

Important issues to the Brazilian government

- The government of Brazil dearly values the following issues:
 - (i) Public image, both nationally and internationally;
 - (ii) Permanent seat in the UN Security Council;
 - (iii) Support to the bio-fuel production as a clean energy alternative;
 - (iv) Brazil championing developing nations - through South-South Cooperation & alliances in international negotiations;
- The issue of bio-fuel is particularly sensitive: A recent report prepared by UN rapporteur Jean Ziegler referred to the possibility that the production of sugar cane in Brazil might increase hunger. That led to some tension and the President argued that inequality is the real cause of hunger, not sugar cane plantations.

New Opportunities for the UN System in Brazil

- South-South Cooperation (SSC): (i) The country has an immense capacity to provide SSC, not only regionally but also in all continents; (ii) In past years, the 18 agencies represented in Brazil have all been supporting government in SSC. (iii) Through the RC Office, the UN system is joining efforts to harmonize approach to SSC to support the country more effectively in this field.
- Launch of the 2007 Global Human Development Report (HDR) in Brazil: (i) UNDP will launch the 2007 Global HDR in Brazil, in recognition to important advances the country has achieved in Climate Change and Environmental Protection; (ii) It is also seen as a good opportunity for the country to strengthen its role in the international debate about Climate Change and the Environment.
- Growth Acceleration Program (PAC): In the beginning of 2007, the government announced its plans to revitalize and expand the country infra-structure (highways, roads, ports, energy production, airports, water sanitation, etc.) The UN System, through its different Agencies, Funds and Programmes, could contribute significantly to this process.

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