



## **Rio de Janeiro Declaration**

### **Strengthening Global South Cooperation for a More Inclusive and Sustainable Governance**

**Rio de Janeiro, Brazil  
6 July 2025**

1. We, the Leaders of BRICS countries, met in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, from 6 to 7 July 2025 for the XVII BRICS Summit held under the theme: “Strengthening Global South Cooperation for a More Inclusive and Sustainable Governance”.

2. We reaffirm our commitment to the BRICS spirit of mutual respect and understanding, sovereign equality, solidarity, democracy, openness, inclusiveness, collaboration and consensus. As we build upon 17 years of BRICS Summits, we further commit ourselves to strengthening cooperation in the expanded BRICS under the three pillars of political and security, economic and financial, cultural and people-to-people cooperation, and to enhancing our strategic partnership for the benefit of our people through the promotion of peace, a more representative, fairer international order, a reinvigorated and reformed multilateral system, sustainable development and inclusive growth.

3. We welcome the Republic of Indonesia as a BRICS member, as well as the Republic of Belarus, the Plurinational State of Bolivia, the Republic of Kazakhstan, the Republic of Cuba, the Federal Republic of Nigeria, Malaysia, the Kingdom of Thailand, the Socialist Republic of Vietnam, the Republic of Uganda, and the Republic of Uzbekistan as BRICS partner countries.

4. We underline the significance of the adoption of the BRICS Leaders’ Framework Declaration on Climate Finance and of the BRICS Leaders’ Statement on the Global Governance of Artificial Intelligence, as well as endorse the launch of the BRICS Partnership for the Elimination of Socially Determined Diseases. These initiatives reflect our joint efforts to foster inclusive and sustainable solutions to pressing global issues.

### **Strengthening Multilateralism and Reforming Global Governance**

5. We reiterate our commitment to reforming and improving global governance by promoting a more just, equitable, agile, effective, efficient, responsive, representative, legitimate, democratic and accountable international and multilateral system in the spirit of extensive consultation, joint contribution and shared benefits. In this regard, we take note of the adoption of the Pact of the Future at the Summit of the Future, including its

two annexes, the Global Digital Compact and the Declaration of Future Generations. Bearing in mind the need to adapt the current architecture of international relations to better reflect the contemporary realities, we reaffirm our commitment to multilateralism and upholding the international law, including the Purposes and Principles enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations (UN), in their entirety and interconnectedness as its indispensable cornerstone, and the central role of the UN in the international system, in which sovereign states cooperate to maintain international peace and security, advance sustainable development, ensure the promotion and protection of democracy, human rights and fundamental freedoms for all as well as cooperation based on solidarity, mutual respect, justice and equality. We also reiterate our commitment to ensuring greater and more meaningful participation and representation of Emerging Markets and Developing Countries (EMDCs), as well as Least Developed Countries (LDCs), especially from Africa and Latin America and the Caribbean, in global decision-making processes and structures and making them better attuned to contemporary realities. We also call for achieving equitable geographical representation in the Secretariat of the United Nations and other international organizations in a timely manner, as well as increasing the role and share of women, especially from EMDCs, at all levels of leadership and responsibilities in these organizations. We stress the need for the selection and appointment process of UN executive heads and senior positions to be guided by the principles of transparency and inclusiveness, and carried out in accordance with all the provisions of Article 101 of the UN Charter, with due regard for recruiting staff on a geographical basis as wide as possible and the increased participation of women, and adhere to the general rule that there should be no monopoly on senior posts in the UN system by nationals of any State or group of States.

6. Recognizing the 2023 Johannesburg-II Leaders' Declaration, we reiterate our support for a comprehensive reform of the United Nations, including its Security Council, with a view to making it more democratic, representative, effective and efficient, and to increase the representation of developing countries in the Council's memberships so that it can adequately respond to prevailing global challenges and support the legitimate aspirations of emerging and developing countries from Africa, Asia and Latin America, including BRICS countries, to play a greater role in international affairs, in particular in the United Nations, including its Security Council. We recognize the legitimate aspirations of African countries, as reflected in the Ezulwini Consensus and Sirte Declaration. We stress that the United Nations Security Council reform is to lead to the amplified voice of the Global South. Recalling the 2022 Beijing and 2023 Johannesburg-II Leaders' Declarations, China and Russia, as permanent members of the United Nations Security Council, reiterate their support to the aspirations of Brazil and India to play a greater role in the United Nations, including its Security Council.

7. In light of the 80th Anniversary of the United Nations, we recall UNGA Resolutions 75/1, 77/335 and other relevant resolutions, and reiterate our commitment to provide the United Nations with all the required support it needs to discharge its mandate. We emphasize the strong call for reforms of the principal organs of the United Nations with a view to achieving concrete progress. We recommit to instill new life in the discussions on reform of the UN Security Council and continue the work to revitalize the General Assembly and strengthen the Economic and Social Council. We look forward to the successful conclusion of the 2025 Review of the Peacebuilding architecture.

8. We agree that, in the context of the contemporary realities of the multipolar world, it is crucial that developing countries strengthen their efforts to promote dialogue and consultations for more just and equitable global governance and mutually beneficial relations among nations. We acknowledge that multipolarity can expand opportunities for EMDCs to develop their constructive potential and enjoy universally beneficial, inclusive and equitable economic globalization and cooperation. We highlight the importance of the Global South as a driver for positive change, especially in the face of significant international challenges, including deepening geopolitical tensions, rapid economic downturns and technological changes, protectionist measures and migratory challenges. We believe BRICS countries continue to play a pivotal role in voicing the concerns and priorities of the Global South, as well as in promoting a more just, sustainable, inclusive, representative and stable international order based on international law.

9. Recalling that 2025 marks the eightieth anniversary of the end of the Second World War, a war which brought untold sorrow to humankind, particularly in Europe, Asia, Africa, the Pacific and other parts of the world, we render our full support to the UNGA Resolution 79/272 on the Eightieth anniversary of the end of the Second World War, on this historic event, which established the conditions for the creation of the United Nations, designed to save succeeding generations from the scourge of war.

10. On the 80<sup>th</sup> anniversary, we reiterate the urgent need to reform the Bretton Woods Institutions (BWI) to make them more agile, effective, credible, inclusive, fit for purpose, unbiased, accountable, and representative, enhancing their legitimacy. First and foremost, they must reform their governance structure to reflect the transformation of the global economy since their establishment. The voice and representation of EMDEs in the BWI must reflect their increasing weight in the global economy. Moreover, we call for improved management procedures, including through a merit-based and inclusive selection process that would increase regional diversity and representation of EMDEs in the leadership of the IMF and the WBG, as well as the role and share of women at the managerial level.

11. In the current context of uncertainty and volatility, the International Monetary Fund (IMF) must remain adequately resourced and agile, at the center of the global financial safety net (GFSN), to effectively support its members, particularly the most vulnerable countries. Despite the absence of quota realignment, we have provided consent to the proposed quota increase under the 16th General Review of Quotas (GRQ) and urge IMF members that have not yet done so to provide their consent and give effect to the quota increases under the 16th GRQ with no further delay. We urge the IMF Executive Board to fulfil the mandate set by the Board of Governors to develop approaches to quota share realignment, including through a new quota formula, under the 17th GRQ at the earliest possible time. We support the efforts of the IMF Executive Board and International Monetary and Financial Committee (IMFC) Deputies in developing general principles to guide future discussions and help foster convergence of views around the pressing quota and governance reforms. We reiterate that further quota realignment in the IMF should not come at the expense of developing countries, reflecting countries' relative positions in the global economy, and increasing the shares of EMDEs. In line with the BRICS Rio de Janeiro Vision for IMF Quota and Governance Reform, we stand ready to engage constructively with other IMF members to guarantee that meaningful quota share realignment and governance reforms are included in the 17th GRQ.

12. We reaffirm that the 2025 World Bank Shareholding Review, co-chaired by Brazil, is a critical tool to strengthen multilateralism and enhance the legitimacy of the World Bank Group, as a better, bigger, and more effective development finance institution. In line with the Lima principles, we continue to advocate for the increased voice and representation of developing countries, underpinned by a shareholding realignment that corrects their historic underrepresentation. We will endeavor to ensure that tackling poverty and inequality, including through job creation, in the challenging context of climate change and digitalization, remains central to the World Bank Group's mission.

13. The multilateral trading system has long been at a crossroads. The proliferation of trade-restrictive actions, whether in the form of indiscriminate rising of tariffs and non-tariff measures, or protectionism under the guise of environmental objectives, threatens to further reduce global trade, disrupt global supply chains, and introduce uncertainty into international economic and trade activities, potentially exacerbating existing economic disparities and affecting prospects for global economic development. We voice serious concerns about the rise of unilateral tariff and non-tariff measures which distort trade and are inconsistent with WTO rules. In this context, we reiterate our support for the rules-based, open, transparent, fair, inclusive, equitable, non-discriminatory, consensus-based multilateral trading system with the World Trade Organization (WTO) at its core, with special and differential treatment (S&DT) for its developing members. We emphasize that the WTO, at its 30th anniversary, remains the only multilateral institution with the necessary mandate, expertise, universal reach and capacity to lead on the multiple dimensions of international trade discussions, including the negotiation of new trade rules. We recall the commitment made at the 12<sup>th</sup> WTO Ministerial Conference and reaffirmed at the 13<sup>th</sup> WTO Ministerial Conference to work towards a necessary reform of the Organization to ensure its relevance and restore the credibility of the multilateral trading system. We remain committed to the urgent restoration of an accessible, effective, fully-functioning, two-tier binding WTO dispute settlement system. We strongly support Ethiopia and Iran's bid for accession to the WTO. We welcome the BRICS Declaration on WTO Reform and Strengthening of the Multilateral Trading System adopted by the Ministers of Trade.

14. We condemn the imposition of unilateral coercive measures that are contrary to international law, and reiterate that such measures, inter alia in the form of unilateral economic sanctions and secondary sanctions, have far-reaching negative implications for the human rights, including the rights to development, health and food security, of the general population of targeted states, disproportionately affecting the poor and people in vulnerable situations, deepening the digital divide and exacerbating environmental challenges. We call for the elimination of such unlawful measures, which undermine international law and the principles and purposes of the UN Charter. We reaffirm that BRICS member states do not impose or support non-UN Security Council authorized sanctions that are contrary to international law.

