

Donors Conference on Haiti  
Washington, DC – July 19<sup>th</sup>-20<sup>th</sup>, 2004  
Speech by the head of the Brazilian Delegation

Mr. Chairman,

The Brazilian Government is willing to contribute to the Conference's objectives and is prepared to help restore Haiti's institutions and support its economic and social development.

Since the beginning of the Haitian crisis, Brazil has expressed its solidarity with the people and authorities of Haiti. Furthermore, the Brazilian Government has voiced its sincere wishes that all Haitian political sectors could find the way to preserve democracy and ensure economic development. It is our understanding, however, that this goal shall only be attained if the international community promotes a coordinated and generous cooperation effort.

In line with our tradition of favoring multilateral solution of conflicts, Brazil asserted its willingness to take part in the stabilization force approved by Resolution 1542 of the UN Security Council. More than 1,200 Brazilian soldiers are now in Haitian territory and constitute, for the time being, the core of MINUSTAH. It should be underlined that the timely deployment of Brazilian forces, through coordinated efforts of the Brazilian Executive branch and Congress, was crucial to avoid a dangerous security gap in the country, after the departure of the Multinational Interim Force some weeks ago. In this context, the Brazilian Government would like to extend its compliments to Mr. Juan Gabriel Valdes, who will be the special representative of the UN Secretary General to Haiti.

The Brazilian Government is committed to find solutions to the Haitian crisis, in accordance with the principles of our foreign policy. In effect, President Luiz Inácio Lula da Silva, together with Presidents Chirac of France and Lagos of Chile, and UN Secretary General Kofi Annan, issued a declaration in Geneva geared to mobilize political will and support from the world community against hunger and poverty. Not only the Governments, but also the private sector and the civil society would contribute to a global partnership aiming at this target, in the framework of the commitments of the Millenium Summit and the Monterrey Conference.

In order to ensure continuity to this initiative, President Lula da Silva is planning to organize, with the support of the UN Secretary General, a meeting of world leaders in New York, on September 20th 2004, the preceding day of the opening of the General Debate of UN General Assembly 59th Session. The objective of this meeting is the evaluation of innovative sources of financing development, which is of utmost importance in Haiti's case.

Mr. Chairman,

Brazil has significant technical knowledge that can be immediately transferred to Haiti. The technical cooperation offered by Brazil is more than assistance. It is neither for profit nor tied-aid. Instead, it is designed to help our partners strengthen their institutions and their ownership of joint initiatives. It is our belief that this is an essential condition for the rapid and effective transfer and absorption of knowledge.

Brazil is not a net donor of financial resources in the area of international cooperation or development aid. In fact, Brazilian cooperation to developing countries can be measured by the work of consultants and technicians, the promotion of training courses, by building up professional capabilities and also by the donation of small equipment to be used in specific technical cooperation projects.

In this framework, the Brazilian Government, through the Brazilian Cooperation Agency, is sending a multidisciplinary mission to Haiti, made of experts in the fields of health, agriculture, civil defense, water and waste management, among others, in order to identify the focal points for the prompt implementation of initiatives that respond to the priorities set by the Haitian authorities.

Mr. Chairman,

With reference to the document entitled ICF 2004- 2006, I would like to outline some of the areas in which Brazil has proven expertise and best practices, and which present real possibilities of being transferred to Haiti:

a) In the area of energy, mentioned on paragraph 114, Brazil has already successfully implemented projects for the production of ethanol as a substitute source of energy in Central America;

b) In the field of HIV/AIDS, mentioned on paragraphs 127, 156 and 157, a number of technical cooperation initiatives have been developed by Brazil, ranging from courses to the elaboration of a national plan to reduce virus transmission at birth, as in the program currently in place in Guinea Bissau. Similar projects have been developed or are already operating in Mozambique, Angola, Bolivia, Ecuador, Peru, and Guatemala. It is our intention to extend Brazil's technical cooperation in this field to Haiti, that will include joint efforts to exchange technologies used to diagnose HIV infection, and train technical specialists in the areas of prevention, program management, epidemiological controls, and infectology;

c) also in the field of health care, Brazil has expertise in mass vaccination campaigns, which can be immediately applied to Haiti;

d) in regard of waste management, mentioned on paragraph 143, Brazilian cities have developed an efficient system of collecting and recycling urban waste, that can also be transferred to Haiti;

e) concerning civil defense, Brazil can transfer its expertise aiming at organizing low cost structures and community networking very helpful to local and prompt reaction to natural disasters ;

f) In the agricultural sector, mentioned on paragraph 104, the Brazilian Government will seek to transfer our experience on tropical development projects and to spread new technologies with the view of increasing productivity and ensuring higher quality products. The Brazilian Agronomical Research Institute (EMBRAPA), is able to cooperate with Haiti in areas such as tropical fruit juices production, crops improvement, and technical assistance for an efficient marketing of agricultural products;

g) In the area of human rights, mentioned on paragraph 67, Brazil is also prepared to cooperate with Haiti;

h) regarding elections, mentioned on paragraph 69, approximately 100 million Brazilians took part in our last presidential elections. Thanks to the electronic vote system, the results of the elections were available in the same day. Brazil is able to offer this technology to Haiti.

To sum it up, the Brazilian Government is ready to launch a comprehensive technical assistance program to help Haiti. As mentioned, an assessment mission will visit that country very shortly, in order to discuss with local authorities the priorities of such a program.

Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman.