

# Information Bulletin

Quarterly Publication

Volume 1, Issue 4; (October – December 2013)

## South-South Cooperation and North South Dialogue

Technical Support Facility, Group of Fifteen – The Summit Level Group of Developing Countries

### New Year greetings from the Chair of the Personal Representatives of G-15



Ambassador Ravinatha Aryasinha

We have every reason to feel happy about the achievements of the G-15 in 2013 which is testimony to our collective vision, shared goals and growing aspirations. However, the real excitement comes from the new challenges we have committed ourselves to deliver on in 2014. This has considerably raised the bar on the level of performance expected from all of us. The untapped potential for greater and mutually beneficial cooperation among the developing countries, clarity on the new thematic areas of focus and cooperation, including the Post-2015 Development Agenda, and the restructured Secretariat are our strengths. The year 2014 is poised to climax in the XVth Summit in Colombo later this year, when the leadership of the Group will be handed over to Kenya.

I would like to avail of this opportunity to thank the entire G-15 membership, as well the staff of the Technical Support Facility, for the unstinted support received and to extend my warmest greetings and wishes for a happy and prosperous 2014.

### Key achievements of 2013

- G-15 delivers 8 Joint Statements in 2013 at international meetings at WTO, IOM, WIPO, UNCTAD, ECOSOC, FAO, ILO and WHO. This was a staggering contrast with a total of 2 Joint Statements made in 2012 and 3 in 2011;
- G-15 Foreign Ministers unanimously approve 20 actionable recommendations, including expanding cooperation in four new thematic areas: i) ICT for development; ii) Migration and development; iii) IP for development; and iv) Renewable Energy. Also renew commitment to strengthen engagement on Post-2015 Development Agenda and with Geneva-based institutions, including the South Centre.
- Kenya agrees to succeed Sri Lanka as Chair of the G-15 following the XV Summit to be held in Colombo in the last quarter of 2014.
- Restructured G-15 Secretariat (TSF) made fully operational and effective.
- New Quarterly Information Bulletin launched.
- Institutional measures reviewed to streamline Group's Budgetary and Financial Affairs.

### GROUP OF FIFTEEN

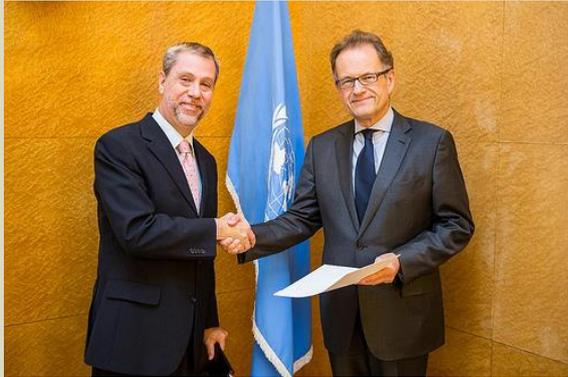


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### **Ambassador Jorge Lomonaco Tonda joins the G-15 family in Geneva as the new Permanent Representative of Mexico**



**Ambassador Jorge Lomonaco Tonda (left)  
New Permanent Representative of Mexico**

The Group of Fifteen warmly welcomes Ambassador Jorge Lomonaco Tonda, the new Permanent Representative of Mexico to the United Nations Office at Geneva, who presented his credentials to Micheal Møller, the Acting Director-General of the United Nations Office at Geneva on 20 December 2013.

Prior to his appointment to Geneva, Ambassador Lomonaco Tonda had served as Ambassador of Mexico to Sweden and non-resident Ambassador to Latvia and Lithuania since 2012. From 2007 to 2012, he was Ambassador of Mexico to the Netherlands and Permanent Representative to the Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons.

Ambassador Lomonaco Tonda joined the Mexican Foreign Service in 1991 as a career diplomat. Between 1991 and 1995, he was the Head of the Mediterranean Countries desk and Advisor and Chief of Staff to the Deputy Foreign Minister. He was posted in London from 1995 to 1998 where he headed the Multilateral Affairs Section at the Mexican Embassy. From 1998 to 2000, he was posted in Washington D.C. where he served as Head

of the Mexican Embassy's Consular Liaison Office.

From 2003 to 2007, Ambassador Lomonaco Tonda was Consul General of Mexico in Miami, United States. Between 2000 through 2003, he served as Chief of Cabinet to Mexico's Minister of Foreign Affairs and subsequently as Deputy Minister for Administrative Affairs at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

Ambassador Lomonaco Tonda was born in Mexico City in 1963. He has been decorated by the Kings of Spain and Sweden and by the Queen of the Netherlands.

*News Excerpt Source: <http://www.unog.ch>*

### **Ambassador Marcos Bezerra Abbott Galvão joins G-15 family in Geneva as the new PR of Brazil to WTO & other economic organizations**



The Group of Fifteen warmly welcomes Ambassador Marcos Bezerra Abbott Galvão, the new Permanent Representative of Brazil to the World Trade Organization and other economic organizations in Geneva who took up his functions on 17 October 2013.

