

Lima Declaration

The Heads of State and Government of the South American and Arab Countries, gathered for the III ASPA Summit on October 2nd, 2012, in Lima, Peru, took note with satisfaction of the activities and achievements that have taken place since the II ASPA Summit in Doha, Qatar, and reaffirmed their commitment about the need to further develop bi-regional relations and consolidate ASPA. For this purpose, and in order to develop the future activities of ASPA, they agreed to:

1. GENERAL GUIDELINES:

- 1.1 Enhance the political dialogue and multidimensional cooperation in the context of ASPA and reaffirm the importance of bi-regional coordination in international fora and their conviction in South-South and triangular cooperation as a means of effectively promoting development and poverty reduction, through capacity building, innovation, and technical and cultural exchange.
- 1.2. Expand the current political dialogue, which is aimed at coordinating and reaffirming common positions in all relevant fora, with a view to safeguarding the interests of both regions and respect for the principles of International Law, the role of the United Nations in conflict resolution, the maintenance and consolidation of international peace and security, and the promotion of sustainable development, for the benefit of all mankind. Reiterate their commitment to the promotion and respect for human rights, fundamental freedoms and international humanitarian law bearing in mind the significance of national and regional particularities and various historical, cultural and religious backgrounds.
- 1.3 Reaffirm the principle of inviolability of diplomatic and consular premises and the obligation of the receiving States to comply with the Vienna Convention on Diplomatic Relations of 1961 and the Vienna Convention on Consular Relations of 1963
- 1.4 Applaud the broadening of diplomatic relations between Arab and South American countries, in accordance with the objectives and principles set by ASPA, and call upon ASPA countries to further enhance this process.

- 1.5 Reaffirm the importance of ASPA as a mechanism for bi-regional cooperation and inter-cultural dialogue. Recall, in this sense, the relevant actions developed to enhance mutual knowledge of both regions' cultures, in full accordance with UN principles and objectives laid out in the III and IV sessions of the Forum of the Alliance of Civilizations held in Rio de Janeiro, May 2010 and in Doha, December 2011 respectively, and other related fora.
- 1.6 Call for the establishment of nuclear weapons-free zones everywhere, especially in the areas located near nuclear arsenals, without prejudice to peaceful uses of nuclear energy. In the same way, promote a combination of measures such as transparency, confidence building, arms control, and to renew their engagement to reject the threat to use force or resorting to it in their international relations. Express their satisfaction for the commemoration of the 45th anniversary of the treaty of Tlatelolco, which created a nuclear weapon free zone in Latin America and the Caribbean, the first in a highly populated territory in the world.
- 1.7 Set, in accordance to the high priority assigned to their respective domestic policies in the fields of health, education, reduction of poverty and unemployment, specific goals for the bi-regional cooperation in those areas, in furtherance of the Millennium Development Goals; and to establish mechanisms and projects that will effectively contribute to the achievement of those objectives.
- 1.8 Reaffirm that energy should become one of the axes of the bi-regional relationship in the coming years, especially around the subjects of energy production and consumption efficiency improvement, the development of renewable energies as well as other strategies in addressing climate change bearing in mind the importance of energy for the sustainable development of ASPA members.
- 1.9 Strengthen scientific coordination and cooperation, particularly in the fields of information society, adaptation and mitigation of the effects of climate change, combating desertification and management of water resources.
- 1.10 Recognize that investment is one of the pillars for economic and social development as well as a key to reduce poverty and inequality. Support public and private efforts to promote investments in diverse areas at

national and regional levels to facilitate job creation, increase scientific knowledge and education, and promote sustainable development.

- 1.11 Adopt measures to facilitate and intensify technology transfer, trade and investment flows, especially in the fields of food and agro-industries, energy, infrastructure, tourism, and information technology.
- 1.12 Strengthen political and technical dialogue, cooperation and joint actions, where possible, by the ASPA Member States to address the world drug problem, using an integrated approach adhering to the principles of common and shared responsibility and respect for international law.
- 1.13 Support the ongoing global coordination efforts on food security, including the Committee on World Food Security, which will coordinate food security issues at a multilateral level. Moreover, reaffirm their commitment in relation to the conclusions agreed in the World Summit on Food Security held in Rome, in November 2009.

2. POLITICAL COORDINATION:

- 2.1. Reaffirm the resolutions of the 2009 "Doha Declaration" particularly related to the cause of Palestine and the Arab-Israeli conflict which reaffirmed the need to reach a just, durable and comprehensive peace in the Middle East on the basis of the principle of land for peace and relevant resolutions of the Security Council and of the General Assembly of the United Nations, in particular Security Council Resolutions 242 (1967) and 338 (1973), as well as the Madrid Framework and the "Arab Peace Initiative" adopted at the Beirut Summit (2002) and the following Arab Summits, to ensure the realization of peace and security for all countries in the region. Also highlight the necessity of the full implementation of the Quartet's "Road Map" for Peace and stress the need for the Quartet to keep the Security council and international community updated on its efforts. Reaffirm the need for the realization of the legitimate national rights of the Palestinian people, including to self-determination and return, and for the implementation of relevant United Nations Resolutions, including Security Council Resolution 1515 (2003), and the achievement of the independence of the State of Palestine, based on the 1967 lines, with East Jerusalem as its capital living side by side with the State of Israel in peace within secure and recognized borders.

Call upon Israel, the occupying power, to immediately withdraw from all Arab territories occupied in June 1967 including the occupied Syrian Golan and what remained from the Lebanese territories and to dismantle all settlements including those in occupied East Jerusalem. Reaffirm the necessity of halting all Israeli settlement activities, which are illegal and illegitimate, and obstruct the peace process and are contradictory to relevant international resolutions and treaties and threaten the viability of the two-State solution. Reaffirm further that all unilateral measures taken by Israel in East Jerusalem are invalid. Duly take into account the advisory opinion rendered on 9 July 2004 by the International Court of Justice concerning the "Legal Consequences of the Construction of a Wall in the Occupied Palestinian Territory", and call upon all parties concerned to comply with the said advisory opinion, with regard to legal obligations.

- 2.2 Reaffirm the need for the immediate release of all Arab and Palestinian political prisoners and detainees in the Israeli occupation prisons, and support the Arab efforts aiming at addressing this critical issue in the United Nations General Assembly and other relevant organs of the United Nations System.
- 2.3 The Arab countries highly appreciate the position of those South American countries that have recognized the State of Palestine on the basis of the pre-1967 borders with East Jerusalem as its capital and call upon other countries to follow suit. Welcome the support expressed by those South American countries that were in agreement with the request by Palestine, submitted by H.E. President Mahmoud Abbas on 23 September 2011 to the United Nations Secretary-General, Mr. Ban Ki-moon, for the admission of Palestine as a State Member of the United Nations on the basis of the 4 June 1967 borders, with East Jerusalem as its capital,, a step which will contribute towards the realization of the right of the Palestinian people to self-determination and independence and to making peace a reality in the Middle East.
- 2.4 Regret the lack of meaningful progress in the efforts carried out by the Quartet in the recent period, and consider that the support of other actors could contribute to the resumption of negotiations as a matter of urgency. Recall that the Palestine Question is one of the main challenges on today's international peace and security agenda and, therefore, efforts to resolve it should be regularly reported to and should involve the UN Security Council.

2.5 Welcome the admission of Palestine as a State Member of the UNESCO and thank those South American countries that voted in favor of full membership of the State of Palestine. And commend the decision of the Executive Board of UNESCO at its 187th session on the adoption of the Jordanian design for the restoration and preservation of the Mughrabi ascent which was submitted to the World Heritage Centre on 27/5/2011, confirming the importance of the vital role of UNESCO in the protection of world heritage. Call for support of its initiatives in Occupied East Jerusalem, taking into account the city's humanitarian, cultural, and spiritual status for followers of monotheistic religions, and for support of the collective Arab efforts on the establishment of a permanent office of UNESCO in Occupied East Jerusalem. Welcome the inscription of the property 'Birthplace of Jesus: Church of the Nativity, the Pilgrimage Route Bethlehem on the World Heritage List.

2.6. Call upon UNESCO to continue to uphold the legal reference that it relied upon to issue its previous resolutions regarding the inclusion of the Old City of Jerusalem and its Walls on the World Heritage List in 1981 at the request of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan with Arab and Islamic comprehensive support according to the resolution of the Executive Board of the organization in September 1981 session, and the resolution issued in 1982, which included Jerusalem on the list of the endangered World Heritage, given that the legal status of Jerusalem as an occupied territory is still standing.

