

Summary Report of the Launch of the 2025 UNOSSC Global Report on South-South and Triangular Cooperation

Bridging Horizons and Continents: Forging Transformative Pathways in South-South and Triangular Cooperation

17 July 2025, 08:45 AM – 10:00 AM, UNOSSC (Doha Conference Room; 11th floor),
304 East 45th Street, New York (hybrid)

Co-organized by the UNOSSC and President of the United Nations High-level Committee (HLC) on South-South Cooperation.

[The launch was moderated by Mr. Zanofer Ismalebbe, Chief of the Knowledge Management Team, UNOSSC]

Opening Remarks

Ms. Dima Al-Khatib, UNOSSC Director

UNOSSC Director acknowledged the participation of H.E. Omar Hilale, President of the UN High-level Committee on South-South Cooperation and the Permanent Representative of Morocco to the United Nations and appreciated the continued collaboration. She also welcomed H.E. Lok Bahadur Thapa, Vice-President of ECOSOC and the Permanent Representative of Nepal to the United Nations, and H.E. Dr. Abbas Kadhom Obaid, Chair of G77 and China and the Permanent Representative of Iraq to the United Nations. Special appreciation was extended to the report's author, Dr. Adel Abdellatif, and the 15 distinguished members of the Report Advisory Board for their contributions.

The Director of UNOSSC emphasized that the launch of the [Global Report](#) takes place following the 4th International Conference on Financing for Development and on the margins of the UN High-Level Political Forum for Sustainable Development, both crucial discussions for South-South cooperation. This independent report arrives at a **defining moment**, coinciding with the 60th anniversary of the G77, the 70th of the Bandung Conference, and the 80th of the United Nations, underscoring the **enduring legacy of solidarity** among Global South countries.

In a world grappling with intensifying challenges—including climate change, economic fragmentation, rising inequalities, persistent digital divides, and uneven COVID-19 recovery—South-South and triangular cooperation offers **significant potential** for resilient, demand-driven development solutions. This report stands out for its **forward-looking and transformative approach**, moving beyond mere cataloging to offer a strategic roadmap that repositions South-South and triangular cooperation as a core element of global development and multilateral renewal. It **anticipates disruptions**, **identifies opportunities** for inclusive innovation and regional integration, and **provides actionable guidance** for building future-ready platforms for knowledge exchange and financing.

Crucially, the report emphasizes that triangular cooperation is a **catalytic mechanism**, bringing together diverse partners to co-create solutions and scale impact. It underscores that South-South and triangular cooperation is **central to shaping** a more inclusive and sustainable global future, guiding the **UNOSSC's new strategic framework**. The report also highlights the **vital perspectives of young people**, who view this cooperation as a platform for co-creation,

innovation, and equity, **urging greater investment in youth**, particularly in education, climate action, technology, and entrepreneurship. The launch reaffirms a collective commitment to leveraging South-South and triangular cooperation to unlock potential, elevate voices, and transform global challenges into shared opportunities.

H.E. Omar Hilale, President of the UN High-level Committee on South-South Cooperation (HLC-SSC) and the Permanent Representative of Morocco to the United Nations

His Excellency Omar Hilale emphasized the **timely nature of the launch**, occurring at a critical juncture of multiple global transitions—digital, demographic, diplomatic, and geopolitical—all poised to shape the future of development cooperation. He highlighted that the report provides **compelling evidence and a strategic vision**, underscoring South-South and triangular cooperation as an indispensable platform for sustainable development, built on mutual respect, solidarity, and shared responsibility. With the Global South now driving over half of global trade and innovation, it has become a **"principal architect of global progress,"** no longer a passive participant.

His Excellency reinforced that South-South cooperation is not just a symbol of solidarity but a **powerful driver and accelerator** for achieving the Sustainable Development Goals and the 2030 Agenda. He noted that the report's **recommendations are actionable and align** with Global South's priorities, stressing the **importance of institutionalizing** South-South cooperation nationally and globally, closing data and financing **gaps**, and fostering inclusive digital **transformation**. He concluded by commending UNOSSC and all partners for their work on the report, affirming the High-Level Committee's commitment to supporting its implementation, promoting dialogue, accountability, and innovation through South-South and triangular cooperation. He also extended congratulations and appreciation to the report's author, Dr. Adel Abdellatif.

