



Documentos

Declaración de Astana de los Jefes de Estado de la Organización para la Cooperación de Shanghái

The heads of state of the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (hereinafter referred to as the SCO, or the Organisation) following the SCO Heads of State Council Meeting in Astana on 9 June 2017 declare the following.

The Shanghai Cooperation Organisation has established itself as an internationally recognised and authoritative multilateral association, the activities of which are designed to maintain security and stability within the space uniting the member states, to jointly counteract emergent challenges and threats, to bolster trade, economic and cultural cooperation, and to unlock the enormous potential for neighbourliness and interaction between the SCO states and their peoples.

In this regard, the member states emphasise the historic importance of the SCO Charter adopted 15 years ago in 2002. This fundamental SCO document embodied the member states' readiness to pursue close, productive, and diversified cooperation in the "Shanghai spirit," which includes mutual trust and benefit, equality, mutual consultation, respect for the cultural diversity, and a focus on joint development.

Guided by the Declaration on the Establishment of the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation, the SCO Charter, the Treaty on Long-Term Neighbourliness, Friendship and Cooperation, as well as other international treaties and documents of the Organisation, reaffirming its commitment to the goals and principles of the UN Charter and other internationally recognised principles and norms of international law, expanding their mutual support for the efforts designed to safeguard independence, sovereignty, territorial integrity and other fundamental interests, the member states will continue to jointly contribute to strengthening peace and ensuring global stability and security.

Amid profound transformations in international politics and the global economy, the SCO member states note the importance of creating a more equitable polycentric world order that meets the interests of each and every state, is based on international law and the principles of mutual respect and consideration of each other's interests, mutually beneficial cooperation, freedom from confrontation and conflicts, and equal and indivisible security, and will contribute to forging a human community sharing a common destiny.

I

The heads of state underscored the historical nature of granting full membership to the Republic of India and the Islamic Republic of Pakistan. In this regard, they noted that India and Pakistan fulfilled the memorandums of commitment to obtain the status of SCO member state dated 2016 and approved the decisions of the SCO Heads of State Council on granting them the status of SCO member state.

The member states are convinced that expanding the SCO and further deepening cooperation with observer states and dialogue partners is of great importance for developing and enhancing the Organisation's potential.

II

The member states advocate strict adherence to the goals and principles of the UN Charter, primarily, the equality and sovereignty of states, non-interference in internal affairs, mutual respect for territorial integrity, inviolability of borders, non-aggression, peaceful settlement of disputes, non-use of force or threat of force, and other internationally recognised norms of international law designed to maintain peace and security, to develop cooperation between states, to strengthen independence, and to ensure the right to determine one's own future and paths of political, socioeconomic and cultural development.

They confirm their determination to strictly adhere to the Treaty on Long-Term Neighbourliness, Friendship and Cooperation between SCO member states in order to promote neighbourliness and friendly relations in areas of mutual interest, including making the borders with each other into borders of eternal peace and friendship.

The member states are in favour of strengthening the key role of the UN Security Council as the primary body which, in accordance with the UN Charter, has the primary responsibility for maintaining international peace and security.

They believe that intergovernmental talks on reforming the UN Security Council, aimed at making it more representative and effective, should be carried out through the broadest possible consultations in a search of a "package solution" in the interests of ensuring the cohesion of UN member countries, without establishing artificial time frames, or forcing upon them options that are not widely supported by the UN members.

The member states welcome the election of the Republic of Kazakhstan as a non-permanent member of the UN Security Council for 2017-2018.

The member states will continue to cooperate in the area of disarmament and arms control, the peaceful use of nuclear energy, and the political and diplomatic settlement of regional challenges to non-proliferation regimes.

The member states consistently advocate strict observance of the Treaty on Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, the comprehensive and balanced advancement of all the goals and principles articulated therein, strengthening the role, effectiveness and universal nature of the Treaty, promoting the process of nuclear disarmament and strengthening the global nuclear non-proliferation regime with equal and indivisible security for all, taking into account all factors that affect international stability, as well as promoting equal and mutually beneficial cooperation in the sphere of using nuclear energy for peaceful purposes.

The member states believe that the early entry into force of the Protocol on Security Guarantees to the Central Asian Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone Treaty for all its signatories will make a significant contribution to ensuring regional security and strengthening the global non-proliferation regime.

The member states reaffirm that the unilateral and unrestricted build-up of missile defence systems by one state or a group of states, without taking into account the interests of other countries, is detrimental to international and regional security and stability. They find it unacceptable to ensure one's own security at the expense of others.

The member states noted the importance of keeping outer space free of weapons in order to ensure equal and indivisible security for all and to maintain global stability. They expressed support for implementing practical measures to prevent an arms race in outer space, the most important of which is developing an international legal instrument banning the deployment of weapons in outer space.

The member states support efforts and initiatives designed to maintain and comply with the Chemical Weapons Convention, enhancing the credibility of the Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons, as well as strengthening the regime provided for by the Biological and Toxin Weapons Convention.

To affirm the common desire to interact on the basis of internationally recognised principles of international law and the UN Charter, and in pursuance of the UN Security Council resolutions on combating international terrorism, the member states adopted the Statement on Joint Counteraction to International Terrorism.

The member states will step up joint efforts to counter common security challenges and threats, deepen dialogue and cooperation to ensure comprehensive security, primarily in fighting terrorism, including cyberterrorism, separatism, extremism, cross-border organised crime, illicit drug trafficking, and to strengthen international information security and emergency response.

The member states intend to further promote the activities of the SCO Regional Anti-Terrorist Structure in the interests of ensuring security within the Organisation's space in accordance with its tasks and functions.

The member states emphasise that the SCO Convention on Countering Extremism signed in Astana on 9 June 2017 will help consolidate the international legal framework to confront new challenges and threats along with the Shanghai Convention on Combating Terrorism, Separatism and Extremism, the SCO Convention against Terrorism and the SCO Cooperation Programme for Combating Terrorism, Separatism and Extremism for 2016-2018, as well as relevant UN documents, such as the UN Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy and the corresponding UNSC resolutions. The SCO Convention on Countering Extremism is designed to strengthen the security of all SCO member states, to increase the effectiveness of cooperation between their competent bodies and to improve legislation in this area.

The member states will continue to strengthen practical cooperation and coordination as they fight illicit trafficking in narcotic drugs, psychotropic substances and their precursors based on the Agreement between the SCO Member States on Cooperation in Combating Illicit Trafficking in Narcotic Drugs, Psychotropic Substances and Their Precursors of 2004, Statement by the SCO Member States on Combating the Threat of the Drug Problem of 2015, and in accordance with UN conventions and resolutions, including the outcome of the UN General Assembly special session on drug trafficking in New York in April 2016. In this context, they welcomed the joint UNODC-SCO event, "The UN and the SCO in the Fight Against Drugs: Common Threats, Joint Actions" held in Vienna on 13 March 2017 and an international campaign, "For a World Without Drugs", held in Astana on 19 April 2017.

