

BRAZILIAN FOREIGN POLICY UNDER
LULA: A CHRONOLOGY (2003-2006)

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MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL RELATIONS



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ALEXANDRE DE GUSMÃO FOUNDATION



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BUREAU OF DIPLOMATIC PLANNING
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ALEXANDRE
DE GUSMÃO

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FOREWORD

The present volume contains the main facts related to Brazilian diplomacy in the first government of President Luiz Inácio Lula da Silva during the period between January 1st, 2003 and December 31st, 2006. However, this is not a definitive or complete account of all matters related to Brazilian foreign policy in those years.

By making this chronology available, the Ministry of External Relations aims to encourage studies and research regarding the Brazilian diplomatic agenda.



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2002



2002

OCTOBER

DAY 27

The Workers' Party candidate, former metallurgist, Luiz Inácio Lula da Silva, is elected, in the second round, President of the Federative Republic of Brazil with 52.4 million votes.

DECEMBER

DAY 2

On his first trip to a foreign nation as President-elect, Lula visits Argentina. On the following day, he visits Chile.

DAY 10

President-elect Lula visits the United States and meets with President George W. Bush in Washington.

DAY 11

President-elect visits Mexico and has a work meeting with President Vicente Fox.





2003





2003

JANUARY

DAY 1

President Lula takes office in Brasilia. Heads of States and Governments and representatives of several nations attend the official ceremonies. On the same day, Ambassador Celso Amorim takes office as Minister of External Relations.

DAY 2

President Lula welcomes foreign visitors in Brasilia, the President of Venezuela Hugo Chávez, the President of Portugal Jorge Sampaio and of Cuba, Fidel Castro, and the Prime Ministers of Sweden, Goran Persson, and Guinea-Bissau, Mário Pires, among others.

DAY 3

The Minister of Foreign Affairs of Rwanda, Charles Murigande, visits Brazil.

DAY 6

The Brazilian government “vehemently condemns” the terrorist attacks in Tel Aviv that caused 23 deaths.

DAY 8

The President of the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB), Enrique Iglesias, visits Brazil.

DAY 9

Ambassador Samuel Pinheiro Guimarães takes office as Secretary-General of the Ministry of External Relations.

DAY 12

The Brazilian government expresses its “serious concern” at the Democratic People’s Republic of Korea announcement of withdrawal from the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons (NPT).

DAY 14

The President of Argentina, Eduardo Duhalde, visits Brazil. In a joint statement, Presidents Lula and Duhalde express “their firm determination to enlarge the Brazil-Argentina strategic alliance”.

The Prince of Asturias, Felipe de Borbón y Grecia, visits Brazil.

DAY 15

Brazil sponsors the creation of the OAS (Organization of American States) Secretary General’s Group of Friends of Venezuela. Besides Brazil, the Group of Friends includes Chile, Spain, the US, Mexico and Portugal.

DAYS 15 - 16

President Lula visits Ecuador to attend the inauguration of President Lucio Gutiérrez.

DAY 18

The Minister of Foreign Affairs of Spain, Ana Palacio Vallelersundi, visits Brazil.

DAYS 19 - 20

The Director General of the International Labor Organization (ILO), Juan Somavia, visits Brazil.

DAYS 19 - 21

The Minister of Foreign Affairs of Canada, Bill Graham, visits Brazil to address matters on the bilateral agenda.

DAY 20

An Interministerial Meeting takes place in Brasilia to discuss the elaboration of Brazil's initial offers for the Free Trade of the Americas (FTAA) talks.

DAY 24

President Lula attends the World Social Forum in Porto Alegre.

Minister Amorim attends, in Washington, a ministerial meeting of the OAS (Organization of American States) Secretary General's Group of Friends of Venezuela. He also meets with USA Secretary of State, Colin Powell.

DAY 26

President Lula attends the World Economic Forum in Davos, Switzerland, where he pleads for united efforts from the international community to fight hunger and poverty.

DAYS 27 - 28

President Lula visits Germany where he meets with Federal Chancellor Gerhard Schröder and President Johannes Rau.

Afterwards, President Lula visits France for meetings with President Jacques Chirac and the Prime Minister Jean-Pierre Raffarin.

DAYS 29-31

The European Union Trade Commissioner, Pascal Lamy, visits Brazil.

FEBRUARY

DAY 1

President Lula sends a message to the USA President expressing his sincere condolences regarding the accident involving the spaceship Columbia.

DAY 3

The USP/Itamaraty cooperation project in support of East Timor is launched in São Paulo.

DAY 4

UN Special Rapporteur on the Right to Food, Jean Ziegler, visits Brazil.

Sylvia Helena de Figueiredo Steiner, a Brazilian Federal Judge, is elected as a judge of the International Criminal Court (ICC).

DAY 5

In a joint statement, approved in Montevideo, Mercosur Chancellors reaffirm their repudiation of terrorism and weapons of mass destruction.

The Brazilian government reaffirms its concern in regard to the use of force against Iraq and asks for a peaceful solution for the issue, in accordance with international law.

DAY 7

Brazil and Guyana sign the Agreement on International Road Transport of Passengers and Cargo between the two countries.

DAY 11

The Minister of Foreign Relations of Venezuela, Roy Chaderton, visits Brazil. The political crisis in Venezuela is one of the issues addressed in the meeting.

DAYS 12 - 15

The Director-General of the United Nations Food & Agriculture Organization (FAO), Jacques Diouf, visits Brazil.

DAY 13

President Lula puts the Council of Economic and Social Development into action in Brasilia.

Mercosur nations and Chile express their “deep concern” with the internal political situation in Bolivia, after the incidents in La Paz that led to deaths and injuries.

DAY 14

The Brazilian government states its “strongest condemnation” of the terrorist attack in Colombia.

DAYS 14-16

Minister Amorim visits Japan to attend, in Tokyo, the Ministerial Meeting of the World Trade Organization (WTO).

DAY 17

Minister Amorim visits Russia and, in Moscow, conducts political consultations with Sergei Lavrov, Russian Minister of Foreign Affairs.

DAY 19

Brazil requests the WTO Dispute Settlement Mechanism to establish a panel to examine the US government's cotton subsidies.

DAY 20

The Rio Group expresses its support for and satisfaction with the "Declaration against Violence, for Peace and Democracy in Venezuela", signed by the government of Venezuela and the representatives of the Democratic Coordinator.

DAY 28

The OAS Secretary General's Group of Friends of Venezuela reaffirms its purpose to work towards a common understanding between the Venezuelan government and opposition forces.

MARCH

DAY 5

Minister Amorim meets with the Arab countries' Ambassadors and Business Representatives in Brasilia.

DAY 6

The Brazilian government expresses its consternation regarding the ongoing wave of violence in Gaza and the West Bank.

DAY 7

The President of Colombia, Álvaro Uribe, visits Brazil. Bilateral relations and South American integration are the issues discussed.

DAY 10

A meeting of the OAS Secretary General's Group of Friends of Venezuela takes place in Brasilia.

DAYS 10 - 11

Minister Amorim travels to Geneva for work meetings. Afterwards, he visits the Netherlands to take part in the opening session of the International Criminal Court in the Hague.

DAY 11

At a meeting in New York of the United Nations Security Council regarding the Iraq issue, Brazil sustains its position that force should only be used as a last resort, under the condition that it was fully authorized by the Council.

Brazil, in its role as President of the Community of Portuguese-Speaking Nations (CPLP), sponsors consultations in order to identify possible support measures for Guinea-Bissau, currently undergoing a political and institutional crisis.

Erwin Teufel, Prime Minister of the German state of Baden Württemberg, visits Brazil.

DAY 12

The Brazilian government openly condemns the assassination of Serbian Prime Minister, Zoran Djindjic, who had visited Brazil only a few months earlier.

DAYS 16 - 19

Mahatir Mohamad, Prime Minister of Malaysia, visits Brazil for a meeting with President Lula, a trip to the Amazon and to the Embraer and Avibrás plants in São José dos Campos (SP).

DAYS 17 – 20

Brazil acts as co-sponsor of the Meeting on Monitoring, Assessment and Report in the framework of the United Nations Forum on Forests, in Viterbo, Italy.

DAY 18

The Vice-President of Venezuela, José Vicente Rangel, visits Brazil.

The Brazilian Embassy in San Tome & Principe opens. It was previously the only country in the CPLP without a standing Brazilian diplomatic representation.

DAY 20

A coalition led by the US begins the Iraq war, without express authorization of the United Nations Security Council.

The Brazilian government “deeply regrets” the beginning of military operations in the Gulf and requests that international humanitarian laws be followed. Additional measures are put into effect to assist Brazilian citizens in the conflict region.

DAYS 24 - 28

Queen Beatrix from the Netherlands visits Brazil.

DAY 26

On celebrating the 12th anniversary of the Treaty of Asuncion, Mercosur countries renew their commitment to continuing advances in integration.

DAYS 27 - 28

The Brazil-Venezuela Business meeting takes place in Caracas; the main issue is cooperation in the oil area.

MARCH 27 – APRIL 1

Minister Amorim travels to Greece and Russia with his fellow Ministers, Allan Wagner of Peru, Roberto Tovar of Costa Rica (the Rio Group Troika). In between these visits, he travels to the Vatican, and when received by Pope John Paul II, delivers President Lula’s letter about the Iraq war.

DAY 31

The Brazilian government states “its disappointment” at the absence of an agreement on standards for the WTO agricultural trade talks.

APRIL

DAYS 7 - 8

Minister Amorim visits Paraguay and Uruguay. In both countries he is welcomed by their respective presidents.

DAY 9

The President of the Andean Development Corporation (CAF), Enrique García, visits Brazil.

DAY 10

The Foreign Trade Minister of Cuba, Raúl de la Nuez, visits Brazil.

DAY 11

The Brazil-Argentina Social Institute is established in Buenos Aires.

Alejandro Toledo, President of Peru, joined by ten Ministers, visits Brazil and discusses with President Lula the prospects of building a bilateral strategic alliance.

DAY 14

The Conference of Network 10- Fight Against Urban Poverty opens in São Paulo.

DAY 15

María Soledad Alvear Valenzuela, Minister of Foreign Relations of Chile, visits Brazil.

DAY 17

In the Human Rights Commission (HRC) of the United Nations, Brazil abstains from voting on a resolution regarding the human rights situation in Cuba.

DAY 23

USA Treasury Secretary John Snow visits Brazil.

DAY 24

The 22nd Ministerial Meeting of the Rio Group takes place in Trujillo, Peru.

DAY 25

The President of Venezuela, Hugo Chávez, visits Brazil and, in Recife, unveils statues of the Liberator Simón Bolívar and General Abreu e Lima. On this occasion, the Recife Act is signed, which signals the intention to resume talks between Petrobrás and PDVSA to develop joint projects.

DAY 28

Gonzalo Sánchez de Lozada, President of Bolívia, visits Brazil. The agreement for the construction of an international bridge over the Acre River is finalized.

DAYS 29 - 30

Minister Amorim travels to Paris to attend the Ministerial Meeting of the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD).

MAY

DAYS 1 - 10

Minister Amorim visits six African nations: Mozambique, Zimbabwe, San Tomé & Príncipe, Angola, South Africa and Namibia.

DAYS 6 - 8

A Brazilian business mission visits South Africa to attend meetings in Johannesburg.

DAY 8

Argentina's presidential candidate, Nestor Kirchner, visits Brazil.

DAY 9

The Brazilian government sends assistance to the population of Argentina's province Santa Fé, hit by floods.

DAY 12

Jorge Batlle Ibáñez, President of Uruguay, and three Ministers visit Brazil to address issues on the bilateral agenda and regional integration.

DAY 13

The Rio Branco Institute introduces the Affirmative Action Program of scholarships for Afro-descendant students for the year 2003.

DAY 15

The National Permanent Commission of the Amazon Cooperation Treaty (ACT) is formed in Brasilia.

Ambassador Rubens Ricupero, Secretary General of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD), visits Brazil.

DAY 20

Anne Kruger, Vice-President of the World Bank, visits Brazil.

DAY 21

The Framework Agreement for Tobacco Control is approved in Geneva, after talks presided over by Brazil.

DAYS 21 - 22

A meeting takes place in Brasilia of border intelligence units of the 3+1 mechanism (Brazil, Argentina, Paraguay and the USA) regarding the Triple Frontier.

DAYS 22 - 24

President Lula attends the 17th Summit of the Rio Group, held in Cuzco, Peru. In his final statement he criticizes the “agricultural subsidies that represent billions of dollars, arbitrary trade defense measures and the veiled protectionism that deprives us of markets.”

DAY 25

President Lula visits Argentina to attend the investiture of President Nestor Kirchner.

DAY 27

The President of Ecuador, Lucio Gutiérrez, visits Brazil.

DAYS 27 - 28

The USA Trade Representative (USTR), Robert Zoellick, visits Brazil.

DAY 28

President elect of Paraguay, Nicanor Duarte Frutos, visits Brazil.

DAY 29

The Minister of Foreign Relations of Argentina, Rafael Bielsa, visits Brazil. The agreement between Hugo Chávez' government and the opposition is finalized. The Brazilian government will praise "the clear expression" of political good will of the parties, under the democratic and the State of Law principles.

JUNE

DAY 1

Invited by the French government, President Lula takes part in the extended talks of the G-8 meeting in Evian, France, together with other leaders of developing nations.

DAY 2

President Lula attends, in Geneva, the 91st Conference of the International Labor Organization (ILO).

DAY 4

Brazil and South Africa sign, in Cape Town, a cooperation agreement in the defense area.

DAYS 5 -6

Yashwant Sinha, the Minister of External Affairs of India, visits Brazil, marking the first visit of a Chancellor from India to the country. Nkosazana Dlamini-Zuma, the Minister of Foreign Affairs of South Africa, also visits Brazil in the same period.

DAY 6

During the trilateral meeting in Brasilia of the Chancellors from these three countries, the India, Brazil and South Africa Dialogue Forum (IBSA) is created in order to promote regular political consultation on matters of common interest.

DAYS 7 - 10

The Federal Minister of Economic Cooperation and Development of Germany, Heidemarie Wieczorek-Zeul, visits Brazil.

DAYS 7 - 11

The President of Lebanon's Council of Ministers, Rafik Hariri, visits Brazil.

DAYS 8 - 10

Minister Amorim visits Chile to attend, in Santiago, the 33rd General Assembly of the OAS, and makes a speech about democratic governance in the Americas.

DAYS 9 - 11

The Brazil-Africa Forum on politics, cooperation and trade and Second Business Forum of the Community of Portuguese-Speaking Countries take place in Fortaleza (CE).

The First Meeting of Women Parliamentary Representatives of Portuguese-Speaking Countries takes place in Brasilia.

DAY 10

Professor Paulo Sérgio Pinheiro is elected as an expert for the Inter-American Commission of Human Rights.

DAY 11

Nestor Kirchner, President of Argentina, visits Brazil.

DAYS 12 - 13

Minister Amorim travels to Washington to attend the FTAA Ministerial Meeting.

DAY 13

The President of Cape Verde, Pedro Verona Rodrigues Pires, visits Brazil.

DAY 16

Brazil signs, in Geneva, the Framework Agreement for Tobacco Control, the first multilateral mechanism of public health negotiated in the World Health Organization (WHO).

DAYS 16 - 19

At the 55th Meeting of the International Whaling Commission in Berlin, Brazil once more presented the proposal for the establishment of a sanctuary for the protection of whales in the South Atlantic.

DAYS 17 - 18

President Lula attends the 24th Mercosur Summit in Asuncion. Brazil introduces the proposal (Objective 2006) for the consolidation of Mercosur's customs union.

DAYS 19 - 20

President Lula visits the USA. An extended meeting with President George W. Bush, in Washington, is attended by a significant number of Ministers from both nations and three new bilateral mechanisms for high-level consultations are established: between the Ministry of Finance and the Treasury Department; between the Minister of Agriculture and the Department of Agriculture; and between the Ministry of Mines and Energy and the Department of Energy.

DAY 21

The South America Bureau (SGAS) is established in Itamaraty.

DAYS 21 - 26

Minister Amorim attends the WTO Ministerial Meeting in Sharm el-Sheikh and goes on bilateral visits to Egypt, Jordan and Lebanon. The idea is discussed of organizing a Summit between South America and the League of Arab States, a body in which Brazil becomes an observer.