15. Recognizing the interconnected nature of global health challenges and their transboundary implications, we reaffirm our commitment to strengthening global health governance by enhancing international cooperation and solidarity. We underscore the role of the World Health Organization as the directing and coordinating authority on international health work within the UN System, particularly in times of crises and emergencies, and emphasize the necessity of bolstering its mandate, capabilities, and financing mechanisms. A robust and adequately funded WHO is essential to effectively

address current and future public health challenges, mitigate inequalities, and ensure equitable access to healthcare services, including medicines, and vaccines for all, particularly in developing countries. We commit to actively supporting efforts to strengthen the global health architecture, fostering equality, inclusivity, transparency, and responsiveness, ensuring no country is left behind in achieving health-related Sustainable Development Goals. We acknowledge the adoption of the WHO Pandemic Agreement by the 78<sup>th</sup> World Health Assembly. The Agreement will solidify the foundation for a safer and more equitable world against future pandemics. We stand ready to carry this momentum forward to ensure a timely conclusion of Member States-led and -driven negotiations for the Agreement's Annex on Pathogen Access and Benefit-Sharing.

16. We recognize that Artificial Intelligence (AI) represents a milestone opportunity to boost development towards a more prosperous future. To achieve that goal, we underscore that global governance of AI should mitigate potential risks and address the needs of all countries, including those of the Global South. A collective global effort is needed to establish an AI governance that upholds our shared values, addresses risks, builds trust, and ensures broad and inclusive international collaboration and access, in accordance with sovereign laws, including capacity building for developing countries, with the United Nations at its core. To support a constructive debate towards a more balanced approach, we agreed on the BRICS Leaders' Statement on the Global Governance of Artificial Intelligence, which aims to foster responsible development, deployment, and use of AI technologies for sustainable development and inclusive growth, in compliance with national regulatory frameworks, the UN Charter and respecting the sovereignty of States.

### **Promoting Peace, Security and International Stability**

17. We express concern about ongoing conflicts in many parts of the world and the current state of polarization and fragmentation in the international order. We express alarm at the current trend that has seen a critical increase in global military spending, to the detriment of the provision of adequate financing for development to developing countries. We advocate for a multilateral approach that respects diverse national viewpoints and positions on crucial global issues, including sustainable development, the eradication of hunger and poverty and contributing to the global response to climate change, while expressing deep concern over attempts to link security with the climate change agenda.

18. We note the current global context of polarization and distrust and encourage global action to strengthen international peace and security. We call on the international community to respond to these challenges and associated security threats through politico-diplomatic measures to lower conflict potential and stress the need to engage in conflict prevention efforts, including through addressing their root causes. We underscore that security among all countries is indivisible and reiterate our commitment to the peaceful resolution of international disputes through dialogue, consultation and diplomacy. We encourage the active role of regional organizations in conflict prevention and resolution and support all efforts conducive to the peaceful settlement of crises. We highlight the importance of mediation and preventive diplomacy as essential tools to avoid crises and prevent their escalation, in accordance with the Purposes and Principles of the UN Charter. In this regard, we agree to explore avenues for cooperation on the prevention of armed conflicts, UN peacekeeping missions, African Union peace support operations, and mediation and peace processes.

19. We reaffirm our strong commitment to strengthening multilateral cooperation to address humanitarian crises worldwide and express concern at the dwindling of international responses, which were already insufficient, fragmented and often politicized. We strongly condemn all violations of international humanitarian law, including deliberate attacks against civilians and civilian objects, including civilian infrastructure, as well as the denial or obstruction of humanitarian access and the targeting of humanitarian personnel. We underline the need to address accountability for all violations of international humanitarian law. Such breaches of international law not only intensify immediate suffering but also undermine prospects for lasting peace by destroying the material and social foundations necessary for post-conflict reconstruction. We recognize international efforts undertaken by BRICS members to promote respect for, adherence to, and effective implementation of International Humanitarian Law.

20. We reiterate our commitment to the full implementation and advancement of the Women, Peace and Security (WPS) agenda, especially in light of the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary of United Nations Security Council Resolution 1325 (2000). We further reiterate the importance of ensuring the full, equal, safe, and meaningful participation of women in decision-making at all levels of peace and security processes, including conflict prevention and resolution, humanitarian relief, mediation, peace operations, peacebuilding, and post-conflict reconstruction and development.

21. We condemn the military strikes against the Islamic Republic of Iran since 13 June 2025, which constitute a violation of international law and the Charter of the United Nations, and express grave concern over the subsequent escalation of the security situation in the Middle East. We further express serious concern over deliberate attacks on civilian infrastructure and peaceful nuclear facilities under full safeguards of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), in violation of international law and relevant resolutions of the IAEA. Nuclear safeguards, safety, and security must always be upheld, including in armed conflicts, to protect people and the environment from harm. In this context, we reiterate our support for diplomatic initiatives aimed at addressing regional challenges. We call upon the United Nations Security Council to be seized of this matter.

22. We recall our national positions concerning the conflict in Ukraine as expressed in the appropriate fora, including the UN Security Council and the UN General Assembly. We note with appreciation relevant proposals of mediation and good offices, including the creation of the African Peace Initiative and the Group of Friends for Peace, aimed at peaceful resolution of the conflict through dialogue and diplomacy. We expect that current efforts will lead to a sustainable peace settlement.

23. We are deeply concerned over continued conflicts and instability in the Middle East and North Africa (MENA) region. In this regard, we endorse the Joint Statement by BRICS Deputy Foreign Ministers and Special Envoys at their meeting of 28 March 2025.

24. We reiterate our grave concern about the situation in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, with the resumption of continuous Israeli attacks against Gaza and obstruction of the entry of humanitarian aid into the territory. We call for adherence to international law, in particular to international humanitarian law and international human rights law, and condemn all violations of IHL, including the use of starvation as a method of warfare. We also condemn attempts to politicize or militarize humanitarian assistance. We exhort

the parties to engage in good faith in further negotiations to achieve an immediate, permanent and unconditional ceasefire, the full withdrawal of Israeli forces from the Gaza Strip and all other parts of the Occupied Palestinian Territory, the release of all hostages and detainees held in violation of international law, and sustained and unhindered access and delivery of humanitarian aid. We reassert our steadfast support for UNRWA and stress the need to fully respect the mandate, bestowed on it by the UNGA, for the provision of basic services to Palestine refugees in its five fields of operations. We call on all relevant parties to respect their obligations under international law and act with utmost restraint and to avoid escalatory actions and provocative declarations. We note, in this regard, the provisional measures of the International Court of Justice in the legal proceedings instituted by South Africa against Israel, which, *inter alia*, reaffirmed Israel's legal obligation to ensure the provision of humanitarian aid in Gaza.

25. We recall that the Gaza Strip is an inseparable part of the Occupied Palestinian Territory. We underline, in this regard, the importance of unifying the West Bank and the Gaza Strip under the Palestinian Authority, and reaffirm the right of the Palestinian people to self-determination, including the right to their independent State of Palestine.

26. We call on the international community to support the Palestinian Authority in undergoing reforms to fulfill the Palestinians' legitimate aspirations for independence and statehood, as well as the expeditious reconstruction of the civil infrastructure of the territory, with a central role by the Palestinians, as agreed in the Emergency Arab Summit on Palestine of 4 March 2025, and we note with appreciation the initiative to convene an upcoming pledging conference to be held in Cairo. We underscore that efforts to stabilize and rebuild Gaza must go hand in hand with a just and lasting political resolution of the protracted conflict. We express our firm opposition to the forced displacement, temporary or permanent, under any pretext, of any of the Palestinian population from the Occupied Palestinian Territory, as well as any geographic or demographic changes to the territory of the Gaza Strip. We reiterate that international law and international judicial bodies demand the end of the illegal occupation and the immediate cessation of all practices that undermine legal norms and obstruct a just and lasting peace.

27. We reaffirm that a just and lasting solution to the Israeli-Palestinian conflict can only be achieved by peaceful means and depends on the fulfillment of the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people, including the rights to self-determination and return. We reaffirm our support for the State of Palestine's full membership in the United Nations in the context of the unwavering commitment to the two-state solution, in accordance with international law, including relevant UN Security Council and General Assembly resolutions, and the Arab Peace Initiative, that includes the establishment of a sovereign, independent and viable State of Palestine within the internationally recognized 1967 borders, which includes the Gaza Strip and the West Bank, with East Jerusalem as its capital, in order to achieve the vision of two States living side by side, in peace and security. We affirm the need for adequate representation of Palestine in all relevant international organizations, including multilateral financial institutions, and access to their resources. We welcome the continued efforts by BRICS members towards an urgent ceasefire, to accelerate the delivery of humanitarian aid and to achieve a lasting and sustainable peace in the region.

28. We welcome the ceasefire in Lebanon and call on all parties to strictly adhere to its terms and to fully implement UNSC Resolution 1701. We condemn the continued

violations of the ceasefire and of the sovereignty and territorial integrity of Lebanon. We call on Israel to respect the terms agreed with the Lebanese government and to withdraw its occupying forces from all of the Lebanese territory, including the five sites in Southern Lebanon in which they remain.

29. We reaffirm our commitment to the sovereignty, independence, unity, and territorial integrity of Syria and call for a peaceful and inclusive Syrian-led and Syrian-owned, UN-facilitated political process, based on the principles of Security Council Resolution 2254 (2015), in a manner that ensures the security and well-being of the civilian population, without discrimination. We condemn the violence perpetrated in various Syria's provinces among the country's communities, the continuation of terrorist activities by ISIL (Da'esh) and Al-Qaeda affiliates in Syria, including the recent bombing at Mar Elias Church and Rif Dimashq, and express sincere condolences and sympathy to the families of the victims of these terrorist attacks. We also condemn the threat posed by foreign terrorist fighters' presence in Syrian territory as well as the risk of spreading of terrorists from Syria to regional countries. Syria should firmly oppose all forms of terrorism and extremism and take concrete actions to respond to concerns of the international community about terrorism. We welcome the lifting of unilateral sanctions on Syria and hope that this will support efforts to revive the Syrian economy and launch the reconstruction phase in a way that fosters development and stability. While condemning strongly the occupation of parts of Syria, in blatant violation of international law and the 1974 disengagement, we urge Israel to withdraw its forces from the Syrian territory without delay.

30. We reiterate that the principle "African solutions to African problems" should continue to serve as the basis for conflict resolution on the African continent. We recognize the critical role played by the African Union in conflict prevention, management and resolution and reaffirm our support for African peace efforts on the continent, including those undertaken by the African Union, and African sub-regional organizations. In this sense, we commit to consider new ways to support African Union peace support operations, mediation efforts, peace processes and broader peacebuilding initiatives in the African continent.