Considering the critical importance of the fight against the spread of terrorist ideology and propaganda, including public justification of terrorism with the aim of inciting people to commit terrorist attacks, the member states will step up their efforts to counteract the radicalisation of society leading to manifestations of radical forms of extremism, including terrorism, primarily among young people, as well as to prevent religious, ethnic, ideological and political extremism, ethnic and racial intolerance, and xenophobia. Along with cooperation of law enforcement and judicial bodies, special emphasis will be placed on strengthening the leading role of states in countering terrorism, separatism and extremism, with the voluntary and conscientious involvement of civil society, including traditional religious organisations, educational and academic institutions, media outlets, and public and non-governmental associations of the SCO member states operating in their territories in accordance with national legislation.

In this regard, the member states welcomed the UNSC draft resolution proposed by the Russian Federation to counter terrorist ideology that builds on the relevant UNSC Resolution 1624 (2005), which calls upon all states to criminalise incitement to terrorism.

They will continue to work toward the speedy adoption of the UN Comprehensive Convention on Combating International Terrorism, as well as the ratification of 19 UN universal legal instruments on combating terrorism based on the national interests of the SCO member states.

The member states, expressing their concern over the growing threat of weapons of mass destruction ending up in the hands of terrorist groups, including the use of chemical and biological substances for terrorist purposes, support the initiative to draft an international convention to combat acts of chemical and biological terrorism.

Guided by the Cooperation Agreement in the sphere of identifying and cutting off the channels used by the individuals involved in terrorist, separatist and extremist activities to enter the SCO member states of 2006 and the Agreement on Cooperation and Interaction of the SCO Member States on Border Matters of 2015, the member states will continue to expand their cooperation on preventing the activities and movements of foreign terrorist militants and terrorist groups through effective border control; exchange of information on individuals involved in terrorist activities; falsified and stolen identity papers; and conducting joint investigations into terrorist crimes that are transnational in nature.

The member states will continue to cooperate in order to counteract the activities of individuals and legal entities related to the recruitment, training and utilisation of terrorists, public calls for terrorist activities or the justification of acts of terrorism, and financing terrorist activities.

The member states will continue holding joint anti-terrorist exercises on a regular basis, including the Peace Mission exercises.

Based on the Agreement between the governments of the SCO member states on cooperation in the sphere of ensuring international information security of 2009, the member states will continue to strengthen practical interaction in countering propaganda and justifications of terrorism, separatism and extremism in the media. They will coordinate their efforts in order to resolve these tasks with the relevant countries, and regional and international organisations in bilateral and multilateral formats, including with the corresponding UN institutions.

The member states support the idea of developing, within the UN framework, a universal code of rules, principles and norms of responsible behaviour of states in the media and consider the revised version of the Rules of Conduct in the Sphere of International Information Security circulated on behalf of the SCO member states as an official UN document in January 2015 to be an important step in this direction.

The member states will continue their in-depth cooperation in combating crimes in the information and communication sphere and call for developing a corresponding international legal instrument with the UN playing the central coordinating role.

The member states reaffirm their determination to establish a secure barrier to all sources and channels of financial and logistical support for terrorists. They declare their willingness to promote the exchange of operational information and criminalise manifestations of terrorist activity in their respective national legislations, and call for the comprehensive implementation of the provisions of the UN Security Council resolutions 2199 and 2253 and the Financial Action Task Force on Money Laundering (FATF) standards.

They note that, corruption, as a threat to national and regional security, in all its forms and manifestations leads to less effective public administration, adversely affects investment appeal and hampers socio-economic progress. In this regard, they expressed their intention to develop comprehensive international cooperation in the sphere of anti-corruption activities, including through the sharing of experience and information, as well as practical measures of cooperation in this area between competent authorities.

III

The member states believe there is no alternative to political and diplomatic settlement of conflicts in various parts of the world on the basis of strict observance of universally recognised norms and principles of international law.

The member states support the aspiration of the government and people of the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan to build a peaceful, stable and economically prosperous state that is free of terrorism, extremism and drug trafficking, proceeding from the central and coordinating role of the United Nations in the interna-

tional efforts to stabilise and develop that country. They support the continued efforts of the SCO-Afghanistan Contact Group to promote the restoration of peace in Afghanistan.

The member states welcome the aspiration of Arab nations to achieve the political and diplomatic settlement of crises and conflicts in the Middle East and North Africa on the basis of mutual respect for each other's interests, sovereignty and territorial integrity, the right to decide their own destiny without outside interference, and the supremacy of law, including the norms and principles of international law.

The member states advocate a political settlement in the Syrian Arab Republic via a broad intra-Syrian dialogue based on the relevant UN Security Council resolutions. The Syrians alone can determine the future of a new, secular and democratic Syria in which people of all ethnic groups and religions live in peace and security, enjoying equal rights and opportunities. The member states support the collective efforts aimed at facilitating a settlement in Syria and emphasise the important role of the Astana process in creating conditions that would allow all sides to find a mutually acceptable solution of the issue as part of the UN-led Geneva process designed to establish peace and stability in Syria.

The member states praise the efforts to implement the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action to resolve the situation around Iran's nuclear programme between the Islamic Republic of Iran and six international mediators with the participation of the European Union. They believe this is enhancing the nuclear non-proliferation regime and the consolidation of peace and stability in the region and beyond.

The member states reaffirmed the importance of achieving a political settlement of the crisis in Ukraine on the basis of the earliest possible and full implementation of the Minsk Agreements of 12 February 2015.

The member states will continue promoting SCO cooperation with the United Nations and its specialised agencies as well as other international associations in line with relevant documents.

IV

Despite recent challenges and trends the member states are actively building up their own economic potential and carrying out long-term development strategies.

The member states favour the development of broad international cooperation to promote the recovery of the global economy, ensure economic and financial stability and support dynamic, well-balanced and inclusive growth in conditions of economic globalisation. They have reaffirmed their common understanding that world trade should be conducted on the principles of transparency and non-discrimination and rules that apply equally to all participants. In this context they noted the risks linked with the growing trend towards trade protectionism and the importance of countering all of its manifestations, in particular, removing existing trade barriers and preventing the emergence of new ones. The member states advocate the formation of an open global economy and the consolidation of the multilateral trade system.

In this context they emphasised the need to build a system of regional trade and economic cooperation and take additional measures to facilitate the development of trade and investment activities, upgrade infrastructure, establish industrial parks and improve living standards.

The member states will support initiatives aimed at facilitating regional economic interaction and a search for new models of international cooperation.

The member states stand for creating favourable conditions for the gradual free movement of commodities, capital, services and technology in accordance with the SCO Charter.

The member states have stressed the importance of invigorating their efforts to diversify the structure of their commodity flows, expand the range of reciprocal supplies and increase the transit and export of goods with high added value and other products that are required in their markets of member states.

The member states favour cooperation between regions and administrative and territorial entities. They welcome the initiative to establish a forum of SCO regional governors and recommend further efforts in this vein.

To ensure financial support for joint projects in the SCO, the heads of state consider it important to speed up the implementation of the 2016 decision of the SCO Heads of Government Council (Prime Ministers) on further expert consultations on establishing the SCO Development Bank and the SCO Development Fund (Special Account).

The member states emphasised the importance of developing multilateral cooperation in transport, expanding the region's transport and communications capacity by building new and upgrading existing sections of international transport routes, promoting the development of railway transport, including construction of high-speed trains, establishing multimodal logistics hubs, introducing innovation technology and implementing joint infrastructure projects.

In this context they have noted the need to carry out the 2014 SCO Intergovernmental Agreement on International Road Transport Facilitation.