H.E. Dr. Abbas Kadhom Obaid, Chair of G77 and China and the Permanent Representative of Iraq to the United Nations

His Excellency Dr. Obaid delivered his remarks on behalf of the Group of 77 and China and emphasized that the report arrives at a **critical juncture**, as countries continue to face interconnected and structural crises like climate change, conflicts, food and water insecurity, rising debt, and widening digital and social divides. In this context, South-South and triangular cooperation stands out as an **agile, context-specific, and impactful modality**, drawing on the shared experiences and collective aspirations of developing countries.

Ambassador Obaid reaffirmed their commitment to strengthening South-South cooperation as a **vital complement** to North-South cooperation and a key accelerator of the 2030 Agenda and the SDGs. He stressed that it **must remain demand-driven, nationally owned, and led by developing countries**, guided by principles of solidarity, mutual respect, and non-conditionality.

He particularly appreciated the report's historical overview of South-South cooperation, from the Bandung Conference to recent outcome documents, reinforcing that it is a long-standing expression of collective agency and leadership by member states. He welcomed the report as a **practical and policy-relevant contribution**, aligning with G77 priorities such as expanding trade among developing countries, building regional and national innovation ecosystems, and highlighting the rising role of digital cooperation and climate-smart technology. He noted that developing countries are not just recipients but contributors of innovative, homegrown solutions.

Ambassador Obaid welcomed the report's attention to the **distinct challenges** faced by middle-income countries, least developed countries, landlocked developing countries, and small island developing states, aligning with their call for **tailored and inclusive approaches**. The inclusion of youth perspectives and the focus on foresight were also highlighted as crucial for future cooperation.

Finally, His Excellency underscored that **unlocking the full potential** of South-South and triangular cooperation requires innovative financing approaches and strengthened collaboration with development banks, international financial institutions, and the private sector. He echoed the report's call for **improved monitoring and data systems**, supporting efforts like the UNCTAD-led framework to enhance transparency and accountability. He concluded by **urging commitment** to translating the report's **recommendations into concrete development outcomes**, emphasizing the **need to strengthen national institutions**, support South-led initiatives, and ensure South-South and triangular cooperation remains a central pillar of multilateralism and sustainable development.

Remarks by H.E. Lok Bahadur Thapa, Vice-President of UN Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) and the Permanent Representative of Nepal to the United Nations

His Excellency Thapa delivered his address on behalf of the President of ECOSOC President, His Excellency Bob Rae (Permanent Representative of Canada to the United Nations). At the outset, he extended appreciation to Dr. Adel Abdellatif, the report's lead author, for his insightful, forward-looking, and practical suggestions. He noted that the report provides both a **comprehensive analysis** of the current situation and a **bold vision** for the future. The report's **timely arrival** coincides with profound global transitions driven by climate change, geopolitical fragmentation, increased human mobility, digital divides, and widening inequalities. Yet, this moment also offers an opportunity to **acknowledge the impact, creativity, and resilience** of the Global South, which now contributes over 50% of global economic growth through its stories of innovation and shared progress.

He stressed that South-South and triangular cooperation is **not merely complementary** to North-South cooperation but a **transformative force**, embodying the power of solidarity, mutual respect, and shared purpose among Global South countries. To achieve the ambitions of the 2030 Agenda, **cooperation must be reimaged** as a dynamic, inclusive, and future-ready partnership, ensuring its impact and development effectiveness benefit developing countries.

Ambassador Thapa highlighted that the report offers **sensible recommendations**, which resonate with the Economic and Social Council's long-standing recognition of South-South and triangular cooperation's value. ECOSOC has **consistently underscored** the need to integrate this cooperation more deeply into UN development systems, frameworks, and national strategies. He **urged a shift from recognition and conversation to concrete action and impact** on the ground, suggesting the High-Level Political Forum (HLPF) as a **natural venue** for ongoing discussions.