31. We commend efforts and achievements by African countries and organizations in their pursuit of lasting peace and sustainable development, while expressing serious concern over the severe humanitarian crises resulting from new and protracted armed conflicts in some regions of Africa, particularly the devastating effects of conflicts in Sudan, the Great Lakes region, and the Horn of Africa. We reaffirm our support for efforts aimed at finding political solutions to these crises, reiterate the call for an end to hostilities, and emphasize the need for the peaceful resolution of conflicts.

32. We are deeply concerned over the situation in Sudan resulted in a humanitarian crisis and the growing risk of proliferation of extremism and terrorism. We reiterate our positions in this regard and call for an immediate, permanent, and unconditional ceasefire and for a peaceful resolution of the conflict. We also stress the need for sustained, urgent and unhindered access to humanitarian assistance for the Sudanese population, and for the scaling up of humanitarian aid to Sudan and neighboring countries

33. We remain seriously concerned with the ongoing deterioration of the security, humanitarian, and economic situation in Haiti. We reaffirm that security and development



go hand in hand. The current crisis requires a Haitian-led solution that encompasses national dialogue and consensus building among local political forces, institutions and the society and we call on the international community to support the Haitian endeavors to dismantle the gangs, enhance the security situation and put in place the foundations for long-lasting social and economic development in the country. We support the role of the United Nations and highlight the need for international cooperation to address Haiti's multifaceted crises effectively.

34. We express strong condemnation of any acts of terrorism as criminal and unjustifiable, regardless of their motivation, whenever, wherever and by whomsoever committed. We condemn in the strongest terms the terrorist attack in Jammu and Kashmir on 22 April 2025, during which 26 people were killed and many more injured. We reaffirm our commitment to combating terrorism in all its forms and manifestations, including the cross-border movement of terrorists, terrorism financing and safe havens. We reiterate that terrorism should not be associated with any religion, nationality, civilization or ethnic group and that all those involved in terrorist activities and their support must be held accountable and brought to justice in accordance with relevant national and international law. We urge to ensure zero tolerance for terrorism and reject double standards in countering terrorism. We emphasize the primary responsibility of States in combating terrorism and that global efforts to prevent and counter terrorist threats must fully comply with their obligations under international law, including the Charter of the United Nations, in particular the purposes and principles thereof, and relevant international conventions and protocols, in particular international human rights law, international refugee law and international humanitarian law, as applicable. We welcome the activities of the BRICS Counter-Terrorism Working Group (CTWG) and its five Subgroups based upon the BRICS Counter-Terrorism Strategy, the BRICS Counter-Terrorism Action Plan and the CTWG position paper. We look forward to further deepening counter-terrorism cooperation. We call for an expeditious finalization and adoption of the Comprehensive Convention on International Terrorism in the UN framework. We call for concerted actions against all UN designated terrorists and terrorist entities.

35. We condemn in the strongest terms the attacks against bridges and railways infrastructure deliberately targeting civilians in Bryansk, Kursk and Voronezh regions of the Russian Federation on 31 May, 1 and 5 June 2025, resulting in multiple civilian casualties, including children.

36. We reiterate our commitment to preventing and combating illicit financial flows, including money laundering and the financing of terrorism, extremism and proliferation, as well as other forms of transnational organized crime, such as drug trafficking, cybercrimes, crimes that affect the environment, illicit trafficking of firearms, trafficking in persons, corruption and the use of new technologies, including cryptocurrencies, for illegal, in particular terrorist, purposes. In this regard, we underscore the importance of enhancing capacity-building and technical assistance, particularly for developing countries, to support the implementation of relevant international obligations. We reaffirm our commitment to the principles of technical and non-politicized nature of international anti-criminal cooperation, including for the purpose of prevention and of financial investigations. We note the need to further strengthen such cooperation, including through relevant existing BRICS working groups, meetings of the BRICS countries competent authorities and other forms of cooperation based on the documents adopted in BRICS, as well as the relevant international legal instruments to which BRICS

countries are parties. We emphasize the importance of creating conditions for the safe development of the younger generation, reducing the risk of their involvement in illegal activities, and welcomed the development of relevant international projects with the participation of young people.

37. We are resolute to promote BRICS cooperation in the prevention of and fight against corruption, in line with relevant international agreements in this regard, in particular the United Nations Convention against Corruption, and strengthen our coordination on major issues on the international anti-corruption agenda. We attach importance to meeting the BRICS anti-corruption commitments and to enhancing anti-corruption cooperation and recovery and return of assets and proceeds of corruption. We welcome the work of the BRICS Anti-Corruption Working Group to foster collaboration on anti-corruption matters, in particular for sharing anti-corruption knowledge and expertise among practitioners, including the formulation of the BRICS Common Vision and Joint Action on Enhanced Anti-Corruption Cooperation and Recovery and Return of Assets and Proceeds of Corruption, promotion of denial of safe haven and strengthening capacity-building among the member countries.

38. We express concern about the growing risks of nuclear danger and conflict. We reiterate the need for invigorating the system of disarmament, arms control and non-proliferation and for preserving its integrity and effectiveness to achieve global stability and international peace and security. We stress the significant contribution of nuclear-weapon-free zones to the strengthening of the nuclear non-proliferation regime, reaffirm our support for and respect towards all existing nuclear-weapons free-zones and their associated assurances against the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons, and acknowledge the paramount importance of the efforts aiming at accelerating the implementation of the resolutions on the Establishment of a Zone Free of Nuclear Weapons and other Weapons of Mass Destruction in the Middle East, including the Conference convened pursuant to UN General Assembly Decision 73/546. We call on all invited parties to participate in this conference in good faith and engage with this effort constructively. We welcome the adoption of the UNGA Resolution 79/241 “Comprehensive study of the question of nuclear-weapon-free zones in all its aspects”.

39. We recognize the need to ensure the use of space systems, as well as the achievements of space science and technologies, for peaceful purposes. We also reassert our support for ensuring the long-term sustainability of outer space activities and prevention of an arms race in outer space (PAROS) and of its weaponization, as well as the threats or use of force against outer space objects, including through negotiations to adopt a relevant legal multilateral instrument to ensure global security. We recognize the submission of the updated Draft Treaty on the Prevention of the Placement of Weapons in Outer Space, the Threat or Use of Force against Outer Space Objects (PPWT) to the Conference on Disarmament in 2014 as an important step towards this goal. We stress that practical and non-binding commitments such as Transparency and Confidence-Building Measures (TCBMs), and universally agreed norms, rules, and principles may also contribute to PAROS. We note the initiative of some BRICS Members at the General Assembly to create a single Open-Ended Working Group to enable coherent, inclusive and effective discussions that serves such purpose and undertake to engage constructively in the process, on the basis of existing achievements, including on substantial elements on a legally binding instrument on PAROS.

40. While emphasizing the potential of Information and Communication Technologies (ICTs) to bridge the growing digital divides within and between countries, we acknowledge challenges and threats stemming from and within the digital realm. We reaffirm our commitment to the promotion of an open, secure, stable, accessible, peaceful, and interoperable ICT environment. We underscore the leading role of the United Nations in fostering constructive dialogue to forge common understandings on security in the use of ICTs and discussions on developing a universal legal framework in this realm and the further development and implementation of universally agreed norms, rules and principles for responsible behavior of States in the use of ICTs. We call for a comprehensive, balanced, objective approach to the development and security of ICT products and systems as well as for the development and implementation of globally interoperable common rules and standards for supply chain security. We commend the ongoing work of the UN Open-ended Working Group on the Security of and in the Use of ICTs 2021-2025 as the sole global and inclusive mechanism on this matter, and we underline our common purpose to a successful finalization of its work this July. We reaffirm our commitment to the establishment, by consensus, of a single-track, state-led, permanent mechanism on this issue under the auspices of the United Nations, reporting to the First Committee of the UNGA, recognizing the importance of the principle of consensus regarding both the establishment of the future mechanism itself as well as the decision-making processes of the mechanism. We also acknowledge the progress made through the BRICS Working Group on Security in the Use of ICTs in areas such as policy exchanges, cooperation between Computer Emergency Response Teams (CERTs), law enforcement cooperation and joint research and development. In this regard, we welcome the negotiation of the BRICS memoranda of understanding on law enforcement cooperation and on multilateral cooperation among CERTs. We underscore the importance of strengthening academic cooperation and sharing information on opportunities for exchange programs, in line with the Roadmap of Practical Cooperation on Ensuring Security in the Use of ICTs and its progress report.

41. We commend the adoption by the General Assembly of the United Nations Convention against Cybercrime, a landmark multilateral achievement which will constitute an effective tool and the necessary legal framework for international cooperation in preventing and combating cybercrime and in ensuring the timely and lawful collection and sharing of evidence in electronic form of any serious crimes that may be committed through the use of ICT systems. We highlight the important contribution of BRICS countries to its adoption since it was first proposed. We call upon all States to sign it at the earliest opportunity, in Hanoi in 2025, and ratify it, in accordance with domestic laws, processes and procedures, as soon as possible in order to ensure its rapid entry into force, as well as to continue their engagement in the ad Hoc Committee, in accordance with General Assembly resolutions 74/247 and 75/282, with a view to negotiating a draft protocol supplementary to the Convention, addressing, inter alia, additional criminal offences as appropriate.

### **Deepening International Economic, Trade and Financial Cooperation**

42. We welcome the results of the “Strategy for BRICS Economic Partnership 2025”. The Strategy provided guidance and set the framework for the BRICS cooperation and collaboration on sectoral developments, strategies, programs and roadmaps by members. We look forward to the conclusion and implementation of the Strategy for BRICS Economic Partnership 2030, which will aim at consolidating mandates and guiding

principles for the cooperation of the BRICS on issues relating to Multilateral Trading System, Digital Economy, International Trade, Financial Cooperation and Trade and Sustainable Development.

43. As we commend the adoption of the BRICS Trade and Sustainable Development Framework, we reaffirm our commitment to strengthen cooperation in trade with a view to promoting inclusive growth and sustainable development. We reiterate the importance of ensuring that trade and sustainable development policies are mutually supportive, and aligned with WTO rules.