DAY 25

Tabaré Vázquez, Presidential candidate in Uruguay of the Broad Coalition (Frente Amplio) visits Brazil.

The First Meeting of the Committee of Government

Representatives takes place in São Paulo, regarding the participation of civil society in the FTAA.

DAY 26

The First Meeting of the Technical Commission for the Management of Knowledge and Strategic Information in Electronic Government takes place in Brasília.

DAYS 27 - 28

President Lula makes a bilateral visit to Colombia and participates in El Carmen de Viboral, at the 14th Andean Presidential Council. This is the first time that a Brazilian President is invited to a Summit of the Andean Community (CAN).

JUNE 30- JULY 1

Goran Svilanovic, Minister of Foreign Affairs of Serbia and Montenegro, visits Brazil.

JULY

DAY 1

Brazil declares that it has no intention of signing the bilateral agreement proposed by the USA to grant immunity for USA citizens, over the jurisdiction of the International Criminal Court.

DAYS 2 - 3

The Vice-President of the State Council of Cuba, Carlos Lages D'Avila, and Cuba's Foreign Minister, Felipe Pérez Roque, visit Brazil.

DAYS 2 - 4

Invited by the Japanese government, Brazil co-presides over the informal meeting about climate change and the future of the Kyoto Protocol in Tokyo.

DAYS 2 - 7

A Brazilian Business mission to Libya is organized.

DAY 3

The Prime Minister of Norway, Kjell Magne Bondevik, visits Brazil.

DAY 6

Brazil contributes with two transport planes to the Multilateral Interim Emergency Task Force in Bunia, Democratic Republic of the Congo.

DAY 7

Minister Amorim travels to Paris for the third meeting of the Brazil-France General Commission.

DAY 8

Brazil presents to the WTO Dispute Settlement Mechanism a request for the establishment of a panel on European sugar export subsidies.

DAYS 10 - 12

While visiting Portugal, President Lula opens a Business Seminar in Lisbon and visits the Community of Portuguese-

Speaking Nations. He also signs an agreement to study the legalization of Brazilians in an irregular situation.

DAY 11

A WTO panel gives Brazil and other co-states a victory against USA safeguards on steel products.

DAY 13

The Minister of Finance of South Africa, Trevor Manuel, visits Brazil.

DAYS 13 - 14

Invited by Prime Minister Tony Blair, President Lula attends the Summit of Progressive Governance in London.

The United Kingdom declares its support for Brazil's call for a permanent seat in the United Nations Security Council.

DAYS 14 - 16

President Lula visits Spain and, in Madrid, meets with the President of the Spanish Government José María Aznar and with King Juan Carlos I.

DAY 16

The Brazilian government condemns and “strongly opposes” the military coup in San Tomé & Príncipe.

DAYS 17 - 18

Minister Amorim presides over the Eighth Council of Ministers of the Community of Portuguese-Speaking Nations in Coimbra, Portugal.

DAY 22

Rinaldo Ronald Venetiaan, President of Surinam, visits Brazil. In a joint statement with President Lula, he stresses that “without any impairment of its Caribbean dimension due to its geographic situation, Surinam also wishes to gradually integrate into South America.”

DAYS 24 – 30

Minister Amorim visits Colombia. Later, in New York, he meets with United Nations Secretary General Kofi Annan and travels to Montreal to attend an informal WTO Ministerial Meeting, organized by the Canadian government.

DAY 24

The Brazilian government regrets the resumption of hostilities in Liberia.

DAY 30

The President of Guyana, Bharrat Jagdeo, visits Brazil accompanied by ministerial staff. One of the main issues of the visit is Guyana’s participation in the process of South American integration.

JULY 31- AUGUST 1

The Director-General of the WTO, Supachai Panitchpakdi, visits Brazil.

AUGUST

DAY 4

A Ministerial Meeting of Foreign Ministers from Mercosur and the Andean Community takes place in Montevideo; the establishment of an integrated economic space between the two blocs is discussed.

DAY 5

The meeting of the International Interministerial Trade Group takes place in Brasilia.

DAY 6

The Brazilian government regrets the decision by the USA government to start demanding transit visas for Brazilian citizens.

The External Relations and National Defense Chamber of the Council of Government is established in order to present guidelines and to articulate interministerial actions in the external field.

DAY 8

The new headquarters of the Inter-American Judicial Commission opens in Itamaraty (Rio de Janeiro).

DAYS 11 - 16

Arjun Sengupta, an independent expert for the United Nations Human Rights Commission, visits Brazil.

DAYS 14 - 15

President Lula visits Paraguay for the investiture of President Nicanor Duarte Frutos and takes part, in Asuncion, in the Extraordinary Mercosur Summit, with Chile and Bolivia.

Klaus Töpfer, Executive-Director of the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), visits Brazil.

DAY 15

Brazil and Argentina agree to intensify their bilateral cooperation in the nuclear, space, airline services, trade and economic areas.

DAY 18

The Minister of Foreign Affairs of Poland, Włodzimierz Cimoszewicz, visits Brazil.

DAY 19

Ricardo Lagos, President of Chile, and four Ministers visit Brazil. In a joint communiqué both Brazil and Chile state that it is necessary “to update and revitalize” the United Nations system.

The United Nations Special Representative to Iraq, the Brazilian citizen Sérgio Vieira de Mello, dies in a terrorist attack in Baghdad. The Brazilian government vehemently condemns the attack and declares a three-day period of official mourning.

DAYS 19 - 20

A Trilateral Meeting of Brazilian, South African and Indian Defense Ministers takes place in Pretoria.

DAY 20

Brazil and other developing nations present a proposal at the WTO for agricultural talks in the Doha Round.

DAYS 21 - 23

Minister Amorim visits Argentina, Uruguay and Peru.

DAY 22

An explosion at the Alcântara Launch Center destroys the prototype of the Brazilian Space Agency Launching Vehicle (VLS-1).

DAY 23

A vigil for Sérgio Vieira de Mello takes place in Rio de Janeiro, with the presence of the UN Secretary General, Kofi Annan.

DAYS 24 - 25

President Lula visits Peru. The Free Trade Agreement Mercosur-Peru (ACE-58) is signed. In 2003, Peru becomes an associate State of this regional bloc.

DAY 26

President Lula visits Venezuela and inspects the works of the joint bridge over the Orinoco River in Ciudad Guyana.

SEPTEMBER

DAY 2

The Secretary of the Federal Department of Economic Affairs of the Swiss Federal Council, Joseph Deiss, visits Brazil.

DAY 3

The President of Burkina Faso, Blaise Compaoré, visits Brazil. During the meeting a Protocol of Intentions is signed between Brazil and Burkina Faso in the framework of the international program of cooperation with the Brazilian Health Ministry.

The President of the Socialist International, Antonio Guterres, visits Brazil.

DAY 5

The Minister of Trade and Industry of South Africa, Alec Erwin, visits Brazil.

DAY 8

President Lula receives a call from USA President, George W. Bush, to address WTO matters.

DAYS 10 - 14

Minister Amorim leads the Brazilian delegation at the Fifth WTO Ministerial Conference in Cancún, Mexico. During the Conference, Brazil acts as a leader for the establishment of the G-20, a group of developing nations, which defends the end of subsidies and barriers to agricultural trade.

DAY 14

The Brazilian government expresses its regrets over the military coup that took place in Guinea-Bissau.

DAY 16

President Lula visits Colombia and attends, in Cartagena das Índias, the commemorative session for the 40th anniversary of the International Coffee Organization (ICO).

DAYS 16 - 18

Asma Jahangir, the Special Rapporteur of the United Nations Commission on Human Rights on Extrajudicial, Summary or Arbitrary Executions, visits Brazil.

DAYS 22 - 25

President Lula travels to New York for United Nations meetings and opens the 58th General Assembly. Brazil makes a donation to the World Fund to Fight Hunger and Poverty.

DAY 23

Brazil and the other countries of the New Agenda Coalition make public, in New York, a statement regarding nuclear disarmament.

DAYS 25 - 26

The First Meeting of Presidents of Chambers of Legislative Powers of Mercosur takes place in Montevideo.

DAYS 25 - 27

President Lula visits Mexico and Cuba.

DAYS 29 SEPTEMBER - 3 OCTOBER

The 15th Meeting of the Committee of Trade Talks of the FTAA takes place in Port of Spain, Trinidad and Tobago.

OCTOBER

DAY 2

Brazil requests the WTO Dispute Settlement Mechanism to establish a panel to examine the customs classification of salted chicken cuts by the European Union.

DAY 3

Brazil and Russia celebrate the 175th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations between the two nations.

DAY 6

Queen Sofia of Spain visits Brazil. Minister Amorim participates in the Extraordinary Meeting of the Council for the Common Market of the South in Montevideo.

DAYS 7 - 11

King Harald V and Queen Sonja of Norway visit Brazil. In Brasilia, the Brazil-Norway Seminar on peace, mediation and reconciliation is organized.

DAY 14

The President of Paraguay, Nicanor Duarte Frutos, and ministerial staff, visit Brazil. On this occasion, a Joint Commission is established to address the construction of the second international bridge over the Paraná River.

DAY 15

Brazil ratifies the Olivos Protocol for the Settlement of Disputes in Mercosur.

DAYS 16 - 17

President Lula makes a State visit to Argentina and signs with President Kirchner the Buenos Aires Consensus, among other bilateral acts. The 22-point Consensus registers common positions of both countries, including the administration of the public debt “that should focus on the generation of wealth and work posts”.

Brazil and Argentina decide to send a joint mission to La Paz in order to follow the political crisis in Bolivia. President Gonzalo Sánchez de Lozada resigns and more than a hundred Brazilian citizens are evacuated from the capital of Bolivia.

DAYS 19 - 23

Minister Amorim visits France, and afterwards travels to India for the First Meeting of the Bilateral Commission. Amorim visits the Prime Ministers of India, Atal Vajpayee, and Sri Lanka, Ramil Wickremasinghe. On the way home, he attends the WTO talks in Geneva (with the President of the WTO General Council, Pérez del Castillo) and in Paris (with the European Union Trade Commissioner Pascal Lamy).

DAYS 20 - 23

The President of Ukraine, Leonid Kutchma, visits Brazil and discusses with President Lula space cooperation between the two countries.

DAY 23

Brazil is elected, for the 9th time, a non-permanent member of the United Nations Security Council for a two-year mandate (2004-2005).

DAYS 23 - 24

President Lula visits Spain and receives, in Oviedo, the Prince of Asturias Prize.

DAYS 26 - 27

Minister Amorim visits Bolivia where he meets with President Carlos Mesa and Chancellor Juan Ignacio Siles. He is the first foreign authority to visit the country after President Sánchez de Lozada's fall.

DAY 27

The International Socialist Congress opens in São Paulo.

DAYS 27 - 28

Minister Amorim attends the Special Conference on Security at the OAS, in Mexico City, where the Declaration on Security in the Americas is adopted.

DAYS 29 - 30

The President of the Spanish Government, José María Aznar, visits Brazil.

The Regional Latin American and Caribbean Conference on Renewable Energy takes place in Brasilia.

OCTOBER 30- NOVEMBER 4

The President of Finland, Tarja Halonen, visits Brazil.

DAY 31

Minister Amorim travels to Lima to attend the Meeting of

Chancellors and Foreign Trade Ministers of Mercosur and the Andean Community, at which the talks for the establishment of a Free Trade Agreement between the two blocs are analyzed. He is received by the President of Peru, Alejandro Toledo, and meets with the Greek Chancellor, Giorgos Papandreou.

NOVEMBER

DAYS 2 - 8

President Lula makes his first visit to Africa and goes to five African countries: San Tome & Principe, Angola, Mozambique, Namibia and South Africa. In the words of President Lula, the enlargement of Brazil-Africa relations “stands as a political, moral and historical obligation”.

DAYS 3 - 14

The Special Rapporteur of the United Nations Commission of Human Rights on the Sale of Children, Prostitution and Child Pornography, Juan Miguel Petit, visits Brazil.

DAY 4

Brazilian Ambassador João Clemente Baena Soares is nominated as a member of the High level Panel on Threats, Challenge and Change, called by the United Nations Secretary General.

DAYS 7 - 11

Minister Amorim travels to Washington to participate in the Ministerial Meeting of the FTAA. Afterwards, he visits Italy.

DAY 12

The Second Meeting at Ministerial Level of Economics and Trade between Mercosur and the European Union takes place in Brussels.

DAYS 14 - 15

President Lula visits Bolivia to attend, in Santa Cruz de la Sierra, the 13th Ibero-American Summit. He also meets with the Secretary General of the United Nations, Kofi Annan.

DAY 16

The International Conference on the “Promotion of Political Consensus for the Implementation of the Millennium Goals in Latin America and the Caribbean” takes place in Brasilia.

DAYS 16 - 18

The President of the Dominican Republic, Hipólito Mejía, visits Brazil accompanied by the Secretary of State of Foreign Relations, Francisco Guerrero Pratts.

DAY 17

The President of Guyana, Bharrat Jagdeo, visits Brazil. On this occasion, two additional protocols are signed to the 2001 Agreement on Preferential Fixed Tariffs between Brazil and Guyana.

The President of the Inter-American Development Bank, Enrique Iglésias, and the Executive Secretary of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC), José Luis Machinea, visit Brazil.

DAY 18

The President of Bolivia, Carlos Mesa, visits Brazil, accompanied by ministerial staff. The agreed initiatives include sending to Bolivia representatives of the Minister of Mines and Energy and the installation of the Center for Gas Technologies for the use of natural gas.

DAYS 20 - 21

The Eighth Ministerial Meeting of the FTAA takes place in Miami. In their final statement, the Ministers recognize the need for flexibility and agree to develop a “common and equitable set of rights and obligations, mandatory to all countries”.

DAYS 21 - 23

The First Meeting of Black Legislators of the Americas and the Caribbean takes place in Brasília.

DAY 24

Queen Sylvia of Sweden visits Brazil.

DAYS 24 - 29

The President of the Inter-American Commission of Human Rights, José Zalaquett, visits Brazil.

DAY 27

The President of the Andean Development Corporation, Enrique García, visits Brazil.

DAYS 27 - 28

The President of Germany, Johannes Rau, visits Brazil.

DECEMBER

DAYS 3 - 10

President Lula travels to the Middle East and visits five countries: Syria, Lebanon, the United Arab Emirates, Egypt and Libya. This is the first visit of a Brazilian Head of State to the region since D.Pedro II's private visit in 1876.

DAY 9

Brazil joins the United Nations Convention Against Corruption, open to signatures, in Merida, Mexico.

DAYS 10 - 11

The International Conference "Paths to a New Social Contract" takes place in Brasilia.

DAYS 11 - 12

Brazil holds, in Brasilia, the G-20 Ministerial Meeting, in order to coordinate positions for the WTO's Doha Round. Attending the meeting are WTO Secretary General Supachai Panitchpakdi and the European Union Trade Commissioner, Pascal Lamy.

DAY 14

The Mercosur-CAN Ministerial Meeting takes place at the Latin American Integration Association headquarters (ALADI) in Montevideo.

DAY 16

President Lula attends the 25th Mercosur Summit. The President of Angola and the Chancellor of Russia participate as special

guests. The Complementary Agreement is signed between Mercosur, Colombia, Ecuador and Venezuela (ACE-59). Also, the position of President is created for the Commission of Permanent Representatives to Mercosur.

DAY 17

Brazil invites Argentina to nominate a diplomat to join the Brazilian delegation to the United Nations Security Council in 2004. In reciprocity, Argentina does the same in 2005.

DAYS 18 - 21

The Minister of Foreign Affairs of Russia, Igor Ivanov, visits Russia.

DAY 22

Minister Amorim visits Chile and holds a work meeting with Chancellor Soledad Alvear.

DAY 23

The Disarmament Statute comes into effect and schedules a referendum to ban the sales of fire-arms and ammunition in the whole national territory.

DAY 26

The Brazilian government shows its “deep consternation” at the violence in the Middle East during Christmas and pleads with Israelis and Palestinians to seek for regional peace.

DAY 31

The Brazilian government sends humanitarian assistance to the earthquake victims in Iran.