2.7 Condemn the Israeli military attack against the maritime vessels carrying humanitarian aid to Gaza ("Freedom Flotilla"), which caused civilian casualties in violation of International Law provisions that protect navigation in international waters, as well as international agreements, principles and humanitarian law, and consider that such violations hinder the prospect of peaceful solution to the conflicts in the Middle East. Welcome the report issued by the independent fact finding mission of the Human Rights Council to investigate violations of International Law, including international humanitarian and Human Rights Law, resulting from the Israeli attack on the "Freedom Flotilla".

2.8. Call for the full implementation of Security Council resolutions 1850 and 1860 and reaffirm the provisions of the Security Council Presidential Statement on 1/6/2010 regarding the critical situation in Gaza created by

the Israeli blockade and deeming this situation as unjust and unsustainable. Call upon Israel, the occupying power, to lift the blockade and allow for the sustained and regular movement of persons, delivery of medical aid, food, and required building materials for reconstruction, unimpeded provision and distribution of humanitarian aid, and commercial flows.

2.9. Reaffirm that no measures, unilateral or otherwise, should be taken which will affect the authenticity and the integrity of the cultural, historical and religious heritage of the City of Jerusalem and of Christian and Muslim Sites therein, in accordance with the Convention for the Protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage of 1972 and the relevant provisions on the protection of cultural heritage of the Hague Convention for the Protection of Cultural Property in the Event of Armed Conflict of 1954. In this regard, welcome and call for the implementation of the relevant resolutions on East Jerusalem and the Occupied Palestinian Territory which were adopted by the Executive Board of UNESCO at its 185th session.

2.10. Welcome the proposal issued by of His Highness Sheikh Hamad bin Khalifa al-Thani, the Emir of Qatar during the International Conference for the Defense of Jerusalem, which was held on 26/2/2012 to request the Security Council to adopt a resolution on the setting up of an international commission to investigate all the actions taken by Israel since the occupation in 1967 in East Jerusalem with a purpose of erasing its Islamic and Arab identity, and also welcome His Highness' call for the preparation of a comprehensive and extensive strategy for the various sectors and projects needed in Jerusalem, as well as the willingness of the State of Qatar to contribute in all possible ways to the realization and the implementation of said strategy.

2.11 Welcome the realization in Brasilia on July 10, 2012, of the seminar "Side by Side – building peace in the Middle East: the role of the diasporas" on the role of the Jewish and Arab diasporas to further the Middle East peace.

2.12 Reaffirm their commitment to Syria's sovereignty, independence, unity and territorial integrity and their commitment towards a peaceful solution of the conflict in Syria.

Repudiate the acts of violence perpetrated by all parties against unarmed civilians, condemn human rights violations in Syria and, in this context,

recall the primary responsibility of the Syrian Government. Stress the need to end all violence and reject foreign intervention and the need to fulfill the demands of the Syrian people for freedom, democracy and political reform.

Praise the efforts of LAS to resolve the Syrian crisis and urge the implementation of the United Nations General Assembly and the Security Council's resolutions related to the Syrian crisis. They welcomed the final communiqué issued by the Action Group for Syria after its meeting in Geneva on 30/6/2012, which demands an immediate end to violence in all its forms and lays principles and guidelines for a political transition led by Syrians. They urged the Syrian government to fulfill the commitments it has already made, including an immediate and full implementation of the six-point peace plan in a timely manner. Welcome the appointment of Ambassador Lakhdar Brahimi as UN-LAS Joint Special representative and support his endeavors, and commended Kofi Annan for his efforts.

Furthermore, emphasize the importance for the international community to continue their efforts in delivering urgent humanitarian aid such as food and medical supplies, and all other necessary assistance to the affected members of the Syrian population especially within Syria, and also in neighboring countries and other countries hosting Syrian refugees.*

- 2.13 Commit to the sovereignty, independence, national unity and territorial integrity of Lebanon and call upon Israel to immediately implement resolution 1701 (2006) in its entirety and unconditionally and to withdraw from all Lebanese territory and to put an end to its continued violations of the said resolution, and other acts against Lebanon contrary to international law, and demand that it compensates Lebanon for the damage inflicted as a result of its aggression on it. Support Lebanon's request based on this resolution, to move from the cessation of hostilities to a permanent cease-fire, in conformity with the truce agreement of 1949, and as provided for in the Taef agreement (1989) . Call on both parties to cooperate fully with UNIFIL. Reaffirm Lebanon's right to defend itself in the face of any aggression, in accordance with the provisions of the Charter of the United Nations and to exercise its right to

* Reservation from Venezuela.

its natural resources through all legitimate means in accordance with international law

Welcome the resumption of national dialogue sessions under the auspices of His Excellency the President of the Republic of Lebanon General Michel Sleiman and the adoption of the Baabda declaration on June 11, 2012 reaffirming the pillars of stability and the maintenance of civil peace and to prevent resorting to violence and sliding of the country into sedition. Support the efforts of the Lebanese government to save Lebanon from all threats to its security, and express understanding of the policy adopted by the government vis a vis the developments in the Arab region.

- 2.14 Call upon the Islamic Republic of Iran for a positive response to the United Arab Emirates initiative to reach a peaceful settlement in the issue involving the three UAE islands (Tunb Al-Kubra, Tunb Alsughra and Abou Moussa) through dialogue and direct negotiations, in accordance with the United Nations Charter and international law.*
- 2.15 Welcome the initiative led by the League of Arab States, the African Union and the United Nations to resolve the Darfur Crisis and express support for the efforts of the Arab and African Ministerial Committee chaired by State of Qatar and call upon the Sudanese factions who have not signed the Doha Document for Peace in Darfur to initiate negotiations with a view to building peace in the region. Welcome with appreciation the initiative of His Highness Sheikh Hamad bin Khalifa Al-Thani Emir of the State of Qatar to establish Darfur Development Bank, which commits the amount of two billion dollars with the purpose of reconstruction and stress the priority of Peace building through negotiations. Applaud the formal inauguration of the Darfur Regional Authority, an important step towards the full implementation of the Doha Document for Peace in Darfur.
- 2.16 Welcome the signing of the agreements between the governments of Sudan and South Sudan on 27/9/2012 in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, express their expectation that it will contribute to achieving security and stability between the two neighboring countries and in the entire region, as well as increasing the opportunities of economic and commercial cooperation between the two countries.

* Reservation from Bolivia, Ecuador, Uruguay and Venezuela.

2.17 Deeply regret the imposition of unilateral sanctions, which are inconsistent with applicable international law and that jeopardize the achievement of sustainable development, peace and regional stability, and may impact negatively on people's lives. In this regard, express deep concern at the unilateral sanctions imposed on Sudan which have negative impact on achieving peace in Sudan and call for their immediate lifting.

2.18 Congratulate Yemen for the Nobel Prize in Peace 2011 awarded to Mrs. Tawakkol Kerman.

2.19 Reaffirm the need to preserve the unity of Yemen and respect its sovereignty and independence. Also reaffirm the importance of international support to Yemen so that it can achieve security and stability throughout the nation, consolidate the democratic process, nurture freedom and achieve social justice.

Express their support for the efforts undertaken by President Abed Rabbo Mansour Hadi, the President of the Republic of Yemen throughout the transitional period, pursuant to the terms set forth in the Gulf Initiative. Emphasize the importance of a commitment to the implementation of the remaining items and the provision of appropriate mechanisms to ensure the political transition plan, including national dialogue, constitutional reform and preparations for the upcoming elections in 2014.

Reaffirm the need to provide necessary backing to the Yemeni government, supporting it to complete the transitional phase and the reconstruction process. Provide necessary technical expertise to train the Yemeni skills in various fields. Appreciate the positive results of Donor Countries Conference on Yemen, held in Riyadh and New York.

2.20 Welcome the election of His Excellency Mr. Hassan Sheikh Mohamed President of the Republic of Somalia, thus concluding the transitional period with the election of the President and the Parliament and reaffirm the unity sovereignty territorial integrity and stability of Somalia; support the Somali National reconciliation process held in Djibouti under the auspices of the United Nations, the League of Arab States and African Union. Condemn all attempts hindering the national reconciliation process and urge all parties to renounce violence and to contribute to domestic security, stability and respect for human rights. Call upon the international community to support the Somali government's effort to

achieve national reconciliation without excluding any party. Express support for the African Union Mission in Somalia (AMISOM).

