

## 2015 BRICS Ufa Summit Compliance Report

10 July 2015 to 19 September 2016

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## Introduction and Summary

The 2015 BRICS Ufa Compliance Report, prepared by the BRICS Research Group (the University of Toronto and the Center for International Institutions Research of the Russian Presidential Academy of National Economy and Public Administration (RANEPA)), analyses compliance performance by BRICS countries with a selection of priority commitments drawn from the total of 130 commitments made by the leaders at the Ufa Summit on 8-9 July 2015. The report covers actions on nine commitments taken by the BRICS countries during the period from 10 July 2015 to 19 September 2016. This timeframe allows for an assessment of compliance during the period from the Ufa summit to the Goa Summit, which will be hosted by India on 15-16 October 2016.

The role of the BRICS in the global governance system is steadily increasing, as the countries have transformed a purely economic concept of the BRIC into a new global governance institution. Also, in spite of the recent economic slowdown, the BRICS countries collectively constitute almost a third of the global gross domestic product and are likely to outperform the G7 for the next several years.

However, to stay relevant in the global economy and retain its influence, the BRICS needs to further augment cooperation. In line with this idea, the five members have been broadening and deepening their coordination and collaboration in different areas and in different formats. Since the establishment of the format, the countries have held almost 110 meetings at different levels. Apart from the summits, these include the meetings of the foreign, finance, trade, agriculture and health ministers, as well as representatives of statistical offices, competition authorities and heads of development banks. These meetings resulted in the adoption of more than 40 documents and establishment of a growing number of working groups, contact groups and other mechanisms of coordination. The dynamics of BRICS cooperation has been positive, and the speed of its institutionalization has been high. Most importantly, the leaders have agreed on 361 concrete decisions across the various areas of their agenda. At the summits between 2009 and 2015, BRICS leaders adopted 361 commitments and delegated 32 mandates to intra-BRICS institutions.<sup>1</sup> BRICS decisions refer to 12 broad policy areas, such as economy, finance, climate change and education. The Ufa Summit produced by far the largest number of commitments, most of which focused on reforming the International Monetary Fund, strengthening international cooperation and coordinating macroeconomic policy and finance.

BRICS cooperation has been further deepened and expanded during the Russian presidency. According to the Concept of the Russian Federation's Presidency in BRICS in 2015, cooperation expanded to include such new areas as parliamentary affairs, culture, and information and communications technologies. Strengthening intra-BRICS cooperation and engagement with other international institutions is a priority. Enhancing "the efficiency of BRICS by improving the reporting process for previous commitments assumed by member countries" is emphasized.<sup>2</sup> Given that collective commitments made at the BRICS summits reflect the members' shared goals, an increase in the number of commitments and compliance performance could indicate a strengthened capability for collective action.

## Methodology and Scoring System

This report traces BRICS compliance with selected commitments made at the 2015 Ufa Summit. It draws on the methodology developed by the G8 Research Group, which has been monitoring G8 compliance since 1996. Since 2008 the same methodology has been adopted for monitoring G20

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<sup>1</sup> A commitment is defined as a discrete, specific, publicly expressed, collectively agreed statement of intent; a promise by summit members that they will undertake future action to move toward, meet or adjust to an identified target. More details are contained in the Compliance Coding Manual (available at <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/compliance/compliance-coding-manual-2016.pdf>).

<sup>2</sup> Concept of the Russian Federation's Presidency in BRICS in 2015-2016, Official Website of the Russia's Presidency in BRICS. [http://en.brics2015.ru/russia\\_and\\_brics/20150301/19483.html](http://en.brics2015.ru/russia_and_brics/20150301/19483.html)

performance. The use of this time-tested methodology provides for cross-institutional, cross-member and cross-issue consistency and thus allows compatibility and comparability of the compliance performance by different summit institutions and establishes a foundation for evidence-based assessment of the effectiveness of these institutions.<sup>3</sup> The methodology uses a scale from -1 to +1, where +1 indicates full compliance with the stated commitment, -1 indicates a failure to comply or action taken that is directly opposite to the stated goal of the commitment, and 0 indicates partial compliance or work in progress, such as initiatives that have been launched but are not yet near completion and whose final results can therefore not be assessed. Each member receives a score of -1, 0 or +1 for each commitment. For convenience, the scientific scores reported in the tables in this summary have been converted to percentages, where -1 equals 0% and +1 equals 100%.<sup>4</sup>

### **The Breakdown of Commitments**

The number of concrete commitments made by the BRICS leaders at their summits has increased steadily. There were 15 commitments in the 2009 Joint Statement of BRIC Leaders, with five in the area of energy and three related to overcoming the food crisis and establishing favourable conditions for agriculture development. At the 2010 summit, BRIC leaders made 31 commitments. As the agenda expanded decisions were made in new areas: nine commitments on energy, three on finance, five on development cooperation, three on trade, and two on global financial architecture reform and the institutionalization of intra-BRICS cooperation. There were 38 commitments made at the 2011 Sanya Summit: six on environmental protection and adaptation to climate change, and five each on macroeconomic issues, trade and international cooperation. For the first time the BRICS leaders made commitments on public health, human rights, accountability and combating terrorism. The 2012 Delhi Summit issued 32 commitments with a focus on trade (nine commitments), regional security (four commitments) and development assistance (three commitments), but none on financial regulation. The 2013 Durban Summit again produced no commitments on finance and was dominated by the South African presidency's priorities of development, regional security and international institutional reform.

At the Fortaleza Summit in 2014, the BRICS leaders agreed on 68 commitments, the highest number to that time. They covered all the priorities addressed by the previous presidencies. Moreover, the leaders reiterated their commitments on financial regulation, food and agriculture, science, information and communication, and cooperation in culture. They also made commitments in the new areas of environmental protection and anti-corruption.

The commitments of the BRICS, as a group of major emerging economies, fall mainly into the areas relevant for the five countries (see Table 1). In particular, members' priorities for stimulating domestic economic recovery are reflected in the large share of trade and development commitments. Decisions on international cooperation and the reform of international institutions, which remain at the core of the BRICS agenda, also constitute a substantial share at about 10% of the total. At the same time, each presidency strives to incorporate its own priorities in the agenda and can thus substantially influence the breakdown of commitments. For instance, decisions made during the Russian presidency in 2009 focused mainly on energy and agriculture. In 2010 Brasilia retained energy as a top priority and also added development issues to the agenda. The 2011 summit in China shifted toward climate change. The 2012 Indian and 2013 South African presidencies considered

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<sup>3</sup> Informal summity institutions are defined as international institutions with limited membership, relatively low bureaucracy and reliance on open, flexible and voluntary approaches. Regular meetings of the heads of states and governments who engage on a wide range of international, regional and domestic politics stand at the pinnacle of such international arrangements, which involve many actors operating according to established procedures on two levels: domestic and international. Commitments contained in the collectively agreed documents are not legally-binding but their implementation is stimulated by peer pressure. Among such bodies engaged in global and regional governance are G7/G8, G20, BRICS, APEC and others.

<sup>4</sup> The formula to convert a score into a percentage is  $P=50 \times (S+1)$ , where P is the percentage and S is the score.

regional security as a priority, with the Durban Summit also addressing development issues including infrastructure development and regional integration.

Brazil's 2014 presidency retained the BRICS focus on trade, international cooperation, development and finance, while for the first time paying increased attention to socioeconomic issues. Russia's 2015 presidency enhanced cooperation with other international institutions and agreed on specific measures in the areas of food and agriculture, ICT and crime and corruption.

**Table 1: Distribution of BRICS Commitments across Issue Areas, 2009-2015**

Issue area	Yekaterinburg 2009	Brasilia 2010	Sanya 2011	Delhi 2012	Durban 2013	Fortaleza 2014	Ufa 2015	Total	Share, %
International cooperation	1	2	5	3	6	8	30	55	15.24
Trade		3	5	9	4	4	5	30	8.31
Development	1	5	1	3	10	4	4	28	7.76
IFI reform	1	2	1	2	9	8	3	26	7.20
Regional security	1		1	4	8	6	6	26	7.20
Macroeconomic policy		1	5	1	5	7	6	25	6.93
Food and agriculture	3		1	1		1	17	23	6.37
ICT			2			1	17	20	5.54
Socioeconomic	1	1	3	2		7	5	19	5.26
Energy	5	9	1	2				17	4.71
Finance		3	1			6	6	16	4.43
Crime and corruption						4	10	14	3.88
Climate change		1	6	3	1	1	1	13	3.60
Science and education	1	1	1			2	5	10	2.77
Human rights			1		1	2	5	9	2.49
Health			1	1		1	6	9	2.49
Terrorism			1	1	2	2	1	7	1.94
Culture		1				3	1	5	1.39
Natural disasters	1	1	1					3	0.83
Environment						1	1	2	0.55
Accountability			1					1	0.28
Sport		1						1	0.28
Nonproliferation					1			1	0.28
Tourism							1	1	0.28
<b>Total</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>38</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>47</b>	<b>68</b>	<b>130</b>	<b>361</b>	<b>100</b>

Note: IFI = international financial institution; ICT = information and communications technology

### Selection of Commitments

Of the total of 130 commitments made at the 2015 Ufa Summit, the BRICS Research Group has selected nine priority commitments for its compliance assessment (see Table 2). For each compliance cycle (that is, the period between summits), the research team selects commitments that reflect the breadth of the BRICS agenda and the priorities of the summit's host, while balancing the selection to

allow for comparison with past and future summits.<sup>5</sup> The selection also takes into account the breakdown of issue areas and the proportion of commitments in each one. The primary criteria for selecting a priority commitment for assessment are the comprehensiveness and relevance to the summit, the BRICS and the world. Selected commitments must meet secondary criteria such as measurability and ability to comply within a year. The tertiary criteria include significance, as identified by relevant stakeholders in the host country and scientific teams.

**Table 2: 2015 BRICS Ufa Summit Priority Commitments**

Priority Area	Commitment
Macroeconomics: Competition Policy	We will continue our joint efforts aimed at improving competition policy and enforcement.
Finance: Tax Transparency	[The BRICS countries reaffirm their commitment] to strengthen mechanisms for ensuring tax transparency and to exchange information for taxation purposes
Information and Communications Technology	We commit ourselves to focus on expanding universal access to all forms of digital communication and to improve awareness of people in this regard.
Regional Security: Iraq	We remain strongly committed to support the Republic of Iraq in achieving stability, peace, democracy, national reconciliation and unity, which is in the interest of regional and global peace and security
Education	Through the accelerating progress in the educational field, the BRICS countries commit to attain the Post-2015 Development Agenda objectives and targets related to education and education-related Sustainable Development Goals to ensure equitable, inclusive and quality education and lifelong learning.
Terrorism: International Cooperation	We are determined to consistently strengthen our cooperation in preventing and countering international terrorism
Food and Agriculture: Agriculture cooperation and Food for Vulnerable Populations	[We reiterate our commitment to further develop agricultural cooperation, in particular,] provision of food for the most vulnerable communities
Human Rights: Sexual and Reproductive Health and Reproductive Rights	We reiterate our commitment to ensure sexual and reproductive health and reproductive rights for all
Health: Ebola	We confirm our commitment to do what is necessary individually and collectively to support these efforts [international response to Ebola virus disease] addressing emergency and longer-term systematic issues and gaps in preparedness and response on national, regional and global level.

### Compliance Scores

The overall compliance by commitment has been high, with all scores except the one for regional security distributed from 0 to +1. The highest level of compliance (+1 or 100%) was registered for two commitments in the areas of Macroeconomic Policy and Finance. BRICS compliance performance on macroeconomic policy and finance confirms the group's commitment to advance economic growth. BRICS average scores for compliance with the commitments on Information and Communications Technology and on Food and Agriculture both reached +0.80 (90%). They were followed by the commitments on Education and Health each with +0.40 (70%) and the

<sup>5</sup> Guidelines for choosing priority commitments, as well as other applicable considerations, are available in the Compliance Coding Manual.

commitment on Human Rights +0.20 (60%). These scores indicate the BRICS's adherence to inclusive growth.

The score for the commitment on Regional Security was the lowest at -0.40 (30%). Regional Security has always been a priority on the BRICS agenda. However, most of the countries have not taken actions to support Iraq in addressing all three areas of security, socio-economic and humanitarian challenges. At the same time BRICS members lived up to their promise to consistently strengthen cooperation in preventing and countering terrorism with compliance performance of +0.80 (90%).

Thus, for the period from 10 July 2015 to 19 September 2016, the BRICS countries achieved an average final compliance score of +0.56, which translates into 78%. The final compliance scores by commitment are contained in Table 3.

**Table 3: 2015 BRICS Ufa Summit Compliance Scores**

	Brazil	Russia	India	China	South Africa	Average	
Macroeconomics: Competition Policy	+1	+1	+1	+1	+1	+1.00	100%
Finance: Tax Transparency	+1	+1	+1	+1	+1	+1.00	100%
Information and Communications Technology	+1	+1	+1	0	+1	+0.80	90%
Regional Security: Iraq	-1	0	0	0	-1	-0.40	30%
Education	0	+1	0	0	+1	+0.40	70%
Terrorism: International Cooperation	0	+1	+1	+1	+1	+0.80	90%
Food and Agriculture: Agriculture Cooperation and Food for Vulnerable Populations	+1	+1	0	+1	+1	+0.80	90%
Human Rights: Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights	-1	0	+1	+1	0	+0.20	60%
Health: Ebola	0	+1	-1	+1	+1	+0.40	70%
Average	+0.22	+0.78	+0.44	+0.67	+0.67	+0.56	78%
	61%	89%	72%	83%	83%		

### Compliance Trends

This is the fifth BRICS compliance report produced by the BRICS Research Group (see Table 4). The 2012 Delhi Summit, at +0.28 or 64%, was a dip between the 2011 Sanya and 2013 Durban summits both at +0.48 or 74%. The 2014 Fortaleza Summit achieved a score of +0.40 (70%), close to the average for all five summits assessed (+0.43 or 72%). The average score for compliance with the Ufa Summit commitments is the highest so far.

Although the time span is too short to draw strong conclusions on trends, preliminary patterns can be identified with the caveat that assessed commitments in the same issue areas are not identical from one summit to the next.

Given this constraint, the analysis reveals that the BRICS countries complied well with the development, terrorism and macroeconomic policies commitments at the core of their agenda (with the same average of +0.60 or 80% over all five summits). Performance on regional security issues is uneven, with an overall average of 0 (50%).



**Table 4: BRICS Compliance Scores, 2011-2015**

	Sanya 2011	Delhi 2012	Durban 2013	Fortaleza 2014	Ufa 2015	Average	
Trade	+0.40	0	+1.00	-1.00		+0.10	55%
Development	+0.60	+0.40	+0.60	+0.80	+0.40	+0.56	78%
Macroeconomic policies			+0.20		+1.00	+0.60	80%
Financial regulation	+0.40			+0.20	+1.00	+0.53	77%
Climate change	+0.80	+0.20				+0.50	75%
International financial institution reform	+0.20	+0.20				+0.20	60%
Energy		+0.60				+0.60	80%
Regional security			+0.20	+0.20	-0.40	0	50%
Terrorism			+0.40	+0.60	+0.80	+0.60	80%
Environment				+1.00		+1.00	100%
Human rights				+0.60	+0.20	+0.40	70%
Crime and corruption				+0.80		+0.80	90%
Information and communications technology					+0.80	+0.80	90%
Food and agriculture					+0.80	+0.80	90%
Average	+0.48 74%	+0.28 64%	+0.48 74%	+0.40 70%	+0.56 78%	+0.44	72%

## 1. Macroeconomics: Competition Policy

We will continue our joint efforts aimed at improving competition policy and enforcement.

*BRICS Ufa Declaration*

### Assessment

	No Compliance	Partial Progress	Full Compliance
Brazil			+1
Russia			+1
India			+1
China			+1
South Africa			+1
Average	+1.00		

### Background

Relevant BRICS authorities have cooperated on competition and antimonopoly issues since the launch of the forum. The first meeting of BRIC competition authorities was held in the framework of the International Competition Conference (ICC) in Kazan, Russia on 1 September 2009. The second meeting was hosted by China in Beijing on 20-22 September 2011. On 21 -22 November 2013, the third conference was held in New Delhi, India. On 11-13 November 2015, South Africa is scheduled to host the fourth BRICS ICC.<sup>6</sup> Additionally the heads of BRICS competition authorities meet annually on the margins of the Annual Conference of the International Competition Network.

BRICS leaders for the first time addressed competition issues at the Fortaleza Summit with a commitment “to improve competition policy and enforcement, undertake actions to address challenges that BRICS Competition Authorities face and further enable competitive environments in order to enhance contributions to economic growth.”<sup>7</sup> The leaders reiterated this commitment in Ufa, and also welcomed cooperation on competition-related policies in pharmaceutical and other socially important economic sectors.<sup>8</sup>

### Commitment Features

The commitment requires BRICS members to improve competition policy and enforcement. Full compliance is registered for countries that manage to do so both domestically and bilaterally or multilaterally in partnership with other BRICS members, for instance through the exchange of experience and relevant information or carrying out joint investigations.

### Scoring Guidelines

-1	Member does not take any actions aimed at improving competition policy and enforcement.
0	Member takes actions aimed at improving competition policy and enforcement at the national level OR in partnership with one or several BRICS countries
+1	Member takes actions aimed at improving competition policy and enforcement both at the national level AND in partnership with one or several BRICS countries.

### Brazil: +1

Brazil has fully complied with the commitment on improving competition policy and enforcement.

<sup>6</sup> 4<sup>th</sup> BRICS International Competition Conference. Access date: 19 October 2015. <http://brics2015.co.za/>

<sup>7</sup> The 6<sup>th</sup> BRICS Summit: Fortaleza Declaration, BRICS Information Centre 15 July 2014. Access date: 19 October 2015. <http://www.brics.utoronto.ca/docs/140715-leaders.html>

<sup>8</sup> VII BRICS Summit: 2015 Ufa Declaration, BRICS Information Centre 9 July 2015. Access date: 19 October 2015. [http://www.brics.utoronto.ca/docs/150709-ufa-declaration\\_en.html](http://www.brics.utoronto.ca/docs/150709-ufa-declaration_en.html)

On 19 August 2015, the Administrative Council for Economic Defense (CADE) presented the preliminary version of the Guidelines to Competition Compliance Programs, which is a set of internal measures that should be taken by an economic agent to prevent or minimize risks of violation of antimonopoly laws.<sup>9</sup>

On 5 November 2015, CADE together with the Economic and Social Law Studies Center signed a technical cooperation agreement in order to promote the culture of competition in Brazil.<sup>10</sup>

On 12-13 November 2015, representatives of Brazil competition authorities participated in the meeting of BRICS heads of the competition authorities in Durban and the 4th BRICS International Competition Conference under the topic of “Competition and Inclusive Growth.” Participants signed a memorandum of understanding to co-operate in the field of competition policy in order to strengthen the cooperation and coordination between the BRICS competition authorities.<sup>11</sup>

On 19 May 2016, Brazil as a BRICS member signed a memorandum of cooperation on antitrust policy. Under the agreement, BRICS members would undertake to share information and exchange experiences in the area of competition, and promote joint participation in research and international events on competition policies.<sup>12</sup>

On 27 July 2016, CADE published the new Acts of Horizontal Concentration Analysis Guide. The purpose of the guide is to provide greater transparency of analysis carried out by the agency; guide the government to employ the best competitive practices on the subject; and assist market players to understand the steps, techniques and criteria adopted by CADE in mergers and acquisitions.<sup>13</sup>

On 25 August 2016, CADE’s General Superintendent started an administrative process of investigation into the alleged practice of the cartel on the market distribution and liquefied petroleum gas sale in the Northeast of Brazil.<sup>14</sup>

Brazil has taken actions aimed at improving competition policy and enforcement both at the national level and in partnership with several BRICS countries. Thus it receives a score of +1.

*Analysts: Sofia Streltsova and Irina Popova*

#### **Russia: +1**

Russia has fully complied with the commitment on improving competition policy and enforcement.

Russia has taken actions to develop its legislation aimed at improving competition policy at the national level.

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<sup>9</sup> Guidelines to Competition Compliance Programs, CADE. Access date: 8.09.2016.

[http://www.cade.gov.br/aceso-a-informacao/publicacoes-institucionais/guias\\_do\\_Cade/compliance-guidelines-final-version.pdf](http://www.cade.gov.br/aceso-a-informacao/publicacoes-institucionais/guias_do_Cade/compliance-guidelines-final-version.pdf)

<sup>10</sup> Cade e Cedes assinam acordo de cooperação técnica, CADE 5 November 2015. Access date: 8.09.2016.

<http://www.cade.gov.br/noticias/cade-e-cedes-assinam-acordo-de-cooperacao-tecnica>

<sup>11</sup> South Africa Hosts Meeting Of Brics Heads Of The Competition Authorities, official web-site of Russian Presidency in BRICS 13 November 2015. Access date: 8.09.2016. <http://en.brics2015.ru/allnews/20151113/671801.html>

<sup>12</sup> Membros do BRICS firmam memorando de cooperação na área de política de defesa da concorrência, CADE 19 May 2016. Access date: 9.09.2016. <http://www.cade.gov.br/noticias/membros-do-brics-firmam-memorando-de-cooperacao-na-area-de-politica-de-defesa-da-concorrenca>

<sup>13</sup> Cade publica novo Guia de Análise de Atos de Concentração Horizontal, CADE 27 July 2016. Access date: 9.09.2016. <http://www.cade.gov.br/noticias/cade-publica-novo-guia-de-analise-de-atos-de-concentracao-horizontal>

<sup>14</sup> Cade instaura processo para investigar supostos cartéis de GLP na região Nordeste do Brasil, CADE 25 August 2016. Access date: 8.09.2016. <http://www.cade.gov.br/noticias/cade-instaura-processo-para-investigar-supostos-carteis-de-glp-na-regiao-nordeste-do-brasil>

On 5 September 2015 the Government of the Russian Federation approved the Standard of the Competition Development. The Standard was developed within the implementation of the plan for the development of competition and improving antimonopoly policy, which was adopted in December 2012. The main goals of this standard's introduction are: to set the uniform approach towards the government bodies activities on levels in the field of competition policy, to facilitate development of small and medium business with creation of required conditions, to provide transparency in the activities of government bodies in the field of competition.<sup>15</sup>

On 21 September 2015, the Federal Antimonopoly Service of the Russian Federation hosted the negotiations of the representatives of the BRICS competition authorities. The meeting was aimed at discussing the preparation of the IV BRICS International Conference on Competition which was held in November 2015 in Durban.<sup>16</sup>

On 25 September 2015, the Federal Antimonopoly Service of the Russian Federation (FAS) and the State Administration of Industry and Commerce of the People's Republic of China signed a Memorandum of Understanding. According to the Memorandum, the parties are ready to continue constructive cooperation, exchange experience and information, as well as organize joint events towards developing competition and trade-and-economic relations between Russia and China.<sup>17</sup>

On 12-13 November 2015, the Russian delegation headed by Head of the Federal Antimonopoly Service (FAS) Igor Artemyev participated in the meeting of BRICS heads of the competition authorities in Durban and the 4th BRICS International Competition Conference under the topic of "Competition and Inclusive Growth." Participants signed a memorandum of understanding to cooperate in the field of competition policy in order to strengthen the cooperation and coordination between the BRICS competition authorities.<sup>18</sup>

On 19 May 2016, Russia as a BRICS member signed a memorandum of cooperation on antitrust policy. Under the agreement, BRICS members undertake to share information and exchange experiences in the area of competition, and promote joint participation in research and international events on competition policy.<sup>19</sup>

Russia has made efforts aimed at improving competition policy and enforcement both at the national level and in partnership with other BRICS countries. Thus, it receives a score of +1.

*Analysts: Ilya Glaz and Irina Popova*

#### **India: +1**

India has fully complied with the commitment on improving competition policy and enforcement.

On 29 July 2015, the Competition Commission of India (CCI) found Kerala Film Exhibitors Federation ('KFEF'), an association of theatre owners, to be conducting their activities in

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<sup>15</sup> Standard for Competition promotion in the Federal Units of Russian Federation, The Government of Russian Federation 15 September 2015. Access date: 9.09.2016.

<http://government.ru/media/files/EPhsaffQIT8bK1Eov94GawSO179HxFl.pdf>

<sup>16</sup> Meeting of competition authorities of BRICS countries were held in Moscow, Federal Antimonopoly Service (FAS) 23 September 2015. Access date: 9.09.2016. <http://fas.gov.ru/press-center/news/detail.html?id=35113>

<sup>17</sup> FAS and the State Administration of Industry and Commerce of the People's Republic of China signed a Memorandum of Understanding, Federal Antimonopoly Service (FAS) 25 September 2015. Access date: 9.09.2016. <http://en.fas.gov.ru/press-center/news/detail.html?id=44125>

<sup>18</sup> South Africa Hosts Meeting Of Brics Heads Of The Competition Authorities, official web-site of Russian Presidency in BRICS 13 November 2015. Access date: 8.09.2016. <http://en.brics2015.ru/allnews/20151113/671801.html>

<sup>19</sup> Membros do BRICS firmam memorando de cooperação na área de política de defesa da concorrência, CADE 19 May 2016. Access date: 9.09.2016. <http://www.cade.gov.br/noticias/membros-do-brics-firmam-memorando-de-cooperacao-na-area-de-politica-de-defesa-da-concorrancia>

contravention of Section 3 of the Competition Act, 2002. The CCI imposed penalty on KFEF and its two office bearers for contravening the Competition Law.<sup>20</sup>

On 17 November 2015, the Competition Commission of India (CCI) imposed penalties upon three airlines for concerted action in fixing and revising Fuel Surcharge (FSC) for transporting cargo.<sup>21</sup>

On 12-13 November 2015, representatives of Indian competition authorities participated in the meeting of BRICS heads of the competition authorities in Durban and the 4th BRICS International Competition Conference under the topic of “Competition and Inclusive Growth.” Participants signed a memorandum of understanding to co-operate in the field of competition policy in order to strengthen the cooperation and coordination between the BRICS competition authorities.<sup>22</sup>

On 3 March 2016, the Competition Commission of India organized the first National Conference on Economics of Competition Law. Chairman of the Commission Shri Devender Kumar Sikri stressed that implementation of competition law needs to be judicious, and highlighted the need to harmonize legal principles and economic perspectives “towards efficient, precise and prudent decision-making.”<sup>23</sup>

On 19 May 2016, a representative of the Competition Commission of India signed the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between the competition authorities of BRICS countries.<sup>24</sup>

On 31 August 2016, the Competition Commission of India announced imposing penalties on 10 cement companies and Cement Manufacturers Association for cartelisation in their industry.<sup>25</sup>

India has made efforts aimed at improving competition policy and enforcement at the national level and in partnership with BRICS countries. Thus, it receives a score of +1.

*Analysts: Maria Strelnikova and Andrey Shelepov*

#### **China: +1**

China has fully complied with the commitment on improving competition policy and enforcement.

On 10 September 2015, the Chinese anti-monopoly law-enforcing authorities including the Ministry of Commerce, the National Development and Reform Commission and the State Administration for Industry and Commerce had dialogues with the representatives from the U.S. business circle on the law enforcement of anti-monopoly. The Deputy China International Trade Representative Zhang Xiangchen attended the meeting and made a speech. The two parties had in-depth communication

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<sup>20</sup> CCI Imposes Penalty on KFEF and its two Office Bearers for contravening Competition Law, Competition Commission of India 29 July 2015. Access date: 8 September 2016.

[http://www.cci.gov.in/sites/default/files/press\\_release/pr162014.pdf](http://www.cci.gov.in/sites/default/files/press_release/pr162014.pdf)

<sup>21</sup> CCI imposes penalties upon Airlines for concerted action in fixing fuel surcharge (FSC) on cargo transport, Competition Commission of India 17 November 2015. Access date: 8 September 2016.

