Mr. President,

Madam Associate Administrator,

Distinguished Delegates,

I am honored to present the Strategic Framework of the United Nations Office for South-South Cooperation 2014-2017 (DP/CF/SSC/5). My heartfelt thanks go to Member States who have consistently supported the South-South development agenda and our work in the past and from the beginning of this Executive Board session. Your confidence in and support for the UNOSSC, your commitment to the South-South agenda, your moving it in the right direction, and the visionary leadership and strong support from the Secretary-General, the Administrator and the Associate Administrator for our work, always make me and my proud “compact team” very humble, but more committed, more diligent and more responsive! And I thank you all for that!

This framework greatly benefited from the insightful feedback we received from consultations with UNDP, the wider UN-family, a number UNOSSC and Member States Dialogue Sessions chaired by the Associate Administrator or myself in the past year, and with the Executive Board during informal consultations held last November. It has taken into consideration various recommendations of the JIU review, the UNDP’s independent evaluation, our own internal assessment, the evolving Post-2015 UN agenda discussions, and the Secretary-General’s Framework of operational guidelines on UN support to South-South and triangular cooperation.

This framework is premised on the UNOSSC GA-mandate, and the principles, priorities and objectives set by Member States in the Buenos Aires Plan of Action, the Nairobi Outcome Document and other relevant General Assembly resolutions.

The framework is aligned with and complements the strategic plans and frameworks of other UN organizations, which have developed such instruments, especially UNDP’s Strategic Plan 2014-2017.

Mr. President,

The Strategic Framework of the UNOSSC sets 3 overarching Goals and corresponding strategic outcomes, with 7 concrete outputs and 31 measurable results indicators.

The first overarching Goal and Outcome is the creation of the necessary enabling POLICY ENVIRONMENT that enables both its legislative and executive leadership to make informed decisions,
policies and strategies, as well as programme initiatives that give effect to mainstreaming support to SSC and triangular cooperation, as a complement to North-South cooperation, on a global and UN system-wide basis towards achieving the remaining MDGs and other internationally agreed development goals including those to be set by the Post-2015 development agenda.

The concrete outputs and measurable results indicators for achieving Goal 1 are designed to ensure (i) that well-informed South-South-relevant decisions are made by the HLC and the GA, so as to inform the governing bodies of other UN organizations, funds and programmes, specialized agencies, as well as the regional commissions; (ii) that responsive agency-specific policies and strategies are designed and translated into necessary institutional and programming arrangements by all relevant UN system organizations; and (iii) that the UN system’s support to South-South and Triangular cooperation, at the global, regional and especially country levels through UNDAFs, are better coordinated, more cohesive and more responsive to the needs and priorities of developing countries.

The second overarching Goal and Outcome is the creation of the necessary INSTITUTIONAL ENVIRONMENT, enabling Member States, the UN system and other partners to effectively initiate, manage, coordinate and implement South-South cooperation and triangular cooperation initiatives. This will be accomplished through further consolidation and more systematic expansion of the well-functioning Multilateral South-South Support Architecture to South-South coordination authorities of Member States, UN system organizations, especially UN country teams, as well as the private sector and other development partners’ entities.

The concrete outputs and measurable results indicators under GOAL 2 are thus designed to ensure (i) that relevant national South-South development cooperation authorities, UN organizations, private sector entities and other interested partner organizations and entities are offered the services of our Multilateral South-South Support Architecture; (ii) that their capacities to manage, identify, document and share South-South cooperation expertise and experiences and to showcase them to a wider international development community for mutual learning are made more systematic and efficient; and (iii) that their efforts to build broad-based and inclusive partnerships, especially public-private partnerships, to scale up the South-South or Triangular cooperation impact will be made much easier and results-oriented.

The third overarching Goal and Outcome is to enable all partners in South-South and Triangular cooperation to meaningfully engage in, support, and scale up more self-initiated, self-managed, self-funded and self-sustained South-South and Triangular initiatives to help achieve the remaining MDGs and Post-2015 sustainable development objectives. This is perhaps the most ambitious one among the three Goals.

The concrete outputs and measurable results indicators and the strategy to achieve them under GOAL 3 are carefully designed: (i) to support South-led and demand-driven South-South poverty eradication facilities such as the IBSA Fund; (ii) to catalyze self-sustaining and South-owned knowledge sharing and mutual capacity-building initiatives such as the Successful Tax Practices for Development and the South-South Energy Initiative, and the OIC-UNOSSC-UNDP-Somalia facility which aims to mobilize $20 million for sustainable livelihoods and jobs creation, especially for young women; and (iii) to facilitate
donor-supported triangular partnership facilities such as the Republic of Korea-UNOSSC Poverty Eradication facility, and other public-private partnership initiatives.

Mr. President,

To ensure successful implementation of the current Framework, UNOSSC will pursue an inclusive partnerships strategy to effectively leverage the institutional, technical and financial strengths of not only UNDP’s global and regional policy and knowledge centres of excellence and initiatives for South-South cooperation (e.g. the UNDP-Singapore Public Service Excellence Centre, the Rio+ Centre, the Istanbul Private Sector Development Centre, etc.). We will also leverage the strengths of those of the UN system organizations such as UNIDO’s South-South Industrial Cooperation Centres, UNEP’s South-South Exchange Mechanism, as well as the Secretary-General’s Sustainable Energy for All, Zero Hunger, Every Child Every Women, as well as the Global Compact initiatives.

UNOSSC will establish an Inter-agency Outcome Board to help ensure the effective implementation of the Strategic Framework. In addition to UNDP, ILO, IFAD and UNIDO have already agreed to join the Board. Likewise, UNOSSC’s inputs have been sought by these and other UN organizations in formulating their agency-specific strategic frameworks or plans, especially UNDP’s Strategic Plan 2014-2017. UNOSSC is already a member of the Advisory Board and Outcome Board of the Regional Bureau for Africa’s Regional Programme.

Mr. President,

This Executive Board has graciously decided to allocate no less than $14 million from the regular resources for the Strategic Framework period 2014-2017. During the same period, UNOSSC aims to mobilize an additional $20 million in other (non-core) resources to supplement regular (core) resources.

With the continued confidence and support of Member States, and as more partners are showing keen interest in and are starting to invest more in multilateral forms of South-South and triangular cooperation, we can definitely do more beyond what we are committing in the current framework.

I sincerely hope that the Board would be in a position to endorse our Strategic Framework. And I look forward to your deliberations and will be pleased to answer any questions you may have regarding the framework.

I thank you for your kind attention!