He called for **proactive championing** of South-South and Triangular Cooperation as a **strategic enabler** of the SDGs, requiring **enhanced policy coherence, capacity development**, and opportunities for **peer learning and innovation**, all rooted in principles of equity, ownership, and mutual benefit. Ambassador Thapa concluded by framing the event as a **"call to action"** to build inclusive, adaptable, and resilient integrated portfolios of cooperation. The future of development cooperation, he asserted, must be **co-created** with relevant actors to **ensure legitimacy and ownership**, advancing the transitions needed for true transformative multilateralism and solidarity.

Presentation of the Global Report

Dr. Adel Abdellatif, the lead author, presented the report.

At the outset, he highlighted that the report's launch coincides with major anniversaries: 70 years of the Bandung Conference, 60 years of the G77, and 80 years of the United Nations, all of which underscore the enduring solidarity among Global South countries. He stated that the report aims to learn from the past, acknowledging both successes and challenges to inform a more inclusive path forward amidst profound global transformations. He identified **multiple converging crises**—climate breakdown, geopolitical realignments, digital disruption, and widening inequalities—that are **reshaping the international order**. Amidst these challenges, South-South and triangular cooperation is **emerging as a crucial pillar** of international cooperation, **offering context-driven, solidarity-based, and innovation-oriented solutions**.

His presentation, based on extensive consultations and research, explored **four main pillars: actors** (how the Global South is defined by sovereign decisions to join groups like the G77 and China), **actions, challenges**, and **future actions**. He traced the historical continuity of South-South cooperation from the Bandung Conference in 1955, highlighting key milestones like the G77's establishment in 1964, the first technical cooperation meeting in 1978, and the intensified actions since 2000, including Global South summits and the formation of BRICS and IBSA. He noted the remarkable achievements of the Global South over 70 years, despite a **frequently unsupportive global economic order**, particularly for Least Developed Countries (LDCs) and Small Island Developing States (SIDS)

He also emphasized that the **"rise of the Global South"** is a demographic reality, with 80% of humanity, and the majority of the world's youth and future labor force, concentrated there, especially in Africa. This makes South-South cooperation vital not only for **connecting societies** but also for **expanding the global economy** through trade and investment. He asserted that South-South cooperation should **lead to greater global integration**, enabling the Global South to find a **stronger voice** in global governance and financial systems **rather than creating new divisions**.

Addressing challenges, he **distinguished** between technical cooperation and the broader areas of trade and investment. He called for **new metrics** for South-South development cooperation and stressed the need to codify and share knowledge, overcoming language and cultural barriers, particularly in critical areas like climate change. He highlighted the growing role of **"actorism beyond the State,"** including the private sector, civil society, and think tanks, in shaping the narrative and knowledge of South-South cooperation. He noted the significant increase in knowledge production within the South itself, a **crucial step forward**.

Looking to the future, Dr. Abdellatif outlined **key prospects**: enhancing the **Global South's agency**, fostering **innovation ecosystems**, and ensuring **inclusive South-South cooperation** by focusing on the advancement of LDCs, youth, and women's empowerment. He pointed to the **increasing importance** of South-South financial institutions and **called for** leveraging existing regional platforms and institutions for sectoral and regional collaboration, rather than creating new ones. He concluded with a **call for transformative action**: *moving South-South cooperation from fragmentation to integration, from solidarity to strategy, from being marginalized to playing a central role in global governance, and from conventional approaches to truly transformative ones.*

High-level Panel Discussion

- **H.E. Ms Mathu Joyini, Permanent Representative of South Africa to the United Nations, New York.**

Question: *Given the Report's emphasis on equity and the transformational potential of South-South and Triangular Cooperation for digital and green transitions, how can South Africa leverage South-South and triangular cooperation to promote inclusive innovation ecosystems—particularly for women and youth?*

