

2017 BRICS Xiamen Summit Final Compliance Report

6 September 2017 to 5 July 2018

Prepared by

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Contents

Research Team	3
University of Toronto Research Team	3
Country Specialists	3
Compliance Analysts	3
RANEPA Research Team	3
Compliance Analysts	3
Preface.....	4
Introduction and Summary.....	5
Methodology and Scoring System	5
The Breakdown of Commitments.....	5
Table 1: Distribution of BRICS Commitments across Issue Areas, 2009-2017	6
Selection of Commitments	6
Table 2: 2017 BRICS Xiamen Summit Priority Commitments	7
Compliance Scores.....	8
Table 3: 2017 BRICS Xiamen Summit Final Compliance Scores	8
Compliance Trends.....	8
1. Trade: Anti-protectionism.....	9
2. Development: African Infrastructure Development.....	18
3. Macroeconomics: Industrialization and the New Industrial Revolution	33
4. Terrorism: Terrorist Financing	47
5. Crime and Corruption: International Cooperation	65
6. Information and Communications Technology: Infrastructure and Connectivity.....	76
7. Energy: Natural Gas.....	85
8. Finance: Local Currency Bonds.....	91
9. Regional Security: Iraq	95
10. Health: Surveillance and Medical Services	100
Appendix: BRICS Compliance over Time.....	110

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Preface

The BRICS Research Group has been assessing progress made by the BRICS members in implementing commitments their leaders make at each standalone meeting since the 2011 Sanya Summit. These reports monitor each member's efforts to implement a carefully chosen selection of the many commitments produced at each summit. They are offered to the general public and to policy makers, academics, civil society, the media and interested citizens around the world in an effort to make the BRICS's work more transparent, accessible and effective, and to provide scientific data to enable the meaningful analysis of the causes of compliance and the impact of this important informal international institution. Previous reports are available at the BRICS Information Centre at www.brics.utoronto.ca/compliance and at the Center for International Institutions Research of the Russian Academy of National Economy and Public Administration at www.ranepa.ru/eng/ciir-ranepa/research-areas/brics/analytics.

This report analyses compliance performance by BRICS countries with 10 priority commitments selected from the 125 commitments made by the leaders at the Xiamen Summit on 3-5 September 2017. The report covers actions taken between 6 September 2017 and 5 July 2018.

The BRICS Research Group relies on publicly available information, documentation and media reports for its assessments. To ensure accuracy, comprehensiveness and integrity, we encourage comments from stakeholders. Indeed, scores can be recalibrated if new material becomes available. All feedback remains anonymous. Responsibility for the contents of this report lies exclusively with the authors and analysts of the BRICS Research Group.

John Kirton and Marina Larionova
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Introduction and Summary

The 2017 BRICS Xiamen Final Compliance Report, prepared by the BRICS Research Group (based at Trinity College in 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 10 selected priority commitments drawn from 125 commitments made by the leaders at the Xiamen Summit on 3-5 September 2017. The report covers actions taken by the BRICS countries during the period from 6 September 2017 to 5 July 2018.

Methodology and Scoring System

This report draws on the methodology developed by the G7 Research Group, which has been monitoring G7/8 compliance since 1996. The same methodology has been adopted for monitoring G20 performance since 2008. 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.¹ 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%.²

The Breakdown of Commitments

At Xiamen the leaders paid significant attention to the issues of information and communications technology (ICT), regional security, development and support to the least developed countries (LDCs) with special emphasis on Africa. They made the commitment to enhance joint BRICS research, development and innovation in ICT, to promote the most effective use of fossil fuels and wider use of gas, to promote the development of BRICS local currency bond markets and establish a BRICS local currency bond fund, and to improve surveillance capacity and medical services to combat infectious diseases. Members also pledged to promote BRICS industrial cooperation, including on industrial capacities and policies, new industrial infrastructure and standards, and among small, micro- and medium-sized enterprises. They committed to strengthen cooperation with Africa and help the continent to promote infrastructure development, and to support strengthening international cooperation against corruption, including through the BRICS Anti-Corruption Working Group. They agreed to standstill and rollback protectionist measures and to intensify cooperation in the Financial Action Task Force and similar regional bodies.

¹ 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.

² 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.

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.

Table 1: Distribution of BRICS Commitments across Issue Areas, 2009-2017

Issue Area	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
Energy	5	9	1	2					6
Finance		3	1			6	6	5	9
Climate change		1	6	3	1	1	1	1	3
Macroeconomic policy		1	5	1	5	7	6	4	4
Trade		3	5	9	4	4	5	2	6
International cooperation	1	2	5	3	6	8	30	7	21
Socioeconomic	1	1	3	2		7	5	2	
Development	1	5	1	3	10	4	4	2	11
Natural disasters	1	1	1						
Food and agriculture	3		1	1		1	17		5
ICT			2			1	17	3	12
Science and education	1	1	1			2	5		
Health			1	1		1	6	2	6
Human rights			1		1	2	5		2
Accountability			1						
Regional security	1		1	4	8	6	6	4	12
Terrorism			1	1	2	2	1	4	7
Culture		1				3	1	2	3
Sport		1							
IFI reform	1	2	1	2	9	8	3	2	5
Non-proliferation					1			1	2
Crime and corruption						4	10	3	8
Environment						1	1	1	3
Tourism							1		
Total	15	31	38	32	47	68	130	45	125

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

Selection of Commitments

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.³ 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

³ Guidelines for choosing priority commitments, as well as other applicable considerations, are available in the Compliance Coding Manual.

significance, as identified by relevant stakeholders in the host country and scientific teams. Of the total of 125 commitments made at the 2017 Xiamen Summit, the BRICS Research Group has selected ten priority commitments for its compliance assessment (see Table 2).

Table 2: 2017 BRICS Xiamen Summit Priority Commitments

	Issue Area	Commitment
1	Trade: Anti-protectionism	We recommit to our existing pledge for both standstill and rollback of protectionist measures and we call upon other countries to join us in that commitment
2	Development: African Infrastructure	We reaffirm our commitment to strengthen cooperation with Africa and help the continent to promote infrastructure development
3	Macroeconomics: Industrialization	We reaffirm our commitment to BRICS industrial cooperation, including on industrial capacities and policies, new industrial infrastructure and standards, and among small, micro and medium-sized enterprises (SMMEs), so as to jointly seize the opportunities brought about by the new industrial revolution and expedite our respective industrialization processes
4	Terrorism: Terrorist Financing	We seek to intensify our cooperation in FATF and FATF-style regional bodies
5	Crime and Corruption: International Cooperation	We support the strengthening of international cooperation against corruption, including through the BRICS Anti-Corruption Working Group, as well as on matters related to asset recovery and persons sought for corruption
6	Information and Communications Technology: Infrastructure and Connectivity	We will enhance joint BRICS research, development and innovation in ICT including the Internet of Things, Cloud computing, Big Data, Data Analytics, Nanotechnology, Artificial Intelligence and 5G and their innovative applications to elevate the level of ICT infrastructure and connectivity in our countries
7	Energy: Natural Gas	We will work together to promote most effective use of fossil fuels and wider use of gas ... which will contribute to the transformation toward a low emissions economy, better energy access, and sustainable development
8	Finance: Local Currency Bonds	We agree to promote the development of BRICS Local Currency Bond Markets and jointly establish a BRICS Local Currency Bond Fund, as a means of contribution to the capital sustainability of financing in BRICS countries, boosting the development of BRICS domestic and regional bond markets, including by increasing foreign private sector participation, and enhancing financial resilience of BRICS countries
9	Regional Security: Iraq	We congratulate the people and Government of Iraq for the recovery of Mosul and for the progress achieved in the fight against terrorism and reaffirm our commitment to Iraq's sovereignty, territorial integrity and political independence and our support for Iraqi government and its people
10	Health: Surveillance and Medical Services	We agree to improve surveillance capacity and medical services to combat infectious diseases, including Ebola, HIV/AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria, as well as non-communicable diseases

Compliance Scores

The overall compliance by commitment (79%) is lower than in previous year, but higher than the average score for all summits (75%). The highest level of compliance (+1 or 100%) was registered for several commitments in the areas of development (African infrastructure), ICT, macroeconomics (Industrialization), terrorism (Terrorist Financing), energy (Natural Gas), health (Surveillance and Medical Services). BRICS compliance performance for these commitments shows the success of implementation of decisions in key spheres of cooperation as well as growing role of BRICS countries in cooperation for development. They were followed by the commitment on trade (Anti-protectionism) at 80%. Lower scores were registered for three commitments: crime and corruption with 0 (50%), regional security with -0.20 (40%) and finance with -0.60 (20%).

The score for the commitment on finance is the lowest. It can be explained by the fact that this commitment implies the long-term process of establishing the BRICS local currency bond fund and internal measures on development of national currency bond market which are hard to implement.

Thus, for the period from 6 September 2017 to 5 July 2018, the BRICS countries achieved an average final compliance score of +0.58 (79%). The final compliance scores by commitment are contained in Table 3.

Table 3: 2017 BRICS Xiamen Summit Final Compliance Scores

	Issue Areas	Brazil	Russia	India	China	South Africa	Average	
1	Trade: Anti-protectionism	0	+1	0	+1	+1	+0.60	80%
2	Development: African Infrastructure	+1	+1	+1	+1	+1	+1.00	100%
3	Macroeconomics: Industrialization	+1	+1	+1	+1	+1	+1.00	100%
4	Terrorism: Terrorist Financing	+1	+1	+1	+1	+1	+1.00	100%
5	Corruption: International Cooperation	0	0	0	0	0	0.00	50%
6	ICT: Infrastructure and Connectivity	+1	+1	+1	+1	+1	+1.00	100%
7	Energy: Natural Gas	+1	+1	+1	+1	+1	+1.00	100%
8	Finance: Local Currency Bonds	-1	-1	0	0	-1	-0.60	20%
9	Regional Security: Iraq	0	0	0	0	-1	-0.20	40%
10	Health: Surveillance and Medical Services	+1	+1	+1	+1	+1	+1.00	100%
	Average	+0.50 75%	+0.60 80%	+0.60 80%	+0.70 85%	+0.50 75%	+0.58	79%

Note: ICT = Information and Communications Technology.

Compliance Trends

This is the sixth 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 (75%). The average score for compliance with the Ufa Summit commitments was +0.56 or 78%. BRICS members demonstrated the highest compliance score for the Goa Summit — 89%. The final compliance score for Xiamen summit is 79%.

1. Trade: Anti-protectionism

2017-57: “We recommit to our existing pledge for both standstill and rollback of protectionist measures.”

BRICS Xiamen Leaders Declaration

Assessment

	No Compliance	Partial Compliance	Full Compliance
Brazil		0	
Russia			+1
India		0	
China			+1
South Africa			+1
Average		+0.60	

Background

Trade protectionism was on the agenda since the first 2009 BRICS summit in Russia and has been discussed frequently since then. BRICS members endorsed the fight against trade protectionism, recognised “the important role played by international trade and foreign direct investments in the world economic recovery,” urged all parties to “work together to improve the international trade and investment environment,” and encouraged the international community “to keep the multilateral trading system stable, curb trade protectionism, and push for comprehensive and balanced results of the World Trade Organization’s (WTO) Doha Development Agenda.”⁴

In 2011, BRICS trade ministers met during the eighth WTO ministerial conference in Geneva as a follow-up to their meeting leading up to the BRICS Sanya Summit. BRICS members wished to further South-South cooperation by expanding economic trade and investment ties amongst themselves, thus helping promote global economic growth. They recognised the need to reform rules and structures and address the concerns of developing countries in order to achieve universality at the WTO. The trade ministers were entrusted with proposing an institutional framework and concrete measures to expand economic cooperation between BRICS countries and developing countries writ large. They also acknowledged the huge growth in trade flows among developing countries, and the potential for further future cooperation in investments. They sought to enhance and further intra-BRICS coordination with regards to issues such as customs, trade facilitation, trade data collection and harmonisation, e-commerce, and intellectual property rights cooperation.⁵

The trade ministers agreed that the BRICS should enhance their intra-group trade, including trade of higher value-added manufactured products, in order to support industrialisation and employment in their respective countries. With the joint efforts of all BRICS members, intra-group economic and trade cooperation mechanisms have improved, and pragmatic cooperation has deepened.³

In 2013, under the Durban Trade and Investment Cooperation Framework, the BRICS trade ministers pledged to the promotion and facilitation of mutual trade and investment as a goal among BRICS members. This includes enhancing information exchanges on trade and investment policy,

⁴ Joint Communiqué, BRICS Information Centre (Yekaterinburg) 16 May 2008. Access Date: 14 November 2017. <http://www.brics.utoronto.ca/docs/080516-foreign.html>

⁵ Ministerial Declaration of the BRICS Trade Ministers, BRICS Information Centre (Geneva) 14 December 2011. Access Date: 10 November 2017. www.brics.utoronto.ca/docs/111214-trade.html

reducing barriers to the communication and spread of information, and importing high value-added products. BRICS members further pledged to strengthen cooperation with the WTO, and to conduct regular meetings regarding trade and investment-related matters among high-level BRICS officials in multilateral and international organizations.

As per the 2013 Strategy for BRICS Economic Partnership, in order to achieve sustainable economic growth, it is imperative that BRICS deepens and strengthens intra-BRICS trade and investment ties, making anti-protectionism the priority. As WTO members, BRICS members have emphasized the benefits of multilateralism in trade since the first BRIC summit, and have campaigned against protectionism in the best interests of emerging and developing economies.

At the 2017 Xiamen Summit, BRICS members pledged to cooperate in facilitating interconnected markets via the creation of infrastructure and financial integration, as well as increased policies promoting market access and free-trade. Members further pledged to pursue the promotion of financial market integration through financial service coverage within BRICS countries and through existing WTO obligations, as stipulated in previous agreements and organizations such as Agreement on Trade-Related Intellectual Property and the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development.

Commitment Features

This commitment aims to achieve a rules-based, transparent, non-discriminatory, open, and inclusive world economy that is firmly opposed to protectionism, as embodied by the WTO. BRICS members emphasize the importance of an inclusive, multilateral trade system, which enables all countries and peoples to share the benefits of globalization. The BRICS calls upon other countries to accede to the WTO immediately, and participate in a joint effort to enforce anti-protectionist measures. In order to achieve compliance to this commitment, the BRICS member must demonstrate resistance to trade protectionism and refrain from imposing new barriers on investment or trade in goods and/or services.

The WTO defines “tariffs, non-tariff measures, subsidies and burdensome administrative procedures regarding imports” as barriers that limit global flows of goods and services.⁴ Protectionist measures refer to government actions and policies that restrict or restrain international trade, often with the intent of protecting local businesses and sectors from foreign competition. Typical methods of protectionism include tariffs and quotas on imports, subsidies, or tax cuts granted to local businesses.⁹

There are two aspects to this commitment. The first is the standstill aspect. Standstill means not taking any trade-restrictive or distorting measures inconsistent with the provisions of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT). It is characterized by the absence of state action. The halt in implementing new protectionist measures shows improvement and commitment to the process of anti-protectionism.

The second part of this commitment is the rollback aspect. Rollback means that all trade-restrictive or distorting measures inconsistent with GATT provisions shall be phased out or brought into conformity within an agreed timeframe, no later than by the date of the formal completion of related negotiations. This part of the commitment takes into account multilateral agreements, undertakings, and understandings, including strengthened rules and disciplines reached in pursuance of the aforementioned negotiation objectives.⁵ Rollback denotes action to repeal, dismantle, or otherwise diminish the effect of protectionist regulations.

In order to achieve full compliance, the BRICS member must comply with both parts of the commitment. It ought to reduce and cease to implement additional trade barriers, defined as any non-conforming actions to the Multilateral Agreement on Investment. With both standstill and

rollback measures, there shall be no GATT concessions requested for the elimination of these protectionist measures.

Scoring Guidelines

-1	The BRICS member implemented new protectionist measures and existing protectionist measures were not rolled back.
0	The BRICS member implemented no new protectionist measures AND existing measures were not rolled back; OR the BRICS member implemented new protectionist measures AND rolled back existing measures.
+1	The BRICS member did not implement new protectionist measures AND existing measures were rolled back.

Brazil: 0

Brazil has partially complied with its commitment to standstill and rollback protectionist measures.

