BRAZIL

Second Committee
General Debate

Statement by Ambassador Guilherme de Aguiar Patriota
Deputy Permanent Representative

11 October 2013

(Check against delivery)
Mr. Chairman,

Our delegation aligns itself with the statements delivered by Fiji on behalf of the Group of 77 and China as well as by Cuba on behalf of CELAC and would like to add the following comments in its national capacity.

As we resume our deliberations in the Second Committee, it must be recognized that much effort has been made to address the multiple challenges facing today's world. During the General Debate of the 68th Session of the General Assembly, our Heads of State, Ministers and High Officials renewed our political commitment to the eradication of poverty and hunger. They also decided to redouble efforts for the promotion of sustainable development in the context of an intergovernmental post-2015 development agenda.

The concept of sustainable development as set out in the Rio+20 outcome document is the main guideline for collective action by the international community towards an integrated and balanced economic growth, with social inclusion and environmental sustainability. As shown by the MDGs, aiming at goals is crucial to mobilizing attention and resources around clear and well-defined priorities. More importantly, the commitments that are associated with those goals must be translated into effective disbursements and carried forward to a Post-2015 Agenda. Nevertheless, moving from social urgencies into a transformational paradigm of equity and sustainability requires a broader vision of what development really means, and this is what the SDGs should be about.

A universal framework of goals will provide guidance to our common efforts while preserving the necessary flexibility for each country to pursue its own development
path. Universality does not mean that commitments and responsibilities are undifferentiated. We need to understand upfront that universality as a shared set of goals does not cancel out the fundamental principal of CBDR, nor does it provide an escape route for traditional donors from their still unmet and underperforming ODA commitments. We have to be clear about these political baseline elements if we want a successful outcome.

There can be no sustainable development in a world plagued by poverty and hunger. Though development is primarily a national endeavor, a global enabling environment should be the collective responsibility of the international community, as we will need to agree on improved and additional means of financing for sustainable development.

At a time when official development assistance should be expanding strongly to compensate for falling global demand and private flows, it is disappointing to note the overall reduction in the level of ODA for the second consecutive year in 2012.

South-South and Triangular Cooperation can make an important contribution towards the global partnership for development. However, it is not a substitute for official development assistance, and in fact it follows a different rational all together.

Innovative sources of financing can also play an additional and supplementary role.

Mr. Chairman,
In a world where a global middle-class of both the North and the South are given the chance to lead a fairer and more decent life, it becomes crucial to promote more sustainable patterns of production and consumption. The United Nations confirmed the willingness of the international community to tackle these challenges. Member States established a universal and intergovernmental High Level Political Forum and strengthened the role of ECOSOC in integrating the three dimensions of sustainable development. These two major initiatives have helped pave the way for the post-2015 development agenda.

Among other important outcomes of Rio+20, we wish to underscore the need for increased efforts in two areas: i) achieving an effective sustainable development financing strategy and; ii) devising a facilitation mechanism for the promotion, development, transfer and dissemination of clean and environmentally sound technologies. These and other means of implementation are central to the follow-up of Rio+20. In that connection, we wish to highlight that a decision to convene a Conference on Financing for Development, no later than 2015, must be taken by the end of 2013. We agreed to do this in Doha.

In pursuing all of these objectives, we will need a more coherent, effective and responsive United Nations development system. The continued relevance of the United Nations operational activities for development largely depends on their capacity to be present where their assistance is needed; flexible, so as to better adapt to the specific conditions of each and every developing country; and accountable, so that their actions are coherent with the mandates granted by Member States.

Mr. Chairman,
The global economy continues to face pressing challenges with implications that threaten to erode even further the hard-won, decades-long progress achieved by developing countries in poverty eradication. Throughout these last years and despite countries' relentless efforts, the growth estimates worldwide have lowered and the global jobs crisis has not receded, mostly affecting the poorest and most vulnerable groups, especially in developing countries. The prospect of a resumed global recession is still very much with us, particularly in light of the lingering sovereign debt crises in some Eurozone countries and the possibility of a serious debt issue in the world's largest economy. The potential impact of such events is still unknown, but raises serious concerns about the precarious state of the current global economic governance.

Fostering world economic growth cannot be seen in isolation from the urgent need to reform global economic governance structures. We must ensure that the multilateral financial institutions become more accountable and responsive to the legitimate needs of the developing world. In that regard, we note with concern the delayed implementation of the 2010 IMF Governance and Quota Reform as well as the postponement of a new comprehensive review of the quota formula to better reflect the current global economic realities and enhance the voice and representation of developing countries.

At the same time, we should renew our commitment in the WTO Bali Ministerial Conference next December to conclude an ambitious and development-oriented outcome to the Doha Round, thus providing much needed impetus to world growth.
Mr. Chairman,

Legitimate and accountable global governance mechanisms are also lacking with regard to the Internet. As mentioned by President Dilma Rousseff in her speech at the opening of the current session of the General Assembly, illegal interception of communications and data from citizens, businesses and members of governments constitutes a breach of International Law and an affront to the principles that must guide relations among sovereign nations. It is a grave violation of human rights, particularly the right to privacy, and a threat to national sovereignty. The United Nations must play a leading role in the effort to regulate the conduct of States and prevent the cyberspace from being used as a weapon of war through espionage, sabotage, and attacks against systems and infrastructure of other countries.

Brazil is ready to contribute more substantively and in a more detailed fashion with all UN members with a view to addressing these pressing issues and finding common ground for advancing our collective interests.

Thank you.