

**Concept Note**  
**Interactive Panel Discussion II**

*“Challenges and the strengthening of the institutional framework of South-South cooperation and triangular cooperation”*

**High-Level United Nations Conference on South-South Cooperation**

**Buenos Aires, Argentina, Thursday, 21 March 2019**  
**(Conference Room D, 3 p.m. – 6 p.m.)**

**I. Background**

Cooperation among developing countries has become an important driver of economic and social development. Leveraging the plurality of approaches and mechanisms that constitute South-South cooperation, developing countries are making considerable progress in addressing the negative trends of epidemic diseases, climate change, poor infrastructure and violent conflicts that impede advances in human development.

Although South-South cooperation continues to intensify across many sectors, there growing attention is been given to its ad-hoc manner; sometimes insufficient coordination and follow-up mechanism(s); and relative absence of strong institutional frameworks and mechanisms.

Accordingly, to increase efficiencies and maximize the development impact of South-South cooperation, there is a renewed effort in the formalization of these collaborative initiatives as well as the strengthening of the mechanisms and institutions that underpin cooperation and are pivotal in operationalizing collaborative agreements into concrete initiatives.

**II. Objective**

South-South cooperation has increased in scale and scope along with the diversification of its activities and the multiplication of its actors. It becomes critical, in this context, to strengthen its institutional set up at all levels, nationally, regionally and globally, to better support, coordinate and bring more coherence to South-South partnerships and activities.

This roundtable is designed to allow discussions of the steps needed to strengthen the institutional mechanisms and frameworks for South-South and triangular cooperation at the national, subregional, regional and global levels. The discussants will identify the regulatory and policy frameworks, coordination mechanisms, communications, project management tools, methodological innovations, as well as the necessary human and financial resources that should underpin South-South and triangular cooperation. They will also discuss efforts at facilitating the emergence of strengthened development cooperation entities that provides better coordination leading to harmonization of policies, coherence and better coordination of diverse actors, enabling a whole-of-government approach to South-South cooperation.