PARTNERSHIP FRAMEWORK AGREEMENT

BETWEEN

UNITED NATIONS DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME

AND

GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA
PREAMBLE

The United Nations Development Programme (hereinafter referred to as the “UNDP”) and the Government of the Republic of South Africa (hereinafter referred to as the "Government"), each referred to as "Party" and jointly referred to as the "Parties";

RECALLING the applicability to the UNDP of the Convention on the Privileges and Immunities of the United Nations, adopted by the United Nations General Assembly on 13 February 1946, and acceded to by South Africa on 30 August 2002;

ACKNOWLEDGING the Standard Basic Assistance Agreement between the Government and the UNDP, signed on 3 October 1994 concerning UNDP’s assistance to the Government in the area of technical cooperation and development;

RECALLING the Statement of Intent signed by the Minister of International Relations and Cooperation of South Africa and the Administrator of UNDP on 13 May 2010 in Cape Town, South Africa, to work towards the development of a closer partnership;

CONSIDERING the comparative knowledge, know-how and experiences of the Parties and their mutual commitment to more effective cooperation to achieve the internationally agreed development goals including the Millennium Development Goals (hereinafter referred to as “MDGs”);

CONSIDERING the overall framework of Government’s foreign policy priorities for the creation of “a better South Africa, a better Africa and a better world”;

RECOGNISING the profound changes underway globally and regionally in multilateral institutions and in patterns of trade, investment, knowledge generation and exchange, and political cooperation;

RECOGNISING that a rapidly evolving economic and political environment at global and regional level offers a historic opportunity to protect the global commons and accelerate development within and across national frontiers whilst requiring more effective responses to a range of existing and new risks;

TAKING INTO ACCOUNT the existing long-standing successful collaboration between the Parties;

HEREBY, the Parties have agreed to enter into this Partnership Framework Agreement (hereinafter referred to as “Agreement”):
ARTICLE 1

PURPOSE

The purpose of this Agreement shall be to enhance cooperation between the Parties to promote global development, in particular through the advancement of sustainable and inclusive development in sub-Saharan Africa, through South-South Cooperation, as a major mechanism of assisting Africa and to address key global challenges, in line with the national and regional aspirations and development priorities of the countries of the continent.

ARTICLE 2

GUIDING PRINCIPLES

The Parties mutually acknowledge their commitment to

(a) a more inclusive multilateralism, drawing on the potential of international institutions to address global and regional challenges in a changing world;

(b) enhancing cooperation within the Global South as an important factor in determining the development prospects of countries and regions, in particular in Africa;

(c) respecting the contributions of each Party and recognizing their distinct mandates, interests and expertise, based on open communications and building on lessons learnt;

(d) respecting the sovereignty, development aspirations, and ownership of countries based on common interests; and

(e) work together in seeking to mobilize appropriate resources for programmes and projects as may be required.

ARTICLE 3

PARTIES’ COMMITMENTS

(1) Acknowledging South Africa’s voluntary commitments to UNDP’s regular resources and their joint efforts to ensure strengthened cooperation, based on the common vision of inclusive multilateralism, UNDP commits to the following:

(a) To strengthen and improve country programming in South Africa and other countries in sub-Saharan Africa;
(b) to provide access to UNDP knowledge and expertise, in line with the areas of cooperation identified in this Agreement;
(c) to ensure effective South-South, triangular and other horizontal cooperation platforms leveraging UNDP’s global presence;
(d) to facilitate the provision of policy, advisory and technical support to the Government in multilateral groupings in relation to various development issues, based on UNDP’s global development experience, knowledge and systems;
(e) to give visibility to joint initiatives in connection with agreed areas of focus and cooperation; and
(f) to assist in effectively managing the implementation of Official Development Assistance via the global network of the UNDP.

(2) The Government’s commitment: Untied regular resources (core) are the basis of all UNDP’s work. The ability of UNDP to fulfill its mandate and to preserve its multi-lateral, impartial and universal character depends on an adequate and secure regular funding base. South Africa will endeavor to assist UNDP in the process aimed at increasing contributions to core resources.

ARTICLE 4

IMPLEMENTATION

1. The Parties agree to work together on mutually identified priority areas which will be contained in separate arrangements to be concluded between the Parties including:

a) issues of global and regional concern that have an impact on the development prospects of countries and regions, such as MDGs and South-South cooperation; exploring options or expand private sector development, triangular cooperation and other specific areas as may be defined jointly by the Parties; and
b) enhancing dialogue between UNDP and the Government through the UNDP Executive Board on global and regional development issues.

2. In order to implement the specific activities envisioned in this Agreement, the Parties shall, as appropriate, enter into separate arrangements, in accordance with their respective regulations, rules, policies and procedures.

ARTICLE 5

COMMUNICATION AND CONSULTATION

1. The Parties shall keep each other informed of, and consult on, matters of common interest.

2. The Parties agree to have periodic consultations to review and assess progress and experiences in the implementation of this Agreement and further consolidating the future directions of cooperation.
ARTICLE 6

COMPETENT AUTHORITIES

The Competent Authorities responsible for the implementation of the Agreement shall be

(a) in the case of the Government, the Department of International Relations and Cooperation; and
(b) in the case of the UNDP, the Director of the Regional Bureau for Africa.

ARTICLE 7

VISIBILITY

1. The Parties agree to acknowledge the role and contribution of each Party in all public information documentation relating to instances of such cooperation and use each Party's name and emblem in documentation related to this Agreement in accordance with the current policies of each Party and subject to prior written agreement between the Parties.

2. The Parties shall take all appropriate measures to publicize the initiatives undertaken under this Agreement, provided that such actions do not jeopardize the United Nations privileges and immunities provided under the 1946 Convention on the Privileges and Immunities of the United Nations and the safety and security of United Nations staff and personnel.

ARTICLE 8

SETTLEMENT OF DISPUTES

Any dispute between the Parties arising out of the interpretation, application or implementation of this Agreement shall be settled amicably through consultation or negotiations between the Parties.

ARTICLE 9

AMENDMENTS

This Agreement may be amended by mutual consent of the Parties through an Exchange of Notes between the Parties through the diplomatic channel.