In September 2017, Brazil implemented a 20 per cent tariff on ethanol imports from the United States. The tariff will be applied after imports from the United States surpasses 158 million gallons per year. The tariff was supported by Brazil’s Ministry of Foreign Trade and its sugar cane growers.⁶

On 5 October 2017, Brazil’s Administrative Council for Economic Defence approved without restrictions a tie-up between the LATAM Airlines Group and American Airlines in a Joint Business Agreement. The agreement aims to increase connectivity between North and South America by eliminating inefficiencies and protectionist measures, and by reducing airfares. The agreement covers both passenger and cargo operations.⁷

On 20 December 2017, Brazil hosted the LI Mercosur Summit took place in Brasilia. The topics discussed included the facilitation of trade, electronic commerce (on-line business to business and business to consumer), services liberalization, local content requirements, technological licenses, compensatory trade, dissimulated restrictions to trade, and wholesale and retail trade restrictions, among other trade-related issues.⁸

On 16 January 2018, Brazil’s Minister of Agriculture Blairo Maggi stated that Brazil is considering the removal of the 20 per cent tariff on ethanol imports from the United States, dependent on Washington lifting its ban on beef exports from Brazil. Minister Maggi stated that “there is, on the part of the United States, a big demand to withdraw [the ethanol tariff] and we also have this problem with beef ... Obviously one thing influences and contaminates the other.” Maggi also noted

⁶ US Producers not happy after Brazil adds 20 percent tariff to ethanol imports, Omaha World Herald (Omaha) 16 September 2017. Access Date: 20 February 2019. http://www.omaha.com/money/u-s-producers-not-happy-after-brazil-adds-percent-tariff/article_695f0f6c-9a3d-11e7-b033-03e465135af4.html

⁷ LATAM - American Airlines tie-up gets nod from Brazil, CH-aviation 5 October 2017. Access Date: 24 February 2018. <https://www.ch-aviation.com/portal/news/60154-latam-american-airlines-tie-up-gets-nod-from-brazil>

⁸ Atos adotados por ocasião da LI Reunião do CMC e da LI Cúpula de Chefes de Estado do Mercosul e Estados Associados – Brasília, 20 e 21 de dezembro de 2017, Ministério das Relações Exteriores (Brasília) 21 December 2017. Access Date: 9 February 2018. <http://www.itamaraty.gov.br/pt-BR/notas-a-imprensa/18097-atos-adotados-por-ocasio-da-li-reuniao-do-cmc-e-da-li-cupula-de-chefes-de-estado-do-mercosul-e-estados-associados-brasilia-20-e-21-de-dezembro-de-2017>

that Brazil has addressed all U.S. requirements regarding the safety of its fresh beef and is awaiting the decision of the U.S. government.⁹

On 18 January 2018, Brazil suspended anti-dumping duties on hot-rolled coil imports from Chinese and Russian companies.¹⁰

On 9 March 2018, Ministers of the Mercosur member states, including Paraguay, Brazil, Argentina and Uruguay, met with Canada's Minister of International Trade, François-Philippe Champagne. The aforementioned states agreed on a joint statement regarding the launch of negotiations toward a comprehensive free trade agreement between the Mercosur member states and Canada.¹¹

On 8 June 2018, Brazil and Chile held the first round of negotiations for a new free trade agreement. The talk took place in Brasilia, and it was initiated to expedite the process for the new free trade agreement, aiming to sign the bilateral trade deal by the end of the year.¹²

Brazil has demonstrated partial compliance to this commitment by rolling back protectionist measures, but it has also implemented new protectionist acts against U.S. ethanol exports to Brazil.

Thus, Brazil receives a score of 0.

Analysts: Bruno Siqueira and Renze Wang

Russia: +1

Russia has fully complied with its commitment to standstill and rollback protectionist measures.

On 29 September 2017, Russian President Vladimir Putin met with Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdoğan. Putin stated that Russia and Turkey will continue to work towards removing barriers to mutual bilateral trade, especially on Turkish agricultural products.¹³

On 6 October 2017, Russia and Saudi Arabia concluded an investment forum in Moscow. Russian Energy Minister Alexander Novak stated that a joint committee had been formed to “help remove trade barriers that hinder enhancing joint ventures and projects.”¹⁴

On 13 December 2017, Russian Economy Development Minister Maxim Oreshkin met with the Trade Commissioner of the European Union, Cecilia Malmstrom, on the sidelines of the World

⁹ Brazil considers removing ethanol tariff, National Law Review 26 January 2018. Access Date: 23 February 2018. <https://www.natlawreview.com/article/brazil-considers-removing-ethanol-tariff>

¹⁰ Camex não aplicará medidas protetivas na importação de aço da China e Rússia, EBC Agencia Brasil (Brasília) 18 January 2017. Access Date: 3 February 2018. <http://agenciabrasil.ebc.com.br/economia/noticia/2018-01/camex-nao-aplicara-medidas-protetivas-na-importacao-de-aco-da-china-e>

¹¹ Meeting of Ministers of the Mercosur States Parties and Canada's Minister of International Trade, the Honourable François-Philippe Champagne – Asunción, March 9, 2018, Ministry of Foreign Affairs (Brasília) 9 March 2018. Access Date: 30 June 2018. <http://www.itamaraty.gov.br/en/press-releases/18423-meeting-of-ministers-of-the-mercosur-states-parties-and-canada-s-minister-of-international-trade-the-honourable-francois-philippe-champagne-asuncion-march-9-2018>

¹² Chile, Brazil wrap up first round of “second generation” FTA talks, Santiago Times (Brazilia) 9 June 2018. Access Date: 30 June 2018. <http://santiagotimes.cl/2018/06/09/chile-brazil-wrap-up-first-round-of-second-generation-fta-talks/>

¹³ Russia and turkey to continue work to remove trade barriers - Putin, UkrAgroConsult 29 September 2017. Access Date: 23 February 2018. <http://www.blackseagrains.net/novosti/russia-and-turkey-to-continue-work-to-remove-trade-barriers-2014-putin>

¹⁴ Russian-Saudi Investment Forum concludes with positive signals, Arab News (Moscow) 6 October 2017. Access Date: 23 February 2018. <http://www.arabnews.com/node/1173141/saudi-arabia>

Trade Organization's ministerial conference. Russia and the EU agreed to discuss the mutual lifting of trade restrictions and barriers.¹⁵

On 24 December 2017, the Indo-Russian intergovernmental commission on trade, economic, scientific, technological and cultural cooperation took place in New Delhi. At the meeting, Russia and India approved the creation of a mechanism to eliminate bilateral trade limits and barriers. Russian Deputy Economic Development Minister Alexey Gruzdev reaffirmed the achievements of this meeting by stating that this mechanism identifies, analyses, and eliminates bilateral trade barriers.¹⁶

Russia has not implemented new trade barriers over the compliance cycle. In addition, Russia has taken concrete actions towards rolling back existing trade barriers, demonstrating full compliance with this commitment.

Thus, Russia receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Andres Dovale

India: 0

India has partially complied with its commitment to standstill and rollback protectionist measures.

On 14 September 2017, India's Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Japan's Prime Minister Shinzo Abe, reaffirmed their commitment to reinforce the Special Strategic and Global Partnership between the two countries. They vowed to combat protectionism through the Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership (RCEP) Agreement. They also promised to lead the 11th WTO ministerial conference to success, specifically by partnering to implement the Bali and Nairobi ministerial decisions.¹⁷

On 21 December 2017, the government of India announced a 30 per cent import duty on lentils and chickpeas.¹⁸ This announcement follows an earlier announcement in November regarding a 50 per cent duty on peas.

On 16 December 2017, the government of India issued a notification to raise import duties on mobile phones, television sets, digital cameras, microwave ovens, LED bulbs, and several other electronic goods.¹⁹ According to a statement issued by the Ministry of Finance, duties on mobile

¹⁵ Russia, EU Agreed to Discuss lifting of mutual trade barriers, Sputnik News (Buenos Aires) 13 December 2017. Access Date: 23 February 2018. <https://sputniknews.com/world/201712131059949116-russia-eu-trade-barriers-lifting/>

¹⁶ Russia, India approve mechanism for trade barrier elimination, Sputnik New (New Delhi) 24 December 2017. Access Date: 23 February 2018. <https://sputniknews.com/business/201712241060290676-russia-india-trade/>

¹⁷ India, Japan commit to resist protectionism, Financial Express (Gandhinagar) 14 September 2017. Access Date: 14 January 2018. <http://www.financialexpress.com/india-news/india-japan-commit-to-resist-protectionism/855232/>

¹⁸ Pulse prices unmoved by latest Indian import tariffs, The Western Producer 4 January 2018. Access Date: 9 March 2018.

¹⁹ Govt raises import duty on electronic items including cellphones, TV to boost Make in India, Economic Times (New Delhi) 16 December 2017. Access Date: 23 February 2018. <https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/tech/hardware/government-raises-basic-customs-duty-on-mobile-phones-to-encourage-make-in-india/articleshow/62079342.cms>

phones and television sets were raised from 10 per cent to 15 per cent, and duties on cameras and projectors were doubled to 20 per cent.²⁰

On 5 January 2018, the Indian Finance Ministry issued the following statement: “existing critical circumstances justify the immediate imposition of a provisional safeguard duty in order to save the domestic industry from further serious injury, which would be difficult to repair.”²¹ The Directorate General of Safeguards, Customs, and Central Excise proposed the imposition of a 70 per cent safeguard duty on cells and modules shipped from China and Malaysia.

On 10 January 2018, Prime Minister Modi revamped foreign investment reforms by relaxing foreign direct investment restrictions on key sectors such as aviation, retail, and construction. Contrary to the prior 49 per cent ownership for foreign investors on single-brand retail stores in India, the reform enables investors to have 100 per cent ownership on retails such as Ikea, H&M, etc.²²

On 24 December 2017, the Indo-Russian intergovernmental commission on trade, economic, scientific, technological and cultural cooperation took place in New Delhi. At the meeting, Russia and India approved the creation of a mechanism to eliminate bilateral trade limits and barriers. Russian Deputy Economic Development Minister Alexey Gruzdev reaffirmed the achievements of this meeting by stating that this mechanism identifies, analyses and eliminates bilateral trade barriers.²³

On 23 January 2018, in his keynote speech at the World Economic Forum’s opening ceremony, Prime Minister Narendra Modi compared the impact of protectionism with that of terrorism. He emphasized globalization as the way forward in fighting protectionism and in serving the interest of all countries, including developing economies.²⁴

India has taken concrete actions to roll back protectionist measures. However, it has also imposed new protectionist measures, constituting partial compliance to this commitment.

Thus, India receives a score of 0.

Analyst: Anushree Warriier

China: +1

China has fully complied with its commitment to standstill and rollback protectionist measures.

²⁰ India raises tariffs on electronics to curb imports, Business Times (New Delhi) 16 December 2017. Access Date: 23 February 2018. <http://www.businesstimes.com.sg/government-economy/india-raises-tariffs-on-electronics-to-curb-imports>

²¹ India proposes 70% duty on China, Malaysia solar imports, Bloomberg 9 January 2018. Access Date: 23 February 2018. <https://www.bloomberg.com/news/articles/2018-01-09/india-proposes-70-duty-on-solar-imports-from-china-malaysia>

²² Analysts say Modi’s foreign investment reforms don’t go far enough, The National (Abu Dhabi) 11 January 2018. Access Date: 15 January 2018. <https://www.thenational.ae/business/economy/analysts-say-modi-s-foreign-investment-reforms-don-t-go-far-enough-1.694513>

²³ Russia, India approve mechanism for trade barrier elimination, Sputnik New (New Delhi) 24 December 2017. Access Date: 23 February 2018. <https://sputniknews.com/business/201712241060290676-russia-india-trade/>

²⁴ WEF 2018: PM Modi’s anti-protectionism stance gets praise from Beijing, Business Today (India) 16 February 2018. Access Date: 14 June 2018. <https://www.businesstoday.in/wef-2018/news/wef-2018-pm-modi-anti-protectionism-stance-gets-praise-from-beijing/story/268797.html>

On 24 November 2017, the Ministry of Finance announced that it would cut import tariffs on a number of consumer goods, including avocados, mineral water, and baby carriages. The ministry also announced that it would also gradually reduce tariffs on auto imports.²⁵

On 15 December 2017, the Ministry of Finance announced import tariff cuts to machinery and mechanical parts. It stated that the move was an effort to “encourage imports of advanced equipment, key machine components, and raw energy materials.” The announcement also affirmed that export duties on steel and chlorite will be totally removed, and that duties on coal tar and wood chips will be reduced.²⁶

On 24 January 2018, Foreign Ministry spokesperson Hua Chunying supported Prime Minister of India Narendra Modi’s concerns of a rising wave of trade protectionism. Hua relayed Modi’s remarks that economic globalization is in the interest of all countries and that China is ready to work with all parties to actively adapt to and guide economic globalization, growth, and the well-being of all people.²⁷

On 28 March 2018, Ambassador to the United Kingdom Liu Xiaoming published an article calling for China and the European Union to stand together in the face of U.S protectionism. In the article, Liu recalls China’s recent history of anti-protectionism measures and efforts to open up to the world economy, and points out that Europe, China, and the U.K. should work together to “safeguard the international trade regime from the dangers of protectionism.”²⁸

On 4 April 2018, Deputy International Trade Representative Zhang Xiangchen called on the World Trade Organization (WTO) to cooperate with China in response to rising US trade protectionism. Zhang requested for the WTO to act as a dispute settlement mechanism in China-U.S. trade relations, and called on other WTO member states to denounce the US’ protectionist policies.²⁹

On 6 April 2018, Commerce Ministry spokesman Gao Feng announced that China is ready to respond to the US’ protectionist policies with further tariffs against U.S. goods, should U.S. President Donald Trump follow through on prior threats to impose an additional USD100 billion worth of tariffs.³⁰

On 6 April 2018, Commerce Minister Zhong Shan reiterated that China “opposes all forms of protectionism,” and that China will “firmly safeguard the world’s multilateral trading system.” He

²⁵ China cuts import tariffs on some consumer goods, Los Angeles Times (Los Angeles) 24 November 2017. Access Date: 3 March 2018. <http://www.latimes.com/business/la-fi-china-tariffs-20171124-story.html>

²⁶ China announces tariff adjustment for 2018, Xinhua News (Beijing) 15 December 2017 Access Date: 3 March 2018. http://www.xinhuanet.com/english/2017-12/15/c_136829160.htm

²⁷ China echoes Modi’s concerns on rising protectionism, Xinhua News (Beijing) 24 January 2018. Access Date: 28 January 2018. http://www.xinhuanet.com/english/2018-01/24/c_136921641.htm

²⁸ Europe and China must stand together against protectionism, Financial Times (London) 28 March 2018. Access Date: 24 June 2018. <https://www.ft.com/content/5098a0f6-3119-11e8-b5bf-23cb17fd1498>

²⁹ China Moves to Unite WTO Members Against US Protectionist Policy, Sputnik News (Beijing) 4 April 2018. Access Date: 24 June 2018. <https://sputniknews.com/business/201804041063187104-china-wto-resist-usa-protectionism/>

³⁰ Donald Trump threatens more China tariffs, Beijing ready to hit back, The Straits Times (Beijing) 6 April 2018. Access Date: 24 June 2018. <https://www.straitstimes.com/asia/east-asia/china-ready-to-pay-any-cost-in-trade-war-ministry-of-commerce>

announced that in response to ongoing US tariffs, China will speed up its reform and opening up of various economic sectors.³¹

On 10 April 2018, President Xi Jinping announced that tariffs will be cut on Chinese car imports this year as an effort to open up its economy. President Xi promised to open the country's economy further, increase the foreign ownership limit in the automobile sector, and lower import tariffs on various other products.³²

On 10 June 2018, at the 18th Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO) Summit in Qingdao, President Xi called on member states to “uphold the authority and efficacy of WTO rules” against protectionism and protectionist trade policies, in any form.³³

China has not imposed new protectionist measures. Furthermore, China has taken actions to roll back existing protectionist measures, thus demonstrating full compliance with this commitment.

Thus, China receives a score of +1.

Analysts: Wing Ka Tsang, Aaron Wytze Wilson, and Ian Stansbury

South Africa: +1

South Africa has fully complied with its commitment to standstill and rollback protectionist measures.

On 8 September 2017, South Africa lowered its tariff on wheat imports to ZAR 379.34 per tonne, a 60 per cent decrease from previous tariffs.³⁴

On 9 October 2017, the South African Minister of Trade and Industry Rob Davies and his deputy minister participated in the World Trade Organization's (WTO) informal ministerial gathering in Morocco. The Minister stated that South Africa's priorities were to finish the outstanding work of the Doha Development Agenda, including addressing the trade-distorting domestic support subsidies provided by mainly developed countries.³⁵

On 10 December 2017, at the sidelines of the 11th WTO ministerial conference in Argentina, Japan's Minister of Economy, Trade, and Industry Hiroshige Seko met with South Africa's Rob Davies. The trade ministers called upon the WTO to “(i) promote free trade and to further bolster the trust in the multilateral trading system with the WTO at its center, as the value of free trade and the multilateral trading system are facing serious challenges today; (ii) pay particular attention to “inclusive growth”

³¹ China opposes all forms of protectionism, commerce minister says, Reuters (Beijing) 22 April 2018. Access Date: 24 June 2018. <https://www.reuters.com/article/us-usa-trade-china/china-opposes-all-forms-of-protectionism-commerce-minister-says-idUSKBN1HU060>

³² China's Xi renews vow to open economy, cut tariffs as U.S. trade row deepens, Reuters (Beijing) 9 April 2018. Access Date: 24 June 2018. <https://www.reuters.com/article/us-usa-trade-china/chinas-xi-promises-to-lower-tariffs-this-year-open-economy-further-idUSKBN1HH084?feedType=RSS&feedName=topNews>

³³ Full text of Chinese President Xi Jinping's remarks at SCO joint press conference, Xinhua News (Qingdao) 10 June 2018. Access Date: 24 June 2018. http://www.xinhuanet.com/english/2018-06/10/c_137244578.htm

³⁴ South Africa reduce wheat import tariff, World Grain (Washington D.C.) 25 September 2017. Access Date: 23 February 2018. http://www.world-grain.com/articles/news_home/World_Grain_News/2017/09/South_Africa_reduces_wheat_imp.aspx?ID=%7B6804DE74-8F53-4E62-B8E9-A5519D3F5C18%7D&cck=1

³⁵ Minister Davies Calls for Outcomes on the Outstanding Issues of the DOHA Development Agenda, Department of Trade and Industry of the Republic of South Africa (Pretoria) 10 October 2017. Access date: 12 January 2018. <https://www.thedti.gov.za/editmedia.jsp?id=4239>

“digital revolution” and “market-distorting measures”; (iii) establishing a new working group under WTO and encourage discussions to clarify and strengthen the existing rules on e-commerce.”³⁶

On 21 March 2018, the AU Heads of State & Government Summit signed the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA) Agreement. The AfCFTA focuses on tariff negotiations and the scheduling of commitment in trade in services. It offers an opportunity to create larger economies of scale, a bigger market and improve the prospects of the African continent to attract investment through better customs cooperation among African countries. South Africa, did not sign the agreement, but President Ramaphosa stated his commitment to the agreement once the necessary legal processes are undertaken. As a demonstration of South Africa’s unequivocal commitment to this continental venture, Ramaphosa signed the Kigali Declaration for the Launch of the African Continental Free Trade Area during today’s plenary session of the Summit.³⁷

South Africa has not imposed new protectionist measures. In addition, South Africa took actions to roll back existing protectionist measures, demonstrating full compliance with this commitment.

