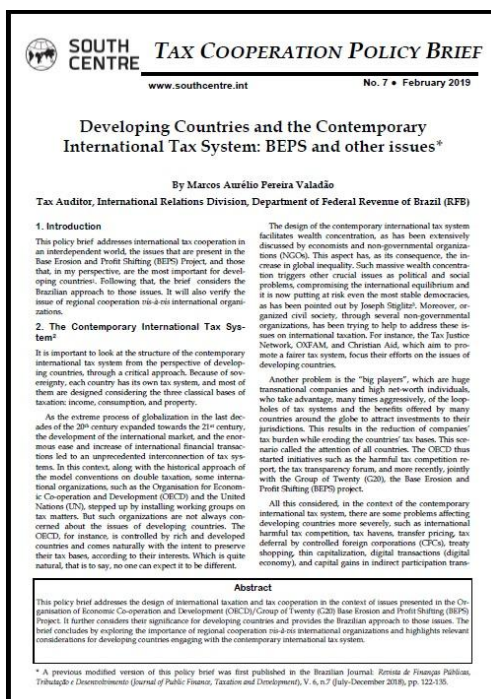


**The South Centre Monthly is a monthly update which provides a snapshot of the publications and social media activities of the South Centre**

## PUBLICATIONS

### Policy Briefs

## Tax Cooperation Policy Brief 7, February 2019: Developing Countries and the Contemporary International Tax System: BEPS and other issues



*This policy brief addresses the design of international taxation and tax cooperation in the context of issues presented in the Organisation of Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD)/Group of Twenty (G20) Base Erosion and Profit Shifting (BEPS) Project. It further considers their significance for developing countries and provides the Brazilian approach to those issues. The brief concludes by exploring the importance of regional cooperation vis-à-vis international organizations and highlights relevant considerations for developing countries engaging with the contemporary international tax system.*

Available from: <https://www.southcentre.int/tax-cooperation-policy-brief-7-february-2019/>

## SouthViews

### SouthViews No. 174, 5 February 2019: Scientific and Efficient Establishment of Urban Environmental and Resource Management System



*Transformation in urban areas needs to happen now to achieve sustainable development and fight against climate change. This transformation needs to be inclusive by focusing on social justice, power asymmetries and vulnerable populations; and requires all actors at the national and international level to collaborate in order to exchange information, generate and work with accurate data, develop technology and provide the financial resources for the implementation of the right programs and policies. These are messages of the keynote speech by Prof. Youba Sokona, South Centre Senior Adviser on Sustainable Development and Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) Vice-Chair, at the "Forum on the Implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development". He also highlighted the main take-aways from the recently released IPCC Special Report on Global Warming of 1.5°C.*

Available from: <https://us5.campaign-archive.com/?u=fa9cf38799136b5660f367ba6&id=70c5a5c160>

### SouthViews No. 175, 8 February 2019: 24<sup>th</sup> Conference of the parties of the UNFCCC: The US COP?

*Despite its stated intentions to leave the Paris Agreement, the United States negotiating team continued to dominate many of the negotiations of key areas of the twenty-fourth meeting of the Conference of the Parties (COP 24) agenda of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC). The outcome of the meeting, branded the 'Katowice Climate Package', again showed developing countries sacrificing many redlines to save multilateralism. The Katowice Outcome reflects very little substantial advancement of the global climate protection agenda. However, the discussion and further refining of the rules will continue in the UNFCCC's upcoming negotiating sessions in 2019 as well as COP 25. Hence, developing countries have a chance to regroup and push forward to ensure sustainable development objectives are ensured and protected.*

Available from: <https://us5.campaign-archive.com/?u=fa9cf38799136b5660f367ba6&id=b197369884>

## Social Media

### Twitter Highlights:

#### Top Tweet earned 4,854 impressions

VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT: Senior Program Officer, [#Trade](#) and [#Development](#) Duty Station: [#Geneva](#), Switzerland. The [@South\\_Centre](#) is an intergovernmental policy research organization/think-tank of [#developingcountries](#). For more info - [southcentre.int/vacancy-announ...](#) [#jobvacancies](#) [@UNjobs](#)

🔗 8 ❤️ 11

[View Tweet activity](#)

[View all Tweet activity](#)