Referring to the decision of the SCO Heads of Government Council (Prime Ministers) of 3 November 2016 on the draft programme for developing roads in the region, the member states believe that its adoption will become a major step towards coordinated development of roads, improved transport accessibility interconnectedness, optimised transport links between all areas of production and consumption in the countries of the Organisation.

The member states welcomed the One Belt, One Road initiative. Having highly praised the results of the Belt and Road Forum for International Cooperation that took place in Beijing on 14-15 May of this year, they supported the implementation of these results by coordinating international, regional and national projects geared toward cooperation in the interest of sustainable development on the principles of mutual respect, equality and mutual benefit.

The member states noted the active efforts to implement the 2007 agreement on cooperation and mutual assistance in customs affairs, the Customs Cooperation Programme for 2016-2021 and other customs documents aimed at facilitating trade and economic development in the SCO.

The member states pointed out the importance of continuing their mutually beneficial multifaceted cooperation on energy, including the use of renewable and alternative energy sources. They have supported broader use of cost-effective and environmentally friendly types of energy and expressed support for enhancing energy efficiency with a view to ensuring sustainable development.

The member states emphasised the importance of the SCO's participation in the International Specialised Exhibition EXPO-2017 with the theme "Energy of the Future" that will be held in Astana from 10 June to 10 September this year.

The member states favour more active cooperation on sanitary and phytosanitary measures, including the exchange of information on requirements for the imports of agricultural produce in line with their national laws.

The member states are stepping up the implementation of the 2010 SCO intergovernmental agreement on cooperation in agriculture.

Emphasising their aspiration to develop mechanisms of public-private partnership, the member states will continue carrying out joint financial, infrastructure and investment projects using the capabilities of the SCO Business Council and the SCO Interbank Consortium. They highly praised the measures taken in the SCO countries to further develop business activities, provide comprehensive protection of private property and substantially improve the business climate.

The expediency of involving government agencies and business communities of the observer states and dialogue partners in project activities was noted.

The member states will continue their fruitful cooperation to strengthen ties in healthcare, science, technology, culture, tourism, education and environmental protection. The member states have noted the need to step up multilateral and bilateral cooperation in developing healthcare, medicine and pharmacology, ensuring the sanitary and epidemiological well-being of the population, preventing and combatting infectious diseases, training medical personnel and upgrading their skills.

The member states encourage practical cooperation on the basis of the SCO Intergovernmental Agreement on Culture of 2007. They will continue promoting cultural ties in the SCO, the deepening of mutual understanding between peoples, respect for each other's cultural traditions and customs, the preservation and encouragement of cultural diversity, the holding of international exhibitions, festivals and contests, the participation of group and individual performers in different SCO events, the discovery of historical documents in archives and libraries, the expansion of cultural exchange and cooperation, and the study and preservation of the region's heritage, including that of the Great Silk Road.

Emphasising their unwavering commitment to peace, joint development and equitable cooperation, and greater dialogue and interaction with the international community, the member states will do all they can to bolster peace and stability and promote trade, economic, cultural and humanitarian ties in the SCO in line with the SCO Development Strategy Towards 2025 and the 2016-2020 Plan of Action for its implementation.

Astana, 9 June 2017



Documentos

Declaración de Goa, Cumbre de Jefes de Estado del Grupo BRICS

We, the Leaders 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 on 15-16 October 2016 in Goa, India, at the Eighth BRICS Summit, which was held under the theme "Building Responsive, Inclusive and Collective Solutions."

1. Recalling all our previous declarations, we emphasise the importance of further strengthening BRICS solidarity and cooperation based on our common interests and key priorities to further strengthen our strategic partnership in the spirit of openness, solidarity, equality, mutual understanding, inclusiveness and mutually beneficial cooperation. We agree that emerging challenges to global peace and security and to sustainable development require further enhancing of our collective efforts.
2. We agree that BRICS countries represent an influential voice on the global stage through our tangible cooperation, which delivers direct benefits to our people. In this context, we note with satisfaction the operationalisation of the New Development Bank (NDB) and of the Contingent Reserve Arrangement (CRA), which contributes greatly to the global economy and the strengthening of the international financial architecture. We welcome the report presented by NDB President on the work of the Bank during the first year of its operations. We are pleased to note the progress in operationalising the Africa Regional Centre (ARC) of the NDB and pledge our full support in this regard. We look forward to developing new BRICS initiatives in a wider range of areas in the years to come.
3. We note with appreciation the approval of the first set of loans by the New Development Bank (NDB), particularly in the renewable energy projects in BRICS countries. We express satisfaction with NDB's issuance of the first set of green bonds in RMB. We are pleased to note that the operationalisation of BRICS Contingent Reserve Arrangements (CRA) has strengthened the global financial safety net.
4. In order to reach out and enrich our understanding and engagement with fellow developing and emerging economies, we will hold an Outreach Summit of BRICS Leaders with the Leaders of BIMSTEC member countries - Bay of Bengal Initiative for Multi-Sectoral Technical and Economic Cooperation comprising of Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Myanmar, Nepal, Sri Lanka and Thailand. The meeting will be an opportunity to renew our friendship with BIMSTEC countries as well as to jointly explore possibilities of expanding trade and commercial ties, and investment cooperation between BRICS and BIMSTEC countries, while advancing our common goals of peace, development, democracy and prosperity.

5. We reiterate our common vision of ongoing profound shifts in the world as it transitions to a more just, democratic, and multi-polar international order based on the central role of the United Nations, and respect for international law. We reaffirm the need for strengthening coordination of efforts on global issues and practical cooperation in the spirit of solidarity, mutual understanding and trust. We underline the importance of collective efforts in solving international problems, and for peaceful settlement of disputes through political and diplomatic means, and in this regard, we reiterate our commitment to the principles of the Charter of the United Nations.
6. We note the global character of current security challenges and threats confronting the international community. We reiterate our view that international efforts to address these challenges, the establishment of sustainable peace as well as the transition to a more just, equitable and democratic multi-polar international order requires a comprehensive, concerted and determined approach, based on spirit of solidarity, mutual trust and benefit, equity and cooperation, strong commitment to international law and the central role of the United Nations as the universal multilateral organisation entrusted with the mandate for maintaining international peace and security, advance global development and to promote and protect human rights. We underline the importance of further strengthening coordination of our efforts in this context.
7. We reaffirm our commitment to contribute to safeguarding a fair and equitable international order based on the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations including through consistent and universal respect and adherence to the principles and rules of international law in their inter-relation and integrity, compliance by all states with their international legal obligations. We express our commitment to resolutely reject the continued attempts to misrepresent the results of World War II. We recall further that development and security are closely interlinked, mutually reinforcing and key to attaining sustainable peace.
8. We remain confident that resolving international problems require collective efforts for peaceful settlement of disputes through political and diplomatic means. Implementation of principles of good-faith, sovereign equality of States, non-intervention in the internal affairs of States and cooperation excludes imposition of unilateral coercive measures not based on international law. We condemn unilateral military interventions and economic sanctions in violation of international law and universally recognised norms of international relations. Bearing this in mind, we emphasise the unique importance of the indivisible nature of security, and that no State should strengthen its security at the expense of the security of others.
9. We recall the 2005 World Summit Outcome document. We reaffirm the need for a comprehensive reform of the UN, including its Security Council, with a view to making it more representative, effective and efficient, and to increase the representation of the developing countries so that it can adequately respond to global challenges. China and Russia reiterate the importance they attach to the status and role of Brazil, India and South Africa in international affairs and support their aspiration to play a greater role in the UN.
10. We welcome the substantive measures undertaken by the UN membership to make the process of selecting and appointing the UN Secretary-General more transparent and inclusive.
11. We express our gratitude to UN Secretary-General Mr. Ban Ki-moon for his contributions to the United Nations in the past ten years. We congratulate Mr. António Guterres, on his appointment as the Secretary-General of the United Nations and express our support and to work closely with him.
12. Cognizant of BRICS countries' significant contributions to UN Peacekeeping operations, and recognising the important role of UN Peacekeeping operations in safeguarding international peace and security, we realise the challenges faced by UN Peacekeeping and emphasise the need to further strengthen its role, capacity, effectiveness, accountability and efficiency, while adhering to the basic principles of peacekeeping. We emphasise that UN Peacekeeping operations should perform