Thus, South Africa receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Lucia Dhafana-Mabika

³⁶ METI Minister Seko Visits the Argentine Republic and the Republic of Paraguay; Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry of Japan (Tokyo) 18 December 2017. Access date: 31 January 2018. http://www.meti.go.jp/english/press/2017/1218_001.html.

³⁷ ¹President Cyril Ramaphosa hails African Continental free trade area; The Presidency Republic of South Africa, 21st March 2018; Access date: 13th June 2018. <http://www.presidency.gov.za/press-statements/president-cyril-ramaphosa-hails-african-continental-free-trade-area>

2. Development: African Infrastructure Development

“We reaffirm our commitment to strengthen cooperation with Africa and help the continent to promote infrastructure development.”

BRICS Xiamen Leaders Declaration

Assessment

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

Background

Development has been a demonstrated priority for the BRICS since its initial commitments in 2008 and 2010, which focused on combating poverty and promoting development with respect to the Millennium Development Goals, respectively. Following South Africa’s entry into the group in 2010, the focus of BRICS’ efforts in development shifted to focus on issues facing Africa.

At the 2011 Sanya Summit, BRICS countries recognized the eradication of extreme poverty and hunger as one of the greatest challenges facing the world, especially in Least Developed Countries (LDCs) in Africa and elsewhere.³⁸ BRICS members also made general commitments to sustainable development and to promote “infrastructure development in Africa ... within framework of the New Partnership for Africa’s Development (NEPAD).”³⁹ This commitment has been reiterated at every subsequent BRICS summit and complemented by tangible initiatives to implement the commitment.

At the 2012 New Delhi Summit, in addition to recommitting and reaffirming the development goals made at prior summits, BRICS members committed to evaluating the feasibility of a BRICS-owned “New Development Bank” as an alternative to other established development banks.⁴⁰

In 2013, the fifth BRICS summit took place under the overarching theme of “BRICS and Africa: Partnership for Development, Integration and Industrialization.”⁴¹ The central accomplishment of this summit was the establishment of the New Development Bank (NDB) to address shortages in financing development projects.⁴² BRICS states acknowledged the importance of infrastructure

³⁸ Sanya Declaration, BRICS Information Centre (Sanya) 14 April 2014. Access Date: 15 November 2017. <http://www.brics.utoronto.ca/docs/110414-leaders.html>

³⁹ Sanya Declaration, BRICS Information Centre (Sanya) 14 April 2014. Access Date: 15 November 2017. <http://www.brics.utoronto.ca/docs/110414-leaders.html>

⁴⁰ Fourth BRICS Summit: Delhi Declaration, BRICS Information Centre (New Delhi) 29 March 2012. Access Date: 15 November 2017. <http://www.brics.utoronto.ca/docs/120329-delhi-declaration.html>

⁴¹ Partnership for Development, Integration and Industrialisation eThekweni Declaration, BRICS 2017 China (Xiamen) 14 January 2017. Access Date: 15 November 2017. https://brics2017.org/English/Documents/Summit/201701/t20170125_1407.html

⁴² Statement by BRICS Leaders on the Establishment of BRICS-Led Development Bank, BRICS Information Centre (Durban) 27 March 2013. Access Date: 15 November 2017. <http://www.brics.utoronto.ca/docs/130327-brics-bank.html>

development in Africa for its industrialization and integration into the international economy.⁴³ Therefore, the BRICS expressed its support for stimulating investment in infrastructure in Africa. The BRICS also called upon the International Monetary Fund to grant more representation to its least developed members, including Sub-Saharan African countries.⁴⁴ Given the steep growth trajectory of the African continent and the significant infrastructure funding required for such growth, BRICS countries committed to the “Multilateral Agreement on Infrastructure Co-Financing for Africa.”

The 2014 BRICS summit witnessed a reiteration of its commitment to African development, as BRICS leaders called for increased BRICS-Africa cooperation. Furthermore, in 2014, provisions were put forth for the establishment of the NDB Africa Regional Centre in South Africa. The commitment to infrastructure development in Africa was further complemented by the adoption of the Multilateral Cooperation Agreement on Innovation, which provides support to projects that promote investments in technological innovation, infrastructure, sustainable energy, and agribusiness.

At the 2016 Goa Summit, BRICS countries committed to supporting the objectives of the African Union’s (AU) 2063 Agenda, of which its infrastructure commitments are framed within the context of the United Nations 2030 Agenda on Sustainable Development. The BRICS also reaffirmed its support for Africa’s implementation of various programmes in pursuit of Africa’s continental agenda for peace and socio-economic development.⁴⁵

In May 2017, India launched a vision document for the Asia-Africa Growth Corridor, which aimed for Indo-Japanese collaboration in developing quality infrastructure in Africa. In addition, in August of the same year, the NDB established its first regional office in South Africa.

In the Xiamen Summit Leaders Declaration, three out of the document’s 71 paragraphs addressed Africa. In particular, paragraph 19 reaffirmed the BRICS commitment to strengthen cooperation with Africa through connectivity and developmental initiatives and projects. It expressed the commitment to help the African continent tackle a series of issues, one of them being infrastructure development. Consistent with the 2016 objective, the BRICS will continue to provide strong support for the AU’s implementation of its various programs and development efforts under Agenda 2063. BRICS states placed particular emphasis on infrastructural development, sustainable and national development, wildlife conservation, and industrialization in Africa. Further, the BRICS lauded the opening of the NDB’s first African regional office in South Africa. Multilateralism, cooperation and connectivity remain central to this cycle’s commitments to development.⁴⁶

Commitment Features

There are two parts to this commitment. The first part is the commitment to strengthen cooperation with Africa generally. The second part is more specific, and commits to helping promote

⁴³ Partnership for Development, Integration and Industrialisation eThekweni Declaration, BRICS 2017 China (Xiamen) 14 January 2017. Access Date: 15 November 2017.

https://brics2017.org/English/Documents/Summit/201701/t20170125_1407.html

⁴⁴ Partnership for Development, Integration and Industrialisation eThekweni Declaration, BRICS 2017 China (Xiamen) 14 January 2017. Access Date: 15 November 2017.

https://brics2017.org/English/Documents/Summit/201701/t20170125_1407.html

⁴⁵ 8th BRICS Summit: Goa Declaration, BRICS Information Centre (Goa) 16 October 2016. Access Date: 15 November 2017. <http://www.brics.utoronto.ca/docs/161016-go.html>

⁴⁶ BRICS Leaders Xiamen Declaration, BRICS 2017 China (Xiamen) 4 September 2017. Access Date: 15 November 2017. <http://www.brics.utoronto.ca/docs/170904-xiamen.pdf>

infrastructure development in Africa. The nature of this commitment also allows state-owned enterprises, acting on behalf of the state, to pursue projects in cooperation with Africa.

Part I: Strengthen Cooperation with Africa

This year’s development commitment on strengthening cooperation with the African continent is framed in the context of the AU’s Agenda 2063. Its central goals are:

1. A prosperous Africa based on inclusive growth and sustainable development
2. An integrated continent, politically united and based on the ideals of Pan-Africanism and the vision of Africa’s Renaissance
3. An Africa of good governance, democracy, respect for human rights, justice and the rule of law
4. A peaceful and secure Africa
5. An Africa with a strong cultural identity, common heritage, shared values and ethics
6. An Africa whose development is people-driven, relying on the potential of African people, especially its women and youth, and caring for children
7. Africa as a strong, united and influential global player and partner.⁴⁷

Thus, actions by BRICS members that achieve one or more of these goals will count towards compliance with the first part of the commitment.

Part II: Infrastructure Development

The commitment also states that the BRICS member will help the African continent promote infrastructure development. In addition to general cooperation with Africa, this part of the commitment requires that cooperation projects specifically include an infrastructural component. Some examples of the projects and initiatives that target infrastructure development are, but are not limited to, the following:

- NEPAD
- Programme for Infrastructure Development in Africa (PIDA)
- Africa Infrastructure Investment Fund (AIIF2)

Scoring Guidelines

-1	BRICS member did not take any measures to strengthen cooperation with Africa OR to promote infrastructure development.
0	BRICS member took measures to strengthen cooperation with Africa, but NOT specifically to promote infrastructure development.
+1	BRICS member took measures to strengthen cooperation with Africa AND to promote infrastructure development.

⁴⁷ 2016 BRICS Goa Summit Final Compliance Report, BRICS Research Group (Toronto) 29 August 2017. Access Date: 15 November 2017. <http://www.brics.utoronto.ca/compliance/2016-go-a-compliance.pdf>

Brazil: +1

Brazil has fully complied with its commitment to strengthen cooperation with Africa and help the continent to promote infrastructure development.

On 20 September 2017, the Brazil-Africa Institute and the African Development Bank (AfDB) launched the Youth Technical Training Program. This is an initiative that aims “to train young African professionals in research and technology transfer, contributing to local capacity development.” The initiative consists of professional development schemes that utilize Brazil’s technology, skills and knowledge. The focus areas include “agriculture and rural development, health, education, information and communication, infrastructure and the creative industry.” The first group of trainees have received a two-month training on cassava production at the state-owned Brazilian Agricultural Research Corporation.⁴⁸

On 24 October 2017, AfDB announced a plan to initiate a pilot project in Ghana, to render savannahs in eight African countries increased land fertility and production capability, in partnership with the Agricultural Corporation of Brazil, which has a successful track record of instituting similar project.⁴⁹

On 25 January 2018, Brazilian President Michel Temer met with Angolan President João Lourenço. They announced that Brazil will soon resume lines of credit to Angola. This financing will be provided by the National Bank for Economic and Social Development of Brazil. Priority projects include infrastructure in the construction, energy, and water sectors, notably hydroelectric dams.⁵⁰

On 11 February 2018, the Brazilian and Angolan governments signed a memorandum of understanding regarding the establishment of their financial relations. The amounts made available by Brazil will be used for the implementation of socioeconomic projects under the Public Investment Programme in Angola’s state budget.⁵¹

On 5 June 2018, at a meeting of the Foreign Ministers of the India, Brazil and South Africa (IBSA) held in Pretoria, South Africa, the three countries have called the global north to fully honour its official development assistance commitment, and commit additional resources to allow for better implementation of Sustainable Development Goals. The ministers exchanged views on development and South-South cooperation, and jointly released IBSA declaration on South-South Cooperation, in order to realize greater understanding of development cooperation.⁵²

Brazil has acted consistently with its commitment to strengthening cooperation with Africa, specifically in the areas of skills training and infrastructure development.

⁴⁸ Africa: AfDB, Brazil to Train African Youth in Cassava Processing, All Africa 20 September 2017. Access Date: 19 February 2018. <http://allafrica.com/stories/201709200216.html>

⁴⁹ With 2 new initiatives, AfDB's 'Feed Africa' strategy takes shape, Devex 24 October 2017. Access Date: 30 June 2018. <https://www.devex.com/news/with-2-new-initiatives-afdb-s-feed-africa-strategy-takes-shape-91300>

⁵⁰ President of Angola announces Brazilian funding for infrastructure projects, Macau Hub (Angola) 25 January 2018. Access Date: 19 February 2018. <https://macauhub.com.mo/2018/01/25/pt-presidente-de-angola-anuncia-financiamento-do-brasil-para-obras-de-infra-estruturas/>

⁵¹ Angola and Brazil sign Memo of Understanding, All Africa (Luanda) 11 February 2018. Access Date: 19 February 2018. <http://allafrica.com/stories/201802120159.html>

⁵² India, Brazil and South Africa push for South-South Cooperation, United News of India, 5 June 2018. Access Date: 30 June 2018. <http://www.uniindia.com/india-brazil-and-south-africa-push-for-south-south-cooperation/world/news/1252274.html>

Thus, Brazil receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Alissa Xinbe Wang

Russia: +1

Russia has fully complied with its commitment to strengthen cooperation with Africa and help the continent to promote infrastructure development.

On 11 October 2017, Russia and Morocco signed 11 bilateral agreements, covering cooperation in areas as customs, agriculture, military, culture, energy efficiency and nuclear energy. The two countries further discussed a liquid natural gas deal in which Russia would supply Morocco with the commodity.⁵³

On 31 October 2017, Russia and Nigeria finalized a financing agreement for the construction of two nuclear power plants in Nigeria. The total cost was estimated at USD20 billion.⁵⁴

On 11 December 2017, Russia and Egypt finalized a financing agreement for the construction of Egypt's first nuclear power plant. The total cost was estimated at USD30 billion.⁵⁵

On 11 January 2018, Andrei Kostin, President and Chair of the Board of Directors the VTB Bank (which is 60.9 per cent owned by the Russian government), met with President João Lourenço during a visit to Angola. The meeting was devoted to developing relations between the VTB Group and Angola, and VTB's further participation in financial and infrastructural projects in Angola.⁵⁶

On 6 March 2018, Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov began a week-long five-nation trip to Angola, Namibia, Mozambique, Zimbabwe, and Ethiopia. This trip was intended to discuss furthering bilateral ties in trade, nuclear energy infrastructure, mining infrastructure, economy, security, and humanitarianism.⁵⁷

On 9 March 2018, Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov visited the headquarters of the African Union in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia. He met with Mr. Moussa Faki Mahamat, Chairperson of the African Union. The two parties issued a joint communique re-affirming their commitment to strengthen the partnership between the African Union and Russia in pursuit of global peace, security, stability and development. To support this partnership, they agreed to convene an annual high-level dialogue to be held in alternate between Addis Ababa and Moscow. Russia and the AU identified priority areas of cooperation, including infrastructure, education, science and technology.⁵⁸

⁵³ Medvedev Touts Russian Hopes of Supplying Morocco With Liquefied Gas, RadioFreeEurope Radioliberty 12 October 2017. Access Date: 1 February 2018. <https://www.rferl.org/a/medvedev-touts-russian-hopes-supplying-morocco-liquified-gas/28787955.html>

⁵⁴ Russia and Nigeria clinch nuclear power deal, Club of Mozambique (Maputo) 31 October 2017. Access Date: 1 February 2018. <http://clubofmozambique.com/news/russia-and-nigeria-clinch-nuclear-power-deal/>

⁵⁵ Egypt, Russia sign nuclear plant contract, eNCA (Cairo) 11 December 2017. Access Date: 1 February 2018. <https://www.enca.com/africa/egypt-russia-sign-nuclear-plant-contract>

⁵⁶ VTB Chairman Meets with Angolan President Joao Lores, Lenta.ru 12 January 2018. Access date: 1 March 2018. https://lenta.ru/news/2018/01/12/vtb_angola/

⁵⁷ Lavrov in Africa: Russian foreign minister on five-nation tour this week, CGTN (Beijing) 3 June 2018. Access Date: 15 June 2018. https://news.cgtn.com/news/776b7a4d78454464776c6d636a4e6e62684a4856/share_p.html

⁵⁸ Africa: Joint Communique On the Meeting Between Moussa Faki Mahamat, Chairperson of the African Union Commission, and Sergey Lavrov, Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Russian Federation, allAfrica (International) 10 March 2018. Access Date: 15 June 2018. <http://allafrica.com/stories/201803100033.html>

Russia took measures consistent with strengthening cooperation with countries in Africa such as Morocco, Nigeria, Egypt and Angola, specifically in the infrastructure development sector.

Thus, Russia receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Benjamin Falconer

India: +1

India has fully complied with its commitment to strengthen cooperation with Africa and help the continent to promote infrastructure development.

On 5 October 2017, India and Ethiopia signed bilateral agreements on trade, communication and media, in order to boost ties between the two countries. The meeting between the Indian President Ram Nath Kovind and Ethiopian President Mulatu Teshome discussed India's support to Ethiopia in the sectors of energy, healthcare and education.⁵⁹

In March 2018, Indian President Ram Nath Kovind visited Mauritius, Madagascar, Equatorial Guinea, Swaziland and Zambia in April, resulting in a USD100 million line of credit for defense procurement by Mauritius. The visits also resulted in greater cooperation in marine resource management and marine connectivity in Madagascar. Furthermore, resulting from this visit, India decided to establish an independent diplomatic mission in the capital of Equatorial Guinea, Malabo. Moreover, the Indian government issued a statement regarding the establishment of 18 new embassies in Africa, increasing the number of resident Indian missions from 29 to 47.⁶⁰

On 29-30 April 2018, the first India-South Africa Business Summit took place in Johannesburg. The summit provided a platform to discuss opportunities for investment across a diverse range of sectors, including automobile, healthcare, pharmaceuticals, agro-processing and startups. MoUs were signed between the national investment promotion agencies 'Invest India' and 'Invest SA' to promote bilateral trade and to scale up business engagement.⁶¹

India took measures consistent with strengthening cooperation with Africa and specifically in infrastructure development.

Thus, India receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Dwitipriya Sanyal

China: +1

China has fully complied with its commitment to strengthen cooperation with Africa and help the continent to promote infrastructure development.