44. We welcome the discussions of the BRICS Task Force on PPPs and Infrastructure regarding the mitigation of exchange rate risk and the preparation of projects for climate-resilient infrastructure, aiming to improve project readiness and increase private investment. Additionally, we welcome ongoing discussions on an information hub for infrastructure projects that can foster collaboration and enhance information sharing, and we encourage the Task Force to further explore this initiative.

45. As the New Development Bank is set to embark on its second golden decade of high-quality development, we recognize and support its growing role as a robust and strategic agent of development and modernization in the Global South. We welcome the Bank's steady expansion of its capacity to mobilize resources, foster innovation, expand local currency financing, diversify funding sources, and support impactful projects that advance sustainable development, reduce inequality, and promote infrastructure investments and economic integration. We also acknowledge and encourage the ongoing expansion of its membership and the strengthening of its governance framework, which enhance the Bank's institutional resilience and operational effectiveness, to continue executing its purpose and functions in a fair and non-discriminatory manner. We strongly support the further expansion of NDB membership and expedited consideration of applications of interested BRICS countries, in line with the NDB General Strategy and related policies. We fully support the leadership of President Dilma Rousseff, whose reappointment received strong backing from all members, and we welcome the Bank's firm progress toward its consolidation as a global institution for development and stability. This trajectory reflects our shared commitment to strengthening financial mechanisms that promote inclusive and sustainable development in the Global South.

46. We welcome the valuable contribution of the BRICS Think Tank Network for Finance (BTTNF) to foster collaboration among academia, policymakers, and leading researchers and welcome the work program and the priorities defined within the group.

47. We welcome the constructive discussions held in the first semester of 2025 on the concept of the New Investment Platform (NIP) and acknowledge the progress achieved under the Brazilian Chairship. We look forward to the continuation of technical-level efforts throughout the second semester of 2025, involving Finance Ministries and Central Banks, to further discuss and build consensus on the Platform, with the aim that these ongoing deliberations will pave the way for more consistent and meaningful progress.

48. We have commenced the discussions to establish a BRICS Multilateral Guarantees (BMG) initiative, in response to our emphasis on strengthening financial resilience and mobilizing private investment for infrastructure and sustainable development. The BMG aims to offer tailored guarantee instruments to de-risk strategic investment and improve

creditworthiness in the BRICS and the Global South. Building on the lessons of international experiences, we agreed on the guidelines to incubate the BMG within the NDB as a pilot initiative, starting with its members, without additional capital contributions. We look forward to developing this pilot initiative throughout 2025 with a view to reporting on progress at the 2026 BRICS Summit.

49. We welcome the BRICS Interbank Cooperation Mechanism (ICM) focus on facilitating and expanding innovative financial practices and approaches for projects and programmes, including finding acceptable mechanisms of financing in local currencies. We welcome a continued dialogue between the ICM and the NDB.

50. We task our ministers of finance and central bank governors, as appropriate, to continue the discussion on the BRICS Cross-Border Payments Initiative, and acknowledge the progress made by the BRICS Payment Task Force (BPTF) in identifying possible pathways to support the continuation of discussions on the potential for greater interoperability of BRICS payment systems. In this regard, we welcome the “Technical Report: BRICS Cross-border Payments System”, which reflects members’ revealed preferences, and should play a pivotal role in our efforts to facilitate fast, low-cost, more accessible, efficient, transparent, and safe cross-border payments among BRICS countries and other nations and which can support greater trade and investment flows.

51. We welcome discussions to enhance BRICS members’ (re)insurance capacity, with the voluntary participation of relevant stakeholders, comprising regulators, reinsurance companies from BRICS countries and the BRICS Business Council through the task force endorsed by our Finance Ministers. We also encourage discussions to explore appropriate formats for further technical dialogue on settlement and depositary infrastructure among relevant stakeholders.

52. We acknowledge the continued collaboration under the BRICS Rapid Information Security Channel (BRISC) on common priorities in information security and financial technology. We also recognize the BRICS Fintech Innovation Hub’s role in advancing cooperation on financial innovation and the responsible use of emerging technologies.

53. We welcome the progress on the Contingent Reserve Arrangement (CRA), including the consensus reached by the Technical Team on the proposal for the revised Treaty and regulations. We support efforts to enhance the CRA’s flexibility and effectiveness, notably through the inclusion of eligible payment currencies and improved risk management. We also value the participation of new BRICS members who have expressed interest in joining the CRA and we are committed to onboarding them on a voluntary basis and according to country-specific circumstances.

54. We commit to ensuring supply chain resilience, with particular attention to the needs of developing countries, guided by the principles of efficiency, transparency, modernization, inclusivity, and sustainability, in line with our respective national sustainable development strategies. We recall the relevance of further promoting the active engagement of the private sector, supporting the development and promotion of micro, small and medium enterprises (MSMEs) and fostering a more resilient and dynamic global trade ecosystem. We intend to further exchange best practices of supporting MSMEs, including through digital services and platforms aimed at simplifying business operations.

55. We welcome the initiative of the Brazilian Chairship to launch the BRICS Seminar on Sustainable Government Procurement as a platform for knowledge exchange and South-South cooperation. We acknowledge the strategic role of government procurement in facilitating economic and trade cooperation, promoting sustainable development, supporting industrial policy, and promoting inclusive growth. We note with appreciation the engagement of BRICS and partner countries in sharing national experiences, policy innovations, and challenges related to the use of procurement as a development tool. We encourage the continuity of this regular dialogue under future Chairships.

56. We reaffirm our support of the Kimberley Process (KP) as the sole global intergovernmental certification scheme, regulating trade in rough diamonds, and emphasize our commitment to preventing conflict diamonds from entering the markets. We welcome the UAE's efforts as custodian chair of the Kimberley Process in 2025 and commend ongoing efforts to promote sustainable development of the global diamond industry. We will continue to examine viable mechanisms to promote trade in diamond and precious metals within BRICS and in the global market.

57. We acknowledge that the Partnership on the New Industrial Revolution (PartNIR) serves as a guiding platform to identify interests, challenges, and opportunities in the rapidly evolving industrial landscape and capacity building in the field of industry while supporting the continuity of BRICS industrial cooperation through a structured framework for sustained collaboration. In this regard, we commend the approval of the Terms of Reference for the Intelligent Manufacturing and Robotics Working Group, the Digital Transformation of Industry Working Group and the Small and Medium Enterprises Working Group. We also commend the approval of the first BRICS SME Working Group Plan of Action (2025–2030), which represents a significant milestone in advancing structured cooperation in the SME sector among BRICS countries. We welcome the launch of the BRICS Center for Industrial Competences (BCIC) in cooperation with United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO) to jointly support the development of Industry 4.0 skills among the BRICS countries and to promote partnerships and increased productivity in the New Industrial Revolution. We encourage members to join the BCIC to participate in the BCIC's activities, including the registration of companies on its electronic platform for further BRICS partnerships. We also welcome the establishment of the China Centre for BRICS Industrial Competences (CCBIC). We appreciate the efforts of the BRICS PartNIR Innovation Center (BPIC) in organizing events including BRICS Forum on PartNIR, BRICS Industrial Innovation Contest, BRICS Exhibition on New Industrial Revolution, and the BPIC Training Programmes over the past 5 years, and welcome the establishment of the scholarship of BPIC Training Programmes. We acknowledge that under the Brazilian Chairship, the BRICS Artificial Intelligence High-Level Forum, co-hosted by China and organized by China-BRICS Artificial Intelligence Development and Cooperation Center, has been held in Brasilia during the 9th BRICS Industry Ministers Meeting. We recognize the progress achieved in the implementation of the BRICS Action Plan for Innovation 2021-2024, which included the launching of the BRICS Startup Forum in January 2025, under the leadership of India, and appreciate the launch of its BRICS Startup Knowledge Hub, to foster collaboration and deeper engagement among the startup ecosystems of the BRICS countries.

58. Recognising the importance of creating an enabling, inclusive, and secure digital economy and that digital connectivity is an essential prerequisite for digital transformation as well as social and economic growth, we emphasize the need to strengthen cooperation among BRICS countries. We acknowledge that resilient, safe, inclusive and interoperable digital public infrastructure has the potential to deliver services at scale and increase social and economic opportunities for all.

59. We encourage BRICS members to explore the possibility for joint action in the field of digital infrastructure to ensure the integrity, stability of the functioning and security of national segments of Internet while avoiding Internet fragmentation and respecting national legislative frameworks regarding any aspects of Internet use, including security ones.

60. We appreciate the efforts by the Brazilian Chairship in organizing the Webinar on Digital Transformation and Meaningful Connectivity, and encourage continued knowledge sharing and policy exchange to facilitate the adoption of ICTs to ensure inclusive, accessible and scalable digital services, across different sectors such as agriculture, manufacturing, transportation, health, education and financing, tailored to different needs of each country. We appreciate the efforts made by India for organizing the Capacity Building Sessions on Digital Transformation in BRICS as a side-event and encourage BRICS members to continue promoting side events.

61. We acknowledge the holding of the BRICS Forum on Future Networks Innovation in 2025, hosted by China and Brazil. We welcome the adoption of the Terms of Reference of the Study Groups on AI, Next Generation Communications, Internet Application in Industry 4.0 and EMF Exposure by the Council of the BRICS Institute of Future Networks as well as the nomination of their chairs and vice-chairs. We look forward to the concrete outcomes by these BIFN Study Groups. We also acknowledge the progress made on the issue of Child Online Protection, including the development of new mechanisms to enhance cooperation in this field through the exchange of knowledge and best practice among member states. We appreciate the efforts by the Brazilian Chairship in organizing the panel discussion on digital public goods and digital public infrastructure, during the Digital BRICS Forum, and encourage continued knowledge sharing and policy exchange. We also note the holding of meeting of the Focus Group on Digital Public Infrastructure, and welcome the adoption of its Terms of Reference.

62. We reaffirm our commitment to make joint efforts to achieve the rational, efficient, equitable, fair, effective and economical use of spectrum and associated satellite orbits, we encourage further cooperation among BRICS members to facilitate cooperation on space sustainability. We note with satisfaction that the Brazilian chairship will produce a report with proposals on future BRICS work on Sustainable Space Connectivity Resources for consideration and future actions. We affirm that the technical reach of space telecommunications systems should not bypass state sovereignty in any case, and the provision of satellite services within the territory of a state should be carried out only if authorized by that state. We welcome the development of the BRICS White Paper on Sustainable Space Connectivity Resources.

