



High-Level Side Event at the Margin of

The Second High-level United Nations Conference on South-South Cooperation (BAPA+40)

CONCEPT NOTE

South-South Cooperation and Disaster Management

Buenos Aires, Argentina, 19 March 2019

Time: 15:00 – 16:30, Tuesday, 19 March 2019

Venue: Salón Azul, Facultad De Derecho, Avda. Pte. Figueroa Alcorta 2263, Capital Federal

Background

Recognizing the growing humanitarian impacts and development losses resulting from natural disasters, South-South Cooperation has become an important avenue in helping disaster-prone countries enhance their capacity for disaster management, response and recovery, and contribute to the implementation of the transformative 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. A manifestation of solidarity among peoples and countries of the South, South-South Cooperation in disaster management provides real benefits for the most vulnerable people as it uses approaches and solutions that have already proved beneficial for specific contexts of the South.

Sharing knowledge and expertise in food security, health, disaster preparedness and other sectors within the South is crucial to finding the most effective and efficient solutions to common challenges. In addition to widely practiced approaches in sharing best practices, lessons learned and perspectives of developing countries, Southern countries are stepping up in South-South innovation, institution and capacity building, and technical cooperation. South-South Cooperation fosters developing countries' leadership and ownership of the disaster management. It enhances local capacity in developing countries by supporting local capabilities, institutions, expertise, human resources and national systems. In recent years, the international humanitarian community has increasingly put local and national responders and actors first, as an outcome of the 'World Humanitarian Summit' (WHS) in 2016 and as highlighted in the 'Agenda for Humanity'.

The Second United Nations (UN) Conference on South-South Cooperation (BAPA +40), marks the 40th anniversary of the ground-breaking UN Conference on Technical Cooperation among Developing Countries that was held in 1978 in Buenos Aires, Argentina. The BAPA +40 conference presents an opportunity for reflection and review of South-South Cooperation since then and consideration of its roles and functions in the evolving global landscape of the 21st century.

Objectives

This side event will showcase the existing innovations and initiatives of the South on the

cooperation in disaster management. It will bring together Ministerial level representatives of Member States and Senior UN officials to focus on:

- Showcasing examples of South-South Cooperation in disaster response and management.
- Enhancing advocacy and partnerships on strengthening the coordination and standardization of disaster response tools, methodologies, and share best practices at the global, regional and national levels.
- Promoting technical assistance to high risk countries to better linking disaster management and development work.
- Promoting innovative financing mechanisms in supporting anticipatory and predictable disaster response and recovery at the national and local level.

Format

The event will be centered around a high-level panel discussion with distinguished speakers including:

- H.E. Mr. Alejandro Daneri, President, White Helmets Commission, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Argentina
- H.E. Mr. Erfeng Xu, Vice Minister, Ministry of Emergency Management, China
- Mr. Mohamed Beavogui, Director-General, African Risk Capacity, the African Union
- Ms. Ursula Mueller, Assistant Secretary-General and Deputy Emergency Relief Coordinator, UN OCHA
- Sr. Diego Tipping, President, the Argentine Red Cross

The meeting will be chaired by ASG/DERC Ursula Mueller. The panel will be followed by interactive discussions among participants.

Interpretations of English, Spanish, French and Chinese are provided.

Please kindly RSVP with Ms. Ahlam Shaker, Email: shaker2@un.org by 15 March 2019.

Programme

1. Opening remarks and key note speech
2. Panel discussion
3. Q&As and discussions
4. Closing remarks