



**Theme: BRICS Science, Technology and Innovation Partnership – a Driver of Global Development**

**III BRICS Science, Technology and Innovation Ministerial Meeting**

**MOSCOW DECLARATION**

**Moscow, the Russian Federation, 28 October 2015**

1. In line with the Ufa Declaration and Action Plan adopted at the Seventh BRICS Summit on 9 July 2015 held in Russia we, the Ministers and their representatives for Science, Technology and Innovation of the Federative Republic of Brazil, the Russian Federation, the Republic of India, the People's Republic of China and the Republic of South Africa, met in Moscow, the Russian Federation, on the 28<sup>th</sup> of October 2015, for the III BRICS Science, Technology and Innovation Ministerial Meeting to build further collaboration based on the Memorandum of Understanding on Cooperation in Science, Technology and Innovation (MoU) provisions.
2. Recalling the theme of the Seventh BRICS Summit “BRICS Partnership – a Powerful factor of Global Development”, we affirm our willingness to follow the Strategy for BRICS Economic Partnership in addressing common global and regional socio-economic challenges utilizing such drivers as science, technology and innovation (STI).
3. Welcoming the outcomes of the First Meeting of the BRICS STI Funding Parties on the establishment of the BRICS Research and Innovation Initiative (hereinafter – BRICS R&I Initiative) held on 6-7 July 2015, Moscow, Russia, and highlighting the immense research and technological potential in the BRICS member countries and importance of the development of BRICS R&I Initiative (paragraph 62 of the Ufa Declaration) we agree on the following mechanisms and levels of collaboration: (i) cooperation within large research infrastructures, including mega-science projects; (ii) coordination of the existing large-scale national programmes of the BRICS countries; (iii) development and implementation of a BRICS Framework Programme for funding multilateral joint research projects, technology commercialization and innovation; (iv) establishment of BRICS Research and Innovation Networking Platform.
4. We welcome the establishment of the Working Group on BRICS large research infrastructures, the Working Group on BRICS funding multilateral joint research projects, technology commercialization and innovation.

5. We agree on our commitment to develop and implement the BRICS Framework Programme on multilateral research funding through joint calls. Also we propose to use the possibilities of the New Development Bank (Agreement of the New Development Bank signed during the VI BRICS Summit in Fortaleza) as an additional funding instrument to foster further collaboration.

6. The cooperation focused on the five thematic leadership areas established previously by each country in the Brasilia Declaration, namely: (a) prevention and mitigation of natural disasters, led by Brazil, (b) water resources and pollution treatment, led by Russia, (c) geospatial technology and its applications, led by India, (d) new and renewable energy, and energy efficiency, led by China, and (e) astronomy, led by South Africa, and the activities within these five areas will be implemented by use of the BRICS Research and Innovation Networking Platform developing direct communication channel between stakeholders.

7. To address common societal challenges and to advance BRICS leadership and cooperation on a global level we welcome the new initiatives:

- Creation of BRICS Young Scientists Forum (India as coordinating country);
- Cooperation on Biotechnology and Biomedicine including Human Health and Neuroscience (Russia or Brazil as coordinating country);
- Cooperation on Information Technologies and High Performance Computing (China and South Africa as coordinating countries);
- Cooperation on Ocean and Polar Science and Technology (Brazil and Russia as coordinating countries);
- Cooperation on Material science including Nanotechnology (India and Russia as coordinating countries);
- Cooperation on Photonics (India and Russia as coordinating countries).

8. Encouraging increased participation of business, academia and other relevant stakeholders for STI development among BRICS countries (paragraph 11, Brasília Declaration) we acknowledge the independent initiatives to establish the BRICS Network University aimed at developing master's and PhD programmes along with joint research projects in knowledge fields priorities corresponding with the main areas of cooperation stated in the Article 3 of the MoU and the BRICS University League.

9. We welcome the creation of a BRICS Young Scientists Forum and establishing the BRICS Young Scientist Forum Secretariat in India coordinated by Department of Science and Technology with commitment and support from all BRICS countries. We also welcome hosting of the BRICS Young Scientist Conclave in 2016 in India and creation of dedicated website for BRICS Young Scientist Forum

10. We also support creation of BRICS Research and Innovation Networking Platform

11. We take note of the following announcements: India and Brazil host the BRICS thematic Session on Prevention and Mitigation of Natural Disasters during the 6th Annual Conference of the

International Society for Integrated Disaster Risk Management in October 2015; China hosts the 2nd Meeting of the BRICS Solid-state lightning (SSL) Working Group in November 2015; South Africa hosts the first meeting of the BRICS Astronomy Working Group in December 2015 at the Science Forum South Africa; India hosts the BRICS Working Group on Geospatial Technology Application for Development in March 2016; Russia initiates 2nd Meeting of the Group of STI Funding Parties in January 2016.

12. We endorse the BRICS Science, Technology and Innovation Work Plan 2015-2018 and reaffirm our commitment to implement it (annexed).

13. Brazil, India, China and South Africa convey their appreciation to the Russian Federation for hosting the III BRICS STI Ministerial meeting in Moscow.

14. Russia, Brazil, China and South Africa convey their appreciation to India for its offer to host the IV BRICS STI Ministerial meeting and the VI BRICS STI SOM in 2016 and extend their full support to that end.

Federative Republic of Brazil

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Russian Federation

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Republic of India

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People's Republic of China

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Republic of South Africa