63. We recognize the importance of international cooperation for the peaceful exploration and uses of outer space and reiterate our commitment to reducing existing asymmetries in space capabilities among BRICS countries. We recognize that strengthening the

exchange of data, expertise and best practices in space activities constitutes an important element in advancing ongoing cooperation between our space agencies and fostering sustainable progress. We welcome the proposal for a collaborative newsletter as a mechanism to facilitate information exchange and promote capacity building initiatives. We agree, in principle, to establish the BRICS Space Council and to continue working on its Terms of Reference to facilitate further cooperation in the field of space activities within the group. We note that agencies have agreed to advance discussions on a joint observation exercise to support UNFCCC COP30.

64. We underscore the key role of the G20 as the premier global forum for international economic cooperation that provides a platform for dialogue of both developed and emerging economies on an equal and mutually beneficial footing for jointly seeking shared solutions to global challenges and fostering multipolar world. We recognize the importance of the continued and productive functioning of the G20, based on consensus and with a focus on result-oriented outcomes. We reiterate our strong support to the South African presidency and look forward to the successful hosting of the G20 Leaders' Summit in Johannesburg in November 2025 under the South African Presidency and reaffirm our willingness to coordinate positions in order to enhance inclusiveness and amplify the voice of the Global South in the global economic governance system so it adequately reflects EMDEs' rising weight in the global economy and further integrate their priorities in the G20 agenda through the consecutive G20 presidencies of BRICS member states – Indonesia, India, Brazil and South Africa – during 2022-2025 and beyond. We salute strengthening of the EMDEs' voice in the G20 through the accession of the African Union during India's presidency of G20 in 2023 and the invitation of the NDB during Brazilian and South African presidencies including by their closer interaction and alignment.

65. We note that high debt levels in some countries reduce the fiscal space needed to address ongoing development challenges aggravated by spillover effects from external shocks, particularly from fluctuations in financial and monetary policies in some advanced economies as well as the inherent problems with the international financial architecture. High interest rates and tighter financing conditions worsen debt vulnerabilities in many countries. We believe it is necessary to address the international debt properly and in a holistic manner to support economic recovery and sustainable development, taking into account each nation's laws and internal procedures, accompanied by sustainable external debt and fiscal prudence. We recognise the need to address in an effective, comprehensive and systematic manner the debt vulnerabilities of both low and middle income countries. One of the instruments, amongst others, to collectively address debt vulnerabilities is through predictable, orderly, timely and coordinated implementation of the G20 Common Framework for Debt Treatment with the participation of official bilateral creditors, private creditors and Multilateral Development Banks (MDBs) in line with the principle of joint action and fair burden-sharing. We remain engaged in enhancing coordination between debtors and official bilateral, multilateral and private creditors to help Emerging Markets and Developing Economies (EMDEs) address debt issues in a fair and constructive way from a development perspective.

66. Recognizing the central role of data to modern life as a catalyst for innovation-driven development and the formulation of informed and inclusive public policies, we reaffirm the need for a common and principle-based interoperable framework on data governance,



including respect for national data sovereignty, efficient, convenient, safe and mutually agreed cross-border data flows and ethical use of data, to address the principles of collection, recording, storage, organization, processing and transfer of data; protect personal information rights and interests, including individual privacy; promote the interoperability of national data policy regulations; and distribute the monetary and non-monetary benefits of data among developing countries and their citizens. In this regard, we welcome the conclusion of the “BRICS Data Economy Governance Understanding” as a roadmap to leverage the data economy across BRICS in order to promote safe access to technology, safeguard individual and national interests, promote the digitalization of industry and services, expansion of intra-BRICS trade.

67. We emphasize that e-commerce has become an important driver of global economic growth, fostering international trade in goods and services, ensuring foreign investment flows and facilitating innovation. We are resolved to further increase trust in e-commerce and ensure full-fledged protection of the rights of e-commerce parties, by intensifying cooperation in the realms of utilizing digital technologies for consumer rights protection, exploring online dispute resolution tools and creating enabling environment for businesses to enter global markets, exchanging views on the issue of small value product trade through the cross-border e-commerce.

68. We continue to recognise the effectiveness of Special Economic Zones (SEZs) of the BRICS countries as a well-established mechanism for trade and industrial cooperation and the facilitation of manufacturing, including those but not limited to high-tech sectors of the economy, IT and IT enabled services, tourism, port and transport infrastructure, development and commercialization of technologies as well as for the production of new types of value-added products. We also acknowledge that Special Economic Zones provide immense opportunities for encouraging additional investment in priority areas of economic development and recognize the potential of SEZs as a tool to stimulate economic growth and create new job opportunities, specially, but not limited to, in high tech and infrastructure sectors.

69. We recognize that BRICS countries are key players in world food production and, as such, have a critical role in enhancing agricultural productivity and sustainability, and ensuring global food security and nutrition. We also recognize that family farmers, including smallholders, pastoralists, artisanal and small-scale fishers and aquaculture producers, indigenous peoples and local communities, women and youth, are essential stakeholders of agriculture and food systems. We welcome ongoing efforts to promote sustainability, inclusivity, and equitable market access in the global sustainable vegetable oils sector. We call for continued collaboration among BRICS countries and partners to support smallholder farmers, ensure fair pricing, and foster resilient and sustainable agricultural value chains. We recognize that mechanization and technological innovation in small-scale agriculture, including information and digital innovations, are strategic opportunities for reducing the drudgery of work, increasing productivity and income, enhancing resilience, and accelerating the sustainable transition.

70. We emphasize the importance of ensuring food security and nutrition and mitigating the impacts of acute food price volatility, as well as abrupt supply crises, including fertilizers shortage. In this regard, we acknowledge the importance of continued elaboration of the initiative to establish a grain trading platform within BRICS (the BRICS Grain Exchange) and its subsequent development, and expanding into other agricultural products and commodities. We support further discussions on national

policies and on international coordination that enhance food availability, accessibility, utilization, stability and affordability, as well as relevant agricultural and food production inputs in BRICS and other developing countries – including those that strengthen national capacities to respond to supply disruptions, such as national food reserve systems. Under exceptional circumstances of supply shortages or acute food price spikes affecting a BRICS member, we recognize that cooperation initiatives can facilitate emergency responses and natural disaster management, guided by national priorities and consistent with the World Trade Organization rules. None of these measures should lead to unfair trade practices or violations of international trade norms, as their sole purpose is to support food security and nutrition, including through international solidarity. We recognize the importance of reducing food loss and waste, and ensuring animal and plant health through joint prevention and control of dangerous diseases and pests, including by increasing transparency in the movement of food and feed, with an unified electronic certification system for animal and plant products as an important tool.

71. We call for further cooperation in agriculture, fisheries and aquaculture in order to end hunger and eliminate all forms of malnutrition and eradicate poverty, promote sustainable agriculture and rural development, through implement technologies and innovation, and ensure food security, incentivize investments in the local production of machinery and equipment that is tailored to the specific needs and affordable for small-scale and family farmers as well as fisheries and aquaculture workers. Building on the Deccan High-Level Principles on Food Security and Nutrition, we also recognize the Global Alliance Against Hunger and Poverty as an important initiative to promote international cooperation. We also look forward to advance discussions on facilitating intra-BRICS trade of agricultural products, agricultural and food production inputs, and improve value chains and sustainable agricultural practices. We reaffirm the need to develop a fair agricultural trading system and implement resilient and sustainable agriculture. We commit to minimize disruptions and promote rules-based trade in agriculture and fertilizers with the view to ensure a continuous flow of food and essential inputs for agricultural production which should be exempted from undue restrictive economic measures, inconsistent with WTO rules, including those affecting producers and exporters of agricultural products as well as business services with regard to international shipments. We welcome the launch of the BRICS Partnership for Land Restoration, in line with the framework of the UNCCD, and the first BRICS AWG Report on the Contributions to Implementing the Global Alliance against Hunger and Poverty.

72. We reaffirm our commitment to further advance and develop cooperation in the field of competition law and policy among BRICS countries with a view to contribute to sustainable development of markets, effective combatting anticompetitive crossborder practices, promoting healthy market environment. We acknowledge the role of the BRICS International Competition Law and Policy Center activities in knowledge creation and knowledge sharing amongst BRICS competition authorities and the importance to ensure the most favorable conditions for the competition law development of BRICS economies and work towards the elimination of monopoly barriers in socially important markets. We welcome holding of the IX BRICS International Competition Conference in 2025 in South Africa.

73. We welcome the adoption of the Brasilia Declaration of the Meeting of Heads of BRICS National standardization bodies, which acknowledges the significant benefits of cooperation in this field, including the facilitation of economic relations and trade, the advancement of consumer safety, and the promotion of sustainable development. We

encourage the timely conclusion of the negotiations of the Memorandum of Understanding on Cooperation in the Field of Standardization, as the next milestone towards fostering standardization and metrology as effective tools to help eliminate barriers to trade and facilitate the cross-border movement of goods and services.

74. We commend the continuous exchange of best practices between the Supreme Audit Institutions of the BRICS countries. Taking into account the role of SAIs in promoting good governance and effectiveness of public policies, we recognize the importance of SAIs' taking full advantage of the opportunities offered by the digital technologies, including the AI, in their work, while minimizing the risks created by these technologies.

75. Recognizing the importance of official statistics for effective decision-making, we express our support to enhance the statistical cooperation within BRICS, including the annual release of the BRICS Joint Statistical Publication and the BRICS Joint Statistical Publication Snapshot, as well as exchange of best practices in the areas of official statistics in the BRICS countries.

76. We will continue to cooperate to promote a fair, more inclusive, stable, and efficient international tax system fit for the 21st century. We restate our commitment to tax transparency and to fostering global dialogue on effective and fair taxation, enhancing progressivity and contributing to the efforts to reduce inequality. We aim to deepen global coordination between tax authorities, improve domestic revenue mobilization, provide fair allocation of taxing rights and combat tax evasion and tax-related illicit financial flows. In this regard, we welcome the BRICS Joint Statement in support of the United Nations Framework Convention on International Tax Cooperation and will continue to engage constructively in the negotiations of the UN Convention and its protocols. We welcome the progress in customs cooperation, notably the initiatives for implementing the Joint Action Plan towards Mutual Recognition of the Authorized Economic Operator programs, subject to such exceptions, modifications or adaptations as agreed on bilaterally. A key development in customs cooperation is the establishment of BRICS Customs Centers of Excellence and the development of Smart Customs, which we will continue to encourage.

