

The Federative Republic of Brazil

Positions for the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development

I: Coordinating Macroeconomic Policy in the Digital Service Age

Global economics are so intertwined that one member-state's policies can now have a direct impact on a global scale. When considering economics in the present context, we must consider the impacts that digital communications have made over the past 10 years on improving economies worldwide. In truth, member states that have better technological innovation tend to have more advanced economies and can contribute more to the global economy. We often hear a great push for fiber optics systems, but we should also push for cellular communication. More than 25% individuals in developing African nations now have access to cellular phones.¹ This is imperative for small business entrepreneurs who affect the global economy with a grassroots entrepreneurial movement. In 2002, Brazil established the Innovation Act, a program that's aim was to invest 2% of Brazil's overall GDP over the span of ten years in order to foster innovation and growth in the private sector and in Brazil's education system². Member states should be encouraging increased access to technology within their respective domains in an effort to increase economic growth.

Member states should also look at free trade agreements as a serious topic of discussion. Member states that participate in free trade agreements with one another tend to have a significantly higher Gross Domestic Product (GDP) than those of non-participatory member states. For example, Brazil has participated in a 2.4 trillion dollar Free Trade Agreement (FTA), called the Mercado Común del Sur, Common Market of the South (MERCOSUR). Brazil's GDP has risen to an impressive 1.6 trillion dollars, and sees the opportunity for other member states to participate in FTAs as a means of increasing their GDPs and better facilitating trade on a global scale.³ Free trade is the lifeblood of free market systems, in which the equilibrium price of a good can more easily be reached without these trade barriers. When the equilibrium price is reached the consumer and producer surpluses are maximized, thus furthering the GDP of all nation-states participating in the FTA. FTAs are the cornerstone to projecting developing nations into a more developed climate, and help the global economy overall. Brazil supports the notion of bringing various member states and IGOs together to discuss future policies on developing Free Trade Agreements.

Brazil calls upon member states to consider investing in new technologies that will further economic growth within their respective domains. New innovation will increase entrepreneurial opportunities worldwide in an effort to produce a grassroots approach to economic growth. In this technological age, member states that have limited access to new technologies are at risk for falling economically behind those member states that have access to technologies, and Brazil encourages member states to outline plans for increasing access to technology within their borders. Brazil also urges member states to create FTAs with member states within close proximity to them. These FTAs, combined with the use of technology, will help both individual member states economies as well as the global economy as a whole.

II. Ensuring Standardized and Coordinated Financial Investments and Trade in West Africa

Western African nations have at their disposal abundant natural resources, such as oil, aluminum and copper that can create economic growth, stability, and prosperity. As markets and economies continue to globalize, various countries have taken an increasing interest in investing in the resource-rich West African nations, many of which are still developing nations and economies. These investments in the domestic capital and resources of Western African

nations present an opportunity to create sustainable and long term economic growth and development. However, Western African nations face multiple internal challenges that have hindered much of West Africa's

¹ http://www.unctad.org/en/docs/ier2010_embargo2010_en.pdf

² http://smartech.gatech.edu/xmlui/bitstream/handle/1853/35136/Roberto_Sbragia_Technological_Innovation.pdf?sequence=1

³ "UNCTAD Conferences." United Nations Conference on Trade and Development. <http://www.unctad.org/Templates/Page.asp?intItemID=3361&lang=1>

efforts to successfully develop these valuable resources and, in turn, create prosperous and stable economies and government infrastructures and a higher standard of living.

Brazil has always been a staunch supporter of the development of African nations. Over the past decade, Brazil has become increasingly active in trading with Western African nations and is now their 3rd largest trading partner at US \$20 billion⁴. Brazil is supporting the development and investment in West African agriculture and biofuel production. Brazil's agricultural research agency, EMBRAPA, opened a center in Ghana in 2008 in an attempt to transfer technology and educate on biofuel and ethanol production⁴. The Brazilian government also invested US \$300 million in a major sugar cane plant in Ghana⁴. The factory is set to produce 100,000 cubic meters of ethanol, which is Ghana's fourth largest export⁴. Brazil continues to invest money in new technology and education and skill transfers. Brazil invested US \$10 billion in Western Africa in 2009, and they plan on steadily increasing this number⁴. An NGO in Brazil called Odebrecht has been focusing on government and infrastructure⁴. They have invested heavily in the improvement of these in African countries. This improvement will give governments the tools and ability to invest, develop, and expand the economy and will increase the effectiveness of the trades and investments of Brazil and other nations.

Brazil urges member states to continue investment in technology, education, and infrastructure. These improvements will bring about more efficient investing, trading, and greater internal development of the infrastructure and economy. Brazil also encourages countries to develop strong trade ties in order to create beneficial and coordinated economic relationships that will benefit economies on both a national and global scale.⁴

III. Addressing and Promoting the Role of Non-State Actors in Trade and Development

Non-state actors, such as non-governmental organizations (NGOs), multi-national corporations (MNCs), and inter-governmental organizations (IGOs) are crucial to the expansion of trade and the development of global markets. NGOs can have a farther and more effective reach and impact than that of individual governments can. Non-state actors have access to resources that may not be readily available to some member states. Many non-state actors are also based in a variety of states, and thus have knowledge from a variety of different experiences and backgrounds. This provides a level of expertise in their respective subject area that can be invaluable to member states that may be struggling with the issues that the non-state actor is attempting to address.

Brazil has a policy of welcoming many non-state actors as a means to advancing our state. For example, the Instituto Brasileiro de Analises Sociais e Economicas (IBASE), a non-state actor that focuses on educating the population on economic and governmental policies, has been in standing for thirty years.⁵ Although they are based in Brazil, their reach as spread throughout South America. Another example of an NGO in Brazil is Odebrecht, which has been focusing on government and infrastructure.⁶ Brazil considers non-state actors to be beneficial not only to our state, but also to other member-states because they can help unite member-states to tighten our global economy.

Brazil recommends that the United Nations acknowledge the 2000 Millennium Declaration commitment to incorporate NGOs within its work⁷. We can strive to refocus our efforts as a body to include non-state actors in future resolutions that encourage the use of NGOs and IGOs as a means of assisting with issues surround member-states. Our body should consider non-state actors to be a non-biased resource that is invaluable to our missions and goals.

⁴ "Brazil's Economic Engagement with Africa." *The African Development Bank Group Chief Economist Complex*. The African Development Bank Group Chief Economist Complex, 11/5/2011. Web. 29 Oct 2011.

<http://www.afdb.org/fileadmin/uploads/afdb/Documents/Publications/Brazil's_Economic_Engagement_with_Africa_rev.pdf>

⁵ Grzybowski, Candido. Instituto Brasileiro de Analises Sociais e Economicas, "Social Watch." Last modified 10 08 2011. Accessed October 30, 2011. www.socialwatch.org/node/13492.

⁶ "Brazil's Economic Engagement with Africa." *The African Development Bank Group Chief Economist Complex*. The African Development Bank Group Chief Economist Complex, 11/5/2011. Web. 29 Oct 2011.

<http://www.afdb.org/fileadmin/uploads/afdb/Documents/Publications/Brazil's_Economic_Engagement_with_Africa_rev.pdf>

⁷ A/55/L.2. United Nations Millennium Declaration. United Nations General Assembly. 8 September 2000