#### Top mention earned 120 engagements

VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT: Senior Program Officer, [#Trade](#) and [#Development](#) Duty Station: [#Geneva](#), Switzerland. The [@South\\_Centre](#) is an intergovernmental policy research organization/think-tank of [#developingcountries](#). For more info - [southcentre.int/vacancy-announ...](#) [#jobvacancies](#) [@UNjobs](#)

🔗 8 ❤️ 11

[View Tweet activity](#)

[View all Tweet activity](#)

#### Top media Tweet earned 1,496 impressions

Engaging [#CSOs](#) to shape the future agenda on [#AntimicrobialResistance](#) [#AMR](#). Join the [@South\\_Centre](#) and [@uniacgamr](#) : [pic.twitter.com/a1gcwOAZFo](#)



🔗 5 ❤️ 5

[View Tweet activity](#)

[View all Tweet activity](#)

#### FEB 2019 SUMMARY

Tweets

48

Tweet impressions

59K

Profile visits

5,931

Mentions

51

New followers

52

**South Centre @South\_Centre · Feb 28**

Gap between developed & #developingcountries has widened over time. #US attempted rebuttal at #WTO's General Council of evidence submitted by developing countries in defense of S&D, ignores that #incomegap has tripled since 1960, as shown in 'The Divide' by LSE Prof J. Hickel

**About the Book**

For decades we have been told a story about the rich countries and poor countries. We have been told that development is working, that the global South, that poverty has been cut in half over the past forty years, and by 2030. It's a comforting tale, and one that is endorsed by the governments and corporations. But is it true?

Since 1960, the income gap between the North and South has tripled. Today 4.3 billion people, 60 per cent of the world's population, live on less than \$2 a day. Some 2 billion live on less than \$1 a day. The richest 1% possess more wealth than the poorest half of the world combined.

What is causing this growing divide? We are told that poverty is a that can be fixed with aid. But in reality it is a political problem: poor countries are poor because they are integrated into the global economy on unequal terms. Aid only works to hide the deep patterns of wealth and inequality in the first place: rigged trade deals, tax evasion costs associated with climate change. *The Divide* tracks the evolution of the economies of Christopher Columbus in the 1490s to the interwar which has allowed a handful of rich countries to effectively control the rest of the world.

GLOBAL INEQUALITY, 1960-2014 (GDP PER CAPITA, CONSTANT 2005 US\$)

Legend: Global South, Lat. Am. & Carib., M.E. & S. Asia, Sub-Saharan Africa, South Asia, High Income, Middle Income, Low Income

Source: UNDP Human Development Report, 2018 Statistical Update, Figure 3 at <http://hdr.undp.org/en/2018-update/download>

**South Centre @South\_Centre · Feb 28**

Developing country experiences show that reform of #IIAs & arbitration system is not only needed, but it is possible in the context of #Agenda2030. IISD-South Centre 12th Annual Forum of Developing Country Investment Negotiators provides a forum to find common grounds for reform.

12th Annual Forum of Developing Country Investment Negotiators  
February 27 - March 1, 2019, Cartagena, Colombia

You, IISD Economic Policy and Carlos María Correa

**South Centre @South\_Centre · Feb 28**

At opening of the @IISD\_ELP-@South\_Centre 12th Annual Forum of #DevelopingCountry #Investment Negotiators, Carlos Correa @Correa\_CEDIE, Executive Director, highlighted evidence on flaws in the current investment regime & the need for a fundamental reform of #ISDS & the #IIAs.

12th Annual Forum of Developing Country Investment Negotiators  
February 27 - March 1, 2019, Cartagena, Colombia

**South Centre @South\_Centre · Feb 28**

The @GCHRAGD & the South Centre explored the possibility of joint initiatives to strengthen the voice of the #globalsouth in the #UN #HumanRights discourse. @South\_Centre is thankful for receiving new publications from @GCHRAGD See [gchragd.org/en/article/gen...](http://gchragd.org/en/article/gen...)