77. We highlight the fruitful cooperation carried out under IP BRICS by Intellectual Property (IP) Offices. We support achieving more practical outcomes under 8 cooperation streams such as promotion of IP awareness and examiners' training guided by the *Operational Guideline Framework*, seeking a strong contribution for IP to economic and social development. We welcome the adoption of the WIPO Treaty on Intellectual Property, Genetic Resources and Associated Traditional Knowledge and the Riyadh Design Law Treaty on which BRICS countries have considerable interest and commit to enhanced collaboration among BRICS countries. We recognize the importance of collaborating on promoting respect for the intellectual property rights used in the digital environment, including for artificial intelligence training purposes, as well as fair remuneration to right holders, while respecting the needs and priorities of developing countries. With the rise of application of AI, we recognize risks relating to misappropriation and misrepresentation of knowledge, heritage, and cultural values that are insufficiently represented in data sets and AI models.

78. We celebrate the ten-year milestone of cooperation in Science, Technology and Innovation (STI) within BRICS, acknowledging the significant achievements made since

the signing of the Memorandum of Understanding on Cooperation in STI, in 2015, by the STI Ministers of Brazil, Russia, India, China and South Africa. We welcome the ongoing process of incorporation of new members to the Memorandum through its Accession Protocol. We reaffirm that the ultimate purpose of BRICS cooperation in STI is to forge new productive forces for development of BRICS countries and advance sustainable development in its three dimensions, through a partnership rooted in collaboration, contributing to the strengthening of friendship, mutual understanding, and peaceful relations among BRICS nations.

79. We commend the work of the BRICS STI Working Groups. We appreciate the Brazilian proposal to consider artificial intelligence, quantum technologies and innovation in industry as priorities in 2025, in a novel context of rapid advancement of emerging technologies and national reindustrialization processes. We welcome the BRICS Action Plan for Innovation 2025–2030, as well as the launching of the seventh Joint Call for Research Projects and the first Joint Call for Innovation Projects. We welcome the Brazilian proposal to discuss the undertaking, in 2025, of a “Technical and Economic Feasibility Study” for establishing a high-speed communication network through submarine cables between BRICS countries. We encourage all BRICS members to promote the participation of young scientists and startups through initiatives such as the Young Scientists Forum, which comes to its 10th edition this year, and the Young Innovators Prize. We welcome advancing the cooperative agenda of deep-sea joint research, including the elaboration of the terms of reference that will complete the establishment of the BRICS Deep-Sea Resource International Research Center. We reaffirm commitment to develop cooperation in the field of humanities and welcome the holding of the Forum on social sciences and humanities research in Russia in 2025.

80. Acknowledging that the BRICS countries have immense potential in the tourism sector and offer promising possibilities for the growth and development of sustainable and resilient tourism, including ecotourism – further enhanced by membership expansion in 2024, which provided new opportunities for collaboration and for boosting intra-BRICS travel –, we welcome the results of the Tourism Working Group, notably: the promotion of Regional Tourism strategies to strengthen synergies and complementarities among member states; the advancement of Sustainable, Resilient and Regenerative Tourism as a means to tackle shared challenges; and the formulation of strategic guidelines to harness the potential of Digital Nomads as agents of local development and cultural exchange. We reaffirm our commitment to expanding BRICS cooperation, fostering innovation, and ensuring that tourism contributes meaningfully to the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals.

### **Combating Climate Change and Promoting Sustainable, Fair and Inclusive Development**

81. We stress our commitment to uphold multilateralism as necessary to address challenges threatening our shared planet and future such as climate change. We resolve to remain united in the pursuit of the purpose and goals of the Paris Agreement and the objectives of the UNFCCC and call on all countries to uphold their existing commitment as Parties to the UNFCCC and its Paris Agreement and to maintain and scale up their effort to combat climate change. We further reaffirm our steadfast commitment, in pursuit of the objective of UNFCCC, to tackle climate change by strengthening the full and effective implementation of the Paris Agreement, including its provisions related to

mitigation, adaptation and the provision of means of implementation to developing countries, reflecting equity and the principle of common but differentiated responsibilities and respective capabilities, in light of different national circumstances. In this regard, we express our full support to the Presidency of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) COP-30, which will take place in the city of Belem, in Brazil, highlighting the importance of action and cooperation on all pillars of the UNFCCC as applicable considering each country's membership and commitments thereunder. We also underscore our full commitment to a successful COP30 that will catalize progress in implementing the UNFCCC and its Paris Agreement. We welcome India's Candidacy to host COP 33 in 2028.

82. We call for a strengthened global response to climate change, in the context of sustainable development and poverty eradication. Understanding the urgency of climate change, we endorse the BRICS Climate Leadership Agenda as a statement of our resolve to exercise collective leadership through mutual empowerment, by advancing solutions that support BRICS development needs and priorities, while accelerating action and enhancing cooperation towards the full implementation of the UNFCCC and its Paris Agreement. We underscore that this outcome demonstrates that multilateralism and Global South cooperation can shape a more inclusive and sustainable governance for a better future.

83. We emphasize that ensuring accessible, timely and affordable climate finance for developing countries is critical for enabling just transitions pathways that combine climate action with sustainable development. We underscore that the provision and mobilization of resources under the UNFCCC and its Paris Agreement is a responsibility of developed countries towards developing countries. Committed to multilateralism and international cooperation and determined to lead a global mobilization for a fairer and more sustainable International Monetary and Financial System, we have adopted the Leaders' Framework Declaration on Climate Finance, leveraging our economic strength and innovation capacity to demonstrate that ambitious climate action can advance prosperity and a better future for everyone. We further reiterate that the objectives, principles and provisions of the UNFCCC, its Kyoto Protocol and Paris Agreement, including its principles of equity and common but differentiated responsibilities and respective capabilities in the light of different national circumstances, must be honoured.

84. We encourage, as appropriate, the use of mutually recognized methodologies and standards for assessing greenhouse gas emissions. We appreciate the adoption of the BRICS Principles for Fair, Inclusive and Transparent Carbon Accounting in Product and Facility Footprints Principles as an important BRICS contribution towards a more balanced international approach to guide the design of carbon accounting-based systems, standards and methodologies and underscored the value of identifying knowledge gaps that could be addressed through further work, such as the contextualization of these principles within specific sectors and for all greenhouse gases and their potential for supporting policy frameworks involving carbon accounting. We note the adoption of the BRICS Report on Intellectual Property Options to Enhance Climate Change Related Technology Cooperation as a promising mapping of climate change related cooperative arrangements with potential for future consideration by BRICS member countries, with the aim of supporting and accelerating the development and transfer of technology as a critical enabler of climate action.

85. We strongly call for broad cooperation to promote a supportive and open international economic system that would lead to sustainable economic growth and development in all countries, particularly developing countries, thus enabling them better to address the problems of climate change, and stress that measures taken to combat climate change, including unilateral ones, should not constitute a means of arbitrary or unjustifiable discrimination or a disguised restriction on international trade. Recognizing the opportunities and challenges presented by measures of a hybrid legal nature combining trade and environmental dimensions, they expressed strong concern and opposed the increasing use of unilateral trade measures introduced in the context of environmental objectives and welcomed the establishment of the BRICS Laboratory for Trade, Climate Change and Sustainable Development as a platform for facilitating collaboration on mutually supportive approaches to trade and environmental policy, ensuring that BRICS members can better harness the benefits of trade, jointly respond to unilateral measures and contribute to global efforts against climate change.

86. We welcome the adoption of the Terms of Reference for the BRICS Climate Research Platform and recognize it as a meaningful contribution to enhance the scientific and expert exchange of views, knowledge and best practices among BRICS member countries.

87. We acknowledge Article 6 of the Paris Agreement, as an important instrument for fostering higher ambition in mitigation actions and to promote sustainable development and environmental integrity, by offering pathways to steer private and public investment towards climate efforts. By strengthening these mechanisms, we can catalyze private sector engagement, encourage technology transfer, and complement public finance flows. We note the provisions of the Memorandum of Understanding on the BRICS Carbon Markets Partnership and its value for promoting cooperation in the field of carbon markets, with a specific focus on capacity building and exchange of experiences. We look forward to its implementation as a cooperative approach to support members in their climate strategies, including in complementing mitigation efforts and mobilizing needed resources.

88. We reject unilateral, punitive and discriminatory protectionist measures, that are not in line with international law, under the pretext of environmental concerns, such as unilateral and discriminatory carbon border adjustment mechanisms (CBAMs), deforestation regulation, due diligence requirements, taxes and other measures and reconfirm our full support for the call in COP28 related to avoidance of unilateral trade measures based on climate or environment. We also oppose unilateral protectionist measures, which deliberately disrupt the global supply and production chains and distort competition.

89. Acknowledging our shared responsibility as both major producers and consumers of energy, we reaffirm our commitment to ensure just and inclusive energy transitions, in line with national circumstances, and universal access to affordable, reliable, sustainable, and modern energy for all, as outlined in Sustainable Development Goal 7 (SDG7). In this regard, we call for strengthened cooperation among BRICS countries to accelerate progress towards that goal. With this in mind, we welcome the fruitful work of the BRICS Committee of Senior Energy Officials and the BRICS Energy Research Cooperation Platform, and take note of the updated Roadmap for BRICS Energy Cooperation 2025–2030 and of the ongoing elaboration of the Reports on Access to Energy Services and New and Sustainable Fuels. We also take note of the 7th BRICS Youth Energy Summit, held on the 9 and 10 June in Brasília.

90. We recognize that energy security is a crucial foundation for social and economic development, national security and the welfare of all nations. We highlight the need to enhance energy security by ensuring energy market stability and maintaining uninterrupted flows of energy from diverse sources, strengthening value chains, ensuring resilience and protection of critical energy infrastructure, including cross-border infrastructure. We acknowledge fossil fuels will still play an important role in the world's energy mix, particularly for emerging markets and developing economies, and we recognize the need to promote just, orderly, equitable and inclusive energy transitions and reduce GHG emissions in line with our climate goals and observing SDG7, and the principles of technological neutrality and common but differentiated responsibilities and respective capabilities taking into account national circumstances, needs and priorities. Recognizing the interconnection between addressing climate change and promoting energy transitions, we reiterate our shared commitment to fostering economic development in a sustainable way in line with the UNFCCC, its Paris Agreement, and national circumstances.

91. We underscore the need to catalyse the cooperation in access to finance and scale up investment for bridging the funding gap for energy transitions and call for allocating adequate, predictable and accessible low-cost and concessional finance from developed to developing countries for just and inclusive energy transitions in line with the Paris Agreement and its principles, while considering the concept of transitional financing. We stress that non-discriminatory access to markets, technologies and low-interest finance is essential for sustainable development.

