



# **MOSCOW Declaration of the XIV BRICS Health Ministers' Meeting**

**11 October 2024**

## **Preamble**

1. We, the BRICS Ministers of Health met at the 14<sup>th</sup> BRICS Ministerial Meeting in Moscow, the Russian Federation, on 10 and 11 October 2024, to discuss issues of healthcare cooperation to withstand global health challenges and design robust mechanisms of cooperation, and in this regard we:
2. Reiterate the commitment of the original States and newly inducted Member-States to the BRICS spirit of mutual respect and understanding, sovereign equality, solidarity, democracy, openness, inclusiveness, strengthened collaboration and consensus. We are devoted to the high standards of public health and strong effective cooperation in the healthcare sector.
3. Recognize that pathogens do not respect international boundaries and that there is a need for countries to work collectively to control the spread of infectious diseases by building capacities, strengthening health systems and establishing strong and sustainable supply chains. In addition, technology and know-how should be shared to ensure availability, affordability, quality and equitable access to medical countermeasures.
4. Note that the ongoing public health crises, such as Mpox, pose challenges to our efforts in achieving SDG3. We, therefore, recognize the need for strong collaboration and joint efforts to address these challenges to meet the SDG3 targets by 2030. As the BRICS members, we endeavour to collectively work towards achieving the goals of UHC and to protect the population of our countries affected significantly by the negative impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic and other health emergencies.
5. Recognize the right of every human being to enjoy the highest attainable standard of physical and mental health, and to have access to a full range of quality and essential healthcare services without financial hardship.
6. Acknowledge the need for continuing to strengthen the global health architecture for it to be transparent, sustainable and equitable and reiterate the central

coordinating role of the World Health Organization in the global health architecture.

7. BRICS countries note the progress achieved in INB negotiation process on an instrument of pandemic preparedness and welcome continuing discussion on this issue.
8. Support the World Health Organization to have predictable and flexible resources to implement its GPW-14.
9. Emphasize the importance of joint mechanisms for implementing collaborative efforts in the field of healthcare between the BRICS countries and reaffirm our commitment to implementing the agreements adopted in Durban, South Africa, in 2023.

To ensure cooperation between the BRICS Member-States in the field of healthcare, we agree to take the following actions.

## **I. Cooperation in the Field of Nuclear Medicine**

10. Emphasize the importance of the decision to establish a dialogue on nuclear medicine enshrined in the XV BRICS Summit Johannesburg II Declaration adopted on 24 August 2023.
11. Welcome the progress in addressing this issue, which is reflected in the International BRICS Expert Forum on Nuclear Medicine that was held in Saint Petersburg on 20-21 June 2024 as well as the Meeting of the BRICS Nuclear Medicine Working Group that was held on 13 February 2024.
12. Note that the First BRICS High-Level International Forum on Nuclear Medicine provided an opportunity for experts to discuss topics important for all BRICS countries including: education and training in nuclear medicine, innovative developments in radiopharmaceuticals and their clinical transfer, radionuclide diagnostics and treatment of cancer diseases, and prospects of nuclear medicine methods beyond oncology applications.
13. Recognize the need for cooperation in the area of nuclear medicine and radiopharmacy within the BRICS Nuclear Medicine Working Group and its initiatives addressed in the final Resolution of the First BRICS High-Level International Forum on Nuclear Medicine.

## **II. The Integrated Early Warning System for the Prevention of Mass Infectious Diseases**

14. Reiterate the importance of the BRICS cooperation in the field of infectious diseases and stress the need for strengthening risk reduction measures and the exchange of information on best practices on a timely manner for strengthening the implementation of the International Health Regulations (2005) of the World Health Organization.

15. Note the progress that has been made with the creation of the Integrated Early Warning System for the Prevention of Mass Infectious Diseases that will allow the BRICS countries to accelerate the exchange of data, materials, knowledge in accordance with respective national legislation and on mutually agreed terms to respond to major public health emergencies caused by infectious diseases.
16. Note the expert meeting that was held on 27 March 2024 under the Presidency of the Russian Federation and welcome its resolution to establish a Working group of Integrated Early Warning System for the Prevention of Mass Infectious Diseases. We encourage the Working group to finalize and adopt the Terms of Reference of the Integrated Early Warning System for the Prevention of Mass Infectious Diseases.

### **III. Memorandum of Understanding between the BRICS Regulatory Agencies on Cooperation in the Field of Health Products Regulation**

17. Recognize that the BRICS countries share challenges such as access to quality, effective, and safe medical products, and therefore underline the importance of technical cooperation between regulatory agencies.
18. Recall the Memorandum of Understanding on Cooperation in the Field of Regulation of Medical Products for Human Use that was signed by BRICS countries in December 2023 in a virtual format.
19. Note the meeting of the BRICS medical products regulatory authorities which took place in St. Petersburg on 5 June 2024 on the sidelines of St. Petersburg International Economic Forum 2024 that allowed for continuing the discussion of the opportunities to foster cooperation between regulatory agencies of the BRICS countries.
20. Welcome the outcome Statement made by BRICS medical products regulatory authorities on the sidelines of St. Petersburg International Economic Forum 2024 and its call to establish a Joint Working Group of Regulatory Authorities of the BRICS countries to further promote cooperation under the Memorandum of Understanding on Cooperation in the Field of Regulation of Medical Products for Human Use and explore the possibilities to form an Association of the BRICS regulators.