- 2.21 Call on the Argentine Republic and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland to resume negotiations in order to find, as soon as possible, a peaceful and definitive solution to the sovereignty dispute referred to as "Question of the Malvinas Islands", in accordance with the relevant UN Resolutions. Reiterate that the pretense to consider the Malvinas, South Georgias and South Sandwich Islands as countries and territories to which the Fourth Part of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union, and the European Union Decisions on Overseas Association may be applied is not in accordance with the fact that a sovereignty dispute over such islands exists. Further state that the unilateral nonrenewable natural resources exploration activities carried out currently in the Argentine continental shelf around the Malvinas Islands are incompatible with the provisions of Res 31/49 of the UNGA. Call on the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland to refrain from carrying out military exercises on territories subject to a sovereignty dispute recognized by the United Nations.
- 2.22. Strongly condemn the intent of coup d'état in Ecuador in September 30, 2010 and reaffirm their commitment with the preservation of democratic institutionalism, the rule of law, constitutional order, social peace and unrestricted respect for human rights, which are essential conditions of the economic and social development of all States.
- 2.23 Welcome with satisfaction the creation of the Community of Latin American and Caribbean States (Comunidad de Estados Latinoamericanos y Caribeños, CELAC), a regional forum encompassing all Latin American and Caribbean States and aimed at channeling the hopes of unity of Latin American and Caribbean peoples, at the Summit in Caracas on December 2nd, 2011, In this sense, also express their support to the Republic of Chile in its capacity as first President pro tempore of the Community of Latin American and Caribbean States, and hope that the first summit, to be held in Santiago in January 2013, will be successful.
- 2.24 Welcome the entering into force of the UNASUR Constitutive Treaty on 11 March 2011, which brings together all nations of South America around the objectives of building integration and union among its peoples

in the cultural, social, economic and political fields, prioritizing political dialogue, social policies, education, energy, infrastructure, finance and the environment, among other.

- 2.25 Call upon the Nuclear Weapons States to fulfill their obligations concerning nuclear disarmament, as laid out in article VI of the NPT, while reiterating the legitimate interest of non nuclear weapon states in receiving unequivocal and legally binding security assurances from nuclear weapon states in this regard, and note that non-proliferation, nuclear disarmament and peaceful uses of nuclear energy are the three mutually reinforcing pillars of the NPT, and reaffirm, in this regard, the importance of cooperation between Arab States and South American States in international forums on issues related to nuclear disarmament.
- 2.26. Stress the importance of achieving the universality of the NPT, and call on all states not party to the treaty to accede to it as non-nuclear weapons states promptly and without any conditions, and to commit to achieving the complete elimination of all nuclear weapons.
- 2.27 Reiterate that regional security and stability in the Middle East require that the whole region be free of nuclear and other weapons of mass destruction. In this context, support the outcome of the 8th NPT review Conference (New York May 2010) which recalled the reaffirmation by the 2000 Review conference of the importance of Israel's accession to the Treaty and the placement of all its nuclear facilities under comprehensive IAEA safeguards.
- 2.28 Reaffirm their commitment to the full implementation of the 1995 Resolution on the Middle East, and call for the speedy implementation of the process agreed upon by the 8th NPT Review Conference (New York May 2010) and the practical steps adopted including mandating the Secretary General of the UN and the co-sponsors of the 1995 Resolution on the Middle East to convene a conference in 2012 on the establishment of the Middle East Zone Free of Nuclear Weapons and all other weapons of mass destruction.
- 2.29 Reaffirm that the use of nuclear energy for peaceful purposes is an inalienable right of the states parties to the NPT, and applying this right in a discriminatory or selective way, especially to the states parties, will affect the credibility of the treaty.

- 2.30 Condemn terrorism in all its forms and manifestations and reject any linkage between terrorism and a specific people or religion, ethnicity or culture. Emphasize the importance of combating terrorism through active and efficient international cooperation, within the United Nations and the concerned regional organizations, based on respect for the objectives and principles of the Charter of the United Nations and in accordance with International Law, international Humanitarian Law, International Refugee Law, norms, conventions, and other instruments on Human Rights. Also reaffirm the importance of enhanced cooperation and coordination in the exchange of information and expertise and in the development of competent organs specialized in combating terrorism. Call for holding an international conference under the auspices of the United Nations to study this phenomenon and to define the crime of terrorism. Discourage ransom paying to terrorist whether people, or groups or organizations And welcoming the signing of the agreement establishing the International Centre for Combating Terrorism under the umbrella of the United Nations in response to the proposal of the Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques, King Abdullah Ibn Abdelaziz Al-Saud, King of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia presented at the International Conference on Combating Terrorism - Riyadh 2005, which was signed at the United Nations Headquarters in New York on September 19, 2011 with the target to support international cooperation to combat this phenomena in order to eliminate it, and calling on the Summit to cooperate with the center.
- 2.31 Promote dialogue within our regions and with other regions through the combination of measures such as disarmament negotiations, where applicable, confidence building measures as a means to renew their commitment to the peaceful settlement of disputes in their international relations.
- 2.32. Welcome the successful conclusion of the II Review Conference of the Programme of Action to Prevent, Combat and Eradicate the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in all its Aspects (UNPOA) (New York, 27th August to 7th September 2012), with the adoption, by consensus, of a final report. In this context, reiterate the support and commitment to implement all the provisions of the Programme of Action and the International Tracing Instrument (ITI), to end the human suffering caused by the illicit trade in small arms and light weapons.

- 2.33 Highlight the importance of continued efforts to advance bilateral, sub-regional, regional and bi-regional cooperation aimed at security and the implementation of conventions, declarations and understandings that have been adopted over the years on issues of international peace, and security.
- 2.34 Reiterate the importance of regional and international cooperation to strengthen the prevention and fight against the world drugs problem and the fight against transnational organized crime in its various manifestations including human traffic, illicit trade in small arms, and light weapons in all its aspects, the smuggling of migrants, money laundering, kidnapping, corruption, and cyber crimes. In the sense, continue to promote the signing, ratification, accession and implementation as appropriate of the United Nation Convention against Transnational organized Crime.
- 2.35 Express their commitment to structure preventive policies and effective responses in the context of their national criminal justice systems to counter transnational organized crime. To this end, express their willingness to develop strategies to identify areas where bi-regional cooperation should be encouraged in the fight against transnational organized crime, with due respect for national priorities and realities.
- 2.36 Express their commitment to foster international cooperation to advance and strengthen measures to prevent and combat the smuggling of migrants and trafficking in persons, especially women and children, and ensure full protection and assistance to victims.
- 2.37 Express their commitment to the strengthening of multilateralism, the integral reform of the United Nations and democratization of international decision-making instances. Highlight the importance of deepening intergovernmental efforts to promote the necessary reform of the Security Council in order to turn it into a more legitimate, effective, democratic, representative and transparent organ. Likewise, considered it fundamental the revitalization of the General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council.
- 2.38 Appreciate the results of the mediation by the State of Qatar aimed at ending the dispute between the Republic of Djibouti and the State of Eritrea with regard to the Ras Doumeira and Doumeira Island and

encourage both parties to restore the status quo ante and to resolve their border dispute peacefully and in accordance with international law.

- 2.39 Reaffirm, based on the common objective of combating hunger and malnutrition, the importance of regional and inter-regional cooperation for implementing public policies to ensure food and nutritional security in a sustainable manner. Such policies should encompass strategies to favor access of vulnerable populations to food, while promoting the agriculture production of small family farms.
- 2.40 Support the reform of the World Food Security Committee, in order to transform it into the main multilateral space for food and nutritional security governance. The reformed Committee represents a transparent, democratic, consensus-based and inclusive forum, in which governments, UN agencies, civil society organizations and the private sector can debate and build consensus in a horizontal manner.
- 2.41 Recognize that Climate Change is an issue that requires urgent attention from an approach based on common but differentiated responsibilities, bearing in mind historical responsibilities of developed countries. Call upon developed countries to meet the challenges posed by Climate Change, to provide new, additional predictable and adequate technological and financial resources to enable developing countries to mitigate and adapt to the adverse effects of climate change to support strongly the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change and its Kyoto Protocol, and to commit themselves to stronger emission reduction targets to advance the negotiations on the second commitment period of the Kyoto Protocol.
- 2.42 Reaffirm their rejection of foreign occupation and recognize the right of states and peoples to resist it, in accordance with the principles of international law.
- 2.43 Express their strong commitment to the resolution of conflicts through peaceful means, and stress the importance of efforts of preventive diplomacy and mediation. Share the view that the international community must be rigorous in its efforts to value, pursue and exhaust all peaceful and diplomatic means available in the protection of civilians under threat of violence, in line with the principles and purposes of the Charter of the United Nations. Call for enhanced Security Council procedures in order to monitor and assess the manner in which

resolutions are interpreted and implemented, with the ultimate goal to ensure responsibility while protecting. In this vein, fully support the concept of Responsibility while Protecting (RwP) and stress the need for its discussion at the United Nations and in the League of Arab States and UNASUR member countries.

