



## **12<sup>th</sup> BRICS SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY AND INNOVATION (STI) MINISTERIAL MEETING**

**MOSCOW STI DECLARATION 2024  
27 September 2024, Moscow, Russia**

### **Preamble**

1. We, the BRICS Ministers of Science, Technology and Innovation and assigned representatives from the Federative Republic of Brazil, the People's Republic of China, the Arab Republic of Egypt, The Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia, the Republic of India, the Islamic Republic of Iran, the Russian Federation, the Republic of South Africa and the United Arab Emirates met for the 12<sup>th</sup> BRICS Ministerial Meeting on the 27<sup>th</sup> of September 2024 in Moscow, Russia, to build further collaboration in the field of science, technology and innovation under the Chairship of the Russian Federation.
2. The theme for Russia's Chairship of BRICS in 2024 "Strengthening Multilateralism for Just Global Development and Security" under which the theme set for the 12<sup>th</sup> BRICS STI Ministerial Meeting is "Advancing Frontier Technologies through STI BRICS Multilateralism", reaffirming the BRICS STI partnership as the collective potential for advancing innovative solutions, scientific breakthroughs and technological advancements to foster shared growth and sustainable development.
3. We welcome the new Member States to the BRICS and reiterate our commitment to the BRICS spirit of mutual respect and understanding, equality, solidarity, democracy, openness, inclusiveness, strengthened collaboration and consensus by upholding the principle of sovereignty of nations.
4. We acknowledge the BRICS countries consideration of the Protocol on accession of the Governments of the Arab Republic of Egypt, the Federal Democratic Republic of

Ethiopia, the Islamic Republic of Iran, the United Arab Emirates to the Memorandum of Understanding on Cooperation in Science, Technology and Innovation adopted on 18 March 2015 and welcome its signing in 2025.

5. We highly appreciate the efforts by the Russian Federation of smooth involvement of new BRICS Member States to the BRICS STI cooperation as well as hosting the BRICS STI Steering Committee meetings on a monthly basis. We reiterate the importance of the BRICS STI Steering Committee as one of the main institutional effective mechanisms for coordination of all BRICS STI activities, initiatives and future prospects of current platform and new areas of cooperation.
6. Social sciences and humanities research are critical to human cultures and development across the world. Besides it plays important roles in sustainability-oriented transformative research, contributing to a more sustainable future. We welcome the establishment of the BRICS Working Group in the field of social sciences and humanities research including the focus on STI policy with the aim of proposing of the concept note indicating the thematic areas for the consideration of the BRICS countries.
7. We acknowledge the efforts under the BRICS STI foresight studies in recognizing the crucial role of scientometric systems and databases in the modern scientific world. Taking into account the research potential of BRICS countries, we encourage supporting initiatives aimed at exploring scientometric systems and databases to enhance research visibility and open science within BRICS countries.
8. We welcome the outcomes of the 6<sup>th</sup> BRICS STI Framework Programme Call dedicated to research in the areas of the climate change adaptation and mitigation and encourage the BRICS STI Framework Programme to continue supporting excellent research on priority areas amongst BRICS academia community and launch a new Call for Proposals in the fields of common interest.
9. Taking into account the importance of science and technology for fair and inclusive development, we welcome strengthening cooperation in the areas of popularization of science and science awareness including science diplomacy.
10. We appreciate the efforts of the BRICS STI Framework Programme Secretariat for the active work. We are delighted to endorse the Terms of Reference (ToR) of the BRICS STI Framework Programme, which will regulate the further management of joint Calls for Proposals. We acknowledge the support the BRICS STI Framework Programme provided for more than 150 projects in 2016-2024 and express our further commitment

to it to be a bridge connecting researchers and scientists among BRICS countries. We see value in projects and programs aimed to serve the global community and we are open to discuss ways to bring together the scientific and academic communities within the BRICS countries.

11. We encourage BRICS countries to support the BRICS flagship projects in R&D areas and early launch of the BRICS flagship projects.
12. We express our gratitude to Russia's proposal of establishing 18 August as annual BRICS Geographer's Day and organizing land expedition in Russia from August 18 to August 25, 2024 in the Krasnoyarsk Territory and the Republic of Khakassia in unique natural reserves: the Sayano-Shushenski Nature Reserve and the Khakassia Nature Reserve. This initiative aims to raise awareness of prospective joint activities in the area of geographical and geospatial sciences within BRICS nations by its popularization and engagement of youth in research and international projects in the field of geography and related sciences.
13. We thank Russia for hosting the 6<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the BRICS Working Group on Ocean and Polar Science and Technology in Murmansk from 13 to 15 June 2024. The emergence of new geographical regions in joint research will increase the scientific potential of BRICS countries. We emphasize the importance of enhancing collaboration in ocean science for the purpose of common good. We encourage the WG to develop and adopt the roadmap with specified priority directions for further joint efforts and cooperative scientific projects and platforms as well as organize and participate in joint BRICS research cruises and field expeditions in regions of common interests.
14. We commend Russia for organizing the 6<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the BRICS Working Group on Research Infrastructures and Mega-Science Projects that took place in Moscow and Dubna from 1 to 4 July 2024 with a visit to the climate station "Okovskii Les" in Tver region. Emphasizing the need of ecological and climatic monitoring we welcome the development of the Roadmap of activities towards Carbon supersites as a part of joint BRICS research infrastructure ecosystem. We recognize the importance of implementing the BRICS Action Plan on BRICS STI Cooperation in Research Infrastructures and Mega-science projects for 2024–2025 and the development of the BRICS GRAIN flagship project in order to ensure transnational access to research infrastructures of BRICS countries.
15. We appreciate Russia for holding the 5<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the BRICS Working Group on Biotechnology, Bio-Medicine and Human Health and Neuroscience in Moscow from