**South Centre @South\_Centre · Feb 28**

Contrary to US' narrative on S&D, the development gap between developed and #developingcountries remains significant, as evidenced by #WTO Members' #percapitaincome and #humandevlopmentindicators. #HumanDevelopmentIndex

Graph: Human Development Index values, by country grouping, 1990-2017

Legend: OECD, Very High (HDI > 0.950), High (0.750-0.950), Medium (0.550-0.750), Low (0.550 or below), Sub-Saharan Africa, South Asia, Arab States, Latin America & the Caribbean, East Asia & the Pacific, Europe & Central Asia

Source: UNDP Human Development Report, 2018 Statistical Update, Figure 3 at <http://hdr.undp.org/en/2018-update/download>

**South Centre @South\_Centre · Feb 28**

US' proposal on Special and Differential Treatment (S&D) discussed today at the General Council ignores #WTO rules and #development-related mandates. If accepted, it would not only affect #developingcountries but create an additional obstacle to the progress of #tradenegotiations



**South Centre** @South\_Centre · Feb 26

How to better support #LDCs in various international fora and respond to the particular needs of Uganda, especially through training of new diplomats, were some of the subjects of the meeting at Uganda's Mission with Ambassador H.E. Mr. Christopher Onyanga Aparar.



UGMissionGeneva and Carlos Maria Correa

1 6

**South Centre** @South\_Centre · Feb 25

#Antimicrobialresistance #AMR is a global & multifaceted problem that requires mobilization of action by all stakeholders, including #civilsociety, based on the #OneHealth approach. @South\_Centre will continue to work with governments & civil society to support that process.



Carlos Maria Correa and UN Interagency Coordination on AMR

3 11

**South Centre** @South\_Centre · Feb 25

@South\_Centre at opening of the 40th regular session of the UN #HumanRightsCouncil during the opening speech of @UN SecGen Antonio Guterres @antonioguterres. Reaffirming our support to #developingcountries & stressing the importance of the #righttodevelopment. #HRC40 #HumanRights



2 2

**South Centre** @South\_Centre · Feb 25

In a productive meeting with Ambassador Mustafa Osman Ismail Elamin, Carlos Correa, Exec. Dir., discussed the role of @South\_Centre in #Africa & in supporting #development policies in #Sudan, including through training & support in international negotiations.



Carlos Maria Correa

1 2

**South Centre** @South\_Centre · Feb 25

Increasing @South\_Centre's activities in #CARICOM and with #SIDS, the challenges created by #climatechange, the ongoing discussions on S&D and #WTOreform, were some of the issues discussed with Ambassador Chad Blackman of #Barbados



Carlos Maria Correa

1 2 3

**South Centre** @South\_Centre · Feb 22

Burundi's needs in various areas covered by the South Centre's programs of work and the support for negotiations in #WTO and other fora, were some of the issues discussed with Ambassador H.E. Mr. Rénovat Tabu - @TabuRenovat in cordial and fruitful meeting.



Carlos Maria Correa

1 2

**South Centre** @South\_Centre · Feb 21

The @South\_Centre welcomed the visit of the Permanent Observer of the #AfricanUnion in Geneva Ajay Kumar Brandeo and the productive discussion on further cooperation in support of Africa's efforts to develop in the new scenario opened by the #AfricanContinentalFreeTradeAgreement



African Union, AfCFTA and Carlos Maria Correa

**South Centre** @South\_Centre · Feb 22

Ahead of BAPA+40, India-Argentina provide eg. of #SouthSouthCooperation in areas of - #nuclearenergy, #space, #trade, #pharmaceuticals, #agriculture, #scienceandtechnology, #culture, #tourism on State visit of Argentinian President Mauricio Macri to India. [mea.gov.in/bilateral-docu...](http://mea.gov.in/bilateral-docu...)

**South Centre** @South\_Centre · Feb 21

Dr. Carlos Correa, Exec. Dir. @South\_Centre noted that many #developingcountries have not fully used yet the #TRIPSflexibilities regarding #patents on plants, and discussed other main findings of new report on #plantpatents in developing countries.



Carlos Maria Correa, Arche Noah, Oxfam Novib and Oxfam International



**Side Event Launch of Research Report on the Status of Plant Patents in the Global South**

Tuesday 19 Feb. 03:30-04:45 hours from Rio

Over the last few decades, the number of patents on plants has grown impressively in various parts of the world. However, this growth has been uneven, with many developing countries still having very few patents on plants. This report aims to provide an overview of the current state of plant patents in the Global South, and to discuss the implications of these patents for farmers, breeders, and consumers. The report also identifies key policy options that can be adopted to ensure that plant patents do not undermine the livelihoods of farmers and breeders, and to ensure that the benefits of plant patents are shared equitably.

