South Conference
“2015 and the South: Preparing for a Year of Uncertainty and International Summits”

Room VIII
Palais des Nations, Geneva
12 March 2015, 9:30-18:00h

PROGRAMME

9:30-10:00 Opening of the Conference
Chair: Mr. Martin KHOR, Executive Director, South Centre
Opening Speech: H.E. former President Benjamin William MKAPA, Chairman of the Board, South Centre

10:00-12:30 Session I: Global Economic Crisis, Increasing Impact on Developing Countries and South-South Cooperation Prospects
Chair: H.E. Mr. Benjamin William MKAPA
Presentation: Dr. Yilmaz AKYUZ, Chief Economist, South Centre – The State of the World Economy: Increasing Vulnerabilities of Developing Countries
Speakers:
- Dr. Isabel ORTIZ, Director for Social Protection, ILO – Economic Crisis and Social Impact: Are We Prepared? What Can We Do?
- H.E. Mr. Jorge VALERO, Permanent Representative of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, Coordinator of GRULAC, G77 and China Geneva
- Dr. Richard KOZUL-WRIGHT, Director, Division for Globalization and Development Studies, UNCTAD – Rebuilding North-South Cooperation in an Unequal World
- Dr. Humberto CAMPODONICO, Professor at the National University of San Marcos - Peru

12:30-13:15 Special Joint Memorial Ceremony by the Permanent Mission of Jamaica and the South Centre in Remembrance of Dr. Norman Girvan, former Vice-Chair of the Board of the South Centre, former Secretary-General of the Association of Caribbean States (ACS)
Chair: H.E. Mr. Benjamin William MKAPA

With tributes from the Permanent Mission of Jamaica to the UN in Geneva, Ambassador Ransford Smith (member of the Board of the South Centre), Dr. Mariama Williams (South Centre)
13:15-15:00  Lunch break

15:00-16:30  Session II: Global Trends and Negotiations: Post-2015 Development Agenda, Financing for Development, External Debt Restructuring, and Climate Change

Speakers:

• Dr. Manuel MONTES, Special Adviser on Finance and Development, South Centre – *Financing for Development and the Post-2015 Development Agenda*

• Dr. LI Yuefen, Special Adviser on Debt and Development, South Centre – *New and Emerging Debt Crisis in Developing Countries and the Need for a Debt Restructuring Mechanism*

• H.E. Mr. Alberto Pedro D’ALOTTO, Permanent Representative of the Republic of Argentina, Vice-Chair of the Group of 77 and China Geneva – *Addressing Debt Crisis and Vulture Funds*

• H.E. Mr. Modesto MERO, Permanent Representative of the United Republic of Tanzania, Coordinator of the African Group, G77 and China Geneva

• Mr. Vicente Paolo YU III, Programme Coordinator for Global Governance, South Centre – *Climate Change Negotiations and the Paris 2015 Agreement*

16:30-18:00  Session III: Updates on Trade, Investment and Intellectual Property Rights Negotiations

Speakers:

• H.E. Mr. Xavier CARIM, Permanent Representative of the Republic of South Africa to the WTO – *Recent Developments in the Bilateral Investment Agreements*

• Ms. Kinda MOHAMADIEH, Research Fellow, South Centre – *The Rapidly Changing Situation in Investment Agreements*

• Ms. Aileen KWA, Programme Coordinator for Trade and Development, South Centre – *International Trade Negotiations State of Play*

• Dr. Carlos CORREA, Special Adviser on Intellectual Property and Development, South Centre – *Intellectual Property and Development: 20 Years after TRIPS*