24 to 25 June 2024 in which the participants acknowledged the receipt of the agreement to create four working sub-groups in such thematic topics as neurosciences and neurotechnologies; advanced medicine; innovations in emerging and re-emerging diseases; food agriculture and biotechnology. We welcome the proposal for the creation of the BRICS Neuroscience Society and the initiative to establish the BRICS Neuroscience research program.

16. We thank Russia for hosting the 3<sup>rd</sup> Meeting of BRICS Working Group on New and Renewable Energy Sources and Energy Efficiency in Kemerovo on 2–3 July 2024 held together with the Meeting of the Committee of BRICS Senior Energy Officials. The WG recognized the importance to strengthen cooperation by sharing knowledge, best practices and conducting joint research projects. We note the synergetic effect of uniting the potential of cooperation under Energy and STI tracks.
17. We acknowledge China for hosting the Meeting of the BRICS Solid State Lightning (SSL) Sub-Working Group in China on 17-19 July 2024. The WG encourage BRICS countries to focus on the standardization and harmonization of national documents in the field of solid-state lighting in the BRICS countries.
18. We acknowledge China's hosting of the BRICS Technology Transfer Cooperation Conference and Related Activities in Kunming from 6 to 7 August 2024. We appreciate the opportunity to share the information on technology transfer in BRICS countries to further strengthen our strategic partnership.
19. We thank Russia for hosting the 6<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the BRICS Working Group on Materials Science and Nanotechnology in Ekaterinburg from 27 to 28 August 2024. We encourage all BRICS countries to foster the cooperation under the BRICS Center for Materials Science and Nanotechnology to provide the opportunity for implementing the international cooperation between organisations, members of the Materials Science Centre in teaching methods and research activities in the field of materials science and nanotechnology.
20. We thank Russia for hosting the 10<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the BRICS Working Group on Astronomy in Kazan from 12 to 13 September 2024. The WG members encourage to launch the BRICS Intelligent Telescope and Data Network (BITDN) as a flagship project in the near future.
21. We thank Russia for hosting the 3<sup>rd</sup> Meeting of the BRICS Working Group on Geospatial Technologies and their Application in Moscow from 16 to 17 September

2024. We acknowledge the decision of the WG to further consider the Terms of reference and Plan of activities as well as to establish the WG Secretariat.
22. We thank Russia for hosting the 8<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the BRICS Working Group on Information and Communications Technologies and High-Performance Computing in Nizhny Novgorod from 20 to 21 September 2024. We support the decision of the WG to reconfigure the name into the BRICS WG on HPC&AI.
  23. We look forward to holding the BRICS Innovation Forum and the 7<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the BRICS Working Group on Science, Technology, Innovation and Entrepreneurship Partnership in 2025 providing an effective platform for expanding the network of international contacts among BRICS innovators.
  24. We emphasize the importance of further development of the iBRICS Network and the BRICS Techtransfer within the BRICS Working Group on Science, Technology, Innovation and Entrepreneurship Partnership. We call on the development and further implementation of the Action Plan for BRICS Innovation Cooperation for 2025-2030, which should include a specific call for proposals on innovation for funding joint projects developed by innovative organizations.
  25. We look forward to Russia hosting the 9<sup>th</sup> BRICS Young Scientist Forum and the 7<sup>th</sup> BRICS Young Innovator Prize in November 18-22, 2024 in Sochi as one of the most effective platforms for young scientists and innovators networking, including through the exchange of experience and best practices in supporting scientific research with the participation of young scientists and postgraduate students from the BRICS countries. We note the importance of the BRICS Young Innovator Prize as a special recognition of young talented entrepreneurs and researchers, whose outstanding innovations (inventions, products, applications, and services) will make a profound impact on the socio-economic, environment and conditions of life in BRICS societies.
  26. We endorse the BRICS STI Calendar of Activities 2024-2025 and encourage each BRICS country to follow the Calendar when implementing the relevant initiatives and activities.
  27. Brazil, China, Egypt, Ethiopia, India, Iran, South Africa, the UAE extend their warm appreciation to the Ministry of Science and Higher Education of the Russian Federation for hosting the 14<sup>th</sup> STI Senior Officials Meeting and the 12<sup>th</sup> BRICS STI Ministerial Meeting on 26 September 2024 and 27 September 2024, respectively.

28. China, Egypt, Ethiopia, India, Iran, Russia, South Africa, the UAE convey their appreciation to Brazil for its offer to host the 13<sup>th</sup> BRICS STI Ministerial Meeting and the 15<sup>th</sup> BRICS STI Senior Officials Meeting in 2025 and extend their full support to that end.