2004



2004

JANUARY

DAY 1

Applying the principle of reciprocity, Brazil adopts procedures to control the entry of US citizens in national territory.

DAY 7

The Minister of Foreign Affairs of Mozambique, Leonardo Simão, visits Brazil.

DAY 8

Brazil takes over the Pro Tempore Secretary of the Rio Group.

The Minister of Foreign Relations of Peru, Manuel Rodríguez Cuadros, visits Brazil.

DAY 10

A permanent work group is established by an Interministerial Decree, to propose and evaluate special procedures to control the entry of foreigners in the national territory.

DAYS 12 - 13

President Lula attends the Extraordinary Summit of the Americas in Monterrey, Mexico, which approves the Declaration of Nuevo León.

DAYS 19 - 21

Christopher Patten, Foreign Relations Commissioner of the European Union, visits Brazil.

DAYS 25 - 27

President Lula visits India, as a special guest of the Indian government for the celebration of Republic Day. The visit includes trips to New Delhi, Agra and Mumbai. Both governments celebrate the Preferential Trade Agreement between Mercosur and India.

DAYS 29 - 30

A Brazilian Business Mission is sent to Sri Lanka.

DAY 29

President Lula opens in Geneva a Seminar of Foreign Investors in Brazil.

DAY 30

President Lula holds meetings in Geneva with Presidents Jacques Chirac (France) and Ricardo Lagos (Chile), and the Secretary General of the United Nations Kofi Annan, to discuss initiatives to fight hunger and poverty.

The Brazil-Argentina Commission of Trade Monitoring closes a deal on the interchange of textiles products between the two nations.

FEBRUARY

DAYS 2 - 6

The 27th Meeting of the FTAA Committee of Trade Talks takes place in Puebla, Mexico.

DAYS 3 - 4

The Minister of Foreign Affairs of France, Dominique de Villepin, visits Brazil.

DAY 6

Cesar Gaviria, Secretary General of the Organization of American States, visits Brazil.

DAY 9

The airplane EMB-190 is launched by Embraer, in São José dos Campos (SP).

DAY 10

Minister Amorim visits Peru. A bilateral trade agreement is signed regarding the facilitation of entry and transit for nationals in both countries.

The Protocol of Olivos for Dispute Settlement in Mercosur is published in Brazil.

DAYS 10 - 14

The Minister of Foreign Affairs and Portuguese Communities, Maria Teresa Pinto Basto Gouveia, visits Brazil.

DAY 12

The National Commission for the Diffusion and Implementation of Humanitarian Rights in Brazil is established in Brasília.

In accordance with a judicial sentence, the minor Iruan Ergui Wu, from Taiwan, comes back to Brazil.

DAYS 16 - 18

The Minister of Foreign Affairs and Cooperation of East Timor, José Ramos-Horta, visits Brazil for the First Meeting of the Mixed Commission between the two nations.

Hans Eichel, Minister of Finance of Germany, visits Brazil.

DAYS 16 - 23

The President of Lebanon, Emile Lahoud, visits Brazil; he signs agreements in trade and energy areas and holds meetings with the Lebanese community in Rio de Janeiro and in São Paulo.

DAYS 18 - 20

The Vice-Prime Minister of Russia, Boris Alioshin, visits Brazil to attend the Third Meeting of the Intergovernmental Commission of Brazil-Russia Cooperation.

DAY 19

The Fourth Meeting of the Brazil-USA Mechanism of Political Consultations takes place in Brasília.

DAY 25

Prince Bandar Bin Sultan, of Saudi Arabia, visits Brazil.

DAYS 27 - 28

President Lula travels to Caracas to attend the 12th Summit of the G-15. He holds bilateral meetings with the President of Iran, Mohammad Khatami, and meets with the Presidents of Argentina, Cuba and Venezuela.

DAY 28

The Brazilian government expresses its willingness to contribute “within its own conditions”, to efforts towards the stabilization and democratic rebuilding of Haiti after President Jean-Bertrand Aristide leaves power. An interim multinational task force is sent by the United Nations to Haiti.

MARCH

DAY 1

The Minister of Foreign Affairs of New Zealand, Phil Goff, visits Brazil.

DAYS 1 - 2

Minister Amorim attends, in Buenos Aires, meetings of the Chancellors of Mercosur, Associate States and countries of the Andean Community, in order to examine the ongoing trade talks, in particular the FTAA.

DAY 4

The Brazilian government donates medicines to earthquake victims in Morocco.

DAYS 4 - 5

First meeting of IBSA Joint Trilateral Commission in New Delhi. A work program for concrete projects in areas of common interest is defined.

DAYS 6 - 9

The Prime Minister of Portugal, José Manuel Durão Barroso, visits Brazil, for the Seventh Brazil-Portugal Summit.

DAYS 8 - 9

Brazil attends in Bogotá, the First Inter-American Convention of the 56 Parties against the production, illegal trafficking of guns, ammunitions, explosives and other related materials.

DAY 10

The Minister of Foreign Affairs of Colombia, Carolina Barco, and the Minister of Defense of Chile, Michelle Bachelet, visits Brazil.

DAY 11

The Secretary General of the Andean Community, Allan Wagner, visits Brazil.

The Brazilian government repudiates the terrorist attacks in Madrid in an “energetic and unconditional” manner.

DAYS 15 - 16

The President of Argentina, Nestor Kirchner, visits Brazil.

In Rio de Janeiro, Presidents Lula and Kirchner sign the Act of Copacabana and make a public declaration regarding cooperation and equitable economic growth.

DAY 16

The Brazilian government reaffirms its support for the “one China only policy” and shows its concern about the plebiscite in Taiwan regarding the acquisition of advanced weapons.

DAYS 17 - 18

Minister Amorim visits the United Kingdom and in London holds a meeting with British Foreign Secretary, Jack Straw, and Lord David Hannay, member of the “Blue Ribbon Panel”, established by the UN to discuss the reform of the Organization.

DAYS 18 - 20

Minister Amorim visits Turkey. This is the first time that a Brazilian Minister of External Relations has visited the country.

DAYS 21 - 27

Minister Amorim visits the People’s Republic of China. Afterwards, he visits Japan.

DAY 22

The Brazilian government condemns the assassination of the spiritual leader of the Movement of Islamic Resistance (Hamas), Sheik Ahmed Yassin.

DAY 23

A small bomb explodes in the Brazilian Consulate General, in Santiago, Chile, causing material damage.

DAYS 24 - 30

The President of Ireland, Mary McAleese, visits Brazil.

DAY 31

The Minister of External Relations of Uruguay, Didier Operti, visits Brazil.

APRIL

DAYS 1 - 4

The Chairman of the Council of the Federal Assembly of the Russian Federation, Sergei Mironov, visits Brazil.

DAY 3

The negotiations regarding the agreement for the establishment of a free trade area between Mercosur and Colombia, Ecuador and Venezuela, and countries of the Andean Community are concluded in Buenos Aires.

DAY 5

The Brazilian government considers the attempts to link Brazil's situation and those of the nations that conduct secret or non-secret activities in the nuclear field as "unacceptable".

DAY 7

Bolivian Minister of External Relations, Juan Ignacio Siles del Valle, and of Mines and Hydrocarbons, Antonio Aranibar Quiroga, visit Brazil.

DAY 8

The Brazilian government praises Guinea-Bissau for the positive developments of its parliamentary elections, which were organized with the technical support of the Brazilian electoral mission.

DAYS 12 - 13

The Minister of Foreign Affairs of Morocco, Mohamed Benaïssa, visits Brazil.

The Secretary of External Relations of Mexico, Luis Ernesto Derbez, visits Brazil.

DAY 14

A meeting in the border region of the cities of Jaguarão (RS) and Rio Branco (Uruguay) between Chancellors Celso Amorim and Didier Opertti represents the exchange of ratification mechanisms of the Agreement to allow residence, study and work permits for nationals.

The Brazilian Ambassador, João Augusto de Médicis, Executive-Secretary of the Community of Portuguese-Speaking Nations, passes away.

DAY 15

During voting on a resolution regarding the situation of human rights in Cuba in the United Nations Commission of Human Rights, Brazil abstains and is followed by Argentina and Paraguay.

DAY 16

The Brazilian government decides in favor of the nomination of Ambassador Affonso Celso de Ouro-Preto as Brazil's Extraordinary Ambassador for the Middle East.

DAYS 17 - 22

The Vice-Prime Minister of China, Hui Liangyu, visits Brazil.

DAY 19

USA Secretary of Energy, Spencer Abraham, visits Brazil.

DAYS 22 - 23

Minister Amorim goes on a bilateral visit to Guatemala and attends the Meeting of Ministers of External Relations of the Central American System of Integration (SICA).

DAY 26

The Minister of External Relations of Paraguay, Leila Rachid, visits Brazil.

DAYS 26 - 29

The Minister of Foreign Affairs and Francophone Cooperation of Gabon, Jean Ping, visits Brazil.

DAYS 30 APRIL - 1 MAY

Minister Amorim travels to London to attend meetings about the WTO's Doha Round.

MAY

DAY 5

Talks regarding the Bilateral Agreement on Airline Services between Brazil and India are concluded in Rio de Janeiro.

DAYS 6 - 7

Minister Amorim travels to Egypt to attend, as a special guest, the Ministerial Meeting of the League of Arab States in Cairo.

The Vice-President of Ecuador, Alfredo Palacio, visits Brazil in order to get to know the Brazilian public health care system.

DAYS 12 - 13

Minister Amorim travels to Paris to attend the Ministerial Meeting of the NG-5 (New Group of 5), in the framework of the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD).

DAY 13

The first Mercosur Institutional exhibition to promote the bloc's public image and trade opens in Berlin.

DAY 14

The Brazilian government decides to open a Representation in Ramallah, in the West Bank, Palestinian National Authority.

DAYS 15 - 17

Minister Amorim visits Jordan to attend, at the Red Sea, the Extraordinary Meeting of the World Economic Forum.

DAY 20

The OAS Secretary General's Group of Friends of Venezuela releases a statement reaffirming its commitment to a peaceful, democratic, constitutional and electoral solution for the political situation in that country.

DAY 21

The Brazilian government states "its most vehement condemnation" of the military actions of Israeli Defense forces in the Gaza Strip.

President Lula visits Ukraine and meets, in Kiev, with President Leonid Kutchma.

DAYS 22 - 26

President Lula visits China, joined by seven Ministers, six governors, eleven parliamentary representatives and over 420 business people. In Shanghai, Lula defends a "new geography of world trade".

DAY 25

The Cooperation Agreement between the Amazon Cooperation Treaty Organization (ACTO) and the FAO, regarding the validation of criteria and indices for the sustainable management of Amazon forests is signed, in Brasilia.

DAY 28

President Lula attends the Third Summit between Latin America and the Caribbean-European Union in Guadalajara, Mexico.

Brazil and the US came to an agreement regarding Florida's State equalization tax on orange juice.

The G-20 countries of the WTO make public their joint proposal regarding agricultural market access.

DAY 29

The first Brazilian contingent to take part in the United Nations Mission to Stabilize Haiti (Minustah) leaves. Brazil holds the military command of this mission.

JUNE

DAYS 2 - 3

Minister Amorim makes a bilateral visit to Guyana and attends, in Georgetown, the G-90 Meeting, a group of developing nations in the WTO.

DAY 4

A Seminar takes place in Brasilia on the United Nations Convention Against Organized Crime, Corruption and Terrorism.

DAYS 6 - 8

Minister Amorim visits Ecuador to attend, in Quito, the 24th OAS General Assembly.

DAYS 11 - 12

A Ministerial Meeting held in São Paulo celebrates the 40th Anniversary of the Group of 77. Also, Ministerial Meetings of the G-20, the NG-5 and of least developed nations and representatives of Mercosur and the European Union are organized in the same city.

DAYS 14 – 18

Brazil holds the 11th UNCTAD General Conference (United Nations Conference on Trade and Development) in São Paulo. The Conference adopts two main documents: the São Paulo Consensus and the Spirit of São Paulo. The defense of an “integrated treatment for trade and development”, among other issues, is discussed.

DAY 15

The Minister of Foreign Affairs of San Tome & Principe, Ovídio Pequeno, visits Brazil.

The President of Uganda, Yoweri Koguta Museveni, visits Brazil.

The President elect of the Dominican Republic, Leonel Fernández, visits Brazil.

DAYS 15 - 16

The Prime Minister of Thailand, Thaksin Shinawatra, visits Brazil.

DAY 16

The First Meeting of Mercosur’s Ministers of the Environment takes place in Buenos Aires.

DAYS 20 - 22

The President of Namibia, Sam Nujoma, visits Brazil. In a parallel event to the official meetings, business people from both nations discuss business opportunities.

DAYS 21 - 22

The President of Colombia, Álvaro Uribe, visits Brazil and the First Brazil-Colombia Business Forum takes place in São Paulo.

DAY 23

President Lula travels to New York to attend the High Level Meeting for North American Investors and the Seminar “Brazil Meets Markets”, both events promoted by the Brazilian Government.

DAYS 23 - 24

The Brazil-South America Business Round takes place in São Paulo, in order to make public the Program for the Competitive Substitution of Imports (PSCI) of Itamaraty.

DAY 24

In New York, President Lula makes a speech at the opening of the “Global Compact Leaders Summit”.

DAY 28

The Brazilian government praises Iraq’s provisional government as a “significant step” in the process towards the institutional normalization of that country.

Brazil presents in the WTO its initial offers regarding services in the Doha Round.

DAY 30

Brazil holds the World Cultural Forum in São Paulo.

JULY

DAYS 1 - 2

The First International Meeting of the Permanent National Commission of ACTO takes place in Brasília.

DAY 7

The President of Mexico, Vicente Fox, visits Brazil to address regional matters and the bilateral agenda.

DAYS 7 - 8

The 26th Mercosur Summit takes place in Puerto Iguazú, Argentina. Brazil follows Argentina in the pro-tempore presidency of the bloc. In his speech, President Lula announces the decision to “immediately begin talks to close the free trade agreement between Mercosur and Mexico”.

DAY 9

President Lula visits Bolivia and meets with President Carlos Mesa in Santa Cruz de la Sierra.

DAYS 10 - 16

Minister Amorim participates in meetings regarding the

WTO in Paris, in Mauritius (G-90 meeting) and in Geneva.

DAY 14

The Management Court of the ILO confirms its decision regarding the unlawful dismissal of the Brazilian Ambassador José Maurício Bustani as Director General of the Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons (OPCW), which took place in 2002.

DAY 22

At the request of the UN, the Brazilian government states that it will participate in two environmental projects in Lebanon.

DAYS 22 - 23

The Minister of Foreign Affairs and Cooperation of Spain, Miguel Ángel Moratinos, visits Brazil.

DAYS 22 - 26

Brazil holds the Fourth World International Congress on Education in Porto Alegre.

DAYS 26 - 29

On his second trip to Africa, President Lula visits San Tome & Principe to attend the Fifth Conference of Heads of State and Government of the Community of Portuguese-Speaking Countries. Afterwards, President Lula visits Gabon and Cape Verde.

DAYS 28 - 31

Minister Amorim attends the WTO's informal negotiations in Geneva.

DAY 31

Brazil supports an UNSC resolution that demands an embargo on international arms trade to the region of Darfur, in Sudan.

AUGUST

DAYS 2 - 4

The High Level Group of Reflections on the Effects of Globalization, in the ambit of the Rio Group, meets in Brasilia.

DAY 3

Tabaré Vasquéz, the candidate of the Broad Coalition (Frente Amplio) for the presidency of Uruguay, visits Brazil.

DAY 4

The President elect of Panama, Martín Torrijos Espino, visits Brazil.

DAYS 4 - 5

The Minister of External Relations of Ghana, Nana Akufo-Addo, visits Brazil.

DAY 9

Minister Amorim makes a bilateral visit to Argentina.

The Minister of Economy and Production of Argentina, Roberto Lavagna, visits Brazil.

DAY 11

Joined by the Presidents of Bolivia and Peru, President Lula inaugurates a bridge on the border, between Braziléia (Acre State) and the town of Cobija in Bolivia.

DAY 13

President Lula visits Paraguay for the installation ceremony, in Asuncion, of the Permanent Court of Revision of Mercosur.

