UNASUR/CMRE/ RESOLUTION No. 021/2015

CONSTITUTION OF THE GROUP OF HIGH LEVEL AUTHORITIES ON SOUTH - SOUTH COOPERATION WITHIN THE STRUCTURE OF THE UNION

BACKGROUND:

Article 5 of UNASUR’s Constitutive Treaty provides for the possibility of establishing Working Groups and other institutional entities, either permanent or temporary, as needed to fulfill the mandates and recommendations of the decision-making bodies;

Article 8, *ejusdem*, sets forth that one of the responsibilities of the Council of Foreign Relations Ministers is to approve resolutions and regulations of an institutional nature, as well as to create any Working Groups that may be needed;

On the occasion of the technical meeting of the entities responsible for matters concerning international cooperation between the UNASUR Member States, which was held in Quito on February 10, 2014, under the Presidency Pro-Tempore of Suriname, a proposal was made for the creation of a consultative entity on matters of cooperation, which would be established by the authorities who oversee matters of cooperation within the Chancelleries of the UNASUR Member States;

On the occasion of the meetings of the High Authorities on South-South Cooperation of UNASUR, which were held in Montevideo on July 7 and 8, 2015, under the Presidency Pro-Tempore of Uruguay, it was agreed to proceed with actions that would advance the establishment of that Working Group;

The Presidency Pro-Tempore of Uruguay presented a proposal to the Council of Delegates to establish a Group of High Level Authorities on South-South Cooperation, along with the presentation of the new Common Initiatives Fund (FIC) Regulations;
CONSIDERING:

That fulfillment of the objectives set forth in Articles 2 and 3 of the Constitutive Treaty of the Union requires close coordination in matters of international cooperation (especially in terms of South-South cooperation) which is politically appropriate and technically adequate for our countries, given their tendency toward horizontal solidarity and the non-conditionality of such solidarity;

The growing importance of South-South Cooperation as an instrument for development, and the role it plays within the framework of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development;

The transversal and contributory nature of South-South Cooperation in fulfilling the objectives of UNASUR;

Approval of the new Regulations for the Common Initiatives Fund (the FIC) as a necessary step toward cooperation between the Member States of the South American Union; and taking into account the special and innovative role set forth therein for the High Level Authorities on South-South Cooperation in leading tasks, along with the General Secretariat, in order to effectively implement actions related to such matters;

The role that the new FIC Regulations assign to the High Level Authorities on South-South Cooperation of UNASUR, especially in regard to designing a proposal for UNASUR’s Strategic Guidelines on Third Party Relations in Matters of Cooperation;

It is understood that it is necessary to take advantage of, give continuity to, and institutionalize the work that has been done until now by the High Level Authorities on South-South Cooperation;

THEREFORE:

As a result of the preceding,

THE COUNCIL OF FOREIGN RELATIONS MINISTERS OF THE UNION OF SOUTH AMERICAN NATIONS RESOLVES:
1) To establish the Group of High Level Authorities on South-South Cooperation of UNASUR, composed of the Chancelleries, Agencies and/or Offices responsible for International Cooperation in the UNASUR Member States, communicated by the respective Foreign Relations Ministries.

2) The Group created by this Resolution will report to the Council of Foreign Relations Ministers through the Council of Delegates.

3) The functions of this Group will be:

   i) Those set forth in Article 7 of the Regulations of the Common Initiatives Fund (FIC), for the Technical Committee in FIC Matters;

   ii) Preparation of a proposal for the UNASUR Strategic Guidelines for Third-Party Relations in Matters of Cooperation (Article 52 of the UNASUR General Regulations), and the corresponding follow-up and evaluation;

   iii) General follow-up and monitoring of international cooperation in UNASUR;

   iv) Provide the high level entities with the input needed for establishing strategic guidelines for development of international cooperation in UNASUR, especially in the modalities of South-South and Triangular cooperation;

   v) Any other functions assigned by superior entities in matters of cooperation.

Montevideo, December 18, 2015