

BRICS Summit Conclusions on Development, 2009-2012

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Summary of Conclusions on Development in BRICS Summit Documents

	Words		Paragraphs		Documents		Dedicated Documents
	#	%	#	Total	#	%	#
2009 Yekaterinburg	344	35.2%	5	29.4%	1	100%	0
2010 Brasilia	989	40.8%	10	29.4%	1	100%	0
2011 Sanya	1,069	40.2%	12	34.3%	1	100%	0
2012 New Delhi	1,604	36.4%	19	28.4%	1	100%	0
Average	4,006	38.2%	46	30.4%	1	100%	0

Notes:

Data are drawn from all official English-language documents released by the BRICS leaders as a group. Charts are excluded.

“Words” refers to the number of words in a paragraph containing a reference to development excluding document titles and references. Total refers to all documents for that summit

“Paragraphs” refers to the number of paragraphs containing a reference to development. Each bullet point is recorded as a paragraph. Total refers to all documents for that summit.

“Documents” refers to the number of documents containing a reference to development and excludes dedicated documents. Total refers to all documents for that summit.

“Dedicated Documents” is the number of documents that refer to development in the title.

Introduction

In the context of political science, development refers to actions taken to support the improvement of quality of life for people in the developing world. These actions result in creating the necessary capacity needed to provide long-term sustainable solutions to these countries’ socioeconomic problems. Development thus encompasses foreign aid, governance, health care, education, poverty reduction, gender equality, disaster preparedness, infrastructure, economics, human rights protection and environment. International development is different from simple development in that it includes international transfers and aid from the developed countries to the developing and often involves Bretton Woods institutions, such as the International Monetary Fund (IMF) and the World Bank. A number of multilateral development banks have also been established.

BRICS countries attach great importance to the issue of development. In their communiqués, the leaders frequently stress development in relation to global political and economic stability. Once the recipients of international aid, BRICS members are now becoming donors and advocate on behalf of developing countries in international forums and institutions, such as the G20, IMF and the United Nations. Their economies now serve as engines of growth in their respective regions. BRICS leaders recognize the need for varying development philosophies, strategies and policies. They often call upon developed countries to fulfill their promises with regards to UN Millennium Development Goals (MDGs), to support development initiatives through improved and more effective lending (through the IMF, World Bank and other multilateral development

banks), to ensure an open and fair trading system with the conclusion of the World Trade Organization's Doha Development Round and to increase development assistance.

Search Terms

Inclusions

African Development Bank (AfDB), African Union (AU), debt relief, development aid, development assistance, Development Assistance Committee (DAC), developing countries (economies), development financing, development gap, donor, emerging economies, European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD), global rebalancing, highly/heavily indebted poor countries (HIPC), Inter American Development Bank (IADB), International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (IBRD), international development assistance, International Development Association (IDA), International Finance Corporation (IFC), international financial institutions (IFIs), International Monetary Fund (IMF), least developed countries (LDCs), Millennium Development Goals (MDGs), multilateral development banks (MDBs), New Partnership for Africa's Development (NEPAD), North-South relations, Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD), official development assistance (ODA), Paris Club, poorest of the poor, poverty reduction, sustainable development, World Bank, United Nations (UN)

Coding Rules

The unit of analysis is the paragraph/sentence.

A direct reference to development or a cognate term is required.

Cognate or extended terms can be used without a direct reference to development if they have previously been directly associated together in summit communiqué history.

Conclusions on Development in BRICS Summit Documents

2009: Yekaterinburg, Russia, June 16

BRIC Countries' Leaders Joint Statement

2. We call upon all states and relevant international bodies to act vigorously to implement the decisions adopted at the G20 Summit in London on April 2, 2009. We shall cooperate closely among ourselves and with other partners to ensure further progress of collective action at the next G20 Summit to be held in Pittsburgh in September 2009. We look forward to a successful outcome of the **United Nations Conference on the World Financial and Economic Crisis and its Impact on Development** to be held in New York on June 24-26, 2009.