**Speakers:**

- Dr. R. De Vries (Dutch), Deputy Director and Director of the Center for Development Studies, Wageningen University and Research
- Prof. J.M. Carlos Correa (Uruguay), Researcher at the Institute for Economic Studies, University of the Republic
- Dr. P. Suresh (India), Director of the Center for Agricultural Economics and Policy Research, Indian Council of Agricultural Research
- Panel of country representatives and other stakeholders will be provided

**South Centre** @South\_Centre · Feb 20

Dr. Carlos Correa, Exec. Dir. @South\_Centre, discussed #intellectualproperty as a tool-not end in itself-& need for dev. perspective in implementing #IPolicies. at The Graduate Institute Geneva on "The Way forward on #Trade, #IP, & #HealthDiplomacy", 14Feb (Photo: S. Deshapriya)



Graduate Institute and Carlos Maria Correa

**South Centre** @South\_Centre · Feb 19

A 14.8% increase in revenues (nearly \$6.8 billion) from #creativeeconomy reported in US. #Developingcountries can also build #creativeindustries. Indonesia is an example of active policies and sustained expansion of this sector. [recreatecoalition.org/media-center/e...](http://recreatecoalition.org/media-center/e...)

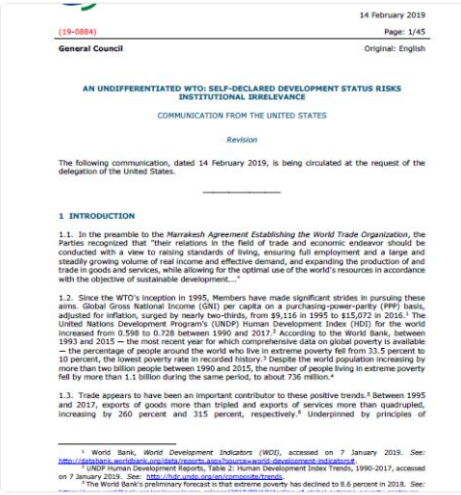


**Creative economy: Indonesia's wager**

This publication is part of a series of articles highlighting the key themes of the upcoming 2018 edition ReShaping Cultural Policies to be launched ... [en.unesco.org](http://en.unesco.org)

**South Centre** @South\_Centre · Feb 15

In responding to the partial and misleading analysis in US submission (WT/GC/W/757), #developingcountries need to find common grounds to preserve and strengthen the special & differential treatment in #WTO as a pillar of the #multilateral #tradingssystem. [bit.ly/2Eb9EuW](http://bit.ly/2Eb9EuW)



14 February 2019  
Page: 1/45  
Original: English

**General Council**

**AN UNDIFFERENTIATED WTO: SELF-DECLARED DEVELOPMENT STATUS RISKS INSTITUTIONAL IRRELEVANCE**

COMMUNICATION FROM THE UNITED STATES

Revision

The following communication, dated 14 February 2019, is being circulated at the request of the delegation of the United States.

**1 INTRODUCTION**

1.1. In the preamble to the Marrakesh Agreement Establishing the World Trade Organization, the Parties recognized that "their relations in the field of trade and economic endeavor should be conducted with a view to raising standards of living, ensuring full employment and a large and steadily growing volume of real income and effective demand, and expanding the production of and trade in goods and services, while allowing for the optimal use of the world's resources in accordance with the objective of sustainable development..."

1.2. Since the WTO's inception in 1995, Members have made significant strides in pursuing these aims. Global Gross National Income (GNI) per capita on a purchasing-power-parity (PPP) basis, adjusted for inflation, surged by nearly two-thirds, from \$9,116 in 1995 to \$15,072 in 2016.<sup>1</sup> The United Nations Development Program's (UNDP) Human Development Index (HDI) for the world increased from 0.598 to 0.728 between 1990 and 2017.<sup>2</sup> According to the World Bank, between 1993 and 2015 — the most recent year for which comprehensive data on global poverty is available — the percentage of people around the world who live in extreme poverty fell from 35.5 percent to 10 percent, the lowest poverty rate in recorded history.<sup>3</sup> Despite the world population increasing by more than two billion people between 1990 and 2015, the number of people living in extreme poverty fell by more than 1.1 billion during the same period, to about 736 million.<sup>4</sup>

1.3. Trade appears to have been an important contributor to these positive trends.<sup>5</sup> Between 1995 and 2017, exports of goods more than tripled and exports of services more than quadrupled, increasing by 260 percent and 315 percent, respectively.<sup>6</sup> Underpinned by principles of