DAY 15

Celebration of the 30th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations between Brazil and the People's Republic of China.

DAY 16

The OAS Secretary General's Group of Friends of Venezuela praises the "transparent and peaceful" revocatory referendum, which produces a result favorable to President Hugo Chávez.

DAYS 16 - 17

President Lula visits the Dominican Republic to attend the inauguration of President Leonel Fernández Reyna and meets in São Domingos with Central American and Caribbean dignitaries.

DAY 18

President Lula visits Haiti, meets with Brazilian Minustah troops

in Port-au-Prince and attends the “peace game” between Brazil’s and Haiti’s national soccer teams.

DAY 19

The Brazilian Embassy in Nigeria is transferred from Lagos to Abuja.

DAYS 19 - 20

Brazil holds in Brasilia the 23rd Meeting of Ministers of External Relations of the Rio Group as part of the preparations for the 28th Summit of the Rio Group.

DAY 20

The Minister of External Relations of Guatemala, Jorge Briz Abularach, visits Brazil.

The Minister of External Relations of Peru, Manuel Rodríguez Cuadros, visits Brazil. A bilateral agreement in the area of natural resources and the environment is signed.

DAY 23

The First Meeting on the Brazil-China Common Agenda on Sustainable Development with Emphasis on Climate Change takes place in Brasília.

DAYS 23 - 24

President Lula visits Chile, and meets with President Lagos to address, among other matters, the convergence of integration mechanisms in South America.

DAYS 24 - 25

During an official trip to Ecuador, President Lula discusses matters on the bilateral agenda with President Gutiérrez. Both Presidents sign a Memorandum of Understanding regarding cooperation in the energy and communications area.

DAY 26

The President of Paraguay, Nicanor Duarte Frutos, visits Brazil, joined by ministerial staff.

DAY 27

The Brazilian government regrets Israel's decision to enlarge its settlements in the West Bank.

DAY 30

The agreement between ACTO and the Intergovernmental Coordination Committee of the Countries of the Prata Basin (CIC) on the exchange of information and cooperation in areas of common interest is signed.

AUGUST 31- SEPTEMBER 3

The President of Mozambique, Joaquim Alberto Chissano, visits Brazil.

SEPTEMBER

DAY 1

The Brazilian government condemns the attack on two Israeli buses in the city of Beer Sheba, in the South of Israel.

DAYS 1 - 2

The 33rd Ordinary Meeting of the Mercosur Forum on Political Consultation and Cooperation takes place in Brasilia.

DAY 2

A Brazilian Representation is established in Ramallah, West Bank.

DAY 3

The Head of the International Monetary Fund (IMF), Rodrigo Rato, visits Brazil.

The Brazilian government expresses its “vehement condemnation” of the terrorist actions that took place in North Ossetia, Russia.

DAYS 3 - 4

Syria’s Minister for Emigration, Boussayna Cha’aban, visits Brazil.

DAYS 6 -9

The Prime Minister of Portugal, Pedro Santana Lopes, visits Brazil.

DAY 8

The WTO’s final report regarding the Brazil-US cotton dispute is favorable to Brazil. The report stated that US cotton subsidies for production, trade and export are not compatible with the multilateral rules of trade.

The report of the Technical Group of the Innovative Financial Mechanism is presented, in New York, elaborated in the ambit of the Action Against Hunger and Poverty.

DAY 12

The European Union Trade Commissioner, Pascal Lamy, visits Brazil.

DAY 13

The Minister of External Relations of Peru, Manuel Rodríguez Cuadros, visits Brazil.

DAY 14

The Eighth Meeting of Ministers of External Relations of ACTO takes place in Manaus. In its final statement, the “fundamental relevance of ACTO, as the main instrument to establish concerted policies for a complete and sustainable development in the Amazon region” is reaffirmed.

DAYS 14 – 16

The Prime Minister of Japan, Junichiro Koizumi, visits Brazil. The Japanese dignitary meets with the Japanese-Brazilian community in São Paulo and discusses with President Lula, in Brasília, the bilateral agenda and the enlargement of the UNSC.

DAY 15

The President of Venezuela, Hugo Chávez, visits Manaus and opens with President Lula the Second International Fair of the Amazon.

DAY 20

A Meeting of World Leaders takes place in New York to promote the Action against Hunger and Poverty. Due to an initiative of President Lula, accompanied by France, Chile and Spain, the Meeting was attended by 59 Chiefs of State and Government and had the support of 110 countries.

Innovative mechanisms for financing development are analyzed.

President Lula attends in New York the meeting of the Worlds Commission of the ILO regarding the Social Dimension of Globalization, and makes a speech at the opening of the 60th General Assembly of the United Nations.

DAY 21

Germany, Brazil, India and Japan create the Group of Four (G-4) in New York, with the objective of furthering UN reform, in particular the enlargement of the UNSC and the entry of new permanent members.

The Chancellors of Mercosur and of the Central American System of Integration (SICA) hold a meeting.

DAY 22

Parallel to the UN General Assembly, IBSA Ministerial Meetings and meetings between Arab and South American countries are organized.

DAY 24

Mercosur delivers its offer to the European Union regarding market access in the areas of agricultural products, industrial goods, services and investments, as well as in government procurement.

DAY 29

New Brazilian Consulates in Atlanta (US), Beirut (Lebanon), Iquitos (Peru) and Puerto Ayacucho (Venezuela) are opened.

DAYS SEPTEMBER 29- OCTOBER 1

The Seminar of South American-Arab countries on Semi-Arid and Hydric Resources takes place, in Fortaleza (Ceará).

A delegation of the South African Customs Union (SACU) visits Brasilia for trade talks with Mercosur.

DAY 30

The Brazilian Embassy in Addis Abeba, Ethiopia, opens.

OCTOBER

DAYS 4 -6

USA Secretary of State Colin Powell visits Brazil. In São Paulo, Powell states that Brazil is a “solid candidate” for the UNSC.

DAY 5

The Vice-Prime Minister and Minister of External Relations and Foreign Trade of Barbados, Billie Antoinette Miller, visits Brazil.

DAY 6

The Brazilian government shows its concern over the action of military rebels against the democratically elected government established in Guinea-Bissau.

DAY 7

The First Meeting of the Brazil-Turkey Joint Commission of Trade, Economics and Industrial Cooperation takes place in Brasilia.

The Director-General of the FAO, Jacques Diouf, visits Brazil.

Brazil begins consultations regarding the candidacy of Ambassador Luiz Felipe de Seixas Corrêa for the position of WTO Director-General.

Air Mail to Asuncion, Buenos Aires and Montevideo is reactivated.

DAY 8

The Brazilian government expressed its regrets over the resignation of OAS Secretary General, Miguel Angel Rodríguez.

The Brazilian government expresses its consternation and condemns the terrorist attacks in the Sinai Peninsula, Egypt.

DAY 9

A Ministerial Meeting of Mercosur is held in Rio de Janeiro to evaluate the current status of its trade talks with the European Union.

DAY 13

President Lula sends a message to the President of Russia, Vladimir Putin, congratulating him on his decision to further the ratification of the Kyoto Protocol by Russia.

DAY 14

The Brazil-Argentina Business Coalition is established in São Paulo.

DAY 15

Brazil obtains a victory in the WTO panel's final report on the dispute regarding European Union subsidies for sugar. Brazil argued that European subsidies violated disciplines of the WTO Agreement on Agriculture.

DAY 18

Minister Amorim travels to Montevideo for the ceremony to make ACE-58 (Mercosur-Peru) and ACE-59 (Mercosur-Colombia, Ecuador and Venezuela) official in ALADI, as the basis of the Free Trade Agreement Mercosur-CAN.

DAY 20

The Ministerial Meeting of Mercosur-European Union Trade Talks is held in Lisbon.

DAYS 20 - 23

Minister Amorim travels to Europe to attend WTO meetings in Lisbon, Geneva and Paris.

DAY 21

Brazil meets the constitutional standards that were needed for the effectiveness of the Second Protocol of Changes to the Orthographic Agreement on the Portuguese Language.

DAYS 24 - 25

Brazil sends humanitarian aid to the governments of Grenada and Jamaica.

DAY 25

The Minister of External Relations of Venezuela, Jesús Perez, visits Brazil.

DAY 26

The Minister of Foreign Affairs of Belarus, Serguei Martynov, visits Brazil.

The Minister of External Relations of Chile, Ignacio Walker, visits Brazil.

The Brazilian government congratulates the Israeli Parliament on its decision regarding the removal of settlements on the Gaza Strip.

DAYS 27 - 31

The Minister of Foreign Affairs of South Africa, Nkosazana Dlamini-Zuma, visits Brazil.

DAY 28

Brazil is elected for a three-year mandate in the Economic and Social Council of the United Nations (ECOSOC), 2005-2007 term.

The Special Secretary for Women's Policies, Nilcéa Freire, is elected to preside over the Inter-American Commission for Women in the OAS.

NOVEMBER

DAY 1

Minister Amorim attends, in Lisbon, the Extraordinary Meeting of the Council of Ministers of the CPLP regarding the situation of Guinea-Bissau.

DAYS 2 - 5

Brazil holds, in Rio de Janeiro, the 28th Presidential Summit of the Rio Group. In his opening statement, President Lula defends Latin-American solidarity towards Haiti and defends the presence of developing nations as permanent members of the UNSC.

DAY 3

The Meeting of Chancellors of the Central American System of Integration (SICA) and Mercosur is held in Rio de Janeiro.

President Lula sends a message congratulating President George W. Bush on his reelection in the USA.

DAY 10

The Vice-President of the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Arthur Z'Ahidi Ngomam, visits Brazil.

DAY 11

An Itamaraty Note indicates that the Agreement between Brazil and Ukraine regarding technological safeguards for space launches in the Alcântara (MA) basin does not include the so-called “political” clauses that were included in the Agreement with the USA in 2000.

Regretting the death of the Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat, the Brazilian Government reaffirms its support for the creation of a “free and sovereign” Palestinian State.

DAYS 11 - 16

The President of the People's Republic of China, Hu Jintao, visits Brazil. Brazil recognizes the status of China as a market economy. China announces US\$ 10 billion in investments in Brazil over the following years.

DAY 12

Vale do Rio Doce Company (CVRD) wins the international selection process to exploit the coal complex of Moatize, in Mozambique.

DAY 15

Brazilian residents in Abidjan, Ivory Coast, are evacuated in a Brazilian airforce plane.

DAYS 15 - 18

The President of the Republic of Korea, Roh Moo-Hyun, visits Brazil. In addition to meetings held with President Lula and other authorities, the South-Korean President meets, in São Paulo, with representatives of the Korean community and of the Federation of Industries of the State of São Paulo (Fiesp).

DAY 16

A mission of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) visits the Brazilian uranium enrichment plant in Resende (RJ).

DAYS 16 - 17

The President of Vietnam, Tran Duc Luong, visits Brazil and discusses options to increase the integration between South America and Pacific Asia.

DAYS 17 - 19

The Vice-Chancellor and Minister of External Relations of Germany, Joschka Fischer, visits Brazil.

DAY 18

The registration of the world's first project based on the Mechanism of Clean Development of the Kyoto Protocol is announced: the NovaGerar Project in Nova Iguaçu (RJ).

DAYS 19 - 21

Minister Amorim travels to Costa Rica to attend the 14th Ibero-American Summit in São José. He meets with Chancellors from

the Caribbean community to discuss the situation in Haiti. Afterwards, he visits Barbados.

DAYS 21 - 23

The President of Russia, Vladimir Putin, visits Brazil. It is the first time in history that a Russian Head of State has visited Brazil. Amongst the bilateral acts signed, are a Memorandum of Understanding regarding cooperation on space activities, a convention to avoid double taxation and to prevent fiscal evasion regarding income taxes and a cooperation program in science and technology.

DAYS 22 - 23

The Prime Minister of Canada, Paul Martin, visits Brazil.

In a joint statement with President Lula they formalize the commitment of both governments towards “sustainable development, equitable economic growth and good governance.”

DAY 24

Brazil asks for membership of the International Organization for Migration (IOM).

Minister Amorim visits Argentina for meetings with local authorities and business people.

DAY 25

The Minister of Interior and Vice-President of Chile, José Miguel Insulza, visits Brazil.

DAYS 25 - 29

The King of Morocco, Mohammed VI, visits Brazil, and discusses business opportunities between the countries with President Lula.

DAY 26

The Dispute Settlement Mechanism of the WTO authorizes Brazil to withhold concessions and other obligations to the US due to their non-compliance with recommendations regarding the Byrd Amendment dispute.

DAYS 27 - 30

Joined by a business delegation, the President of Pakistan, Pervez Musharraf, visits Brazil. Agreements in the area of fighting drug trafficking, food security, visa exemption and the creation of mechanisms for political consultations are signed.

DAY 28

For the first time, the day of Argentina-Brazil friendship is celebrated.

DAYS 28 - 30

The Second Meeting of Mercosur's High Courts is held in Brasilia.

DECEMBER

DAY 2

The Seminar "Brazil and the Energy of the 21st Century: Sugar and Ethanol" is held in Itamaraty in Brasilia.

Joined by its G-4 partners, Brazil praises the publicizing of the report of the High Level Panel on Threats, Challenges and Change, summoned by the United Nations Secretary General.

DAYS 8 - 9

President Lula travels to Peru to attend the Third Meeting of South American Presidents in Cusco. In that occasion, the South American Community of Nations (SACN) is launched. The SACN is composed of twelve countries and is designed as a common project that should go forward through the strengthening of political dialogue and economic integration and infrastructure in the South American space.

DAY 13

The Brazilian government donates 1 million vaccines against tetanus and diphtheria to the Dominican Republic.

The Consulate General of Brazil opens in Atlanta, USA.

DAY 14

The Brazilian Embassy opens in San Marino, linked to the Embassy in Rome.

The Vice-Consulate of Brazil opens in Puerto Ayacucho, Venezuela.

DAY 15

The journal “Diplomacia, Estratégia e Política - DEP” (“Diplomacy, Strategy and Politics), on South American affairs, is launched at Itamaraty.

DAYS 15 - 16

The First Business Forum of Mercosur is held in Belo Horizonte.

DAY 16

A Preferential Trade Agreement between Mercosur and the South African Customs Union (SACU) is concluded in Belo Horizonte.

DAY 17

Brazil holds, in Ouro Preto, the 27th Mercosur Summit. The entry of Colombia, Ecuador and Venezuela as associate States to Mercosur is formalized.

DAYS 20 - 21

Minister Amorim visits Haiti and Surinam, where he signs cooperation agreements for fighting crime and the regularization of the situation of Brazilian immigrants.

DAY 26

A tsunami in South and Southeast Asia causes the deaths of millions of people, including the Brazilian diplomat Lys Amayo de Benedek D'Avola and her son.





2005





2005

JANUARY

DAY 5

The Minister of External Affairs of Senegal, Cheick Tidiane Gadio, visits Brazil.

DAY 6

The First Meeting of Brazilian Heads of Office in foreign nations is held in Itamaraty in Brasilia.

The Minister of the Interior of Chile, José Miguel Insulza, visits Brazil.

DAYS 11 - 14

The President of Bulgaria, Georgi Parvanov, visits Brazil and signs a cooperation agreement with President Lula in the field of sports and a Memorandum of Understanding regarding cooperation between diplomatic institutions.

DAY 12

Minister Amorim attends a special meeting of the UNSC, in New York, in order to evaluate the situation in Haiti. Next day he visits Trinidad and Tobago.

DAYS 14 - 18

In the framework of enlarging Brazil's relations with Africa, Minister Amorim visits five African countries: Cape Verde, Guinea-Bissau, Senegal, Nigeria and Cameroon.

DAYS 17 - 21

Brazil attends in New Delhi the meeting of the Group of Like-Minded Megadiverse Countries, a mechanism of political coordination and cooperation among 17 developing countries that account for more than 70% of the world's biodiversity.

DAY 19

President Lula visits Colombia for a meeting at the border with President Álvaro Uribe, in Leticia.

A Brazilian citizen, João José Vasconcellos Júnior, an engineer of Odebrecht builders, is kidnapped in Iraq. Itamaraty begins contacts and actions trying to locate the missing Brazilian.