[http://www.cci.gov.in/sites/default/files/press\\_release/Press%20release-%20Air%20Cargo.pdf](http://www.cci.gov.in/sites/default/files/press_release/Press%20release-%20Air%20Cargo.pdf)

<sup>22</sup> South Africa Hosts Meeting of BRICS Heads of the Competition Authorities, official website of Russia’s presidency in BRICS 13 November 2015. Access date: 8 September 2016.

<http://en.brics2015.ru/allnews/20151113/671801.html>

<sup>23</sup> PRESS RELEASE [03.03.2016], Competition Commission of India 3 March 2016. Access date: 8 September 2016.

[http://www.cci.gov.in/sites/default/files/press\\_release/Press%20Release%20-%2003.03.2016.pdf](http://www.cci.gov.in/sites/default/files/press_release/Press%20Release%20-%2003.03.2016.pdf)

<sup>24</sup> International Cooperation, Competition Commission of India. Access date: 8 September 2016.

<http://www.cci.gov.in/node/1761>

<sup>25</sup> CCI imposes penalties upon cement companies for cartelization, Competition Commission of India 31 August 2016. Access date: 8 September 2016. [http://www.cci.gov.in/sites/default/files/press\\_release/Press%20release-%20Cement%20Orders\\_0.pdf](http://www.cci.gov.in/sites/default/files/press_release/Press%20release-%20Cement%20Orders_0.pdf)

on China's anti-monopoly law-enforcement and the specific concerns of the U.S. business community.<sup>26</sup>

On 12-13 November 2015, representatives of Chinese competition authorities participated in the meeting of BRICS heads of the competition authorities in Durban and the 4th BRICS International Competition Conference under the topic of "Competition and Inclusive Growth." The participants signed a memorandum of understanding to co-operate in the field of competition policy in order to strengthen the cooperation and coordination between the BRICS competition authorities.<sup>27</sup>

On 19 May 2016, China as a BRICS member signed a memorandum of cooperation on antitrust policy. Under the agreement, members of the BRICS undertake to share information and exchange experiences in the area of competition, and promote joint participation in research and international events on the competition policy.<sup>28</sup>

On 14 June 2016, China's State Council published on its website the Opinions on Establishment of the Fair Competition Review Mechanism in the Development of Market System. According to the Opinions, Chinese government departments shall conduct a fair-competition review during the formulation of policies and regulations starting from July 2016 to reduce regulations and practices that impede the formation of a unified national market and fair competition.<sup>29</sup>

China has taken actions aimed at improving competition policy and enforcement both at the national level and in partnership with one or several BRICS countries. Thus it receives a score of +1.

*Analysts: Evgeny Tsarik and Irina Popova*

#### **South Africa: +1**

South Africa has fully complied with the commitment on improving competition policy and enforcement.

On 16 October 2015, the Competition Commission of South Africa published the amended Terms of Reference (ToR) for the completion of the market inquiry into private healthcare. The Commission also published a revised administrative timetable in line with the amended ToR.<sup>30</sup>

On 30 October 2015, the South African Competition Commission published the final Terms of Reference (ToR) for the market inquiry into the Grocery Retail Sector. In accordance with the provisions of the Competition Act, the Inquiry can commence 20 business days after publication.<sup>31</sup>

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<sup>26</sup> Three Anti-Monopoly Law-enforcing Departments Have Dialogues with Representatives from the U.S. Business Circle, Ministry Of Commerce People's Republic Of China 11 September 2016. Access date: 9 September 2016. <http://english.mofcom.gov.cn/article/newsrelease/significantnews/201509/20150901111112.shtml>

<sup>27</sup> South Africa Hosts Meeting of BRICS Heads of the Competition Authorities, official web-site of Russia's Presidency in BRICS 13 November 2015. Access date: 8 September 2016. <http://en.brics2015.ru/allnews/20151113/671801.html>

<sup>28</sup> Membros do BRICS firmam memorando de cooperação na área de política de defesa da concorrência, CADE 19 May 2016. Access date: 9 September 2016. <http://www.cade.gov.br/noticias/membros-do-brics-firmam-memorando-de-cooperacao-na-area-de-politica-de-defesa-da-concorrenca>

<sup>29</sup> China to abolish regulations hindering fair competition, En.People.cn 14 June 2016. Access date: 9 September 2016. <http://en.people.cn/n3/2016/0614/c90000-9072124.html>

<sup>30</sup> Healthcare Inquiry, The Competition Commission of South Africa 16 October 2015. Access date: 9 September 2016. <http://www.compcom.co.za/healthcare-inquiry/>

<sup>31</sup> Retail Market Inquiry, The Competition Commission of South Africa 30 October 2015. Access date: 9 September 2016. <http://www.compcom.co.za/retail-market-inquiry/>

On 11 November 2015, the Competition Commission of South Africa signed a memorandum of understanding (MoU) with its Namibian counterpart in order to improve their cooperation on competition policy.<sup>32</sup>

On 24 July 2015, the Competition Commission of South Africa prohibited the acquisition of control from Raumix Aggregates Ltd, a subsidiary of the Raubex Group Limited, under OMV Kimberley Ltd and OMV Kimberley Mining Ltd, collectively known as the OMV Group.<sup>33</sup>

On 12-13 November 2015, South Africa hosted the meeting of BRICS heads of the competition authorities in Durban and the 4th BRICS International Competition Conference under the topic of “Competition and Inclusive Growth.”<sup>34</sup> Commissioner of South Africa’s Competition Commission Tembinkosi Bonakele said that “the BRICS countries have a unique opportunity to promote competition, taking into account the needs and aspirations of the developing world,” adding that the conference was expected to provide an impetus to carrying out cooperative research initiatives, exchanging information and generating new ideas for responding to the challenges of globalization. “BRICS represent an important voice for the developing countries in the global antitrust policy discourse. But they can only play this role by developing their capacity for thought leadership in this area,” Bonakele added.<sup>35</sup>

On 22 December 2015, the Competition Commission of South Africa published for further comments the draft guidelines for the assessment of public interest provisions in mergers. The document details the Commission’s approach to analyzing mergers and the types of information that the Commission may require when evaluating public interest.<sup>36</sup>

South Africa has made efforts aimed at improving competition policy and enforcement both at the national level and in partnership with one or several BRICS countries. Thus, it receives a score of +1.

*Analysts: Angelina Khudoleeva and Andrei Sakharov*

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<sup>32</sup> South Africa: Competition Commission Signs Memorandum of Understanding With Namibian Competition Commission, allAfrica.com 19 November 2015. Access date: 9 September 2016. <http://allafrica.com/stories/20151121186.html>.

<sup>33</sup> The Official Newsletter of the Competition Commission South Africa September 2015, The Competition Commission of South Africa. Access date: 9 September 2016. <http://www.compcom.co.za/wp-content/uploads/2015/03/Competition-Commission-September-Newsletter.pdf>.

<sup>34</sup> South Africa Hosts Meeting of BRICS Heads of the Competition Authorities, official web-site of Russia’s Presidency in BRICS 13 November 2015. Access date: 9 September 2016. <http://en.brics2015.ru/allnews/20151113/671801.html>.

<sup>35</sup> Fair trade in spotlight at BRICS conference, IOL 12 November 2015. Access date: 9 September 2016. <http://www.iol.co.za/business/news/fair-trade-in-spotlight-at-brics-conference-1.1944552#.VkTTJ3bhDIU>.

<sup>36</sup> Competition Commission publishes draft guidelines for the assessment of public interest provisions in mergers for further comments, Competition Commission of South Africa 22 December 2015. Access date: 13 September 2016. <http://www.compcom.co.za/wp-content/uploads/2015/01/Commission-publishes-draft-guidelines-for-the-assessment-of-public-interest-provisions-in-mergers-for-further-comments.pdf>.

## 2. Finance: Tax Transparency

[The BRICS countries reaffirm their commitment] to strengthen mechanisms for ensuring tax transparency and to exchange information for taxation purposes

*BRICS Ufa Declaration*

### Assessment

	No Compliance	Partial Compliance	Full Compliance
Brazil			+1
Russia			+1
India			+1
China			+1
South Africa			+1
Average	+1.00		

### Background

For the first time BRICS countries committed to “enhance cooperation in the international forums targeting tax base erosion and information exchange for tax purposes” in their 2014 Fortaleza declaration.<sup>37</sup> At the 2015 Ufa summit the leaders reaffirmed their intention to address tax issues and made commitments on tackling tax base erosion, assisting developing countries to strengthen tax administration capacity, and ensuring tax transparency and exchange of information for taxation purposes.<sup>38</sup>

### Commitment Features

The work on transparency and exchange of information at the multilateral level for tax purposes is carried out in the framework of the OECD Global Forum on Transparency and Exchange of Information for Tax Purposes. Currently the Global Forum is a key international institution dealing with the international standards on tax transparency. There are two internationally agreed standards, namely, Exchange of Information on Request (EOIR) and Automatic Exchange of Information (AEOI).<sup>39</sup>

Currently 126 jurisdictions (including all five BRICS countries) participate in the work of the Global Forum as its members. All of them have committed to implementing the EOIR standard. Additionally, about 95 of them have committed to implementing the new standard on AEOI by 2017 or 2018.<sup>40</sup>

The commitment provides for the actions aimed at strengthening mechanisms for ensuring tax transparency, including through the exchange information for taxation purposes. Given that all BRICS members have committed to the new AEOI standard, full compliance requires actions that contribute to the automatic exchange of tax information. Countries that have strengthened mechanisms for ensuring tax transparency, including through EOIR, but have failed to move towards AEOI, are considered to be partially compliant.

<sup>37</sup> The 6th BRICS Summit: Fortaleza Declaration, BRICS Information Centre 15 July 2014. Access date: 19 October 2015. <http://www.brics.utoronto.ca/docs/140715-leaders.html>

<sup>38</sup> VII BRICS Summit: 2015 Ufa Declaration, BRICS Information Centre 9 July 2015. Access date: 19 October 2015. [http://www.brics.utoronto.ca/docs/150709-ufa-declaration\\_en.html](http://www.brics.utoronto.ca/docs/150709-ufa-declaration_en.html)

<sup>39</sup> About the Global Forum, Global Forum on Transparency and Exchange of Information for Tax Purposes. Access date: 19 October 2015. <http://www.oecd.org/tax/transparency/about-the-global-forum/>

<sup>40</sup> AEOI: status of commitments, Global Forum on Transparency and Exchange of Information for Tax Purposes 23 July 2015. Access date: 19 October 2015. <http://www.oecd.org/tax/transparency/AEOI-commitments.pdf>



**Scoring Guidelines**

-1	Member takes no actions aimed at strengthening mechanisms for ensuring tax transparency.
0	Member takes actions aimed at strengthening mechanisms for ensuring tax transparency, but fails to contribute to the Automatic Exchange of Information.
+1	Member takes actions aimed at strengthening mechanisms for ensuring tax transparency, including those related to the Automatic Exchange of Information.

**Brazil: +1**

Brazil has fully complied with the commitment on tax transparency and exchange of information for taxation purposes.

On 11 November 2015, Brazilian Ministry of Finance reported that Brazil ratified four agreements for the exchange of tax information (Tax Information Exchange Agreement; TIEA), with Uruguay, Jersey, Guernsey and Cayman Islands and the protocol to expand the exchange of information under the Agreement for the Avoidance of Double Taxation with India. According to the Ministry of Finance these agreements will allow Brazil to obtain information on financial assets held and income earned in these countries. The conclusion of such agreements is in line with the G20 guidelines to increase transparency in tax matters and combat evasion by hiding overseas assets and income. Once implemented, this model will increase international transparency by broadening the tax authorities' access to financial transactions and multiplying the network of tax administrations involved in the process of information exchange.<sup>41</sup>

On 14 January 2016, the Congress approved the decree no. 105 providing for ratification of the Multilateral Convention on Mutual Administrative Assistance in Tax Matters. Thus, Brazil expanded its network of information exchange and improved its international image, confirming their commitment to the G20 and the Global Forum on Transparency and Exchange of Information for Tax Purposes.<sup>42</sup> On 1 June 2016, Foreign Minister of Brazil, José Serra, submitted the instrument of ratification of Multilateral Convention on Mutual Administrative Assistance in Tax Matters to the OECD during the launch of the Regional Programme for the Caribbean and Latin America.<sup>43</sup>

Brazil has taken actions aimed at strengthening mechanisms for ensuring tax transparency, including those related to the AEOI. Thus, it receives a score of +1.

*Analysts: Sofia Streltsova, Irina Sedova and Irina Popova*

**Russia: +1**

Russia has fully complied with the commitment on tax transparency and exchange of information for taxation purposes.

Russia has taken actions aimed at strengthening mechanisms for ensuring tax transparency, including those related to the AEOI.

<sup>41</sup> Novos acordos fortalecem transparência e intercâmbio de informações para fins tributários, Brazil ministry of Finance 11 November 2015. Access date: 9 September 2016.

<http://idg.receita.fazenda.gov.br/noticias/ascom/2015/novembro/novos-acordos-fortalecem-transparencia-e-intercambio-de-informacoes-para-fins-tributarios>

<sup>42</sup> Congresso Aprova Acordo que Fortalecerá o Intercâmbio Internacional de Informações para Fins Tributários, Brazilian Internal Revenue Service, Ministry of Finance 15 April 2016. Access date: 13 July 2016.

<http://idg.receita.fazenda.gov.br/noticias/ascom/2016/abril/congresso-aprova-acordo-que-fortalecera-o-intercambio-internacional-de-informacoes-para-fins-tributarios>

<sup>43</sup> Brazil, Jamaica and Uruguay expand their capacity to fight international tax avoidance and evasion, OECD 1 June 2016. Access date: 13 July 2016. <http://www.oecd.org/tax/transparency/brazil-jamaica-and-uruguay-expand-their-capacity-to-fight-international-tax-avoidance-and-evasion.htm>

On 1-2 October 2015, the representatives of the Federal Tax Service of Russia participated in the XXII meeting of the Coordination Council of Heads of Tax Services of CIS countries. The main issue on the meeting's agenda was innovative methods of tax control. Head of the Department of Standards and International Cooperation of the Federal Tax Service of Russia D.V. Volvach gave a speech on the standard of automatic exchange of tax information on financial accounts.<sup>44</sup>

On 8 October 2015, the issues related to the Automatic Exchange of Information were discussed in the meeting of relevant authorities of Russia and Finland. During the meeting special attention was paid to the introduction of the standard of automatic exchange and unified data transmission system developed by the OECD. The tool of cryptographic protection of information, certified and approved for use in operations of the exchange of information with the tax administration of Finland, was also demonstrated by the representatives of the Russian Federation.<sup>45</sup>

On 29 October 2015, Deputy Head of the Federal Tax Service of Russia A.L. Overchuk and Deputy Minister for Taxes and Duties of Belarus E.A. Selitskaya signed a protocol of the first meeting of the permanent working group on tax control and tax information exchange. According to the document, the parties will coordinate the actions of the tax administrations of the two countries by exchanging information during audits.<sup>46</sup>

On 18-19 November 2015, the Federal Tax Service of Russia held the second Project Workshop that was attended by experts from 20 tax administrations and leading technological companies, including Accenture, Gartner and Teradata. Delegates shared their views and experience and agreed upon creating a Digital Maturity Self-Assessment Framework that can be used by tax commissioners to measure their success in service delivery. Participants also confirmed their willingness to continue research in the area of E-services and Digital Delivery after May 2016.<sup>47</sup>

On 18 January 2016, Russia and Hong Kong signed a comprehensive agreement for the avoidance of double taxation. The agreement contains an article on exchange of tax information on request, enabling both countries to fulfill their international obligations on enhancing tax transparency and combating tax evasion.<sup>48</sup>

On 12 May 2016, Russia signed the CRS Multilateral Competent Authority Agreement. The Agreement is one of the key parts of an international framework that facilitates the automatic exchange of tax information between jurisdictions.<sup>49</sup>

According to the Phase 2 review by the Global Forum on Transparency and Exchange of Information for Tax Purposes assessing jurisdictions' compliance with the EOIR standard in practice, Russia is rated as largely compliant.<sup>50</sup>

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<sup>44</sup> Coordination Council of the heads of taxation units of the countries-members of CIS discussed the innovative methods for tax control during the XXII meeting of the Council, Federal Tax Service of the Russian Federation 2 October 2015. Access date: 9 September 2016. [https://www.nalog.ru/rn77/news/international\\_activities/5732879/](https://www.nalog.ru/rn77/news/international_activities/5732879/)

<sup>45</sup> Issues of information exchange in the framework of Convention on Mutual Administrative Assistance were discussed on the Russian-Finnish working group session in Vladivostok, Tax Service of the Russian Federation 8 October 2015. Access date: 9 September 2016. [https://www.nalog.ru/rn77/news/international\\_activities/5736151/](https://www.nalog.ru/rn77/news/international_activities/5736151/)

<sup>46</sup> Federal taxation service of Russian Federation and Ministry of taxation of Belarus signed an agreement on information cooperation in the framework of control measures, Federal Tax Service of the Russian Federation 29 October 2015. Access date: 9 September 2016. [https://www.nalog.ru/rn77/news/international\\_activities/5770558/](https://www.nalog.ru/rn77/news/international_activities/5770558/)

<sup>47</sup> FTA E-services and Digital Delivery Project, Federal Tax Service of the Russian Federation 1 August 2016. Access date: 9 September 2016. [https://www.nalog.ru/eng/rub\\_mns\\_news/5797763/](https://www.nalog.ru/eng/rub_mns_news/5797763/)

<sup>48</sup> Hong Kong and Russia enter into tax pact, Hong Kong Government Information Centre 18 January 2016. Access date: 10 May 2016. <http://www.info.gov.hk/gia/general/201601/18/P201601180546.htm>

<sup>49</sup> THE CRS MULTILATERAL COMPETENT AUTHORITY AGREEMENT (MCAA), OECD. Access date: 10 August 2016. <http://www.oecd.org/tax/automatic-exchange/international-framework-for-the-crs/>

Russia has taken actions aimed at strengthening mechanisms for ensuring tax transparency, including those related to the AEOI. Thus, it receives a score of +1.

*Analysts: Elizaveta Nekrasova and Irina Popova*

**India: +1**

India has fully complied with the commitment on tax transparency and exchange of information for taxation purposes.

For India the Convention on Mutual Administrative Assistance in Tax Matters has already entered into force.<sup>51</sup>

According to the Exchange of Tax Information Portal, India has exchange of information relationships with 117 jurisdictions through 100 Double Tax Conventions (DTC) and 19 Tax Information Exchange Agreements (TIEAs). 2 TIEAs were signed and one DTC entered in force in the monitoring period. TIEA with Marshall Islands was signed on 17 March 2016 and TIEA with Maldives was signed on 11 April 2016. One DTC entered in force with Indonesia on 5 February 2016.<sup>52</sup>

On 28 August 2015, the Reserve Bank of India informed the heads of Indian financial institutions about the amendments to Income Tax Rules. The added rules contained definitions, information to be maintained and reported and due diligence requirement.<sup>53</sup> On 31 August 2015, Indian Ministry of Finance published the Guidance Notes on Implementation of Reporting Requirements under Rules 114F to 114H of the Income-Tax Rules.<sup>54</sup>

On 1 October 2015, the Indian Ministry of Finance issued press release on declarations received and amount declared under the compliance window of the Black Money Act. According to the report 638 declarations declaring undisclosed foreign assets amounting to INR37.7 billion were received.<sup>55</sup>

On 7 October 2015, the Government of India approved the Protocol amending the Agreement between India and Vietnam for the avoidance of double taxation and for prevention of fiscal evasion with respect to income tax. The Protocol provides for internationally accepted standards for effective exchange of information on tax matters including bank information and information without domestic tax interest. It is further provided that the information received from Vietnam in respect of

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<sup>50</sup> OECD Secretary-General Report to G20 Finance Ministers, OECD 27 February 2016. Access date: 10 May 2016. <http://www.oecd.org/tax/transparency/about-the-global-forum/g20/global-forum-G20-report-shanghai-february-2016.pdf>

<sup>51</sup> OECD Secretary-General Report to G20 Finance Ministers, OECD 27 February 2016. Access date: 8 September 2016. <http://www.oecd.org/tax/transparency/about-the-global-forum/g20/global-forum-G20-report-shanghai-february-2016.pdf>

<sup>52</sup> The list of Exchange of Tax Information agreements. Access date: 8 September 2016. <http://www.eoi-tax.org/jurisdictions/IN#agreements>

<sup>53</sup> Reporting requirement under Foreign Account Tax Compliance Act (FATCA) and Common Reporting Standards (CRS), Reserve Bank of India 28 August 2015. Access date: 8 September 2016. <https://rbi.org.in/Scripts/NotificationUser.aspx?Id=10005&Mode=0>

<sup>54</sup> Guidance Notes on Implementation of Reporting Requirements under Rules 114F to 114H of the Income-Tax Rules, Reporting requirement under Foreign Account Tax Compliance Act (FATCA) and Common Reporting Standards (CRS), Reserve Bank of India 31 August 2015. Access date: 8 September 2016. <https://rbiidocs.rbi.org.in/rdocs/content/pdfs/114F310815A.pdf>

<sup>55</sup> Declarations received and amount declared under the compliance window under the Black Money Act- regarding, Ministry of Finance of India 1 October 2015. Access date: 8 September 2016. [http://www.finmin.nic.in/press\\_room/2015BlackMoney\\_ComplianceWindow01102015.pdf](http://www.finmin.nic.in/press_room/2015BlackMoney_ComplianceWindow01102015.pdf).

a resident of India can be shared with other law enforcement agencies with authorisation of the Competent Authority of Vietnam and vice versa.<sup>56</sup>

On 9 July 2015, India and the US signed an Intergovernmental Agreement (IGA) to implement the Foreign Account Tax Compliance Act (FATCA) to promote tax transparency.<sup>57</sup>

On 3 December 2015, India hosted the 6<sup>th</sup> meeting of the AEOI Group of the Global Forum on Transparency and Exchange of Information for Tax Purposes. Indian representatives emphasized the importance of international cooperation on tax transparency and stressed the country's commitment to first automatic exchanges by 2017.<sup>58</sup>

On 31 December 2015, Central Board of Direct Taxes of Indian Finance Ministry published a revised guidance note aiming to help financial institutions, regulators and officers of the Income Tax Department for ensuring compliance with the reporting requirements in the framework of the AEOI.<sup>59</sup>

On 15 June 2016, Indian Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi and Swiss President Johann Schneider-Ammann discussed cooperation on tax transparency between their countries. At the same day, Revenue Secretary of India Hasmukh Adhia and Swiss State Secretary for International Financial Matters Jacques de Watteville agreed to move towards an early agreement for the implementation of AEOI.<sup>60</sup>

India has taken actions aimed at strengthening mechanisms for ensuring tax transparency, including the AEOI. Thus, it receives a score of +1.

*Analysts: Ildar Khalilyulin, Evgeny Tsarik and Andrey Shelepov*

#### **China: +1**

China has fully complied with the commitment on tax transparency and exchange of information for taxation purposes.

On 16 December 2015, the People's Republic of China signed the Multilateral Competent Authority Agreement on Automatic Exchange of Financial Account Information (CRS MCAA), which allows it

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<sup>56</sup> Protocol amending the Agreement between India and Vietnam for the avoidance of double taxation and for prevention of fiscal evasion with respect to taxes on income, Press Information Bureau Government of India 7 October 2015. Access date: 8 September 2016. <http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=128500>.

<sup>57</sup> India and United States Signs Inter Governmental Agreement (IGA) to Implement the Foreign Account Tax Compliance Act (FATCA) to Promote Transparency on Tax Matters, Ministry of Finance of India 9 July 2015. Access date: 8 September 2016. [http://finmin.nic.in/press\\_room/2015/India\\_US\\_sign\\_IGA09072015.pdf](http://finmin.nic.in/press_room/2015/India_US_sign_IGA09072015.pdf).

<sup>58</sup> Inauguration of the 6th meeting of the Automatic Exchange of Information (AEOI) group, Central Board of Direct Taxes, Government of India 3 December 2015. Access date: 8 September 2016. <http://www.incometaxindia.gov.in/Lists/Press%20Releases/Attachments/412/Press-Release-Inauguration-of-the-6th-mtg-of-AEOI-Group-03-12-2015%20.pdf>

<sup>59</sup> Guidance Note on Implementation of Reporting Requirements Under Rules 114f to 114h of the Income-Tax Rules, 1962, Central Board of Direct Taxes, Government of India 31 December 2015. Access date: 8 September 2016. <http://incometaxindia.gov.in/news/guidance-note-for-fatca-crts-31-12-2015.pdf>

<sup>60</sup> India and Switzerland agree to move towards an early agreement for the implementation of AEOI between the two countries; Two sides agreed to pursue the ongoing dialogue on tax and financial matters in a spirit of mutual friendship and cooperation, Press Information Bureau, Government of India 15 June 2016. Access date: 8 September 2016. <http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=146245>

to move forward with plans to activate automatic exchange of financial account information in tax matters and commence exchanges with other countries in 2018.<sup>61</sup>

On 12 May 2016, China signed the Multilateral Competent Authority Agreement on the Exchange of Country-by-Country Reports. The pact allows all signatories to bilaterally and automatically exchange Country-by-Country Reports in the framework of BEPS Action 13 with each other.<sup>62</sup>

China takes actions aimed at strengthening mechanisms for ensuring tax transparency, including those related to the AEOI. Thus it receives a score of +1.

*Analysts: Maria Strelnikova, Kirill Krivosheev and Irina Popova*

### **South Africa: +1**

South Africa has fully complied with the commitment on tax transparency and exchange of information for taxation purposes.

On 7 August 2015, the South Africa signed the Tax Information Exchange Agreement (TIES) with Uruguay.<sup>63</sup>

On 19 November 2015, the heads of tax administrations of the BRICS member states (including a representative of South Africa) held a meeting in Moscow. At the meeting, the parties agreed on the exchange of experience and mutual assistance in the fight against the erosion of the tax base and the withdrawal of profits from taxation. They signed the joint communiqué, which contained the intention to develop cooperation in the field of taxation and ensuring tax transparency.<sup>64</sup>

On 24 February 2016, South African Minister of Finance Pravin Gordhan delivered a Budget Speech, in which he underscored his country's commitment to fight tax evasion. Mr. Gordhan noted that "international agreements on information sharing will enable tax authorities to act more effectively against illicit flows and abusive practices by multinational corporations and wealthy individuals." He also underscored the role of international collaboration "in efforts to ensure that the tax system remains robust and contributes to inclusive growth."<sup>65</sup>

On 24 June 2016, the South African Revenue Service (SARS) released the updated AEOI business requirement specification (BRS), which included amendments requested by industry.<sup>66</sup>

South Africa has taken actions aimed at strengthening mechanisms for ensuring tax transparency and contributed to the AEOI. Thus, it receives a score of +1.

*Analysts: Ilya Glaz and Andrei Sakharov*

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<sup>61</sup> China takes important step to boost international co-operation against tax evasion, OECD 16 December 2015. Access date: 16 August 2016. <http://www.oecd.org/tax/transparency/chinatakesimportantsteptoboostinternationalco-operationagainsttaxevasion.htm>

<sup>62</sup> India, China, 3 others sign pact on tax info sharing, Business today 12 May 2016. Access date: 16 August 2016. <http://www.businesstoday.in/money/tax/india-china-3-others-sign-pact-on-tax-info-sharing/story/232482.html>

<sup>63</sup> South Africa, The Exchange of Tax Information Portal. Access date: 12 September 2016. <http://www.eoi-tax.org/jurisdictions/ZA#agreements>.

<sup>64</sup> Head of BRICS countries tax authorities signed Communiqué on mutual assistance in countering BEPS, Federal Tax Service of Russia 19 November 2015. Access date: 12 September 2016. [https://www.nalog.ru/rn77/news/activities\\_fts/5801847/](https://www.nalog.ru/rn77/news/activities_fts/5801847/)

<sup>65</sup> Budget Speech 2016, Government of South Africa 24 February 2016. Access date: 12 September 2016. <http://www.treasury.gov.za/documents/national%20budget/2016/speech/speech.pdf>

<sup>66</sup> Automatic Exchange of Information (FATCA and CRS), SARS 2016. Access date: 12 September 2016. <http://www.sars.gov.za/ClientSegments/Businesses/Mod3rdParty/Pages/Automatic-Exchange-of-Information.aspx>

### 3. Information and Communications Technology

We commit ourselves to focus on expanding universal access to all forms of digital communication and to improve awareness of people in this regard.