the duty of protection of civilians in strict accordance with their respective mandates and in respect of the primary responsibility of the host countries in this regard.

13. We are deeply concerned about the situation in the Middle East and North Africa. We support all efforts for finding ways to the settlement of the crises in accordance with international law and in conformity with the principles of independence, territorial integrity and sovereignty of the countries of the region. On Syria, we call upon all parties involved to work for a comprehensive and peaceful resolution of the conflict taking into account the legitimate aspirations of the people of Syria, through inclusive national dialogue and a Syrian-led political process based on Geneva Communiqué of 30 June 2012 and in pursuance of the UN Security Council Resolution 2254 and 2268 for their full implementation. While continuing the relentless pursuit against terrorist groups so designated by the UN Security Council including ISIL, Jabhat al-Nusra and other terrorist organisations designated by the UN Security Council.
14. We reiterate also the necessity to implement the two-state solution of the Palestinian-Israeli conflict on the basis of the relevant UNSC resolutions, the Madrid Principles and Arab Peace Initiative, and previous agreements between the two sides, through negotiations aimed at creating an independent, viable, territorially contiguous Palestinian State living side-by-side in peace with Israel, within secure, mutually agreed and internationally recognised borders on the basis of 1967 lines, with East Jerusalem as its capital, as envisaged in the relevant UN Resolutions.
15. We express deep concern at the persisting security challenges in Afghanistan and significant increase in terrorist activities in Afghanistan. We affirm support to the efforts of the Afghan Government to achieve Afghan-led and Afghan-owned national reconciliation and combat terrorism, and readiness for constructive cooperation in order to facilitate security in Afghanistan, promote its independent political and economic course, becoming free from terrorism and drug trafficking. The Leaders expressed the view that capable and effective Afghan National Security Forces (ANSF) should be the key to the stabilisation of Afghanistan. In this regard, the Leaders emphasised the need for continued commitment of regional countries and wider international community, including the NATO-led Resolute Support Mission, which as the ISAF's heir has a key role in the ANSF capacity-building. The Leaders stressed the importance of multilateral region-led interaction on Afghan issues, primarily by those organisations, which consist of Afghanistan's neighbouring countries and other regional states, such as the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation, Collective Security Treaty Organization, and the Heart of Asia Conference.
16. We welcome the African Union's (AU) vision, aspirations, goals and priorities for Africa's development enshrined in Agenda 2063, which is complementary with the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. We reaffirm our support for Africa's implementation of its various programmes in pursuit of its continental agenda for peace and socio economic development. We will continue to engage in joint endeavours to advance Africa's solidarity, unity and strength through support measures for regional integration and sustainable development. We further welcome recent elections that have been held in the continent and the peaceful manner in which they were conducted.
17. We support the AU's efforts to resolving conflicts through its peace and security architecture, in collaboration with the United Nations and the continent's regional organisations, and to contribute towards lasting and sustainable peace and security in Africa.
18. We welcome the decision of the African Union's Assembly to operationalise its Peace Fund, in order to contribute to financing of its peace and security operations. We support efforts aimed at full operationalisation of the African Standby Force (ASF) and note the progress being made in this regard, including the contributions by the African Capacity for Immediate Responses to Crises (ACIRC).

19. We express our concern that political and security instability continues to loom in a number of countries that is exacerbated by terrorism and extremism. We call upon the international community through the United Nations, African Union and regional and international partners to continue their support in addressing these challenges, including post-conflict reconstruction and development efforts.
20. We welcome the adoption of landmark 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and its Sustainable Development Goals during the UN Summit on Sustainable Development on 25 September 2015 and the Addis Ababa Action Agenda at the Third International Conference on Financing for Development. We welcome the people-centred and holistic approach to sustainable development enshrined in the 2030 Agenda and its emphasis on equality, equity and quality-life to all. We welcome the reaffirmation of the guiding principles of the implementation of the 2030 Agenda, including the principle of Common But Differentiated Responsibilities (CBDR).
21. The 2030 Agenda, with its overarching focus on poverty eradication, lays an equal and balanced emphasis on the economic, social and environmental dimensions of sustainable development. We call upon developed countries to honour their Official Development Assistance commitments to achieve 0.7% of Gross National Income commitment for Official Development Assistance to developing countries. Those commitments play a crucial role in the implementation of the SDGs. We further welcome the establishment of a Technology Facilitation Mechanism within the UN with a mandate to facilitate technology for the implementation of the SDGs.
22. We commit to lead by example in the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development inline with national circumstances and development context respecting the national policy space. We welcome the G20 Action Plan on the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development adopted during G20 Hangzhou Summit and commit to its implementation by taking bold transformative steps through both collective and individual concrete actions.
23. We meet at a time when the global economic recovery is progressing, with improved resilience and emergence of new sources of growth. The growth, though is weaker than expected with downside risks to the global economy continuing to persist. This gets reflected in a variety of challenges including commodity price volatility, weak trade, high private and public indebtedness, inequality and lack of inclusiveness of economic growth. Meanwhile, the benefits from growth need to be shared broadly in an inclusive manner. Geopolitical conflicts, terrorism, refugee flows, illicit financial flows and the outcome of UK referendum have further added to the uncertainty in the global economy.
24. We reiterate our determination to use all policy tools – monetary, fiscal, and structural, individually and collectively, to achieve the goal of strong, sustainable, balanced and inclusive growth. Monetary policy will continue to support economic activity and ensure price stability, consistent with central bank's mandates. Monetary policy alone, though, cannot lead to balanced and sustainable growth. We, in this regard, underscore the essential role of structural reforms. We emphasise that our fiscal policies are equally important to support our common growth objectives. We also take note that the spill-over effects of certain policy measures in some systemically important advanced economies can have adverse impact on growth prospects of emerging economies.
25. We recognise that innovation is a key driver for mid and long term growth and sustainable development. We stress the importance of industrialisation and measures that promote industrial development as a core pillar of structural transformation.
26. We highlight the need to use tax policy and public expenditure in a more growth-friendly way taking into account fiscal space available, that promotes inclusiveness, maintains resilience and ensures sustainability of debt as a share of GDP.