3. We are committed to advance the reform of **international financial institutions**, so as to reflect changes in the global economy. The **emerging and developing economies** must have greater voice and representation in **international financial institutions**,

whose heads and executives should be appointed through an open, transparent, and merit-based selection process. We also believe that there is a strong need for a stable, predictable and more diversified international monetary system.

6. The **poorest countries** have been hit hardest by the financial crisis. The international community needs to step up efforts to provide liquid financial resources for these countries. The international community should also strive to minimise the impact of the crisis on **development** and ensure the achievement of the **Millennium Development Goals**. Developed countries should fulfil their commitment of 0.7% of Gross National Income for the **Official Development Assistance** and make further efforts in increasing assistance, **debt relief**, market access and technology transfer for **developing countries**.

7. The implementation of the concept of **sustainable development**, comprising, *inter alia*, the Rio Declaration, Agenda for the 21st Century and multilateral environmental agreements, should be a major vector in the change of paradigm of economic development.

15. We have agreed upon steps to promote dialogue and cooperation among our countries in an incremental, proactive, pragmatic, open and transparent way. The dialogue and cooperation of the BRIC countries is conducive not only to serving common interests of **emerging market economies and developing countries**, but also to building a harmonious world of lasting peace and common prosperity.

2010: Brasilia, Brazil, April 15

BRIC Countries' Leaders Joint Statement

5. We believe the deepened and broadened dialogue and cooperation of the BRIC countries is conducive not only to serving common interests of **emerging market economies and developing countries**, but also to building a harmonious world of lasting peace and common prosperity. We have agreed upon steps to promote dialogue and cooperation among our countries in an incremental, proactive, pragmatic, open and transparent way.

International Economic and Financial Issues

6. The world economic situation has improved since our first meeting in June 2009, in Ekaterinburg. We welcome the resumption of economic growth, in which **emerging market economies** are playing a very important role. However, we recognize that the foundation of world economic recovery is not yet solid, with uncertainties remaining. We call upon all states to strengthen macroeconomic cooperation, jointly secure world economic recovery and achieve a strong, sustainable and balanced growth. We reiterate our determination to make positive efforts in maintaining domestic economic recovery and **promoting development** in our own countries and worldwide.

8. We are convinced that **emerging market economies and developing countries** have the potential to play an even larger and active role as engines of economic growth and

prosperity, while at the same time commit to work together with other countries towards reducing **imbalances in global economic development** and fostering social inclusion.

9. G-20 members, with a significant contribution from BRIC countries, have greatly increased resources available to the **IMF**. We support the increase of capital, under the principle of fair burden-sharing, of the **International Bank for Reconstruction and Development** and of the **International Finance Corporation**, in addition to more robust, flexible and agile client-driven support for **developing economies** from **multilateral development banks**.

11. We will strive to achieve an ambitious conclusion to the ongoing and long overdue reforms of the Bretton Woods institutions. The **IMF** and the **World Bank** urgently need to address their legitimacy deficits. Reforming these institutions' governance structures requires first and foremost a substantial shift in voting power in favor of **emerging market economies and developing countries** to bring their participation in decision making in line with their relative weight in the world economy. We call for the voting power reform of the **World Bank** to be fulfilled in the upcoming Spring Meetings, and expect the quota reform of the **IMF** to be concluded by the G-20 Summit in November this year. We do also agree on the need for an open and merit based selection method, irrespective of nationality, for the heading positions of the **IMF** and the **World Bank**. Moreover, staff of these institutions needs to better reflect the diversity of their membership. There is a special need to **increase participation of developing countries**. The international community must deliver a result worthy of the expectations we all share for these institutions within the agreed timeframe or run the risk of seeing them fade into obsolescence.