- 2.44 welcome the suggestion by Morocco that parliaments of ASPA be encouraged to consider ways to carry out cooperation activities and develop contacts among them.
- 2.45 Take note of the Lebanese suggestion to transform the “Executive Coordinating Group”, into a General Secretariat and also note the offer by Lebanon to host its headquarters

COOPERATION AGENDA

3. ECONOMIC AND FINANCIAL COOPERATION

- 3.1. Note with satisfaction the holding of two joint Meetings of Ministers Responsible for Economic Affairs in Arab and South American Countries, in Quito (25-26/4/2006) and Rabat (23-24/5/2007), from which resulted the “Rabat Plan of Action”, a bi-regional road map for greater integration and cooperation. Express satisfaction for what has been implemented of the Rabat Plan and call for its completion, specifically in the areas of energy, mining, tourism, transportation, finance and capital markets.
- 3.2. Reaffirm the mutual intention and willingness to continue, develop and increase rising relations among Arab and South American countries, and intensify them in all aspects, specifically in the economic, commercial and investment areas for both regions’ benefit, strengthening the businessmen role in this pursuit.
- 3.3 Welcome the signing of the Free Trade Agreement between Egypt and MERCOSUR and the recent signing of the Free Trade Agreement between the State of Palestine and MERCOSUR, recalling that MERCOSUR also maintains Framework Agreements with the Kingdom of Jordan, the Gulf Cooperation Council, the Kingdom of Morocco and the Syrian Arab Republic. Reaffirm their interest in strengthening trade relations and economic cooperation among ASPA member States.

- 3.4 Express our support to the participation of the ASPA Member States in the World Trade Organization (WTO) as members and/or observers, as well as to their processes of accession to this Organization, especially least developed countries.
- 3.5 Reiterate the need to achieve a fair, ambitious, balanced and comprehensive, development-oriented result in the Doha Round, through inclusive negotiations, in accordance with the Doha Ministerial Declaration (2001) and the Hong Kong Ministerial Declaration (2005). The conclusion of these negotiations will contribute to a world economic upturn and will expand the benefits of a trade multilateral system. In consequence, we reaffirm the importance of having, in this scenario, a significant market access, in particular for those products and services of interest for developing countries, eliminating the internal aids for agriculture, which distort international trade, and meeting the commitment of eliminating subsidies for exports, as well as any tariff and non-tariff barrier inconsistent with the commitments provided in multilateral agreements, in order to contribute to the strengthening of WTO rules.
- 3.6 Welcome the recent conclusion of the III Round of Negotiations of the Global System Trade Preferences (GSTP) as an important tool to strengthen South-South trade.
- 3.7 Support development policies of trade and partnership between the two regions through the strengthening of the aforementioned system of trade preferences among developing countries and through the increase of the number of signatories of the Sao Paulo round.
- 3.8 Urge the inclusion of Sudan in the Heavily Indebted Poor Countries Initiative (HIPC), and the resumption of development aid like other states emerging from internal conflicts. Furthermore, we call for the substantial debt relief of Sudan to realize sustainable development in Sudan.
- 3.9 Emphasize the importance of promoting reforms to the international financial system structure to continue redesigning the international priorities agenda, in order to make it more inclusive, to ensure an equal participation of developing countries and to consider their efforts for attaining economic growth with social equality.

- 3.10 Recognize the special needs and challenges faced by landlocked developing countries, caused by their lack of access to the sea, and reaffirm the commitment to arrive at concrete measures that could be taken with a view to mitigating the adverse impact of landlockness in order to achieve the effective integration of their economies into a multilateral trading system.
- 3.11 Reaffirm the significance and importance of energy as an essential resource in sustainable development, as well as the sovereign right of each country to set the conditions for the development of their energy related resources; accordingly, renew our commitment to continue with the cooperation and integration process among our countries based on solidarity and complementary work, as a continuous effort to achieve equitable and sustainable economic growth of their peoples. Recognize, in this sense, the valuable energy-related cooperation and integration initiatives being implemented in the South American Region.
- 3.12 Encourage joint research and studies in all energy sectors, including renewable energy and energy efficiency and promote cooperation and information exchange in the field of development of renewable energy for its optimal use. In this sense, welcome the establishment of the International Renewable Energy Agency (IRENA) in Abu Dhabi and its role, as the primary platform for partnership, in promoting the use and production of all types of renewable energy worldwide. Invite all ASPA countries willing to do so to consider ratifying or acceding to the membership of IRENA.
- 3.13 Encourage rationalization of energy through appropriate tools like awareness campaigns.
- 3.14 Welcome the initiative by United Arab Emirates to host a First Joint Ministerial Meeting on Energy and Mining, be held in January 2013, during the Abu Dhabi Sustainability Week .
- 3.15 Consider the mining activity as essential for social and economic development in accordance with the results of the 2002 World Sustainable Development Summit, and welcome the mining sector development, which create employment and opportunities for social inclusion and economic growth. To promote awareness of investment opportunities in mining sector to encourage private sector, develop

research and information of mining and sustainable mineral processing technologies.

- 3.16 Welcome the initiative of Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques King Abdullah bin Abdul Aziz Al Saud of Saudi Arabia, for Agricultural Investment abroad, in line with the orientations of specialized international organizations and agencies, aiming at assisting developing countries in internal investment, developing their infrastructure, providing incentives for sustainable use of soil resources and water expanding areas of agricultural markets and economic development in host countries and achieving food security for their people, taking into account national and international legislations and regulations
- 3.17 Reaffirm the need for promoting the creation of cooperation mechanisms regarding the mining sector, including the exchange of know-how, technology transfer and human capital development which take into consideration the need to achieve sustainable development, social development, economic growth, environment protection and environmental precautionary measures, furthermore promote significance of the mining sector database for improving mining investment.
- 3.18 Promote the importance of mining training and exchanging experts visits especially in the following fields: research and information in the fields of mining and mineral processing technologies, with particular reference to copper mining and processing in Chile, iron ore mining and beneficiation in Brazil, Gold mining in Peru, and gemstone mining and processing in Colombia and Uruguay.
- 3.19 Encourage cooperation, trade and investment in the agricultural sector between the two regions, taking into account national and international legislations and regulations.
- 3.20 Reaffirm the need to adopt specific policies that expedite and intensify the world food trade as a tool to contribute to the achievement of the first of the Millennium Development Goals by strengthening cooperation between the two regions, in terms of science and agriculture and livestock breeding technology, in order to increase production and productivity, as well as poverty reduction through promotion of family farming.
- 3.21 Encourage the re-use of agricultural wastes in industry and the sustainable use of natural resources.

3.22 Welcome the adoption by consensus of the Resolution A/RES/66/221, of 22 December 2011, declaring “2013 as the International Year of Quinoa”, an initiative of the Plurinational State of Bolivia, and invite Countries to support its implementation. Express their commitment to promote the cultivation of quinoa to fight hunger, in light of its nutritional properties. Also emphasize the importance of disseminating information on the qualities of this nutrient, and support research and development programs.

Also welcome the decision of the Director General of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), to appoint H.E. Mr. Juan Evo Morales Ayma, President of the Plurinational State of Bolivia, and Mrs. Nadine Heredia, First Lady of Peru, as Special Ambassadors to FAO for the International Year of Quinoa, to be observed by the United Nations in 2013, recognizing his leadership and commitment in the fight against hunger and malnutrition. Support the organization of the International Committee for the Coordination of the International Year of Quinoa, which will promote programs and activities to ensure the success of the Initiative.

