



Monday 22 November 2010
For immediate release
ILO/10/67

**ILO AND BRAZIL SIGN JOINT
DECLARATION ON HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE**

GENEVA (ILO News) – The Minister of External Relations of Brazil, Ambassador Celso Amorim, and ILO Director-General Juan Somavia, have signed a Declaration of Intentions between Brazil and the ILO on the provision of humanitarian assistance to vulnerable populations.

Following the establishment of a three-year programme on 27 October 2010 aimed at enhancing the capacity of countries to respond to social and natural disasters, Brazil and the ILO will further consider ways to provide humanitarian assistance to populations in countries at risk and to encourage prevention, rehabilitation and recovery by strengthening institutions and promoting tools for sustainable development.

“We are grateful to Brazil for this new demonstration of support for a job-intensive post-crisis recovery, based on the promotion of the four strategic objectives of our Organization”, said ILO Director-General Juan Somavia.

Minister Amorim underlined that the promotion of peace through social justice is one of the cornerstones of the ILO since its foundation. “Economic development with social inclusion – not modern weapons or security forces – is the most effective way to prevent the effects of social and natural disasters”, said the Brazilian Minister.

The declaration will pave the way to strengthen partnerships between the ILO Turin Centre, the ILO Programme on Crisis Response and Reconstruction, and other relevant partners of the international community in order to improve and extend their participation on major crisis response operations worldwide.

In March 2009, Brazil had signed with the ILO a supplementary agreement on technical cooperation with other Latin American and African countries to implement the programme of the ILO-Brazil partnership for promoting South-South cooperation. The country has established numerous partnerships with the ILO since 2005, including child labour, forced labour and social protection.

For more information, please contact the ILO Department of Communication and Public Information at +4122/799-7912; communication@ilo.org