Ambassador Joyini expressed gratitude for the invitation and the report's insights, particularly commending Dr. Abdellatif 's presentation and the forward-looking recommendations. South Africa, **deeply committed** to South-South cooperation, views it as **integral to its national identity** and **foreign policy**, acknowledging the historical global solidarity that contributed to its present state. To demonstrate this commitment, South Africa engages in South-South cooperation through two main mechanisms: the **IBSA Fund**, administered by UNOSSC, and the **African Renaissance Fund (ARF)**, a national platform used across Africa and beyond. Both initiatives prioritize projects that **empower and advance** women and young people.

Addressing the question of inclusive innovation, the representative highlighted the **importance of removing barriers** that exclude women and youth from **innovation ecosystems**. Ambassador Joyini recalled the G77's 2023 summit on science, technology, and innovation in Havana, Cuba, whose recommendations on inclusive innovation remain highly relevant. South Africa believes that if innovation drives progress, **women and youth must be at its core**.

Nationally, South Africa's innovation ecosystem focuses on **strengthening systems**, with universities playing a **central role** in education and research, particularly for women. Government policies and programs for skills development and innovation platforms are crucial for directing resources. Ambassador Joyini **recommended** examining the work of South Africa's Department of Science, Technology and Innovation, especially their efforts in green technology (like hydrogen), and initiatives for women and youth through skills development and policy. She also cited the **Just Transition Framework** as a guide for ensuring women and youth are supported during the green transition.

Globally, South Africa uses its **G20 initiatives** to scale up South-South cooperation in science and technology. An example is the AI for Africa initiative, **leveraging the G20 platform** to advance AI in **54 African countries** and seek partnerships with the **Global North**. Ambassador Joyini **expressed a desire to integrate** South-South cooperation language more consistently into UN negotiation outcomes, noting some of the existing challenges in this regard. She concluded by mentioning South Africa's successful initiatives in the Southern African Development Community (**SADC**) and African Union (**AU**) **platforms** that advance science, innovation, and research with a focus on young people and women.

- **Mr. Navid Hanif, UN Assistant Secretary-General for Economic Development, Department of Economic and Social Affairs (DESA)**

Question: The Global Report underscores the urgency of revitalizing development cooperation amid deepening polycrises and stalled SDG progress. In this context, how can DESA advocate for reforms in global economic governance—including more inclusive SSC financing mechanisms and South-South digital partnerships—to strengthen resilience and accelerate sustainable development across the Global South?

Mr. Hanif began by commending the UNOSSC Director for her leadership and Dr. Adel Abdellatif for the report's **profound intellectual contribution**. He highlighted that the report **courageously challenges several long-held notions** about South-South cooperation. Specifically, he expressed his **personal skepticism** regarding the persistent use of the term "**complement**" when describing South-South cooperation's relationship with North-South cooperation. He argued that this framing **carries a significant risk of inadvertently adopting the shortcomings and processes** of traditional North-South modalities, a phenomenon he believes has already been observed. The report, he noted, **effectively breaks this myth**, suggesting that even resolutions from the Second Committee **should cease employing** such language. Furthermore, the report underscores that sufficient knowledge and platforms already exist, emphasizing that the time for action is now.

He then pointed to a **significant breakthrough** encapsulated in what he referred to as the [Sevilla Commitment](#), which calls for a fundamental reorientation in conceptualization, delivery, impact measurement, governance, and inclusion of development cooperation. He asserted that South-South cooperation **must lead this transformative change**, placing country leadership, policy coherence, and mutual accountability at the very heart of development efforts—a **long-awaited shift that must now materialize**.

Drawing on insights gathered from the UN Development Cooperation Forums (UNDCF) and surveys conducted with recipient countries, he articulated **three key demands**. **First**, countries are expressing a strong need for a **system that avoids fragmenting** their efforts. Development cooperation, they observe, is **too often fragmented, costly to manage, and misaligned** with national priorities, **leading to duplication and difficulties** in tracking progress. Therefore, cooperation **must align directly** with country-led strategies and systems, moving beyond the mere rhetoric of countries being "**in the driver's seat**" to genuinely **empower** them with the "**steering wheel**." This necessitates **integrating national systems** for planning, budgeting, procurement, and monitoring, rather than establishing parallel structures.