*BRICS Ufa Declaration*

#### Assessment

	No Compliance	Partial Compliance	Full Compliance
Brazil			+1
Russia			+1
India			+1
China		0	
South Africa			+1
Average		+0.80	

#### Background

The BRICS first turned their attention to the development of information and communication technologies (ICT) at their 2013 meeting in Durban. The leaders recognized “the critical positive role the Internet plays globally in promoting economic, social and cultural development.”<sup>67</sup>

In 2014 the BRICS leaders reaffirmed their vision of ICT as a means to foster sustainable economic progress and social inclusion and agreed “that particular attention should be given to young people and to small and medium-sized enterprises, with a view to promoting international exchange and cooperation, as well as to fostering innovation, ICT research and development.”<sup>68</sup>

#### Commitment Features

The commitment requires the BRICS members to take actions aimed at promoting universal access to digital communication as well as improving awareness of their populations of the opportunities in this sphere.

Possible government actions can include investing in expanding broadband capabilities and increasing broadband coverage through either directly investing in building appropriate infrastructure and facilities or supporting/creating favourable conditions for private initiatives and enterprises in this sphere.

The governments’ actions to improve people’s awareness of ICT can involve measures aimed at disseminating information on the advantages of new communication technologies among population, investing in quality education in the field of ICT, or supporting/creating favourable conditions for private initiatives in this field.

To fully comply with the commitment members should take actions to both expand access to digital communication technologies and raise people’s awareness of this issue.

<sup>67</sup> eThekweni Declaration, BRICS 27 March 2013. 19 October 2015. <http://www.brics.utoronto.ca/docs/130327-statement.html>.

<sup>68</sup> Fortaleza Declaration, BRICS 15 July 2014. 19 October 2015. <http://www.brics.utoronto.ca/docs/140715-leaders.html>.

**Scoring Guidelines**

-1	Member fails to take action to expand access to digital communication and to improve awareness of people in this regard.
0	Member takes action to expand access to digital communication OR to improve awareness of people in this regard.
+1	Member takes action to expand access to digital communication AND to improve awareness of people in this regard.

**Brazil: +1**

Brazil has fully complied with the commitment on information and communication.

On 14 July 2015, the Ministry of Communications of Brazil launched a new National Plan of Grants (PNO), according to which 699 municipalities will be provided with new radio stations and also 235 villages will benefit from radio's and TV's educational programs.<sup>69</sup>

On 16 July 2015, the program of expansion of communications in Western Amazonia was launched in order to bring high-speed Internet services to this region. It involves the installation of about 7800 km of fiber optic cables in the beds of the rivers Negro, Solimões, Madeira, Juruá and Purus linking 52 municipalities and serving 3.8 million people in the region.<sup>70</sup>

On 29 October 2015, the Brazilian Ministry of Communications approved the investments of USD15.1 billion for broadband internet network and for realization of 1,167 infrastructure projects, aligned to the Special Taxation of the National Broadband Plan (REPNBL — Regime Especial de Tributação do Programa Nacional de Banda Larga).<sup>71</sup>

On 3 November 2015, the establishment of new radio stations in 86 municipalities in the regions of North and Northeast was approved by the Ministry of Communications. It is the first National Grant Plan (Plano Nacional de Outorga — PNO) 2015/2016 of public broadcasting.<sup>72</sup>

On 10 November 2015, the Ministry of Communications approved investment of USD3.3 billion in broadband networks in the Northeast regions.<sup>73</sup>

On 14 December 2015, Brazilian geostationary satellite entered the integration and testing phase. The mating between the satellite platform and the communication module (payload) was successfully performed, marking the beginning of the integration and testing campaign. The mating was held at Thales Alenia Space facilities, satellite supplier of the SGDC System. The launch is scheduled for the window December 2016/February 2017. With the SGDC system, Brazil aims to achieve sovereignty

<sup>69</sup> 699 municípios serão beneficiados com rádios comunitárias, Portal of Brazilian Government 15 July 2015. Access date: 9 September 2016. <http://www.brasil.gov.br/infraestrutura/2015/07/municipios-serao-beneficiados-com-radios-comunitarias>

<sup>70</sup> Amazônia Conectada vai implantar 7,8 mil quilômetros de cabos ópticos, Portal of Brazilian Government 16 July 2015. Access date: 9 September 2016. <http://www.brasil.gov.br/infraestrutura/2015/07/amazonia-conectada-vai-implantar-7-8-mil-quilometros-de-cabos-opticos>

<sup>71</sup> Banda larga do País terá R\$ 15 bi de novos investimentos, Portal of Brazilian Government 29 October 2015. . Access date: 9 September 2016. <http://www.brasil.gov.br/infraestrutura/2015/10/banda-larga-do-pais-tera-r-15-bi-de-novos-investimentos>

<sup>72</sup> Rádios comunitárias chegarão a 86 municípios do Norte e Nordeste, Portal of Brazilian Government 3 November 2015. Access date: 9 September 2016. <http://www.brasil.gov.br/infraestrutura/2015/11/radios-comunitarias-chegarao-a-86-municipios-do-norte-e-do-nordeste>

<sup>73</sup> MC leva internet popular para interior do Ceará, Ministry of Communications of Brazil 13 November 2015. Access date: 9 September 2016. <http://www.mc.gov.br/sala-de-imprensa/todas-as-noticias/institucionais/37781-mc-leva-internet-popular-para-interior-do-ceara>

in civilian and military strategic communications as well as expand access to broadband Internet for the entire nation's territory.<sup>74</sup>

On 9 March 2016, the Government of Brazil adopted new strategy to improve digital governance. The federal government began the implementation of a new model in Management of Information Technology. It will help to improve citizens' access to the online public services and facilitate online information request.<sup>75</sup>

On 30 March 2016, Secretary of the Ministry of Communications Maximiliano Martinhão, announced the upcoming update for the National Broadband Plan (introduced in 2012 by Decree № 7175). The goal is to provide universal access to fast Internet in Brazil, reaching 95% of the population and 70% of municipalities. Moreover, the new phase will focus on improving the network connection in schools to enhance digital education.<sup>76</sup>

On 6 May 2016, Brazilian Government started the revision process of the General Telecommunications Law, adopted in 1997 by presenting the report on concessions model. This revision will put an end the public system of fixed-line services; give the National Agency of Telecommunications (ANATEL) the competence to regulate private services sector, such as broadband Internet and mobile communications and create conditions for investment in the sector to prioritize the expansion of broadband.<sup>77</sup>

On 10 May 2016, the Government of Brazil reported that Digital governance system facilitates access to information. This system contains the Open Data Portal for making available the information about the functioning of the public authorities, and the Service Portal which already provides 600 online-services increasing their accessibility.<sup>78</sup>

On 23 May 2016, Brazilian Minister of Science, Technology, Innovation and Communications, Gilberto Kassab, announced his plans to strengthen the National Telecommunications Agency (Anatel) by passing competences of the Ministry of Communications to the regulatory agency. The aim of this reform is to facilitate more efficient functioning of the Agency for the development of information and communication technologies.<sup>79</sup>

Brazil has taken action to expand access to digital communication and to improve awareness of people in this regard. Thus, it receives a score of +1.

*Analyst: Irina Sedova and Irina Popova*

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<sup>74</sup> Brazilian geostationary satellite enters the integration and testing phase, Embraer 12 December 2015. Access date: 13 July 2016. <http://www.embraer.com/en-us/imprensaeventos/press-releases/noticias/pages/brazilian-geostationary-satellite-enters-the-integration-and-testing-phase.aspx>

<sup>75</sup> Governo adota novas estratégias para aperfeiçoar a governança digital, Portal of Brazilian Government 9 March 2016. Access date: 13 July 2016. <http://www.brasil.gov.br/governo/2016/03/governo-adota-novas-estrategias-para-aperfeicoar-a-governanca-digital>

<sup>76</sup> Governo prepara atualização do Programa Nacional de Banda Larga, Portal of Brazilian Government 30 March 2016. Access date: 13 July 2016. <http://www.brasil.gov.br/infraestrutura/2016/03/governo-prepara-atualizacao-do-programa-nacional-de-banda-larga>

<sup>77</sup> Banda larga deve ser novo foco das telecomunicações no Brasil, Globo 6 April 2016. Access date: 13 July 2016. <http://g1.globo.com/tecnologia/noticia/2016/04/banda-larga-deve-ser-novo-foco-das-telecomunicacoes-no-brasil.html>

<sup>78</sup> Governança Digital facilita acesso à informação, Portal of Brazilian Government 11 May 2016. Access date: 13 July. <http://www.brasil.gov.br/governo/2016/05/governanca-digital-facilita-acesso-a-informacao>

<sup>79</sup> Kassab quer fortalecer Anatel e pode aumentar atribuições da agência, Agência Brasil 23 May 2016. Access date: 13 July 2016. <http://agenciabrasil.ebc.com.br/geral/noticia/2016-05/kassab-quer-fortalecer-anatel-e-pode-aumentar-atribuicoes-da-agencia>



**Russia: +1**

Russia has fully complied with the commitment on information and communication.

On 23 July 2015, the Russian Ministry of Telecom and Mass Communications announced the building of the Kamchatka-Sakhalin-Magadan underwater fiber optical communication line. It will help to provide the regions of the Russian Far East with modern communication services and technologies.<sup>80</sup>

On 5 October 2015, Russian Minister of Telecom and Mass Communications Nikolay Nikiforov, President of Rostelecom, and heads of the Republic of Dagestan and the Jewish Autonomous Region signed tripartite agreements in the framework of the universal communication services reform. The agreements are aimed at development of telecommunication infrastructure and complex state information systems in the Russian regions. Rostelecom is defined by the Russian Government as a single federal operator of universal services. In order to bridge digital divide building of more than 200,000 kilometers of fiber-optic communication lines is planned.<sup>81</sup>

On 14 October 2016, Russian Ministry of Telecom and Mass Communications launched the service “Open state services platform.” The platform facilitates users’ access to state services through regional web-portals and increases their access to online services.<sup>82</sup>

On 28 October – 1 November 2015, the Forum and Technology Show Open Innovations was held in Moscow. It focuses on future technologies in the modern human society, economy and everyday life. The main topic is Humanity in the Center of the Technological Revolution. High tech corporations, startups, venture industries, government officials, entrepreneurs and scientists, consumers and enablers of high tech solutions participated in the Forum. The forum organizers included: State Corporation “Bank for Development and Foreign Economic Affairs (Vnesheconombank),” Russian Ministry of Education and Science and Russian Ministry of Economic Development.<sup>83</sup>

On 19 November 2015, at the meeting with representatives of the Trade Union of Telecom Employees Russian Minister of Telecom and Mass Communications Nikolay Nikiforov said that in order to eliminate digital divide in Russia it was planned to “construct 215 thousand kilometers of fiber-optic communication bands to small inhabited localities with population from 250 to 500 people within three years.” According to the Minister “elimination of digital divide will reduce difference between cities and rural areas. Increase of broadband services availability by 10% creates possibilities for GDP growth by 1–1.5% annually.”<sup>84</sup>

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<sup>80</sup> The laying of the underwater communications line started to connect Magadan, Sakhalin and Kamchatka, Ministry of Telecom and Mass Communications of the Russian Federation 23 July 2015. Access date: 9 September 2016.

<http://minsvyaz.ru/ru/events/33729/>

<sup>81</sup> Agreements on cooperation in communication services were signed during Sochi forum, Ministry of Telecom and Mass Communications of the Russian Federation 5 October 2016. Access date: 9 September 2016.

<http://minsvyaz.ru/ru/events/34098/>

<sup>82</sup> Russian Ministry of Telecom and Mass Communications launched the service “Open state services platform”, Russian Ministry of Telecom and Mass Communications 14 October 2015. Access date: 19 September 2016.

<http://minsvyaz.ru/ru/events/34107/>

<sup>83</sup> Coorganizers of The Moscow International Forum for Innovative Development “Open innovations”, The Moscow International Forum for Innovative Development “Open innovations”. Access date: 19 September 2016.

<https://forinnovations.ru/en/about>

<sup>84</sup> Head of Minsvyaz Met with Representatives of the Trade Union of Telecom Employees, Ministry of Telecom and Mass Communications of the Russian Federation 19 November 2015. Access date: 9 September 2016.

<http://minsvyaz.ru/en/events/34316/>

On 30 March 2016, Russian Ministry of Telecom and Mass Communications announced the results of the state program to reduce digital inequality in 2015. 1189 internet access points in 65 federal subjects were created and around 22 thousand kilometres of fiberoptic telecom lines were built in 2015. The government provides low-income citizens with cheap internet access as a part of its social obligations.<sup>85</sup>

On 15 April 2016, the contest for senior citizens “Thank you Internet” was launched. It is organized by the Rostelecom company and the Pension Fund of the Russian Federation. It is aimed at promoting the topics of senior and disabled citizens education and accessibility of electronic state services. The admission was open until 9 October 2016.<sup>86</sup>

On 10 May 2016, Russian Ministry of Telecom and Mass Communications announced the creation of the ground component of the high-speed Internet connection relay. The system, according to the Ministry is aimed at reducing digital inequality in Russia by enabling access to the Internet in remote areas of the country “from Kaliningrad to Kamchatka” and will allow many Russian citizens to make full use of state services.<sup>87</sup>

On 7 July 2016, the Russian Ministry of Telecom and Mass Communications launched a section for pensioners at the Common Government Services Portal of Russian Federation web-site. It provides a convenient access to the information and state services relevant to the elderly people, such as retirement account data.<sup>88</sup>

Russia has taken action to expand access to digital communication AND to improve awareness of people in this regard. Thus, it receives a score of +1.

*Analysts: Olesia Nikulina and Irina Popova*

#### **India: +1**

India has fully complied with the commitment on information and communication.

On 26 August 2015, a presentation on the e-Government initiatives by the Department of Electronics and Information Technology (DEITY) was published. It gives an overview of the precise steps, which will be taken by the Government of India within the Digital India program.<sup>89</sup>

On 7 September 2015, an Indian state-owned company Bharat Sanchar Nigam Ltd (BSNL) announced the upgrade of the speed of all Landline Broadband customers from 512 kbps to minimum 2 mbps.<sup>90</sup>

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<sup>85</sup> Ministry of Telecom and Mass Communications announces the results of the state program to reduce digital inequality, Russian Ministry of Telecom and Mass Communications 10 May 2016. Access date: 11 May 2016. <http://www.minsvyaz.ru/ru/events/34915/>

<sup>86</sup> “Thank you Internet-2016” Competition, Rostelecom. Access date: 9 September 2016. <http://azbukainterneta.ru/konkurs/>

<sup>87</sup> Ground component of the Russian satellite network is operational, Russian Ministry of Telecom and Mass Communications 10 May 2016. Access date: 11 May 2016. <http://www.minsvyaz.ru/ru/events/35120/>

<sup>88</sup> Section for pensioners launched at the Common Government Services Portal of Russian Federation web-site, Russian Ministry of Telecom and Mass Communications 7 July 2016. Access date: 12 August 2016. <http://www.minsvyaz.ru/ru/events/35411/>.

<sup>89</sup> e-Government initiatives, Digital India 26 August 2015. Access date: 19 September 2016. [http://digitalindia.gov.in/writereaddata/files/whats\\_new\\_doc/Presentation-UNDP-26.08.2015.v5.pdf](http://digitalindia.gov.in/writereaddata/files/whats_new_doc/Presentation-UNDP-26.08.2015.v5.pdf).

<sup>90</sup> Achievements In Wi-Fi services by BSNL, Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited 7 September 2015. Access date: 19 September 2016. [http://bsnl.in/opencms/bsnl/BSNL/press\\_room/Achievements.php](http://bsnl.in/opencms/bsnl/BSNL/press_room/Achievements.php)

On 26 September 2015, Prime Minister of India Narendra Modi gave a speech at Digital India event in California (United States). He said that the expansion of the National Optical Fibre Network would ensure broadband access to 600,000 villages. He also announced that in cooperation with Google, 500 railway stations will be covered by Wi-Fi spots soon.<sup>91</sup>

On 5 November 2015, the site of National Digital Literacy Mission (NDLM) announced the tie up with 60 NGOs to spread NDLM. It is reported that agreements were made to take the NDLM scheme to marginalized communities.<sup>92</sup>

On 2 June 2016, the Memorandum of Understanding between India and Tunisia was signed. It focused to strengthening bilateral cooperation between private entities, institutions involved in enhancing capacity building and governments of the two countries in the field of information and communications technologies and digital economy.<sup>93</sup>

India has taken action to expand access to digital communication and to improve awareness of people in this regard. Thus, it receives a score of +1.

*Analyst: Ildar Khalilyulin*

### **China: 0**

China has partially complied with the commitment on information and communication.

On 14 October 2015, China reorganized its wireless industry by pulling the assets of three state-owned companies (China Mobile Ltd, China Unicom (Hong Kong) Ltd and China Telecom Corp.) into the joint venture China Tower Corp. China Mobile Ltd. now owns about 38% of shares; China Unicom (Hong Kong) Ltd and China Telecom Corp. both have about 28%.<sup>94</sup> Restructuring ownership of the network assets was aimed at saving on capital expenditure for constructing telecom towers and expanding 4G network coverage.<sup>95</sup>

On 3 November 2015, the Communist Party of China (CPC) issued the full text of proposals for mapping out a blueprint for China's development over the next five years starting 2016. It includes the increase of Internet Network speed, lowering the price of access and implementation of the "Internet Plus" policy, which is aimed at encouraging the development of e-commerce, industrial networks, and Internet banking.<sup>96</sup>

On 12 August 2016, Nokia and China Telecom have signed an agreement to expand the deployment of 4G technology in 19 provinces in China, allowing China Telecom to enhance coverage and

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<sup>91</sup> Full Text of PM Modi's Speech at Digital India Event in San Jose, NDTV 27 September 2015. Access date: 19 September 2016. <http://www.ndtv.com/india-news/full-text-of-pm-modis-speech-at-digital-india-event-in-san-jose-california-1223406>

<sup>92</sup> Tie up with 60 NGOs in Tamil Nadu to spread NDLM, NDLM 5 November 2015. Access date: 19 September 2016. <http://www.ndlm.in/news/tie-up-with-60-ngos-in-tamil-nadu-to-spread-ndlm.html>

<sup>93</sup> MoU between India and Tunisia for strengthening bilateral cooperation in the field of ICT and Digital Economy, Prime Minister of India 2 June 2016. Access date: 8 September 2016. [http://www.pmindia.gov.in/en/news\\_updates/mou-between-india-and-tunisia-for-strengthening-bilateral-cooperation-in-the-field-of-ict-and-digital-economy/?comment=disable](http://www.pmindia.gov.in/en/news_updates/mou-between-india-and-tunisia-for-strengthening-bilateral-cooperation-in-the-field-of-ict-and-digital-economy/?comment=disable)

<sup>94</sup> China Mobile Surges After \$36 Billion Carrier Revamp Unveiled, Bloomberg 15 October 2015. Access date: 9 September 2016. <http://www.bloomberg.com/news/articles/2015-10-14/china-phone-carriers-rally-in-new-york-on-new-tower-asset-deal>

<sup>95</sup> China's Top Telecom Carriers to Sell Tower Assets to Joint Venture, The Wall Street Journal 15 October 2015. Access date: 9 September 2016. <http://www.wsj.com/articles/chinas-top-telecom-carriers-to-sell-tower-assets-to-joint-venture-1444886966>

<sup>96</sup> Highlights of proposals for China's 13th Five-Year Plan, China Daily 3 November 2015. Access date: 9 September 2016. [http://english.legalinfo.gov.cn/2015-11/03/content\\_22390089.htm](http://english.legalinfo.gov.cn/2015-11/03/content_22390089.htm)

capacity as well as the quality of experience for subscribers, while paving the way toward the introduction of 5G technology.<sup>97</sup>

China has taken action to expand access to digital communication, but failed to improve awareness of people in this regard. Thus, it receives a score of 0.

*Analysts: Kirill Krivosheev and Irina Popova*

### **South Africa: +1**

South Africa has fully complied with the commitment on information and communication.

South Africa has taken actions to expand access to digital communication.

On 8 September 2015, South African Minister of Science and Technology Naledi Pandor claimed that the development of the Internet access was a priority. The ministry ran several IT-projects, for example ICT Research and Development and Innovation Strategy, and it continues investing money in this sphere and attracting private investment. They consider expansion of the digital access to meet the needs of South Africans.<sup>98</sup>

On 3 November 2015, Premier of Gauteng Province David Makhura gave a speech at the Ernst & Young Strategic Growth Africa event. He claimed that the government continued investing money in the ICT. He announced the official opening of the Gauteng e-government and ICT Summit. At the ICT Summit specialists from all over the continent shared the experience on how to develop the ICT sector.<sup>99</sup>

On 4 November 2015, Proposed Policy Direction to the Independent Communications Authority of South Africa on Effective Competition in Broadband Markets and the Reduction of Data Costs was published by the Government. It provides for the independence of communications authority of South Africa and its increasing competitiveness on market. According to the plan, the information infrastructure is to meet the needs of citizens, business and the public sector, providing access to the creation and consumption of a wide range of digital services required for effective economic and social participation.<sup>100</sup>

On 5 November 2015, Minister of State Security David Mahlobo highlighted the importance of developing the ICT sector. He also emphasized that to insure cyber safety the Ministry plans to collaborate with schools and universities to train future IT-specialists.<sup>101</sup>

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<sup>97</sup> Nokia and China Telecom enhance 4G coverage and capacity in China, Nokia 12 August 2016. Access date: 9 September 2016. <http://company.nokia.com/en/news/press-releases/2016/08/12/nokia-and-china-telecom-enhance-4g-coverage-and-capacity-in-china>

<sup>98</sup> Address by Naledi Pandor MP, Minister of Science and Technology, South Africa Telecommunication Networks and Applications Conference (SATNAC), Department of Science and Technology 8 September 2015. Date of access: 19 September 2016. <http://www.dst.gov.za/index.php/media-room/media-room-speeches/minister/1499-address-by-naledi-pandor-mp-minister-of-science-and-technology-south-africa-telecommunication-networks-and-applications-conference-satnac-arabella-hotel-hermanus-8-september-2015-0800>.

<sup>99</sup> Premier David Makhura: Ernst & Young Strategic Growth Forum Africa 2015, South African Government 3 November 2015. Access date: 19 September 2016. <http://www.gov.za/speeches/premier-david-makhura-ernst-young-strategic-growth-forum-africa-2015-3-nov-2015-0000>.

<sup>100</sup> Proposed Policy Direction to the Independent Communications Authority of South Africa on Effective Competition in Broadband Markets and the Reduction of Data Costs, South African Government 4 November 2015. Access date: 19 September 2016. [http://www.gov.za/sites/www.gov.za/files/39363\\_gon1057.pdf](http://www.gov.za/sites/www.gov.za/files/39363_gon1057.pdf).

<sup>101</sup> Minister David Mahlobo: Closing session of State Security Cybersecurity Conference, South African Government 5 November 2015. Access date: 19 September 2016. <http://www.gov.za/speeches/minister-david-mahlobo-closing-session-state-security-cybersecurity-conference-5-nov-2015>.

On 16 November 2015, Minister of Communications Faith Muthambi launched the broadcasting digital migration awareness campaign. The aim was to raise awareness of South Africans of digital migration. Minister claimed that this campaign is especially important for young people, which might work in the Media or IT areas.<sup>102</sup>

On 30 August 2016, the Deputy Minister of Communication of South Africa Stella Ndabeni-Abrahams had a meeting with women in ICT and broadcasting devoted to empowerment strategies for women in these sectors and lifting women's representation in ICT sector workforce from current 20 percent up to at least 56 percent global average.<sup>103</sup>

South Africa has taken action to expand access to digital communication and to improve awareness of people in this regard. Thus, it receives a score of +1.

*Analyst: Elizaveta Nekrasova*

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<sup>102</sup> Minister Faith Muthambi holds broadcasting digital migration awareness campaign in Nyandeni, South African Government 16 November 2015. Access date: 19 September 2016. <http://www.gov.za/speeches/minister-communications-and-eastern-cape-premier-hold-broadcasting-digital-migration>.

<sup>103</sup> Deputy Minister Stella Ndabeni-Abrahams engages women in digital business, South African Government 30 August 2016. Access date: 13 September 2016. <http://www.gov.za/speeches/leaders-ict-and-broadcasting-engage-empowerment-women-digital-business-29-aug-2016-0000>.

#### 4. Regional Security: Iraq

We remain strongly committed to support the Republic of Iraq in achieving stability, peace, democracy, national reconciliation and unity, which is in the interest of regional and global peace and security

*BRICS Ufa Declaration*

##### Assessment

	No Compliance	Partial Compliance	Full Compliance
Brazil	-1		
Russia		0	
India		0	
China		0	
South Africa	-1		
Average		-0.40	

##### Background

For the first time BRICS addressed the situation in Iraq at the Fortaleza summit in 2014. The BRICS leaders expressed a deep concern by the situation in Iraq and supported “the Iraqi government in its effort to overcome the crisis, uphold national sovereignty and territorial integrity.” They urged “all parties to address the terrorist threat in a consistent manner” as well as “all regional and global players to refrain from interference that will further deepen the crisis.” BRICS emphasizes the importance of national reconciliation and unity in Iraq and in this context commended “the peaceful and orderly holding of the latest parliamentary elections.”

##### Commitment Features

The commitment requires the BRICS members to support Iraq in achieving stability, peace, democracy, national reconciliation and unity in the interest of regional and global peace and security. These objectives could be perceived as the need to help Iraq in combating security issues and facilitating its economic development.

Additionally BRICS noted the importance of assisting Iraq in its efforts to “provide humanitarian assistance to internally displaced persons and refugees in the affected areas of that country.”

In order to fully comply with this commitment, the BRICS members must support Iraq by providing support in all of the following areas: combating security issues, facilitating economic development, and providing humanitarian assistance to internally displaced persons and refugees.

##### Scoring Guidelines

-1	Member does not support Iraq in addressing security, socio-economic and humanitarian challenges.
0	Member supports Iraq in addressing only one or two of the following challenges: security, socio-economic and humanitarian.
+1	Member supports Iraq in addressing all of the following challenges: security, socio-economic and humanitarian.

##### Brazil: -1

Brazil has not complied with the commitment on supporting Iraq.

On 10 August 2015, the Brazilian Ministry of Foreign Affairs commented terrorist attacks in Iraq noting that “Brazil reaffirms its repudiation of terrorism and reiterates its confidence that the Iraqi people and Government will continue to overcome obstacles in the process of building a democratic Iraq, where different religious and ethnic groups that make up the country coexist in harmony.”<sup>104</sup>

On 30 September 2015, at the UN Security Council Open Debate on “Settlement of conflicts in the Middle East and North Africa and countering the terrorist threat in the region” Brazilian Minister of External Relations Mauro Vieira expressed Brazil’s repudiation for all forms of terrorism and extremism and said that the use of sanctions and military force should always be the last resort: “Iraq and Libya are two clear examples of the failure of any approach based on the vicious cycle of threats, sanctions and violence.”<sup>105</sup>

However, no Brazil’s significant actions to support Iraq in addressing security, socio-economic and humanitarian challenges have been registered during the compliance period.

Brazil has failed to take actions to support the Republic of Iraq in addressing security, socio-economic and humanitarian challenges. Thus, it receives a score of –1.

*Analyst: Ksenia Efimova*

### **Russia: 0**

Russia has partially complied with the commitment on supporting Iraq.