92. We recognize the key role of critical minerals for the development of zero- and low-emission energy technologies, energy security, and resilience of energy supply chains. We affirm the need to promote reliable, responsible, diversified, resilient, fair, sustainable, and just supply chains of such minerals to guarantee benefit sharing, value addition and economic diversification in resource-rich countries, while fully preserving sovereign rights over their mineral resources, as well as their right to adopt, maintain and enforce measures necessary to pursue legitimate public policy objectives.

93. We affirm that cooperation within and through BRICS is fundamental to contributing to the global effort towards a sustainable future and equitable and just transitions for all. We underscore the importance of the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity, of the fair, equitable sharing of benefits arising from the utilization of genetic resources and of the effective implementation of the Convention on Biological Diversity, its Protocols, and its Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework. We appreciated the establishment of the Kunming Biodiversity Fund and the contribution made by the Government of China and recognized its significant role in supporting developing countries for their biodiversity conservation and the great contribution to the implementation of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework. We recognize the active role of BRICS countries in the COP16 negotiations, particularly in advancing resource mobilization. We urge developed countries to ensure the provision of adequate, effective, predictable, timely and accessible financial resources to developing countries, as well as to improve capacity building, development and transfer of technology to developing countries for the conservation, sustainable use and fair and equitable sharing of benefits arising from the use of biodiversity. We underscore the critical role of all types of forests, including tropical forests, for conserving biodiversity, preserving water basins and soils and providing timber and non-timber forest products of high value for economic sectors, regulating hydrological cycles, as well as combatting desertification and serving

as vital carbon sinks. We also take note of the “United for Our Forests” initiative, which promotes the conservation, sustainable management, and restoration of these essential tropical ecosystems. While appreciating the efforts of our countries to preserve rare species and noting the high vulnerability of big cats, we take note of the Republic of India’s initiative to create an international Big Cats Alliance and encourage BRICS countries to work together to the conservation of big cats.

94. We welcome the plans to launch the Tropical Forest Forever Facility in Belém, at COP30, and recognize it as an innovative mechanism designed to mobilize long-term, results-based financing for tropical forest conservation. We encouraged potential donor countries to announce ambitious contributions, in order to ensure the Facility’s capitalization and timely operationalization.

95. We reaffirm that BRICS countries have considerable expertise in sustainable forest management and governance, making use of scientific research and advanced technology, as well as good experience in successfully addressing forest-related challenges and goals, and encourage enhancing BRICS cooperation in sharing experience and conducting research related to forestry and other forest-related issues.

96. We highlight the importance of advancing environmental cooperation under the Memorandum of Understanding on Environmental Cooperation and other cooperation mechanisms developed on the BRICS environmental track, including the BRICS Environmentally Sound Technology Platform (BEST) "BRICS Clean Rivers" and "BRICS Partnership for Urban Environmental Sustainability". As we realize the importance of involving various segments of society in solving environmental problems, we intend to further explore the possibility of creating a "BRICS Youth Environmental Network".

97. We recognize that desertification, land degradation, and drought, as well as sand and dust storms, are posing serious threats to the well-being and livelihoods of peoples, in particular people in vulnerable situations, including indigenous peoples and local communities. We urge developed countries to increase financial resources to adequately implement the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in Those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, Particularly in Africa (UNCCD), and to bolster support for developing countries in the pursuit of Land Degradation Neutrality (LDN), a key target 15.3, under Sustainable Development Goal 15.

98. We recognize BRICS countries can play a key role in fostering environmental resilience by addressing plastic pollution. We will continue engaging, in the spirit of collaboration and consensus-building, and with a sense of urgency and solidarity, in the ongoing negotiation for a fair, effective, and balanced international legally binding instrument on plastic pollution, including in the marine environment, taking into consideration the needs and priorities of the developing countries, as per the United Nations Environment Assembly resolution 5/14, without losing sight of the need for adequate means of implementation. The international instrument takes into account each country's national circumstances, capacities, and commitments, while aligning with the focus on sound plastic waste management through capacity building and the transfer of knowledge and technology and ensuring that it does not negatively impact national economies, particularly those of developing countries.



99. We reiterate our commitment to strengthening collaboration in environmental protection and sustainable development within the framework of BRICS, upholding multilateralism and strengthening global environmental governance. All measures taken to tackle climate change, biodiversity loss and pollution, including unilateral ones, must be designed, adopted and implemented in conformity with the principles and provisions of relevant multilateral environmental and trade-related agreements and must not constitute a means of arbitrary or unjustifiable discrimination or a disguised restriction on international trade.

100. We note the urgent need to reform the governance of the Global Environment Facility (GEF) to ensure a more balanced and equitable representation for developing countries and in line with the value of natural capital these countries uphold. We also support the simplification of procedures and the facilitation of access to resources, and the participation of those directly involved in the conservation and sustainable use of ecosystems, such as indigenous peoples and local communities, including through improved voice and vote mechanisms and equitable access to decision-making by developing countries.

101. We welcome the outcomes of the Second BRICS Transport Ministers' Meeting in Brasilia on 14 May 2025 and look forward to further promoting transport dialogue to meet demands of all stakeholders and to enhance the BRICS countries transport potential while also respecting the sovereignty and territorial integrity of all member states while carrying out transport cooperation. We reaffirm our commitment to develop sustainable and resilient transport infrastructure, recognizing its critical role in economic growth, connectivity, and environmental sustainability. We emphasize the importance of further development of urban public transport systems and the promotion of active mobility to create a more equitable, livable, healthy, conducive, and less congested urban environment. We also recognize the need to encourage the use of zero and low emission vehicles in urban mobility. We emphasize the importance of cooperation among BRICS members in the context of reducing carbon emissions in aviation and maritime transport. We recognize the importance of Sustainable Aviation Fuels (SAF), Lower Carbon Aviation Fuels (LCAF), and other Aviation Cleaner Energies as a pathway for reducing carbon emissions from international aviation. We encourage technological cooperation among BRICS countries, considering their national realities, in the development and deployment of cleaner aviation energies and associated technologies. We also emphasize cooperation to enhance air and maritime connectivity and promote decarbonization of maritime transport, as well as to strengthen initiatives in logistics integration and innovation.

### **Partnerships for the Promotion of Human, Social and Cultural Development**

102. We remain committed to strengthening BRICS cooperation on population matters, because the dynamics of population age structure change, and pose challenges as well as opportunities to socio-economic development, particularly with regard to the rights and benefits of women and persons with disabilities, youth development, employment and the future of work, urbanization, migration and ageing.

103. We reaffirm the need for all countries to cooperate in promoting and protecting human rights and fundamental freedoms under the principles of equality and mutual respect and to fight all forms of discrimination. We agree to continue to treat all human

rights including the right to development in a fair and equal manner, on the same footing and with the same emphasis. In this context, we agree to strengthen cooperation on issues of common interests, both within BRICS and in multilateral fora, taking into account the necessity to promote, protect and fulfil human rights in a non-selective, non-politicized and constructive manner and without double standards, constructive dialogue and cooperation. We call for the respect of democracy and human rights. In this regard, we underline that they should be implemented on the level of global governance as well as at national level. We reaffirm our commitment to ensuring the promotion and protection of democracy, human rights and fundamental freedoms for all with the aim to build a brighter shared future for the international community based on mutually beneficial cooperation.

104. We reiterate the need to intensify the fight against racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance as well as discrimination based on religion, faith or belief, and all their contemporary forms around the world, including the alarming trends of rising hate speech, disinformation and misinformation. We welcome the proclamation of a Second International Decade for People of African Descent (2025 – 2034), by the UN General Assembly. We welcome the decision of the African Union to designate 2025 as the year for “Justice for Africans and People of African Descent Through Reparations” and recognize the efforts of the African Union to tackle the destructive legacy of colonialism and the slave trade.

105. In the context of the 30th anniversary of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action, we reaffirm our commitment to advancing women’s rights and leadership across all sectors. We underline the importance of women’s empowerment and of ensuring their full, equal and meaningful participation in all spheres of society, including access to education and trading, and their active participation in decision-making processes, which are fundamental for the achievement of equality, development and peace. We emphasize the role of women and girls in sustainable development, climate action and entrepreneurship, especially in the Global South. We acknowledge discussions promoted under the Brazilian Chairship related to the impacts over women of online misogyny and disinformation and we underscore the need to ensure women’s safety, voice and active participation in bridging the digital divide, including the gender digital gap. We commit to advancing women’s full and equal participation in the economy through policy measures such as expanding access to affordable childcare, promoting women’s leadership in STEM sectors, and strengthening legal protections for women against discrimination and all forms of violence in the workplace.

106. We take note with appreciation of the progress achieved during the XV BRICS Health Ministers’ Meeting, held in Brasília on June 17, 2025, and the commitments made to strengthen health cooperation. We welcome fostering closer ties among BRICS health institutions and support the initiatives of the BRICS R&D Vaccine Center, including the Electronic R&D Stock, the operations of the BRICS TB Research Network, as well as initiatives to ensure the ethical and effective use of artificial intelligence and robust data governance in health systems. We reiterate the importance of these actions in promoting resilient, equitable, and inclusive health systems, aiming to achieve universal health coverage and ensuring fair and timely access to essential health goods and health care services, including medicines, vaccines, and diagnostics. We acknowledge that BRICS cooperation on countering TB and AMR as well as strengthening capacities in preventing communicable and noncommunicable diseases and other health issues experience sharing

including on traditional medicine systems, digital health greatly contributes to relevant international efforts. We recognize the BRICS Network of Research in Public Health Systems is a vital forum for collaboration among high-level public health organizations of the BRICS countries. We acknowledge the need for cooperation in the area of nuclear medicine and radio pharmacy, within the BRICS Nuclear Medicine Working Group. We also stress the importance of advancing voluntary regulatory convergence through the BRICS Medical Products Regulatory Authorities initiative.

107. We commend the efforts undertaken towards the development of the Partnership for the Elimination of Socially Determined Diseases. We launch this initiative recognizing it as a milestone that reflects our shared commitment to advancing health equity and strengthening the global health architecture. By prioritizing integrated, multisectoral responses, we aim to tackle the root causes of health disparities, such as poverty and social exclusion, enhancing cooperation, mobilizing resources, and fostering innovation to ensure a healthier future for all.