International Trade

14. We stress the importance of the multilateral trading system, embodied in the World Trade Organization, for providing an open, stable, equitable and non discriminatory environment for international trade. In this connection, we commit ourselves and urge all states to resist all forms of trade protectionism and fight disguised restrictions on trade. We concur in the need for a comprehensive and balanced outcome of the Doha Round of multilateral trade talks, in a manner that fulfills its mandate as a “**development round**”, based on the progress already made, including with regard to modalities. We take note and strongly support Russia's bid for accession to the WTO.

Development

15. We reiterate the importance of the UN Millennium Declaration and the need to achieve the **Millennium Development Goals (MDGs)**. We underscore the importance of preventing a potential setback to the efforts of **poor countries** aimed at achieving **MDGs** due to the effects of the economic and financial crisis. We should also make sustained efforts to achieve the **MDGs** by 2015, including through technical cooperation and financial support to **poor countries** in implementation of **development policies** and social protection for their populations. We expect the **UN MDG Summit**, in September 2010, to promote the implementation of **MDGs** through policy recommendations. We stress that **sustainable development** models and paths of **developing countries** should

be fully respected and necessary policy space of **developing countries** should be guaranteed.

16. The **poorest countries** have been the hardest hit by the economic and financial crisis. The commitments regarding the **aid to the developing states**, especially those related to the **MDGs**, should be fulfilled, and there should be no reduction in **development assistance**. An inclusive process of growth for the world economy is not only a matter of solidarity but also an issue of strategic importance for global political and economic stability.

Fight against poverty

18. We call upon the international community to make all the necessary efforts to fight poverty, social exclusion and inequality bearing in mind the special needs of **developing countries**, especially **LDCs, small islands and African Countries**. We support technical and financial cooperation as means to contribute to the achievement of **sustainable social development**, with social protection, full employment, and decent work policies and programmes, giving special attention to the most vulnerable groups, such as the poor, women, youth, migrants and persons with disabilities.

Cooperation

27. We welcome the following sectoral initiatives aimed at strengthening cooperation among our countries:

- a) the first Meeting of Ministers of Agriculture and Agrarian Development;
- b) the Meetings of Ministers of Finance and Governors of Central Banks;
- c) the Meetings of High Representatives for Security Issues;
- d) the I Exchange Program for Magistrates and Judges, of BRIC countries, held in March 2010 in Brazil following the signature in 2009 of the Protocol of Intent among the BRIC countries' Supreme Courts;
- e) the first Meeting of **Development Banks**;
- f) the first Meeting of the Heads of the National Statistical Institutions;
- g) the Conference of Competition Authorities;
- h) the first Meeting of Cooperatives;
- i) the first Business Forum;
- j) the Conference of think tanks.

2011: Sanya, China, April 14

BRICS Leaders Meeting Declaration

3. It is the overarching objective and strong shared desire for peace, security, **development** and cooperation that brought together BRICS countries with a total population of nearly 3 billion from different continents. BRICS aims at contributing significantly to the **development of humanity** and establishing a more equitable and fair world.

6. In the economic, financial and **development fields**, BRICS serves as a major platform for dialogue and cooperation. We are determined to continue strengthening the BRICS partnership for **common development** and advance BRICS cooperation in a gradual and pragmatic manner, reflecting the principles of openness, solidarity and mutual assistance. We reiterate that such cooperation is inclusive and non-confrontational. We are open to increasing engagement and cooperation with non-BRICS countries, in particular **emerging and developing countries**, and relevant international and regional organizations.

7. We share the view that the world is undergoing far-reaching, complex and profound changes, marked by the strengthening of multipolarity, economic globalization and increasing interdependence. While facing the evolving global environment and a multitude of global threats and challenges, the international community should join hands to strengthen cooperation for **common development**. Based on universally recognized norms of international law and in a spirit of mutual respect and collective decision making, global economic governance should be strengthened, democracy in international relations should be promoted, and the voice of **emerging and developing countries** in international affairs should be enhanced.

