and UNDP Resident Representative in Thailand, representing the UN Office for South-South Cooperation (UNOSSC) Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific, the vibrant momentum of South-South Cooperation in the region and the importance of partnership which is the spirit of South-South and Triangular Cooperation were highlighted.

The international community gathered in Bangkok also welcomed the message from Mr. Jorge Chediek, Envoy of the UN Secretary General on South-South Cooperation and Director of the UN Office for South-South Cooperation, recognising the longstanding leadership and contribution of countries and organisations of the Asia-Pacific to the globally agreed agenda with renewed commitment to South-South Cooperation.

As an important part of the celebration, Ambassadors and from China, Bangladesh, Indonesia, Fiji and High-level representatives from Thailand, India, Japan and the Asia Foundation, delivered presentations on their milestones in driving South-South and Triangular Cooperation. They also reaffirmed their commitment to further advance South-South Cooperation in the leading-up to the upcoming Second UN Conference for South-South Cooperation (BAPA+40 Conference), to be held in Buenos Aires, Argentina in March 2019. Regional institutions similarly reaffirmed their intention to excel South-South Cooperation in their work. This is reflected in the video messages by the Deputy Secretary General of ASEAN (Association for Southeast Asian Nations) and the Secretary General of the Pacific Islands Development Forum (PIDF).

In acknowledgement and appreciation of leadership and active contribution to South-South and Triangular Cooperation by countries and organisations in this region, the UNOSSC Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific also presented the tokens of appreciation to the Ambassadors and high-level representatives on this occasion.

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