27. We note the dynamic integration processes across the regions of the world, particularly in Asia, Africa and South America. We affirm our belief to promote growth in the context of regional integration on the basis of principles of equality, openness and inclusiveness. We further believe that this will promote economic expansion through enhanced trade, commercial and investment linkages.
28. We highlight the importance of public and private investments in infrastructure, including connectivity, to ensure sustained long-term growth. We, in this regard, call for approaches to bridge the financing gap in infrastructure including through enhanced involvement of Multilateral Development Banks.
29. We reaffirm our commitment to a strong, quota based and adequately resourced IMF. Borrowed resources by the IMF should be on a temporary basis. We remain strongly committed to support the coordinated effort by the emerging economies to ensure that the Fifteenth General Review of Quotas, including the new quota formula, will be finalised within the agreed timelines so as to ensure that the increased voice of the dynamic emerging and developing economies reflects their relative contributions to the world economy, while protecting the voices of least developed countries (LDCs), poor countries and regions.

We welcome the inclusion of the RMB into the Special Drawing Rights (SDR) currency basket on 1 October, 2016.

30. We call for the advanced European economies to meet their commitment to cede two chairs on the Executive Board of the IMF. The reform of the IMF should strengthen the voice and representation of the poorest members of the IMF, including Sub-Saharan Africa.
31. We share concerns regarding the challenges of sovereign debt restructurings, and note that timely and successful debt restructuring is key for ensuring access to international capital markets, and hence economic growth, for countries with high debt levels. We welcome the current discussions to improve the debt restructuring process, and on the revised collective action clauses (CACs).
32. We reiterate our support for the multilateral trading system and the centrality of the WTO as the cornerstone of a rule based, open, transparent, non-discriminatory and inclusive multilateral trading system with development at the core of its agenda. We note the increasing number of bilateral, regional, and plurilateral trade agreements, and reiterate that these should be complementary to the multilateral trading system and encourage the parties thereon to align their work in consolidating the multilateral trading system under the WTO in accordance with the principles of transparency, inclusiveness, and compatibility with the WTO rules.
33. We emphasise the importance of implementing the decisions taken at the Bali and Nairobi Ministerial Conferences. We stress the need to advance negotiations on the remaining Doha Development Agenda (DDA) issues as a matter of priority. We call on all WTO members to work together to ensure a strong development oriented outcome for MC11 and beyond.

We appreciate the progress in the implementation of the Strategy for BRICS Economic Partnership and emphasise the importance of the BRICS Roadmap for Trade, Economic and Investment Cooperation until 2020. We believe that close cooperation between the sectoral cooperation mechanisms, BRICS Contact Group on Economic and Trade Issues, the BRICS Business Council, New Development Bank and the BRICS Interbank cooperation mechanism is crucial in strengthening the BRICS economic partnership. We welcome, in this context, the continued realisation of the major BRICS economic initiatives such as enhanced cooperation in e-commerce, "single window", IPR cooperation, trade promotion and micro, small and medium enterprises (MSMEs). We recognise non-tariff measures (NTMs), services sector, and standardisation and conformity assessments as possible areas of future cooperation. We note in this context the meeting of BRICS Trade Ministers in New Delhi on 13 October 2016 and welcome its substantive outcomes.

34. In operationalising the Strategy for BRICS Economic Partnership, we encourage measures that support greater participation, value addition and upward mobility in Global Value Chains of our firms including through the preservation of policy space to promote industrial development.

We welcome India's initiative to host the first BRICS Trade Fair in New Delhi. This is an important step towards the implementation of Strategy for BRICS Economic Partnership. We believe this will further consolidate trade and commercial partnership among BRICS countries. We welcome the deliberations and outcome of the meeting of BRICS Trade Ministers held on 13 October 2016 in New Delhi.

35. We noted the Annual Report by the BRICS Business Council, including the various initiatives undertaken by its Working Groups. We further direct the Council to accelerate the development and realisation of joint projects which, on a mutually beneficial basis, contribute to the economic objectives of BRICS.
36. We agreed that MSMEs provide major employment opportunities, at comparatively lower capital cost, and create self-employment opportunities in rural and underdeveloped areas. MSMEs thus help assure equitable wealth distribution nationally and globally. We commend organisation of BRICS second round-table on MSMEs by India with a focus on technical and business alliances in MSMEs Sector. We agree to work for greater integration of MSMEs in Regional and Global Value Chains.
37. We commend China for the successful hosting of the 11th G20 Leaders' Summit in Hangzhou and its focus on innovation, structural reform and development as drivers of medium and long term economic growth. We recognise the role of G20 as the premier forum for international and financial cooperation and emphasise the importance of the implementation of the outcomes of G20 Hangzhou Summit, that we believe will foster strong, sustainable, balanced and inclusive growth and will contribute to improved global economic governance and enhance the role of developing countries.
38. We stress the importance to foster an innovative, invigorated, interconnected and inclusive world economy. We will enhance our consultations and coordination on the G20 agenda, especially on issues of mutual interest to the BRICS countries, and promote issues of importance for the Emerging Market and Developing Economies (EMDEs). We will continue to work closely with all G20 members to strengthen macroeconomic cooperation, promote innovation, as well as robust and sustainable trade and investment to propel global growth, improve global economic governance, enhance the role of developing countries, strengthen international financial architecture, support for industrialisation in Africa and least developed countries and enhance cooperation on energy access and efficiency. We stress the need for enhanced international cooperation to address illicit cross-border financial flows, tax evasion and trade mis-invoicing.
39. The role of BRICS and its collaborative efforts in the field of economic and financial co-operation are yielding positive results. We emphasise the importance of our cooperation in order to help stabilise the global economy and to resume growth.
40. We welcome experts exploring the possibility of setting up an independent BRICS Rating Agency based on market-oriented principles, in order to further strengthen the global governance architecture.
41. We welcome the reports of BRICS Think Tanks Council and BRICS Academic Forum that have emerged as valuable platforms for our experts to exchange views. They have submitted their valuable suggestions with regard to promoting market research and analysis in BRICS and developing countries and exploring possibilities of carrying this process forward. We believe that BRICS institution-building is critical to our shared vision of transforming the global financial architecture to one based on the principles of fairness and equity.