3.23 Take note of the international commitments in the field of food security and agricultural development, including FAO Summit’s recommendations and the recommendations of the Riyadh Declaration to promote the Arab cooperation to face International food crisis Encourage efforts undertaken by all concerned organizations, such as FAO, IFAD and WFP to follow the transfer of technology in the fields of agriculture and food security, and rural development.

3.24 Reaffirm their commitment with the progress of the negotiations on international instruments in the Standing Committee of Copyright and Related Rights of WIPO regarding copyright limitations and exceptions, in the benefit of persons with reading disabilities, educational and research institutions and archives and libraries among others.

3.25 Reaffirm their belief in a new conception of international economic relations as the foundation of the South-South Exchange, under the principles of complementarity, reciprocity, cooperation and solidarity in order to favor mutual benefits in the commercial exchange with the support of regional financial institutions within their mandates, aimed at strengthening the integral development of peoples through the best use of the potentialities existing in their national territories.

- 3.26 Urge both Arab and South American countries to spare no efforts to foster international cooperation with all parties concerned – with particular emphasis on south-south cooperation, – and to share the best practices in seed selection and adaptation, innovation of irrigation techniques, as well as matching supply and demand of food products in developing countries with the objective of reaching sustainable solutions in developing agriculture and resolving food shortage.
- 3.27 Declare the shared purpose of furthering common strategies for the consolidation of agro-industrial development, including small farmers, in order to guarantee food security to people. Accordingly, and to start action in this regard, agree to establish an ASPA ad-hoc sub-committee with the purpose of discussing agricultural cooperation and transfer of technologies for the sustainable production of food that contributes to sustainable development. To this effect, instruct regional focal points in order to set the venue and date for calling on the first sub-committee meeting.
- 3.28 Welcome the offer of Jordan to host an ASPA Joint Ministerial Meeting on Tourism in June 2013 in Petra- Jordan.
- 3.29 Welcome the progress made on the study of “Air and Maritime Connectivity among Arab and South American Regions”, by LAS.
- 3.30 Promote cooperation in the field of maritime transportation and ports, through the establishment of a data base and information about the equipment and services available at the ports, with the aim of increasing the efficiency and safety of the transportation of goods, also the establishment of regular maritime lines between the main ports in the Arab and South American countries
- 3.31 Agree to promote cooperation in the air transportation sector, including the facilitation of direct routes between both regions, in particular, through the negotiation of air services agreements
- 3.32 Appreciate the launching of direct flights from U.A.E and State of Qatar and Arab Republic of Egypt to some South American countries, and urge other ASPA states to follow suit.
- 3.33 Welcome the creation of the South American Federation of Arab Chambers of Commerce to include the chambers recognized by LAS and the General Union of Chambers of Commerce, Industry & Agriculture for

Arab Countries; and encourage the creation of new chambers of commerce in countries interested in doing so, with a view to their integration to the said “South American Federation of Arab chambers of Commerce” .

3.34 Welcome the significant increase of global trade and investment between both regions since the holding of the First and Second ASPA Summits, stressing that there are still unexplored possibilities, which would allow for increased growth and diversification of bi-regional trade and investment.

3.35 Note with satisfaction the positive outcome of the Third Arab and South American Businessmen Forum - Partnerships and Opportunities, held in Lima, on the margin of the third ASPA summit for the purpose of enhancing trade and investment between both regions.

3.36 Welcome the offer made by the Plurinational State of Bolivia to host the III ASPA Meeting of Ministers of Economy and Finance in 2013.

3.37 Promote efforts to coordinate positions where possible in international fora in issues of common concern in the field of intellectual property and explore the possibility to establish a common data base on information related to patent and managerial expertise, legislation and the regular exchange between national institutions responsible for intellectual property in Arab countries and the countries of South America, in this sense, welcome the outcome of the joint meeting held in Beirut (October, 14th -15th 2009)

3.38 Welcome the activation of the initiative of His Highness Sheikh Sabah Al-Ahmed Al-Jaber Al-Sabah, Emir of the State of Kuwait concerning providing needed financial resources to support and finance Private Sector Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs) in the Arab countries, approved by Arab Ministers of Finance in a meeting on 18/10/2010 in the State of Kuwait.

3.39 Welcome the outcome of the Second Arab Economic, Development and Social Summit which was held in Egypt in 19/1/2011, which promotes cooperation between both regions, which mentioned the agreement on the necessity of fostering the Arab common action and lifting it to the stage of building new partnerships with different countries and regional and

international blocks, including the commitment to continue promoting cooperation with South American countries.

- 3.40 Welcome the efforts to increase the share of developing countries of the seats of the Executive Bureau of the International Monetary Fund and for giving them a greater role in shaping global economic policy. Reiterate the need for further redistribution of votes in favor of developing countries in line with their increased participation in the world economy.
- 3.41 Encourage investments in promising sectors at international and regional levels, and encourage Arab and South American countries to promote mutual investments, cooperation activities as well as exchange of information and experiences regarding investment promotion policies and legal frameworks and elimination of fiscal distortions with the aim of enhancing bilateral and regional investments ties.
- 3.42 Welcome the signing of the Charter of the International Energy Forum. The kingdom of Saudi Arabia hosts its General Secretariat in Riyadh. The charter was adopted during the Special Ministerial Meeting held in Riyadh in 22/2/2011.
- 3.43 Reaffirm the importance of cooperation in the field of peaceful uses of nuclear energy and support economic and technical research, and Encourage the exchange of experts between the research centers in the Arab and South American countries.
- 3.44 Welcome the announcement of the kingdom of Saudi Arabia for allocating 500 million dollars presented as soft loans to fund energy projects in developing countries, and donating 300 million dollars during the OPEC Summit which was held in Riyadh to establish a special fund for research in energy, environment and climate change.
- 3.45 Welcome the outcome of UNCTAD XIII, which was held in Doha during the period 21-26 April 2012, which addressed the theme of globalization based on development towards comprehensive and sustained growth and development, and highlighted the status quo of the global economic system.
- 3.46 take note of the Lebanese suggestion to establish an investment bank and request the ASPA Ministers of Economy and Finance to analyze this suggestion in their upcoming meeting in Bolivia in 2013.

4. CULTURAL AND EDUCATIONAL COOPERATION

- 4.1 Welcome the results of the I Meeting of ASPA Ministers of Education held in Kuwait during the period 28-29/11/2011, and consider the means of fostering the educational activities under the “Kuwait Action Plan” in the field of cooperation in education between Arab and South American Countries issued in the final statement of the meeting. Welcome the convening of the Second Meeting of ASPA Ministers of Education in Lima, Peru 2013.
- 4.2 Consider the means of fostering cultural activities under the “Rio Plan of Action for Cultural Cooperation” Issued by the Second Meeting of Ministers of Culture (Rio de Janeiro: 2009) .
- 4.3 Welcome the invitation of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia to host the Third Meeting of Ministers of Culture in Arab and South American countries during the 3rd week of November 2012.
- 4.4 Congratulate Peru for the awarding of the Nobel Prize in Literature 2010 to Mr. Mario Vargas Llosa.
- 4.5 Congratulate the Arab and South American Library and Research Center (BibliASPA) for the opening of its new premises in Sao Paulo and for the important work it has been developing in the promotion of the cultural and academic production of both regions, exhorting ASPA member-states to send publications, exhibitions and teachers to BibliASPA. Note with great satisfaction, in particular, the realization of the First South American Festival of Arab Culture (Sao Paulo, Rio de Janeiro, Curitiba, Salvador, Buenos Aires, 18-31/3/2010); the co-organization of the exhibition “Islam: Art and Civilization”, with 350 works of art (200 of which kindly offered by Syria), in the largest thematic exhibition in the world in 2010; the publishing of several books translated from Arabic into Portuguese and Spanish and vice-versa, as well as of the magazine Fikr Review of Arab, African and South American Studies; the Arab and South American Movie Festivals with debates organized by BibliASPA and its new website, with special sections dedicated to Education and Culture in Arabic, Spanish, Portuguese and English.