Second, there is a clear call to **improve coordination and delivery**. Governments seek more coherent interventions that reflect the **comparative strengths of partners** without duplication—a **consistent demand echoed** by ECOSOC and the DCF. The DCF, he noted, serves as a vital inclusive platform where all actors, including the Global South (which lacks full representation in bodies like the OECD/Development Assistance Committee), can collectively shape a new, reformed development architecture.

Third, development finance must become **more accessible, predictable, and tailored** to the specific needs of recipient countries. This implies opening long-term, affordable financing windows, and he referenced the Sevilla Commitment for its actionable areas, such as tripling the capital base of Multilateral Development Banks (MDBs) and promoting the utilization of Special Drawing Rights (SDRs), all of which should be promptly embraced and implemented.

In conclusion, Mr. Hanif emphasized that the **Sevilla Commitment** provides the necessary **political direction**, the **DCF** offers the **indispensable platform**, and this **new report** furnishes the crucial ideas to **spearhead** the rebuilding of the development cooperation architecture. This confluence, he argued, presents a **unique opportunity** that the Global South **must seize**. He highlighted the practical collaboration between DESA and UNOSSC on the [South-South Galaxy](#), a digital platform facilitating peer-learning and policy resources, as an example of digital innovation in action. He **underscored the urgency** of focusing on concrete outcomes and results, rather than merely processes or commitments, as the **stakes** for global development **are exceptionally high**. He urged all leaders to engage in this critical conversation, particularly as the **rethinking of the architecture** is set to deliver by the following year, driven by the DCF's mandate.

➤ **Professor Sachin Chaturvedi, Director General, Research and Information System for Developing Countries, India**

Question: *With the Global South increasingly recognized as a driver of innovation and alternative development pathways, how can emerging economies like India advance South-South and triangular cooperation in areas such as digital technology exchanges, inclusive financing, and triangular knowledge partnerships—that respond to global crises and reinforce mutual resilience and SDG delivery?*

Professor Sachin Chaturvedi congratulated the UNOSSC Director for leading the publication and commended the panel for its stimulating contributions. He acknowledged the current year's significance, particularly with South Africa's G20 leadership creating **new pathways** for Global South engagement.

Professor Chaturvedi focused on **three key themes: digital technology, inclusive finance, and triangular development cooperation**, outlining several points. He strongly agreed with the need for country-led strategies, emphasizing the **importance of identifying sectoral specificities** based on national roadmaps. He noted that rising per capita incomes in the Global South have heightened public expectations, making digitalization and digital public infrastructure crucial for progress. He highlighted a **significant challenge: traditional prescriptions** from the US and EU, favoring market forces for digital infrastructure, **are often unhelpful**. India's experience, he stated, demonstrates a **"classical middle path"** where the government lays out the infrastructure, allowing the private sector to leverage it, which helps **absorb externalities** and **significantly cuts costs**.

As an example, India has reduced internet access costs by 97%, leading to a 230% increase in internet adoption in the country, with 820 million users and 64% of payments now digital. This creates an **inclusive development model**, particularly in finance, enabling previously excluded populations to catch up. Drawing on his experience with the Reserve Bank of India, he cited the success of the Unified Payment Interface (UPI) system, which integrates banking correspondents and self-help groups into this digital financial ecosystem. India's case, he argued, shows a **powerful convergence of financial inclusion and digital technology**, where Fintech, when understood through digital public infrastructure and financial inclusion, can drive **profound transformation**.