42. We emphasise the importance of enhancing intra-BRICS cooperation in the industrial sector, including through the BRICS Industry Ministers Meetings, in order to contribute to the accelerated and sustainable economic growth, the strengthening of comprehensive industrial ties, the promotion of innovation as well as job creation, and improvement of the quality of life of people in BRICS countries.
43. We congratulate the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO) for the 50th anniversary of its foundation and recall its unique mandate to promote and accelerate inclusive and sustainable industrial development and its contribution in promoting industrialisation in Africa. We note, in this context, the progress achieved so far in the establishment of the UNIDO-BRICS Technology Platform.
44. We commend our Customs administrations on the establishment of the Customs Cooperation Committee of BRICS, and on exploring means of further enhancing collaboration in the future, including those aimed at creating legal basis for customs cooperation and facilitating procedures of customs control. We note the signing of the Regulations on Customs Cooperation Committee of the BRICS in line with the undertaking in the Strategy for BRICS Economic Partnership to strengthen interaction among Customs Administrations.
45. We recall the Fortaleza Declaration wherein we recognised the potential for BRICS insurance and reinsurance markets to pool capacities and had directed our relevant authorities to explore avenues for cooperation in this regard. We would like this work to be expedited.
46. We reaffirm our commitment towards a globally fair and modern tax system and welcome the progress made on effective and widespread implementation of the internationally agreed standards. We support the implementation of the Base Erosion and Profit Shifting Project (BEPS) with due regard to the national realities of the countries. We encourage countries and International Organisations to assist developing economies in building their tax capacity.
47. We note that aggressive tax planning and tax practices hurt equitable development and economic growth. Base Erosion and Profit Shifting must be effectively tackled. We affirm that profit should be taxed in the jurisdiction where the economic activity is performed and the value is created. We reaffirm our commitment to support international cooperation in this regard, including in the Common Reporting Standard for Automatic Exchange of Tax Information (AEOI).
48. We note the ongoing discussions on international taxation matters. In this regard, we recall the Addis Ababa Action Agenda on Financing for Development including its emphasis on inclusive cooperation and dialogue among national tax authorities on international tax matters with increased participation of developing countries and reflecting adequate, equitable, geographical distribution, representing different tax systems.
49. We support the strengthening of international cooperation against corruption, including through the BRICS Anti-Corruption Working Group, as well as on matters related to asset recovery and persons sought for corruption. We acknowledge that corruption including illicit money and financial flows, and ill-gotten wealth stashed in foreign jurisdictions is a global challenge which may impact negatively on economic growth and sustainable development. We will strive to coordinate our approach in this regard and encourage a stronger global commitment to prevent and combat corruption on the basis of the United Nations Convention against Corruption and other relevant international legal instruments.
50. We recognise that nuclear energy will play a significant role for some of the BRICS countries in meeting their 2015 Paris Climate Change Agreement commitments and for reducing global greenhouse gas emissions in the long term. In this regard, we underline the importance of predictability

in accessing technology and finance for expansion of civil nuclear energy capacity which would contribute to the sustainable development of BRICS countries.

51. We reiterate that outer space shall be free for peaceful exploration and use by all States on the basis of equality in accordance with international law. Reaffirming that outer space shall remain free from any kind of weapons or any use of force, we stress that negotiations for the conclusion of an international agreement or agreements to prevent an arms race in outer space are a priority task of the United Nations Conference on Disarmament, and support the efforts to start substantive work, inter alia, based on the updated draft treaty on the prevention of the placement of weapons in outer space and of the threat or use of force against outer space objects submitted by China and Russian Federation. We also note an international initiative for a political obligation on the no first placement of weapons in outer space.
52. Priority should be accorded to ensuring the long-term sustainability of outer space activities, as well as ways and means of preserving outer space for future generations. We note that this is an important objective on the current agenda of the UN Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space (UNCOPUOS). In this respect, we welcome the recent decision by the UNCOPUOS Scientific and Technical Sub-Committee Working Group on Long-term Sustainability of Outer Space Activities to conclude negotiations and achieve consensus on the full set of guidelines for the long term sustainability of outer space activities by 2018 to coincide with the commemoration of the 50th Anniversary of the first United Nations Conference on the Exploration and Peaceful Uses of Outer Space (UNISPACE + 50).
53. We strongly condemn the recent several attacks, against some BRICS countries, including that in India. We strongly condemn terrorism in all its forms and manifestations and stressed that there can be no justification whatsoever for any acts of terrorism, whether based upon ideological, religious, political, racial, ethnic or any other reasons. We agreed to strengthen cooperation in combating international terrorism both at the bilateral level and at international fora.
54. To address the threat of chemical and biological terrorism, we support and emphasise the need for launching multilateral negotiations on an international convention for the suppression of acts of chemical and biological terrorism, including at the Conference on Disarmament. In this context, we welcome India's offer to host a Conference in 2018 aimed at strengthening international resolve in facing the challenge of the WMD-Terrorism nexus.
55. We call upon all nations to adopt a comprehensive approach in combating terrorism, which should include countering violent extremism as and when conducive to terrorism, radicalisation, recruitment, movement of terrorists including Foreign Terrorist Fighters, blocking sources of financing terrorism, including through organised crime by means of money-laundering, drug trafficking, criminal activities, dismantling terrorist bases, and countering misuse of the Internet including social media by terror entities through misuse of the latest Information and Communication Technologies (ICTs). Successfully combating terrorism requires a holistic approach. All counter-terrorism measures should uphold international law and respect human rights.

We acknowledge the recent meeting of the BRICS High Representatives on National Security and, in this context, welcome the setting up and the first meeting of the BRICS Joint Working Group on Counter-Terrorism on 14 September 2016 in New Delhi. We believe it will further promote dialogue and understanding among BRICS nations on issues of counter terrorism, as well as coordinate efforts to address the scourge of terrorism.

56. We acknowledge that international terrorism, especially the Islamic State in Iraq and the Levant (ISIL, also known as Daesh) and affiliated terrorist groups and individuals, constitute a global and unprecedented threat to international peace and security. Stressing UN's central role in coordinating multilateral approaches against terrorism, we urge all nations to undertake effective implemen-

tation of relevant UN Security Council Resolutions, and reaffirm our commitment on increasing the effectiveness of the UN counter terrorism framework. We call upon all nations to work together to expedite the adoption of the Comprehensive Convention on International Terrorism (CCIT) in the UN General Assembly without any further delay. We recall the responsibility of all States to prevent terrorist actions from their territories.

57. We reaffirm our commitment to the FATF International Standards on Combating Money Laundering and the Financing of Terrorism and Proliferation and call for swift, effective and universal implementation of FATF Consolidated Strategy on Combating Terrorist Financing, including effective implementation of its operational plan. We seek to intensify our cooperation in FATF and FATF-style regional bodies (FSRBs).

We welcome the outcome document of the Special session of the General Assembly on the world drug problem, held in New York from 19-21 April 2016. We call for strengthening of international and regional cooperation and coordination to counter the global threat caused by the illicit production and trafficking of drugs, especially opiates. We note with deep concern the increasing links between drug trafficking and terrorism, money laundering and organised crime. We commend the cooperation between BRICS drug control agencies and welcome the deliberations in second Anti-Drug Working Group Meeting held in New Delhi on 8 July 2016.

58. We reaffirm that ICT expansion is a key enabler for sustainable development, for international peace and security and for human rights. We agree to strengthen joint efforts to enhance security in the use of ICTs, combating the use of ICTs for criminal and terrorist purposes and improving cooperation between our technical, law enforcement, R&D and innovation in the field of ICTs and capacity building institutions. We affirm our commitment to bridging digital and technological divides, in particular between developed and developing countries. We recognise that our approach must be multidimensional and inclusive and contains an evolving understanding of what constitutes access, emphasising the quality of that access.
59. We reiterate that the use and development of ICTs through international and regional cooperation and on the basis of universally accepted norms and principles of international law, including the Charter of the UN; in particular political independence, territorial integrity and sovereign equality of States, the settlement of disputes by peaceful means, non-interference in internal affairs of other States as well as respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms, including the right to privacy; are of paramount importance in order to ensure a peaceful, secure and open and cooperative use of ICTs.
60. The increasing misuse of ICTs for terrorist purposes poses a threat to international peace and security. We emphasise the need to enhance international cooperation against terrorist and criminal misuse of ICTs and reaffirm the general approach laid in the eThekweni, Fortaleza and Ufa declarations in this regard. We reaffirm the key role of the UN in addressing the issues related to the security in the use of ICTs. We will continue to work together for the adoption of the rules, norms and principles of responsible behaviour of States including through the process of UNGGE. We recognise that the states have the leading role to ensure stability and security in the use of ICTs.
61. We advocate also for an open, non-fragmented and secure Internet, and reaffirm that the Internet is a global resource and that States should participate on an equal footing in its evolution and functioning, taking into account the need to involve relevant stakeholders in their respective roles and responsibilities.
62. We recognise the importance of energy-saving and energy-efficiency for ensuring sustainable economic development and welcome the Memorandum of Understanding which was signed in this regard.