14. We support the Group of Twenty (G20) in playing a bigger role in global economic governance as the premier forum for international economic cooperation. We expect new positive outcomes in the **fields of** economy, finance, trade and **development** from the G20 Cannes Summit in 2011. We support the ongoing efforts of G20 members to stabilize international financial markets, achieve strong, sustainable and balanced growth and support the growth and development of the global economy. Russia offers to host the G20 Summit in 2013. Brazil, India, China and South Africa welcome and appreciate Russia's offer.

15. We call for a quick achievement of the targets for the reform of the **International Monetary Fund** agreed to at previous G20 Summits and reiterate that the governing structure of the **international financial institutions** should reflect the changes in the world economy, increasing the voice and representation of **emerging economies and developing countries**.

16. Recognizing that the international financial crisis has exposed the inadequacies and deficiencies of the existing international monetary and financial system, we support the reform and improvement of the international monetary system, with a broad-based international reserve currency system providing stability and certainty. We welcome the current discussion about the role of the SDR in the existing international monetary system including the composition of SDR's basket of currencies. We call for more attention to the risks of massive cross-border capital flows now faced by the **emerging economies**. We call for further international financial regulatory oversight and reform, strengthening policy coordination and financial regulation and supervision cooperation, and promoting the sound development of global financial markets and banking systems.

17. Excessive volatility in commodity prices, particularly those for food and energy, poses new risks for the ongoing recovery of the world economy. We support the international community in strengthening cooperation to ensure stability and strong development of physical market by reducing distortion and further regulate financial market. The international community should work together to increase production capacity, strengthen producer-consumer dialogue to balance supply and demand, and **increase support to the developing countries** in terms of funding and technologies. The regulation of the derivatives market for commodities should be accordingly strengthened to prevent activities capable of destabilizing markets. We also should address the problem of shortage of reliable and timely information on demand and supply at international, regional and national levels. The BRICS will carry out closer cooperation on food security.

20. Accelerating sustainable growth of **developing countries** is one of the major challenges for the world. We believe that growth and **development** are central to addressing poverty and to achieving the **MDG goals**. Eradication of extreme poverty and hunger is a moral, social, political and economic imperative of humankind and one of the greatest global challenges facing the world today, particularly in **Least Developed Countries** in Africa and elsewhere.

21. We call on the international community to actively implement the outcome document adopted by the High-level Plenary Meeting of the **United Nations General Assembly on the Millennium Development Goals** held in September 2010 and achieve the objectives of the **MDGs** by 2015 as scheduled.

23. **Sustainable development**, as illustrated by the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development, Agenda 21, the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation and multilateral environmental treaties, should be an important vehicle to advance economic growth. China, Russia, India and South Africa appreciate Brazil as the host of the 2012 **UN Conference on Sustainable Development** and look forward to working with Brazil to reach new political commitment and achieve positive and practical results in areas of economic growth, social development and environmental protection under the framework of **sustainable development**. Brazil, Russia, China and South Africa appreciate and support India's hosting of the eleventh meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity. Brazil, China and South Africa also appreciate and support the sixth meeting of the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety to be held in October 2012.

25. We support infrastructure development in Africa and its industrialization within framework of the **New Partnership for Africa's Development (NEPAD)**.

26. We have agreed to continue further expanding and deepening economic, trade and investment cooperation among our countries. We encourage all countries to refrain from resorting to protectionist measures. We welcome the outcomes of the meeting of BRICS Trade Ministers held in Sanya on 13 April 2011. Brazil, China, India and South Africa remain committed and call upon other members to support a strong, open, rule-based

multilateral trading system embodied in the World Trade Organization and a successful, comprehensive and balanced conclusion of the **Doha Development Round**, built on the progress already made and consistent with **its development mandate**. Brazil, India, China and South Africa extend full support to an early accession of Russia to the World Trade Organization.

Action Plan

We formulated the Action Plan, laying the foundation for the BRICS cooperation, with the purpose to strengthen BRICS cooperation and benefit our peoples.

