



**Statement by H.E. Ambassador Maria Luiza Ribeiro Viotti,
Permanent Representative of Brazil to the United Nations,
at the High-level Donor Conference of the Central Emergency Response Fund
4 December 2008
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Mr. Under-Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs,

Given the increasing incidence of natural hazards and the persistence of complex emergencies in many regions of the world, support for the Central Emergency Response Fund, as well as other humanitarian financing mechanisms, is as important as ever.

We noted with satisfaction that the target of 450 million dollars for the grant facility of the Fund was nearly reached in 2008. The numbers involved provide a good measure of the effectiveness of the Fund, taking into account the fact that it disbursed almost the totality of the funds received for emergencies in more than 60 countries.

We are encouraged by the outcome of the independent two-year evaluation of the CERF, in particular the conclusion that the Fund has broadly reached its objectives and, in a short period of time, became a valuable and impartial tool in the humanitarian response to disasters and underfunded emergencies. We also welcome the fact that the Fund's Secretariat has started to address the recommendations made by the evaluation team.

Mr. Under-Secretary-General,

I am pleased to announce an increased pledge for 2009 from Brazil, in the amount of 100,000 dollars.

Thank you.