63. We recognise the challenge of scaling-up power generation and its efficient distribution, as well as the need to scale up low carbon fuels and other clean energy solutions. We further recognise the level of investments needed in renewable energy in this regard. We therefore believe that international cooperation in this field be focused on access to clean energy technology and finance. We further note the significance of clean energy in achieving Sustainable Development Goals. We recognise that sustainable development, energy access, and energy security are critical to the shared prosperity and future of the planet. We acknowledge that clean and renewable energy needs to be affordable to all.
64. We support a wider use of natural gas as an economically efficient and clean fuel to promote sustainable development as well as to reduce the greenhouse emissions in accordance with the Paris Agreement on climate change.
65. We note that BRICS countries face challenges of communicable diseases including HIV and Tuberculosis. We, in this regard, note the efforts made by BRICS Health Ministers to achieve the 90–90–90 HIV treatment target by 2020. We underline the imperative to advance cooperation and action on HIV and TB in the BRICS countries, including in the production of quality-assured drugs and diagnostics.

We take note of United Nations High Level Meeting on Ending AIDS in June 2016 and forthcoming Global Conference on TB under WHO auspices in Moscow in 2017.

66. Recognising global health challenges we emphasise the importance of cooperation among BRICS countries in promoting research and development of medicines and diagnostic tools to end epidemics and to facilitate access to safe, effective, quality and affordable essential medicines.
67. We agreed to organise a BRICS High Level Meeting on Traditional Medical Knowledge.
68. We welcome the High Level meeting on Anti-Microbial Resistance (AMR) during UNGA-71, which addresses the serious threat that AMR poses to public health, growth and global economic stability. We will seek to identify possibilities for cooperation among our health and/or regulatory authorities, with a view to share best practices and discuss challenges, as well as identifying potential areas for convergence.
69. We reaffirm our commitment to promote a long-term and balanced demographic development and continue cooperation on population related matters in accordance with the Agenda for BRICS Cooperation on Population Matters for 2015-2020.

We welcome the outcomes of the meetings of BRICS Labour & Employment Ministers held on 9 June 2016 in Geneva and on 27-28 September 2016 in New Delhi. We take note of the possibility of bilateral Social Security Agreements between BRICS countries, and of the commitment to take steps to establish a network of lead labour research and training institutes, so as to encourage capacity building, information exchange and sharing of best practices amongst BRICS countries. We recognise quality employment, including a Decent Work Agenda, sustaining social protection and enhancing rights at work, are core to inclusive and sustainable development.

We welcome the outcomes of the fourth BRICS Education Ministers' meeting held on 30 September 2016 in New Delhi, including the New Delhi Declaration on Education. We stress the importance of education and skills for economic development, and reaffirm the need for universal access to high-quality education. We are satisfied with the progress of the BRICS Network University (BRICSNU) as well as the BRICS University League (BRICSUL), which will commence their programmes in 2017. These two initiatives will facilitate higher education collaboration and partnerships across the BRICS countries.

We appreciate the organisation of Young Diplomats' Forum held on 3-6 September 2016 in Kolkata. We also welcome the signing of the Memorandum of Understanding between BRICS Diplomatic Academies to encourage exchange of knowledge and experiences.

We welcome the outcomes of the fourth BRICS STI Ministerial Meeting held on 8 October 2016, wherein they adopted the Jaipur Declaration and endorsed the updated Work Plan (2015-2018) aimed at strengthening cooperation in science, technology and innovation, especially leveraging young scientific talent for addressing societal challenges; creating a networking platform for BRICS young scientists; co-generating new knowledge and innovative products, services and processes; and addressing common global and regional socio-economic challenges utilising shared experiences and complementarities.

70. We stress the importance of implementation of the BRICS Research and Innovation Initiative. We welcome the hosting of the first BRICS Young Scientists Conclave in India, instituting of BRICS Innovative Idea Prize for Young Scientists. We note the progress of the first Call for Proposals under the BRICS STI Framework Programme, in ten thematic areas, with funding commitment from the five BRICS STI Ministries and associated funding bodies. We welcome the establishment of the BRICS Working Group on Research Infrastructure, and Mega-Science to reinforce the BRICS Global Research Advanced Infrastructure Network (BRICS-GRAIN).

We welcome the outcomes of the Agriculture Ministers' Meeting, held on 23 September 2016, including the Joint Declaration. We emphasise the importance of ensuring food security, and addressing malnutrition, eliminating hunger, inequality and poverty through increased agricultural production, productivity, sustainable management of natural resources and trade in agriculture among the BRICS countries. As the world's leading producers of agriculture products and home to large populations, we emphasise the importance of BRICS cooperation in agriculture. We recognize the importance of science-based agriculture and of deploying information and communication technology (ICT).

71. To further intensify cooperation among BRICS countries in agricultural research policy, science and technology, innovation and capacity building, including technologies for small-holder farming in the BRICS countries, we welcome the signing of the MoU for Establishment of the BRICS Agricultural Research Platform.
72. Considering the dependence of agriculture on water, we call upon the development of infrastructure for irrigation to assist farmers in building resilience during times of drought and welcome sharing of experiences and expertise in these areas.
73. We affirm that the value of sharing expertise and experiences among BRICS countries with regard to usage of Information and Communication Technology (ICT) in e-governance, financial inclusion, and targeted delivery of benefits, e-commerce, open government, digital content and services and bridging the digital divide. We support efforts aimed at capacity building for effective participation in e-commerce trade to ensure shared benefits.
74. We welcome the forthcoming BRICS Telecommunication Ministerial Meeting that will further strengthen our cooperation, including on technology trends, standards developments, skill developments, and policy frameworks.
75. We believe it is necessary to ensure joint efforts towards diversification of the world market of software and IT equipment. We call for developing and strengthening the ICT cooperation in the framework of the BRICS Working Group on ICT Cooperation.

We welcome the outcomes of the meetings of BRICS Ministers responsible for Disaster Management held on 19-20 April 2016 in St. Petersburg and on 22 August 2016 in Udaipur. We also welcome the Udaipur Declaration adopted at the second meeting and applaud the formation of BRICS Joint Task Force on Disaster Risk Management.

76. We extend our deepest condolences to the people of Haiti and the Caribbean on the tragic loss of lives following hurricane Matthew. We support the efforts of the UN and humanitarian partners in their response to this tragedy.

We welcome the outcomes of the BRICS Ministerial Meeting on Environment held on 15-16 September 2016, in Goa, including the Goa Statement on Environment. We welcome the decision to share technical expertise in the areas of abatement and control of air and water pollution, efficient management of waste and sustainable management of bio-diversity. We recognise the importance of participation by BRICS countries in environmental cooperation initiatives, including developing a platform for sharing environmentally sound technologies.