On 6 September 2017, China and Ethiopia signed an emergency humanitarian food aid agreement, in which China agreed to provide USD15 million worth of wheat to support people affected by

⁵⁹ India, Ethiopia sign agreements on trade, communication, PHD Research Bureau at PHD Chamber of Commerce and Industry (New Delhi), August 2017. Access Date: February 01, 2018. <http://phdcci.in/image/data/Research%20Bureau-2014/Economic%20Developments/Economic-2017/Aug/India,%20Ethiopia.pdf>

⁶⁰ India Enhances Ties Across Africa, The Diplomat, 17 May 2018. Access Date: 24 June 2018. <https://thediplomat.com/2018/05/india-enhances-ties-across-africa/>

⁶¹ India and South Africa Bilateral Ties: New Opportunities in Trade and Investment, India Briefing, 12 June 2018. Access Date: 24 June 2018. <https://www.india-briefing.com/news/india-south-africa-trade-investment-opportunities-17039.html/>

droughts in Ethiopia. According to Liu Tao, the Chargé d’Affaires at the Chinese Embassy in Ethiopia, “with the newly offered food aid to Ethiopia, the Government of China is determined to help tackle food security threats to the nation that have emerged in 2017, and is ready to extend further helping hands when necessary.”⁶²

On 6 September 2017, 42 students drawn from different parts of Somalia were awarded government scholarships to study at various universities in China. These students will pursue both undergraduate and graduate studies in China, and will be expected to return to Somalia and deploy their skills in building the country. Ambassador to Somalia Qin Jian stated that the awarding of these scholarship was in line with China’s commitment in supporting the Horn of Africa’s recovery, and deepening diplomatic ties between the two countries.⁶³

On 12 September 2017, China and Egypt signed two agreements at the China-Arab States Auto Cooperation Conference, with the aim to shift the countries’ automotive cooperation toward localization. These agreements were a part of the growing network of international ties within China’s Belt and Road initiative.⁶⁴

On 17 September 2017, the China Development Bank (CDB) signed two deals to provide loans to two major financial institutions in Egypt, South American International Bank Curacao N.V. (SAIBANK) and Banque Misr. The first deal included two loan agreements that will be provided to SAIBANK in support of small and medium-sized enterprises and infrastructure construction. The second deal was a memorandum of understanding that stated CDB will provide loans to Egyptian banks.⁶⁵

On 18 September 2017, the Chinese Embassy in Ethiopia announced that China was set to support human resources development in Ethiopia through offering short-term training programs, along with graduate, undergraduate and postgraduate level scholarships. Liu Tao stated that China is dedicated to enhancing human resources development cooperation with Ethiopia through education, training, and technology transfer.⁶⁶

On 21 September 2017, China and Kenya signed an agreement on the avoidance of double taxation, which aims to boost bilateral commercial ties. Cabinet Secretary of the National Treasury of Kenya Henry Rotich stated that “the agreement aims to boost trade and investments between China and Kenya by ensuring investors who pay tax in one jurisdiction should not pay tax again in the other jurisdiction.”⁶⁷

On 28 September 2017, Ambassador to South Sudan He Xiangdong stated that China was ready to assist the country in its quest to achieve long-lasting peace, prosperity and sustainable development.

⁶² China to give Ethiopia 15-mln-USD food aid, Xinhua News (Addis Ababa) 6 September 2017. Access Date: 31 January 2018. http://www.xinhuanet.com/english/2017-09/06/c_136589380.htm

⁶³ Somali students receive scholarships to enhance education in China, China Daily (Mogadishu) 7 September 2017. Access Date: 31 January 2018. http://www.chinadaily.com.cn/world/2017-09/07/content_31684971.htm

⁶⁴ Sino-Egyptian manufacturing deals signed at Ningxia event, Forum on China-Africa Cooperation (Yinchuan) 12 September 2017. Access Date: 31 January 2018. http://africa.chinadaily.com.cn/world/2017-09/11/content_31852703.htm

⁶⁵ Egyptian, Chinese banks sign loan deals to enhance financial cooperation, Xinhua News (Cairo) 18 September 2017. Access Date: 31 January 2018. http://www.xinhuanet.com/english/2017-09/18/c_136616684.htm

⁶⁶ Ethiopia: China Backs Ethiopia's Human Resource Dev't, The Ethiopian Herald (Addis Ababa) 31 August 2017. Access Date: 31 January 2018. <http://allafrica.com/stories/201708301066.html>

⁶⁷ Kenya, China sign tax treaty to boost bilateral ties, State Administration of Taxation (Nairobi) 22 September 2017. Access Date: 31 January 2018. <http://www.chinatax.gov.cn/eng/n2367751/c2831462/content.html>

He stated that the two countries are implementing a number of development projects. These projects include a USD33 million grant from the Chinese government, aimed at enabling South Sudan to expand and modernize its health infrastructure, specifically in the Juba Teaching Hospital and Rumbek Hospital.⁶⁸

On 2 November 2017, Sinohydro laid the foundation for the Gribo-Popoli hydroelectric dam on the Sassandra River in western Cote d'Ivoire. The project is estimated to take 40 months to complete, and is situated 15 km downstream from the Soubre dam, which was constructed by the same company.⁶⁹

On 16 November 2017, China signed an economic and technical cooperation agreement that will provide Namibia with USD30 million, specifically in support of the creation of new infrastructure at the Windhoek-Hosea Kutako International Airport. Equipment worth USD970,000 has also been pledged for the purpose of wildlife protection in Namibia.⁷⁰

On 23 November 2017, China offered RMB 200 million (USD30 million) to modernize customs procedures at the Uganda Revenue Authority (URA). The grant will allow the URA to acquire modern customs equipment such as non-intrusive scanners, communications systems, and updated border infrastructure. This will also allow the URA to modernize their customs risk management, supervision, and service and enforcement support.⁷¹

On 5 December 2017, the African Ministerial Conference on the Environment vowed to adopt China's environmental practices to lower environmental degradation. The practices are aimed at reducing the level of forest degradation and air pollution in Africa.⁷²

On 15 December 2017, the Director-General of the Department of African Affairs of the Foreign Ministry Dai Bing held a discussion in China with nine mayors and governors from Mozambique, Cape Verde, Guinea-Bissau, and Sao Tome and Principe. The workshop focused on China's concept of cooperation towards Africa, chiefly its priority of common, intensive, green, safe, and open development.⁷³

On 15 December 2017, China contributed USD5 million to the World Food Programme's school feeding program in the Karamoja region of Uganda. The contribution is aimed at increasing school enrolment in the area, and fill funding gaps in various malnutrition treatment programs.⁷⁴

⁶⁸ China ready to help S. Sudan achieve peace, development: diplomat, Xinhua News (Juba) 29 September 2017. Access Date: 31 January 2018. http://www.xinhuanet.com/english/2017-09/29/c_136648790.htm

⁶⁹ China starts building another hydropower dam for Cote d'Ivoire, upon Soubre dam inauguration, Xinhua News (Soubre) 2 November 2017. Access Date: 31 January 2018. http://www.xinhuanet.com/english/2017-11/02/c_136723734.htm

⁷⁰ Chinese funds to boost infrastructure development, wildlife protection in Namibia, Xinhua News (Windhoek) 16 November 2017. Access Date: 1 February 2018. http://www.xinhuanet.com/english/2017-11/16/c_136757754.htm

⁷¹ Uganda: China Offers Uganda \$30m to Support Customs Modernisation, Ministry of Foreign Affairs (Beijing) 23 November 2017. Access Date: 31 January 2018. <http://www.fmprc.gov.cn/zflt/eng/jlydh/t1513440.htm>

⁷² Africa vows to adopt good environmental practices from China, Xinhua News (Nairobi) 6 December 2017. Access Date: 31 January 2018. http://www.xinhuanet.com/english/2017-12/06/c_136803370.htm

⁷³ Director-General of the Department of African Affairs of the Foreign Ministry Dai Bing Holds Discussion with Attendees of Workshop for Mayors and Governors of Portuguese-speaking African Countries, Ministry of Foreign Affairs (Beijing) 15 December 2017. Access Date: 31 January 2018. http://www.fmprc.gov.cn/mfa_eng/wjbxw/t1520666.shtml

⁷⁴ China donates 5 mln USD to WFP's school feeding program in NE Uganda, Xinhua News (Kampala) 15 December 2017. Access Date: 31 January 2018. http://www.xinhuanet.com/english/2017-12/15/c_136829218.htm

On 16 December 2017, the China-Africa Industrial Capacity Cooperation Expo concluded in Nairobi, Kenya. The four-day expo aimed to showcase Chinese firms and their products, services, and investment opportunities to investors within Africa. Over 30 delegations from various African countries attended the expo to further understand China's manufacturing capabilities.⁷⁵

On 1 January 2018, the Chinese-built 756 km electrified rail project connecting Ethiopia to Djibouti began commercial operations. The project was constructed by two Chinese companies, the China Rail Engineering Corporation and the China Civil Engineering Construction Corporation. According to Ambassador to Ethiopia Tan Jian, the railway will contribute to the industrialization and diversification of the local economy, and foster cooperation between Ethiopia and Djibouti.⁷⁶

On 13 January 2018, Ambassador to South Sudan He Xiangdong and Deng Alor Kuol, Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation of South Sudan, signed the Agreement on Economic and Technical Cooperation between China and South Sudan. With this bilateral agreement, China will provide humanitarian aid to South Sudan in building communication infrastructure, such as radio and television facilities.⁷⁷

On 25 January 2018, China signed an agreement with South Sudan regarding a loan worth USD248.8 million for the establishment of an air traffic management system in South Sudan. After its completion, the system will serve as infrastructure to safeguard national security and generate government revenue through air traffic fees.⁷⁸

On 31 January 2018, China signed an economic and technical cooperation agreement with Rwanda, agreeing to provide Rwanda with the funds to drill 200 boreholes. This project will alleviate water shortage in Rwanda by providing water to communities in eleven districts. Another project to extend and expand the institution of Musanze Polytechnic was also confirmed, in order to meet the increasing demand for diploma education.⁷⁹

On 2 February 2018, the China Civil Engineering Construction Corporation (CCECC) launched the construction of a district hospital in Rwanda's capital city, Kigali. The Nyarugenge district hospital project was jointly financed by the governments of Rwanda and Belgium. It aims to provide faster access to healthcare closer to the home of patients, according the Health Minister Diane Gashumba.⁸⁰

On 9 February 2018, Ambassador to Namibia Zhang Yiming announced that the Zhenhua Port Machinery Company will be delivering four ship-to-shore cargo terminal cranes at a container

⁷⁵ China-Africa industrial cooperation in central stage at Nairobi expo, Xinhua News (Nairobi) 17 December 2017. Access Date: 31 January 2018. http://www.xinhuanet.com/english/2017-12/17/c_136831035.htm

⁷⁶ Chinese-built modern Ethio-Djibouti railway begins commercial operations, Xinhua News (Addis Ababa) 1 January 2018. Access Date: 29 January 2018. http://www.xinhuanet.com/english/2018-01/01/c_136865289.htm

⁷⁷ China and South Sudan Sign Agreement on Economic and Technical Cooperation, Ministry of Foreign Affairs (Beijing) 13 January 2018. Access Date: 29 January 2018. http://www.fmprc.gov.cn/mfa_eng/wjb_663304/zwjg_665342/zwbd_665378/t1525562.shtml

⁷⁸ South Sudan, China ink 248 mln USD pact on airspace project, Xinhua News (Juba) 26 January 2018. Access Date: 29 January 2018. http://www.xinhuanet.com/english/2018-01/26/c_136925150.htm

⁷⁹ China to help Rwanda extend polytechnic and drill boreholes, Xinhua News (Kigali) 1 February 2018. Access Date: 2 February 2018. http://www.xinhuanet.com/english/2018-02/01/c_136940143.htm

⁸⁰ Chinese-built hospital expected to provide quality healthcare to Rwanda people, China Daily (Kigali) 9 February 2018. Access Date: 14 June 2018. <http://www.chinadaily.com.cn/a/201802/09/WS5a7dbc82a3106e7dcc13be0b.html>

terminal, which is currently under construction by the China Harbor Engineering Company in Walvis Bay, Namibia.⁸¹

On 16 March 2018, Ambassador to Kenya Liu Xianfa and First Lady of Kenya Margaret Kenyatta attended a medical equipment donation ceremony in Nairobi. Ambassador Liu announced that China is urging companies to recruit and train more local women for the betterment of the community. This ceremony is a part of China's partnership with the Beyond Zero campaign, launched in 2014, which aims to improve maternal and child health in Kenya. Liu stated that China will deepen its partnership with Kenya to improve public healthcare facilities, and continue its past support for the purchase of mobile clinics and medical equipment.⁸²

On 17 March 2018, several disaster risk reductions projects funded by China and carried out by the United Nations Development Program (UNDP), began in Malawi. The projects include four evacuation centers, a dike and two check dams. The project aims to help the area reduce the effects of and build resilience to disasters.⁸³

On 10 April 2018, China began financing projects for the government of Ghana, including a major fishing site at the Jamestown Beach, a satellite TV project for 300 villages throughout Ghana, the donation of police vehicles and equipment, and a feasibility study on a potential cocoa processing project in Sefwi Wiawso.⁸⁴

On 11 April 2018, China approved a project to offer technological support to the construction of Africa's Great Green Wall anti-desertification project. The project plans to bring China's desertification prevention and control technologies, materials, and products to Africa. It also plans to conduct environmental adaptability assessments, while providing personnel training and capacity building on anti-desertification measures in African countries.⁸⁵

On 16 April 2018, in collaboration with Power China, the Government of South Sudan launched a factory producing concrete poles. This collaboration was a part of a large-scale project plan to rehabilitate and expand the power distribution system in Juba, the capital city. The factory is expected to produce 13,350 poles for electricity distribution in the capital and surrounding regions.⁸⁶

On 7 May 2018, a currency swap agreement was signed between the People's Bank of China (PBC) and its counterpart in Nigeria. According to PBC, the agreement will allow the two parties to swap a total of RMB 15 billion for NGN 720 billion, or vice versa, over the next three years. This agreement

⁸¹ China's cranes to promote Namibia's port construction, Xinhua News (Windhoek) 10 February 2018. Access Date: 15 June 2018. http://www.xinhuanet.com/english/2018-02/10/c_136964590.htm

⁸² China renews health commitment, China Daily (Nairobi) 16 March 2018. Access Date: 14 June 2018. <http://www.chinadaily.com.cn/a/201803/16/WS5aab3834a3106e7dcc14212f.html>

⁸³ Malawians welcome China-funded disaster risk reduction projects, Xinhua News (Lilongwe) 17 March 2018. Access Date: 15 June 2018. http://www.xinhuanet.com/english/2018-03/17/c_137045913.htm

⁸⁴ China pledges new funding for Ghana gov't projects, Xinhua News (Accra) 10 April 2018. Access Date: 15 June 2018. http://www.xinhuanet.com/english/2018-04/07/c_137092696.htm

⁸⁵ China to offer technological support for Africa's anti-desertification project, Xinhua News (Beijing) 10 April 2018. Access Date: 15 June 2018. <http://www.focac.org/eng/zfgx/t1549908.htm>

⁸⁶ Chinese-built electricity poles plant inaugurated in South Sudan, Xinhua News (Juba) 16 April 2018. Access Date: 15 June 2018. <http://www.focac.org/eng/zfgx/t1551628.htm>

is aimed at facilitating bilateral trade and investment, as well as promoting the financial stability of both sides.⁸⁷

On 9 May 2018, China National Chemical Engineering Group Co., Ltd. (CNCEC) signed engineering contracts worth EUR 2.565 billion with Kinshasa, the capital of the Democratic Republic of Congo. According to CNCEC, the contracts include the construction of a solid waste incineration power plant, highways, urban rail traffic systems and hospitals.⁸⁸

On 9 May 2018, Ambassador to Uganda Zheng Zhuqiang stated that the relationship between China and Uganda has entered a new era, citing major projects such as the Kampala-Entebbe Expressway, Isimba Hydropower Station and Karuma Hydropower Station as ventures that have fostered positive relations.⁸⁹

On 10 May 2018, Chinese Economic and Commercial Counsellor Chai Zhijing stated that China will help the Government of Ghana in constructing a new cocoa processing plant. According to the Counsellor, China seeks to support Ghana in starting to export value-added products such as cocoa. Joseph Boahen Aidoo, Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of the Ghana Cocoa Board (COCOBOD), added that the conception of this new plant was timely, and he will further support the vision of the current government to transform Ghana into an industrialized nation.⁹⁰

On 14 May 2018, the government of China donated USD1.5 million to assist Somalia and those affected by the raging floods that have displaced thousands of people across the Horn of Africa region. Ambassador to Somalia Qin Jian stated that such gesture demonstrates the deep friendship and brotherhood of the Chinese people to the Somali people during difficult times. The Somali Minister of Foreign Affairs Ahmed Isse Awad also stated that ties between the two countries is deepening, and the two countries will expand areas of cooperation.⁹¹

On 15 May 2018, Ambassador to Algeria Yang Guangyu announced that Algiers and Beijing will sign a draft partnership agreement to include Algeria in the Belt and Road Initiative, as the two nations celebrate the 60th anniversary of their bilateral ties this year. Yang stated that "the project aims to establish aerial, sea and special connectivity between the two countries, while launching roads, highways, ports, airports and telecommunication networks, as well as oil and gas pipelines."⁹²

On 17 May 2018, Ambassador to Ethiopia Tan Jian stated that China sees energy as a key priority in its Comprehensive Strategic Cooperative Partnership with Ethiopia. He stated that China has been encouraging its companies to invest in Ethiopia's energy sector, particularly in wind and hydro energy, in order to assist in improving Ethiopia's electricity grid. The embassy is collaborating with Chinese

⁸⁷ China, Nigeria ink Currency swap deal, Xinhua News (Beijing) 3 May 2018. Access Date: 14 June 2018.

http://www.xinhuanet.com/english/2018-05/03/c_137153726.htm

⁸⁸ CNCEC signs contracts with Kinshasa worth nearly 2.6b euros, China Daily (Beijing) 9 May 2018. Access Date: 14 June 2018. <http://usa.chinadaily.com.cn/a/201805/09/WS5af2f8a3a3105cdcf651cf52.html>

⁸⁹ China-Uganda relations enter new era, says Chinese ambassador, Global Times (Kampala) 9 May 2018. Access Date: 14 June 2018. <http://www.globaltimes.cn/content/1101431.shtml>

⁹⁰ China to help Ghana build new cocoa processing plant: official, Xinhua News (Accra) 10 May 2018. Access Date: 14 June 2018. http://www.xinhuanet.com/english/2018-05/10/c_137170110.htm

⁹¹ China donates 1.5m USD to help flood-hit Somalis, Shabelle News (Mogadishu) 14 May 2018. Access Date: 14 June 2018. <http://radioshabelle.com/china-provides-1-5-million-u-s-to-somalia/>

⁹² Algeria pays tribute to China's Silk Road with large exhibition, Xinhua News (Algiers) 15 May 2018. Access Date: 14 June 2018. http://www.xinhuanet.com/english/2018-05/16/c_137183523.htm

firms to undertake human resource development of local staff, to equip them with the skills and knowledge to manage mega projects.⁹³

On 18 May 2018, China donated USD5 million worth of emergency food aid to Uganda to support World Food Programme projects in the semi-arid northeastern region. Ambassador to Uganda Zheng Zhuqiang stated the money will benefit vulnerable women, children below the age of two years and school-going children. He also stated that the emergency food aid project is an important part of implementing the cooperation initiatives announced at the Forum on China-Africa Cooperation summit held in 2015 in South Africa.⁹⁴

On 18 May 2018, China provided medical supplies worth USD279,000 to the Health Ministry of Namibia to help with eye surgeries in the country. The donation is set to complement the Brightness Action program, which aims to provide free cataract surgeries in Namibia in light of the current shortage of eye specialists. Deputy Health Minister of Namibia Juliet Kavetuna stated the donation was another milestone in enhancing China-Namibia relations.⁹⁵

On 31 May 2018, China released funding for Zimbabwe's largest power station expansion project on the Hwange power station, paving the way for its commencement. Hwange is the largest coal-fired power station in the country.⁹⁶

On 11 June 2018, the Chinese Embassy to Libya signed documents to provide over USD6 million in medical aid to Libya. The aid is primarily aimed at aiding groups experiencing displacement and those who have recently returned to their cities in Libya after facing displacement.⁹⁷

China made substantial efforts in reaching out African countries and has fulfilled multiple goals of cooperation by promoting connections among African countries and facilitating economic growth. China also has provided financial and technological support to Africa through the construction of infrastructure.

Thus, China receives a score of +1.

Analysts: Wai Yan Chan, Jamie Huiyi Chen and Jerry Gao

South Africa: +1

South Africa has fully complied with its commitment to strengthen cooperation with Africa and help the continent to promote infrastructure development.

On 13 October 2017, South Africa's President Jacob Zuma and Zambia's President Edgar Lungu "agreed to elevate the Joint Commission for Cooperation to a Bi National Commission ... to give further impetus to the implementation of bilateral cooperation between South Africa and Zambia."⁹⁸

⁹³ Interview: Energy a priority area in China-Ethiopia cooperation: Chinese ambassador, Xinhua News (Addis Ababa) 17 May 2018. Access Date: 14 June 2018. http://www.xinhuanet.com/english/2018-05/17/c_137186998.htm

⁹⁴ China donates emergency food aid worth 5 mln USD to Uganda, Xinhua News (Kampala) 18 May 2018. Access Date: 14 June 2018. http://www.xinhuanet.com/english/2018-05/18/c_137189427.htm

⁹⁵ China donates medical equipment to assist Namibia's eye surgeries, Xinhua News (Windhoek) 19 May 2018. Access Date: 14 June 2018. http://www.xinhuanet.com/english/2018-05/19/c_137189949.htm

⁹⁶ China releases funding for Zimbabwe's largest power station expansion project, Xinhua News (Harare) 1 June 2018. Access Date: 14 June 2018. http://www.xinhuanet.com/english/2018-06/01/c_137221447.htm

⁹⁷ China provides 6-mln-USD medical aid to Libya, Xinhua News (Tripoli) 11 June 2018. Access Date: 15 June 2018. <http://www.focac.org/eng/zfgx/t1568028.htm>

On 17 November 2017, at the 4th Bi-National Commission between South Africa and Botswana, President Zuma emphasized the need for economic cooperation to address poverty, unemployment, and underdevelopment. In his opening remarks, he noted that cross-border economic projects, economic zones, economic diversification, and industrialisation should be pursued.⁹⁹

On 24 November 2017, President Zuma welcomed the President of Angola João Lourenço. During the visit, the leaders of South Africa and Angola reaffirmed historical ties between the two countries, and committed to deepening economic and social cooperation. In particular, an emphasis was placed on enhancing trade cooperation and exploring opportunities for collaboration in areas such as infrastructure development.¹⁰⁰

On 6 December 2017, South Africa reaffirmed its commitment to ensuring youth participation “in all spheres of life in [the] country” at the African Union Commission 6th High-Level Dialogue on Enhancing Youth Participation and Representation in Governance in Africa.¹⁰¹

On 21 December 2017, South Africa and Zimbabwe committed to strengthening economic trade and cooperation. President Zuma and President Emmerson Mnangagwa “agreed on the need to strengthen economic cooperation and expand economic and trade relations between the two countries, and to make this a key feature of the South Africa-Zimbabwe Binational Commission agenda.” The meeting reaffirmed the favourable relations between the two countries and their neighbouring states.¹⁰²

On 29 January 2018, as a part of the African Union, South Africa launched the Single African Air Transport Market. It “provides for the full liberalization of market access between African states, free exercise of traffic rights, elimination of restrictions on ownership and full liberalization of frequencies, fares and capacities.”¹⁰³

On 3 March 2018, during a press conference at Luanda’s Quatro de Fevereiro International Airport, South Africa reaffirmed its commitment to increasing cooperation with Angola. Specifically, the two countries will focus on developing further relations in tourism, infrastructure, trade, energy, mining

⁹⁸ Joint Communiqué on State Visit by His Excellency Jacob G. Zuma, President of Republic of South Africa to Republic of Zambia, South African Government (Lusaka) 13 October 2017. Access Date: 1 February 2018.

<https://www.gov.za/speeches/joint-communicu%C3%A9-occasion-state-visit-his-excellency-mr-jacob-g-zuma-president-republic>

⁹⁹ President Jacob Zuma: 4th Bi-National Commission between South Africa and Botswana, South African Government (Gaborone) 17 November 2017. Access Date: 1 February 2018. <https://www.gov.za/speeches/president-jacob-zuma-4th-bi-national-commission-between-south-africa-and-botswana-17-nov>

¹⁰⁰ President Jacob Zuma: Opening remarks during official talks with President João Manuel Gonçalves Lourenço, South African Government (Pretoria) 24 November 2017. Access Date: 1 February 2018.

<https://www.gov.za/speeches/president-jacob-zuma-official-talks-during-state-visit-president-angola-jo%C3%A3o-manuel>

¹⁰¹ Minister Faith Muthambi: Opening of the African Union Commission 6th High-Level Dialogue on Enhancing Youth Participation and Representation in Governance in Africa, South African Government (Pretoria) 6 December 2017.

Access Date: 1 February 2018. <https://www.gov.za/speeches/minister-faith-muthambi-opening-african-union-commission-6th-high-level-dialogue-enhancing>

¹⁰² President Jacob Zuma and President Emmerson Mnangagwa vow to strengthen trade cooperation between South Africa and Zimbabwe. 21 December 2017. Date Accessed: 1 February 2018. <https://www.gov.za/speeches/president-jacob-zuma-and-president-emmerson-mnangagwa-vow-strengthen-trade-cooperation>

¹⁰³ President Jacob Zuma returns from African Union Summit in Ethiopia, South African Government 30 January 2018. Access Date: 1 February 2018. <https://www.gov.za/speeches/president-jacob-zuma-returns-african-union-summit-ethiopia-30-jan-2018-0000>

and agriculture.¹⁰⁴ Additionally, South Africa “discussed bilateral cooperation as well as regional, continental and global issues of mutual concern” with Namibia and Botswana.¹⁰⁵

On 9 March 2018, South Africa and Seychelles agreed to strengthen relations in various areas including trade and investment, education and human resource development, environment and blue economy, youth and sports, defence and police and social development.¹⁰⁶

On 17 March 2018, South Africa strengthened relations with Mozambique and Zimbabwe. First, with President Nyusi of Mozambique, President Ramaphosa reaffirmed the strength of bilateral relations and identified areas for future engagement such as agriculture, energy, infrastructure, and tourism. This reaffirmation was made during the bilateral Binational Commission. Second, with President Mnangagwa of Zimbabwe, President Ramaphosa acknowledged the importance of strong economic ties, and committed South Africa to supporting Zimbabwe in its economic development “by encouraging South African state-owned companies and the private sector to invest in the Zimbabwean economy.”¹⁰⁷

On 10 May 2018, the Cabinet approved an agreement that established the Tripartite Free Trade Area (TFTA) between the Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa, East African Community and Southern African Development Community. The TFTA focuses on market integration, infrastructure development and industrial development across the continent.¹⁰⁸

On 2 June 2018, Deputy President David Mabuza enhanced cooperation between South Africa and Kenya on various “issues of mutual concern including the proposed reform initiatives of the African Union, and the United Nations Security Council, the ongoing security challenges in South Sudan and Somalia, as well as mutually beneficial economic opportunities between South Africa and Kenya.” This meeting effectively promoted the deepening of political and economic relations between the two countries.¹⁰⁹

On 5 June 2018, President Ramaphosa hosted President Brahim Ghali of the Saharawi Arab Democratic Republic. During their discussions, both leaders reaffirmed their commitment to

¹⁰⁴ South Africa keen to boost cooperation with Angola, AfricanNews (Luanda) 3 March 2018. Access Date: 15 June 2018. <http://www.africanews.com/2018/03/03/south-africa-keen-to-boost-cooperation-with-angola/>

¹⁰⁵ President Cyril Ramaphosa concludes Working Visits to Angola, Botswana and Namibia, South African Government, 3 March 2018. Access Date: 15 June 2018. <https://www.gov.za/speeches/president-cyril-ramaphosa-has-concludes-working-visits-angola-botswana-and-namibia-3-mar>

¹⁰⁶ Joint communique on second South Africa – Seychelles Joint Commission of Cooperation, South African Government (Pretoria) 9 March 2018. Access Date: 15 June 2018. <https://www.gov.za/speeches/second-south-africa-9-mar-2018-0000>

¹⁰⁷ President Cyril Ramaphosa concludes working visits to Mozambique and Zimbabwe, South African Government, 17 March 2018. Access Date: 15 June 2018. <https://www.gov.za/speeches/president-cyril-ramaphosa-concludes-working-visits-mozambique-and-zimbabwe-17-mar-2018-0000>

¹⁰⁸ Government Communications on approved agreement to establish Tripartite Free Trade Area between Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa, East African Community and SADC, South African Government, 10 May 2018. Access Date: 15 June 2018. <https://www.gov.za/speeches/government-communications-approved-agreement-establish-tripartite-free-trade-area-between>

¹⁰⁹ Deputy President David Mabuza cements political and economic ties with Kenya, South African Government, 2 June 2018. Access Date: 15 June 2018. <https://www.gov.za/speeches/deputy-president-david-mabuza-cements-political-and-economic-ties-kenya-2-jun-2018-0000>

deepening relations, and strengthening cooperation for humanitarian assistance and security challenges, among other areas of intended collaboration.¹¹⁰

South Africa took measures consistent with strengthening cooperation within Africa and specifically in infrastructure development. It is noteworthy that efforts towards compliance with regards to this commitment continued in recent months, despite changes in the country's leadership from former President Jacob Zuma to current President Cyril Ramaphosa, which occurred on 15 February 2018.¹¹¹

Thus, South Africa receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Tracy Luong

¹¹⁰ President Cyril Ramaphosa: Talks with President Brahim Ghali of the Saharawi Arab Democratic Republic, South African Government, 5 June 2018. Access Date: 15 June 2018. <https://www.gov.za/speeches/president-cyril-ramaphosa-remarks-following-talks-president-brahim-ghali-5-jun-2018-0000>

¹¹¹ Ramaphosa vows anti-corruption drive as he takes over in South Africa, The Guardian, 15 February 2018. Access Date: 15 June 2018. <https://www.theguardian.com/world/2018/feb/15/cyril-ramaphosa-to-be-elected-president-of-south-africa-jacob-zuma>

3. Macroeconomics: Industrialization and the New Industrial Revolution

“We reaffirm our commitment to BRICS industrial cooperation, including on industrial capacities and policies, new industrial infrastructure and standards, and among small, micro and medium-sized enterprises (SMMEs), so as to jointly seize the opportunities brought about by the new industrial revolution and expedite our respective industrialization processes.”

BRICS Xiamen Leaders Declaration

Assessment

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

Background

BRICS members have increasingly delved into economic and industrial issue areas, with a specific focus on strengthening industrial cooperation. They have strived to ensure sustainable infrastructure and policies that allow small, micro- and medium-sized enterprises (SMMEs) to make use of new opportunities brought about by the New Industrial Revolution.

Initially, industrialization as a BRICS issue area was mostly discussed in relation to Africa. During the Sanya Summit in 2011, industrial cooperation first appeared on the BRICS agenda, as BRICS leaders vowed to support infrastructure development in Africa through the New Partnership for Africa’s Development (NEPAD).¹¹²

In 2012, the Delhi declaration stated “we agree to build upon our synergies and to work together to intensify trade and investment flows among our countries to advance our respective industrial development and employment objectives.”

In 2013, at the fifth BRICS summit in Durban, discussions among the BRICS leaders took place under the theme of “BRICS and Africa: Partnership for Development, Integration, and Industrialization.”¹¹³ The eThekweni Declaration stated: “within the framework of the New Partnership for Africa’s Development (NEPAD), we support African countries in their industrialization process through stimulating foreign direct investment, knowledge exchange, capacity-building and diversification of imports from Africa.”

In 2014, the sixth BRICS summit occurred in Fortaleza, Brazil. The main theme was to establish inclusive macroeconomic and social policies in individual BRICS members. The summit also called for greater cooperation with the G20, in order to create sustainable growth, protection and preservation.

¹¹² Sanya Declaration, BRICS Information Centre (Sanya) 14 April 2011. Access Date: 16 November 2017. <http://www.brics.utoronto.ca/docs/110414-leaders.html>

¹¹³ BRICS and Africa: Partnership for Development, Integration and Industrialization, BRICS Information Centre (Durban) 27 March 2013. Access Date: 16 November 2017. <http://www.brics.utoronto.ca/docs/130327-statement.html>

In October 2015, a meeting between BRICS industry ministers reaffirmed their commitment to upholding the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, especially endorsing Sustainable Development Goal 9, which highlights industrial cooperation.¹¹⁴ These commitments have created initiative to promote further industrial cooperation and growth.

In the 2015 Ufa Declaration, BRICS leaders stated, “in this connection, we reaffirm the unique mandate of the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO) to promote and accelerate inclusive and sustainable industrial development.”

In 2016, the Goa Declaration emphasized “the importance of enhancing intra-BRICS cooperation in the industrial sector, including through the BRICS Industry Ministers Meetings, in order to contribute to the accelerated and sustainable economic growth, the strengthening of comprehensive industrial ties, the promotion of innovation as well as job creation, and improvement of the quality of life of people in BRICS countries.” BRICS leaders also congratulated UNIDO “for the 50th anniversary of its foundation and recall its unique mandate to promote and accelerate inclusive and sustainable industrial development and its contribution in promoting industrialization in Africa.”

On 29 July 2017, prior to the Xiamen Summit, the second meeting between BRICS industry ministers took place in Hangzhou, China. The outcome of this meeting was the Cooperation Action Plan, which was designed to improve cooperation between SMMEs among BRICS members. The Xiamen Summit also marks the first mention of the “New Industrial Revolution,” after a focus on this term during China’s G20 Hangzhou presidency in 2016.

Commitment Features

This commitment identified three different aspects of industrial cooperation: 1) cooperation on industrial capacities and policies, 2) cooperation on new industrial infrastructure and standards, and 3) cooperation among SMMEs. The goal of these measures is to seize opportunities brought about by the new industrial revolution, and expedite respective industrialization processes in BRICS members.

In July 2017, BRICS industry ministers signed the Action Plan for Deepening Industrial Cooperation among BRICS Countries. This action plan lists suggested measures that fall under each of the three aspects of this commitment. The relevant sections are excerpted below:

I. Strengthen industrial capacity co-operation

1. Establish industrial capacity cooperation mechanism among BRICS countries to promote the development of industrial capacity cooperation projects in key areas.
2. Under the principle of “complementary advantages, mutual benefits and win-win co-operation,” encourage enterprises and relevant organizations to expedite cooperation in key areas such as mining, oil and gas, steel, aluminum, advanced manufacturing, shipbuilding, railway equipment and infrastructure, automobile, pharmacy, metallurgy and aircraft manufacturing, and deepen cooperation in emerging industries such as new generation information technology, biology, medical apparatus and instruments, new energy and new materials, to continuously open up new space for BRICS cooperation and substantiate BRICS cooperation contents.

¹¹⁴ Industrial Cooperation of the BRICS Countries: New Opportunities for Growth, BRICS Information Centre (Moscow) 20 October 2015. Access Date: 16 November 2017. <http://www.brics.utoronto.ca/docs/151020-industry.html>

3. Innovate on and enrich methods and means of industrial cooperation and utilize appropriate approaches, such as industrial investment, engineering construction, technological cooperation and technical assistance, to promote the development of demonstration parks for industrial cooperation, taking into account national conditions and features of different cooperative projects.
 4. Fully utilize the existing BRICS bilateral and multilateral cooperation mechanisms, and leverage the platforms of relevant international forums and expositions to coordinate and promote the implementation of cooperation projects. Leverage the New Development Bank to play a key role in the development of industrial infrastructure.
 5. Strengthen coordination and match-making and exploit respective advantages to jointly plan and explore international and regional markets.
- II. Strengthen the coordination and match-making in the field of industrial policies and development strategies
1. Strengthen exchange and dialogue mechanism of BRICS countries in industrial areas, and explore mutually beneficial and win-win industrial policy coordination mechanism, to improve the policies coordination in a timely and effective manner.
 2. Explore coordination and match-making models of industrial development strategies, and promote sharing of best practices and exchanging of experiences.
 3. Promote communication activities including forums and seminars to discuss policy measures conducive to the industrial development of BRICS countries for mutual benefits and win-win cooperation, and explore technical, industrial, and commercial cooperation modes in key areas.
- III. Promote the cooperation in the development of new industrial infrastructure
1. Deepen the exchanges among institutes and organizations in BRICS countries in the fields of key generic technologies of new industrial infrastructure and reinforce cooperation mechanism.
 2. Strengthen cooperation and encourage enterprises and related organizations to carry out extensive and intensive research on innovation and commercialization of key generic technologies of new industrial infrastructure to overcome technological barriers.
 3. Strengthen dialogues and information exchange to share experiences regarding the design of new industrial infrastructure and best practices of operation.
- IV. Expand cooperation in technological development and innovation.
1. Encourage BRICS countries to hold meetings and forums focused on advanced, high-precision, and cutting-edge technologies to display scientific and technological innovation achievements and discuss their development trends.
 2. Encourage enterprises, research institutes and academia in BRICS countries to establish cooperation partnerships, with the aim to overcome key generic technological barriers in industrial key areas.
 3. Discuss the creation of mechanisms for technology transfer and diffusion and pool more resources to innovation.

