

## Brazil and Sudan Sign Crops for Oil Deal

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The Ministers of Foreign Relations of Brazil and Sudan signed, yesterday, a technical cooperation agreement unprecedented in the history of both countries.

The document opens the way to negotiations on the areas in which there will be partnerships.

"It is general, but we expect to establish partnerships in the near future in sectors such as sugar, textiles, agriculture, and the food industry," revealed the Sudanese Minister of Foreign Relations, Mustafa Osman Ismail.

"We are very much interested in the agricultural crops cultivated in South America. On the other hand, we can sell oil and gold. There are various complementary possibilities," he said.

Immediate after the agreement was signed in the Ministry of Foreign Relations, in Brasília, the Sudanese Chancellor conversed with reporters and summarized the results of the South America - Arab Countries Summit, which ended yesterday.

In his view, it is clear that the regional blocs need to intensify their contacts in order to protect their own interests in the international arena.

"We should exert pressure to enable Brazil, South Africa, and India to represent the Third World with permanent seats on the United Nations Security Council," Ismail affirmed.

"We shall give total support to these countries, but we shall not support Germany, for example. One must remember that Europe already has two representatives, and Africa, with 52 countries, has none."

In 2006 the Sudanese government intends to be more active internationally. An encounter among African countries is scheduled for January in the capital, Khartoum.

According to the Chancellor, President Lula will be invited to the event. And next year as well, the country will host a meeting of Arab countries in March and a summit meeting between African and Caribbean countries in June.

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