He stressed that effective implementation of country-led strategies requires **skills**, a **recognized gap in the Global South**, and noted the report's identification of **institutional fragmentation** as a key challenge that needs a consolidated approach. On triangular cooperation, he mentioned a recent conference report he had shared with the UNOSSC Director (["Emerging Contours of Triangular Cooperation and Global South"](#)), arguing that **traditional distinctions** between North-

South and South-South cooperation **must yield to a greater embrace of triangular models**. He cited an example of a successful India-Germany collaboration in four African countries, supporting micro-unit development and refinancing to strengthen small and micro-enterprises, particularly in agricultural technology for small farmers. This demonstrates how North and South can work together on digital public infrastructure, financial inclusion, and capital-intensive projects.

Finally, Professor Chaturvedi pointed to the **broader issue of norm setting** in development cooperation, **questioning who defines these norms** and whether to follow the OECD DAC approach or a Global South approach. He urged **further deep analysis** on these **outstanding issues**, suggesting that the South Centre, especially with Brazil's BRICS leadership, could take on this task to advance the dialogue. He concluded by reiterating the call for concrete action and engagement to take these discussions forward.

➤ **Dr. Carlos María Correa, Executive Director of the South Centre, Switzerland**

Question: The Global Report highlights technology access and innovation as essential pillars for SSC in addressing intersecting crises. From your perspective, how can South-South and triangular cooperation be strategically leveraged to expand access to critical technologies—such as digital, health, and AI tools—through measures like joint R&D, knowledge co-creation, or intellectual property pooling, while upholding the principles of equity and sovereignty?

Dr. Correa began by commending the report as a **comprehensive and forward-looking document**, agreeing that South-South cooperation, complemented by triangular cooperation, is an essential rather than merely an alternative modality in global development. He highlighted **an often-overlooked historical point**: the 1955 Bandung Declaration already called for South-South cooperation in technology, advocating for mutual technical assistance through experts, trainees, pilot projects, and equipment for research and training. However, subsequent declarations, such as the 1964 UNCTAD Conference and the 1974 New International Economic Order Declaration, **shifted emphasis** primarily to technology transfer from the North, reflecting the **significant asymmetry** in science and technology at the time.

He mentioned the **historical dominance of the North** in science and technology and that trend **is already changing**. He presented statistics showing that in 2000, developing countries accounted for only 10-13% of global research and development, but this figure has now risen significantly to approximately 37%. This increase is largely driven by advances in China, India, Egypt, and Vietnam across various fields, including computer technologies, batteries, and telecommunications. He specifically praised India's impressive progress in computer technologies, citing its \$205 billion in information and telecommunication services and the vast potential for these technologies to be shared with other developing countries. He also mentioned examples like advanced rice varieties from the Philippines, illustrating that the South now has much to offer in terms of technology.

To leverage South-South cooperation for expanding access to these critical technologies, he pointed to the **efforts within BRICS**. Since 2011, BRICS has been actively promoting technological cooperation and exchange among its members and other developing countries, with notable milestones including ministerial meetings, a plan of action for innovation cooperation adopted in 2017 and calls for proposals. He emphasized that the **expansion of BRICS** makes this cooperation even more significant.

Finally, Dr. Correa stressed that technological cooperation, including South-South initiatives, requires adequate financing. He called for a **more active role from South-based financial institutions**, including development banks, to provide incentives and guidelines for financing technology transfers. He acknowledged that financing intangible assets like technology can be more challenging than funding physical infrastructure, suggesting that more work is needed with banks to incentivize their capacity to finance such transfers among Southern countries.

➤ **Dr. Laura Trajber Waisbich, Deputy Director of Programs Igarape Institute, Brazil**

Question: How can South-South and triangular cooperation drive more integrated and forward-looking approaches that link social protection, food systems, and climate resilience—especially for the most vulnerable in the Global South?

Dr. Waisbich expressed her honor in participating and serving on the report's Advisory Board, echoing sentiments that this is a **timely publication offering crucial insights and candid reflections** amidst deep uncertainties in international cooperation and multilateralism. She reiterated the report's assertion that South-South Cooperation gains renewed importance in these turbulent times, emphasizing the **heightened need for solidarity, resilience, and collective self-reliance**.