4. Encourage enterprises and relevant organizations to conduct extensive and intensive research on the applications of innovative high-tech industry.

V. Deepen cooperation in the field of SMEs

1. Encourage SMEs [small and medium-sized enterprises] to apply new and cost-effective technologies and business models, and increase their awareness to proactively embrace the new industrial revolution.
2. Encourage the establishment of partnerships between SMEs, between SMEs and big companies, and share best practices in the application and development of technologies of new industrial revolution.
3. Discuss supporting policies that are conducive to SMEs financing, and foster an ever-improving financing environment.
4. Encourage SMEs of BRICS countries to participate in expositions and fairs held in BRICS countries, strengthen project match-making and economic and trade exchanges, and promote SMEs to actively integrate into the regional and global value chain.¹¹⁵

Scoring Guidelines

-1	BRICS member did not take any of the measures towards industrial cooperation listed in sections I–V in the Action Plan for Deepening Industrial Cooperation among BRICS Countries.
0	BRICS member took measures towards industrial cooperation that falls in more than one of the specified categories but not all three.
+1	BRICS member took measures towards industrial cooperation that falls in all three categories.

Brazil: +1

Brazil has fully complied with its commitment to take measures towards industrial cooperation through cooperating on industrial capacities and policies, building new industrial infrastructure and strengthening cooperation in areas of standardization, and deepening cooperation regarding small, micro- and medium-sized enterprises (SMMEs).

On 8 December 2017, Brazil created the Commission for Coordination in Science, Technology and Innovation, to enhance international cooperation. The commission submits to the Ministry of Science, Technology, Innovation and Communications, and will elaborate upon guidelines for future governmental coordination between diplomacy and scientific or technological innovation. It will also support the Brazilian diplomatic network in research and innovation in specific posts abroad and in the regional representative offices of Itamaraty (the foreign ministry). The main goal of this commission is to implement public policies that allow the Brazilian economy to maintain competitive advantages in terms of science, technology, innovation, research and development.¹¹⁶

¹¹⁵ Action Plan for Deepening Industrial Cooperation among BRICS Countries, Hangzhou, 29 July 2017. Access Date: 5 November 2017. <http://www.brics.utoronto.ca/docs/170729-industry.html>

¹¹⁶ Government creates commission to boost international cooperation in science and innovation. Department of Science, Technology, Innovation and Communications News Government 8 December 2017. Access Date: 9 January 2018. http://www.mctic.gov.br/mctic/opencms/salaImprensa/noticias/arquivos/2017/12/Governo_cria_comissao_para_impulsionar_cooperacao_internacional_em_ciencia_e_inovacao.html

On 17 December 2017, the Ministry of Finance released a press statement in Lusaka with regards to bilateral talks on strengthening South-South cooperation. The statement noted that BNDES is currently working to forge more cooperation with the Development Bank of Zambia, and promote the export credit needs of Brazilian companies.¹¹⁷

On 29 December 2017, Brazil's Ministry of Science, Technology, Innovation and Communications signed a MOU with Huawei to "promote strategic collaboration between the federal government and the Chinese company in innovative technical cooperation and research and the development programs for telecommunications and information and communication technology (ICT) services."¹¹⁸ This partnership emphasizes the creation of investment opportunities and the stimulation of technological and industrial development in a competitive environment.

On 29 December 2017, the Minister of Cities, Alexandre Baldy, signed 24 contracts from the Fundo de Garantia do Tempo de Serviço (Working Time Guarantee Fund) for improving sanitation and water infrastructure in four states: Espírito Santo, Pernambuco, Goiás, and Rio Grande do Sul.¹¹⁹ Funds totalling BRL951 million will also be released to 23 municipalities.

On 23 January 2018, the Ministry of Integration funded BRL50.5 million for disaster prevention and the construction of infrastructure for floods, floods, landslides, and canals, in Catalao, Castanhal, Curuca, Itaituba and Mae do Rio.¹²⁰ This action follows a previous transfer in December 2017 allocated to purposes of civil defence, which totals a government allocation to BRL72.1 million.

On 5 January 2018, Brazil announced that it terminated the Amazon dam policy due to environmental concerns.¹²¹ The Brazilian Development Bank (BNDES) will finance up to BRL54 billion generated from ceasing the construction of Amazon dams by 2019 in infrastructure.¹²² 60 per cent of this fund will be allocated to energy investments in mostly renewable energy. Aneel, the National Electric Energy Agency, began operations for four solar energy plants in September 2017, one of its first major developments in the Southeast region of Brazil.

On 21 January 2018, Brazil invested BRL67 million in the paving of the BR-316 road, which is expected to benefit 500,000 residents in Alagoas. The Minister of the General Secretariat, Moreira

¹¹⁷ Brazilian Development bank to forge cooperation with DBZ, Ministry of Finance Public Relations (Lusaka) 18 December 2017. Access Date: 21 December 2017. <https://www.lusakatimes.com/2017/12/18/brazilian-development-bank-forge-cooperation-dbz/>

¹¹⁸ Ministry of Science, Technology, Innovation and Communications and Huawei firm agreement to accelerate ICT innovations. Department of Science, Technology, Innovation and Communications News (São Paulo) 29 December 2017. Access Date: 9 January 2018. http://www.mctic.gov.br/mctic/opencms/salalmprensa/noticias/arquivos/2017/12/MCTIC_e_Huawei_firmam_parceria_para_acelerar_inovacoes_em_TICs.html

¹¹⁹ Novos contratos destinam recursos do FGTS para saneamento de 4 estados. Government of Brazil. 29 December 2017. Access Date: 31 December 2017. <http://www.brasil.gov.br/infraestrutura/2017/12/novos-contratos-destinam-recursos-do-fgts-para-saneamento-de-4-estados>

¹²⁰ Aporte de R\$ 50,5 milhões é aplicado na prevenção de desastres. Government of Brazil. 23 January 2018. Access Date: 25 January 2018. <http://www.brasil.gov.br/infraestrutura/2018/01/aporte-de-r-50-5-milhoes-e-aplicado-na-prevencao-de-desastres>

¹²¹ Brazil Surprisingly Ceases Construction of Environmentally Destructive Hydroelectric Dams in Amazon Basin. Unrepresented Nations & Peoples Organization. 5 January 2018. Access Date: 6 January 2018. <http://unpo.org/article/20547>

¹²² BNDES to finance up to R\$ 54bn in infrastructure by 2019. Government of Brazil. 5 January 2018. Access Date: 8 January 2018. <http://www.brazilgovnews.gov.br/news/2018/01/bndes-to-finance-up-to-r-54bn-in-infrastructure-by-2019>

Franco, sees the improvements as an “integration between the north and northeast.”¹²³ There are 218 projects expected in Alagoas, with an expected BRL1.4 billion by December 2018.¹²⁴

On 29 January 2018, the National Petroleum, Natural Gas, and Biofuels Agency signed contracts with 17 companies for 37 blocks of oil and gas, in order to produce \$3.8 billion.¹²⁵

On 16 March 2018, a consortium led by the China Communications Construction Company, a Chinese state-owned infrastructure firm, established the foundation for the construction of a port in Sao Luis. This construction project will boost regional development and strengthen economic ties between China and Brazil.¹²⁶ The port will have an estimated annual handling capacity of 10 million tons of cargoes, and it will integrate the logistics corridor in Brazil’s northeast region.

On 18 April 2018, the Ministry of Agriculture allowed the Sirius Project to return to production at certain plants, in order to export its products to the European Union (EU).¹²⁷ According to the General Registry of Employed and Unemployed Persons (Caged), over 90 per cent of the 61000 formal jobs were small business jobs, created in February 2018.¹²⁸

On 30 May 2018, Brazil and India signed a bilateral cooperation agreement on biotechnology. The memorandum of understanding represents the intention to create trade and development opportunities, and improve the living conditions of people of both countries.¹²⁹

On 30 May 2018, Brazil's National Development Bank (BNDES) and the Inter-American Development Bank established a credit rights investment fund for infrastructure projects. The fund is worth USD 1.5 billion.¹³⁰

Brazil has fully complied with its commitment to take measures towards industrial cooperation. It has cooperated with BRICS members on industrial capacities and policies, and built new industrial infrastructure and strengthened cooperation in areas of standardization. Brazil has deepened industrial cooperation regarding SMMEs.

¹²³ Avançar entrega primeira etapa de pavimentação da BR-316, em Alagoas. Government of Brazil. 21 January 2018. Access Date: 25 January 2018. <http://www.brasil.gov.br/infraestrutura/2018/01/avancar-entrega-primeira-etapa-da-pavimentacao-da-br-316-em-alagoas>

¹²⁴ State of São Paulo, Brazil Signs Infrastructure Agreement with CG/LA on Behalf of the BuildCoin Foundation. BuildCoin Foundation (Washington) 30 January 2018. Access Date: 31 January 2018. <https://www.prnewswire.com/news-releases/state-of-sao-paulo-brazil-signs-infrastructure-agreement-with-cgla-on-behalf-of-the-buildcoin-foundation-300589234.html>

¹²⁵ Aneel clears solar plants in Pirapora (MG) for operation. Government of Brazil. 28 September 2018. Access Date: 30 November 2018. <http://www.brazilgovnews.gov.br/news/2017/09/aneel-clears-solar-plants-in-pirapora-mg-for-operation>

¹²⁶ Construction of Chinese-led port kicks off, aims to boost logistics capacity in NE Brazil, Xinhua News (Beijing) 17 March 2018. Access Date: 15 June 2018. <http://en.people.cn/n3/2018/0317/c90000-9438409.html>

¹²⁷ Reuters. Brazil lifts self-imposed embargo of certain BRF plants. 18 April 2018. Access Date: 2 July 2018. <https://www.reuters.com/article/brazil-chicken-eu/brazil-lifts-self-imposed-embargo-of-certain-brf-plants-idUSE6N1P6015>

¹²⁸ Government of Brazil. Small businesses account for nearly 100% of all jobs created in 2018. 17 April 2018. Access Date: 2 July 2018. <http://www.brazilgovnews.gov.br/news/2018/04/small-businesses-account-for-nearly-100-of-all-jobs-created-in-2018>

¹²⁹ Brasil e Índia firmam acordo de cooperação bilateral em biotecnologia. 4 June 2018. Access Date: 11 June 2018. http://www.mctic.gov.br/mctic/opencms/salalmprensa/noticias/arquivos/2018/06/Brasil_e_India_firmam_acordo_de_cooperacao_em_biotecnologia.html

¹³⁰ Government of Brazil. BNDES and IDB to launch \$1.5B infrastructure fund. 30 May 2018. Access Date: 11 June 2018. <http://www.brazilgovnews.gov.br/news/2018/05/bndes-and-idb-to-launch-1-5b-infrastructure-fund>

Thus, Brazil receives a score of +1.

Analysts: Marina Aragao Santos and Kelley Prendergast

Russia: +1

Russia has fully complied with its commitment to take measures towards industrial cooperation through cooperating on industrial capacities and policies, building new industrial infrastructure and strengthening cooperation in areas of standardization, and deepening cooperation regarding small, micro- and medium-sized enterprises (SMMEs).

On 6 September 2017, Russia and South Africa signed a cybersecurity cooperation agreement. The agreement mentions the creation of a joint system for information communication technologies, and for joint implementation of research and development projects in the field.¹³¹

On 14 September 2017, China and Russia held a ministerial meeting at the Belt and Road Forum for International Cooperation in Beijing, China. The Chinese Minister of Industry and Information Technology Miao Wei and Russian Minister of Industry and Trade Denis Manturov discussed cooperation in industrial and high-tech fields, including civil aviation, raw materials, equipment, and radio electronics. The two ministers witnessed the signing of a memorandum of understanding on holding a China-Russia innovation competition.¹³²

On 27 September 2017, the Shanghai Cooperation Organization-BRICS Small Business Forum was held in Ufa. Participants discussed ways to support small business and individual entrepreneurs. Indian counterparts offered their expertise in SMME development.¹³³

On 14 October 2017, Russia approved a draft cooperation agreement with China to develop the Klyuchevskoye gold deposit in the Trans-Baikal Territory. The agreement will facilitate the creation of a “complex for mining and processing minerals and help create about 3000 jobs in the region.” This agreement allows the China National Gold Group Hong Kong Limited to acquire between 60 and 70 per cent of voting shares of the Rudnik Zapadnaya-Klyuchi joint stock company, in order to create favorable terms for investment cooperation, geographic exploration, and mining in the Klyuchevskoye gold field.¹³⁴

On 19 October 2017, Order of the Ministry of Agriculture of the Russian Federation No. 524 “On the approval of programs to promote and increase the export volumes of certain types of agricultural products, including products of micro, small and medium-sized enterprises of the agroindustrial complex” was issued in support of SMEs in the agricultural sphere.¹³⁵

¹³¹ South Africa and Russia sign Cybersecurity Cooperation Agreement, AFK Inside 6 September 2017. Access Date: 19 February 2018. <https://afkinsider.com/140677/south-africa-and-russia-sign-cybersecurity-cooperation-agreement/>

¹³² China, Russia explore more industrial cooperation, New China (Kazan) 14 September 2017. Access Date: 19 February 2018. http://www.xinhuanet.com/english/2017-09/15/c_136610400.htm

¹³³ At the forum of small business of the SCO and BRICS in Ufa problems of small businesses were discussed, RBK (Ufa) 27 September 2017. Access date: 1 March 2018. <https://ufa.rbc.ru/ufo/freenews/59ce16489a7947f098c0846b>

¹³⁴ Russia's approval of the draft cooperation agreement between the governments of Russia and China to develop the Klyuchevskoye gold deposit, The Russian Government (Moscow) 14 October 2017. Access Date: 30 January 2018. <http://government.ru/en/docs/29638/>

¹³⁵ Order of the Ministry of Agriculture of the Russian Federation No. 524 "On the approval of programs to promote and increase the export volumes of certain types of agricultural products, including products of micro, small and medium-sized enterprises of the agroindustrial complex", Garant (Moscow) 12 December 2017. Access Date: 1 March 2018. <https://www.garant.ru/products/ipo/prime/doc/71706664/>

On 27 November 2017, Eletrobras (a major Brazilian electric utilities company) signed a Memorandum of Understanding with Eletronuclear (a subsidiary nuclear power company of Eletrobras) and Rosatom (the State Atomic Energy Corporation of Russia) to “celebrate their interests in promote a mutual cooperation in the pacific usage of nuclear energy.”¹³⁶ This agreement will represent further cooperation between the national nuclear sectors in Brazil and Russia.

On 1 January 2018, a second line of the China-Russia oil pipeline began commercial operations. The 941 km-long line starts from China’s Northeast Heilongjiang province and runs through North China’s Inner Mongolia autonomous region. This oil pipeline aims to deepen energy cooperation between Russia and China.¹³⁷

On 31 January 2018, Prime Minister of the Russian Federation Dmitry Medvedev held a meeting of the Presidium of the Council under the President of the Russian Federation on Strategic Development and Priority Projects. The meeting was attended by heads of executive authorities, development institutions, and public associations representing the interests of small and medium-sized businesses. The event was attended by the General Director of the SME Corporation, the head of the priority project “Small Business and Support of an Individual Business Initiative” Alexander Braverman. Within the framework of the meeting, the issues of updating the priority project “Small Business and Support of Individual Entrepreneurship Initiative” were discussed, specifically regarding clarifying indicators, developing service centers, and creating new services for small businesses.¹³⁸

On 8 June 2018, Russian President Vladimir Putin visited China. During the visit, Russian Railways and the China Railway Corp signed a memorandum of understanding to establish high-speed freight railway routes linking China, Russia and Europe. The project will facilitate trade and investment between the two countries. During this visit, the Russia-China Investment Fund and China Chengtong Holdings Group also signed an agreement to establish a joint one-billion US dollar industrial investment fund. This agreement will develop industrial, transport and tourism infrastructure in Russia.¹³⁹

On 9-10 June 2018, Russia attended the Shanghai Cooperation Organization summit, which included heads of state from Asian and European states. The SCO was hosted by China and also attended by Prime Minister of the Republic of India Narendra Modi. This meeting sought to “create favorable conditions for trade and investment and to define joint approaches to simplify trade procedures, incentivize e-trade, and develop service industry and trade in services.”¹⁴⁰

Russia cooperated with BRICS members on industrial capacities and policies and new industrial infrastructure and standards, and among SMMEs.

¹³⁶ Eletrobras, Eletronuclear and Rosatom sign Memorandum of Understanding. Eletrobras, Eletronuclear News 28 November 2017. Access Date: 9 January 2018.

<http://www.eletronuclear.gov.br/Not%C3%ADcias/NoticiasDetalhes.aspx?NoticiaS=2004>

¹³⁷ 2nd line of China-Russia oil link starts, ECNS (Beijing) 3 January 2018. Access Date: 1 February 2018.

<http://www.ecns.cn/business/2018/01-03/286717.shtml>

¹³⁸ SME Corporation took part in the meeting of the Presidium of the Council under the President of the Russian Federation on Strategic Development and Priority Projects, RBK 31 January 2018. Access date: 1 March 2018.

http://corpmsp.ru/pres_slujba/news/korporatsiya_msp_prinyala_uchastie_v_zasedanii_prezidiuma_soveta_pri_prezidente_rossiyskoy_federatsii/

¹³⁹ China, Russia pledge stronger ties amid global trade turmoil, CGTN 13 June 2018. Access Date 15 June 2018.

https://news.cgtn.com/news/3d3d414e796b444d78457a6333566d54/share_p.html

¹⁴⁰ Report on the Shanghai Cooperation Organization Qingdao Meeting, Voltaire Network (Lebanon) 10 June 2018. Access Date: 14 June 2018. <http://www.voltairenet.org/article201481.html>

Thus, Russia receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Alissa Xinbe Wang

India: +1

India has fully complied with its commitment to take measures towards industrial cooperation through cooperating on industrial capacities and policies, building new industrial infrastructure and strengthening cooperation in areas of standardization, and deepening cooperation in the fields of small, micro- and medium-sized enterprises (SMMEs).

On 20 September 2017, India's National Association of Software and Services Companies signed a framework agreement with the Dalian Municipal People's Government. This agreement allows more Indian companies to enter the Chinese software market and gain competitiveness in the fields of artificial intelligence and the Internet of Things.¹⁴¹ The agreement increases research and innovation in key technologies of new industrial infrastructure, in order to overcome technological barriers and to increase cooperation in emerging industries.

On 25 January 2018, at the World Economic Forum (WEF) at Davos, India and the WEF announced their shared intention to create the Center for the Fourth Industrial Revolution in Mumbai, as a companion to the centre located in San Francisco.¹⁴² The purpose of the centre is to enhance the benefits and mitigate the risks of emerging technologies.¹⁴³ It is designed to bring together a diversity of perspectives from governments, business representatives, academics, start-ups, civil society actors and international organizations, in order to create an innovative approach to standardizing regulatory frameworks to govern the use of new technologies, such as artificial intelligence and blockchain.¹⁴⁴

On 23 January 2018, New Delhi hosted the ASEAN-India Business and Investment Meet and Expo. At the event, businessmen from India and members of the Association of South East Asian Nations (ASEAN) met to discuss how entrepreneurship and SMME growth may be encouraged in the economies of participating countries.¹⁴⁵

On 21 November 2017, India made successful use of the New Development Bank located in China. The Bank approved a loan of USD400 million to India, which will be invested in bettering irrigational infrastructure.¹⁴⁶ Specifically, the money will be used to renovate the Indira Gandhi Canal,

¹⁴¹ NASSCOM signs agreement with local Chinese government to push for AI, The Economic Times (Beijing) 20 September 2017. Access Date: 30 January 2018. <https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/tech/software/nasscom-signs-agreement-with-local-chinese-government-to-push-for-ai/articleshow/60767451.cms>

¹⁴² WEF, Reliance Industries to Set Up Center for Fourth Industrial Revolution in Mumbai, NDTV (New Delhi) 23 January 2018. Access Date: 29 January 2018. <https://www.ndtv.com/business/wef-reliance-industries-to-set-up-center-for-fourth-industrial-revolution-in-mumbai-1803799>

¹⁴³ Centre devoted to 4th Industrial Revolution to open in India, United News of India (Davos) 25 January 2018. Access Date: 29 January 2018. http://www.uniindia.com/centre-devoted-to-4th-industrial-revolution-to-open-in-india/world/news/1117302.html?fromNewsdog=1&utm_source=NewsDog&utm_medium=referral

¹⁴⁴ Centre devoted to 4th Industrial Revolution to open in India, United News of India (Davos) 25 January 2018. Access Date: 29 January 2018. http://www.uniindia.com/centre-devoted-to-4th-industrial-revolution-to-open-in-india/world/news/1117302.html?fromNewsdog=1&utm_source=NewsDog&utm_medium=referral

¹⁴⁵ India, ASEAN discuss ways to push SME, start-up ecosystem, SME Times (New Delhi) 23 January 2018. Access Date: 29 January 2018. <http://www.smetimes.in/smetimes/news/top-stories/2018/Jan/23/india-asean-sme-start-up-ecosystem36122.html>

¹⁴⁶ BRICS bank approves 400-mln-dollar loans to India, Russia, Xinhua Net (Shanghai) 21 November 2017. Access Date: 29 January 2018. http://www.xinhuanet.com/english/2017-11/21/c_136769433.htm

in order to improve infrastructure, thus allowing increased drinking water for impoverished communities and improving irrigation systems for the farming community in arid northwestern regions of India.¹⁴⁷

On 26 March 2018, China and India pledged to further enhance their trade and economic cooperation. Chinese Commerce Minister Zhong Shang presented his seven-point proposal at the 11th meeting of China-India Joint Group on Economic Relations, Trade, and Science and Technology. His presentation proposed the upgrade of Chinese-Indian joint working groups on industrial parks, and he shared Chinese experiences in setting up special economic zones to India.¹⁴⁸

On 29-30 April 2018, the first India-South Africa Business Summit was held in Johannesburg. The event was attended by Minister for Commerce, Industry and Civil Aviation Suresh Prabhu, as well as South African Minister for Trade and Industry Rob Davies. An MOU was signed between InvestSA and InvestIndia, two national investment promotion agencies, with the goal to strengthen industrial, economic and trade partnership between the two nations.¹⁴⁹ Industry representatives from Botswana, Mozambique, Swaziland and Lesotho were also present with the intention of enhancing trade and developmental relations between India and the larger Southern African region.¹⁵⁰ Following this summit, India will host a delegation from South Africa led by Deputy Minister of Trade Bulelani Magwanishe. This delegation will visit various Indian cities, in order to expand Indian investment in the South African pharmaceutical industry.¹⁵¹

On 9-10 June 2018, Russia attended the Shanghai Cooperation Organization summit, which included heads of state from Asian and European states. The SCO was hosted by China and also attended by Russian President Vladimir Putin. This meeting sought to “create favorable conditions for trade and investment and to define joint approaches to simplify trade procedures, incentivize e-trade, and develop service industry and trade in services.”¹⁵²

India cooperated with BRICS members on industrial capacities and policies and new industrial infrastructure and standards, and among SMMEs.

Thus, India receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Tarun Gannavaram Sharatkumar & Alissa Wang

¹⁴⁷ Hungry sands no more, Business Line (Jaisalmer) 15 November 2017. Access Date: 28 January 2018.

<https://www.thehindubusinessline.com/news/variety/Hungry-sands-no-more/article20418380.ece>

¹⁴⁸ China, India pledge to boost trade, economic cooperation, Xinhua News (Beijing) 26 March 2018. Access Date: 15 June 2018. http://www.xinhuanet.com/english/2018-03/26/c_137067264.htm

¹⁴⁹ First India- South Africa Business Summit Concludes (Pretoria) 2 May 2018. Access Date: 21 June 2018. <https://www.iol.co.za/pretoria-news/first-india-south-africa-business-summit-concludes-14739714>

¹⁵⁰ India-South Africa Business Summit 2018: Huge Potential for Trade; govt ready to assist in development, says Suresh Prabhu (Johannesburg) 1 May 2018. Access Date: 21 June 2018. <https://www.firstpost.com/business/india-south-africa-business-summit-2018-huge-potential-for-trade-govt-ready-to-assist-in-development-says-suresh-prabhu-4451845.html>

¹⁵¹ South Africa: Deputy Minister Magwanishe to lead investment mission to India (South Africa) 22 June 2018. Access Date: 22 June 2018. <https://www.cnbc africa.com/apo/2018/06/22/south-africa-deputy-minister-magwanishe-to-lead-investment-mission-to-india/>

¹⁵² Report on the Shanghai Cooperation Organization Qingdao Meeting, Voltaire Network (Lebanon) 10 June 2018. Access Date: 14 June 2018. <http://www.voltairenet.org/article201481.html>

China: +1

China has fully complied with its commitment to take measures towards industrial cooperation through cooperating on industrial capacities and policies, building new industrial infrastructure and strengthening cooperation in areas of standardization, and deepening cooperation in the fields of small, micro- and medium-sized enterprises (SMMEs).

On 10-13 October 2017, South Africa and China held the jointly organized International Small and Medium-Sized Enterprises Fair in Guangzhou, China. Minister of Small Business Development of South Africa Lindiwe Zulu led a delegation to attend the fair, composed of more than 30 South African enterprises from agricultural products processing, biodiesel production, engineering, infrastructure equipment development and solar energy, among other sectors. SMMEs were given the opportunity to expand contacts, share knowledge, conduct business, and create partnerships.¹⁵³

On 17 October 2017, Brazil's Agricultural Research Corporation (EMBRAPA) entered into an agreement with China to co-develop technical cooperation projects in bamboo research. This partnership will focus on the exchange of genetic material, collaborative research on the adaptation of Chinese species to Brazilian conditions, genetic characterization, conservation, and multiplication from vitro propagation techniques. This cooperation aims to strengthen the bamboo production chain in Brazil, and to enable the training of Brazilian professionals in China.¹⁵⁴

On 19 October 2017, China announced that it would host the Gold & Precious Metal Summit on 6-7 December 2017. This summit is influenced by the One Belt One Road initiative, in which China aims to enhance cooperation between mining companies from participating countries along the Silk Road.¹⁵⁵

On 23-25 September 2017, South African companies attended the 17th Annual China Mining Congress and Expo held at the Tianjin Meijiang Convention Centre in China. China signed the Comprehensive Strategic Partnership Agreement with South Africa, in which China committed to support South Africa and African initiatives of industrialization and mineral beneficiation. The China Mining Expo is "one of the world's largest mineral investment, cooperation and trading platforms that covers the whole value chain." This was also an opportunity for South African companies to meet with potential partners and generate business relations.¹⁵⁶

On 29 November 2017, Brazil and China signed a cooperation agreement to increase the import of Brazilian products in China. This partnership will enable the exploration of new areas for commercial

¹⁵³ South Africa Small Enterprise Development Department to jointly organize China International SEMs fair, South Africa-China Economic & Trade Cooperation (Beijing) 10 October 2017. Access Date: 21 January 2018. <http://www.csc.mofcom.gov.cn/ruarticle/investchina/tradepromotion/201711/272362.html>

¹⁵⁴ Brazil and China to expand cooperation on bamboo research, Successful Farming Brazil (São Paulo) 19 November 2017. Access Date: 9 January 2018. <http://sfagro.uol.com.br/brasil-e-china-vaio-ampliar-cooperacao-em-pesquisas-de-bambu/>

¹⁵⁵ 12th Anniversary of China Gold & Precious Metals Summit on 6-7 Dec in Shanghai, China, Lanka Business Online (Beijing) 19 October 2017. Access Date: February 2018. <http://www.lankabusinessonline.com/12th-anniversary-of-china-gold-precious-metals-summit-on-dec-6-7-in-shanghai-china/>

¹⁵⁶ The DTI to Lead SA Companies to Exhibit at the China Mining Congress and Expo, African Media Agency (Dubai) 14 September 2017. Access Date: 20 January 2018. <http://allafrica.com/stories/201709150644.html>

trades, and “reduce logistics costs and facilitate the exchange of experience between entrepreneurs in both countries.”¹⁵⁷

On 1 January 2018, a second line of the China-Russia oil pipeline began commercial operations. The 941 kilometer-long line starts from China’s Northeast Heilongjiang province and runs through North China’s Inner Mongolia autonomous region. This oil pipeline aims to deepen energy cooperation between Russia and China.¹⁵⁸

On 9 January 2018, the Chinese State Council issued a notice that it will ease regulations for enterprises investing in free trade zones (FTZs). China’s FTZs are a platform to test new policies such as lower interest rates and investment restrictions. FTZs operate with the goal of better integrating China’s economy with international policies.¹⁵⁹

On 16 March 2018, a consortium led by the China Communications Construction Company, a Chinese state-owned infrastructure firm, established the foundation for the construction of a port in Sao Luis. This construction project will boost regional development and strengthen economic ties between China and Brazil.¹⁶⁰ The port will have an estimated annual handling capacity of 10 million tons of cargoes, and it will integrate the logistics corridor in Brazil’s northeast region.

On 26 March 2018, China and India pledged to further enhance their trade and economic cooperation. Chinese Commerce Minister Zhong Shang presented his seven-point proposal at the 11th meeting of China-India Joint Group on Economic Relations, Trade, and Science and Technology. His presentation proposed the upgrade of Chinese-Indian joint working groups on industrial parks, and he shared Chinese experiences in setting up special economic zones to India.¹⁶¹

On 19 April 2018, National Space Administration Spokesman Li Guoping reaffirmed China’s efforts to “strengthen international cooperation in peaceful exploration and utilization of outer space.”¹⁶² These efforts include the joint development of a fourth satellite with Brazil, and advancement of the construction of a BRICS remote-sensing satellite constellation.

On 27-28 April 2018, Prime Minister of India Narendra Modi visited China to hold talks with President Xi Jinping. At this Sino-Indian summit, the two leaders pledged to improve military communications. This effort aims to “make a comprehensive plan for cooperation and to enhance strategic communications to enable timely negotiations on major issues.”¹⁶³

¹⁵⁷ China signs agreement to increase imports of Brazilian products, *Época Negócios* (São Paulo) 29 November 2017. Access Date: 25 January 2018. <http://epocanegocios.globo.com/Economia/noticia/2017/11/china-assina-acordo-para-aumentar-importacao-de-produtos-brasileiros.html>

¹⁵⁸ 2nd line of China-Russia oil link starts, ECNS (Beijing) 3 January 2018. Access Date: 1 February 2018. <http://www.ecns.cn/business/2018/01-03/286717.shtml>

¹⁵⁹ China relaxes regulations for investors in free trade zones, Xinhua News (Beijing) 9 January 2018. Access Date: 1 February 2018. http://www.xinhuanet.com/english/2018-01/09/c_136883149.htm

¹⁶⁰ Construction of Chinese-led port kicks off, aims to boost logistics capacity in NE Brazil, Xinhua News (Beijing) 17 March 2018. Access Date: 15 June 2018. <http://en.people.cn/n3/2018/0317/c90000-9438409.html>

¹⁶¹ China, India pledge to boost trade, economic cooperation, Xinhua News (Beijing) 26 March 2018. Access Date: 15 June 2018. http://www.xinhuanet.com/english/2018-03/26/c_137067264.htm

¹⁶² China strengthens international space cooperation, Space Daily (Beijing) 23 April 2018. Access Date: 15 June 2018. http://www.spacedaily.com/reports/China_strengthens_international_space_cooperation_999.html

¹⁶³ Sino-Indian summit takes the right road to economic cooperation, South China Morning Post (Hong Kong) 3 May 2018. Access Date: 14 June 2018. <http://www.scmp.com/comment/insight-opinion/article/2144417/sino-indian-summit-takes-right-road-economic-cooperation>

On 8 June 2018, Russian President Vladimir Putin visited China. During the visit, Russian Railways and the China Railway Corp signed a memorandum of understanding to establish high-speed freight railway routes linking China, Russia and Europe. The project will facilitate trade and investment between the two countries. The Russia-China Investment Fund and China Chengtong Holdings Group also signed an agreement to establish a joint USD\$1 billion industrial investment fund. This agreement will develop industrial, transport and tourism infrastructure in Russia.¹⁶⁴

On 9-10 June 2018, China hosted the Shanghai Cooperation Organization summit, which included heads of state from Asian and European states, including President of Russia Vladimir Putin and Prime Minister of India Narendra Modi. This meeting sought to “create favorable conditions for trade and investment and to define joint approaches to simplify trade procedures, incentivize e-trade, and develop service industry and trade in services.”¹⁶⁵

China cooperated with BRICS members on industrial capacities and policies, new industrial infrastructure and standards, and among SMMEs.

Thus, China receives a score of +1.

Analysts: Mary-Anne Laguna Meerasabeer and Dion Hu

South Africa: +1

South Africa has fully complied with its commitment to take measures towards industrial cooperation through cooperating on industrial capacities and policies, building new industrial infrastructure and strengthening cooperation in areas of standardization, and deepening cooperation in the fields of small, micro and medium-sized enterprises (SMMEs).

On 6 September 2017, Russia and South Africa signed a cybersecurity cooperation agreement. The agreement mentions the creation of a joint system for information communication technologies, and for joint implementation of research and development projects.¹⁶⁶

On 23-25 September 2017, South African companies attended the 17th Annual China Mining Congress and Expo at the Tianjin Meijiang Convention Centre in China. China signed the Comprehensive Strategic Partnership Agreement with South Africa, in which China committed to support South Africa and African initiatives of industrialization and mineral beneficiation. The China Mining Expo is “one of the world’s largest mineral investment, cooperation and trading platforms that covers the whole value chain.” This was also an opportunity for South African companies to meet with potential partners and generate business relations.¹⁶⁷

On 13 October 2017, South Africa co-hosted the China International Small and Medium-Sized Enterprises Fair in Guangzhou. It sent a delegation that included representatives from wine, engineering, fashion, and agriculture. South African Minister of Small Business Development Lindiwe Zulu stated that South Africa’s responsibility is “to create a conducive environment for the SMEs [small and medium-sized enterprises], and to support the SMEs in the global market.” She

¹⁶⁴ China, Russia pledge stronger ties amid global trade turmoil, CGTN (Beijing) 13 June 2018. Access Date 15 June 2018. https://news.cgtn.com/news/3d3d414e796b444d78457a6333566d54/share_p.html

¹⁶⁵ Report on the Shanghai Cooperation Organization Qingdao Meeting, Voltaire Network (Lebanon) 10 June 2018. Access Date: 14 June 2018. <http://www.voltairenet.org/article201481.html>

¹⁶⁶ South Africa and Russia sign Cybersecurity Cooperation Agreement, AFK Inside 6 September 2017. Access Date: 19 February 2018. <https://afkinsider.com/140677/south-africa-and-russia-sign-cybersecurity-cooperation-agreement/>

¹⁶⁷ The DTI to Lead SA Companies to Exhibit at the China Mining Congress and Expo, African Media Agency (Dubai) 14 September 2017. Access Date: 20 January 2018. <http://allafrica.com/stories/201709150644.html>

added that for future bilateral cooperation between South Africa and China, the two countries should “focus on the implementation of their policy agreements under the BRICS mechanism and boost academic exchanges between universities in areas of science, technology, and innovation.”¹⁶⁸

On 15 June 2018, the China-South Africa Business Forum took place in Port Elizabeth. The forum was attended by the Mayor of Nelson Mandela Bay, Anthol Trollip, the Premier of the Eastern Cape, Phumulo Masualle, and the Chinese Ambassador to South Africa, Lin Songtian. Business delegates also signed agreements of cooperation. The agreements include the Friendship Cooperation Project, the Business Cooperation Project and the South African Beef Import Strategic Cooperation Project. The forum also discussed progress in the bilateral partnership in the motoring industry.¹⁶⁹

South Africa cooperated with BRICS members on industrial capacities and policies, new industrial infrastructure and standards, and among SMMEs.