DAY 20

The Brazilian government sends humanitarian aid to Guyana, hit by heavy rains.

DAYS 23 - 25

The President of the Spanish Government, José Luis Rodríguez Zapatero, visits Brazil.

The Declaration of Brasilia is adopted regarding the Consolidation of the Strategic-Partnership Brazil-Spain.

DAYS 26 - 27

President Lula attends the World Social Forum in Porto Alegre, where he holds a conference in the “Global Call for Action Against Poverty”.

DAYS 28 - 29

President Lula attends the World Economic Forum in Davos, Switzerland. The co-financing program between Brazil and the World Bank for Haiti is signed - this is the first time that the World Bank finalizes a project of this nature with a developing country, directed to helping another developing country.

FEBRUARY

DAY 1

The President of the World Health Organization Commission on Intellectual Property Rights, Technological Innovation and Public Health, Ruth Dreifuss, visits Brazil.

The Free Trade Agreement between Mercosur and Colombia, Ecuador and Venezuela (ACE-59), signed in 2004, comes into effect in Brazil.

DAY 2

The President of the Commission of Permanent Representatives of Mercosur, Eduardo Duhalde, visits Brazil.

DAYS 2 - 3

The Minister of External Relations of Cuba, Felipe Pérez Roque, visits Brazil.

DAY 10

The Brazilian Embassy opens in Iauandê, Cameroon.

The Minister of External Relations appointed by Uruguay, Reinaldo Gargano, visits Brazil.

The Brazilian government regrets the decision of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea to suspend its participation in the six-party talks, as well as the announcement made by this country that the nation possesses nuclear weapons.

DAYS 10 - 11

The meeting of the Technical Group of Innovative Financial Mechanisms for Action Against Hunger and Poverty takes place in Brasília. In addition to Brazil, the group is composed of Brazil, Chile, Spain and France.

DAY 14

The Brazilian government condemns the assassination of the former Prime Minister of Lebanon, Rafik Hariri.

President Lula visits Venezuela and signs with President Hugo Chávez, in Caracas, a declaration for the implementation of the Brazil-Venezuela Strategic Alliance.

DAY 15

President Lula visits Guyana and, on the following day, Surinam, where he attends the 16th Conference of the Caribbean Community Heads of State in Paramaribo.

DAY 16

Brazil praises the fact that the Kyoto Protocol on climate change came into effect.

DAY 17

Minister Amorim visits Peru to preside, in Lima, over the Second Meeting of the Bilateral Mechanism of Coordination and Follow-Up.

The Brazilian Consulate General opens in Geneva, Switzerland.

DAYS 17 - 26

Minister Amorim visits Jordan, Palestine, Syria, Saudi Arabia, Oman, Qatar, Kuwait, Tunisia and Algeria in order to enlarge Brazil's relations with the Arab world.

DAY 18

In a joint statement, Mercosur reaffirms its willingness for a fair agreement in the FTAA talks.

Brazil is visited by the Princes of Astúrias, Felipe de Borbón y Grecia and Letizia Ortiz.

MARCH

DAY 1

President Lula visits Uruguay and attends the inauguration of President Tabaré Vázquez, in Montevideo. On the following day, a trilateral meeting between Presidents Lula, Kirchner and Chávez takes place and they decide to organize meetings between their Ministers from the economic, energy and social areas and their Central Bank Presidents.

Brazil takes over the pro-tempore presidency of the UNSC.

DAY 2

The Chamber of Deputies approves the new Law on Biosafety, which regulates the research into stem cells in Brazil.

DAY 3

A report by the Appeals Body of the WTO confirms the panel's decision that ruled against USA subsidies for cotton production and export.

DAYS 3 - 12

Minister Amorim visits Kenya, Ethiopia, Mozambique and South Africa. In Mombasa, Kenya, he attends the WTO's Miniministerial Meeting.

The Mercosur-SICA-Caricom Business Meeting is held in Panama City.

DAY 7

The Vice-Prime Minister and Minister of Industry, Trade and Labor of the Israeli State, Ehud Olmert, visits Brazil.

DAY 10

The Second IBSA Joint Commission opens in Cape Town.

Minister Amorim meets with Jean Ping, the Minister of External Relations of Gabon.

DAY 11

The Brazilian Embassy in Dar es Salam, Tanzania, opens.

DAYS 18 - 19

Minister Amorim visits India to attend the G-20 Ministerial meeting about WTO talks, in New Delhi.

DAY 21

G-4 countries (Brazil, Germany, India and Japan) welcome the UN Secretary General's Report "In Greater Freedom: Towards Security, Development and Human Rights".

DAYS 21 - 24

The Vice-President of the Democratic Republic of Congo, Jean Pierre Mbemba Gombo, visits Brazil.

DAYS 22 - 23

Minister Amorim visits Algeria to attend in Algiers the 17th Summit of the League of Arab States.

DAY 23

USA Secretary of Defense Donald Rumsfeld visits Brazil.

DAY 24

The WTO's final report confirms Brazil's victory in his dispute with the European Union regarding chicken. In 2002, the EU raised its import tariffs on salted chicken cuts, prejudicial to Brazilian exports.

DAYS 24 - 25

Minister Amorim co-presides in Marrakesh, Morocco, over the preparatory Ministerial Meeting for the South American and Arab Countries Summit (SAAC).

DAY 25

Brazil establishes diplomatic relations with Comores.

DAY 29

President Lula travels to Venezuela to attend a work meeting in Ciudad Guyana with the Presidents of Colombia, Spain and Venezuela.

APRIL

DAY 1

The President of Uruguay, Tabaré Vázquez, visits Brazil. A joint statement outlines the negotiation of an "agreement to regulate the frontier population's access to health care systems on both

sides of the border” and the “revival of the Bilateral Joint Commissions of Lagoa Mirim and Bacia do Rio Quaraí works”.

The Brazilian Embassy opens in Doha, Qatar.

In Asuncion a bilateral work group discusses contingency measures on the Foz do Iguçu and Ciudad del Este borders, agreed by the governments of Brazil and Paraguay.

DAYS 3 – 5

The Secretary-General of the League of Arab States, Amre Moussa, visits Brazil.

DAYS 3 - 9

A mission sent by the Caribbean Community, commanded by the Prime Minister of St Kitts & Nevis, Denzil Douglas, visits Brazil to get to know the Brazilian program for combating AIDS.

DAY 8

President Lula travels to Rome to attend Pope John Paul II's memorial service in the Vatican.

DAYS 10 – 14

On his third visit to Africa, President Lula goes to five African countries: Cameroon, Nigeria, Ghana, Guinea-Bissau and Senegal. The visit included a tribute to the community of Tabom, composed of descendants of Brazilian slaves in Ghana. On Gorée Island, in Senegal, President Lula asks the African people's forgiveness for the suffering imposed by slavery.

DAYS 13 - 14

The Ninth meeting of the Joint Brazil-European Union Commission takes place in Brussels.

DAYS 13 - 16

A UNSC mission visits Haiti, led by Brazil's Permanent Representative to the UN, Ambassador Ronaldo Sardenberg.

DAY 14

The Brazilian Consulate General opens in Beirut, Lebanon.

The Brazilian Consulate General opens in Lagos, Nigeria.

In the Human Rights Commission of the UN, Brazil abstains from voting on a resolution regarding the situation of human rights in Cuba.

DAY 18

President Lula and the President of Chile, Ricardo Lagos, hold a meeting in São Paulo.

DAY 19

The First Meeting of Ministers of External Relations of the South American Community of Nations takes place in Brasília. A covenant of reciprocal assistance between the Ministry of External Relations and the Brazilian Innovation Agency (FINEP), creating the Program for Supporting Pre-investment in South America, is signed.

President Lula sends a message of congratulations to the new Pope Benedict XVI.

DAY 20

The 16th Continental Congress of the Inter-American Regional Organization of Workers opens in Brasilia.

The Brazilian government grants diplomatic asylum to the former President of Ecuador, Lucio Gutiérrez, who sought shelter in the Brazilian Embassy in Quito during that country's grave political crisis.

DAYS 25 - 26

The Minister of External Relations of Angola, João Bernardo de Miranda, visits Brazil.

DAYS 25 - 27

The Minister of External Relations of Ukraine, Borys Tarassiuk, visits Brazil.

DAYS 26 - 27

USA Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice visits Brazil. Both countries reaffirm their "commitment to a common vision that representative democracy and the State of Law are indispensable to building modern societies".

DAY 28

A report by the Appeals Body of the WTO confirms the panel's decision that condemned European Union subsidies for sugar exports.

Minister Amorim visits Chile to attend, in Santiago, the Third Ministerial Conference of the Community of Democracies.

DAYS 29 - 30

Minister Amorim visits Ecuador and is welcomed in Quito by President Alfredo Palacio.

MAY

DAYS 1 - 4

Accompanied by ministerial staff, the President of Angola, José Eduardo dos Santos, visits Brazil. During his visit, among other agreements, a Protocol of Understanding regarding credit grants for the government of Angola is signed, amounting to US\$ 580 million.

DAY 2

After a close dispute with the Mexican candidate, José Miguel Insulza of Chile is elected OAS Secretary-General, with Brazil's support.

DAYS 2 - 5

Minister Amorim travels to Paris to participate in the activities dedicated to the Year of Brazil in France, to address a work agenda in the OECD and to hold meetings about the Doha Round of the WTO.

DAY 4

The President of Honduras, Ricardo Maduro, visits Brazil and reaffirms his government's interest in "receiving technical cooperation for the production and use of biofuels".

DAYS 4 - 6

The Minister of External Affairs of Portugal, Diogo Freitas do Amaral, visits Brazil.

DAYS 10 - 11

In Brasilia, Brazil holds the South American and Arab Countries Summit (SAAC), the first high level bilateral meeting between these two regions of developing countries. The Declaration of Brasilia is adopted and the Framework Agreement on Economic Cooperation between Mercosur and the Gulf Cooperation Council is signed.

DAY 12

The President of Algeria, Abdelaziz Bouteflika, visits Brazil. On this occasion, bilateral agreements are signed in the following areas: phytosanitary, sanitary and veterinary, and regarding the abolition of visas in diplomatic, official and service passports.

DAYS 12 -13

The Brazil-Arab Countries Business Meeting is held in São Paulo.

DAYS 16 - 17

Minister Amorim travels to Jamaica and Barbados.

DAY 20

The Minister of External Relations, International Trade and Culture of Argentina, Rafael Bielsa, visits Brazil.

The Rio Branco Institute opens a selection process for the 2005 program of affirmative action providing Scholarships for Diplomacy for Afro-descendants.

DAYS 24 - 27

President Lula visits the Republic of Korea and Japan, accompanied by business missions. The Work Group on Biomass between Brazil and Japan to study the use of ethanol and biodiesel as fuels is established. In Nagoia, President Lula meets with members of the Brazilian community in Japan.

DAYS 28 - 30

Minister Amorim visits Israel and is received in Tel Aviv by Prime Minister Ariel Sharon. The Memorandum of Understanding for the establishment of Bilateral Consultations between Brazil and Israel is finalized.

JUNE

DAY 1

Mercosur's Multilateral Agreement on Social Welfare comes into effect, benefiting around 2.1 million workers.

DAY 4

The Brazilian government follows "with natural concern" the political crisis in Bolivia. Protesters led by Evo Morales call for the nationalization of gas and oil.

DAYS 5 - 7

Minister Amorim leads the Brazilian delegation to the 35th General Assembly of the OAS in Fort Lauderdale, USA.

DAY 6

The former President of Ecuador, Lucio Gutiérrez, renounces the status of his territorial asylum in Brazil.

The Alexandre de Gusmão Foundation (FUNAG) sponsors a public contest to reward papers on the topic: “Brazil and South America: Challenges of the 21st Century”.

In the midst of popular unrest, the President of Bolivia, Carlos Mesa, renounces.

DAYS 6 – 9

The Prime Minister of Belize, Said Musa, visits Brazil.

DAY 7

Minister Amorim visits the Dominican Republic.

DAYS 7 – 10

The Fourth Global Forum for Fighting Corruption is held in Brasilia.

DAY 8

The Brazilian Consulate opens in Iquitos, Peru.

DAYS 8 - 10

The preparatory Latin America and Caribbean Regional Meeting for the World Summit of the Information Society is held in Rio de Janeiro.

DAY 9

The Minister of Foreign Affairs of Senegal, Cheikh Tidiane Gadio, visits Brazil to attend, in Brasília, the Sixth Meeting of the Brazil-Senegal Joint Commission.

The Special Advisor on Foreign Relations of the President of the Republic, Professor Marco Aurélio Garcia, arrives in Bolivia on an observation mission, also joined by Raúl Alconada Sempé (Argentina) and José Ocampo (UN).

DAY 10

President Lula sends a message of good wishes to the new President of Bolivia, Eduardo Rodríguez Veltzé.

DAY 12

The exhibition “Encounters and Re-encounters in Naïve Art: Brazil-Haiti” opens in Brasília.

DAYS 13 - 19

The President of the Republic of the Congo, Denis Sassou Nguesso, visits Brazil.

DAY 19

Brazil joins a mission of observers from the CPLP in the presidential elections of Guinea-Bissau.

DAYS 19 - 25

The Chief Executive of the Special Administrative Region of Macao, China, Edmund Ho, visits Brazil.

DAY 20

President Lula attends the 28th Mercosur Summit in Asuncion. The Brazil-Paraguay Bilateral Intelligence Group is established to address matters of piracy, falsification and smuggling.

DAY 22

Minister Amorim takes part, in Brussels, in the International Conference on Iraq.

In a joint statement, the countries of the G-4 reaffirm that the UNSC should increase its permanent and non-permanent members, with the equal representation and inclusion of developed and developing nations.

DAYS 26 - 27

Representing President Lula, Minister Amorim visits Colombia. On this occasion, the Second Brazil-Colombia Business Meeting is organized.

DAYS 27 - 28

President Lula visits Venezuela to discuss the process of integration in South America.

DAY 28

The Special Rapporteur of the Inter-American Commission of Human Rights of the OAS for the Rights of Afro-descendants

and Against Racial Discrimination, Clare Roberts, makes a ten-day visit to Brazil.

DAY 30

The Brazilian government donates to Peru a batch of 3.7 million vaccines against yellow fever.

JULY

DAY 2

A meeting in São Paulo celebrates 15 years of the São Paulo Forum.

DAYS 5 - 6

The Vice-Prime Minister and Minister of External Relations of Italy, Gianfranco Fini, visits Brazil.

DAY 7

President Lula visits the United Kingdom to participate in the extended dialogue of the G-8 Summit in Gleneagles, Scotland, joined by the leaders of South Africa, China, India and Mexico.

The Brazilian government, in a message from President Lula, expresses “its strongest condemnation” of the terrorist attacks that took place in several areas of London.

The Andean Council of Ministers of External Relations elevates the countries of Mercosur to the condition of associate States to CAN.

DAY 8

The Chancellors of G-4 meet in the Brazilian Embassy in London, joined by the Chancellor of Ghana, and approve a consensus on the need to enlarge the UNSC.

DAYS 11 - 12

The Commissioner of External relations of the European Union, Benita Ferrero-Waldner, visits Brazil.

DAY 12

Minister Amorim travels to Dalian, China, to attend the G-20 Ministerial Meeting regarding the WTO.

DAYS 13 - 14

The Seminar on Citizens' Security in South America takes place in Itamaraty Palace, in Brasilia.

DAYS 13 - 15

President Lula visits France and participates in the official celebrations of the French National Day in Paris. A French-Brazilian declaration is made about innovative financing mechanisms for development.

DAY 17

A G-4 Ministerial Meeting is held in New York with the President of the UN Assembly General, Jean Ping, and Ministers of African countries.

DAY 18

The Secretary-General of External Relations, Samuel Pinheiro

Guimarães, leads the Brazilian delegation to the 16th Andean Presidential Council in Lima. All CAN member States (Bolivia, Colombia, Ecuador, Peru and Venezuela) are already associate States to Mercosur.

DAYS 19 - 20

Minister Amorim travels to Angola to attend the 10th Meeting of the Council of Ministers of the CPLP in Luanda.