On 29-30 July 2015, the international conference of the heads of the national security and the law enforcement agencies from 64 countries was held in Yaroslavl (Russia). The participants discussed a threat posed to national security by ISIS, counterterrorism policy and measures which should be taken to support Syria and Iraq in achieving peace and stability.<sup>106</sup>

On 30 July 2015, head of Russian Federal Agency of Military-Technical Cooperation and Iraqi Defense Minister concluded an agreement on military and technical cooperation between Russia and Iraq.<sup>107</sup>

In October 2015, Russia, Iraq, Iran and Syria agreed to establish a joint information center in Baghdad to coordinate their operations against terrorists.<sup>108</sup>

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<sup>104</sup>Atentados no Iraque, Ministry of Foreign Relations of Brazil 10 August 2015. Access date: 9 September 2016. [http://www.itamaraty.gov.br/index.php?option=com\\_content&view=article&id=10745:atentadosiraque2015&catid=42&lang=pt-BR&Itemid=280](http://www.itamaraty.gov.br/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=10745:atentadosiraque2015&catid=42&lang=pt-BR&Itemid=280)

<sup>105</sup>Discurso do Ministro Mauro Vieira por ocasião do Debate Aberto no Conselho de Segurança das Nações Unidas: "Solução de Conflitos no Oriente Médio e Norte da África e combate à ameaça terrorista na região" – Nova York, 30 de setembro de 2015 [Inglês], Ministry of Foreign Relations of Brazil 30 September 2015. Access date: 9 September 2016. [http://www.itamaraty.gov.br/index.php?option=com\\_content&view=article&id=11949:discurso-do-ministro-mauro-vieira-por-ocasio-do-debate-aberto-no-conselho-de-seguranca-das-nacoes-unidas-solucao-de-conflitos-no-orientemedio-e-norte-da-africa-e-combate-a-a-ameaca-terrorista-na-regiao-nova-york-30-de-setembro-de-2015-ingles&catid=194&lang=pt-BR&Itemid=454](http://www.itamaraty.gov.br/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=11949:discurso-do-ministro-mauro-vieira-por-ocasio-do-debate-aberto-no-conselho-de-seguranca-das-nacoes-unidas-solucao-de-conflitos-no-orientemedio-e-norte-da-africa-e-combate-a-a-ameaca-terrorista-na-regiao-nova-york-30-de-setembro-de-2015-ingles&catid=194&lang=pt-BR&Itemid=454)

<sup>106</sup>Communiqué of the XIV Meeting of heads of special services, security agencies and law enforcement entities, Ministry of Foreign Relations of the Russian Federation 16 May 2015. Access date: 9 September 2016. [http://www.mid.ru/web/guest/foreign\\_policy/international\\_safety/crime/-/asset\\_publisher/3F5IZsLVSx4R/content/id/1755855](http://www.mid.ru/web/guest/foreign_policy/international_safety/crime/-/asset_publisher/3F5IZsLVSx4R/content/id/1755855)

<sup>107</sup>Russia and Iraq signed an agreement on military-technical cooperation, Interfax 31 July 2015. Access date: 9 September 2016. <http://www.interfax.ru/russia/457161>

<sup>108</sup>Interview with Russian ambassador in Iraq I. Mogrunov for Interfax news agency, Interfax 5 November 2015. Access date: 9 September 2016. [http://www.mid.ru/web/guest/nota-bene/-/asset\\_publisher/dx7DsH1WAM6w/content/id/1918911](http://www.mid.ru/web/guest/nota-bene/-/asset_publisher/dx7DsH1WAM6w/content/id/1918911)

On 5 November 2015, Russian Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov said that Russia continued to donate money for helping refugees from the Middle East, including in the framework of the UN system. Russia plans to become one of the biggest suppliers of humanitarian aid.<sup>109</sup>

On 9 November 2015, Russia provided the Iraqi Army with Russian helicopters MI-28 and MI-35.<sup>110</sup>

Russia has taken actions to support the Republic of Iraq in addressing security and humanitarian challenges, but no facts of assistance in addressing socio-economic challenges have been registered during the compliance period. Thus, it receives a score of 0.

*Analyst: Anna Elpatova*

### **India: 0**

India has partially complied with the commitment on supporting Iraq.

The negotiations on Bilateral Investment Promotion and Protection Agreement between India and Iraq have been underway.<sup>111</sup> However, no information on new developments has been registered during the compliance period.

On 13 July 2015, in a message to his counterpart Fuad Masum on the eve of National Day of Iraq, President Pranab Mukherjee said that India strongly supports Iraq's territorial integrity and its government's efforts to "overcome the current crisis."<sup>112</sup>

On 21-23 August 2016, Indian external affairs minister M.J. Akbar visited Iraq. At his meetings with top Iraqi officials he discussed different aspects of bilateral engagement, including economic, trade, investment, energy security, defense, security and counter-terrorism. The minister also reaffirmed India's willingness to participate in the reconstruction and provide further assistance through government's capacity-building projects in the framework of the Indian Technical and Economic Cooperation Program (ITEC).<sup>113</sup>

India has taken actions to support the Republic of Iraq in addressing security and socio-economic challenges, but no facts of humanitarian assistance have been registered during the compliance period. Thus, it receives a score of 0.

*Analysts: Anna Elpatova and Andrey Shelepov*

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<sup>109</sup> Opening Remarks by Russian Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov during talks with UN Vice-Secretary General for Humanitarian Affairs S.O'Brayen, Ministry of Foreign Relations of the Russian Federation 5 November 2015. Access date: 9 September 2016. [http://www.mid.ru/web/guest/foreign\\_policy/un/-/asset\\_publisher/U1StPbE8y3al/content/id/1920305](http://www.mid.ru/web/guest/foreign_policy/un/-/asset_publisher/U1StPbE8y3al/content/id/1920305)

<sup>110</sup> Baghdad recived the Russian military helicopters Mi-28 and Mi-35, Russian-Arab Business Council 9 November 2015. Access date: 9 September 2016. [http://www.russarabbc.ru/rusarab/?ELEMENT\\_ID=37217](http://www.russarabbc.ru/rusarab/?ELEMENT_ID=37217)

<sup>111</sup> List Of Countries with Whom Negotiations on Bilateral Investment Promotion And Protection Agreements (BIPA) Are Underway, Department of Economic affairs of Government of India. Access date: 17 September 2016. [http://finmin.nic.in/the\\_ministry/dept\\_eco\\_affairs/icsection/list\\_countries3.asp](http://finmin.nic.in/the_ministry/dept_eco_affairs/icsection/list_countries3.asp)

<sup>112</sup> India pledges support to Iraq govt in fight against ISIS, Deccan Chronicle 14 July 2016. Access date: 17 September 2016. <http://www.deccanchronicle.com/150713/nation-current-affairs/article/india-pledges-support-iraq-govt-fight-against-isis>

<sup>113</sup> Official visit of Minister of State for External Affairs M.J. Akbar to Iraq (August 21-23, 2016), Ministry of External Affairs of India 22 August 2016. Access date: 12 September 2016. <http://mea.gov.in/press-releases.htm?dtl/27330/Official+visit+of+Minister+of+State+for+External+Affairs+MJ+Akbar+to+Iraq+August+2123+2016>



**China: 0**

China has partially complied with the commitment on supporting Iraq.

On 15 October 2015, Chinese President Xi Jinping at the meeting with Croatian President Kolinda Grabar-Kitarovic said that the Chinese government valued the efforts of European countries, including Croatia, on the front-line of the crisis by taking in refugees mainly from Syria and Iraq. “China has paid close attention to the refugee issue in Europe and the Mediterranean and sympathizes with the refugees. The Chinese government will further provide assistance to refugees in relevant countries to help ease the humanitarian crisis.”<sup>114</sup>

On 14 July 2016, China donated for Iraq to \$ 170 million to aid displaced people of Mosul and Fallujah.<sup>115</sup>

On 8 September 2016, Position Paper of the People’s Republic of China at the 71st Session of the United Nations General Assembly was issued. In this paper China promised to “support and encourage various factions in Iraq to pursue continued and inclusive political dialogue and advance the political reconciliation and economic reconstruction process in the country, and continue to provide humanitarian assistance to Iraq.”<sup>116</sup>

On 17 December 2015, Chinese Foreign Minister Wang Yi in a meeting with Iraqi Foreign Minister Ibrahim al-Jaafari promised to continue to support Iraq’s national security and economic reconstruction.<sup>117</sup>

China has supported the Republic of Iraq in addressing humanitarian issues, but no facts of assistance in addressing socio-economic and security challenges have been registered during the compliance period. Thus, it receives a score of 0.

*Analysts: Elina Nizamova and Irina Popova*

**South Africa: –1**

South Africa has not complied with the commitment on supporting Iraq.

No information on South Africa’s significant actions to support Iraq in addressing security, socio-economic and humanitarian challenges has been registered during the compliance period.

South Africa has failed to take actions to support the Republic of Iraq in addressing security, socio-economic and humanitarian challenges. Thus, it receives a score of –1.

*Analyst: Angelina Khudoleeva*

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<sup>114</sup> China vows to increase support for refugees, China Daily 15 October 2015. Access date: 9 September 2016.

[http://www.chinadaily.com.cn/china/2015-10/15/content\\_22189111.htm](http://www.chinadaily.com.cn/china/2015-10/15/content_22189111.htm)

<sup>115</sup> China donates for Iraq to \$ 170 million to aid displaced people of Mosul and Fallujah, Searching 4 Dinar 14 July 2016. Access date: 9 September 2016. <https://search4dinar.wordpress.com/2016/07/14/china-donates-for-iraq-to-170-million-to-aid-displaced-people-of-mosul-and-fallujah/>

<sup>116</sup> Position Paper of the People’s Republic of China at the 71st Session of the United Nations General Assembly, Permanent Mission of the People’s Republic of China to the UN 8 September 2016. Access date: 9 September 2016 <http://www.china-un.org/eng/hyyfy/t1396325.htm>

<sup>117</sup> China pledges to support Iraq’s national security, economic reconstruction, China Daily 18 December 2015. Access date: 9 September 2016. [http://www.chinadaily.com.cn/world/2015-12/18/content\\_22781684.htm](http://www.chinadaily.com.cn/world/2015-12/18/content_22781684.htm)

## 5. Education

Through the accelerating progress in the educational field, the BRICS countries commit to attain the Post-2015 Development Agenda objectives and targets related to education and education-related Sustainable Development Goals to ensure equitable, inclusive and quality education and lifelong learning.

*The Strategy for BRICS Economic Partnership*

### Assessment

	No Compliance	Partial Compliance	Full Compliance
Brazil		0	
Russia			+1
India		0	
China		0	
South Africa			+1
Average		+0.40	

### Background

BRICS leaders for the first time addressed the issue of achieving Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) at their 2009 Yekaterinburg summit.<sup>118</sup> The first commitment in this area was made at the 2010 Brasilia summit when the leaders committed to “make sustained efforts to achieve the MDGs by 2015” through financial support and technical cooperation.<sup>119</sup> At the 2011 summit particular attention was paid to the MDGs related to eradication of extreme poverty and hunger.<sup>120</sup> In 2012 BRICS leaders highlighted the fundamental role of MDGs for ensuring “inclusive, equitable and sustainable global growth.”<sup>121</sup> Given South African presidency focus on development issues, active discussion on MDGs and post-2015 development agenda was held at the 2013 Durban summit.<sup>122</sup>

However, until 2014 the BRICS leaders did not explicitly consider the education-related MDGs. Moreover, they did not adopt any commitments on education issues, although the meeting of relevant ministers was held in 2013.<sup>123</sup>

The Sustainable Development Goals were approved by the United Nations General Assembly in September 2015.

### Commitment Features

This commitment calls for the BRICS countries to attain the Post-2015 Development Agenda objectives and targets related to education and education-related Sustainable Development Goals to ensure equitable, inclusive and quality education and lifelong learning

<sup>118</sup> Joint Statement of the BRIC Countries' Leaders, BRICS Information Centre, University of Toronto 16 June 2009. 01.02.2015. <http://www.brics.utoronto.ca/docs/090616-leaders.html>

<sup>119</sup> 2nd BRIC Summit of Heads of State and Government: Joint Statement, BRICS Information Centre, University of Toronto 15 April 2010. 01.02.2015. <http://www.brics.utoronto.ca/docs/100415-leaders.html>

<sup>120</sup> Sanya Declaration, BRICS Information Centre, University of Toronto 14 April 2011. 01.02.2015. <http://www.brics.utoronto.ca/docs/110414-leaders.html>

<sup>121</sup> Fourth BRICS Summit: Delhi Declaration, BRICS Information Centre, University of Toronto 29 March 2012. 01.02.2015. <http://www.brics.utoronto.ca/docs/120329-delhi-declaration.html>

<sup>122</sup> BRICS and Africa: Partnership for Development, Integration and Industrialisation, BRICS Information Centre, University of Toronto 27 March 2013. 01.02.2015. <http://www.brics.utoronto.ca/docs/130327-statement.html>

<sup>123</sup> BRICS Ministers Discuss Education, BRICS Information Centre, University of Toronto 5 November 2013. 01.02.2015. <http://www.brics.utoronto.ca/docs/131105-education.html>

The Goal 4 'Ensure inclusive and quality education for all and promote lifelong learning' consists of the following targets:<sup>124</sup>

1. By 2030, ensure that all girls and boys complete free, equitable and quality primary and secondary education leading to relevant and Goal-4 effective learning outcomes
2. By 2030, ensure that all girls and boys have access to quality early childhood development, care and preprimary education so that they are ready for primary education
3. By 2030, ensure equal access for all women and men to affordable and quality technical, vocational and tertiary education, including university
4. By 2030, substantially increase the number of youth and adults who have relevant skills, including technical and vocational skills, for employment, decent jobs and entrepreneurship
5. By 2030, eliminate gender disparities in education and ensure equal access to all levels of education and vocational training for the vulnerable, including persons with disabilities, indigenous peoples and children in vulnerable situations
6. By 2030, ensure that all youth and a substantial proportion of adults, both men and women, achieve literacy and numeracy
7. By 2030, ensure that all learners acquire the knowledge and skills needed to promote sustainable development, including, among others, through education for sustainable development and sustainable lifestyles, human rights, gender equality, promotion of a culture of peace and non-violence, global citizenship and appreciation of cultural diversity and of culture's contribution to sustainable development
8. Build and upgrade education facilities that are child, disability and gender sensitive and provide safe, nonviolent, inclusive and effective learning environments for all
9. By 2020, substantially expand globally the number of scholarships available to developing countries, in particular least developed countries, small island developing States and African countries, for enrolment in higher education, including vocational training and information and communications technology, technical, engineering and scientific programmes, in developed countries and other developing countries
10. By 2030, substantially increase the supply of qualified teachers, including through international cooperation for teacher training in developing countries, especially least developed countries and small island developing states

Full compliance requires BRICS members to undertake actions in accordance with more than a half of SDG 4 targets.

#### Scoring Guidelines

-1	Member does not take actions to achieve SDG 4.
0	Member takes actions to achieve SDG 4 on 5 or less targets.
+1	Member takes actions to achieve SDG 4 on more than 5 targets.

#### Brazil: 0

Brazil has partially complied with the commitment on education.

On 13 May 2016, the National Council of Education (CNE) of Brazil issued the Resolution Number 3 containing the National Guidelines for school attendance of young people in fulfillment of educational measures.<sup>125</sup>

<sup>124</sup> Goal 4: Ensure inclusive and quality education for all and promote lifelong learning, United Nations. 19 October 2015. <http://www.un.org/sustainabledevelopment/education/>

<sup>125</sup> Resolução Nº 3, Lex Magister 13 May 2016. Access date: 19 September 2016. [http://www.lex.com.br/legis\\_27138173\\_RESOLUCAO\\_N\\_3\\_DE\\_13\\_DE\\_MAIO\\_DE\\_2016.aspx](http://www.lex.com.br/legis_27138173_RESOLUCAO_N_3_DE_13_DE_MAIO_DE_2016.aspx)

On 31 August 2016, National Fund for Development and Education (FNDE) allocated BRL 800 million to the Fund for the Development of Basic Education and Valuing of Education Professionals (Fundeb) — main source of funding for basic public education.<sup>126</sup>

On 14 April 2016, National Fund for Development and Education issued Resolution 2 to allocate financial resources to public schools of all levels (municipal, state and federal district) for the proper performance of their functions.<sup>127</sup>

On 7 June 2016, during the public hearings in the House of Representatives the secretary of the Ministry of Education of Brazil said that the Ministry of Education (MEC) wants to review the National Program for Access to Technical Education and Employment (Pronatec) and programs of basic education like “Mais Educação” (More Education).<sup>128</sup>

On 29 June 2016, Education Committee of the House of Representatives held public hearing concerning the bill 1.321 / 2011 establishing Pro-Reading National Fund (Fundo Nacional Pró-Leitura). It aims to support the production, publication, distribution (with incentives to public libraries) and marketing of books to raise the literacy level of population.<sup>129</sup>

On 22 February 2016, more than 2,600 municipalities received BRL 203 million for investments in kindergartens. The resources released by the Ministry of Social Development and Fight against Hunger, can be applied to maintenance and development of early childhood education to ensure comprehensive care and nutrition security of children.<sup>130</sup>

Brazil has taken actions to achieve SDG 4 on four targets. Thus, it receives a score of 0.

*Analyst: Ksenia Efimova and Irina Popova*

#### **Russia: +1**

Russia has fully complied with the commitment on education.

On 31 October 2015, the Russian Government decided to prolong until 2020 the program of state support of leading Russian universities in order to increase their competitiveness among globally leading education and research centers. The funding in 2016 and 2017 will be increased to RUB14.5

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<sup>126</sup> FNDE repassa R\$ 800 milhões de complementação da União ao Fundeb, National Fund for Education Development 31 August 2016. Access date: 19 September 2016. [http://www.fnde.gov.br/fnde/sala-de-imprensa/noticias/item/9482-fnde-repassa-r\\$-800-milh%C3%B5es-de-complementa%C3%A7%C3%A3o-da-uni%C3%A3o-ao-fundeb](http://www.fnde.gov.br/fnde/sala-de-imprensa/noticias/item/9482-fnde-repassa-r$-800-milh%C3%B5es-de-complementa%C3%A7%C3%A3o-da-uni%C3%A3o-ao-fundeb)

<sup>127</sup> Resolução Nº 2, De 14 De Abril De 2016,, National Fund for Education Development. Access date: 19 September 2016.

[https://www.fnde.gov.br/fndelegis/action/UrlPublicasAction.php?acao=abrirAtoPublico&sgl\\_tipo=RES&num\\_ato=00000002&seq\\_ato=000&vlr\\_ano=2016&sgl\\_orgao=CD/FNDE/MEC](https://www.fnde.gov.br/fndelegis/action/UrlPublicasAction.php?acao=abrirAtoPublico&sgl_tipo=RES&num_ato=00000002&seq_ato=000&vlr_ano=2016&sgl_orgao=CD/FNDE/MEC)

<sup>128</sup> MEC quer tirar dinheiro de programas para ampliar repasse a estados e municípios, Agencia Brasil 7 June 2016. .

Access date: 9 September 2016. <http://agenciabrasil.ebc.com.br/educacao/noticia/2016-06/mec-quer-rever-programas-para-aumentar-repasses-estados-e-municipios>

<sup>129</sup> Ministérios da Educação e Cultura apostam em aumentar a leitura, Portal of Brazilian Government 1 July 2016.

Access date: 19 September 2016. <http://www.brasil.gov.br/cultura/2015/07/ministerios-da-educacao-e-cultura-apostam-em-aumentar-a-leitura>

<sup>130</sup> Prefeituras recebem R\$ 203 milhões para investimentos em crèches, Portal of Brazilian Government 22 February 2016. Access date: 19 September 2016. <http://www.brasil.gov.br/cidadania-e-justica/2016/02/prefeituras-recebem-r-203-milhoes-para-investimentos-em-creches>

billion with the aim of increasing the quality of Russian education and Russia's competitiveness at the global market of education services.<sup>131</sup>

On 4 November 2015, Russian Deputy Minister of Education Veniamin Kaganov participated in the High-Level Meeting on Education-2030 held in the framework of the UNESCO General Conference. He reported on the Russia's achievements on the implementation of the principle of equal access to education and development in the system of inclusive education.<sup>132</sup>

In 2015 Russian Government disbursed almost RUB423 billion for the implementation of the State Program on the Development of Education, including RUB390 billion for development of vocational education, RUB 18.8 billion for primary education, RUB916 million for development of the system of education quality assessment. According to the Russian Government's report on implementation of the state policy in the area of education published on 2 November 2015, the main goals of this policy include: in basic education: ensuring access to preschool education, increasing professional skills of teachers; increasing the number of children getting additional education; in higher education: increasing quality of education, increasing competitiveness of leading Russian universities. Other priorities include: creation of appropriate environment and infrastructure for disabled persons and orphaned children getting education.<sup>133</sup>

In September 2015, the Russian Government decided to disburse USD 2.4 million for the project on disability prevention and social integration of disabled children implemented by UNICEF in Belarus.<sup>134</sup>

On 31 December 2015, the Government of Russia decided to disburse USD 221.6 million (USD 3.6 million) to the Center of International Educational Activities "Interobrazovanie" for supporting "international monitoring and research on basic education" and USD 9 million for the Russia Education Aid for Development (READ) Trust Fund program (READ 2) in 2016-2019.<sup>135</sup> READ 2 aims to "strengthen countries' capacity to assess student learning and to use the information from those assessments to improve teaching and learning outcomes".<sup>136</sup>

On 2 June 2016, the Government of Russia decided to disburse USD 224.3 million (USD 3.6 million) for the implementation of a joint project on the development of school healthcare networks in Eastern European and Central Asian countries conducted by the Russian Government and the World Health Organization Regional Office for Europe in 2016-2020.<sup>137</sup>

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<sup>131</sup> On the extension of state support for leading universities in Russia to 2020 in order to enhance their competitiveness among the world's leading research and education centers, Government of the Russian Federation 7 November 2015. Access date: 9 September 2016. <http://government.ru/all/20415/>

<sup>132</sup> Russian Deputy Minister of Education and Science Benjamin Kaganov took part in the 38th session of the General Conference of UNESCO, Ministry of Education and Science of the Russian Federation 9 November 2015. Access date: 9 September 2016. <http://xn--80abucjiibhv9a.xn--p1ai/%D0%BD%D0%BE%D0%B2%D0%BE%D1%81%D1%82%D0%B8/6715>

<sup>133</sup> On the implementation of the state policy in the sphere of education, Government of the Russian Federation 2 November 2015. Access date: 9 September 2016. <http://government.ru/info/20354/>

<sup>134</sup> On Assisting Belarus through the UNICEF, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Russian Federation 30 September 2015. Access date: 10 October 2016. [http://www.mid.ru/ru/foreign\\_policy/news/-/asset\\_publisher/cKNonkJE02Bw/content/id/2481215](http://www.mid.ru/ru/foreign_policy/news/-/asset_publisher/cKNonkJE02Bw/content/id/2481215)

<sup>135</sup> Executive Order of the Russian Government No. 2783-p of 31 December 2015, Government of the Russian Federation 31 December 2015. Access date: 10 October 2016. <http://government.ru/media/acts/files/0001201601080032.pdf>

<sup>136</sup> Russia Education Aid for Development (READ) Trust Fund, World Bank 3 October 2016. Access date: 10 October 2016. <http://www.worldbank.org/en/programs/read>

<sup>137</sup> Executive Order of the Russian Government No. 1090-p of 2 June 2016, Government of the Russian Federation 2 June 2016. Access date: 10 October 2016. <http://government.ru/docs/all/106855/>

On 1-2 September 2016, during the University Forum in Vladivostok Federal University dedicated to humanitarian cooperation between Russia and ASEAN members Russian Minister of Education said that the Ministry was considering a 10% increase in the quotas for students from ASEAN.<sup>138</sup>

Russia has taken actions to achieve more than half the SDG 4 targets. Thus, it receives a score of +1.

*Analysts: Levon Levonyan and Irina Popova*

### **India: 0**

India has partially complied with the commitment on education.

In order to implement 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and 169 related targets at the national level India assigned the National Institution for Transforming India (NITI Aayog) with the role to oversee SDGs implementation by Ministries and to coordinate with States the achievement of developmental targets as enshrined in the SDGs.<sup>139</sup>

On 25 February 2016, a seminar on SDGs and their evaluation was held on in Vigyan Bhawan, New Delhi. The seminar was attended by representatives of various Indian ministries, NITI Aayog, United Nations Development Program, Asian Development Bank.<sup>140</sup>

On 4 April 2016, NITI Aayog published a document on mapping the ministries for SDGs and their targets. It presents the breakdown of responsibilities for key responsible Ministry and other Ministries/Departments concerning each goal and target. On SDG4 the document set the special mechanisms, Centrally Sponsored Schemes (CSS), including: the National Programme of Nutritional Support to Primary Education; Support for Educational Development including Teachers Training & Adult Education, Scheme for providing education to Madrasas, Minorities and Disabled; Umbrella scheme for Education of ST [Scheduled Tribes] students, and some other initiatives aimed at providing universal access to education, improve affordability and quality of secondary and higher education. All the initiatives are currently implemented under the NITI Aayog control. They are aimed at achieving all SDG 4 targets except the two related to international development assistance.<sup>141</sup> However no new relevant programs have been launched during the compliance period.

India has taken some actions to achieve the targets of SDG 4. Thus, it receives a score of 0.

*Analyst: Levon Levonyan*

### **China: 0**

China has partially complied with the commitment on education.

On 24 August 2015, China's treasury allocated RMB 19 billion (about USD 3 billion) to support pre-school and high school education, especially in rural areas. The funds will be split, with RMB 15 billion spent to guide and encourage local governments to improve pre-school education resources, while RMB 4 billion will be used to upgrade facilities in high schools in impoverished regions.<sup>142</sup>

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<sup>138</sup> Russian Ministry of Education is considering an increase of 10% of the quota of admission to Russian universities for students from ASEAN, Ministry of Education and Science of the Russian federation 2 September 2016. Access date: 9 September 2016. <http://xn--80abucjiibhv9a.xn--p1ai/%D0%BD%D0%BE%D0%B2%D0%BE%D1%81%D1%82%D0%B8/8747>

<sup>139</sup> SDGs – Seminar, NITI Aayog. Access date: 19 September 2016. <http://niti.gov.in/content/sdgs-seminar>

<sup>140</sup> SDGs – Seminar, NITI Aayog. Access date: 19 September 2016. <http://niti.gov.in/content/sdgs-seminar>

<sup>141</sup> Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), Targets, CSS, Interventions, Nodal and other Ministries, NITI Aayog 4 April 2016. Access date: 19 September 2016. <http://niti.gov.in/writereaddata/files/Mapping-SDGs%20V19-Ministries%20Feedback%20060416.pdf>

<sup>142</sup> China allocates more education funds, Xinhuanet 24 August 2015. Access date: 19 September 2016. [http://news.xinhuanet.com/english/2015-08/24/c\\_134550562.htm](http://news.xinhuanet.com/english/2015-08/24/c_134550562.htm)

On 25-27 September 2015, during the UN Sustainable Development Summit Chinese President Xi Jinping announced that China will provide 150,000 scholarships for citizens of developing countries including Africa. And also help nurture 500,000 professional technicians in these countries with the next 5 years.<sup>143</sup>

On 3 November 2015, the Communist Party of China (CPC) published the 13th Five-Year Plan for National Economic and Social Development (2016-2020) which aims to equip students with “social responsibility, an innovative spirit and the ability to put ideas into practice,” and these characteristics will be the basis for educational reform in the next five years. In the proposed plan, the CPC also plans to improve the quality of education and bridge the urban-rural gap, vowing subsidized education for all poor students for the duration of their nine years of compulsory education. The country will also promote universal education for students of senior high school age, according to the proposals. The document provides for the removal of senior high school education tuition fees for poor students and gradual waiver of tuition fees for vocational education.<sup>144</sup>

On 5 November 2015, the State Council of China published a master plan for building world class universities and disciplines. According to the document China plans to raise the overall quality and international competitiveness of its higher education system. Some disciplines and institutions of higher learning are to be made “world class” by 2020 and the nation should be a power of high education by 2050. The plan provides for the establishment of a new evaluation mechanism for universities and adjusted financial support based on performance. More attention will be paid to the cultivation of first-class academics and innovators.<sup>145</sup>

On 29 April 2016, The State Council Policy Briefing dedicated to strengthening education development and promoting social fairness took place. During the briefing the plan to popularize nine-years of compulsory education and eliminate youth illiteracy and improve school conditions through renovation of school buildings was presented.<sup>146</sup>

China has taken actions to achieve less than half the SDG 4 targets. Thus, it receives a score of 0.