We welcome the outcome of the 17th Conference of Parties to the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES), held in Johannesburg, South Africa, as a landmark advancement of the regulation of international trade in endangered species from 24 September - 4 October 2016.

We welcome the adoption of the Paris Agreement anchored in the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), and its signing by a large number of countries on 22 April 2016. We emphasise that the comprehensive, balanced and ambitious nature of the Paris Agreement reaffirms the principles of UNFCCC including the principle of equity and common but differentiated responsibilities and respective capabilities, in light of different national circumstances (CBDR & RC).

We welcome the Paris Agreement and its imminent entry into force on 4 November 2016. We call on the developed countries to fulfil their responsibility towards providing the necessary financial resources, technology and capacity building assistance to support the developing countries with respect to both mitigation and adaptation for the implementation of the Paris Agreement.

77. We reiterate the commitments to gender equality and empowerment of all women and girls as contained in the 2030 Agenda. We recognise that women play a vital role as agents of development and acknowledge that their equal and inclusive participation and contribution is crucial to making progress across all Sustainable Development Goals and targets. We emphasise the importance of enhancing accountability for the implementation of these commitments.

Cognizant of the potential and diversity of youth population in our countries, their needs and aspirations, we welcome the outcomes of the BRICS Youth Summit in Guwahati including, "Guwahati BRICS Youth Summit 2016 Call to Action" that recognise the importance of education, employment, entrepreneurship, and skills training for them to be socially and economically empowered.

We welcome the BRICS Convention on Tourism, that was organised in Khajuraho, Madhya Pradesh on 1-2 September 2016 as an effective means to promote tourism cooperation among BRICS countries.

As home to 43% of the world population and among the fastest urbanising societies, we recognise the multi-dimensional challenges and opportunities of urbanisation. We affirm our engagement in the process that will lead to adoption of a New Urban Agenda by the Conference of the United Nations on Housing and Sustainable Urban Development – Habitat III (Quito, 17-20 October, 2016). We welcome the BRICS Urbanisation Forum, BRICS Friendship Cities Conclave, held in Visakhapatnam on 14-16 September 2016, and in Mumbai on 14-16 April 2016, respectively, which contributed to fostering increased engagements between our cities and stakeholders. We call for enhanced cooperation with regard to strengthening urban governance, making our cities safe and inclusive, improving urban transport, financing of urban infrastructure and building sustainable cities.

78. We note India's initiative on the upcoming BRICS Local Bodies Conference to exchange expertise and best-practices, including in local budgeting.

79. Noting the importance of orderly, safe, regular and responsible migration and mobility of people, we welcome the outcomes of first BRICS Migration Ministers Meeting in Sochi, Russian Federation, on 8 October 2015.

We recognise the important role of culture in sustainable development and in fostering mutual understanding and closer cooperation among our peoples. We encourage expansion of cultural exchanges between

people of BRICS countries. In this context we commend the hosting of the first BRICS Film Festival in New Delhi on 2-6 September 2016.

We welcome the forthcoming meeting of the Second BRICS Parliamentary Forum in Geneva on 23 October 2016 under the theme of 'BRICS Parliamentary Cooperation on the implementation of the SDGs'.

We appreciate the deliberations of the BRICS Women Parliamentarians' Forum in Jaipur on 20-21 August, 2016 and the adoption of Jaipur Declaration, centred on SDGs, that inter alia emphasises the commitment to strengthen parliamentary strategic partnerships on all the three dimensions of sustainable development, fostering gender equality and women empowerment.

80. We note the deliberations on a BRICS Railways Research Network aimed at promoting research and development in this field to further growth in our economies in a cost effective and sustainable manner.

We congratulate India on organising the first BRICS Under-17 Football Tournament in Goa on 5-15 October 2016. We, in this regard, note the initiative towards a BRICS Sports Council to foster exchanges among BRICS countries.

81. Recognising the increasing trade, business and investment between BRICS countries and the important role of BRICS Interbank Cooperation Mechanism, we welcome the signing of the Memorandum of Understanding between the BRICS countries National Development Banks and the New Development Bank (NDB). We welcome the initiative of the Export-Import Bank of India of instituting Annual BRICS Economic Research Award to promote advanced research in economics of relevance to BRICS countries.
82. We reiterate our commitment to strengthening our partnerships for common development. To this end, we endorse the Goa Action Plan.
83. China, South Africa, Brazil and Russia appreciate India's BRICS Chairpersonship and the good pace of BRICS cooperation agenda.
84. We emphasise the importance of review and follow up of implementation of outcome documents and decisions of the BRICS Summits. We task our Sherpas to carry this process forward.
85. China, South Africa, Brazil and Russia express their sincere gratitude to the Government and people of India for hosting the Eighth BRICS Summit in Goa.

India, South Africa, Brazil and Russia convey their appreciation to China for its offer to host the Ninth BRICS Summit in 2017 and extend full support to that end.

Goa, October 16, 2016



Documentos

Joint Statement by Iran, Russia, Turkey on the International Meeting on Syria

The delegations of the Islamic Republic of Iran, the Russian Federation and the Republic of Turkey, in line with the Joint Statement of their Foreign Ministers made in Moscow, on December 20, 2016 and the UN Security Council resolution 2336;

Support launching the talks between the Government of the Syrian Arab Republic and the armed opposition groups in Astana on January 23-24, 2017;

Appreciate the participation in and facilitation of the above-mentioned talks by the UN Secretary-General Special Envoy on Syria;

Reaffirm their commitment to the sovereignty, independence, unity and territorial integrity of the Syrian Arab Republic as a multi-ethnic, multi-religious, non-sectarian and democratic State, as confirmed by the UN Security Council;

Express their conviction that there is no military solution to the Syrian conflict and that it can only be solved through a political process based on the implementation of the UN Security Council resolution 2254 in its entirety;

Will seek, through concrete steps and using their influence over the parties, consolidation of the ceasefire regime established pursuant to the arrangements signed on December 29, 2016 and supported by the UN Security Council resolution 2336 (2016), contribution to minimizing violations, reducing violence, building confidence, ensuring unhindered humanitarian access swiftly and smoothly in line with the UN Security Council resolution 2165 (2014) and protection and free movement of civilians in Syria;

Decide to establish a trilateral mechanism to observe and ensure full compliance with the ceasefire, prevent any provocations and determine all modalities of the ceasefire;

Reiterate their determination to fight jointly against ISIL/DAESH and Al-Nusra and to separate from them armed opposition groups;

Express their conviction that there is an urgent necessity to step up efforts to jumpstart the negotiation process in accordance with the UN Security Council resolution 2254;

Emphasize that the International Meeting on Syria in Astana is an effective platform for a direct dialogue between the government and the opposition as required by the UN Security Council resolution 2254;

Support the willingness of the armed opposition groups to participate in the next round of negotiations to be held between the government and the opposition under the UN auspices in Geneva as of February 8, 2017;

Urge all members of the international community to support the political process with a view to swiftly implementing all steps agreed on the UN Security Council resolution 2254;

Decide to actively cooperate on the Astana platform on specific issues of the UN-facilitated Syrian-led and Syrian-owned political process so as to contribute to global efforts to implement the UN Security Council resolution 2254;

Express gratitude to the President of the Republic of Kazakhstan, His Excellency Nursultan Nazarbayev, and to the Kazakh side in general, for hosting the International Meeting on Syria in Astana.