Prior to being appointed as Brazilian Permanent Representative to the WTO and other economic organizations in Geneva, he served as Ambassador to Japan from 2011. Earlier, he was Secretary for International Affairs in Brazil's Ministry of Finance since

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January 2008, and in that capacity Deputy Finance Minister in the G-20 process.

At the Brazilian Ministry of External Relations, Ambassador Galvão held several positions, among which Assistant to the Secretary-General (1982-84) and the Minister's Deputy Chief of Staff and Spokesman (1998-2001). In other government agencies, he was also Deputy Diplomatic Advisor to the President (1990-92), Adviser to the Minister of Finance (1994), as well as the Minister's Chief of Staff both in the Ministry of the Environment (1993-94) and in the Ministry of Finance (2005-2007).

Ambassador Galvão served also at the Brazilian Mission to the Organization of American States, in Washington D.C. (1984-87), the Embassy in Asunción, Paraguay (1987-89), the Embassy in London, United Kingdom (1995-98) and the Embassy in Washington D.C. (2001-2005) – where he was Deputy Chief of Mission.

Ambassador Galvão is married to Mrs. Ana Maria Doria Galvão, and has two grown-up children.

*News Excerpt Source: Note Verbale from Brazilian Mission dated 17 October 2013.*

### G-15 JOINT STATEMENTS

#### G-15 delivers a Joint Statement at WIPO's 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Conference on South-South Cooperation



Ambassador Ravinatha Aryasinha, Chairman of the Personal Representatives of the Group of

Fifteen, delivered a joint statement on behalf of the G-15 member states on 22 November 2013 at the Second Annual Conference on South-South Cooperation on Intellectual Property and Development. This was Group's first ever Joint Statement at WIPO.

While acknowledging the challenges to the meaningful implementation of the recommendations of the Development Agenda, the Group expressed strong support for the mainstreaming of the development dimension into all areas of WIPO's work, in view of the opportunity it presents not only to all developing countries but also to those with the potential to fully benefit from the international IP system.

The Group called for WIPO to act as a catalyst to increase triangular cooperation between developing countries and LDCs. It called for initiatives to identify best practices in the use of intellectual property for, *inter alia*, technology transfer, public health, food security, and other global challenges in which intellectual property has an important role to play.

*For complete joint statement, please visit: [www.g15.org](http://www.g15.org)*

#### G-15 delivers a Joint Statement at IOM's 103<sup>rd</sup> Session of the Council



International Migration can impact positively the development of countries of origin, transit and destination and is a cross-cutting issue that involves all areas of human rights, labour, health, economy and education, among others. It is important that international migration be a part of the global economic discourse and development paradigm. These were the words

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echoed by the Ambassador Ravinatha Aryasinha, Chairman of the Personal Representatives of the Group of Fifteen (G-15) when he delivered a Joint Statement on behalf of the Group at the 103<sup>rd</sup> session of the Council of the IOM in Geneva on 28 November 2013.

The Group recognized the need to address international migration in a holistic and comprehensive manner, premised on the developmental paradigm of migration that is sensitive to the national circumstances of countries of origin, transit and destination and one that seeks to maximize the mutually beneficial nature of international migration while reducing its negative effects.

Expressing commitment in working together at both the regional and international level for the protection of migrants, the Group called on IOM to continue to play a lead role in discussions relating to the post-2015 development agenda on issues concerning migration.

This was the G-15's first-ever Joint Statement at IOM, following the G-15 Foreign Ministers Annual Meeting in New York on 27 September 2013 deciding to include "Migration and Development" as one of the four new thematic areas of focus for the Group in the coming years. The other three thematic areas identified are: Information Communication Technology; Renewable Energy; and Intellectual Property and Development.

*For complete joint statement, please visit: [www.g15.org](http://www.g15.org)*

### **G-15 calls for early conclusion of the DDA at WTO's 9<sup>th</sup> Ministerial Conference in Bali**

The Group of Fifteen called for a fresh impetus at the WTO's 9<sup>th</sup> Ministerial Conference in Bali held from 3-6 December 2013. Calling for early conclusion of the Doha Development Agenda with a development-oriented outcome, it highlighted that in it lied much hope for developing countries for boosting their share of

global trade and addressing the challenges of multi-lateral trading system.

The Group's Joint Statement at the WTO Conference was delivered by the Minister of Industry and Commerce of Sri Lanka, Honourable Mr. Rishad Bathiudeen on 5 December 2013.



Emphasizing the importance of facilitating accession to the WTO, the Group called for expediting the accession of developing countries and in particular, the LDCs, in a transparent manner and without any political impediment. The Group underscored that swift advancement in this regard would be critical in enhancing universality and inclusiveness of WTO and the multilateral trading system.

*For complete joint statement, please visit: [www.g15.org](http://www.g15.org)*

### **THE INFORMATION BULLETIN**

Season's Greetings and best wishes for a happy new year from all of us at the G-15 Secretariat (Technical Support Facility).

The Secretariat also wishes to avail of this opportunity to invite news, information, articles and or related inputs from G-15 members for this regular bulletin. Contributions may be sent electronically to the following email address: [tsf@g15.org](mailto:tsf@g15.org)

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