DAY 22

The Brazilian citizen Jean Charles de Menezes is mistaken for a terrorist and assassinated by shots fired by the British police in a subway station in London. The Brazilian government declares itself “shocked and astonished” with the news.

The 25th Meeting of Ministers of External Relations of the Rio Group takes place in Pilar, Argentina.

DAY 24

Minister Amorim meets in London with Ministers from the G-4 and IBSA countries. On the following day, a meeting of the G-4 and Ministers of the African Union takes place.

DAYS 24 - 26

The President of Botswana, Festus Gontebanye Mogae, visits Brazil.

DAY 25

In London, Minister Amorim asks the British Foreign Secretary, Jack Straw, for information to clarify the death of Jean Charles

de Menezes. An Independent Police Complaints Commission (IPCC) will investigate the affair to identify and account for those responsible.

DAY 27

In a dispute with the Brazilian economist João Sayad, the Colombian candidate is elected as President of the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB).

DAY 29

Minister Amorim visits Uruguay to address the bilateral agenda and Mercosur matters.

AUGUST

DAY 1

The USA Treasury Secretary, John Snow, visits Brazil.

President Lula sends a message of condolences on the death of King Fahd Bin Abdul Aziz Al-Saud, of Saudi Arabia.

DAYS 1 - 4

The Minister of External Affairs, Cooperation and Community of San Tome & Principe, Ovídio Pequeno, visits Brazil.

DAY 2

Minister Amorim takes part in the Second Meeting of Ministers of External Relations of the South American Community of Nations in Guayaquil, Ecuador. The main purpose of the meeting

was to prepare the First Meeting of the Heads of State of the Community, to take place the following month.

DAYS 3 - 4

Brazil hosts the Seminar on Economic Development with Social Equality in the ambit of the IBSA Forum, in Rio de Janeiro. The talks regarding a Trilateral Memorandum of Understanding on civil aviation among Brazil, South Africa and India are completed.

DAY 4

The President of the European Parliament, Josep Borrell Fontelles, visits Brazil.

DAYS 4 - 5

The Second Meeting of the Brazil-Cameroon Joint Commission is held in Brasilia.

DAY 9

The Vice-President of Spain, María Teresa Fernández de la Vega Sanz, visits Brazil.

DAYS 9 - 13

Joined by Ministerial staff, the President of Gambia, Yahya Jammeh, visits Brazil and meets with President Lula and Legislative and Justice authorities, as well as going to Embrapa (Brazilian Agricultural Research Corporation) installations.

DAYS 10 - 13

The Minister of Foreign Affairs of Benin, Rogatien Biaou, visits Brazil.

DAY 11

The President of Venezuela, Hugo Chávez, visits Brazil for a working dinner with President Lula at Granja do Torto, in Brasília.

DAYS 11 - 12

The Minister of External Relations of Kenya, Chirau Ali Mwakwere, visits Brazil. The First Meeting of the Brazil-Kenya Mixed Commission takes place in Brasília.

DAYS 15 - 17

Minister Amorim visits Bolivia and Ecuador.

DAY 17

The Brazilian government praises the decision of the Israeli government to continue its disengagement plan in the Gaza Strip.

DAY 18

The President of San Tomé & Príncipe, Fradique Bandeira Melo de Menezes, visits Brazil and holds meetings with President Lula and the Presidents of the Federal Senate and Chamber of Deputies.

DAY 19

The Brazilian government regrets the announcement made by the North American government that it would impose preliminary antidumping measures on the imports of orange juice from Brazil.

DAY 22

The Brazilian government sends a mission to London to follow the investigations regarding the death of the Brazilian citizen Jean Charles de Menezes.

The Prime Minister of Cape Verde, José Maria Pereira Neves, visits Brasília for a meeting with President Lula. Beforehand, he visited the cities of Fortaleza, Recife, João Pessoa, Maceió, Rio de Janeiro and Goiânia, meeting with business people and local authorities.

DAYS 22 - 23

The Special Representative of the United Nations Secretary General for Haiti and Head of Minustah, Juan Gabriel Valdés, of Chile, visits Brazil.

DAYS 23 - 25

The Minister of External Relations of Equatorial Guinea, Micha Ondo Bilé, visits Brazil.

DAY 25

The Brazilian Embassy opens in Belmopan, Belize.

DAYS 25 - 26

A Ministerial Meeting on Citizen Security in South America takes Place in Fortaleza (Ceará state).

Minister Amorim visits Argentina to take part in the Extraordinary Meeting of Foreign Ministers of the Rio Group, in Bariloche.

DAY 30

Celebration of 25 years since the ACT came into effect.

DAYS AUGUST 30 – SEPTEMBER 1

The Minister for Foreign Affairs and Cooperation of Burkina Faso, Youssouf Ouedraogo, visits Brazil.

The Minister of Foreign Affairs and Cooperation of Mozambique, Alcinda Abreu, visits Brazil.

SEPTEMBER

DAY 2

Minister Amorim travels to Brussels to attend the bi-regional round of negotiations, in order to establish a free trade agreement between Mercosur and the European Union.

DAYS 6 - 7

The President of Nigeria, Olusegun Obasanjo, visits Brazil and takes part in the celebrations of September 7th in Brasilia.

DAY 8

President Lula visits Puerto Maldonado in Peru to lay the foundation stone of the Inter-Oceanic Highway that will link Brazil to the maritime ports of Ilo, Matarani and San Juan.

DAYS 9 - 10

Minister Amorim makes a bilateral visit to Pakistan and presides, in Burbhan, over a G-20 Ministerial Meeting.

DAY 12

A report by the Appeals Body of the WTO confirms the decision of the panel that determined the customs reclassification of salted chicken cuts by the European Union.

DAYS 12 - 13

President Lula makes a bilateral visit to Guatemala and attends the Summit of the Central American Integration System, in Guatemala City. Protocols regarding cooperation for the production and use of ethanol fuel are signed.

DAY 14

President Lula travels to New York for a work meeting among IBSA Presidents.

DAYS 14 - 15

During the 60th anniversary of the United Nations, President Lula participates, in New York, in the High Level Debate on Development Financing, including special meetings of the UNSC and the General Assembly regarding the Millennium Goals.

DAY 17

Minister Amorim makes the opening statement at the 60th General Assembly of the United Nations general debate.

DAYS 18 - 23

The Vice-Prime Minister of Singapore, S. Jayakumar, visits Brazil.

DAY 19

The President of Austria, Heinz Fischer, visits Brazil.

DAY 20

Minister Amorim visits Haiti for contacts with Haitian and Minustah authorities.

DAY 24

The Second World Conference on Coffee opens in Salvador, with the presence of President Lula.

DAYS 26 - 27

Minister Amorim visits the USA and, in Washington, takes part in meetings with the Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice and the Trade Representative (USTR) Robert Portman.

DAYS 29 - 30

Brazil holds, in Brasilia, the First Meeting of Heads of State of the South American Community of Nations. Included in the adopted documents are a Declaration regarding the convergence of integration processes in South America, integration in the infrastructure area, as well as an Agenda of Priorities covering eight specific fields.

DAY 29

The President of Venezuela, Hugo Chávez, visits Brazil. The agreement to build an oil refinery by both countries in Pernambuco is finalized.

DAY 30

The Brazilian Consulate in Cape Town, South Africa, is elevated to the category of Consulate General.

OCTOBER

DAYS 3 - 5

The President of Cape Verde, Pedro Verona Rodrigues Pires, visits Brazil.

DAY 6

The Seminar “Mercosur-India-SACU Trade Opportunities: A Future Free Area” is organized in São Paulo.

DAYS 8 - 12

Minister Amorim travels to Switzerland to participate in meetings about the WTO in Geneva and Zurich.

DAY 10

The existence of a focus of foot and mouth disease in Mato Grosso do Sul is confirmed. Another focus of infection will be discovered in that state and Paraná. Several countries impose an embargo on the import of Brazilian beef.

DAY 13

President Lula visits Portugal for the Eighth Brazil-Portugal Summit, in the city of Oporto.

DAYS 14 - 15

President Lula visits Spain to attend the 15th Ibero-American Summit, in Salamanca. On that occasion, the Ibero-American Secretary General with a permanent status is established in order to support the institutionalization of the Conference.

DAYS 16 - 17

President Lula visits Rome and takes part in the Brazil-Italy Business Meeting and in the event to celebrate the FAO's 60th year.

DAYS 17 - 18

President Lula visits Russia and, in Moscow, meets with President Vladimir Putin. Three documents are signed: a Memorandum between the Brazilian Space Agency and the Federal Space Agency of Russia regarding the creation of a working group; a protocol of cooperation for the modernization of the Brazilian satellite Launching Vehicle (VLS-1); and a contract for a space mission of a Brazilian cosmonaut in the Russian sector of the International Space Station.

DAYS 17 - 25

The Special Rapporteur of the United Nations Human Rights Commission on Contemporary Forms of Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance, Doudou Diène, visits Brazil.

DAY 19

The Brazilian government sends food and medicine to the populations of El Salvador and Guatemala, hit by natural disasters. Humanitarian aid is also sent to Pakistan, hit by earthquakes.

DAYS 20 - 21

The first Brazilian business mission is sent to Kazakhstan for business meetings in Astana and Almaty.

DAY 23

The Referendum scheduled for the Disarmament Statute rejects the ban on fire arms and ammunition sales in Brazil.

Mexico suspends the agreement on visa exemption between the two countries. Due to reciprocity, Brazil begins to demand visas for the entry of Mexican tourists and business people.

DAY 25

President Lula sends letters regarding the WTO Doha Round to the Presidents of France and Italy, to the Spanish Head of Government, to the Prime Minister of Portugal and to the President of the European Commission.

DAY 31

The Brazilian Embassy opens in Zagreb, Croatia.

Minister Amorim takes part, in the United Nations, in the Ministerial Meeting of the Security Council regarding the report

of the Mehlis Commission, responsible for the investigation of the attack against Rafik Hariri, former Prime Minister of Lebanon.

The Monitoring Center for Foot and Mouth Disease is established, in Itamaraty, in order to coordinate actions in this field.

NOVEMBER

DAYS 1 – 2

The Prime Minister of Jamaica, Percival James Patterson, visits Brazil.

DAY 4

President Lula sends messages to the G-20 Heads of State regarding the WTO Doha Round talks.

DAYS 4 - 5

President Lula participates in the Fourth Summit of the Americas in Mar del Plata, Argentina, focusing on “Creating Jobs to Fight Poverty and Strengthening Democratic Governance”. Among the goals of the agreed Action Plan were the elimination of forced labor by 2010 and the eradication, by 2020, of the “worst kinds of child labor”.

DAYS 5 - 6

USA President George W. Bush visits Brazil and is welcomed by President Lula for a work meeting at Granja do Torto in Brasilia.

DAYS 6 - 8

The United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, Antonio Guterres, visits Brazil.

DAYS 7 - 12

Minister Amorim travels to London, Geneva and Rome for meetings and informal contacts about the Doha Round.

DAYS 9 - 10

The Minister of Foreign Trade of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Rim Kyong Man, visits Brazil.

DAY 15

In Montevideo, the Ministers of External Relations of Mercosur adopt a common position of the bloc for WTO talks.

DAY 16

A Brazilian Permanent Mission is made to the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) and Related International Entities, in Vienna.

DAYS 16 - 18

Brazil attends the World Summit of the Information Society in Tunis, Tunisia.

DAYS 19 - 21

A Brazilian business mission is sent to the United Arab Emirates.

DAYS 20 - 26

The Heir-Apparent to the Crown of Belgium, Prince Philippe Léopold Louis Marie, visits Brazil.

DAY 21

The Brazilian Embassy opens in Khartoum, Sudan.

The Brazilian Embassy opens in Malabo, Equatorial Guinea.

DAYS 21 - 24

A Brazilian business mission is sent to Saudi Arabia.

DAY 22

In Geneva, Minister Amorim takes part in G-4 meetings and talks about the WTO.

DAY 23

Minister Amorim attends the Ministerial Conference of the African Union in Arusha, Tanzania, regarding WTO talks.

DAYS 26 - 27

The first Meeting of the Mercosur-Gulf Cooperation Council takes place in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia, linked to the Framework Agreement of Economic Cooperation between the two groups.

DAY 28

The Secretary General of the Andean Community, Allan Wagner, visits Brazil.

DAY 30

20 years of the Iguazú Declaration that launched the Brazil-Argentina integration process is celebrated in Puerto Iguazú, Argentina. Presidents Lula and Kirchner sign several cooperation agreements, with the presence of former Presidents José Sarney and Raúl Alfonsín.

Brazil signs the Geneva Bilateral Protocol related to Vietnam's membership of the WTO.

DECEMBER

DAY 1

The Brazilian Consulate in Cayenne, French Guiana, is promoted to Consulate General.

DAY 2

500 electronic voting booths arrive in São Domingos, on loan from Brazil, to be used in the elections in the Dominican Republic. The Hemispheric Conference on Vigilance and Prevention of Avian Flu takes place in Itamaraty, Brasília.

In Geneva, Minister Amorim attends a meeting to discuss WTO talks.

DAYS 4 - 20

The Special Representative of the United Nations Secretary General for the Defense of Human Rights, Hina Jilani, visits Brazil.

DAY 6

The Brazilian Embassy opens in Cotonou, Benin.

The Brazilian Embassy opens in Nassau, Bahamas.

DAY 7

The First Meeting of Brazil-Israel Political Consultations takes place in Brasilia.

DAYS 8 - 9

President Lula takes part in the 29th Mercosur Summit in Montevideo.

The political decision to promote the participation of Venezuela as a full member of the bloc is made. The Commission for Strategic Thinking is established for the process of South American integration.

DAY 13

The Brazilian Consulate General opens in Paris, France.

DAYS 13 - 14

President Lula visits Colombia for a meeting in Bogotá with President Álvaro Uribe. Two Memoranda of Understanding are signed: one regarding police cooperation and the other in the union field.

The First Meeting of the Brazil-Republic of Korea Forum takes place in Brasilia.

DAYS 13 - 18

Minister Amorim commands the Brazilian delegation in the VI Ministerial Conference of the WTO in Hong Kong. For the first time, a ministerial meeting is held among all the groups of

developing nations in the WTO: G-20, G-33, ACP countries, the African group, small economies and less developed nations.

DAY 15

The President of the World Bank, Paul Wolfowitz, visits Brazil.

DAY 16

The President of Venezuela, Hugo Chávez, visits Brazil for the laying of the foundation stone for the future bilateral refinery of Abreu e Lima in Porto de Suape (PE).

DAY 19

Brazil receives from the UNDP a “Special Recognition for South-South Solidarity” due to its contributions after the disaster caused by the tsunami in Asia at the end of 2004.

DAY 22

The Brazilian Embassy opens in Lomé, Togo.

The Brazilian Embassy opens in Colombo, Sri Lanka.

DAY 27

The Brazilian government pays US\$ 15 billion in advance and settles Brazil’s debt with the IMF. In 2006, Brazil will also eliminate its debt with the Paris Club to the amount of US\$ 2.6 billion.

DAY 31

Brazil ends its elective mandate in the UNSC, after paying all its financial dues to the UN.



2006





2006

JANUARY

DAY 2

The Brazilian trade balance is issued and, in 2005, it accounted for the largest trade surplus of history: US\$ 44.8 billion. Exports hit a total record sum of US\$ 118.3 billion. Almost 54% of Brazilian sales are to developing countries.

DAYS 4 - 5

The Minister of Foreign Affairs of Australia, Alexander Downer, visits Brazil.

DAY 5

The Second Meeting of Brazilian Office Chiefs in foreign nations is held in Itamaraty in Brasília.

DAY 7

In Haiti the Brazilian General Urano Teixeira da Matta Bacellar, the Military Commander of Minustah, passes away. The Brazilian government reaffirms its determination to continue to support the Haitian people in the process of peace building and the country's normalization.

DAY 10

In the Brazilian Embassy in Berlin, the inaugural event of the “Culture Cup” program in Germany takes place.

The Head of the IMF, Rodrigo Rato, visits Brazil.

DAY 11

The Minister of External Relations, International Trade and Culture of Argentina, Jorge Taiana, visits Brazil.

DAY 13

The President elect of Bolivia, Evo Morales, visits Brazil.