I. Enhance existing cooperation programs

11. Strengthen financial cooperation among the **BRICS Development Banks**.

2012: New Delhi, India, March 29

BRICS Leaders Meeting Declaration

2. We met against the backdrop of developments and changes of contemporary global and regional importance — a faltering global recovery made more complex by the situation in the euro zone; concerns of **sustainable development** and climate change which take on greater relevance as we approach the **UN Conference on Sustainable Development** (Rio+20) and the Conference of Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity being hosted in Brazil and India respectively later this year; the upcoming G20 Summit in Mexico and the recent 8th WTO Ministerial Conference in Geneva; and the developing political scenario in the Middle East and North Africa that we view with increasing concern. Our deliberations today reflected our consensus to remain engaged with the world community as we address these challenges to global well-being and stability in a responsible and constructive manner.

4. We envision a future marked by global peace, economic and social progress and enlightened scientific temper. We stand ready to work with others, developed and **developing countries** together, on the basis of universally recognized norms of international law and multilateral decision making, to deal with the challenges and the opportunities before the world today. Strengthened representation of **emerging and developing countries** in the institutions of global governance will enhance their effectiveness in achieving this objective.

8. We recognize the importance of the global financial architecture in maintaining the stability and integrity of the global monetary and financial system. We therefore call for a more representative international financial architecture, with an increase in the voice and representation of **developing countries** and the establishment and improvement of a just international monetary system that can serve the interests of all countries and support **the development of emerging and developing economies**. Moreover, these economies having experienced broad-based growth are now significant contributors to global recovery.

9. We are however concerned at the slow pace of quota and governance reforms in the **IMF**. We see an urgent need to implement, as agreed, the 2010 Governance and Quota Reform before the 2012 **IMF/World Bank** Annual Meeting, as well as the comprehensive review of the quota formula to better reflect economic weights and enhance the voice and representation of emerging market and developing countries by January 2013, followed by the completion of the next general quota review by January 2014. This dynamic process of reform is necessary to ensure the legitimacy and effectiveness of the Fund. We stress that the ongoing effort to increase the lending capacity of the **IMF** will only be successful if there is confidence that the entire membership of the institution is truly committed to implement the 2010 Reform faithfully. We will work with the international community to ensure that sufficient resources can be mobilized to the **IMF** in a timely manner as the Fund continues its transition to improve governance and legitimacy. We reiterate our support for measures to protect the voice and representation of the **IMF's poorest members**.

10. We call upon the **IMF** to make its surveillance framework more integrated and even-handed, noting that **IMF** proposals for a new integrated decision on surveillance would be considered before the **IMF** Spring Meeting.

11. In the current global economic environment, we recognise that there is a pressing need for enhancing the flow of **development finance to emerging and developing countries**. We therefore call upon the **World Bank** to give greater priority to mobilising resources and meeting the needs of development finance while reducing lending costs and adopting innovative lending tools.

12. We welcome the candidatures from **developing world** for the position of the President of the **World Bank**. We reiterate that the Heads of **IMF** and **World Bank** be selected through an open and merit-based process. Furthermore, the new **World Bank** leadership must commit to transform the Bank into a multilateral institution that truly reflects the vision of all its members, including the governance structure that reflects current economic and political reality. Moreover, the nature of the Bank must shift from an institution that essentially mediates **North-South cooperation** to an institution that promotes equal partnership with all countries as a way to deal with development issues and to overcome an outdated **donor-** recipient dichotomy.

13. We have considered the possibility of setting up a new Development Bank for mobilizing resources for infrastructure and **sustainable development** projects in BRICS and other **emerging economies and developing countries**, to supplement the existing efforts of multilateral and regional financial institutions for global growth and development. We direct our Finance Ministers to examine the feasibility and viability of such an initiative, set up a joint working group for further study, and report back to us by the next Summit.

17. Considering **UNCTAD** to be the focal point in the **UN** system for the treatment of trade and development issues, we intend to invest in improving its traditional activities of consensus-building, technical cooperation and research on issues of economic

development and trade. We reiterate our willingness to actively contribute to the achievement of a successful **UNCTAD XIII**, in April 2012.

