

BRICS Summit Conclusions on Health, 2009-2012

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Summary of Conclusions on Health in BRICS Summit Documents

	Words		Paragraphs		Documents		Dedicated Documents
	#	%	#	Total	#	%	#
2009 Yekaterinburg	66	6.8%	1	5.9%	1	100%	0
2010 Brasilia	177	7.3%	2	5.9%	1	100%	0
2011 Sanya	382	14.4%	7	20%	1	100%	0
2012 New Delhi	720	16.3%	10	14.5%	1	100%	0
Average	336	11.2%	5	11.6%	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 health excluding document titles and references. Total refers to all documents for that summit

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

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

Introduction

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

Health is defined as the human condition of being sound in mind, body and spirit, and being free from physical disease or pain. This definition becomes more complex when health is considered in terms of its economic effect, as is the case with the heavy burden of HIV/AIDS in sub-Saharan Africa. The complexities of human health can also be seen in its influence on the politics of cross-border relations.

Health can be divided into two main categories: core health issues and health-related issues. Core health encompasses official collective statements made by the BRICS pertaining to the human condition of health; the presence or absence of life, disease or pain; and the efforts made toward maintaining a healthy human condition. As such, core health considers a range of the health issue areas tackled by the BRICS, including infectious diseases (HIV/AIDS, malaria, tuberculosis, polio, etc.), medical research, healthcare systems, improved health as a function of development, health promotion, medicine and treatment, global collaboration and resource mobilization for health, the current global health organizations (World Health Organization [WHO], Joint United Nations Programme on HIV and AIDS [UNAIDS], etc.). The definition of health here also covers those issues other than health that have a related effect on human health or

health policies such as: hunger and food security, debt relief for the benefit of health systems in developing countries, information and communications technologies (ICT) to improve healthcare facilities or energy and environmental issues that affect human health.

Search Terms

Inclusions

Aging, antiretroviral treatment, avian influenza (flu), behavioural research, bioethics, biological function, biological pathogen, biological product, biomedical, biometrics, biotechnology, bird influenza (flu), birth rate, children microbes, cholera, clinical studies, communicable diseases, cure, death rate, deficiencies, diagnostics and other material, disability rate, disease, disease surveillance, DNA, drugs (medical), Ebola, environmental hazards, epidemic, family care-giving, family planning, famine, food safety, food security, gene-based inventions, global crises-reaction-mechanism, global surveillance network, guinea worm, health, health care, health partnership, health research, health services, health standard, healthier environment, health-related Millennium Development Goals (MDGs), HIV/AIDS, human frontier, human genome, human influenza (flu), human suffering, human welfare, hunger, immunization, infection, infectious disease, intellectual property rights, life expectancy, life science, malaria, malnutrition, measles, medical care, medical frontier, medical service, medicinal product, microbicide, micro-nutrient, nutrition, onchocerciasis, orphan(ed), outbreak, pandemic, pediatric treatment, pharmaceutical industry, pharmaceutical product, pneumonia, polio, population growth, population problem, poverty, prevention, regional surveillance system, reproductive health, river basin organization, river blindness, sanitation, seniors, severe acute respiratory syndrome (SARS), somatic cell nuclear transfer, therapeutic, toxin, treatment, tuberculosis, vaccine, virus, vulnerable, water nutrition, water quality, water safety, World Health Assembly (WHA), World Health Organization (WHO)

Exclusions

Bioterrorism

Coding Rules

The unit of analysis is the paragraph/sentence.

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

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

Conclusions on Health in BRICS Summit Documents

2009: Yekaterinburg, Russia, June 16

BRIC Countries' Leaders Joint Statement

10. We reaffirm to enhance cooperation among our countries in socially vital areas and to strengthen the efforts for the provision of international humanitarian assistance and for the reduction of natural disaster risks. We take note of the statement on global **food security** issued today as a major contribution of the BRIC countries to the multilateral efforts to set up the sustainable conditions for this goal.

2010: Brasilia, Brazil, April 15

BRIC Countries' Leaders Joint Statement

17. We express our satisfaction with the Meeting of Ministers of Agriculture and Agrarian Development in Moscow, where they discussed ways of promoting quadripartite cooperation, with particular attention to family farming. We are convinced that this will contribute towards global food production and food security. We welcome their decision to create an agricultural information base system of the BRIC countries, to develop a strategy for ensuring access to food for vulnerable population, to reduce the negative impact of climate change on **food security**, and to enhance agriculture technology cooperation and innovation.

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**.

2011: Sanya, China, April 14

BRICS Leaders Meeting Declaration

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**.

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.

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.

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**.

Action Plan

I. Enhance existing cooperation programs

6. Hold the Meeting of Agriculture Expert Working Group and the second Meeting of Ministers of Agriculture in 2011 in China, and cooperate in issues including establishment of BRICS System of Agricultural Information and holding a seminar on **food security**.

II. New areas of cooperation

2. Host the **Meeting of Ministers of Health** in 2011 in China.

III. New proposals to explore

4. Hold a meeting of Senior Officials for discussing ways of promoting scientific, technological and innovation cooperation in BRICS format, including by establishment a working group on cooperation in **pharmaceutical industry**.

2012: New Delhi, India, March 29

BRICS Leaders Meeting Declaration

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.

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.

38. Excessive volatility in commodity prices, particularly those for **food** and energy, poses additional risks for the recovery of the world economy. Improved regulation of the derivatives market for commodities is essential to avoid destabilizing impacts on **food** and energy supplies. We believe that increased energy production capacities and strengthened producer-consumer dialogue are important initiatives that would help in arresting such price volatility.

39. Energy based on fossil fuels will continue to dominate the energy mix for the foreseeable future. We will expand sourcing of clean and renewable energy, and use of energy efficient and alternative technologies, to meet the increasing demand of our economies and our people, and respond to climate concerns as well. In this context, we emphasise that 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. We stress IAEA's essential role in the joint efforts of the international community towards enhancing **nuclear safety standards** with a view to increasing public confidence in nuclear energy as a clean, affordable, **safe** and secure source of energy, vital to meeting global energy demands.

41. We appreciate the outcomes of the Second Meeting of BRICS Ministers of Agriculture and Agrarian Development at Chengdu, China in October 2011. We direct our Ministers to take this process forward with particular focus on the potential of cooperation amongst the BRICS to contribute effectively to global **food security and nutrition** through improved agriculture production and productivity, transparency in markets and reducing excessive volatility in commodity prices, thereby making a difference in the quality of lives of the people particularly in the developing world.

42. Most of BRICS countries face a number of similar public **health challenges**, including universal access to **health services**, access to **health technologies**, including **medicines**, increasing costs and the growing burden of both **communicable and non-communicable diseases**. We direct that the **BRICS Health Ministers meetings**, of which the first was held in Beijing in July 2011, should henceforth be institutionalized in order to address these common challenges in the most cost-effective, equitable and sustainable manner.

43. We have taken note of the meeting of S&T Senior Officials in Dalian, China in September 2011, and, in particular, the growing capacities for research and development and innovation in our countries. We encourage this process both in priority areas of food, pharma, **health** and energy as well as basic research in the emerging inter-disciplinary fields of nanotechnology, **biotechnology**, advanced materials science, etc. We encourage flow of knowledge amongst our research institutions through joint projects, workshops and exchanges of young scientists.

Delhi Action Plan

5. The Third Meeting of BRICS Ministers of Agriculture, preceded by a preparatory meeting of experts on agro-products and **food security** issues and the second Meeting of Agriculture Expert Working Group.

9. The Second **Meeting of BRICS Health Ministers**.