The Brazilian Ambassador José Augusto Lindgren Alves is reelected in the position of an expert member of the Committee for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination in the United Nations.

The USA government decides to close its investigations against Brazil regarding the periodical revisions of the General System of Preferences of that country. The investigation began in 2000 over matters of intellectual property rights.

DAYS 16 - 19

The Minister of Foreign Affairs of Tunisia, Abdelwaheb Abdallah, visits Brazil.

DAY 18

The Brazilian mission to the CPLP is established in Lisbon.

The President of Argentina, Nestor Kirchner, visits Brazil. In a Joint Declaration both Heads of State decide to establish a “new system of bilateral consultation and coordination, with presidential meetings every six months, preceded by meetings of Chancellors”.

DAYS 18 - 21

The Vice-Prime Minister and Minister of External Relations of Turkey, Abdullah Gül, visits Brazil.

DAY 19

A Trilateral Meeting takes place in Brasilia between the Presidents of Argentina, Brazil and Venezuela. Ways to increase regional energy integration, mainly by building the Great Southern Gas Pipeline, are discussed.

DAY 20

The Minister of External Affairs and Cooperation of Morocco, Mohamed Benaïssa, visits Brazil.

The International Campaign Against the Trafficking of Wild Animals is launched in Itamaraty, in Brasilia.

DAY 21

Presidents Lula and Alejandro Toledo inaugurate the “Integration Bridge” between Brazil and Peru, on the border between Assis Brazil (Acre) and Iñapari.

DAY 22

President Lula visits Bolivia to attend the inauguration of President Evo Morales, in La Paz.

DAY 25

Brazil sends a mission of observers to accompany the Palestine parliamentary elections.

DAYS 26 - 28

Minister Amorim takes part in the World Economic Forum in Davos, where he has meetings regarding the WTO with partners from the G-20 and the G-6 (the group that unites Australia, USA, India, Japan and the EU, as well as Brazil).

JANUARY 30 - FEBRUARY 2

The Brazilian government sends a new special mission to London to accompany the investigations regarding the death of the Brazilian citizen Jean Charles de Menezes.

DAY 31

Minister Amorim attends, in London, the International Conference on Afghanistan.

The Brazilian Embassy opens in Astana, Kazakhstan.

FEBRUARY

DAY 1

Brazil and Argentina finalize, in Buenos Aires, an agreement that creates the Competitive Adaptation Mechanism (CAM), with the aim to correct or prevent a significant threat to domestic industry caused by the substantial increase in imports under bilateral trade.

DAYS 1 - 2

The Second Meeting of the Brazil-India Mixed Commission of Political, Economic, Scientific, Technological and Cultural Cooperation takes place in Brasilia.

DAY 2

The Minister of External Relations of Uruguay, Reinaldo Gargano, visits Brazil.

DAYS 5 - 7

The President of the Commission of Permanent Representatives to Mercosur, Carlos “Chacho” Álvarez, visits Brazil.

DAYS 8 - 12

On a new visit to Africa, the fourth in his first mandate, President Lula goes to Algeria, Benin, Botswana and South Africa. The Obá of Benin was the first sovereign to recognize Brazilian independence in 1823. In Pretoria, President Lula attends the Summit of Progressive Governance.

DAYS 13 - 16

The countries of Central America and Caribbean send a mission to Brazil to learn about ethanol.

DAY 15

The Minister of External Affairs and Cooperation of Spain, Miguel Ángel Moratinos, visits Brazil.

DAY 16

With the support of Brazil and other countries, the victory of the candidate René Prével is recognized in Haiti. The Brazilian government shows its satisfaction at the successful developments in the political process in that country.

Brazil establishes diplomatic relations with Fiji.

DAY 17

Minister Amorim visits Lima, where he presides over the Second Meeting of Brazil-Peru Coordination and Follow-Up.

DAYS FEBRUARY 28 - MARCH 1

Minister Amorim attends the Ministerial Conference in Paris on Innovative Sources of Financing and Development, an event linked to the Action Against Hunger and Poverty.

MARCH

DAYS 3 - 4

The Prime Minister of the Czech Republic, Jiri Paroubek, visits Brazil.

DAYS 6 - 9

President Lula makes a State visit to the United Kingdom. A Joint Declaration by the Brazilian President and Prime Minister Tony Blair is issued regarding the Doha Round, in which they agree to work together in favor of a meeting of leaders to take WTO talks out of deadlock.

DAYS 7 - 10

Brazil holds the International Conference on Agrarian reform and Development of the FAO in Porto Alegre.

DAY 10

The President elect of Haiti, René Prével, visits Brazil.

DAY 11

President Lula visits Chile to attend the inauguration of President Michelle Bachelet.

Minister Amorim takes part in the G-6 meetings regarding WTO talks in London.

DAYS 12 - 19

The Minister of Foreign Affairs of Zambia, Ronnie Shikapwasha, visits Brazil.

DAY 13

The President of Guatemala, Oscar Berger Perdomo, visits Brazil. A defense cooperation agreement is signed.

Minister Amorim visits Berlin and participates in a meeting with the German Minister.

DAYS 13 – 17

Brazil holds the Third Meeting of the Parties (MOP 3) to the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety in Curitiba. Based on a Brazilian proposal, a decision is adopted to create rules of identification

for the shipment of genetically modified organisms for food and processing.

DAYS 13 - 22

Prince Hassan bin Talal, of Jordan, visits Brazil.

DAY 16

The President of Uruguay, Tabaré Vázquez, visits Brazil. A Joint Communiqué states that “the asymmetries amongst the different countries of the bloc should be solved, mainly in the framework of deepening regional integration”.

DAY 17

The Bolivian Minister for the Presidency, Juan Ramón Quintana, visits Brazil.

DAYS 19 - 24

The Brazilian Vice-President, José Alencar Gomes da Silva, visits China.

DAYS 20 - 31

In Curitiba, the Eighth Conference of the Parties (COP 8) to the Convention on Biological Diversity is held. COP 8 is the largest environmental conference to have taken place in Brazil since 1992. It is agreed that, by 2010, an international regime for benefit-sharing in access to genetic resources and associated traditional knowledge will come into force.

DAY 22

The Minister of Foreign Affairs of Guinea-Bissau, Antonio Isaac Monteiro, visits Brazil.

DAY 24

Minister Amorim visits Chile and is welcomed in Santiago by President Michelle Bachelet.

DAYS 28 - 30

The Third Meeting of the IBSA Forum's Mixed Trilateral Commission, including the meeting of Chancellors from India, Brazil and South Africa, takes place in Rio de Janeiro. The meeting followed previous meetings of the IBSA Mixed Trilateral Commission, which were held in New Delhi in 2004 and in Cape Town in 2005.

DAYS 28 - 31

The 27th Extraordinary Session of the Inter-American Court of Human Rights is held in Brasilia. This is the first time that the international court has taken place in Brazil.

DAY 29

The Brazilian government sends 14 tons of food to Ecuador, as humanitarian aid to the families hit by floods in that country.

DAY 31

The Brazilian government condemns the attack in which the Brazilian-Israeli citizen Helena Levy was killed in the West Bank.

DAYS MARCH 31 - APRIL 1

An informal ministerial meeting on the WTO Doha Round takes place in Rio de Janeiro. Representatives from Brazil, the USA, the European Union and the Director-General of the WTO attend the meeting.

APRIL

DAY 3

The President of Honduras, José Manuel Zelaya Rosales, visits Brazil.

DAYS 3 - 5

The 47th Annual Assembly of Governors of the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB) is held in Belo Horizonte.

DAY 4

OAS Secretary-General, José Miguel Insulza, visits Brazil.

DAYS 4 - 5

The Minister of External Affairs of Azerbaijan, Elmar Mammadyarov, visits Brazil.

DAYS 4 - 6

The President of the Russian Government, Mikhail Fradkov, visits Brazil.

DAY 9

In a cooperation mission, an aircraft of the Brazilian Air Force (FAB) makes the first flight to African capitals, in order to establish a regular FAB line between Brazil and Africa.

DAYS 10 - 11

The President of Chile, Michelle Bachelet, visits Brazil. On this occasion, Protocols of Intentions on technical cooperation on the environment and a Memorandum of Understanding to establish a permanent mixed commission to discuss matters in the energy and mining areas were signed.

DAYS 11 - 13

Minister Amorim leads a ministerial mission in a visit to Japan to hold meetings in Tokyo regarding Brazil's choice of its digital TV standard.

DAYS 17 - 19

The Minister of External Affairs of Algeria, Mohammed Bedjaoui, visits Brazil.

DAY 20

The President of Venezuela, Hugo Chávez, visits the state of Paraná for a meeting with Governor Roberto Requião. On the same day, the Chancellor of Venezuela, Alí Rodríguez, travels to Brasília for a meeting in Itamaraty.

DAY 21

With the operation of the P-50 Platform, the largest that Petrobrás has, Brazil becomes self-sufficient in oil production.

DAY 24

Minister Amorim visits Granada to attend the Ministerial Meeting of the Caricom Council of External Relations.

DAY 25

The President of Colombia, Álvaro Uribe, visits Brazil to continue the talks that began in December 2005, when President Lula visited Bogotá.

President Lula holds, in São Paulo, a Trilateral Meeting with the Presidents of Argentina and Venezuela.

DAY 26

A Memorandum of Understanding is signed between Brazil and Ghana for the installation of Embrapa's Regional Office in Africa, in Accra.

DAY 27

A Letter of Intentions on Cooperation in Fighting HIV/AIDS between Brazil and Caricom is signed in Basseterre, St Kitts & Nevis.

DAY 28

The Brazilian government receives with consternation the decision of the North America government to keep Brazil on the "priority observation list" of the "Special 301" section of USA trade legislation.

An agreement on Airline Services between Brazil and Senegal is signed in Dakar.

DAYS APRIL 29 - MAY 2

Minister Amorim travels to Geneva to attend meetings on the Doha Round.

MAY

DAY 1

The nationalization of the hydrocarbon sector (gas and oil) is announced by a decree in Bolivia, a measure that affects Petrobrás investments in that country. On the following day, the Brazilian government issues a statement in which it recognizes the sovereignty of Bolivia over its natural resources and states that it will “act decisively and peacefully in all forums” to preserve the interests of the Brazilian company and to guarantee balanced and mutually profitable relations for both countries.”

DAYS 3 - 5

The 16th Regional Meeting of the International Labor Organization (ILO) takes place in Brasilia.

DAY 4

In a meeting in Puerto Iguazú, motivated by Bolivia’s nationalization of hydrocarbons, the Presidents of Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil and Venezuela reaffirm their commitment to energy integration in South America.

DAYS 4 - 5

The Minister of Foreign Affairs of Germany, Frank-Walter Steinmeier, visits Brazil.

DAY 5

The first unit of the nuclear enrichment plant destined to fulfill the needs of the nuclear power plants of Angra I and II is

inaugurated in Resende (RJ). Brazil becomes a part of a limited group of countries that have acquired the ability to enrich uranium.

An Economic Cooperation Agreement between Brazil and Hungary is signed in Brasília.

DAYS 7 - 14

The Vice-President of the Republic, José Alencar, visits Costa Rica, Guatemala and Haiti.

DAY 8

The Brazilian Embassy opens in Lusaka, Zambia.

The Brazilian Embassy opens in Conacri, the Republic of Guinea.

DAYS 8 - 10

The Under-Secretary of External Affairs of Sudan, Mutrif Seddig, visits Brazil.

DAY 9

Brazil is elected, by the United Nations General Assembly, as a member of the Council of Human Rights for a two-year period. Brazil received the highest number of votes among Latin America and Caribbean nations, with 165 votes out of 191.

DAY 10

The request for parliamentary approval of the Protocol for Constitution of the Mercosur Parliament is sent to the National Congress.

The Ministers of Mines and Energy of Brazil and of Hydrocarbons of Bolivia, as well as the Presidents of Petrobrás and of YPF, meet in La Paz. The Brazilian delegation states, in a joint communiqué, its “absolute respect for the sovereign decisions of the Bolivian government and its people”.

DAYS 11 - 13

President Lula takes a bilateral trip to Austria and attends, in Vienna, the IV Latin America and Caribbean-European Union Summit. At the same time, a Mercosur-EU Ministerial Meeting takes place.

DAY 12

Brazil establishes diplomatic relations with Tuvalu.

Brazil is elected, by acclamation, to join the United Nations Peacebuilding Commission, established to help countries that endured situations of armed conflict.

DAY 14

The Brazilian government sends a helicopter to Surinam to help in humanitarian aid after the heavy rains that hit this country.

DAY 15

The Minister of External Affairs of Tanzania, Asha-Rose Migiro, visits Brazil.

DAYS 16 - 19

The Second Meeting for the Coordination of the Regional Center

for the Safeguard of Non-Tangible Heritage of Latin America takes place in Brasília.

DAYS 21 - 22

Minister Amorim visits Bolivia to back the meeting of Presidents Lula and Evo Morales in Vienna.

DAY 22

Brazil and Spain sign the Cooperation Agreement and Juridical Aid in Criminal Matters.

Brazil lodges at the FAO, in Rome, the ratification instrument of the International Treaty for Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture.

DAY 23

Brazil organizes, in Brasília, the High Level Meeting on Haiti to review the current international support for the reconstruction of that country.

The technical negotiations for Venezuela's membership of Mercosur are completed in Buenos Aires.

DAYS 24 - 26

The President of France, Jacques Chirac, visits Brazil. On this occasion, several bilateral acts are concluded, among those a Protocol for cooperation regarding the promotion of technological innovation, a Declaration on biofuels and a Convention for the functioning of the Franco-Brazilian Doctoral College.

DAY 25

The Consulate General of Brazil opens in Madrid, Spain.

DAY 30

The Minister of External Relations of Chile, Alejandro Foxley, visits Brazil.

DAYS MAY 31 - JUNE 2

The President of the European Commission, José Manuel Durão Barroso, visits Brazil. This is the first time that the Commission's main authority has officially visited Brazil.

JUNE

DAYS 1 - 2

Minister Amorim travels to New York to attend the Special Session of the United Nations Assembly General, following the Declaration of Commitment on HIV/AIDS (UNGASS+5).

The 16th Plenary Meeting of the Group of Nuclear Suppliers is held in Brasília; for the first time Brazil exercises the pro-tempore presidency of the group.

DAY 2

Brazil, Chile, France and Norway issue, in New York, a Joint Declaration about the creation of an International Central Office for the Purchase of Drugs.

DAYS 4 - 6

Minister Amorim visits the Dominican Republic to attend the 36th Session of the OAS General Assembly in San Domingos.

DAY 9

France and the United Kingdom reiterate their support of Brazil's candidacy to a permanent seat in the United Nations Security Council.

The Brazilian government opens a provisional itinerant Consulate in Germany during the World Cup.

DAY 12

The Secretary of External Relations of Mexico, Luís Ernesto Derbez, visits Brazil.

DAY 13

The President elect of Peru, Alan García, visits Brazil.

Minister Amorim and the European Union Trade Commissioner, Peter Mandelson, hold a meeting in London.

DAY 14

The Minister of Foreign Affairs of Nigeria, Oluyemi Adeniji, visits Brazil.

Brazil recognizes the independence of the Republic of Montenegro, which separated from Serbia.

DAY 16

Minister Amorim attends the Extraordinary Meeting of the

Council of the Common Market in Buenos Aires.

The First Meeting of the Commission on Strategic Thinking about South American integration is held in Montevideo. Brazil is represented by the Special Advisor on Foreign Relations to the President of the Republic, Professor Marco Aurélio Garcia.

DAY 18

In Lisbon, an Extraordinary Meeting of the Council of Ministers of the CPLP analyzes the situation in East Timor. In 2006, Brazil will open a Mission to the CPLP in Lisbon.

DAY 19

Minister Amorim attends the High Level Follow-Up to the Opening Session of the United Nations Council on Human Rights in Geneva.

The Brazilian Embassy opens in Gaborone, Botswana.

The Brazilian Consulate General opens in Mumbai, India.

The Brazilian Consulate General opens in Mendoza, Argentina.

In Moscow, the first presentation takes place by Brazilian students from the Bolshoi Theater School of Joinville (Santa Catarina state).