Also congratulate BibliASPA for the offering of the Arabic Language and Culture Program in the premises of BibliASPA in Sao Paulo, and

also in Curitiba, Rio de Janeiro and Buenos Aires, with the essential support of books in Portuguese, Spanish and Arabic especially developed for students of Arabic, such as Writing in Arabic: literacy, spelling and calligraphy and Arabic Grammar for South American Students, as part of a partnership with Qatar Foundation International; encourage the expansion of this Program to other cities in South America and recall the importance of teaching Portuguese, Spanish and Arabic, as mentioned in the Final Statement of the I Meeting of ASPA Ministers of Education, that lists, among its objectives, “to promote the learning of Arabic, Spanish and Portuguese for non-native speakers in the two regions” and “recognizes the importance of supporting the work developed by BibliASPA, which highlights the promotion of the Arab language and culture in South America, and call upon the ASPA member states to support its future initiatives”

- 4.6 Recall, furthermore, the signing of Memoranda of Understanding between BibliASPA and UNESCO, the National Library of Qatar, and the Qatar Foundation and the National Council for culture, Arts and Letters of Kuwait. Exhort other countries to follow suit and sign similar agreements which could allow for the expansion of BibliASPA’s bibliographic assets, language, culture and art courses, book and multimedia content translation, exhibitions and cultural events. Welcome, in special, the participation of ASPA member States in the Second and Third South American Festival of Arab Culture, which took place in March-2011 and 2012, and support the upcoming Fourth South American Festival of Arab Culture and celebrating 10 Years of BibliASPA in 2013.
- 4.7 Entrust the Officials responsible for Culture to organize a workshop involving Library directors and officials from both groups, taking into consideration the participation of main libraries from both sides such as Bibliotheca Alexandrina, the National Library in Algeria and King Fahd National Library in KSA. In this regard, welcome the LAS invitation to organize the workshop for Library directors and officials in cooperation with Bibliotheca Alexandrina
- 4.8 Welcome the initiative of establishing ASPA Library in Algeria and the procedures taken to carry out the groundwork study, and validation of the sketch of the ASPA Library project. Also welcome that the avant project is underway. Thank Algeria for bearing the costs incurred in the realization of the Library Project.

- 4.9 Welcome the procedures taken by Morocco to execute the South American Research Institute in Tangier/Morocco and thank the Moroccan Government for bearing part of the financial expenses incurred by the realization of the Institute Project.
- 4.10 Welcome the convening of the 1st meeting of ASPA-UNESCO Contact Group and the approval of its statutes and the organizing an ASPA cultural forum in UNESCO 2013.
- 4.11 Exchange models, policies and strategies to encourage an economy of culture, cultural industries and business in order to develop regional mechanisms for the dissemination of works of art, cultural goods and services.
- 4.12. Promote the universalization of quality education as an essential and inalienable human right. This should be understood by our States as a great priority since it represents a key factor for social changes, sustainable development of our peoples, poverty eradication, defense and compliance with our essential rights and responsibilities, based on principles of equity, equality, inclusion, participation, cooperation and respect, which guarantee an integrate and qualitative development of citizens.
- 4.13. Foster an exchange of international researchers and experts among universities from both regions, and entrust the Officials responsible for culture to prepare and organize investigation projects, seminars, conferences and workshops in specific areas of development.
- 4.14 Implement programs and projects in both regions, as well as organize workshops, seminars, conferences for the interchange of experiences on the implementation of programs for educational and cultural inclusion of disabled people.
- 4.15 Exchange experiences in assistance of victims of conflict with special needs, and implement programs for an integrated assistance and rehabilitation.
- 4.16 Foster programs of Academic Mobilization from and to ASPA member countries signatories of the Lima Declaration, Promote cooperation between experts, technical personnel and specialists in education in countries of the two regions, through the exchange of experiences which bring together the educational systems and professional training. And

encourage cooperation for teaching and dissemination of the languages of the two regions, through the exchange of language assistants of virtual learning and other activities.

- 4.17 Express their support to the right of countries in restitution of all its stolen and looted antiquities and cultural heritage illegally transferred, and invite the international community to cooperate on this matter in accordance with UN resolutions and international conventions.
- 4.18 Work to promote the mainstreaming of the human rights culture in our educational systems and are committed to the wide distribution of human rights guidance in our regions such as the Arab Action Plan for the Education in Human Rights adopted at the Arab Summit in Damascus in 2008 and the Arab Plan for promoting a culture of Human Rights adopted at the Arab Summit in Sirte in 2010
- 4.19 Promote the friendship between cities from ASPA member countries, by fostering the setting up of twin towns as a means to boost the establishment of understandings in order to increase cultural, technical and commercial cooperation and ties between the cities.
- 4.20 Take note of the proposal of Tunisia to establish bi-lingual universities in both regions, and refer the suggestion to the upcoming ministerial meeting of ASPA Ministers of Education in Peru
- 4.21 Welcome the proposal presented by Algeria to set up a network of the Diplomatic Institutes of the South American and Arab States, and welcome the offer by Iraq host a meeting for the directors of the diplomatic institutes of ASPA countries in Baghdad in the second half of 2013, also welcome Colombia's offer to host a similar meeting with a view to exchanging experiences, training sessions for young diplomats and to enhancing a better knowledge of the policies, languages and cultures of both regions. Welcome Brazil's suggestion that short term courses for young diplomats be organized alternating between South America and Arab Countries.

Cultural diversity

- 4.22 Recognize that cultural and traditional knowledge diversity is among the most required strengths to preserve and respect regional identities within the globalization processes being undergone by our peoples. Furthermore, we consider it necessary to commit to draw on processes aiming at building comprehensive, culturally diverse and environmentally responsible societies in order to eradicate human exploitation, thus creating conditions for a dialogue between peers, and a true know-how and regional vision exchange based on regional mechanisms for artists, goods and cultural activities exchange.
- 4.23 Encourage holding cultural weeks that include book exhibitions, cultural and intellectual seminars, exhibitions of fine arts, children books, traditional costumes exhibitions and theatrical and musical shows.
- 4.24 Reaffirm the respect for the freedom of cultural and ancestral practices of indigenous peoples in the scope of respect for the Human Rights and Fundamental Rights of Indigenous Peoples. Welcome the adoption of General Assembly resolution 66\296, on the organization of the High Level Plenary Meeting of the 69th session of the General Assembly, “World Conference on Indigenous Peoples”, to be held from 22 to 23 September 2014 in New York. Welcome the organization and celebration of the High Level event, held on 17 May 2012, commemorating the 5th Anniversary of the adoption of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples.
- 4.25 Recognize that the traditional use of coca leaf chewing (akulliku) is an ancient cultural manifestation of the Bolivian and Peruvian peoples.
- 4.26 Taking into account the richness of our history and the fundamental value of our patrimony for the identity and culture of our peoples, take steps to prohibit the illicit transfer and trade of cultural properties of each other and agree to take specific measures to cooperate and promote the protection of their cultural patrimony, via bilateral and multilateral agreements, training for the prevention of illegal trade, joint action in third parties and establishing funds for the protection of archaeological sites and museums, amongst other.

- 4.27 Welcome the initiative launched by his majesty King Abdullah II of Jordan during the 65th session of the General Assembly and the following adoption of the General Assembly resolution proclaiming the first week of February of every year the World Interfaith Harmony Week between all religions, faiths and beliefs.
- 4.28 Express the need to respect the diversity of cultures, religions and civilizations, which is part of the common human heritage; and stress that freedom of worship is one of the basic rights that should be respected and should not be subject to discrimination of any kind.
- 4.29 Express concern over the rise in instances of deliberate negative stereotyping of religions, their holy figures and followers, and call upon all members of the international community to fulfill their respective obligations under international human rights law, in particular concerning incitements to religious hatred, with a view to protect the right of everyone to freedom of thought, opinion, conscience, and religion without discrimination of any kind; and emphasize that respect for all religions is an essential pillar in creating an environment conducive to the full realization of human rights and fundamental freedoms.
- 4.30 Affirm the importance of supporting all the initiatives that aim to establish dialogue between civilizations, cultures, religions and peoples in general, and support cooperation with the United Nation's "Alliance of Civilizations" initiative, to create bridges of constructive contact, reciprocal knowledge and deeper understanding throughout the world. In this context, the ASPA Member States extend their best wishes to the II World Forum of the Alliance of Civilizations, held in the period of 6-7/4/2009, in Istanbul, and welcome the outcomes of the III Forum held in the first half of 2010, in Brazil. Welcome the efforts made by the League of Arab States in the Fourth International Forum of the Alliance of Civilizations, which was held in Doha during the period of 11-13/12/2011, and the call to implement the proposal of Qatar to create an observatory of the Alliance of Civilizations through which it can monitor and develop indicators in countries on the ground to ensure the extent of their financial and ethical commitment to the principles of the Alliance and its objectives
- 4.31 Express appreciation for the initiative of the Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques, King Abdullah Ibn Abdelaziz Al-Saud, King of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, to promote dialogue between world religions, faiths and

cultures. In this regard, recall important initiatives, including the Mecca Appeal for Interfaith Dialogue (06/06/2008), the Madrid Declaration for Interfaith Dialogue (16-18/7/2008), and the Dialogue between the Believers of Religions, Faiths and Cultures, that took place during the high level meeting of UN General Assembly (12-13/11/2008), which resulted in the signing of the agreement establishing King Abdullah Ibn Abdelaziz Al-Saud Global Center for Dialogue among Believers of Religions and Cultures in Vienna on October 13, 2011 in the presence of foreign ministers of the founding countries; Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, Austria, Spain, and calls for the summit to cooperate with the center.