18. We agree to build upon our synergies and to work together to intensify trade and investment flows among our countries to advance our respective industrial development and employment objectives. We welcome the outcomes of the second Meeting of BRICS Trade Ministers held in New Delhi on 28 March 2012. We support the regular consultations amongst our Trade Ministers and consider taking suitable measures to facilitate further consolidation of our trade and economic ties. We welcome the conclusion of the Master Agreement on Extending Credit Facility in Local Currency under BRICS Interbank Cooperation Mechanism and the Multilateral Letter of Credit Confirmation Facility Agreement between our **EXIM/Development Banks**. We believe that these Agreements will serve as useful enabling instruments for enhancing intra-BRICS trade in coming years.

23. Afghanistan needs time, **development assistance** and cooperation, preferential access to world markets, foreign investment and a clear end-state strategy to attain lasting peace and stability. We support the global community's commitment to Afghanistan, enunciated at the Bonn International Conference in December 2011, to remain engaged over the transformation decade from 2015-2024. We affirm our commitment to support Afghanistan's emergence as a peaceful, stable and democratic state, free of terrorism and extremism, and underscore the need for more effective regional and international cooperation for the stabilisation of Afghanistan, including by combating terrorism.

28. Accelerating growth and **sustainable development**, along with food, and energy security, are amongst the most important challenges facing the world today, and central to addressing economic development, eradicating poverty, combating hunger and malnutrition in many **developing countries**. Creating jobs needed to improve people's living standards worldwide is critical. **Sustainable development** is also a key element of our agenda for global recovery and investment for future growth. We owe this responsibility to our future generations.

30. We are fully committed to playing our part in the global fight against climate change and will contribute to the global effort in dealing with climate change issues through sustainable and inclusive growth and not by capping development. We emphasize that developed country Parties to the **UNFCCC** shall provide enhanced financial, technology and capacity building support for the preparation and implementation of nationally appropriate mitigation actions of **developing countries**.

31. We believe that the **UN Conference on Sustainable Development (Rio+20)** is a unique opportunity for the international community to renew its high-level political commitment to supporting the overarching **sustainable development** framework encompassing inclusive economic growth and development, social progress and environment protection in accordance with the principles and provisions of the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development, including the principle of common but differentiated responsibilities, Agenda 21 and the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation.

32. We consider that **sustainable development** should be the main paradigm in environmental issues, as well as for economic and social strategies. We acknowledge the relevance and focus of the main themes for the Conference namely, Green Economy in the context of **Sustainable Development** and Poverty Eradication (GESDPE) as well as **Institutional Framework for Sustainable Development (IFSD)**.

34. We affirm that the concept of a ‘green economy’, still to be defined at Rio+20, must be understood in the larger framework of **sustainable development** and poverty eradication and is a means to achieve these fundamental and overriding priorities, not an end in itself. National authorities must be given the flexibility and policy space to make their own choices out of a broad menu of options and define their paths towards **sustainable development** based on the country’s stage of development, national strategies, circumstances and priorities. We resist the introduction of trade and investment barriers in any form on the grounds of developing green economy.

35. The **Millennium Development Goals** remain a fundamental milestone in the development agenda. To enable **developing countries** to obtain maximal results in attaining their **Millennium Development Goals** by the agreed time-line of 2015, we must ensure that growth in these countries is not affected. Any slowdown would have serious consequences for the world economy. Attainment of the **MDGs** is fundamental to ensuring inclusive, equitable and sustainable global growth and would require continued focus on these goals even beyond 2015, entailing enhanced financing support.

36. We attach the highest importance to economic growth that supports development and stability in Africa, as many of these countries have not yet realised their full economic potential. We will take our cooperation forward to support their efforts to accelerate the diversification and modernisation of their economies. This will be through infrastructure development, knowledge exchange and support for increased access to technology, enhanced capacity building, and investment in human capital, including within the framework of the **New Partnership for Africa’s Development (NEPAD)**.

Delhi Action Plan

13. Meeting of experts on a new **Development Bank**.