DAYS 23 - 24

Minister Amorim visits Uruguay to examine matters of interest to Mercosur's smaller partners.

DAY 26

A statement by Brazil recognizing the competence of the Committee against Torture to receive accusations is lodged in the ambit of the United Nations Secretariat, in New York.

DAY 28

The Ambassador of Israel in Brasilia is called to Itamaraty to be informed of the Brazilian government's "great concern" over the Israeli military operations in the Palestinian Occupied Territories.

DAYS JUNE 28- JULY 2

Minister Amorim travels to Geneva to attend WTO meetings.

DAY 29

President Lula signs the decree that regulates the choice for the Japanese ISDB-T standard for Brazil's digital TV.

DAY 30

A Brazilian diplomatic mission of solidarity with the victims of East Timor arrives in Dili, due to the ongoing political and social crisis in this country.

JULY

DAYS 2 - 4

The Foreign Secretary of the United Kingdom, Margaret Beckett, visits Brazil on her first bilateral visit abroad since taking office.

DAY 4

President Lula travels to Caracas for the solemnities regarding the signature of the Protocol of Venezuela's Membership in Mercosur. Venezuela accepts the obligations of the Asuncion Treaty and the Protocols of Ouro Preto and Olivos. It also defines a four year period for the adoption of the Common External Tariff and the normative collection of Mercosur by Venezuela.

DAY 6

The Brazilian government condemns the missiles tests by the Democratic People's Republic of Korea.

DAYS 6 - 7

The First Plenary Meeting of the Pilot Group of the Innovative Financing Mechanisms for Development is held in Brasilia.

DAY 10

The President of Ghana, John Agyekum Kufuor, visits Brazil, meets with President Lula in Brasilia and signs bilateral acts.

DAYS 10 - 11

The 33rd Meeting of the Brazil-Germany Mixed Commission of Economic Cooperation is held in Berlin.

DAY 11

The Brazilian government repudiates the attacks on railway stations and passenger trains in India.

DAYS 12 - 14

Brazil holds, in Salvador, the Second Conference of Intellectuals from Africa and the Diaspora (CIAD), the first one to take place outside the African continent. The Conference is attended by Heads of State or Government from Botswana, Cape Verde, Ghana, Equatorial Guinea, Jamaica and Senegal, and also the President of the African Union, Alpha Konaré.

DAY 13

The Brazilian government condemns as a “disproportional reaction” the actions of Israel’s Defense Forces in South Lebanon, directed against Hezbollah. Minister Amorim meets the European Union Trade Commissioner, Peter Mandelson, in London.

DAYS 15 - 17

President Lula visits Russia to participate in the broader dialogue at the G-8 Summit with developing countries in St Petersburg. South Africa, Brazil, China, India, Mexico and the Republic of the Congo issue a document with their positions on the matters of the Summit. President Lula makes a speech regarding the crisis in WTO trade talks.

DAY 17

The Brazilian government regrets the decision of the United Kingdom’s Attorney General, who found no sufficient evidence to incriminate the police officers involved in the assassination of the Brazilian citizen Jean Charles de Menezes in 2005.

DAY 18

The Brazilian government receives with “serious consternation” the news that Brazilian minors were killed during Israeli attacks on Lebanon. At least seven Brazilians were killed, three of them children. Itamaraty coordinates an operation to evacuate Brazilians from Lebanon in bus convoys and airforce planes.

DAY 19

Minister Amorim talks over the phone with the United Nations Secretary General, Kofi Annan, and the USA Secretary of State, Condoleezza Rice, about the crisis in Lebanon and the situation of Brazilians.

DAYS 20 - 21

President Lula attends the 30th Mercosur Summit in Córdoba, Argentina, the first in which Venezuela participates as a full member. The bloc now has over 250 million inhabitants, an area of 12.7 million km², a GNP of over US\$ 1 trillion and global trade of over US\$ 300 billion.

DAY 21

The First Meeting of the Brazil-USA Joint Commission on Scientific and Technological Cooperation is held in Washington.

DAY 24

Faced with deadlocks in the meetings of the Doha Round in Geneva, Brazil and the G-20 regret that it was not possible to end the negotiation on all agricultural standards.

President Lula sends a message to the Prime Minister of Italy, Romano Prodi, congratulating him on his initiative to call a Conference in Rome regarding the situation in Lebanon.

DAY 25

The International Conference of Donors for Haiti is held in Port-au-Prince.

DAY 26

Minister Amorim travels to Adana, Turkey, to accompany the evacuation of Brazilians fleeing from the Lebanese war. On that same day, the Brazilian government asks Israel to investigate the attack that caused the death of four United Nations military observers in Lebanon.

DAYS 26 - 28

The Regional Conference of the Americas on the Advances and Challenges of the Action Plan Against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerances is held in Brasilia.

DAY 27

A hundred new diplomats are admitted, through public selection, to Itamaraty. It is the largest class in the history of the Rio Branco Institute.

DAYS 27 - 28

President Lula visits Peru for the inauguration, in Lima, of President Alan García.

DAY 29

The United States Trade Representative (USTR), Susan Schwab, visits Brazil and holds a meeting with Minister Amorim in Rio de Janeiro.

DAY 30

In a message to the Prime Minister of Lebanon, Fouad Siniora, President Lula declares that he is “deeply shocked, indignant and distressed” by the Israeli bombings in Qana, in Lebanon. Brazil reiterates its opposition to “indiscriminate acts of violence and the use of military force against civilians by any state”.

AUGUST

DAY 1

The Brazil-Afghanistan Framework Agreement of Technical Cooperation is signed in Brasilia.

Brazil takes over the Pro Tempore Presidency of Mercosur for a semester.

DAY 3

President Lula sends letters to the United Nations Secretary General and Members of the Security Council about the situation in Lebanon. Later on, letters are also sent to the authorities of Egypt, Syria, Turkey and the League of Arab States.

DAYS 8 - 12

The Prime Minister of Portugal, José Sócrates Carvalho Pinto de Sousa, visits Brazil.

DAY 11

The Brazilian government welcomes “with satisfaction” the adoption of the 1701 Resolution of the United Nations Security Council, which calls for the end of hostilities between Israel and Hezbollah.

DAY 15

Minister Amorim visits Lebanon and discusses the situation in the Middle East with high level authorities of this country in Beirut. As a humanitarian donation, 2.5 tons of medicines are delivered.

The Brazilian government announces the creation of a Regional Center of Intelligence in Foz do Iguaçu, composed of employees from Brazil, Argentina and Paraguay.

DAYS 16 - 18

The Minister of External Affairs and International Cooperation of Botswana, Mompoti Merafhe, visits Brazil.

DAY 22

The evacuation operation of Brazilians is concluded in Lebanon. A total of 2,950 people were evacuated from the conflict area. 2,678 were transported on Brazilian Air Force flights and by private airline companies.

The President of the Chamber of the Council of the Japanese Parliament, Counselor Chikage Oogi, visits Brazil.

DAY 24

The Vice-President of Bolivia, Álvaro García Linera, visits Brazil.

DAY 25

The Minister of External Relations of Peru, José Antonio García Belaúnde, visits Brazil.

DAY 26

The Minister of External Relations of Thailand, Kantathi Suphamongkhon, visits Brazil.

DAYS JULY 29- AUGUST 3

The President of the Permanent Committee of the National Popular Assembly of the People's Republic of China, Wu Bangguo, visits Brazil. A contract regarding the acquisition of a 100 Embraer planes by the Chinese airline company Hainan is signed.

DAY 31

During the International Conference of Donors for Lebanon, in Stockholm, Brazil offers US\$ 500,000 in aid. On the following day, Brazil will contribute with an additional US\$ 500,000 in humanitarian aid in Palestinian Occupied Territories.

SEPTEMBER

DAY 1

A Meeting of Treasury Ministers of Mercosur's member and associated States is held in Rio de Janeiro.

DAY 4

The bi-national Brazil-Ukraine enterprise is established, the "Alcantara Cyclone Space", with the purpose of using

rocket launches from the space center of Alcântara (Maranhão state).

DAY 5

The Federal Senate approves the Protocol of Constitution of the Mercosur Parliament and the incorporation to the Brazilian juridical order of the Mercosur Structural Convergence Fund (FOCEM).

DAY 6

The Minister of External Relations of Colombia, María Consuelo Araujo Castro, visits Brazil.

DAY 8

Accompanied by President Lula, the President of Uruguay Tabaré Vázquez visits the Alberto Pasqualini Refinery in Canoas.

The Minister of Foreign Affairs, International Trade and Cooperation of Mauritius, Madan Dooloo, visits Brazil.

DAYS 9 - 10

Together with other groups of developing nations (ACP countries, Caricom, Cotton-4, African group, less developed nations and small and vulnerable economies), Brazil holds the High Level Meeting of the G-20 in Rio de Janeiro. As part of the efforts to relaunch the WTO Doha Round talks, the USA and European Union negotiators were also present at the meeting, as well as the Director-General of the WTO.

DAY 11

The Minister of External Relations of Paraguay, Rubén Ramírez Lezcano, visits Brazil.

DAYS 11 - 14

The Prime Minister of India, Manmohan Singh, visits Brazil. This is the first time in 38 years that a Chief of Government of India has visited Brazil. Several bilateral acts are finalized, including a Bilateral Scientific and Technological Cooperation Agreement, an Agreement on Airline Services and a Memorandum of Understanding on phytosanitary protection.

DAYS 12 - 13

The First IBSA Summit is held in Brasilia, with the presence of the Prime Minister of India, Manmohan Singh, and the President of South Africa, Thabo Mbeki. In addition to addressing matters on the international agenda, a Memorandum of Understanding to establish a trilateral task-force on biofuels, a Framework for Cooperation in the Information Society, and a Plan of Action to facilitate trade regarding standards, technical regulations and conformity assessments are finalized.

DAY 13

A FAB plane delivers Brazilian humanitarian aid to the victims of the Tungurahua volcanic eruption in Ecuador.

DAYS 14 - 16

Minister Amorim travels to Cuba and attends, in Havana, the

13th Summit of the Group of 15 and the 14th Summit of the Movement of Non-Aligned Nations.

DAY 19

In his opening speech at the 61st General Assembly of the United Nations in New York, President Lula laments the fact that the fight against hunger and poverty is not “a priority for the international community”.

Implementation of the International Central Office for the Purchase of Drugs to Treat AIDS, Malaria and Tuberculosis (UNITAID). The initiative is sponsored by Brazil, Chile, France, Norway and the United Kingdom.

DAY 20

First informal meeting takes place in New York among the Chancellors of BRICs (Brazil, Russia, India and China).

DAY 21

Minister Amorim makes his fourth visit to Haiti, where he meets with the Haitian President René Préval.

DAYS 27 - 28

The Second Brazil-Republic of Korea Forum is held in Seoul in order to strengthen bilateral relations.

DAY 28

The WTO Dispute Settlement Mechanism accepts the Brazilian request to open a panel overseeing implementation

of the cotton decision regarding the controversy with the USA.

DAY 29

A Gol airlines plane and a private jet collide in midair over Mato Grosso, causing Brazil's worst airline accident ever.

OCTOBER

DAYS 5 - 6

The Ninth meeting of the Commission of Brazil-Colombia Integration takes place in Bogotá.

DAY 6

The President elect of Mexico, Felipe Calderón, visits Brazil.

DAY 9

The Brazilian government “vehemently condemns” the nuclear test carried out by the Democratic People’s Republic of Korea.

DAYS 9 - 10

The terms of reference for a Free Trade Agreement between Mercosur and the Gulf Cooperation Council are approved in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia.

DAYS 10 - 12

The First Brazil-Japan Joint Working Group on Digital TV is held in Brasilia.

DAY 13

The Brazilian government praises the nomination of the South Korean diplomat Ban Ki-moon as the new Secretary General of the United Nations.

The President of the Group of Nuclear Suppliers, Ambassador José Artur Denot Medeiros, expresses “his deep sorrow and great concern” at the announcement of a North-Korean nuclear test.

DAYS 16 - 18

The Multidisciplinary Brazilian Mission, composed of business people and experts from the Ministries of Education and Health, Embrapa and SENAI, visits Lebanon.

DAY 20

Brazil establishes diplomatic relations with the Republic of Montenegro.

DAY 26

Brazil comes to an understanding with the European Union in the WTO regarding the export of Brazilian poultry meat.

DAY 28

President Lula is reelected, in the second round, with 58 million votes (60.83%).

NOVEMBER

DAYS 3 - 5

Minister Amorim attends the 16th Ibero-American Summit in Montevideo, whose main theme was “Migrations and Development”.

DAY 7

After a dispute between Venezuela and Guatemala, Panama is elected as *tertius* for a non-permanent mandate in the United Nations Security Council.

DAYS 9 - 10

The President of Peru, Alan García, makes a State visit to Brazil, accompanied by seven Ministers. Cooperation accords are established in several areas.

DAY 13

President Lula travels to Ciudad Guyana, Venezuela, for the inauguration of the second bridge over the Orinoco River.

DAY 15

Brazil presents a proposal regarding positive incentives for the reduction of emissions due to deforestation in developing countries at the 12th Conference of Parties on Climate Change in Nairobi.

DAY 16

The Brazilian Ambassador Gilberto Vergne Sabóia is elected as

a member of the International Law Commission (ILC) of the United Nations.

DAY 17

The debts of Bolivia, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras and Nicaragua with the IDB are cancelled due to an initiative supported by Brazil.

DAY 21

The Minister of External Affairs of Belgium, Karel de Gucht, visits Brazil.

DAY 22

Minister Amorim attends the 20th anniversary celebration of the launching of the GATT Uruguay round in Montevideo. Next, he visits Paraguay.

DAY 24

Minister Amorim travels to Chile to attend, in Santiago, the Third Meeting of Chancellors of the South American Community of Nations. An agreement is reached on the exemption from tourist visas and the recognition of identity documents for the entry and transit in South American countries.

DAYS 29 - 30

The First Africa-South America Summit (AFRAS) is held in Abuja, Nigeria. The event, at which President Lula and leaders of both regions were present, approves an action plan to enhance South-South cooperation.

DECEMBER

DAYS 4 - 6

The Sixth meeting of High Level Authorities on Human Rights of Mercosur is held in Brasilia.

DAY 6

The Minister of External Relations of Panama, Samuel Lewis Navarro, visits Brazil.

DAY 7

After being reelected in Venezuela, President Hugo Chávez visits Brasilia for a meeting with President Lula.

DAY 8

The President elect of Ecuador, Rafael Correa, visits Brazil on his first international trip after winning the elections in that country.

DAYS 8 - 9

President Lula attends the Second Meeting of Chief of States of the South American Community of Nations in Cochabamba, Bolivia. The Presidents discuss the institutional enhancement of the Community and decide to create a Commission of High Level Staff, to be supported by a technical center of reduced structure, which will function in Rio de Janeiro in its first year of existence.

DAY 9

Thirty military officials of Paraguay join the Brazilian Minustah

contingent in Haiti. During the Tehran Conference on this subject, the Brazilian government reiterates “its firm condemnation of any event, initiative or declaration that may put the historical existence of the Holocaust into question”.

DAY 11

The North American Congress renews Brazilian inclusion in the General Systems of Preferences (GSP).

DAY 12

Celebrating the 15 years of the Brazilian-Argentinean Agency for the Accountability and Control of Nuclear Material (ABACC), Minister Amorim visits Argentina for bilateral contacts.

DAY 14

The solemn session of the Mercosur Parliament, the headquarters of which will be in Montevideo, is held in the Federal Senate in Brasilia.

DAYS 14 - 15

The Minister of Foreign Affairs of Russia, Sergei Lavrov, visits Brazil and participates in the 31st Meeting of the Council of the Common Market Group (CMC) of Mercosur in Brasilia. A Memorandum of Understanding will be signed regarding the establishment of a mechanism for political dialogue and cooperation between Mercosur and Russia.

DAY 18

The Minister of External Relations of Bolivia, David

Choquehuanca, joined by five other Ministers of Bolivia, visits Brazil.

DAY 29

Law n.º 11.440 is approved, which establishes the new legal framework for members of the Brazilian Foreign Service.

The Brazilian government condemns the decision of the Iraqi Court of Justice to carry out the death sentence on former President Saddam Hussein in Iraq.





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