5. ENVIRONMENTAL COOPERATION

- 5.1 Note with satisfaction the progress made in bi-regional environmental cooperation, particularly in the areas of combating desertification and mitigating the effects of droughts. In this sense, praise the outcome of the Meeting of the Committee on Environmental Cooperation of ASPA at the sidelines of the COP/UNCCD (Buenos Aires, 26/9/2009), which allowed for the national Focal Points of UNCCD to discuss an in-depth cooperation agenda for ASPA. This initiative was followed by the Seminar on Climate Change (Damascus, 4-5/5/2010) and the Meeting of the Environmental Cooperation Committee at the sidelines of the “II International Conference: Climate, Sustainability and Development in Semi Arid Regions” (ICID 2010), held in Fortaleza (19/8/2010). From this process resulted the “Cooperation Framework on Desertification and Climate Change”. Consider these South-South cooperation initiatives of fundamental importance to address the grave consequences of the desertification process. Welcome the results of the workshop on the techniques of life in arid and semi-arid regions held from 25-27/5/2011 in Campina Grande, Brazil, and the results of the meeting of the Committee on Combating Desertification, which was held on the sidelines of the Conference of the Parties to the Tenth United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification, held in Changwon / South Korea on 13/10/2011. In this regard, take note of the initiative of the Conference on cooperation in the field of Economics of land degradation (ELD) and innovative financial mechanisms and to emphasize the importance of coordination and cooperation between countries of both regions in both fields, as well

as international cooperation in terms of technology transfer and financial resources for both regions.

- 5.2 Note with satisfaction the progress in the implementation of the decisions of the I Meeting of Ministers of Environmental Affairs (Nairobi, 6/2/2007) and of the I Meeting of Ministers Responsible for Water Resources and Combating Desertification (Riyadh, 16-17/11/2008) and call upon all member states to take additional measures to complete the cooperation agendas contained in the “Doha Declaration” and the documents adopted in the above mentioned meetings. Welcome the hosting of Ecuador to the 2nd Meeting of ASPA Ministers of Environment in 2013.
- 5.3 Reaffirm their commitment to strengthen the bi-regional capacity to address the negative effects of desertification, as well as to benefit from the means and methods of combating this phenomenon. Encourage as appropriate the enactment of relevant national legislation and policies concerning, in particular, the production, import and use of products to increase agricultural productivity and expand the use of treated waste water for irrigation, in order to save ground water reserves. Support, in this sense, the role of the United Nations concerning such matters.
- 5.4 Welcome the signing of the framework for cooperation in the field of scientific and technical cooperation and technology between ACSAD and INSA to address the impacts, vulnerability and adaptation, and to reduce the risk of climate change, land degradation and desertification.
- 5.5 Praise the willingness of Brazil, Egypt and Morocco to cooperate in order to provide space data from Brazilian satellites through receiving stations in Egypt and Morocco for Arab States and to develop studies and research related to climate change and its environmental impacts.
- 5.6 Reaffirm support to the implementation of the Land Degradation Monitoring and Assessment in the Arab Region and South America (LAMAARSA) project, which brings closer the visions of countries of both regions on the scientific methodology applied to monitor and assess land degradation, and offers elements to develop policies to combat desertification.
- 5.7 Recognize that there are serious challenges from climate change which require an enhanced international response through the full

implementation of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change and the establishment of the second commitment period of the Kyoto Protocol, based on the principles enshrined therein, especially the principle of common but differentiated responsibilities.

- 5.8 Encourage the study of the degradation of the Iraqi wetlands and its environmental impact at the regional and international levels.
- 5.9 Appreciate the efforts made by Saudi Arabia with regard to climate change scenarios. These efforts have culminated by considering Jeddah Centre for Meteorology, as decided by the World Meteorological Organization, a regional center of the drought for the Arab States, the first of its kind to use a regional model in the Arab region. Agree on the need to develop coordination in studies of climate change scenarios by making use of information and models that can be provided by the Center in combating drought and desertification.
- 5.10 Welcome the adoption by the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development – Rio+20 – of the ambitious outcome document “The Future We Want” and underscore the crucial results of the Conference for the achievement of sustainable development. Stress the key contribution of South American and Arab States for the success of the Conference and reiterate the commitment of both regions to the reinforcement of multilateralism. Emphasize the importance of further strengthening coordination and cooperation between the two regions in the processes launched at Rio+20, in particular in the landmark establishment of Sustainable Development Goals. Welcome the decision to consider the creation of an effective sustainable development financing strategy and a facilitation mechanism for technology transfer. Reaffirm, in this regard, the need for strong and broad participation of developing countries in these processes.
- 5.11 Continue fostering cooperation in energy in order that the joint work in this area becomes the backbone of bi-regional cooperation. In this context, the Parties will encourage cooperation in the field of energy and sub-regional electrical interconnection, development of policies and technologies aimed at improving an efficient use of energy and development, and the use of sources of clean energy.
- 5.12 Promote cooperation and coordination between countries of both regions in the international trade of chemicals and disposal of hazardous wastes

in order to protect human health and the environment, according to the international environmental agreements in this regard.

- 5.13 Recognize that biodiversity loss poses serious risks and challenges to countries, especially the developing ones, reaffirm the need to establish policies and promote cooperation in order to guarantee the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity, with fair and equitable sharing of the benefits arising out of the utilization of genetic resources.
- 5.14 Welcome the results of CBD/COP-10, particularly those regarding biodiversity of dry and sub-humid lands and inland waters, and stress the importance of South-South and triangular cooperation to halt the loss of biodiversity and accomplish the objectives of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020. In this regard, agree to promote joint actions between the natural and social science communities of both regions, thus increasing knowledge about biodiversity conservation, sustainable land management and ecological restoration to underpin disaster reduction and risk management policies.
- 5.15 Recognize that ecotourism activities that engage tourists and local and indigenous communities in the preservation of natural and cultural heritages can create significant opportunities for environmental education and the protection and sustainable use of biodiversity. In this context, stress the importance of promoting environmentally-friendly tourism – which causes no harm to natural ecosystems, biological diversity and associated traditional knowledge – and foster the exchange of experience and bi-regional cooperation with regard to ecotourism in dry and sub-humid lands.
- 5.16 Welcome the Yasuní ITT initiative of the Republic of Ecuador, which seeks to prevent the emission of CO₂ through the non-exploitation of oil in the Yasuní National Park to protect diversity, indigenous peoples living in voluntary isolation, as well as to promote a sustainable development model.
- 5.17 Welcome resolution A/RES/64/292 - "The human right to water and sanitation", which recognized the right to safe and clean drinking water and sanitation as a human right essential for the full enjoyment of life in all human rights. Recognize the importance of water as a natural resource of States that is an essential element for life, with socio-economic and

environmental functions. Promote the right of our citizens to have access to clean and safe water and sanitation within our respective jurisdictions.

- 5.18 Welcome the decision by the Conference of the Parties (COP) at its 17th session in Durban, November 2011 – December 2011, that the State of Qatar host in 2012 the 18th Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate change (COP 18) and the 8th Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Kyoto Protocol (CMP8)
- 5.19 In line with the principle of the Rio declaration on environment and development on 1992 and agenda 21, encourage cooperation in the field of transboundary waters, in accordance with international law and its principles ruling shared water resources, and in conformity with existing agreements, taking into account the interests of all riparian states concerned, to foster mutual benefits and stability

6. COOPERATION IN SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY AND INNOVATION

- 6.1 Agree to foster cooperation on Information and Communication Technologies, with a view to reducing the digital gap, as a tool for integral development and the institution of an inclusive educational system.
- 6.2 Agree to foster bi-regional cooperation in the field of scientific research, technological development, innovation and higher education in areas of mutual interest to both regions with the aim of promoting sustainable development, regional competitiveness and social inclusion.
- 6.3 Welcome, as well, the development of initiatives in the field of technologies such as nanotechnology, new materials, biotechnology, ICTs and the field of new technologies for energy efficiency and renewable energy. Consider it important to encourage the use, development and research of these technologies, adapted to the needs and realities of South American and Arab countries, in order to strengthen their technological capacities and ensure security, sovereignty and independence to the countries of both regions.