*Analysts: Elina Nizamova and Irina Popova*

### **South Africa: +1**

South Africa has fully complied with the commitment on education.

On 22 July 2015, the Minister of Basic Education of South Africa announced the launch of the 1000 School Libraries Campaign. According to the minister the Department of basic Education “aims to increase to 90 percent the number of learners in Grades 3, 6 and 9 who have mastered the minimum competencies in Language and Numeracy by the end of each year.”<sup>147</sup>

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<sup>143</sup>Chinese Government Scholarships for Developing Countries, Regulv education agency. Access date: 19 September 2016. <http://regluv.com/chinese-government-scholarships-for-developing-countries-2016/>

<sup>144</sup>CPC eyes innovation edge in future educational reform, Xinhuanet 3 November 2015. Access date: 19 September 2016. [http://news.xinhuanet.com/english/2015-11/03/c\\_134780256.htm](http://news.xinhuanet.com/english/2015-11/03/c_134780256.htm)

<sup>145</sup>China to push forward higher education, Xinhuanet 5 November 2015. Access date: 19 September 2016. [http://news.xinhuanet.com/english/2015-11/05/c\\_134786978.htm](http://news.xinhuanet.com/english/2015-11/05/c_134786978.htm)

<sup>146</sup>Full transcript of the State Council policy briefing on April 29, The State Council of People’s Republic of China 29 April 2016. Access date: 19 September 2016. [http://english.gov.cn/news/policy\\_briefings/2016/04/29/content\\_281475338103406.htm](http://english.gov.cn/news/policy_briefings/2016/04/29/content_281475338103406.htm)

<sup>147</sup>Minister Angie Motshekga: Launch of 1 000 School Libraries Campaign, South African Government 22 July 2015. . Access date: 12 September 2016. <http://www.gov.za/speeches/minister-angie-motshekga-launch-1-000-school-libraries-campaign-22-jul-2015-0000>

On 18 August 2015, the Competency Framework for Career Development Practitioners in South Africa was adopted. It provides for the increase of the number of youth and adults who have relevant skills, including technical and vocational skills.<sup>148</sup>

On 8 September 2015, the Global Child Forum was held in Pretoria (South Africa). Participants discussed, inter alia the issue of equal access to all levels of education and vocational training for vulnerable groups of population.<sup>149</sup>

On 31 August 2015, the Department of Basic Education of the South African Ministry of Education published the report on the launch of the Teacher Appreciation and Support Programme (TASP).<sup>150</sup>

On 27 February 2016, South African Minister of Finance Pravin Gordhan announced in his Budget Speech 2016 that the government prioritized investment in education and infrastructure. According to the speech the government proposed additional R16.3 billion investment in higher education over three years. Basic education expenditure in 2016 amounted to R204 billion, and will be increased to R254 billion by 2018/2019. Further R54 billion will be spent on education infrastructure, with 510 unsafe schools to be rebuilt, 1120 to be supplied with water and 916 — with electricity.<sup>151</sup>

On 2 September 2016, the South African National Department of Basic Education officially handed over the Zamilizwe Primary School in the town of Ludeke. The school worth R21 million was constructed in the framework of the Accelerated Schools Infrastructure Development Initiative (ASIDI). One of the initiative's goals is to bridge the basic safety norms gap in schools across the country, providing them with electricity, water, and sanitation services. The ASIDI already resulted in construction of 170 new schools across the country, provided water to 596, sanitation to 414, and electricity to 307 schools.<sup>152</sup>

On 12 September 2016, the Minister of Higher Education and Training Dr. Blade Nzimande delivered a speech, reporting on the progress in the implementation of the R4.5 billion government commitment to assist poor students with high academic performance. He said that to date, the National Student Financial Aid Scheme (NSFAS) received claims from 17580 students, amounting to R373.3 million.<sup>153</sup>

South Africa has taken actions to achieve more than five SDG 4 targets. Thus, it receives a score of +1.

*Analysts: Olesia Nikulina and Andrei Sakharov*

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<sup>148</sup> Competency Framework for Career Development Practitioners in South Africa, Department of Higher Education and Training 18 August 2015. Access date: 19 September 2016.

[http://www.gov.za/sites/www.gov.za/files/39110\\_gon730.pdf](http://www.gov.za/sites/www.gov.za/files/39110_gon730.pdf)

<sup>149</sup> About the Forum, Global Child Forum 8 September 2015. Access date: 19 September 2016.

<http://www.globalchildforum.org/forum/global-child-forum-pretoria-2015/>

<sup>150</sup> Basic Education launches Teacher Appreciation and Support Programme, Basic Education Department of South African Government 31 August 2015. Access date: 19 September 2016. <http://www.gov.za/speeches/basic-education-launches-teacher-appreciation-and-support-programme-31-aug-30-aug-2015-0000>

<sup>151</sup> Budget Speech 2016, Government of South Africa 24 February 2016. Access date: 12 September 2016.

<http://www.treasury.gov.za/documents/national%20budget/2016/speech/speech.pdf>

<sup>152</sup> Basic Education hands over state of the art Zamilizwe Primary School in Ludeke, South African Government 8 September 2016. Access date: 13 September 2016. <http://www.gov.za/speeches/basic-education-hands-over-state-art-zamilizwe-primary-school-ludeke-9-sept-8-sep-2016-0000>

<sup>153</sup> Progress on 2016 University Funding, South African Department of Higher Education and Training 12 September 2016. Access date: 13 September 2016.

<http://www.dhet.gov.za/SiteAssets/Latest%20News/September%202016/Progress%20on%202016%20Funding.pdf>



## 6. Terrorism: International Cooperation

“We are determined to consistently strengthen our cooperation in preventing and countering international terrorism”

*BRICS Ufa Declaration*

### Assessment

	No Compliance	Partial Compliance	Full Compliance
Brazil		0	
Russia			+1
India			+1
China			+1
South Africa			+1
Average		+0.80	

### Background

With conflicts persisting in the Middle East and on the African continent, security concerns have become not only more acute but require international action. The increase of terrorist attacks by armed groups in conflict zones, the spread of terrorist attacks across borders and the rise of ISIS/ISIL and its focus on using terrorist attacks has brought to light the necessity for coherent and comprehensive action on the part of the international community to prevent and combat international terrorism.

The BRICS have continuously articulated their concerns over new and persisting security challenges in BRICS summit communiqués by highlighting on-going conflicts, calling for their resolution and for the cooperation of the international community in its response. Since the 2009 summit, BRICS leaders have “strongly condemn[ed] terrorism in all its forms and manifestations and reiterate[d] that there can be no justification for any act of terrorism anywhere or for whatever reasons.”<sup>154</sup> In the 2013 Durban Summit Declaration, they specifically mentioned support for the UN Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy as a mechanism to “strengthen cooperation in countering this global threat.”<sup>155</sup> At the Fortaleza Summit, the BRICS explicitly stated their strong opposition to international terrorism: “we reiterate our strong condemnation of terrorism in all its forms and manifestations and stress that there can be no justification, whatsoever, for any acts of terrorism, whether based upon ideological, religious, political, racial, ethnic, or any other justification.”<sup>156</sup>

### Commitment Features

This commitment calls for the strengthening of cooperation in the prevention and countering of international terrorism. The Ufa declaration outlines the United Nations’ central role in coordinating international action. BRICS members outlined that terrorist threats can be addressed through comprehensive implementation of commitments from all relevant resolutions of the UN Security Council and the UN Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy.

The strengthening of international cooperation on preventing and countering international terrorism must be in line with the UN Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy Action Plan. This plan consists of

<sup>154</sup> BRICS conclusion statements: BRIC Research Group 2012

<http://www.brics.utoronto.ca/conclusions/terrorism-111027.pdf>

<sup>155</sup> BRICS and Africa: Partnership for Development, Integration and Industrialization, BRICS Information Centre 27 March 2013. <http://www.brics.utoronto.ca/docs/130327-statement.html>

<sup>156</sup> The 6th BRICS Summit: Fortaleza Declaration. 15 July 2014. <http://www.brics.utoronto.ca/docs/140715-leaders.html>

measures divided into four specific areas, which addresses both the “prevent” and “counter” aspect of the BRICS commitment:

1. Measures to address the conditions conducive to the spread of terrorism
2. Measures to prevent and combat terrorism
3. Measures to build States’ capacity to prevent and combat terrorism and to strengthen the role of the United Nations system in this regard
4. Measures to ensure respect for human rights for all and the rule of law as the fundamental basis of the fight against terrorism

Measures taken in any of these areas with international partners count towards compliance. In addition to supporting the UN’s international multilateral counter-terrorism effort, the commitment also requires intra-BRICS cooperation on counter-terrorism efforts. Members’ actions that support, either politically, financially or in supporting the implementation of BRICS cooperation in the issue area of terrorism also count towards compliance. Furthermore, bilateral cooperation (in the form of Memorandums of Understanding, political statements, financial support, and other forms of strategic cooperation in the field of preventing and countering terrorism) with one or several BRICS members (which count towards the strengthening of intra-BRICS cooperation) or with other members of the international community (which count towards the strengthening of international bilateral or multilateral cooperation) is also a form of compliance.

To achieve full compliance, members are required to take actions to strengthen both BRICS cooperation AND international cooperation in line with the UN counter-terrorism strategy. If none of these actions are taken, the member will receive a negative compliance score. Actions in support of either BRICS cooperation OR other forms of international cooperation in line with the UN strategy, but not both, will count as partial compliance.

**Scoring Guidelines**

-1	Member does not take actions to strengthen cooperation in preventing/countering international terrorism with neither BRICS nor other countries
0	Member takes actions to strengthen international cooperation in line with the UN counter-terrorism strategy OR takes actions to strengthen BRICS cooperation in preventing/countering international terrorism
+1	Member takes actions to strengthen international cooperation in line with the UN counter terrorism strategy AND takes actions to strengthen BRICS cooperation in preventing/countering international terrorism

**Brazil: 0**

Brazil has partially complied with its commitment to strengthen cooperation in preventing and countering international terrorism. Brazil has taken actions to strengthen international cooperation in line with the UN counter-terrorism strategy but has not strengthened BRICS cooperation.

On 22 November 2015, the Brazilian foreign minister and the French foreign minister jointly announced that Brazil and France will cooperate in counterterrorism intelligence sharing ahead of the Olympic Games to take place in Rio de Janeiro. This agreement was aimed at eliminating potential threats to ensure safety of athletes and tourists in Rio during the Olympic games. The agreement took place in the context of the Paris attacks, and the ministers agreed that the killings in Paris could have happened anywhere in the world and thus any counterterrorism strategy must be international in nature. Brazilian Foreign Minister Mauro Vieira said, “Minister Fabius offered a possible exchange

of information and experiences, which for the Brazilian government is very welcome.”<sup>157</sup>

On 5 August 2016, it was reported that Brazilian authorities had set up an integrated command and control center for the Olympics which included an international counterterrorism office. This was the first time that an international counterterrorism office was created for an Olympics event. The office included representatives from at least 33 international intelligence agencies. This took place alongside increases in intelligence cooperation between Brazil and the US.<sup>158</sup>

Thus, Brazil has been awarded a score of 0 for partial compliance.

*Analyst: Filipe G. Carvalho*

**Russia: +1**

Russia has fully complied with its commitment to strengthen cooperation in preventing and countering international terrorism. Russia has taken actions to strengthen BRICS cooperation and international cooperation in line with the UN counter-terrorism strategy.

On 4 August 2015, the Deputy Minister of Internal Affairs of the Russian Federation took part in the 35<sup>th</sup> Conference of the Association of National Police Departments of ASEAN (ASEANAPOL) held in Jakarta. The Russian Minister dedicated his speech at the profile meeting of the Organization to the theme of international cooperation in countering new challenges and threats, noting that combating terrorism and extremism, transnational organized crime and drug trafficking shall be the priorities in the joint efforts.<sup>159</sup>

On 23 October 2015, the Minister of Internal Affairs of the Russian Federation participated in a ministerial meeting of law enforcement bodies of China and the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) on the theme “Security for the prosperity.” The Minister stressed the importance of continuing the progressive work of the APEC Counter-Terrorism Working Group and urged to pay more attention to issues of ensuring the security of major public events and critically important infrastructural objects. “In this connection, Russia calls for a comprehensive strengthening of anti-terrorist cooperation, particularly in the ASEAN and in the framework of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization.” He stressed that Russia supports the formation of a broad anti-terrorism front in the Middle East and North Africa on the base of strict observance of the international law.<sup>160</sup>

On 12 November 2015, the foreign ministers of Russia and South Africa met in Moscow to discuss ways of fighting international terrorism in Syria and Iraq, noting convergence and closeness of stances on the themes mentioned above.<sup>161</sup>

In January 2016, in a meeting at the UN, the Head of the Working Group of the Meeting of Heads of Special Services, Security Agencies, and Law Enforcement Organizations and representative of the Federal Security Service of the Russian Federation (FSB), briefed the Security Council Counter-Terrorism Committee (CTC) about the important role of the Meeting of Heads of Special Services as a platform for concrete interaction between special services and agencies on the most topical issues

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<sup>157</sup> France, Brazil to share intelligence ahead of Rio Games in 2016, International Business Times 22 November 2015. <http://www.ibtimes.com/france-brazil-share-intelligence-ahead-rio-games-2016-2195447>

<sup>158</sup> Rio Games have an international counterterrorism office, a first for an Olympic event, MercoPress 5 August 2016. <http://en.mercopress.com/2016/08/05/rio-games-have-an-international-counterterrorism-office-a-first-for-an-olympic-event>

<sup>159</sup> Ministry of Internal Affairs of the Russian Federation, ASEANAPOL meeting, 04 August 2015. Date accessed: 11 June 2016. <https://xn--80agy.xn--b1aew.xn--p1ai/news/item/6282631>

<sup>160</sup> Ministry of Internal Affairs of the Russian Federation, Working visit of Minister to Beijing, 23 October 2015. Date accessed: 11 June 2016. <https://xn--80agy.xn--b1aew.xn--p1ai/news/item/6659199>

<sup>161</sup> Russian News Agency – TASS, Russia and South Africa have similar approaches to fighting terrorism in Syria and Iraq, 12 November 2015. Date accessed: 11 June 2016. <http://tass.ru/en/politics/836008>

and challenges in countering terrorism. He also underlined the importance of making full use of the FSB's databases, as well as the United Nations as a platform to further strengthen international cooperation in the area of counter-terrorism.<sup>162</sup>

On 18 April 2016, the Russia-India-China trilateral meeting of foreign ministers took place in Moscow with an agenda featuring terrorism issue. The Ministers pledged to consistently strengthen cooperation between China, India and Russia in preventing and countering international terrorism, both bilaterally and tri-laterally. They stressed that the UN has a central role in coordinating multilateral interaction against terrorism. They reemphasized the need to bring to justice perpetrators, organizers, financiers and sponsors of terrorist acts; the early conclusion of negotiations on the Comprehensive Convention on International Terrorism; the exploration of modalities of launching negotiations to elaborate an international convention for the suppression of acts of chemical and biological terrorism at the Conference on Disarmament; they called upon all states to fully implement the UN Security Council Resolution 2199 that prohibits trade in oil and other natural resources with the so-called Islamic State in Iraq and the Levant (ISIL); the affirmation of their support to the efforts of the Afghan and Iraqi Governments to achieve national reconciliation and regain control over their territories.<sup>163</sup>

On 29 April 2016, the 12<sup>th</sup> Interpol Annual Heads of NCB Conference was hosted in Lyon. During the three-day conference, new aspects of countering modern crime, issues of interaction of law enforcement bodies of Interpol member countries in their fight against international terrorism, human trafficking, economic crime, cybercrime were considered. Particular attention was paid to the issues of combating the phenomenon of the so-called foreign terrorists-militants who travel to conflict zones for combat actions on the side of radical extremist organizations. At the same time the General Secretariat of Interpol noted a significant contribution of Russian law enforcement bodies in this work.<sup>164</sup>

On 04 May 2016, the Deputy Minister of Internal Affairs of Russia held a working meeting with the Deputy Director of Europol in St. Petersburg. The main content of the dialogue was the operating results of the international cooperation on such pressing issues as combating extremism and terrorism, illegal migration, drugs and arms trafficking, cyber-crime and money laundering.<sup>165</sup>

On 19 May 2016, the 40<sup>th</sup> jubilee session of the Council of Heads of Security Agencies and Special Services of the CIS countries took place in Minsk, Belarus. Top issues of the jubilee session included changing geopolitical situation in the world, security problems, progress made in the implementation of the CIS cooperation program against terrorism and other violent manifestations of extremism for 2014-2016.<sup>166</sup>

On 26 May 2016, the Seventh International Meeting of High-Level Representatives on Security Issues was held in Grozny, Russian Federation. Participants were informed of the recently produced

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<sup>162</sup> Security Council, Counter-Terrorism Committee, Briefing by Russian Federation representative to the Counter-Terrorism Committee, 29 January 2016. Date accessed: 11 June 2016. [http://www.un.org/en/sc/ctc/news/2016-01-28\\_CTC\\_Russian\\_Briefing](http://www.un.org/en/sc/ctc/news/2016-01-28_CTC_Russian_Briefing)

<sup>163</sup> The Wire, Key Takeaways from Russia-India-China Summit, 20 April 2016. Date accessed: 11 June 2016. <http://thewire.in/2016/04/20/consultations-on-asia-illegal-drug-trade-and-cyber-security-key-takeaways-from-russia-india-china-summit-30443/>

<sup>164</sup> Ministry of Internal Affairs of the Russian Federation, 12<sup>th</sup> Interpol Annual Heads of NCB Conference, 29 April 2016. Date accessed: 11 June 2016. <https://xn--80agy.xn--b1aew.xn--p1ai/news/item/7697218>

<sup>165</sup> Ministry of Internal Affairs of the Russian Federation, Meeting with Europol leadership, 04 May 2016. Date accessed: 11 June 2016. <https://xn--80agy.xn--b1aew.xn--p1ai/news/item/7723169>

<sup>166</sup> Federal Security Service of the Russian Federation, 40<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Council of Heads of Security Agencies and Special Services, 19 May 2016. Date accessed: 11 June 2016. <http://www.fsb.ru/fsb/press/message/single.html?id=10437718@fsbMessage.html>

Global Implementation Surveys (GIS) undertaken by the Counter-Terrorism Committee Executive Directorate (CTED), as well as the three Security Council documents pertaining to the foreign terrorist fighter (FTF) phenomenon, describing Member States' implementation of resolutions 1373 (2001), 1624 (2001), and 2178 (2014). High-ranking officials from around 80 Member States attended the meeting.<sup>167</sup>

On 26 May 2016, the Deputy Minister of Internal Affairs of Russia took part in the meeting of heads of the ministries of internal affairs of member states of the Collective Security Treaty Organization (Armenia, Belarus, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Russia and Tajikistan). On the proposal of the Russian MIA, in the course of the meeting there was reached an agreement on the preparation and signing of the Agreement on joint counteraction to new criminal challenges threatening the collective security of the member states of the Organization. Among them: terrorism, international crime, drug trafficking, human trafficking, riots and other acts infringing the rule of law and safety of citizens.<sup>168</sup>

On 8 August 2016, the Presidents of Russia, Azerbaijan and Iran issued a joint declaration of a trilateral summit in Baku. The parties expressed their willingness to combat terrorism, extremism, transnational organized crime, illicit trafficking in arms, drugs and their precursors, as well as human trafficking and crimes in the sphere of information and communication technologies.<sup>169</sup>

On 10 August 2016, the United Kingdom and Russia have agreed to enhance cooperation in the fight against terrorism.<sup>170</sup>

On 10 August 2016, Moscow proposed participants of the international anti-terrorist meeting in Bali to use more actively the Russian Federal Security Service's (FSB) international data bank on terrorism.<sup>171</sup>

Thus, Russia has received a score of +1 for full compliance.

*Analyst: Roberts Rios Pereyra*

#### **India: +1**

India has fully complied with its commitment to strengthen cooperation in preventing and countering international terrorism. India has taken actions to strengthen BRICS cooperation and international cooperation in line with the UN counter-terrorism strategy.

On 2 August 2015, concerned over the apparent appeal of Islamic State (IS) among a section of Muslim youth in the Indian society, the Centre along with a dozen states and Union territories has worked out a cohesive strategy to counter attempts at radicalization and recruitment. Counselling of "vulnerable and radicalized" youths as well as their families and propagating "moderate"

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<sup>167</sup> Security Council, Counter-Terrorism Committee, Seventh International Meeting of High-Level Representatives on Security Issues, Grozny, Russian Federation, 27 May 2016. Date accessed: 11 June 2016. [http://www.un.org/en/sc/ctc/news/2016-05-26\\_CTED\\_Grozny\\_CVE.html](http://www.un.org/en/sc/ctc/news/2016-05-26_CTED_Grozny_CVE.html)

<sup>168</sup> Ministry of Internal Affairs of the Russian Federation, Working visit to Republic of Armenia, 26 May 2016. Date accessed: 11 June 2016. <https://xn--80agygn--b1aew.xn--p1ai/news/item/7857562>

<sup>169</sup> News Xinhuanet, Azerbaijan, Russia, Iran join hands to combat terrorism, 9 August 2016. Date accessed: 18 September 2016. [http://news.xinhuanet.com/english/2016-08/09/c\\_135576686.htm](http://news.xinhuanet.com/english/2016-08/09/c_135576686.htm)

<sup>170</sup> Pakistan Broadcasting Corporation Radio Pakistan Urdu, UK, Russia agree to Enhance Cooperation in Fight Against Terrorism, 10 August 2016. Date accessed: 18 September 2016. <http://www.radio.gov.pk/10-Aug-2016/uk-russia-agree-to-enhance-cooperation-in-fight-against-terrorism>

<sup>171</sup> Sputnik International, Russia Offers Int'l Anti-Terrorist Meeting Attendees Access to Use FSB Data Bank. 10 August 2016. Date accessed: 18 September 2016. <https://sputniknews.com/world/20160810/1044120852/russia-fsb-data-bank-counterterrorism-meeting-bali.html>

interpretations of Islam to counter the IS ideology of violent extremism will be key contours of this national blueprint.<sup>172</sup>

On 24 September 2015, the Director General of NIA represented India at a special meeting in Holland where issues related to IS's influence were presented, sharing intelligence on youngsters joining or planning to join the outfit, de-radicalizing them, preventive measures, role of civil society and NGOs in educating against terrorism and need for a stricter law were discussed.<sup>173</sup>

On 8 October 2015, at a session titled 'Crime Prevention and International Drug Control' at the Third Committee in UN Indian representative told that state-sponsored cross-border terrorism was of particular concern, and called upon the world community to have zero tolerance towards those who aid and abet terrorist acts and provide safe havens to their perpetrators, in a veiled attack on Pakistan.

On 12 October 2015, Indian and Chinese armies on Monday kicked off their fifth annual anti-terrorism exercise in China's Kunming city as both the sides shared their successful experiences in counter-terrorism operations during the 10-day drill.<sup>174</sup>

On 14 October 2015, India called for the early adoption of a global convention on terrorism with a legal principle of "prosecute or extradite," even as it voiced concern over the UN appearing "ineffective" in tackling the global scourge. On the issue of terrorism, the United Nations has "appeared ineffective, though both the Security Council and General Assembly have adopted either resolutions and sanctions regimes or strategies to counter terrorism over the past 15 years," India's Ambassador to the UN said at a General Assembly session on the Report of the Secretary-General on the Work of the Organization.<sup>175</sup>

On 19 November 2015, India and China had for the first time agreed to set up a minister-level mechanism to tackle and exchange information on terrorism, trans-border crime, drug-trafficking and cyber-crime, India's Home Minister reported.<sup>176</sup>

On 1 December 2015, the Minister of State Home said that India was sharing intelligence on terrorism with China and 23 other countries via the mechanism of Joint Working Groups on Counter-Terrorism. "Meetings of these Joint Working Groups are being held from time to time to discuss counter-terrorism issues and share intelligence, experience, expertise, good practices and issues of mutual concern."<sup>177</sup>

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<sup>172</sup> The Times of India, Centre, states firm up steps to counter IS radicalization threat, 02 August 2015. Date accessed: 13 June 2016. <http://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/india/Centre-states-firm-up-steps-to-counter-IS-radicalization-threat/articleshow/48313511.cms>

<sup>173</sup> The Times of India, Indian intelligence experts attend global meets to tackle IS threat, 05 October 2015. Date accessed: 13 June 2016. <http://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/india/Indian-intelligence-experts-attend-global-meets-to-tackle-IS-threat/articleshow/49221224.cms>

<sup>174</sup> The Times of India, Indian, Chinese army kick off anti-terrorism exercise, 12 October 2015. Date accessed: 14 June 2016. <http://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/india/Indian-Chinese-army-kick-off-anti-terrorism-exercise/articleshow/49318207.cms>

<sup>175</sup> The Times of India, India calls for adoption of convention on terrorism in UN, 15 October 2015. Date accessed: 14 June 2016. <http://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/india/India-calls-for-adoption-of-convention-on-terrorism-in-UN/articleshow/49379312.cms>

<sup>176</sup> Hindustan Times, India, China to set up framework on terrorism, cyber-crime, 20 November 2015. Date accessed: 14 June 2016. <http://www.hindustantimes.com/india/india-china-to-set-up-framework-on-terrorism-cyber-crime-drug-trafficking/story-kuyAypr8wWKABbue9h0iOL.html>

<sup>177</sup> The Indian Express, India shares intelligence info on terrorism with 24 countries, including China, 01 December 2015. Date accessed: 14 June 2016. <http://indianexpress.com/article/india/india-news-india/india-shares-intelligence-info-on-terrorism-with-24-countries-including-china/>

On 24 January 2016, India and the Arab League vowed to combat terrorism and called for developing a strategy to “eliminate” its sources and its funding as External Affairs Minister made a strong pitch for delinking religion from terrorism while addressing the 1<sup>st</sup> Ministerial Meeting of India-Arab Partnership Conference at Manama, Bahrain, with the attendance of 22 Arab League countries foreign ministers.<sup>178</sup>

On 30 March 2016, India and Belgium agreed to restart and expedite talks on a Mutual Legal Assistance Treaty and an extradition treaty, among other steps, to fight terrorism. In a joint statement, the two sides reaffirmed their belief that “no issue or cause can justify dreadful and indiscriminate acts of violence against innocent people.” The two sides recognized the “urgent need to disrupt terror networks and their financing channels, eliminate terrorist safe havens, training infrastructure and cross-border movement of terrorists.”<sup>179</sup>

On 18 April 2016, the Russia-India-China trilateral meeting of foreign ministers took place in Moscow with an agenda ranging from terrorism to cyber security, Asia-Pacific to Middle East. The Ministers are determined to consistently strengthen cooperation between China, India and Russia in preventing and countering international terrorism, both bilaterally and tri-laterally. They stressed that the UN has a central role in coordinating multilateral interaction against terrorism. They reemphasized the need to bring to justice perpetrators, organizers, financiers and sponsors of terrorist acts; the early conclusion of negotiations on the Comprehensive Convention on International Terrorism; the exploration of modalities of launching negotiations to elaborate an international convention for the suppression of acts of chemical and biological terrorism at the Conference on Disarmament; they called upon all states to fully implement the UN Security Council Resolution 2199 that prohibits trade in oil and other natural resources with the so-called Islamic State in Iraq and the Levant (ISIL); the affirmation of their support to the efforts of the Afghan and Iraqi Governments to achieve national reconciliation and regain control over their territories.<sup>180</sup>

On 16 May 2016, India and China agreed to renew and expand their counter terrorism pact. The MoU on cooperation between Ministry of Home Affairs and Ministry of Public Security on counter terrorism measures were signed in 2005. “The MoU had lapsed and two sides were looking at renewing it for some time now. The two countries have reached a consensus on renewing it.” The two sides underscored the need to step up their joint efforts on counter-terrorism measures during their bilateral counter-terrorism consultation in November, 2015.<sup>181</sup>

On 29 August 2016, India strongly pitched for a “zero-tolerance” approach towards terrorism and demanded a “non-partisan and coherent” functioning of the United Nations to deal with the menace. This was raised by External Affairs Minister in her meeting with President-elect of the 71<sup>st</sup> session of the UN General Assembly Ambassador Peter Thomson. During the meeting, the minister told him that “We need to embed the principle such as zero-tolerance for direct or indirect state support to

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<sup>178</sup> dna, India, Arab League vow to combat terror and eliminate its sources of funding, 25 January 2016. Date accessed: 15 June 2016. <http://www.dnaindia.com/india/report-india-arab-league-vow-to-combat-terror-and-eliminate-its-sources-of-funding-2169939>

<sup>179</sup> The Indian Express, Modi in Brussels: OM pitches for pacts to fight terror, 31 March 2016. Date accessed: 15 June 2016. <http://indianexpress.com/article/india/india-news-india/modi-in-brussels-prime-minister-calls-on-all-nations-to-unite-against-terrorism/>

<sup>180</sup> The Wire, Key Takeaways from Russia-India-China Summit, 20 April 2016. Date accessed: 11 June 2016. <http://thewire.in/2016/04/20/consultations-on-asia-illegal-drug-trade-and-cyber-security-key-takeaways-from-russia-india-china-summit-30443/>

<sup>181</sup> Hindustan Times, India, China to renew decade old counter-terror pact, 17 May 2016. Date accessed: 15 June 2016. <http://www.hindustantimes.com/india/india-china-to-renew-decade-old-counter-terror-pact/story-tDHZA0mvkVC4Ea16DXB4xH.html>

terror and an obligation to create ‘prosecute or extradite’ domestic legal jurisdiction and the principle of no justification for terrorism.”<sup>182</sup>

On 31 August 2016, ways to combat terror, implementation of connectivity projects and a host of other crucial issues were discussed at a trilateral meeting of India, Iran and Afghanistan in Tehran. External Affairs Ministry Spokesperson said, discussing the situation in the region and Afghanistan, that the three parties emphasized the need for regional cooperation to counter current and emerging threats of terrorism and extremism.<sup>183</sup>

Thus, India has received a score of +1 for full compliance.