<sup>1</sup> World Bank, World Development Indicators (WDI), accessed on 7 January 2019. See: <http://data.worldbank.org/ny/gdp/cap>

<sup>2</sup> UNDP, Human Development Reports, Table 2: Human Development Index Trends, 1990-2017, accessed on 7 January 2019. See: <http://hdr.undp.org/en/data/statfacts/tables/hdi>

<sup>3</sup> The World Bank's preliminary forecast in that extreme poverty has declined to 8.6 percent in 2018. See: <http://www.worldbank.org/en/press/2018/02/07/world-bank-forecast-2018>



**South Centre** @South\_Centre · Feb 15  
 Manuel Montes, Sr Adviser @South\_Centre, spoke on how some international treaty obligations restrict ability of #developingcountries to introduce policies to reduce domestic #inequalities at side event of the 57th Session of the Commission for #SocialDevelopment, 14 Feb, New York



Butch Manuel Montes

3 replies 3 likes

**South Centre** @South\_Centre · Feb 15  
 The #climatecrisis is real – the most drastic #climatechange action may not save our #glaciers; See theguardian.com/environment/20...; #DevelopingCountries should accord high priority to #adaptation. Read southcentre.int/research-paper... #climateaction @UNFCCC #climatechangeadaptation

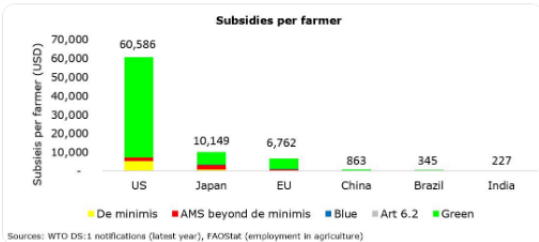


**A third of Himalayan ice cap doomed, finds report**  
 Even radical climate change action won't save glaciers, endangering 2 billion people

theguardian.com

2 replies 1 like

**South Centre** @South\_Centre · Feb 14  
 Today Committee on #Agriculture - Special Session, discussing #agriculture #subsidies @WTO. US gives US\$60k+ subsidies per farmer. #DevelopingCountries that support their #farmers, only provide a minor fraction of that amount. #AgWTO #SubsidiesForFarmers

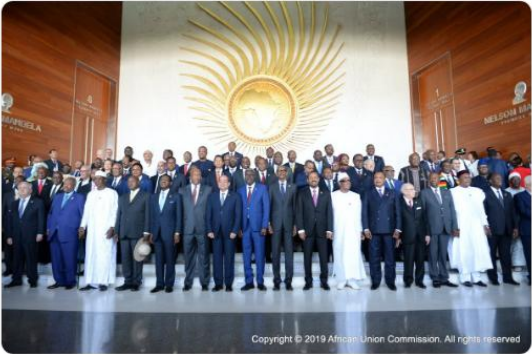


4 replies 4 likes

**South Centre** @South\_Centre · Feb 13  
 The @South\_Centre is pleased to announce that it has been granted observer status as an International Governmental Org. by the Codex Alimentarius - @FAOWHO Codex (Intl. Food & Safety Standards) following consultations with @FAO and @WHO

1 reply 3 replies 9 likes

**South Centre** @South\_Centre · Feb 13  
 The @South\_Centre welcomes appointment of the new chair of the @AfricanUnion in 2019, President Abdel Fattah El-Sisi of #Egypt. We look forward to continue working together to advance Africa's development and integration. #AUSummit (Photo: African Union Commission)



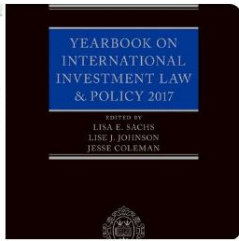
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1 reply 3 likes

**South Centre** @South\_Centre · Feb 12  
 Analysis by Carlos Correa, Exec. Dir., on 'Developments in Intl. Investment Law in Relation to Intellectual Property in 2017' was published in the Yearbook on International Investment Law and Policy (edited by CCSI's Lisa Sachs, Lise Johnson, and Jesse Coleman) Oxford Univ. Press