- 6.4 Promote initiatives and basic research projects applied to the technology development innovation and promotion in the scope of the renewable energies, energetic efficiency, management of water resources, aquatic ecosystem, dynamic and natural changes and impacts in the intervention of water resources.
- 6.5 Welcome the holding in Buenos Aires, on august 30 and 31, 2012, of the Seminar on E-Government and Free software, which made it possible to enhance bilateral cooperation on information and communication technologies.
- 6.6 Welcome the proposal of the League of Arab states to hold an expanded meeting of the experts of Communications and Information Technology to include all stakeholders of the Arab and South American countries in the first quarter of 2013, in order to identify issues of common interest, and discuss ways of cooperation.
- 6.7 Praise the traditional cooperation in the peaceful uses of nuclear energy developed during decades by Argentina with its Arab partners, including Algeria, Egypt, Libya and Saudi Arabia, through the construction of research nuclear reactors, and the provision of equipment and related technologies, that represents a successful case in high tech areas within South-South Cooperation.

7. COOPERATION IN SOCIAL AND DEVELOPMENT AFFAIRS

- 7.1 Promote horizontal cooperation, transfer of technologies, knowledge and strengthening institutional communication between both regions on the basis of the perspective of rights, the necessary comprehensiveness of actions, respect for territorial, social, cultural and economic peculiarities, taking into account the importance of empowering the person in his or her family and community environment.
- 7.2 Hold an ASPA Forum with the participation of women in prominent Government positions, including members of Parliaments, in order to foster mutual understanding through the exchange of experiences with a view to strengthen women's roles in political, social and economic spheres, and welcome the invitation by Peru to host this event in the first half of 2013.

7.3 Welcome the results of the II Meeting for the Ministers in Charge of Social Affairs and Development (Brasília, 1-2/Mar/2010), and to the positive steps which was taken by the meeting to create “the Brasilia Plan of Action for Social Cooperation”. In this sense, hail the decision of the II Meeting of the Ministers of Social Affairs and Development (Brasilia, 1-2/3/2010) to create the Observatory for Human Social Development and Inclusion of UNASUR and the League of Arab States, which shall be an important platform for the promotion of technical discussions and bi-regional interchange of data and studies on social policies. Reaffirm the importance of implementing all the decisions contained in the “Brasilia Plan of Action for Social Cooperation” and of coordinating positions in international fora to promote the principles and initiatives agreed upon, as well as the identification of sources of financial support for their implementation.

7.4 Welcome the invitation of the Lebanese Republic to host III Meeting for the Ministers in Charge of Social Affairs and Development to be held in Beirut in 2012. Welcome the results of the first meeting of focal points for social Affairs, which was held in Brasilia on 13/1/2012, and what has been agreed upon as procedures to implement Brasilia Action Plan for social cooperation (March 2010), and preparations for the 3rd Joint Ministerial Meeting.

Encourage holding experts and high officials meetings to enhance cooperation in the Social and Development issues, especially exchange of expertise in poverty reduction, social policies and policies combating unemployment.

Decide to begin cooperation on the implementation of the results of RIO +20 conference (Rio de Janeiro – July 2012), especially preparation of the sustainable development goals SDGs.

7.5 Decide to begin Sport Cooperation within ASPA and with this purpose to organize sports tournaments for juniors in a number of collective sports games (Soccer, Futsal, Handball, Basketball and Volleyball, among others) involving Youth Athletes from Arab and South American countries.

7.6 Congratulate Qatar for hosting the FIFA World Cup 2022, and welcome the decision of the State of Qatar to consider Tuesday of the second week of February of each year, a sports day in the state and to be an official holiday.

- 7.7 Emphasize on the necessity to define common guidelines for social development policies, so as to make decisions that are in line with the priorities established in the ASPA Plan of Action for social cooperation, which contemplates policies aimed at strengthening the family with special emphasis on girls, boys and adolescents, young people, women, elderly people, persons with disabilities and indigenous peoples.
- 7.8 Promote all the efforts aiming at finding jobs for women and youth to help in achieving gender equality, and to provide wider opportunities for marginalized groups in societies in the process of making social decisions, as well as the importance of expediting the reduction of child mortality, maternal mortality and malnutrition.
- 7.9 Welcome the convening of the High Level Plenary meeting on the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) held at the United Nations Headquarters in New York from 20 to 22 September 2010 that adopted the outcome document entitled “Keeping the promise – United to achieve the Millennium Development Goals”. While also welcoming the progress made in some areas since 2005 they expressed their deep concern that such progress falls far short of what is needed, and urged developed countries to allocate new and additional resources to support the efforts of developing and least developed countries in meeting the MDGs as well as to urgently fulfill their commitments, in particular under MDG 8. Demand that developed countries fulfill their obligations towards developing countries. Reaffirm our major commitment with the Millennium Development Goals, promoting solidarity and cooperation among the ASPA countries to back up the national efforts devoted to foster individual and group welfare under equitable and sustainable patterns. All this, underscoring the significance of fostering inclusive development that will consolidate benefits for vulnerable groups, like those who live in poverty, suffer hunger, and are disabled people by developing education and creating decent job opportunities for them.
- 7.10 Decide to convene Meeting of Ministers of Health, and welcome the initiative of the government of Peru to host that meeting in 2013. The work of the ministers should aim to, inter alia,
- a) Promote cooperation and exchange of expertise in the field of primary/specialized health care, medical research, and health quality systems. Organize training courses in English language in the field of nursing, midwifery and primary health care and the quality health institutions.

- B) Exchange information and expertise on current and future plans for infectious diseases, and confront the challenges related to crisis management resulting from it. In this respect take note of the Arab Unified Plan to combat epidemics that was issued during the eruption of A (H1N1).
- c) Cooperate with the World Health Organization and the Pan American Health Organization in order to benefit from the anti-viral treatments produced against Pandemic Influenza, Tuberculosis, Malaria and Dengue.
- d) Promote cooperation and exchange in culture cultivation technology of active constituents for medicine.
- e) Develop joint work to promote higher access to efficiently tested as well as other essential HIV/AIDS drugs in the ASPA countries, paying special attention to more vulnerable and marginalized groups.

7.11 Take note of the outcome of the 1st Conference of Arab Expatriates under the theme "A bridge for communication", organized by LAS, that was held on 4-6/12/2010 at LAS Headquarter in Cairo. Value the Arab experiences in hosting such conferences annually with special regard to the Lebanese experience in this regard appreciate the positive role of South American nationals of Arab descent fostering relations between the two regions.

7.12 Reaffirm the importance of respect for the rule of law and of vigorous efforts to fight transnational organized crime and corruption, which constitute a great threat to economic reform and prosperity.

7.13 Welcome the increased role in ASPA countries of civil society and non-governmental organizations, indispensable partner along with the governments and private sector, in the development of societies. And Support the League of Arab States' efforts to encourage a vigorous participation of the Arab NGO's in the development of Arab societies. In accordance with the recommendations of the Civil Society Forum of the Arab Economic, Developmental and Social Summit held in Sharm El Sheikh in January 2011. Encourage ASPA countries to undertake cooperation activities civil society including through dialogue between the NGO's of the two regions.

7.14 Welcome the positive outcome of the high- level Forum on Empowerment of Women in the Development Process, which was held in Doha on 23 April 2012.

8. INSTITUTIONAL ISSUES

- 8.1 Reaffirm their deepest grief for the passing of Dr. Nestor Kirchner, first Secretary General of the Union of South American Nations (UNASUR), and emphasize his fundamental role for the South American integration as President of the Argentine Nation and as Secretary General of UNASUR.
- 8.2 Welcome the offer of Bahrain to host the next meeting of the Ministers of Foreign Affairs of ASPA countries in 2014
- 8.3 The Heads of State and Government welcome the offer of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia to host the IV ASPA Summit which will take place in Riyadh in 2015.

They also expressed their appreciation for the hospitality of the people and the Government of Peru.