

BRICS Summit Conclusions on Employment, 2009-2012

Maria Marchyshyn
BRICS Research Group, February 12, 2013

Summary of Conclusions on Employment in BRICS Summit Documents

| | Words | | Paragraphs | | Documents | | Dedicated Documents |
|--------------------|-------|------|------------|-------|-----------|------|---------------------|
| | # | % | # | Total | # | % | # |
| 2009 Yekaterinburg | 0 | 0.0% | 0 | 0.0% | 1 | 100% | 0 |
| 2010 Brasilia | 176 | 7.3% | 3 | 8.8% | 1 | 100% | 0 |
| 2011 Sanya | 82 | 3.1% | 2 | 5.7% | 1 | 100% | 0 |
| 2012 New Delhi | 282 | 6.4% | 3 | 4.3% | 1 | 100% | 0 |
| Average | 135 | 4.2% | 2 | 4.7% | 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 employment excluding document titles and references. Total refers to all documents for that summit

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

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

Introduction

This report catalogues all conclusions related to the issue area of employment. It refers to all official statements released by the leaders, as a group, at each annual BRICS summit from 2009 to 2012.

Labour economics, the core of the employment subject, seeks to understand and analyze the labour market. The labour market functions through the suppliers of labour services (workers) and demand for the labour services (employers), creating a different levels of wages, employment and income. The definition expands into areas such as national rates of unemployment, labour standards and forced labour. The complexities of labour mobility across borders can also be seen in its influence on international relations.

Up to the 2012 Delhi Summit the topic of employment has not been dealt within detail in BRICS communiqués. At Delhi, the subject received little attention, given the fact that employment figures in the BRIC economies remained robust. Nevertheless, given that India and China represent 40% of the world population, the BRICS will likely begin giving the issue more importance in the coming summits. Although the BRICS economies have not felt the heavy burden of the financial crisis to the same degree as more developed countries, they might need to address the issue of rising unemployment as the demand for their products and services is jeopardized. They are also grappling with other employment issues, including significant wage inequalities and lower levels of

education and training of their labour force. Some BRICS members are facing severe criticism from the global community with regards to labour standards.

Search Terms

Inclusions

Education, employers (employees), employment, employment protection legislation, human resources, International Labour Organization (ILO), jobs, labour markets, labour standards, offshore outsourcing, trade unions, unfree or underage labour, unemployment, rate of (un)employment, training, wages, work, work policies, working conditions

Exclusions

Social protection

Coding Rules

The unit of analysis is the paragraph/sentence.

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

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

Conclusions on Employment in BRICS Summit Documents

2009: Yekaterinburg, Russia, June 16

BRIC Countries' Leaders Joint Statement

No references.

2010: Brasilia, Brazil, April 15

BRIC Countries' Leaders Joint Statement

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.

20. We recognize the potential of new, emerging, and environmentally friendly technologies for diversifying energy mix and the **creation of jobs**. In this regard we will

encourage, as appropriate, the sustainable development, production and use of biofuels. In accordance with national priorities, we will work together to facilitate the use of renewable energy, through international cooperation and the sharing of experiences on renewable energy, including biofuels technologies and policies.

21. We believe that BRIC member countries can cooperate in **training**, R&D, Consultancy services and technology transfer, in the energy sector.

2011: Sanya, China, April 14

BRICS Leaders Meeting Declaration

19. Nuclear energy will continue to be an important element in future energy mix of BRICS countries. International cooperation in the development of safe nuclear energy for peaceful purposes should proceed under conditions of strict observance of relevant **safety standards** and requirements concerning design, construction and operation of nuclear power plants.

24. We underscore our firm commitment to strengthen dialogue and cooperation in the fields of social protection, **decent work**, gender equality, youth, and public health, including the fight against HIV /AIDS.

2012: New Delhi, India, March 29

BRICS Leaders Meeting Declaration

6. We believe that it is critical for advanced economies to adopt responsible macroeconomic and financial policies, avoid creating excessive global liquidity and undertake structural reforms to lift growth that create **jobs**. We draw attention to the risks of large and volatile cross-border capital flows being 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.

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.

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.