*Analyst: Roberts Rios Pereyra*

**China: +1**

China has fully complied with its commitment to strengthen cooperation in preventing and countering international terrorism. China has taken actions to strengthen BRICS cooperation and international cooperation in line with the UN counter-terrorism strategy.

On 26 September 2015, the visiting Chinese President called for global efforts to defend authority and role of the United Nations and vowed to deepen cooperation with the world body. The Chinese leader expected the UN to play a leading role in addressing global issues, adding the world body is the most ideal platform for international anti-terrorism cooperation.<sup>184</sup>

On 10 October 2015, China and India agreed to enhance trust to maintain peace and stability along the border region after “deep and candid” communications at a meeting. The border consultation mechanism has become an important platform in recent years for both sides to address tensions.<sup>185</sup>

On 22-25 September 2015, the President of the People’s Republic of China paid a state visit to the US. The two sides reaffirmed their rejection of terrorism of all forms and agreed to enhance counterterrorism cooperation at bilateral and multilateral levels and continue to implement relevant resolutions of the U.N. Security Council. The two sides agreed to seek to enhance counterterrorism cooperation on a wide range of issues, including on addressing the transnational flow of foreign terrorist fighters, crack down on terrorist funding networks, and increase information exchange on terrorist threats.

On 16 October 2015, a five-point proposal for boosting defense and enhancing security cooperation between China and members of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) was put forward by Chinese State Councillor and Minister of National Defense during an informal meeting of China-ASEAN defense ministers in Beijing. The proposal called for countries to “jointly deepen pragmatic cooperation in defense, strengthen collaboration in aspects such as humanitarian operations, military medical science, peacekeeping, anti-terrorism, anti-pirate and border defense.”<sup>186</sup>

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<sup>182</sup> Dna India, Sushma Swaraj asks UN President-Elect to adopt zero-tolerance towards terror, 30 August 2016. Date accessed: 18 September 2016. <http://www.dnaindia.com/india/report-sushma-swaraj-asks-un-president-elect-to-adopt-zero-tolerance-towards-terror-2250150>

<sup>183</sup> News 18.com, India, Iran And Afghanistan Discuss Terror, Connectivity Projects in Tehran, 1 September 2016. Date accessed: 18 September 2016. <http://www.news18.com/news/india/india-iran-and-afghanistan-discuss-terror-connectivity-projects-in-tehran-1288256.html>

<sup>184</sup> China Daily, Xi reaffirms support for UN authority, urges more cooperation, 27 September 2015. Date accessed: 17 June 2016. [http://usa.chinadaily.com.cn/2015xixixitus/2015-09/27/content\\_21991231.htm](http://usa.chinadaily.com.cn/2015xixixitus/2015-09/27/content_21991231.htm)

<sup>185</sup> China Military Online, China, India hold ‘deep and candid’ talks over border, 10 October 2015. Date accessed: 17 June 2016. [http://english.chinamil.com.cn/news-channels/2015-10/10/content\\_6716355.htm](http://english.chinamil.com.cn/news-channels/2015-10/10/content_6716355.htm)

<sup>186</sup> China Daily, Chang makes 5-point proposal on security cooperation, 16 October 2015. Date accessed: 17 June 2016. [http://europe.chinadaily.com.cn/china/2015-10/16/content\\_22205010.htm](http://europe.chinadaily.com.cn/china/2015-10/16/content_22205010.htm)



On 20 October 2015, Defense ministers from a number of Asia-Pacific nations at the Xiangshan Forum called for joint efforts to fight terrorism, agreeing that “no single country can face it alone.” Defense officials from Malaysia, Russia, Cambodia, Singapore, Tajikistan and Indonesia echoed and endorsed this view in their addresses to the forum. The forum, under the theme of “Security Cooperation in the Asia-Pacific: Realities and Visions,” held by the Chinese Academy of Military Science and the China International Strategic Society at the National Convention Center in Beijing, attracted 16 defense ministers and official delegations from 49 countries and four organizations.<sup>187</sup>

On 23 October 2015, representatives, judges, prosecutors and police officers from China, the Democratic People’s Republic of Korea, Japan, Mongolia and the Republic of Korea attended a workshop, held at the United Nations in Bangkok from 21 to 23 October 2015, to discuss issues relating to effective methods for countering terrorism through closer cooperation.<sup>188</sup>

On 27 October 2015, member states of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO) held their first anti-online terror drill in the southeastern Chinese coastal city of Xiamen. Delegates from SCO members and its anti-online terror body participated in the drill, exchanged their law enforcement procedures and technical capability in fighting terrorism, separatism and extremism.<sup>189</sup>

On 18 November 2015, a Chinese envoy said that UN Security Council should make effort to coordinate international counter-terrorism efforts, promote anti-terror cooperation among concerned parties and help form a unified front in this aspect. He noted the Security Council should ensure the effective implementation of resolutions on counter-terrorism and the Islamic State (IS), including taking actions to combat terrorists’ use of the Internet to plan terrorist activities and cut their channels for seeking external support.<sup>190</sup>

On 22 November 2015, China’s Ministry of Public Security and India’s Ministry of Home Affairs issued a joint statement, According to the statement, countries will enhance high level exchanges and put into place a high-level security and counter-terrorism meeting mechanism. and also will exchange experiences and information on terrorist activities, terror groups and their association, dealing with hijacking and hostage taking incidents as well as other terrorist activities, and will coordinate positions in regional and multilateral counter-terrorist operations.<sup>191</sup>

On 4 December 2015, the Chinese government released its second Africa policy paper presented on Forum on China-Africa Cooperation. China promised to support the efforts of African countries and regional organizations in improving counter-terrorism capabilities and fighting terrorism, and help African countries develop their economy and root out the causes of terrorism.<sup>192</sup>

On 27 December 2015, China adopted its first counter-terrorism law that grants overachieving power to security agencies, allow the military to venture overseas on counter-terror operations and requires technology firms to give sensitive data like encryption keys to the government. The new law, which will enter into force in January, next year, will provide legal support to the country’s counter-terrorism activities as well as collaboration with the international society. The state will provide

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<sup>187</sup> China Daily, Defence ministers highlight importance of united approach, 20 October 2015. Date accessed: 17 June 2016. [http://usa.chinadaily.com.cn/world/2015-10/20/content\\_22224980.htm](http://usa.chinadaily.com.cn/world/2015-10/20/content_22224980.htm)

<sup>188</sup> Security Council Counter-Terrorism Committee, North-East Nations meet to discuss counter-terrorism cooperation, 23 October. Date accessed: 17 June 2016. [http://www.un.org/en/sc/ctc/news/2015-10-23\\_CTED\\_NorthAsia.html](http://www.un.org/en/sc/ctc/news/2015-10-23_CTED_NorthAsia.html)

<sup>189</sup> What’s On Xiamen News, SCO holds its first anti-online terror drill in Xiamen, 27 October 2015. Date accessed: 17 June 2016. <http://www.whatsonxiamen.com/news39604.html>

<sup>190</sup> China Daily, China calls for coordinated international counter-terrorism efforts, 18 November 2015. Date accessed: 17 June 2016. [http://africa.chinadaily.com.cn/world/2015-11/18/content\\_22482065.htm](http://africa.chinadaily.com.cn/world/2015-11/18/content_22482065.htm)

<sup>191</sup> China Daily, China, India to step up counter-terrorism cooperation, 22 November 2015. Date accessed: 17 June 2016. [http://europe.chinadaily.com.cn/world/2015-11/22/content\\_22508408.htm](http://europe.chinadaily.com.cn/world/2015-11/22/content_22508408.htm)

<sup>192</sup> China Daily, Full Text: China’s second Africa policy paper, 04 December 2015. Date accessed: 17 June 2016. [http://www.chinadaily.com.cn/world/XiattendsParisclimateconference/2015-12/05/content\\_22632874.htm](http://www.chinadaily.com.cn/world/XiattendsParisclimateconference/2015-12/05/content_22632874.htm)

necessary financial support for key regions listed in the country's counter-terrorist plan, whereas professional anti-terrorist forces will be established by public security, national security authorities as well as armed forces. A national intelligence center will be established to coordinate inter-departmental and trans-regional efforts on counter-terrorism intelligence and information.<sup>193</sup>

On 18 April 2016, the Russia-India-China trilateral meeting of foreign ministers took place in Moscow with an agenda ranging from terrorism to cyber security, Asia-Pacific to Middle East. The ministers were determined to consistently strengthen cooperation between China, India and Russia in preventing and countering international terrorism, both bilaterally and tri-laterally. They stressed that the UN has a central role in coordinating multilateral interaction against terrorism. They reemphasized the need to bring to justice perpetrators, organizers, financiers and sponsors of terrorist acts; the early conclusion of negotiations on the Comprehensive Convention on International Terrorism; and the exploration of modalities of launching negotiations to elaborate an international convention for the suppression of acts of chemical and biological terrorism at the Conference on Disarmament. They also called upon all states to fully implement the UN Security Council Resolution 2199 that prohibits trade in oil and other natural resources with the so-called Islamic State in Iraq and the Levant (ISIL), and called for the affirmation of their support to the efforts of the Afghan and Iraqi Governments to achieve national reconciliation and regain control over their territories.<sup>194</sup>

On 03 May 2016, the PLA Navy joined countries from the Association of Southeast Asian Nations in a maritime exercise, signaling a further step in recent frequent exchanges with the regional bloc. The joint 11-day exercise was aimed at boosting regional security at sea and combating terrorism.<sup>195</sup>

On 12 May 2016, while speaking at a Security Council meeting on terrorism, China's permanent representative to the UN, urged to cut off terrorists' channels for spreading terrorist ideologies as "the internet and social media have been used by terrorists as a new platform to spread terrorist ideologies." He noted that all countries should incorporate counter-terrorism into their national policy for security and development. He also said counter-terrorism publicity campaign is an important way to increase public awareness about counter-terrorism.<sup>196</sup>

On 7 August 2016, China held a meeting with Pakistan, Afghanistan and Tajikistan to form an Anti-terrorism Alliance. To counteract terrorism, the four countries agreed that they will implement a "four-country mechanism" for intelligence sharing and training.<sup>197</sup>

On 15 September 2016, BRICS High Representatives from Brazil, Russia, India, China and South Africa responsible for security called for Security called for "expansion of counter terrorism cooperation within the group." The representatives called for "cooperation and exchange of best practice, expertise, information and knowledge on counter terrorism issues and stressed denying terrorist access of kinds of facilities." Also, they agreed to "expand BRICS counter terrorism

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<sup>193</sup> Xinhuanet, China adopts first counter-terrorism law in history, 27 December 2015. Date accessed: 17 June 2016. [http://news.xinhuanet.com/english/2015-12/27/c\\_134956054.htm](http://news.xinhuanet.com/english/2015-12/27/c_134956054.htm)

<sup>194</sup> The Wire, Key Takeaways from Russia-India-China Summit, 20 April 2016. Date accessed: 11 June 2016. <http://thewire.in/2016/04/20/consultations-on-asia-illegal-drug-trade-and-cyber-security-key-takeaways-from-russia-india-china-summit-30443/>

<sup>195</sup> China Daily, Navy and ASEAN take part in drill, 03 May 2016. Date accessed: 17 June 2016. [http://africa.chinadaily.com.cn/china/2016-05/03/content\\_25015012.htm](http://africa.chinadaily.com.cn/china/2016-05/03/content_25015012.htm)

<sup>196</sup> China Daily, Chinese envoy urges internet service providers to lead fight against terrorism, 12 May 2016. Date accessed: 17 June 2016. [http://africa.chinadaily.com.cn/world/2016-05/12/content\\_25231288.htm](http://africa.chinadaily.com.cn/world/2016-05/12/content_25231288.htm)

<sup>197</sup> Yibada, China Heads Meeting with Pakistan, Afghanistan and Tajikistan to Form Anti-terrorism Alliance, 7 August 2016. Date accessed: 18 September 2016. <http://en.yibada.com/articles/148883/20160807/china-heads-meeting-pakistan-afghanistan-tajikistan-form-anti-terrorism-alliance.htm>

cooperation further to include measures for denying terrorists access to finance and terror hardware such as equipment, arms and ammunition.”<sup>198</sup>

Thus, China has received a score of +1 for full compliance.

*Analyst: Roberts Rios Pereyra*

**South Africa: +1**

South Africa has fully complied with its commitment to strengthen cooperation in preventing and countering international terrorism. South Africa has taken actions to strengthen BRICS cooperation and international cooperation in line with the UN counter-terrorism strategy.

On 12 October 2015, as the Sixth Committee Begins Session, speakers stressed measures to combat terrorism must not diverge from International Law. The representative of South Africa, speaking for the African Group, underscored that the payment of ransoms constituted one of the main sources of financing for terrorists, a matter of grave concern for the international community and that one Member States should address. Virtually all speakers called for the United Nations to play a central role in combating terrorism through its Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy, which consolidated the activities of Member States and presented a common strategic and operational framework to fight terrorism.<sup>199</sup>

On 26 February 2016, in Proclamation No. 7 of the year, the President of the Republic of South Africa gave notice that the Security Council of the UN amended information in respect of entities which had being identified as entities who commit, or attempt to commit any terrorist activity; as well as entities against whom Member States of the UN must take actions to combat or prevent terrorist and related activities.<sup>200</sup>

On 7 March 2016, the Chief of South African National Defense Force re-affirmed his country’s willingness to work with the Nigerian Armed Forces to the benefit of the two countries, the Nigeria defense headquarters has said. The three services of the Nigerian Armed Forces stated the need for logistics and training support to further terminate the war against Boko Haram soon.<sup>201</sup>

On 28 March 2016, a Saudi-South African summit which headlined cooperation and counterterrorism was held in Riyadh. The Custodian of the Two Holy held an official talks-session at Al-Yamamah Palace with the South African. The Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques appreciated South Africa’s concern about the regional issues, particularly its stances towards the Palestinian cause. “We stressed the importance of continued cooperation and consultation on international and regional issues, particularly UN reforms and the fight against terrorism and extremism.”<sup>202</sup>

On 25 April 2016, the Islamic Republic of Iran and the Republic of South Africa issued a joint statement at the end of President of South Africa visit to Tehran and stressed further development of ties between Tehran and Pretoria in mutual, regional and international fields. The two sides agreed that terrorism and its negative consequential impact has no geographic boundaries and called upon

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<sup>198</sup> BRICS NSAs call for expansion of counter-terrorism cooperation, DNA India 15 September 2016.

<http://www.dnaindia.com/india/report-brics-nsas-call-for-exansion-of-counter-terrorism-cooperation-2255528>

<sup>199</sup> United Nations, As Sixth Committee Beings Session, Speakers Stress Measures to Combat Terrorism, 12 October 2015. Date accessed: 18 June 2016. <http://www.un.org/press/en/2015/gal3496.doc.htm>

<sup>200</sup> Government Gazette, Proclamation No. 7 of 2016 by the President of the Republic of South Africa, 26 February 2016, Date accessed: 18 June 2016. [http://www.gov.za/sites/www.gov.za/files/39737\\_pro7a.pdf](http://www.gov.za/sites/www.gov.za/files/39737_pro7a.pdf)

<sup>201</sup> Premium Times, Nigeria, South Africa to collaborate on war on terror, 07 March 2016. Date accessed: 18 June 2016. <http://www.premiumtimesng.com/news/top-news/199714-nigeria-south-africa-collaborate-war-terror.html>

<sup>202</sup> Ashraq Al-Awsat, Collaboration and counterterrorism mark the Saudi Arabian-South African Summit, 28 March 2016. Date accessed: 18 June 2016. <http://english.aawsat.com/2016/03/article55348964/collaboration-and-counterterrorism-mark-the-saudi-arabian-south-african-summit>

the international community to work towards consensus building in eradicating all forms of terrorism and to work in a collaborative spirit in fighting terrorism globally.<sup>203</sup>

On 18 July 2016, Nigeria and South Africa are stepping up cooperation in the area of defense, as part of measures to tackle the security challenges in both countries and Africa, especially regarding terrorism. Specifically, Nigeria sought support from South Africa for the establishment of the “Defense Complex” for arms production. In addition, military personnel gathered to discuss how to improve security through intelligence gathering, arms procurement and technical expertise. The two sides agreed to also renew cooperation in military training, equipment support and communication.<sup>204</sup>

Thus, South Africa has received a score of +1 for full compliance.

*Analyst: Roberts Rios Pereyra*

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<sup>203</sup> President Iran, Iran, South Africa issue joint communiqué/Stressing development of Tehran-Pretoria ties in all fields of mutual interest, 25 April 2016. Date accessed: 18 June 2016. <http://www.president.ir/en/93184>

<sup>204</sup> Channels Television, Nigeria, South Africa Collaborate to Tackle Security Challenges, 18 July 2016. Date accessed: 18 September 2016. <http://www.channelstv.com/2016/07/18/nigeria-south-africa-collaborate-to-tackle-security-challenges/>

## 7. Food and Agriculture: Agriculture Cooperation and Food for Vulnerable Populations

“[We reiterate our commitment to further develop agricultural cooperation, in particular,] provision of food for the most vulnerable communities”

*BRICS Ufa Declaration*

### Assessment

	No Compliance	Partial Compliance	Full Compliance
Brazil			+1
Russia			+1
India		0	
China			+1
South Africa			+1
Average		+0.80	

### Background

On 25-27 September 2015, the UN held its Sustainable Development Summit and adopted the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. Sustainable Development Goal Number 2 aims to “end hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition and promote sustainable agriculture.” The UN stated that the food and agriculture sector is the key to eradicating poverty and hunger, and thus achieving the goals of development. Specific targets of this goal include, by 2030, to end hunger in particular for the poor and vulnerable, end malnutrition, double agricultural productivity, ensure sustainable food production systems, maintain genetic diversity of seeds, increase investment in rural infrastructure, agricultural research, extension services, technology and plant gene stocks, correct trade restrictions in the agriculture market, and ensuring the proper function of food commodity markets.<sup>205</sup>

Prior to the Russian Presidency, the BRICS had adopted comprehensive measures on boosting agricultural production, trade and investment and has focused in particular on the food security challenge. The BRICS welcomed the adoption of the 2015 Sustainable Development Goals by the UN. The Summit established major areas of BRICS cooperation, of which food and agriculture is one. One of the documents produced during the Russian Presidency of the BRICS Summit is the “Joint Declaration of the 5<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the BRICS Ministers of Agriculture and Agrarian Development.” The Ministers of Agriculture and Agrarian Development met on 9 October 2015 to carry on the spirit of the Ufa Declaration. In the agricultural sphere, BRICS cooperation is based on the five pillars of 1) “trade and investment promotion;” 2) “ensuring access to food for the most vulnerable population;” 3) “agricultural technology cooperation and innovation;” 4) “creation of a basic agricultural information exchange system for the BRICS;” and 5) “reduction of the negative impact of climate change on food security and adaptation of agriculture to climate change.”<sup>206</sup>

As a statement of the BRICS’ general commitment to cooperate in the agriculture sector towards the goal of achieving sustainable development, the commitment assessed here reads in full: “In the spirit of the ‘Ufa Declaration’ of the Seventh BRICS Leaders Summit we reiterate our commitment to further develop agricultural cooperation, in particular, related to enhancing agricultural trade and investment, agricultural research, technologies and innovations, the protection of the right to adequate food, especially for the most vulnerable communities, by strengthening family farming, creation of a basic agricultural, information exchange system of BRICS countries, mitigation of the

<sup>205</sup> UN SDGs <http://www.un.org/sustainabledevelopment/hunger/>

<sup>206</sup> Agriculture Declaration, BRICS <http://en.brics2015.ru/documents/>

negative impact of climate change on food security and nutrition and adaptation of agriculture to climate change.”

### Commitment Features

Cooperation is defined as the action or process of working together to the same end. More specifically, agricultural cooperation refers to working together to achieve “a win-win partnership to increase productivity sustainably in order to feed the [growing] world population.”<sup>207</sup> An example of the form in which this cooperation takes place is the BRICS Agricultural Cooperation Working Group. The selected commitment focuses specifically on the target of providing food for the most vulnerable communities. Methods of food provision include through state food reserves, strengthening of family farming, and creation of public food stocks.<sup>208</sup> Vulnerable communities/groups include the poor, young children and mothers who are mostly likely to be deprived of critical nutrition.<sup>209</sup>

This commitment thus requires BRICS member countries to work together towards the goal of providing food for the most vulnerable populations through the agriculture sector. Actions that count towards compliance in cooperation include supporting (through political statement, financial means, or by taking an active role in) the BRICS Agricultural Cooperation Working Group, creating or strengthening bilateral ties in the field of agriculture (for example, through trade facilitation) or similarly by forging multilateral ties in the agricultural field. In order to comply with the commitment’s particular focus on food provision to the most vulnerable communities, member countries must directly address, through cooperative action, at least one method of food provision, specifically aimed at least one type of vulnerable population.

### Scoring Guidelines

-1	The member did not pursue any actions of agricultural cooperation towards the provision of food for vulnerable communities.
0	The member pursued at least one action of agricultural cooperation BUT did not address any methods of food provision OR addressed method(s) of food provision but not targeted specifically to any vulnerable groups.
+1	The member pursued at least one action of agricultural cooperation AND through this action, addressed at least one method of food provision to at least one vulnerable group.

### Brazil: +1

Brazil has fully complied with its commitment to further develop agricultural cooperation, in particular, provision of food for the most vulnerable communities. It furthered agricultural cooperation with a number of countries, and one of these actions was specifically aimed to improve food provision to the vulnerable group of producers in poor countries, through the method of preventing a drop in agricultural production output.

On 20 July 2015, Brazil and India held bilateral talks for boosting cooperation. Areas touched on in the talks include defense, cyber security, trade and commerce. It was reported that the two sides are seeking cooperation in key areas including agriculture.<sup>210</sup>

On 27 July 2015, Brazil’s Minister of Agriculture, Livestock and Supply Katia Abreu stated to press that Brazil hopes to strengthen trade relations with Russia and go past the agricultural imports that

<sup>207</sup> Agriculture Declaration, BRICS <http://en.brics2015.ru/documents/>

<sup>208</sup> BRICS working on strategy of food provision for most vulnerable communities, <http://www.blackseagrains.net/novosti/brics-working-on-strategy-of-food-provision-for-most-vulnerable-communities>

<sup>209</sup> UN Global Issues, Food. <http://www.un.org/en/globalissues/food/>

<sup>210</sup> India, Brazil decide to explore ways to boost cooperation. NDTV India <http://www.ndtv.com/india-news/india-brazil-decide-to-explore-ways-to-boost-cooperation-784614>

Russia imposed on Western countries. Abreu stated, “For us it [Russia’s embargo] became an opportunity to compensate for the lack of products, subjected to embargo — mainly, meat, milk and fruit. Currently we are trying to strengthen these relations, for them not to become something temporary... Our aim is to build mature business relations with Russia.” Abreu also added that Brazil is expecting Russian exports of wheat and fish to Brazil.<sup>211</sup>

On 11 November 2015, Brazil’s Sherpa to the G20 Calos Bicalho Cozendey said that he will ask developed countries to not raise agriculture subsidies due to raw material price decline. Cozendey said that preventing a rise in agricultural subsidies is “especially crucial for products that play a role in food security” and ensure that producers in poorer countries face less pressure, also preventing a drop in food output for poorer farmers.<sup>212</sup>

On 30 November 2015, Brazil’s President Dilma Rousseff met with China’s Xi Jinping bilaterally. Rousseff stated that Brazil and China can expand cooperation on agriculture and logistics.<sup>213</sup>

On 22 July 2016, joint UK-Brazil projects in the area of wheat research have been granted an award of £4m.<sup>214</sup> This research involving the Brazilian Agricultural Research Corporation (Embrapa), aims to support wheat research, especially in the sustainability of wheat production. It addresses economic development and social welfare issues.<sup>215</sup>

On 5 August 2016, Brazilian Minister Agriculture, Livestock and Supply of Blairo Maggi met with Argentine colleague Ricardo Buryaile in Buenos Aires to discuss an extensive agenda of interests of Brazil and Argentina in the agribusiness sector.<sup>216</sup>

Thus, Brazil received a score of +1 for full compliance.

*Analyst: Filipe G. Carvalho*

#### **Russia: +1**

Russia has fully complied with its commitment to further develop agricultural cooperation, in particular, provision of food for the most vulnerable communities. It has furthered agricultural cooperation, and one of its actions was aimed at improving food provision to a vulnerable group.