108. We recognize the fundamental role of primary health care as a key foundation for Universal Health Coverage and health system resilience, as well as on prevention and response to public health emergencies. We look forward to the successful holding of the 4th High-Level of the UN General Assembly on the Prevention and Control of Non-Communicable Diseases and the Promotion of Mental Health Wellbeing, which should discuss important aspects of the prevention, detection and treatment of these diseases.

109. We welcome the adoption of the BRICS Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET) Cooperation Alliance Charter at the Meeting of BRICS Ministers of Education. The Charter reaffirms our collective commitment to enhancing technical and vocational education and training, which remains a strategic priority in advancing sustainable development and promoting social inclusion across our nations. We further acknowledge with satisfaction the significant institutional strengthening of the BRICS Network University (BRICS-NU), which celebrates its 10th anniversary with improvements over the number of participating institutions per country, the involvement of new member states, and the diversification of thematic areas for cooperation. We recognize the important contributions of the BRICS-NU in fostering direct dialogue between our academic institutions and look forward to further strengthening these exchanges in the years ahead. We reaffirm our commitment to further explore comprehensive quality evaluation system for BRICS universities and ensure quality education for its recognition within BRICS.

110. We welcome the establishment of a BRICS platform on cultural and creative industries and creative economy within the BRICS Working Group on Culture; and encourage members, their respective cultural entities and financial institutions, to formulate programs to support and foster the cultural and creative economies of BRICS member countries, recognizing the growing economic weight and contribution of the cultural and creative sectors to the overall economy.

111. We stress the importance of the return of cultural property and heritage to their countries of origin and its potential for rebuilding international relations in a non-hierarchical, cooperative basis, and we recognise the need for a more robust international framework on the matter; as a path for promoting social cohesion, cultural and historical justice, reconciliation, and collective memory.

112. We stress our commitment to enhancing international cooperation in education, science, culture, communication and information in view of the complexity of contemporary challenges and transformations and in this regard note the relevance of the principles set forth in the UNESCO Constitution and its mandate to foster cooperation and peace through international collaboration that should be based on equality, dialogue, mandated programmatic activities and the spirit of consensus. We underscore the importance for the BRICS cooperation in the fields of preserving cultural heritage and culture. Recalling the UNESCO World Conference on Cultural Policies and Sustainable Development, and both the G20 New Delhi and Rio de Janeiro Leaders' Declarations, we recognize culture's power as a catalyst for sustainable development including creativity, innovation and inclusive economic growth, as well as its intrinsic value in nurturing solidarity, dialogue, collaboration and cooperation, in all dimensions and from all perspectives.

113. We emphasize that all BRICS countries have rich traditional sport culture and agree to support each other in the promotion of traditional, local and indigenous sports among BRICS countries and around the world. We also emphasize the importance of enhancing cooperation in various areas of sports, including the development of national, traditional and non-Olympic Sports, the encouragement of athletes to participate in international sporting events held on the territory of BRICS countries, and the exchange of views on issues of common concern in the field of physical culture and sports. We welcome the adoption of the Memorandum of Understanding on cooperation in the field of physical culture and sport during the BRICS Sports Ministers Meeting and acknowledge the requirement of a BRICS States Sport Cooperation Framework for supporting its implementation.

114. We commend the progress made by BRICS countries in promoting high-quality, full and productive employment through sustainable development and inclusive, human-centered labor markets. We recognize that Artificial Intelligence is transforming labor relations, creating new employment opportunities but also posing challenges such as job displacement and inequality. As women, youth, older workers, people with disabilities and other people in vulnerable situations are especially at risk from the adverse impacts of digital transitions, we commit to inclusive policies that harness technology responsibly to ensure AI for good and for all, taking into account national policies, regulations, and applicable international agreements, and to improve life-long learning to build digital skills, while strengthening social protection, protecting workers' rights and preserving the centrality of the human being. We recognize the critical importance of actively engaging key partners to promote social dialogue and create decent work in the context of addressing the impacts of climate change and achieving a just transition in all sectors, including the informal economy.

115. We reaffirm the importance of BRICS people-to-people exchanges in enhancing mutual understanding, friendship and cooperation. We acknowledge that people-to-people exchanges play an essential role in enriching our societies and developing our economies and appreciate the progress made under Brazil's Chairship in 2025, including the Parliamentary Forum, the Business Council, the Women's Business Alliance, the Youth Council, the Trade Union Forum, the Think Tank Council, the Academic Forum, the Deans Forum, the Civil Council, the Small and Medium Enterprises Forum, the Association of Cities and Municipalities, the Supreme Audit Institutions, the Legal

Forum, the BRICS Supreme Court Presidents Meeting and the Meeting of Heads of BRICS Prosecution Services.

116. We call for more efforts to respect diversity of cultures, highly value inheritance, innovation and creativity, jointly advocate robust international people-to-people exchanges and cooperation and recognize the adoption of the UNGA resolution A/res/78/286 entitled “International Day for Dialogue among Civilizations”.

117. We commend the successful holding of the XI BRICS Parliamentary Forum, including the Meeting of Women Parliamentarians and the Meeting of International Affairs Committee Chairpersons, in Brasilia from 3 to 5 June 2025. Parliamentary diplomacy and inter-parliamentary cooperation are key pillars of our collective efforts, serving as a unique channel to foster mutual understanding, build trust among nations, and support the peaceful resolution of conflicts, in order to promote inclusiveness, solidarity, and sustainable development.

118. We reaffirm the need to strengthen youth public policies in our countries, supported by structured funding at national and international levels, reliable data, and the exchange of best practices. We recognize the added value of youth-led fora, dialogues and programs in comprehensive areas of cooperation, and we will promote inclusive youth employment policies that support school-to-work transitions and expand access to vocational training. We call on BRICS to jointly engage youth in the BRICS agenda, produce knowledge about their youth and ensure that BRICS initiatives reflect young people’s interests. In this context, we welcome the 11th BRICS Youth Summit, held in June 2025 in Brasilia, which adopted a new Memorandum of Understanding on Youth Cooperation.

119. We appreciate the progress made by BRICS countries in affordable housing and advancing in mitigation and adaptation policies on the way to promote a just and resilient urban transition including all urban services, with a focus on reducing inequality and commend the work of the BRICS Urbanization Forum to further strengthen collaboration between government and societies at all levels, in all BRICS countries in implementing the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and promoting the localization of the SDGs.

120. We commend the BRICS Business Council (BBC) for its contributions to the BRICS 2025 agenda through policy recommendations, especially to boost intra-BRICS trade via digitalization and regulatory cooperation, expand innovative financing instruments, enhance logistics connectivity and increase air traffic routes among BRICS, support the energy transition, foster smart agricultural technologies to advance food security and improved nutrition, and develop skills for fair participation in the sustainable and digital economy. We equally appreciate the BBC action-driven initiatives that leverage government action in these areas, as well as the successful conduction of the BRICS Business Forum and the BRICS Solutions Awards.

121. We recognize the vital role of women’s economic participation in driving sustainable growth and commend the Women Business Alliance (WBA)’s policy recommendations to tackle structural, barriers—especially in access to credit, education and healthcare. We acknowledge women’s contribution in advancing climate-smart agriculture, and the need to assure fair opportunities to thrive in the sustainable and digital economy. We commend WBA initiatives to support women-led businesses, including continued efforts such as

business promotion meetings, the Startup Contest and the BRICS Women's Development Report. We also commit to promoting and enhancing support and budgeting for women, expanding digital and financial literacy for women in the informal economy, including through formalization and social protection measures.

122. We reaffirm our commitment to increasing financing and to strengthening governance, solidarity and building resilience in disaster risk reduction. We celebrate the advancements of cooperation reached since 2015 through key declarations and the creation of the Joint Task Force. We acknowledge the growing complexity of disaster risks, including those related to climate change, especially for the Global South. Infrastructure systems worldwide have more often been severely affected by extreme weather events and disasters, leading to economic disruptions and negative impacts on people's lives. Therefore, we will cooperate to improve national disaster risk reduction systems and capacities to reduce disaster-related damage and protect infrastructure, human lives and livelihoods as well as to mobilize sufficient funding and increase private investment for comprehensive infrastructure development. We endorse the 2025–2028 Working Plan, focused on addressing inequalities to reduce vulnerabilities, robust early warning systems, anticipatory response capability, resilient infrastructure, and integrating diverse knowledge systems, reaffirming our commitment to equity and resilience. We support the enhanced dialogue on the development of systems for risk monitoring, forecasting disasters, and their possible consequences.

123. We welcome the presentation of the reports from the BRICS Business Council, the Women's Business Alliance, and, for the first time, from the BRICS Civil Council at the Rio Summit. We stress the importance of expanded dialogue between BRICS governments and civil society, welcoming the Brazilian Chairship's initiative to strengthen the direct engagement between BRICS Sherpas and representatives of BRICS people-to-people mechanisms.

124. Given the BRICS expansion process according to the BRICS Membership Expansion Guiding Principles, Standards, Criteria and Procedures, adopted at the BRICS Summit at Johannesburg, South Africa, we reaffirm our commitment to consolidate and strengthen BRICS in line with the group's spirit of mutual respect and understanding, sovereign equality, solidarity, democracy, openness, inclusiveness, collaboration, continuity, full consultation and consensus. We emphasize the importance of partner countries contributing to BRICS cooperation in accordance with the Modalities of BRICS Partner Country Category, adopted at the BRICS Summit at Kazan, Russia, and welcome their participation in various ministerial and technical-level meetings under Brazilian Chairship. We acknowledge that BRICS growing membership and thematic agenda require adjustments of the group's working methods. In this regard, we acknowledge the ongoing efforts to update the BRICS Terms of Reference and encourage that this process is carried forward. We support the refinement of existing practices to ensure that BRICS remains effective, efficient, responsive, inclusive and consensus-based. We reaffirm that institutional development is a continuous and dynamic process that should reflect the group's needs and priorities. We underscore our strong belief that extending the BRICS dialogue and partnership with EMDCs will further contribute to strengthening the spirit of solidarity and true international cooperation for the benefit of all. We recognize the need to establish a common BRICS database to facilitate access to relevant documents and background information.

125. We commend Brazil's BRICS Chairship in 2025 and express our gratitude to the government and people of Brazil for holding the XVII BRICS Summit in the city of Rio de Janeiro.

126. We extend full support to India for its BRICS Chairship in 2026 and the holding of the XVIII BRICS Summit in India.