Dr. Waisbich highlighted that the report correctly identifies the Global South as not monolithic and stressed that South-South cooperation is fundamentally about **exchanging knowledge, technology, and resources**. While it's an expanding source of development finance, its enduring value lies in being a source of Southern-grown policy, knowledge, and experiences. Therefore, when **assessing the impact and effectiveness** of these exchanges, it is vital to measure and value all **three pillars: funding, knowledge, and experiences**, including sharing lessons from both successes and failures as part of a transformative path.

She then detailed the report's call for **a strategic repositioning and transformative thinking** in South-South cooperation. The report advocates for a greater emphasis on human security and urges that the nexus between climate, nature (biodiversity loss), and development gains even more centrality in South-South cooperation. She underscored that the **climate emergency and nature crisis are existential risks** requiring concerted South-South efforts. This means expanding exchanges on climate mitigation and adaptation in both urban and rural areas, fostering policy solutions that connect the fight against poverty and hunger with the expansion of social protection schemes and resilient food systems, and promoting green transformation and industrialization from the South. It also involves pooling resources for forest conservation and low-carbon agriculture. While recognizing the diverse climate needs across Southern countries, she emphasized the critical connection between climate vulnerability and other economic and structural challenges faced by the Global South.

Looking ahead, Dr. Waisbich called for the **generation of new dedicated financial platforms and experience-sharing platforms** focused on these issues, acknowledging the diverse needs and priorities within the non-monolithic South. She stressed the need for a **greater political commitment** to bridge climate, nature, and development, and concluded by emphasizing the **indispensable role of the UN system** in facilitating conversations among Southern countries, regardless of ongoing reform discussions. She also underlined that **UN member states must commit to this transformative agenda** of South-South cooperation, including **innovative ways of doing, measuring, and assessing development cooperation** in the coming years.

Questions raised (summarized below):

The questions focused on the **future trajectory** of South-South and Triangular Cooperation. The first query focused on the **institutional and political changes necessary**, both within the Global South and across the broader multilateral system. The aim is to transform South-South cooperation into a coordinated and enduring force for addressing climate change and advancing related SDGs, moving beyond current fragmented or ad hoc initiatives.

Another question delved into **global trade and infrastructure**, specifically highlighting Africa's paradox of abundant resources but limited processing capabilities. This disparity often compels African nations into unfavorable trade deals with Western economies, perpetuating economic inequality. The question **explored the potential for regional industrial cooperation within Africa and across the Global South** to establish new income streams for regional development. Furthermore, it sought to ascertain whether such a vision aligns with the future objectives of South-South and triangular cooperation, and if so, what concrete actions are being undertaken to achieve this significant milestone.

Closing Remarks by UNOSSC Director

The UNOSSC Director expressed gratitude for the insightful discussions sparked by the report, viewing the event as just the beginning of further **focused thematic discussions**. She thanked all participants and speakers, including Sachin and the Advisory Board members, for their valuable contributions. She noted that these insights provide crucial guidance as UNOSSC develops its new strategic framework.

UNOSSC Director highlighted **two key takeaways**. **Firstly**, the rise of the South is paralleled by an **increase in institutionalization** within certain regions, particularly Latin America. **Learning** from these regional experiences and **enhancing cross-regional and inter-regional collaboration** is vital. **Secondly**, she pointed out that **much of the existing cooperation**, though **not always explicitly labeled as such**, is, in fact, South-South and/or triangular cooperation. She cited examples like personnel exchanges with Norway, Morocco's collaborations within Africa, and various UNDP platforms. An **urgent collective effort** is needed from all partners to **properly categorize and showcase these activities**, alongside UNOSSC's work on real-time monitoring.

She emphasized that South-South and triangular cooperation must become an integral part of development cooperation, rather than merely an **"add-on"** or an **"annex"**. It should be **woven into every partnership strategy** at regional, international, and all other levels, as there is much to learn from the Global South.

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For further information on the Report, contact the UNOSSC Knowledge Management Team at kmt@unosscc.org