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13. Investment in International Investment Law & Policy: 2017 Developments in Africa, Hochstetler, Florian Hoff
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15. Developments in International Investment Law in Asia, Shungho Shimizu
16. Developments in International Investment Law and Policy in the European Union, Guillermo
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19. Disputing WTO General Exceptions into International Investment Agreements: Theoretical, empirical and policy, Anne Marie Aulovin, Michael, and James Henry
20. The 2017 Investment Law and Policy Yearbook: A Review of the Yearbook on International Investment Law and Policy, Lise Johnson and Jesse Coleman



Carlos Maria Correa

2 replies 5 likes

**South Centre** @South\_Centre · Feb 11

Deputy Permanent Representative Mr. Rajkumar Sookun of #Mauritius, a member of the South Centre, visited @South\_Centre to discuss his country's priorities and continuous support by the Centre in #internationalnegotiations



1 1

**South Centre** @South\_Centre · Feb 11

The developmental needs of Togo, particularly in relation to the supply of quality #medicines, protection of the #environment and #economicdiversification were considered in a meeting with Ambassador Mr. Yackoley Kokou Johnson.




Carlos Maria Correa

1 2

**South Centre** @South\_Centre · Feb 11

#Inequality is a global problem that requires #globalsolutions: @South\_Centre co-sponsors side event on "#Multilateralism as an essential tool to reduce inequality within & among countries" at 57th Session of the Commission on #SocialDevelopment on 14 Feb '19, 13:15h-14:30h, UN HQ.



3 4

**South Centre** @South\_Centre · Feb 11

South Centre has joined other intl. orgs. in #eTradeforall Initiative, launched by @UNCTAD in 2016. @South\_Centre will offer technical assistance & capacity building services in relation to Legal & #RegulatoryFrameworks, particularly #IP & #dataprotection.



1 1

**South Centre** @South\_Centre · Feb 8

How to #diversify and increase value added in #commodity dependent countries, the problem of #fakemedicines in #Africa, the situation of the #multilateralsystem, were some of the issues discussed with Nigeria's Ambassador Mr. Audu Ayinla Kadiri.



1 3

**South Centre** @South\_Centre · Feb 7

The @South\_Centre met the Ambassador of #Maldives Ms. Hala Hameed and her team to discuss possible cooperation with the Centre, including in the areas of #HumanRights and of #climatechange , one of the greatest #development challenges for the country.



German Velasquez and Carlos Maria Correa

1 2



**South Centre** @South\_Centre · Feb 6

Amb. Elyne Whyte & Carlos Correa Exec Dir. @South\_Centre discussed relevant issues for #CostaRica incl. #accessmedicines & protection of #biodiversity - areas where CR made notable progress - and #SouthSouthCooperation through CR's contributions in developing antivenoms.



Carlos María Correa

**South Centre** @South\_Centre · Feb 6

The situation & new policies adopted in #Angola, current challenges faced at #multilateral level by #developingcountries and #LDCs. & possible areas of cooperation with @South\_Centre particularly in relation to #accessmedicines, discussed w/ Amb. Margarida Rosa Da Silva Izata.



Carlos María Correa

**South Centre** @South\_Centre · Feb 4

Negative #socioeconomic effects (including on #accessmedicines) of unilateral coercive measures & other issues relevant for #developingcountries in current intl. scenario were discussed at fruitful meeting w/ Ambassador Esmail Baghaei Hamaneh of the Islamic Republic of Iran.



**South Centre** @South\_Centre · Feb 4

Yuefen Li, @South\_Centre Sr. Advisor & @isdb\_group official, met #China International Centre For Economic & Technical Exchanges #CICETE Director-General Zhang Yi to discuss #SouthSouthcooperation and #Triangularcooperation in Beijing, 22 January 2019. See [cicete.org/article/englis...](http://cicete.org/article/englis...)

**South Centre** @South\_Centre · Feb 1

#Development issues of particular relevance for #Malawi & ACP countries & possible areas of cooperation, including fisheries' subsidies, were discussed by Ambassador Mr. Robert Dufter Salama & Dr. Carlos Correa, Exec. Dir. @South\_Centre in fruitful meeting. (Photo - UN CC: Learn)



**South Centre** @South\_Centre · Feb 1

Developments in #WTO and other Geneva-based organizations & actions to increase @South\_Centre activities in the #Caribbeanregion, were discussed in a productive meeting of Dr. Carlos Correa, Exec. Dir. with Jamaica's Ambassador Cheryl Spencer. (Photo Courtesy: Govt. Of #Jamaica)



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