### **IV. Creation of the BRICS Health Journal**

21. We appreciate the joint effort of the BRICS members and welcome the first issue of the BRICS Health Journal that will become a tool for supporting the BRICS scientific community and will present joint projects of the BRICS countries to the global community.

22. Express our intention through the BRICS Health Journal to further develop cooperation between research organizations and scientific community of the BRICS countries in the field of health in order to strengthen the scientific and technical potential of the BRICS grouping.
23. Decide to create a working group to address issues of financing and operational framework of the Journal.

## **V. Creation of the BRICS Medical Association**

24. We take note of the creation of the BRICS Medical Association in accordance with the national regulations in order to strengthen the role of medical communities and develop horizontal ties between them.
25. Note that the BRICS Medical Association is created as a voluntary association of national medical associations or other relevant national bodies of the BRICS countries as applicable without forming a legal entity, and based on the principles of equality and mutual respect.

## **VI. Antimicrobial resistance**

26. Recognize that antimicrobial resistance (AMR) is one of the most pressing issues of our times that poses challenges to the BRICS countries contributing to deterioration of health indicators, increased morbidity and mortality in our population, and the death of animals.
27. Recognize the need to scale up multi-sectoral, cross-sectoral and interdisciplinary efforts to address antimicrobial resistance in line with a One Health approach.
28. Welcome accelerating efforts by the BRICS countries for the implementation of their respective National Action Plans within a One Health approach for controlling AMR and preventing its consequences for human health, animal health, plant health, and the environmental health, economic growth and development, food security and safety.
29. Note the First BRICS International Conference “Antimicrobial Resistance as a Global Challenge to BRICS National Health and Well-Being. Reality and Innovations” held in a hybrid format in Moscow on 30-31 May 2024, where experts discussed the AMR challenges in the BRICS countries and globally, national strategies, plans and initiatives to combat AMR.
30. Welcome the BRICS Joint Statement on AMR taken at the First BRICS International Conference “Antimicrobial Resistance as a Global Challenge to BRICS National Health and Well-Being. Reality and Innovation” with an intention to establish the BRICS Coordinating Group on AMR.
31. Welcome the political declaration of the High-Level Meeting on AMR of the United Nations General Assembly adopted on 26 September 2024.

32. Look forward to the Fourth Ministerial Conference on AMR hosted by the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia in Jeddah in November 2024 to pave an ambitious way for tackling the major global threat and development challenges of AMR.

## **VII. BRICS TB Research Network**

33. Recognize that tuberculosis (TB) is a challenge for achieving a number of SDGs in all our countries, and that research and innovation in tackling TB opens possibilities for equitable and sustainable growth.

34. Support the targets and commitments of the 2023 political declaration of the High-Level Meeting on the Fight Against Tuberculosis of the United Nations General Assembly, in particular those related to strengthening research capacity and collaboration through TB research platforms and networks, accelerating research and development of TB vaccines through global collaboration mechanisms.

35. Note the XV BRICS TB Network meeting that was held in Moscow 23-25 April 2024 under the Presidency of the Russian Federation in BRICS.

36. Welcome the declaration of the XV BRICS TB Research Network meeting that emphasizes the necessity to address additional resource mobilization for the BRICS TB Research Network through the New Development Bank to support joint research projects of the BRICS countries on TB surveillance, prevention, diagnosis, therapeutics, and vaccines development.

## **VIII. BRICS Vaccine R&D Centre**

37. Acknowledge there is still a need to strengthen international cooperation to successfully respond to new challenges, including a rapid and coordinated response to a possible threat posed by disease X.

38. Reaffirm that ensuring equitable access to vaccines is pivotal for prevention of infectious diseases for all countries on a global scale. We will stimulate technology transfer for regional production in this regard.

39. Recognize the importance of mutual cooperation within the BRICS countries in the field of vaccine development to ensure accessibility and affordability of vaccines in developing countries.

40. Promote cooperation to enhance mutual recognition of vaccines developed in the BRICS countries, and encourage the collaborative innovation of the BRICS countries.

41. Note the proposal of the Russian Federation to create a platform aimed at intensifying the connections between the Vaccine R&D Center participants and other interested organizations of the BRICS countries.

## **IX. BRICS Public Health Institutes Network**

42. Welcome the outcomes of the First BRICS Experts Meeting on Public Health, conducted online on 12 September 2024, which fostered the dialogue on promoting research on public health and contributed to the well-being of population across the BRICS nations.
43. Establish the BRICS Public Health Institutes Network as a standing expert platform.

**X. Prospects for the future.**

44. Take note of the proposal made by the Russian Federation to continue the work of the BRICS Nurses Alliance and establish collaboration between the BRICS medical societies.
45. The BRICS countries will continue to develop cooperation in the field of healthcare.

The Declaration was adopted in Moscow on 11 October 2024 in English.