On 3 November 2015, Minister of Agriculture of Russia Alexander Tkachev announced that Russia sent 100 thousand tons of wheat as humanitarian aid to Syria.<sup>217</sup>

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<sup>211</sup> Brazil hopes to strengthen trade relations with Russia, Sputnik News  
<http://sputniknews.com/business/20150727/1025083133.html>

<sup>212</sup> Brazil to seek G20 commitment not to raise farm subsidies, The BRICS Post <http://thebricspost.com/brazil-to-seek-g20-commitment-not-to-raise-agricultural-subsidies/#.V2BK8pMrKjQ>

<sup>213</sup> Xi Jinping meets with President Dilma Rousseff of Brazil, Foreign Ministry of PRC  
[http://www.fmprc.gov.cn/mfa\\_eng/zxxx\\_662805/t1320450.shtml](http://www.fmprc.gov.cn/mfa_eng/zxxx_662805/t1320450.shtml)

<sup>214</sup> £4M awarded for new UK-Brazil joint projects in wheat research. BBSRC Bioscience for the Future. Access date: August 11 2016. <http://www.bbsrc.ac.uk/news/food-security/2016/160722-pr-new-uk-brazil-joint-projects-in-wheat-research/>

<sup>215</sup> £4M awarded for new UK-Brazil joint projects in wheat research. BBSRC Bioscience for the Future. Access date: August 11 2016. <http://www.bbsrc.ac.uk/news/food-security/2016/160722-pr-new-uk-brazil-joint-projects-in-wheat-research/>

<sup>216</sup> Brasil e Argentina anunciam intenção de trabalhar juntos para aumentar exportações. Ministério da Agricultura. Access date: August 11 2016. <http://www.agricultura.gov.br/internacional/noticias/2016/08/brasil-e-argentina-anunciam-intencao-de-trabalhar-juntos-para-aumentar-exportacoes>

<sup>217</sup> Russia sent 100 thousand tons of wheat to Syria, RBC 3 November 2015. Access date: 20 September 2016. <http://www.rbc.ru/rbcfreenews/563887c19a79476fe79977fd>.

On 17 November 2015, Russian President Putin called for closer regional economic partnership ahead of the APEC summit. He recognized that cooperation in the agriculture sector is one way to build closer regional integration.<sup>218</sup>

On 18 January 2016, Russian officials said that Russia expects to further development of cooperation with Iran in a number of sectors including agriculture.<sup>219</sup>

At the Boao Forum for Asia in March 2016, Russian-Chinese agricultural cooperation was an important topic at the agenda.<sup>220</sup>

On 4 May 2016, Russian Agriculture Minister Alexander Tkachev said in an interview with Xinhua that Russia hopes to strengthen agricultural cooperation with China. Tkachev said that Russia's priority is to provide the conditions for agriculture investment and to support farmers.<sup>221</sup> Furthermore, this Chinese investment is targeted the arable lands of Russia's Far East.<sup>222</sup> The objective of this agricultural cooperation is to meet Chinese demand for crop.

On 6 May 2016, Russian President Putin and Japanese Prime Minister Abe met in Sochi and promised to boost ties in agriculture.<sup>223</sup>

On 25 June 2016, Russian-China agricultural cooperation intensified with the agreement on a grain hub,<sup>224</sup> as part of the 30 agreements between the two countries in various areas including agriculture.<sup>225</sup>

Thus, Russia received a score of +1 for full compliance.

*Analyst: Carolijn van Noort*

#### **India: 0**

India has partially complied with its commitment to further develop agricultural cooperation, in particular, provision of food for the most vulnerable communities. Though it has furthered agricultural cooperation, these actions were not accompanied by a specific target to improve food provision to at least one vulnerable group.

On 22 September 2015, India and the US announced a new Diplomacy Partnership. Agricultural cooperation is one of the highlights of this partnership.<sup>226</sup>

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<sup>218</sup> APEC: Toward open, equal cooperation in the interests of development. Russia beyond the headlines.

[http://rbth.com/opinion/2015/11/17/apec-putin-calls-for-regional-economic-partnership\\_541169](http://rbth.com/opinion/2015/11/17/apec-putin-calls-for-regional-economic-partnership_541169)

<sup>219</sup> Russia sees possibilities for Russia-Iran cooperation in energy, agriculture, defense.

<http://tass.ru/en/economy/850467>

<sup>220</sup> Russian-Chinese Agricultural Cooperation. New Eastern Outlook. Access date: August 10 2016. <http://journal-neo.org/2016/04/08/russian-chinese-agricultural-cooperation/>

<sup>221</sup> Interview: Russia eyes enhanced agricultural cooperation with China, Shanghai Daily

[http://www.shanghaidaily.com/article/article\\_xinhua.aspx?id=328631](http://www.shanghaidaily.com/article/article_xinhua.aspx?id=328631)

<sup>222</sup> China to step up Farm Investment in Russia's Far East. The BRICS Post. Access date: August 10 2016.

<http://thebricspost.com/china-to-step-up-farm-investment-in-russias-far-east/#.V6tQELiLIU>

<sup>223</sup> Russia's Vladimir Putin, Japan's Shinzo Abe discuss cooperation, Wall Street Journal.

<http://www.wsj.com/articles/russias-valdimir-putin-japans-shinzo-abe-discuss-cooperation-1462570446>

<sup>224</sup> Russia-China agreement on grain hub calls for investing \$1.1 bln. Russia beyond the Headlines. Access date: August 10 2016. [http://rbth.com/business/2016/06/24/russia-china-agreement-on-grain-hub-calls-for-investing-11-bl\\_605857](http://rbth.com/business/2016/06/24/russia-china-agreement-on-grain-hub-calls-for-investing-11-bl_605857)

<sup>225</sup> Energy ties highlighted as China, Russia ink array of deals. The BRICS Post. Access date: August 10 2016

<http://thebricspost.com/energy-ties-highlighted-as-china-russia-ink-array-of-deals/#.V6tWabiLTIV>

<sup>226</sup> US-India Cooperation, US Department of State. <http://www.state.gov/r/pa/prs/ps/2015/09/247171.htm>



On 23 October 2015, India's Commerce and Industry Minister said that India and Africa have areas of cooperation including agriculture. Agriculture was identified as an area of common interest and can be addressed through bilateral trade.<sup>227</sup>

On 19 February 2016, India and Armenia signed a pact for agricultural cooperation. The areas of cooperation include cattle identification, agriculture machinery, plant breeding and exchange of agriscientist and students.<sup>228</sup>

On 23 March 2016, the Indian Cabinet approved the signing of an Memorandum of Understanding between India and Lithuania for agricultural cooperation. This cooperation is expected to boost capacity building, knowledge exchange and enhance agricultural productivity.<sup>229</sup>

On 15 June 2016, the Indian Government signed a Memorandum of Understanding with Taiwan to cooperate in various sectors, including infrastructure. It addresses cooperation in the areas of: 'agriculture, horticulture, animal husbandry, fisheries, aquaculture and food processing, genetic resources as well as environmental sustainability'.<sup>230</sup>

On June 22, the India's High Commissioner to Fiji Vishvas Sapkal strengthened bilateral ties with Fiji Minister for Agriculture Inia Seruiratu and discuss agricultural cooperation.<sup>231</sup>

India is strengthening bilateral ties with Australia, in various areas including that of agriculture cooperation. During a visit of the Australian High Commissioner to the Indian regions of Punjab and Haryana in July, areas of cooperation have been addressed.<sup>232</sup> This includes agro-trade as well as exchange programmes of technology and knowledge to foster sustainable agriculture.

On 7 July 2016, Prime-Minister Modi met Mozambican President Nyusi and discussed among others, agricultural cooperation.<sup>233</sup> The bilateral meeting confirmed the high priority of agriculture and their partnership to address food security.

On 1 September 2016, it was reported that the third stage (2015-2016) of the Indo-Israel Agriculture Project has commenced, which re-endorses their bilateral agricultural cooperation.<sup>234</sup> Israeli expertise

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<sup>227</sup> India, Africa to boost cooperation in infra, energy, agriculture, healthcare, DNA India

<http://www.dnaindia.com/money/report-india-africa-to-boost-cooperation-in-infra-energy-agriculture-healthcare-nirmala-sitharaman-2137951>

<sup>228</sup> India, Armenia ink pact for agricultural cooperation, Business Standard. [http://www.business-standard.com/article/pti-stories/india-armenia-ink-pact-for-agri-cooperation-116021900900\\_1.html](http://www.business-standard.com/article/pti-stories/india-armenia-ink-pact-for-agri-cooperation-116021900900_1.html)

<sup>229</sup> Cabinet okays MoU between India, Lithuania on agriculture cooperation, Deccan Chronicle.

<http://www.deccanchronicle.com/nation/current-affairs/230316/cabinet-okays-mou-between-india-and-lithuania-on-agriculture-cooperation.html>

<sup>230</sup> Government nod to pact with Taiwan for cooperation in agriculture sector. The Times of India. Access date: August 15, 2016. <http://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/economy/agriculture/government-nod-to-pact-with-taiwan-for-cooperation-in-agriculture-sector/articleshow/52767433.cms>

<sup>231</sup> Fiji and India discuss agriculture cooperation. The Fijian Government. Access date: August 15, 2016.

<http://www.fiji.gov.fj/Media-Center/Press-Releases/FIJI-AND-INDIA-DISCUSS-AGRICULTURE-COOPERATION.aspx>

<sup>232</sup> Australian High Commissioner to India calls for collaboration in education, agriculture, sports. The Times of India. Access date: August 15, 2016. <http://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/politics-and-nation/australian-high-commissioner-to-india-calls-for-collaboration-in-education-agriculture-sports/articleshow/53382131.cms>

<sup>233</sup> India, Mozambique to fast-track agricultural cooperation. Business Standard. Access date: August 15, 2016. [http://www.business-standard.com/article/news-ians/india-mozambique-to-fast-track-agricultural-cooperation-116070700627\\_1.html](http://www.business-standard.com/article/news-ians/india-mozambique-to-fast-track-agricultural-cooperation-116070700627_1.html)

<sup>234</sup> Agriculture Cooperation between Israel, India continues to blossom The Jerusalem Post. Access date: August 15, 2016. <http://www.jpost.com/Business-and-Innovation/Agricultural-cooperation-between-Israel-India-continues-to-blossom-440931>

in micro-irrigation supports the water supply for farmers. It targets the training of local Indian farmers and addresses the food security issue in India.<sup>235</sup>

Thus, India received a score of 0 for partial compliance.

*Analyst: Carolijn van Noort*

### **China: +1**

China has fully complied with its commitment to further develop agricultural cooperation, in particular, provision of food for the most vulnerable communities. China furthered agricultural cooperation with a number of partners, and in at least one instance, included food provision as a direct aim, and targeted such actions to at least one vulnerable group.

On 26 September 2015, Chinese President Xi Jinping ended his visit to the United States, and China's Ministry of Foreign Affairs released a briefing that outlined the consensus reached during the visit. With regards to agriculture, China's Minister of Agriculture and the US Secretary of Agriculture held a bilateral meeting on agricultural cooperation and renewed the Memorandum of Understanding between the two Agriculture ministries. The memorandum agreed to promote "comprehensive, sustained and balanced development of agricultural cooperation between both countries." One aspect of the cooperation was directed specifically at cooperation on climate smart agriculture to produce better food for growing populations while building the resilience of smallholder farmers. This aspect thus includes action on food provision and focus on one type of vulnerable group.<sup>236</sup>

On 26 September 2015, Chinese President Xi Jinping announced at the UN the "Six 100s" initiative to help developing countries reduce poverty. The initiative was declared at a South-South cooperation roundtable hosted by Xi himself. The initiative includes agricultural cooperation, trade promotion as methods of poverty reduction.<sup>237</sup>

On 4 December 2015, Chinese President Xi Jinping made a speech at the Opening Ceremony of the Johannesburg Summit of The Forum on China-Africa Cooperation. Xi stated that China will implement the China-Africa agricultural modernization plan, as China will "carry out agricultural development projects in 100 African villages to raise rural living standards." At the same time, this action of agricultural cooperation will be pursued with the implementation of the China-Africa poverty reduction plan, which focuses specifically on women and children.<sup>238</sup>

On 5 December 2015, the Forum on China-Africa Cooperation ended. The leaders endorsed the declaration titled "The Johannesburg plan of action." The action plan deepens trade relations between African countries and China, especially in the agriculture sector as the Chinese government pledged investments in African agriculture and pledged to empower local farmers. Xi stated that the

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<sup>235</sup> Agriculture Cooperation between Israel, India continues to blossom The Jerusalem Post. Access date: August 15, 2016. <http://www.jpost.com/Business-and-Innovation/Agricultural-cooperation-between-Israel-India-continues-to-blossom-440931>

<sup>236</sup> Full text: outcome list of President Xi Jinping's state visit to the United States, PRC MoFA. [http://www.fmprc.gov.cn/mfa\\_eng/zxxx\\_662805/t1300771.shtml](http://www.fmprc.gov.cn/mfa_eng/zxxx_662805/t1300771.shtml)

<sup>237</sup> Chinese president announces major anti-poverty initiatives, Xinhua Net. [http://news.xinhuanet.com/english/2015-09/27/c\\_134663942.htm](http://news.xinhuanet.com/english/2015-09/27/c_134663942.htm)

<sup>238</sup> Open a new era of China-Africa win-win cooperation and common development, PRC MoFA. [http://www.fmprc.gov.cn/mfa\\_eng/wjdt\\_665385/zyjh\\_665391/t1321614.shtml](http://www.fmprc.gov.cn/mfa_eng/wjdt_665385/zyjh_665391/t1321614.shtml)

action plan ensures a “win-win partnership based on equality,” and is committed to “inclusive multilateral cooperation, capacity building and [rejection of] trade protectionism.”<sup>239</sup>

On 28 January 2016, head of China’s Central Rural Work Leading Group stated, “Russia and China have big prospects to develop cooperation in the agricultural sector.” For example, Russia may help with the provision of soybeans to Chinese people through trade.<sup>240</sup>

On 6 April 2016, China’s Foreign Minister Wang Yi held a briefing on the China-Myanmar cooperation project. Wang stated that China is ready to develop further cooperation in agriculture, while undertaking causes of public welfare, livelihood and social responsibilities.<sup>241</sup>

On 14 July 2016, Chinese Premier Li Keqiang met the Mongolian Prime Minister Jargaltulga Erdenebat to discuss development strategies, including in the field of processing agriculture products.<sup>242</sup> This practical collaboration coincides with agreements in the areas of trade, infrastructure and to bring prosperity to the region.

On 28 July 2016, Chinese Vice Minister Qu Dongyu met with Dr. Joseph M Made, Minister of Agriculture, Mechanization and Irrigation Development of the Republic of Zimbabwe to discuss bilateral agricultural cooperation.<sup>243</sup> Collaboration encouraged agricultural trade as well as the advancement of human resources development. Furthermore, the sustainable development of the China-aided agro-technology demonstration center in Zimbabwe was discussed.

On 29 July 2016, Chinese funded training courses on cultivation techniques took place in Uganda. The courses focused on increasing the production of rice and millet which are key to ensuring food security in Uganda. Over 60 per cent of Uganda’s population derives livelihood from agriculture. The training course aims to increase economic development in Uganda through the use of affordable technologies.<sup>244</sup>

On 1 August 2016, Chinese Vice Minister of Agriculture Qu Dongyu met with Zimbabwean Agricultural Minister Dr. Joseph M Made. The two sides discussed bilateral agricultural production and agreed to deepen exchange and cooperation including through promoting sustainable development of technological exchange in agriculture. It was expressed in the meeting that furthering bilateral agricultural protection could contribute to the well-being of the two peoples.<sup>245</sup>

Thus, China received a score of +1 for full compliance.

*Analyst: Carolijn van Noort & Alissa Wang*

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<sup>239</sup> China-Africa Cooperation Forum Endorses Plan of Action, Channels TV

<http://www.channelstv.com/2015/12/05/china-africa-cooperation-forum-endorses-plan-of-action/>

<sup>240</sup> Russia, China have big prospects of developing agricultural cooperation, TASS <http://tass.ru/en/economy/852704>

<sup>241</sup> Wang Yi: China-Myanmar Mutually Beneficial cooperation is expected to achieve greater development in new era, PRC MoFA. [http://www.fmprc.gov.cn/mfa\\_eng/zxxx\\_662805/t1353791.shtml](http://www.fmprc.gov.cn/mfa_eng/zxxx_662805/t1353791.shtml)

<sup>242</sup> China, Mongolia agree to boost cooperation in agriculture, infrastructure construction. Ministry of Agriculture of the People’s Republic of China. Access date: 7 August 2016.

[http://english.agri.gov.cn/news/dqnf/201607/t20160715\\_188409.htm](http://english.agri.gov.cn/news/dqnf/201607/t20160715_188409.htm)

<sup>243</sup> Vice Minister Qu Dongyu meets Zimbabwean Agricultural Minister. Ministry of Agriculture of the People’s Republic of China 1 August 2016. Access date: 7 August 2016.

[http://english.agri.gov.cn/news/dqnf/201608/t20160801\\_194925.htm](http://english.agri.gov.cn/news/dqnf/201608/t20160801_194925.htm)

<sup>244</sup> China skilling Uganda’s agricultural technicians to boost production, Ministry of Agriculture 29 July 2016.

[http://english.agri.gov.cn/news/dqnf/201607/t20160729\\_194908.htm](http://english.agri.gov.cn/news/dqnf/201607/t20160729_194908.htm)

<sup>245</sup> Vice Minister Qu Dongyu meets Zimbabwean Agricultural Minister, Ministry of Agriculture 1 August 2016.

[http://english.agri.gov.cn/news/dqnf/201608/t20160801\\_194925.htm](http://english.agri.gov.cn/news/dqnf/201608/t20160801_194925.htm)

**South Africa: +1**

South Africa has fully complied with the commitment to develop agricultural cooperation, in particular, provision of food for the most vulnerable communities.

In December 2015, the Johannesburg Summit and the 6th Ministerial Conference of the Forum on China-Africa Cooperation (FOCAC) were held in South Africa, and the Johannesburg Action Plan was released. This Action Plan addressed food security and encouraged collaboration between China, fifty African countries and the Commission of the African Union on various issues including “exchanges on agricultural policies, agricultural infrastructure improvement, development of systems of agricultural support services, modern agricultural development capacity building, and investment in the complete value chain of agriculture to improve Africa’s agricultural production and strengthen its capability to ensure food security.”<sup>246</sup> These programmes are compatible with other poverty reduction programmes, targeting vulnerable communities including women and children.<sup>247</sup>

In May 2016, Minister Zokwana attended the Southern African Development Community (SADC) Ministerial Workshop that was “dealing with issues of food security and poverty eradication in the region.”<sup>248</sup> The Ministries were attentive to vulnerable communities: “The Workshop identified access, ownership and use of land and agricultural inputs, particularly for women and youth, as critical to increasing production, productivity, competitiveness and reduce poverty.”<sup>249</sup>

On 3 June 2016, South Africa’s Minister of Agriculture Senzeni Zokwana attended the G20 Agriculture Ministers’ Meeting in Xi’an, China to “share policy experiences and discuss innovative ways of advancing agricultural development and food production in a changing global environment.”<sup>250</sup> The G20 Agriculture Ministers Meeting Communique supports various methods for food security, including that of financial inclusion “We need to improve access to inclusive financial services, loans or credits, in particular for family farmers, smallholders and women, to boost sustainable agricultural production, including offering innovative financial products, promoting agricultural insurance scheme and risk management tools, and develop inclusive financial system for farmers.”<sup>251</sup> Inclusive financial schemes empower vulnerable communities, including women.

On 20 June 2016, Minister Zokwana attended a South Africa-Poland bilateral meeting to discuss cooperation in the field of agriculture.<sup>252</sup> The discussions included agro-trade as well as knowledge exchanges.

<sup>246</sup> The Forum on China-Africa Cooperation Johannesburg Action Plan (2016-2018). Forum on China-Africa Cooperation. Access date: 13 June 2016. [http://www.focac.org/eng/ltda/dwjbzjjhys\\_1/t1327961.htm](http://www.focac.org/eng/ltda/dwjbzjjhys_1/t1327961.htm).

<sup>247</sup> The Forum on China-Africa Cooperation Johannesburg Action Plan (2016-2018). Forum on China-Africa Cooperation. Access date: 13 June 2016. [http://www.focac.org/eng/ltda/dwjbzjjhys\\_1/t1327961.htm](http://www.focac.org/eng/ltda/dwjbzjjhys_1/t1327961.htm).

<sup>248</sup> Minister Zokwana to attend the SADC Ministerial Workshop on Food Security and Poverty Eradication (16 May 2016). Department of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries. Access date: 9 June 2016. <http://www.nda.agric.za/docs/media/MINISTER%20ZOKWANA%20TO%20ATTEND%20THE%20SADC%20MINISTERIAL%20WORKSHOP%20ON%20FOOD%20SECURITY%20AND%20POVERTY%20ERADICATION.pdf>.

<sup>249</sup> Media release Ministerial workshop on food security and poverty eradication held at Gaborono, Botswana, 16 May 2016. Southern African Development Community. Access date: 13 June 2016. [http://www.sadc.int/files/8714/6349/3269/Media\\_release\\_17\\_05\\_16\\_1530hrs.pdf](http://www.sadc.int/files/8714/6349/3269/Media_release_17_05_16_1530hrs.pdf).

<sup>250</sup> Minister Senzeni Zokwana attends the G20 Agriculture Ministers’ meeting in Xi’an, China, 03 June 2016. Department of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries. Access date: 9 June 2016. <http://www.nda.agric.za/docs/media/MINISTER%20SENZENI%20ZOKWANA%20ATTENDS%20THE%20g20.pdf>.

<sup>251</sup> G20 Agriculture Ministers Meeting Communiqué. G20. Access date: 13 June 2016. [http://www.g20.org/English/Documents/Current/201606/t20160608\\_2301.html](http://www.g20.org/English/Documents/Current/201606/t20160608_2301.html).

<sup>252</sup> Minister Zokwana attends South African/Poland bilateral meeting. Department of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries. Access date: 8 August 2016. <http://www.nda.agric.za/docs/media/MEDIA%20STATEMENT%20ON%20BILATERAL%20MEETING%20WITH%20POLAND%20AGRICULTURE%20DEPUTY%20MINISTER.pdf>

On 1 August 2016, The Pan-African Parliament (PAP) and the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) held a workshop with PAP Parliamentarians in South Africa.<sup>253</sup> This multilateral event addressed legislative frameworks for food security and nutrition. The FAO representative of South Africa stated that: “this is a clear demonstration of the importance that the Pan-African Parliamentarians are attaching to food security and nutrition in Africa and to the partnership with FAO.”<sup>254</sup>

Thus, it has been awarded a score of +1.

*Analyst: Carolijn van Noort*

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<sup>253</sup> New Parliamentary Alliance to Shore Up Food Security and Nutrition in Africa. FAO Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations. Access date: August 11 2016. <http://www.fao.org/partnerships/container/news-article/en/c/429003/>

<sup>254</sup> New Parliamentary Alliance to Shore Up Food Security and Nutrition in Africa. FAO Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations. Access date: August 11 2016. <http://www.fao.org/partnerships/container/news-article/en/c/429003/>

## 8. Human Rights: Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights

“We reiterate our commitment to ensure sexual and reproductive health and reproductive rights for all”

*BRICS Ufa Declaration*

### Assessment

	No Compliance	Partial Compliance	Full Compliance
Brazil	-1		
Russia		0	
India			+1
China			+1
South Africa		0	
Average		+0.20	

### Background

Over the last two years, BRICS have increasingly expressed their willingness to undertake efforts to improve living conditions of their populations including health care and human rights standards. The first meeting of BRICS officials and experts on population matters was held in February 2014 when BRICS representatives achieved a new level of cooperation by agreement to ensure sexual and reproductive rights for all. The meeting was convened by the government of South Africa, with International Planned Parenthood Federation playing a supporting role. This first seminar was followed by the second meeting of BRICS officials and experts on population matters and first BRICS ministerial meeting on population matters on February 10-13, 2015 in Brasilia, Brazil. At the meeting, BRICS ministers produced the “Agenda for Brazil, Russia, India, China, South Africa (BRICS) Cooperation on Population Matters 2015-2020.” In the document, government ministers and experts focused in particular on maternal mortality, HIV and sexually transmitted diseases, gender equality and the care burden. The agenda remains one of the guiding documents for BRICS governments’ design and implementation of policies on sexual and reproductive health and reproductive rights.

### Commitment Features

BRICS members stated they are determined to ensure sexual and reproductive health and reproductive rights for all. The World Health Organization has defined both terms within a human rights framework. This commitment can be divided into 2 sections.

The first part of this commitment builds on the premise that health is a basic human right, focusing specifically on sexual and reproductive health. Sexual health is a state of physical, mental and social well-being in relation to sexuality. It requires a positive and respectful approach to sexuality and sexual relationships, as well as the possibility of having pleasurable and safe sexual experiences, free of coercion, discrimination and violence.<sup>255</sup> Reproductive Health addresses the reproductive processes, functions and system at all stages of life. Reproductive health, therefore, implies that people are able to have a responsible, satisfying and safe sex life and that they have the capability to reproduce and the freedom to decide if, when and how often to do so. Implicit in this are the right of men and women to be informed of and to have access to safe, effective, affordable and acceptable methods of fertility regulation of their choice, and the right of access to appropriate health care services that will

<sup>255</sup> World Health Organization, Sexual Health, Access date: 6 March 2015.  
[http://www.who.int/topics/sexual\\_health/en/](http://www.who.int/topics/sexual_health/en/).

enable women to go safely through pregnancy and childbirth and provide couples with the best chance of having a healthy infant.<sup>256</sup>

The second part of this commitment deals specifically with reproductive rights. The 1994 ICPD Programme of Action gives the following definition of reproductive rights: “reproductive rights embrace certain human rights that are already recognized in national laws, international human rights documents and other relevant United Nations consensus documents. These rights rest on the recognition of the basic right of all couples and individuals to decide freely and responsibly the number, spacing and timing of their children and to have the information and means to do so, and the right to attain the highest standard of sexual and reproductive health. It also includes the right of all to make decisions concerning reproduction free of discrimination, coercion and violence as expressed in human rights documents. In the exercise of this right, they should take into account the needs of their living and future children and their responsibilities towards the community.”<sup>257</sup>

On the first dimension of health, for the BRICS member to receive a score of full compliance it must defend human sexual health and the right to reproductive health and take actions to advance sexual health, through such actions as supporting pleasurable and safe sexual experiences, free of coercion, discrimination and violence with the intent to foster physical, mental and social well-being in relation to sexuality. This could be achieved through providing access to safe, effective, affordable and acceptable methods of fertility regulation of their choice, and the access to appropriate health care services that will enable women to go safely through pregnancy and childbirth and provide couples with the best chance of having a healthy infant.

On the second dimension of rights, taking into account the different starting points in the level of sexual and reproductive rights citizens of the member countries enjoy, requirements for full compliance may differ from country-to-country. For those with a lack of existing sexual and reproductive rights or highly restricted reproductive rights, relaxation of those policies with the goal of supporting reproductive rights or through more broadly supporting women’s rights and equality count as compliance. For countries with well-developed reproductive rights and no existing reproductive restrictions, countries should continuously support reproductive and sexual rights for example, through incorporating these rights into the fight against current diseases caused by the Zika virus and/or HIV. Issues such as abortion and the one-child policy are focal points in this aspect as well.

### Scoring Guidelines

-1	The member does not support reproductive rights AND does not take steps to promote sexual and reproductive health.
0	The member supports reproductive rights OR takes actions to promote sexual and reproductive health
+1	The member supports reproductive rights AND takes actions to promote sexual and reproductive health

### Brazil: -1

Brazil did not comply with its commitment to ensure sexual and reproductive health and reproductive rights for all. Brazil did not take actions to promote reproductive rights or sexual and reproductive health.

<sup>256</sup> World Health Organization, Reproductive Rights, Access date: 6 March 2015.

[http://www.who.int/topics/reproductive\\_health/en/](http://www.who.int/topics/reproductive_health/en/).

<sup>257</sup> ICPD Programme of Action 1994, para 7.3, United Nations. Access date: 1 July 2015.

<http://www.un.org/en/development/desa/population/theme/rights/>.

On 16 February 2016, a bill was proposed to Brazil's Congress that would sentence women and doctors practicing microcephaly-related abortions to jail of up to 15 years. While there are investigations confirming the specific connection between microcephaly and the Zika virus, Brazil's ministry of health specified that Zika can be one of the causes of microcephaly. In response to this, the Brazilian government cautioned women to delay pregnancy, while abortion in cases of microcephaly remained illegal with the proposed bill strengthening punishment for microcephaly-related abortions.<sup>258</sup>

On 24 September 2015, the resolution nº 2.121/2015 regulating the assisted reproduction was issued. It explains the need to develop this practice and sets the standards of its execution.<sup>259</sup>

Thus, Brazil received a score of -1 for lack of compliance.

*Analyst: Filipe G. Carvalho & Alissa Wang*

### **Russia: 0**

Russia partially complied with its commitment to ensure sexual and reproductive health and reproductive rights for all. Russia took actions to promote sexual and reproductive health, but did not support or defend reproductive rights.

On 30 October 2015, Russia announced that it will allocate an additional \$300 million next year to fight the growing HIV epidemic in the country. The funds will be used to support non profit organizations that work on HIV prevention and control.<sup>260</sup>

On 13 January 2016, Russia's health minister Veronika Skvortsova announced that anti-Ebola vaccines developed in Russia were suitable to people with HIV. She said that these vaccines were "specially created for the population cohorts with immunodeficiency that represents a big significance for the countries where viruses are met."<sup>261</sup>

On 9 June 2016, Russia's health minister Veronika Skvortsova said at the UN General Assembly Conference on HIV and AIDS that Russia is considering changing its current legislation on the rights of HIV-infected foreign citizens and possibly lifting restriction that prohibit their access to the country. She said, "these limitations, like in many other countries, were adopted in 1990s when no effective measures on HIV prevention and treatment existed."<sup>262</sup>

Thus, Russia received a score of 0 for partial compliance.

*Analyst: Alissa Wang*

### **India: +1**

India fully complied with its commitment to ensure sexual and reproductive health and reproductive rights for all. India supported women's reproductive rights and took actions to promote sexual and reproductive health.

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<sup>258</sup> Zika virus and microcephaly in Brazil, Council on Hemispheric Affairs <http://www.coha.org/zika-virus-and-microcephaly-in-brazil-outbreaks-that-question-the-fundamentals-of-brazilian-healthcare-efficiency/>

<sup>259</sup> RESOLUÇÃO CFM nº 2.121/2015, Federal Medical Council of Brazil. Access date: 20 September 2016. [http://www.portalmedico.org.br/resolucoes/CFM/2015/2121\\_2015.pdf](http://www.portalmedico.org.br/resolucoes/CFM/2015/2121_2015.pdf)

<sup>260</sup> Russia allocates extra \$300 million to fight HIV, The Moscow Times. Access date: 15 September 2016. <http://www.themoscowtimes.com/news/article/russia-allocates-extra-300-million-to-fight-hiv/541138.html>

<sup>261</sup> One of Russia-developed vaccines against the deadly Ebola virus provides activation of cellular immunity up to 35 times and is suitable to people with HIV, Sputnik News 13 January 2016. Access date: 15 September 2016. <https://sputniknews.com/society/20160113/1033080237/hiv-ebola-vaccine-immunity.html>

<sup>262</sup> Russia might lift entry ban on HIV-infected foreigners – health minister, RT News 9 June 2016. Access date: 15 September 2016. <https://www.rt.com/politics/345927-russia-health-minister-hiv/>



On 27 July 2015, a collaboration between India and the Netherlands in HIV research was announced during the Dutch Prime Minister's visit to India. HIV research was cited as an emerging priority for India's goal of HIV detection, intervention, control, prevention and eradication.<sup>263</sup>

On 27 August 2015, Indian Prime Minister Modi attended the Call to Action Summit 2015 which focuses on ending preventable child and maternal deaths. He stated, "The message is of our commitment, that we will ensure that every woman ... who can be saved and will be saved."<sup>264</sup>

On 18 May 2016, India's women and child development ministry (WCD) produced a draft National Policy for Women, which focuses on the reproductive rights of women. WCD minister Maneka Gandhi said that in the draft policy, "focus has shifted from just welfare to welfare with a heavy dose of rights. This policy will define government action towards women for the next 15 to 20 years."<sup>265</sup>

Thus, India received a score of +1 for full compliance.

*Analyst: Alissa Wang*

### **China: +1**

China fully complied with its commitment to ensure sexual and reproductive health and reproductive rights for all. China supported reproductive rights and also took actions to promote sexual and reproductive health.

On 14 August 2015, China's National Health and Family Planning Commission and the Ministry of Education released a HIV/AIDS prevention program. The release stated, "provinces should combine health education on HIV/AIDS prevention with sex health education... with focuses on sexual morality and responsibility, prevention and rejecting unsafe sex."<sup>266</sup>

On 28 September 2015, Chinese President Xi Jinping attended the Global Leaders' Meeting on Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment at the United Nations headquarters in New York. In response to a point raised at the meeting about "major gaps in women and girls access to sexual reproductive health, "Xi called for raising awareness to narrow down this gap through several areas of work, one of which includes protecting women's rights and interests. In addition, Xi announced that China will donate 10 million US dollars to help developing countries build 100 health projects for women and children, through sending teams of medical experts and help provide training programs.<sup>267</sup>

On 30 October 2015, China announced that it will allow two-children for every couple, banning the one-child policy that was in effect in recent years. China recognized that when Chinese women did not follow the one-child policy, local officials "resorted to abortions, heavy fines, and forced

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<sup>263</sup> India, East Africa to synergize efforts on HIV AIDS vaccine research, DNA India. Access date: 15 September 2016.

<http://www.dnaindia.com/india/report-india-east-africa-to-synergize-efforts-on-hiv-aids-vaccine-research-2108639>

<sup>264</sup> Modi Government promises targeted healthcare to 184 poorest-performing districts, The Huffington Post. Access date: 15 September 2016. [http://www.huffingtonpost.in/2015/08/27/modi-government-healthcare\\_n\\_8048908.html](http://www.huffingtonpost.in/2015/08/27/modi-government-healthcare_n_8048908.html)

<sup>265</sup> New Policy for women looks to accommodate rights with welfare, Live Mint. Access date: 15 September 2016. <http://www.livemint.com/Politics/ZP194KOM4x0FhAH8K6BJtN/New-policy-for-women-looks-to-accommodate-rights-with-welfar.html>

<sup>266</sup> HIV/AIDS Prevention Classes, Now coming to a Chinese school near you, The Wall Street Journal. Access date: 15 September 2016. <http://blogs.wsj.com/chinarealtime/2015/08/14/hiv-aids-prevention-classes-now-coming-to-a-chinese-school-near-you/>

<sup>267</sup> President Xi Stresses Gender Equality at UN Meeting, CRI English News. Access date: 15 September 2016. <http://english.cri.cn/12394/2015/09/28/4182s897741.htm>

sterilization” under the previous one-child policy. The new two-child policy would lead to as many as 2 million new births, and was “hailed as a major liberalization of the three-decades old restriction.”<sup>268</sup>

On 4 November 2015, China released documents on its 13<sup>th</sup> Five-Year Plan.<sup>269</sup> Under the healthcare section, the plan advocates for the full implementation of the family planning policy, allowing all couples to have two children, stopping the one-child policy. It proposes improvements to reproductive health services and focuses on women’s healthcare and nursing services. It proposes to advance reforms in public hospitals and extend health care insurances towards this goal.<sup>270</sup>

On 11 January 2016, China’s National Health and Family Planning Commission (NHFPC) announced that it is adopting measures to better allocate maternal and child health resources, in response to the new two child policy. The NHFPC announced that it will also train more doctors towards this goal.<sup>271</sup> NHFPC deputy head Wang Peian said, “The new [2-child] policy has increased the likelihood of later-age pregnancies, which are associated with risks including genetic abnormalities and labour problems. Therefore, we need better maternal and child health services.”<sup>272</sup>

On 7 June 2016, China announced that it is planning to extend family doctor services to the entire population by 2020. Pregnant women were included as a priority group.<sup>273</sup>

Thus, China received a score of +1 for full compliance.

*Analyst: Alissa Wang*

### **South Africa: 0**

South Africa has partially complied with its commitment to ensure sexual and reproductive health and reproductive rights for all. South Africa took steps to promote women’s sexual and reproductive health but did not support reproductive rights.

On 29 September 2015, South African President Jacob Zuma and First Lady Thobeka Madiba-Zuma arrived in New York for the 70<sup>th</sup> session of the UN General Assembly. Thobeka Madiba-Zuma focused on promoting women’s health awareness at the UNGA, specifically on the issues of cervical cancer and breast cancer, and HIV prevention and treatment. She said during the meeting, that it was her “responsibility to the people of South Africa to ensure that women’s sexual and reproductive health is kept high on the national and global agenda.”<sup>274</sup>

On 1 December 2015, the South African government reported that it made tremendous progress in providing antiretroviral treatment to HIV patients, and also in promoting education to prevent new

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<sup>268</sup> China’s one-child policy to end, CNN. Access date: 15 September 2016.  
<http://www.cnn.com/2015/10/29/asia/china-one-child-policy/>

<sup>269</sup> China’s 13<sup>th</sup> Five Year Plan, Permanent Mission of PRC to the UN. Access date: 15 September 2016.  
<http://www.china-un.org/eng/zt/China123456/>

<sup>270</sup> Dissecting China’s Five Year Plan, The Telegraph. Access date: 15 September 2016.  
<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/sponsored/china-watch/politics/12006280/china-five-year-plan.html>

<sup>271</sup> China to improve maternal and child healthcare under 2-child policy, Economic Times. Access date: 15 September 2016. <http://health.economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/policy/china-to-improve-maternal-and-child-healthcare-under-2-child-policy/50533580>

<sup>272</sup> China to improve maternal healthcare for new two-child policy, FIGO. Access date: 15 September 2016.  
<http://www.figo.org/news/china-improve-maternal-healthcare-new-two-child-policy-0015150>

<sup>273</sup> China targets family doctor services for all, China.org. Access date: 15 September 2016.  
[http://www.china.org.cn/china/2016-06/07/content\\_38617332.htm](http://www.china.org.cn/china/2016-06/07/content_38617332.htm)

<sup>274</sup> South Africa raises women’s health awareness at UN, South Africa Info. Access date: 15 September 2016.  
<http://www.southafrica.info/news/international/thobeka-zuma-un-290915.htm#.V1gayZMrKjQ>

infections. South African Deputy President Cyril Ramaphosa said, that they have “invested massively in life saving ARVs, making our HIV treatment program the biggest in the world.”<sup>275</sup>

Thus, South Africa received a score of 0 for partial compliance.

*Analyst: Alissa Wang*

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<sup>275</sup> South Africa makes progress in fight against HIV/AIDS, AA. Access date: 15 September 2016.  
<http://aa.com.tr/en/health/south-africa-makes-progress-in-fight-against-hiv-aids/484184>

## 9. Health: Ebola

“We confirm our commitment to do what is necessary individually and collectively to support these efforts [international response to Ebola virus disease] addressing emergency and longer-term systematic issues and gaps in preparedness and response on national, regional and global level.”

*BRICS Ufa Declaration*

### Assessment

	No Compliance	Partial Compliance	Full Compliance
Brazil		0	
Russia			+1
India	-1		
China			+1
South Africa			+1
Average		+0.40	

### Background

As of March 2014, West African countries have faced the worst Ebola virus outbreak crisis since the virus was first discovered in 1976, with over 28,000 reported cases and 11,000 reported deaths.<sup>276</sup> The Ebola virus’ high transmissibility and fatality rate — the latter averaging 50 per cent<sup>277</sup> — has created global concern over the spread of the disease, leading to international discussions over regional and global emergency preparedness and response in regards to health crises such as the one seen in West Africa.

BRICS leaders have for the first time addressed concerns over the Ebola virus disease. Previously, BRICS leaders have stated their commitment to fight other transmissible diseases such as HIV/AIDS, as well as their commitment to improvements in public health. This is the first time BRICS leaders focused on the aspect of emergency preparedness and response in the context of core global health issues.<sup>278</sup>

### Commitment Features

BRICS leaders committed to do what is necessary individually and collectively to support efforts addressing emergency and longer-term systematic issues and gaps in preparedness and response on national, regional and global level, for the Ebola virus disease.

The “international response to the Ebola virus disease” refers to the WHO-led global response to Ebola that began in August 2014. This will be the reference point for this commitment.

“Preparedness” refers to activities and measures taken in advance to ensure effective response to the impact of hazards, including the issuance of timely and effective early warnings and the temporary evacuation of people and property from threatened locations. These include establishing an overall

<sup>276</sup> Outbreaks Chronology: Ebola Virus Disease, Center for Disease Control and Prevention (Atlanta) 13 January 2016. Access date: 18 January 2016. <http://www.cdc.gov/vhf/ebola/outbreaks/history/chronology.html>

<sup>277</sup> Ebola Virus Disease: Factsheet Number 103, World Health Organization (Geneva) January 2016. Access date: 18 January 2015. <http://www.who.int/mediacentre/factsheets/fs103/en/>

<sup>278</sup> BRICS Summit Conclusions on Health, BRICS Information Centre (Toronto) 23 February 2013. Access date: 18 January 2016. <http://www.brics.utoronto.ca/conclusions/health-2012.pdf>

strategy, policies, and institutional and management structures, that help at-risk communities become alert and take appropriate action in the face of an imminent threat.<sup>279</sup>

“Response” refers to the WHO’s 3 phases of the response to Ebola. From August-December 2014 was Phase 1 of the global community’s response to Ebola which included the scaling up of treatment beds, burial teams, behaviour change, etc. Phase 2 lasted from January to July 2015, and included enhanced case-finding, contact tracing and community engagement. At the time of this commitment, the WHO is leading the global community onto Phase 3 of the response which spans from August 2015 to mid-2016. The two main objectives Phase 3 are to interrupt all the remaining chains of Ebola transmission, and to respond to the consequences of residual risks.<sup>280</sup> Phase 3 of the Ebola response also requires sustained support from donors.

Anchoring the commitment on the above definitions, the commitment rests on three pillars. The nature of the action a country takes can be on an individual or collective level, or both. The nature of the response to Ebola can be an emergency response or a response that tackles longer term systematic issues or both. Finally, the scope of the action can be national, regional, or global, or a combination thereof. Full compliance requires that the member country completely addresses all of these pillars. Regarding the third pillar, the regional and global level need not be distinguished as mutually exclusive. Thus, if a country’s actions address both the national and either the regional or global level will count towards full compliance on this third aspect.

On the first dimension, individual actions refer to actions that a country took by itself, such as in addressing its own cases of the disease, or bilaterally such as offering aid directly to another country struck by the disease. Collective actions refer to actions that are taken in cooperation with more than one other country. This can be achieved through engaging in group effort, or supporting international or regional organizations in coping with the disease.

On the second dimension, emergency response refers to actions that respond narrowly to a country’s own emergencies or bilateral support to a country by directly offering emergency assistance. Immediate medical responses and support, in the form of developing vaccines, donating vaccines, scientific breakthroughs, etc. are forms of emergency assistance. A response to longer term systematic issues refers to actions that have implications beyond the duration of the disease itself. These actions include incorporating certain mechanisms into national long term health strategies, reforming of the health system in response to Ebola or to better prepare for future threats, or offering longer-term reconstruction aid after a country has been struck with the disease. Due to the timing of this compliance cycle, full compliance does not require emergency response since the WHO had already completed Phase 1 and Phase 2 of its response, and has shifted towards longer term, sustained support of Phase 3.

On the third dimension, national level responses refer to actions that address issues that Ebola has brought to the country itself. Regional and global level responses refer to actions that have implications beyond the targeted country’s borders. This again can be achieved through the support of a regional organization or an international organization’s work (such as the WHO).

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<sup>279</sup> Glossary of Humanitarian Terms, ReliefWeb/World Health Organization (Geneva) Access date: 18 January 2016.  
<http://www.who.int/hac/about/definitions/en/>

<sup>280</sup> World Health Organization, “Ebola Response Phase 3”, Access date: 16 February 2016.  
[http://apps.who.int/iris/bitstream/10665/184693/1/ebola\\_resilientzero\\_eng.pdf](http://apps.who.int/iris/bitstream/10665/184693/1/ebola_resilientzero_eng.pdf)

**Scoring Guidelines**

-1	Member took no actions to support the international response to Ebola.
0	Member took actions individually OR collectively to support the response to Ebola through addressing emergency/longer-term systematic issues at national, regional OR global level.
+1	Member took actions individually AND collectively to support the response to Ebola through addressing (emergency and) longer-term systematic issues at national AND regional/global level.

**Brazil: 0**

Brazil has partially complied with its commitment to do what is necessary individually and collectively to support the international response to Ebola virus disease. Brazil took actions individually to address emergency response and longer term systematic issues on a national level. However, it did not take actions collectively or respond to the crisis at a regional and global level.

On 14 November 2015, Brazil's Health Ministry reported that "a man who began experiencing Ebola-like symptoms after returning from a trip to the West African nation of Guinea had tested negative a second time for that severe and fatal disease." It was reported that the patient received medical attention two days after his return. Health authorities continued to monitor the patient and stated that monitoring will continue for the 95 people he came in contact with. Brazilian authorities also stated that they will inform the WHO about the latest results "in keeping with that U.N. agency's international Health Regulations."<sup>281</sup>

Additionally, the Ministry of Health's Secretariat for Health Surveillance's (Secretaria de Vigilância em Saúde/SVS) 2016 strategic plan included the intensification of measures against transmissible diseases such as Ebola. The measure was implemented with a focus on the 2016 Summer Olympic Games in Rio de Janeiro. In accordance to the strategic plan, the government will make available National Force troops to assist on disease prevention if needed.<sup>282</sup>

Following concerns over the Ebola and Zika viruses, the SVS renovated and inaugurated various Strategic Information Centres for Health Surveillance (Centros de Informações Estratégicas em Vigilância de Saúde/CIEVS) in efforts to develop the country's National Public Health Emergency Alert and Response Network (Rede Nacional de Alerta e Resposta às Emergências de Saúde). The proposal to renew these centers originated from the government's Ebola response plan.<sup>283</sup>

Thus, Brazil has received awarded a score of 0.

*Analyst: Filipe G. Carvalho & Alissa Wang*

**Russia: +1**

Russia has fully complied with its commitment to individually and collectively support the international response to Ebola. Russia took actions individually and collectively to support emergency medical responses to Ebola with global-level impact and address the longer-term systematic issues.

<sup>281</sup> Brazilian tests negative for Ebola virus a second time, Latino Fox News 14 November 2015.

<http://latino.foxnews.com/latino/health/2015/11/14/brazilian-tests-negative-for-ebola-virus-second-time/>

<sup>282</sup> SVS avalia atuação e discute estratégias para 2016, Ministério da Saúde (Brasília) 15 December 2015. Access date: 12 June 2016. <http://portalsaude.saude.gov.br/index.php/o-ministerio/principal/secretarias/svs/noticias-svs/21247-svs-avalia-atuacao-e-discute-estrategias-para-2016>.

<sup>283</sup> Os CIEVs são referência nacional na detecção e na resposta às emergências, Ministério da Saúde (Brasília) 04 November 2015. Access date: 13 June 2016. <http://portalsaude.saude.gov.br/index.php/o-ministerio/principal/secretarias/svs/noticias-svs/20492-os-cievs-sao-referencias-nacionais-na-deteccao-e-na-resposta-as-emergencias-em-saude-publica>.

In December 2015, speaking at the intercessional Meeting of States Parties to the Biological Weapons Convention Director of the Department of Science and International Cooperation of the Russian Federal Service for Surveillance on Consumer Rights Protection and Human Wellbeing (Rospotrebnadzor) Vyacheslav Smolenskiy said that during last six month the Russian Government adopted a number of decisions on additional financing and committed USD 15.3 million and RUB 1.2 million (USD 19,230) for 2016–2018 (about USD 35 million in total) for the programs of assistance to the countries combatting infectious diseases. He added that “in particular, the decision was made to continue providing aid to the Republic of Guinea in developing national system to control and monitor dangerous infections, including establishing and equipping the relevant research center, transfer of equipment, including mobile virology laboratories, which proved to be useful during Ebola outbreak, and training of medical workers”.<sup>284</sup>

On 13 January 2016, Russia’s health minister Veronika Skvortsova announced that anti-Ebola vaccines developed in Russia were suitable to people with HIV. She said that these vaccines were “specially created for the population cohorts with immunodeficiency that represents a big significance for the countries where niduses are met.”<sup>285</sup>

On 15 January 2016, Russia reported further testing of their vaccine against Ebola, under the observation of the UN and the WHO. It announced that information regarding the vaccine will be given to the WHO on 25 January.<sup>286</sup> This is an indication of collective action since it shows Russia’s cooperation with international organizations.

On 15 February 2016, Russian Health Minister Veronika Skvortsova presented a Russian vaccine against the Ebola virus to the WHO. The President of Russia announced the development of the vaccines as having effectiveness “higher than those remedies that have been used in the world up to now.”<sup>287</sup>

Thus, Russia received a score of +1 for full compliance.

*Analyst: Alissa Wang*

#### **India: -1**

India did not comply with its commitment to individually and collectively support the international response to Ebola. No evidence of individual nor collective actions were found. Therefore it receives a score of -1.

*Analyst: Alissa Wang*

#### **China: +1**

China has fully complied with its commitment to individually and collectively support the international response to Ebola. China took actions individually and collectively to support the response to Ebola through addressing emergency and longer-term systematic issues at national, regional and global level.

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<sup>284</sup> Statement at the intercessional Meeting of States Parties to the BTWC, Russian Federal Service for Surveillance on Consumer Rights Protection and Human Wellbeing 21 December 2015. Access date: 10 October 2016.

[http://rospotrebnadzor.ru/press\\_service/publications/?ELEMENT\\_ID=5414&sphrase\\_id=787819](http://rospotrebnadzor.ru/press_service/publications/?ELEMENT_ID=5414&sphrase_id=787819)

<sup>285</sup> One of Russia-developed vaccines against the deadly Ebola virus provides activation of cellular immunity up to 35 times and is suitable to people with HIV, Sputnik News 13 January 2016. Access date: 15 September 2016. <https://sputniknews.com/society/20160113/1033080237/hiv-ebola-vaccine-immunity.html>

<sup>286</sup> Russia will present its vaccine against Ebola on January 25, Sputnik news. Access date: 15 September 2016.

<http://sputniknews.com/africa/20160115/1033173566/ebola-vaccine-russia-africa.html>

<sup>287</sup> “Almost 100% effective, no side effects”: Russian Ebola vaccine presented to WHO, RT.

<https://www.rt.com/news/332532-ebola-vaccine-russia-who/>

On 11 July 2015, Chinese Permanent Representative to the UN participated in the International Ebola Recovery Conference in New York. He stated during the conference, “the international community should build a sense of community of common destiny for all mankind, continue to strengthen unity and concerted action in an effort to help the three countries combat the [Ebola] epidemic and realize recovery.”<sup>288</sup>

On 8-10 August 2015, Chinese Foreign Minister Wang Yi traveled to Sierra Leone, Liberia and Guinea. It was reported that China’s total aid in response to the Ebola crisis amounted to \$120 million in worth. With the winding down of the Ebola outbreak, China began to tackle post-crisis issues. Wang Yi thus promised joint projects and funding to rebuild post-Ebola Africa, by helping “the affected countries in infrastructure building, resumption of trade and export, food security guarantee and other areas to enhance their resilient capability against crisis.” During a meeting with the president of Sierra Leone’s president Ernest Bai Koroma, Minister Wang Yi promised to cooperate in “public health, mining, energy, agriculture, fishing, infrastructure, and human resources.” During Wang’s visit to Liberia, he stated in the press conference that “China has agreed to help Liberia with the construction of a ministerial complex which will host about 10 ministries.” During his last stop in Guinea, Wang promised to promote more infrastructure construction in the country. In addition, Wang stated that poverty was the “root cause” of the Ebola outbreak and stated that China will focus on reducing poverty as a key goal, in addition to improving public health systems.<sup>289</sup>

In 14 October 2015, it was reported that an Ebola vaccine developed by Chinese military scientists will be produced by a private Chinese firm, Tianjin CanSino Biotechnology Inc. The vaccine is developed by the Academy of Military Medical Sciences in China, and was approved by the Chinese government in the previous year.<sup>290</sup>

On 3 December 2015, Chinese President Xi Jinping met with Guinean President Alpha Conde. Xi pledged to help Guinea build health-care capacity in response to the recent Ebola outbreak.<sup>291</sup>

On 4 December 2015, Chinese President Xi Jinping made a speech at the opening ceremony of the Johannesburg Summit of the Forum on China-Africa Cooperation. Xi stated, “the Chinese government and people took the lead in helping Africa fight Ebola and led the international community in its efforts to assist Africa to combat the epidemic, demonstrating the bond of brotherhood between China and Africa in time of difficulty.”<sup>292</sup>

On 15 January 2016, scientists in a Chinese research group was sent to Sierra Leone by the Chinese government to help fight the first explosion of the Ebola virus, discovered and demonstrated the mechanism of the Ebola virus invasion, marking a significant scientific breakthrough. The mechanism was published in international academic journal Cell. China stated that it is expected to continue doing research into drug development.<sup>293</sup>

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<sup>288</sup> UN Meeting seeks aid for economies battered by Ebola deaths, Coast Week. Access date: 15 September 2016. <http://www.coastweek.com/3828-UN-seeks-aid-for-economies-battered-by-Ebola-deaths.htm>

<sup>289</sup> China promises more investment in ‘post-Ebola’ West Africa, The Diplomat. Access date: 15 September 2016. <http://thediplomat.com/2015/08/china-promises-more-investment-in-post-ebola-west-africa/>

<sup>290</sup> China to mass produce ebola vaccine developed by Chinese Military Scientists, International Business Times. Access date: 15 September 2016. <http://www.ibtimes.com/china-mass-produce-ebola-vaccine-developed-chinese-military-scientists-2141142>

<sup>291</sup> China to help Ebola-hit Guinea hone health care capacity, Xinhua Net. Access date: 15 September 2016. [http://news.xinhuanet.com/english/2015-12/04/c\\_134882584.htm](http://news.xinhuanet.com/english/2015-12/04/c_134882584.htm)

<sup>292</sup> Open a new era of China-Africa Win-win cooperation and common development, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the PRC. Access date: 15 September 2016. [http://www.fmprc.gov.cn/mfa\\_eng/wjdt\\_665385/zyjh\\_665391/t1321614.shtml](http://www.fmprc.gov.cn/mfa_eng/wjdt_665385/zyjh_665391/t1321614.shtml)

<sup>293</sup> Chinese scientists reveal Ebola virus invasion mechanism, GBTimes <http://gbtimes.com/china/chinese-scientists-reveal-ebola-virus-invasion-mechanism>



Thus, China has received a score of +1 for full compliance.

*Analyst: Alissa Wang*

**South Africa: +1**

South Africa has fully complied with its commitment to individually and collectively support the international response to Ebola. South Africa took individual and collective actions that supported longer term systematic issues related to the Ebola disease at the national and global level.

On 4-5 December 2015, the second FOCAC Summit was held. The Summit was chaired by China and South Africa and took place in Johannesburg. One of the agenda items of the summit addressed the longer term implications of the fight against Ebola in western Africa. Since China made contributions to the fight against Ebola by providing large amounts of assistance, China would increase support to African countries in the future by improving medical and healthcare services in the region.<sup>294</sup>

On 29 April 2016, South Africa's Ambassador to Liberia VP Moodley stated South Africa's pledge to support Liberia in its fight against Ebola. He stated that the fight against Ebola is a global challenge and thus encouraged all members of the global community to take action.<sup>295</sup>

Thus, South Africa has received a score of +1 for full compliance.

*Analyst: Alissa Wang*

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<sup>294</sup> Africa: three highlights of the upcoming FOCAC Summit, All Africa 14 September 2015. Access date: 15 September 2016. <http://allafrica.com/stories/201509141819.html>

<sup>295</sup> South Africa pledges to support Liberia fight ebola, GNN. Access date: 15 September 2016. Liberia <http://gnnliberia.com/2016/04/29/south-africa-pledges-support-liberia-fight-ebola/>