Thus, South Africa receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Alissa Xinbe Wang

¹⁶⁸ Interview: South African SMEs seek to win China Market, Xinhua News (Guangzhou) 13 October 2017. Access Date: 19 February 2018. http://www.xinhuanet.com/english/2017-10/13/c_136677136.htm

¹⁶⁹ Business comes together at China-South Africa Business Forum, R News, 16 June 2018. Access Date: 17 June 2018. <https://www.rnews.co.za/article/business-comes-together-at-china-south-africa-business-forum>

4. Terrorism: Terrorist Financing

2017-11: “We seek to intensify our cooperation in FATF [Financial Action Task Force] and FATF-style regional bodies.”

BRICS Xiamen Leaders Declaration

Assessment

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

Background

This commitment calls for all BRICS members to cooperate with the Financial Action Task Force (FATF) and FATF-style regional bodies (FSRBs), in order to reduce and stop the financing of terrorist groups. In 1990, the FATF outlined a list of 40 recommendations on combating money laundering, as well as nine additional special recommendations on terrorism financing (SRTFs). BRICS members undertake their commitment to anti-terrorist financing through national policies that adhere and support these 49 recommendations.^{170,171}

Between 2000 and 2010, all BRICS countries joined the FATF. The 2011 Sanya Summit was the first to include terrorism in its list of commitments. Since then, BRICS members have included counter-terrorism in their official commitments. Commitments related to terrorism grew from one in 2011 to five in 2015. First introduced at the 2015 Ufa Summit, this commitment focusing on terrorist financing was also reiterated at the 2016 and 2017 summits.¹⁷²

At the 2017 Xiamen Summit, there were eight commitments related to terrorism. Leaders condemned “all terrorist attacks worldwide, including attacks in BRICS countries, and condemn terrorism in all its forms and manifestations wherever committed and by whomsoever and stress that there can be no justification whatsoever for any act of terrorism.”¹⁷³

BRICS members reiterated the commitments made in previous years regarding combating terrorism by strengthening cooperation. They made a new addition to their standing commitment by including references to countering radicalization and blocking the sources of terrorist financing, in accordance with the international standards of FATEF. The shift of focus to cooperation with the FATF and FSRBs was made in a new effort to transfer the focus of counter-terrorism from direct combat and

¹⁷⁰ Forty Recommendations on combating money laundering and the financing of terrorism and proliferation, FATF February 2012. Access Date: 3 January 2018. http://www.fatf-gafi.org/media/fatf/documents/recommendations/pdfs/FATF_Recommendations.pdf

¹⁷¹ Nine Special Recommendations on Terrorism Financing, FATF October 2001. Access Date: 3 January 2018. <http://www.fatf-gafi.org/media/fatf/documents/reports/FATF%20Standards%20-%20IX%20Special%20Recommendations%20and%20IN%20rc.pdf>

¹⁷² Ufa Declaration, BRICS Information Center 9 July 2015. Access Date: 3 January 2018. http://brics.utoronto.ca/docs/150709-ufa-declaration_en.html

¹⁷³ Xiamen Declaration, BRICS Information Center 4 September 2017. Access Date: 3 January 2018. <http://brics.utoronto.ca/docs/170904-xiamen.html>

military action, to preventing money laundering activities that finance terrorism groups. Compared to prior commitments on terrorism that pressed for international cooperation on combating terrorism, this commitment of cooperation with the FATF and FSRBs focuses more on national-level action, with BRICS countries acting individually to combat terrorism-related money laundering and terrorist financing.¹⁷⁴

Commitment Features

The first requirement for compliance with this commitment is to implement the recommendations put forward by the FATF and FSRBs.

Recommendations laid out by the FATF are divided into seven categories, acting as guidelines for BRICS countries to combat terrorist financing through national policies. The FATF guidelines were formed around the Anti-Money Laundering/Combating the Financing of Terrorism (AML/CFT) policies of the International Monetary Fund (IMF).

According to the updated 2017 FATF Recommendations, the seven categories are as follows:

1. Compliance with AML/CFT policies and coordination
2. Confiscation and prevention of money laundering
3. Preventing terrorist financing and the financing of proliferation, and placing targeted sanctions against institutions that support these activities
4. Preventive measures against suspicious financial activities and potential terrorism funding or money laundering
5. Transparency and beneficial ownership of legal persons and arrangements
6. Regulation and supervision of financial institutions, and enforcement of AML/CFT policies
7. International cooperation in enforcement, legal assistance and extradition¹⁷⁵

In addition, the nine SRTFs are as follows:

1. Ratification and implementation of the 1999 United Nations International Convention for the Suppression of the Financing of Terrorism
2. Criminalizing the financing of terrorism and associated money laundering
3. Freezing and confiscating terrorist assets
4. Reporting suspicious transactions related to terrorism
5. International cooperation on the investigation and enforcement in the effort to preventing terrorism financing

¹⁷⁴ Xiamen Declaration, BRICS Information Center 4 September 2017. Access Date: 3 January 2018. <http://brics.utoronto.ca/docs/170904-xiamen.html>

¹⁷⁵ Forty Recommendations on combating money laundering and the financing of terrorism and proliferation, FATF February 2012. Access Date: 3 January 2018. http://www.fatf-gafi.org/media/fatf/documents/recommendations/pdfs/FATF_Recommendations.pdf

6. The enforcement of FATF recommendations on persons or entities that provide financial transmission services
7. The enforcement upon financial institutions to monitor wire transfers for suspicious activities
8. The monitoring of non-profit organizations for suspicious activities
9. Implementing systems to detect and deter cash couriers for terrorist organizations¹⁷⁶

FSRBs have adapted FATF recommendations to regional circumstances. Recommendations from the FATF and FSRBs overlap significantly, and thus compliance with one can be considered compliance with the other as well.

The second requirement for compliance with this commitment is its BRICS-specific aspect, which requiring a BRICS member to act bilaterally or multilaterally with other BRICS countries in fulfilling FATF recommendations. Cooperation with non-BRICS members would fall under compliance with the recommendations of the FATF and FSRBs, but would not be counted towards the second part of the commitment. This is because the main purpose of the commitment seeks to intensify cooperation between BRICS countries towards FATF compliance and counter-terrorism.

Scoring Guidelines

-1	BRICS member did NOT take actions consistent with and FATF-style regional bodies (FSRBs).
0	BRICS member took action(s) consistent with FATF and FSRB recommendations but NO actions with bilateral/multilateral BRICS cooperation.
+1	BRICS member took action(s) consistent with FATF and FSRB recommendations AND with bilateral/multilateral BRICS cooperation.

Brazil: +1

Brazil has fully complied with its commitment to take action consistent with recommendations of the Financial Action Task Force (FATF) and FATF-style regional bodies (FSRBs) and with bilateral/multilateral BRICS cooperation.

On 19 September 2017, President Michel Temer made a statement during the opening of the annual General Debate of the 72nd United Nations General Assembly (UNGA). He called for international nuclear disarmament and increased cooperation and unity in the fight against terrorism.¹⁷⁷

On 17 October 2017, the Minister of Foreign Affairs Aloysio Nunes Ferreira held a discussion on trilateral cooperation with India's Union Minister of State for External Affairs Vijay Kumar Singh and South Africa's Minister of International Relations and Cooperation Maite Nkoana-Mashabane.¹⁷⁸

¹⁷⁶ Nine Special Recommendations on Terrorism Financing, FATF October 2001. Access Date: 3 January 2018. <http://www.fatf-gafi.org/media/fatf/documents/reports/FATF%20Standards%20-%20IX%20Special%20Recommendations%20and%20IN%20rc.pdf>

¹⁷⁷ Temer advocates nuclear disarmament and peacemaking to promote security, Planalto (Brasília) 19 September 2017. Access Date: 3 February 2018. <http://www2.planalto.gov.br/acompanhe-planalto/noticias/2017/09/temer-defende-desarmamento-nuclear-e-pacificacao-para-promover-seguranca>

¹⁷⁸ International Relations and Cooperation on IBSA Trilateral Ministerial Commission meeting, Department of International Relations and Cooperation (Pretoria) 17 October 2017. Access Date: 3 February 2018. <https://www.gov.za/speeches/8th-ibsa-trilateral-ministerial-commission-meeting-17-oct-2017-0000>

The ministers condemned terrorism in all its forms, and called for the implementation of the Comprehensive Convention on International Terrorism at UNGA.¹⁷⁹

On 3 November 2017, Brazil committed to an action plan to address deficient financial sanctions related to terrorism and terrorist financing, after the FATF identified persistent deficiencies in its review of Brazil's actions at the FATF plenary on 1-3 November 2017.¹⁸⁰

On 23 November 2017, the 79 bodies in the National Strategy to Combat Corruption and Money Laundering met at their 15th Plenary Meeting, where they outlined 11 actions to be implemented in 2018, revolving primarily around reducing organized crime, corruption, and money laundering within Brazil.¹⁸¹ The Minister of Justice and Public Security Torquato Jardim attended the plenary meeting, where he defended the use of technology and integration in fighting money laundering and organized crime in Brazil. He cited the importance of technological efficiency in allowing government bodies to contain money laundering activities.¹⁸²

On 5 December 2017, President Temer and Bolivian President Evo Morales signed a bilateral agreement to improve cooperation on security and transportation-related issues, including cooperation on combating organized crime and terrorism.¹⁸³

On 15 December 2017, President Temer introduced the National Intelligence Strategy (ENINT), a decree outlining Brazil's intelligence strategy, and expanding upon the previous policy released in 2016.¹⁸⁴ The decree also outlines provisions in which Brazil's intelligence strategy focuses on counter-terrorism initiatives through methods of data collection, in order to prevent and mitigate terrorist activities.¹⁸⁵

On 4 May 2018, the Ministry of Finance's Council of Control of Financial Activities (COAF) issued a new resolution on the prevention of money laundering and terrorist financing.¹⁸⁶ The resolution

¹⁷⁹ International Relations and Cooperation on IBSA Trilateral Ministerial Commission meeting, Department of International Relations and Cooperation (Pretoria) 17 October 2017. Access Date: 3 February 2018. <https://www.gov.za/speeches/8th-ibsa-trilateral-ministerial-commission-meeting-17-oct-2017-0000>

¹⁸⁰ Outcomes Joint FATF/GAFILAT Plenary, 1-3 November 2017, FATF (Buenos Aires) 3 November 2017. Access Date: 3 February 2018.

http://www.dt.tesoro.it/export/sites/sitodt/modules/documenti_it/prevenzione_reati_finanziari/prevenzione_reati_finanziari/FATF_Outcomes_Joint_FATF_GAFILAT_of_the_Plenary_meeting__Nov_2017.pdf

¹⁸¹ New anti-corruption and money laundering actions announced, Ministry of Justice and Public Security (Campina Grande) 23 November 2017. Access Date: 3 February 2018. <http://www.justica.gov.br/news/acoes-de-combate-a-corrupcao-e-a-lavagem-de-dinheiro-para-2018-sao-anunciadas-na-enccla>

¹⁸² New anti-corruption and money laundering actions announced, Ministry of Justice and Public Security (Campina Grande) 23 November 2017. Access Date: 3 February 2018. <http://www.justica.gov.br/news/acoes-de-combate-a-corrupcao-e-a-lavagem-de-dinheiro-para-2018-sao-anunciadas-na-enccla>

¹⁸³ Brazil and Bolivia sign agreements on security and transportation, BrazilGovNews (Brasilia) 5 December 2017. Access Date: 3 February 2018. <http://www.brazilgovnews.gov.br/news/2017/12/brazil-and-bolivia-sign-agreements-on-security-and-transportation>

¹⁸⁴ Decreto De 15 De Dezembro De 2017, Casa Civil (Brasília) 15 December 2017. Access Date: 3 February 2018. http://www.planalto.gov.br/ccivil_03/_ato2015-2018/2017/Dsn/Dsn14503.htm

¹⁸⁵ Decreto De 15 De Dezembro De 2017, Casa Civil (Brasília) 15 December 2017. Access Date: 3 February 2018. http://www.planalto.gov.br/ccivil_03/_ato2015-2018/2017/Dsn/Dsn14503.htm

¹⁸⁶ RESOLUÇÃO Nº 30, DE 4 DE MAIO DE 2018, Ministry of Finance (Brasília) 9 May 2018. Access Date: 14 June 2018. <http://www.coaf.fazenda.gov.br/menu/legislacao-e-normas/normas-do-coaf/resolucao-no-30-de-4-de-maio-de-2018>

targets uncommon transactions of large sums of money, which under the resolution, must be documented and reported to COAF by the agent performing the transfer of funds.¹⁸⁷

On 18 May 2018, COAF launched a course on the “Prevention of Money Laundering and Terrorist Financing” in collaboration with the School of Finance Administration, targeting both supervised persons as well as society in general.¹⁸⁸

On 22 May 2018, Acting Minister of Foreign Affairs, Secretary General Marcos Galvao met with United States Deputy Secretary of State John Sullivan in Brasilia to discuss bilateral cooperation.¹⁸⁹ They released a joint statement announcing the launch of the U.S.-Brazil Permanent Forum on Security, in a joint effort to boost bilateral cooperation on money laundering, financial crimes, terrorism, and other key issues.¹⁹⁰

Brazil took actions against terrorism, terrorist financing, and money laundering through commitments and legislation consistent with recommendations from the FATF and FSRBs, directly addressing existing policy deficiencies outlined by the FATF. In addition, Brazil increased its cooperation on these three issues with multiple other countries, including South Africa and India, both of which are also BRICS members.

Thus, Brazil receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Ian Stansbury

Russia: +1

Russia has fully complied with its commitment to take action(s) consistent with recommendations of the Financial Action Task Force (FATF) and FATF-style regional bodies (FSRBs) and with bilateral/multilateral BRICS cooperation.

On 13 September 2017, the Russian Ministry of Foreign Affairs released a statement on Russia’s position at the 72nd session of the United Nations General Assembly, where Russia affirmed the importance of international cooperation in the fight against terrorism. It also reaffirmed its support and implementation of the UN Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy.¹⁹¹

On 25 September 2017, Russian and Pakistani special forces began the Druzba 2017 joint counter-terrorism program, aimed at improving military ties and counter-terrorism tactics between Russia and Pakistan.¹⁹²

¹⁸⁷ RESOLUÇÃO Nº 30, DE 4 DE MAIO DE 2018, Ministry of Finance (Brasília) 9 May 2018. Access Date: 14 June 2018. <http://www.coaf.fazenda.gov.br/menu/legislacao-e-normas/normas-do-coaf/resolucao-no-30-de-4-de-maio-de-2018>

¹⁸⁸ COAF lança Curso a Distância sobre “Prevenção à Lavagem de Dinheiro e ao Financiamento do Terrorismo (PLD/FT)”, Ministry of Finance (Brasília) 18 May 2018. Access Date: 14 June 2018. https://coaf.fazenda.gov.br/Banners/Banners_do_carrossel/lancamento-do-curso-a-distancia-sobre-201cprevencao-a-lavagem-de-dinheiro-e-ao-financiamento-do-terrorismo-pld-ft/view

¹⁸⁹ U.S.-Brazil Bilateral Cooperation, U.S. Department of State (Washington, DC) 22 May 2018. Access Date: 14 June 2018. <https://www.state.gov/r/pa/prs/ps/2018/05/282382.htm>

¹⁹⁰ U.S.-Brazil Bilateral Cooperation, U.S. Department of State (Washington, DC) 22 May 2018. Access Date: 14 June 2018. <https://www.state.gov/r/pa/prs/ps/2018/05/282382.htm>

¹⁹¹ Russia’s position at the 72nd session of the UN General Assembly, Ministry of Foreign Affairs (Moscow) 13 September 2017. Access Date: 3 February 2018. http://www.mid.ru/en/web/guest/general_assembly/-/asset_publisher/lrzZMhfoyrUj/content/id/2862272

¹⁹² Pakistan, Russian militaries hold joint anti-terror exercises, Xinhua (Islamabad) 25 September 2017. Access Date: 3 February 2018. http://www.xinhuanet.com/english/2017-09/25/c_136636406.htm

On 9 October 2017, President Vladimir Putin published a decree amending military service requirements, in order to allow foreigners to join the counter-terrorism and peacekeeping divisions of the military, and to boost Russia's counter-terrorism capacity abroad.¹⁹³

On 25 October 2017, the Ministry of Defence delivered a donation of weapons, ammunition, and military equipment to the Philippines, to be used primarily for counter-terrorism operations by the Philippines military.¹⁹⁴

On 29 October to 3 November 2017, a Russian delegation composed of representatives of the Federal Financial Monitoring Service, the Government Office, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Ministry of Internal Affairs, the Federal Customs Service and the Central Bank attended the FATF plenary in Buenos Aires.¹⁹⁵ The delegation outlined Russia's ongoing counter-terrorism and anti-money laundering initiatives.¹⁹⁶ Russia also submitted a report titled "The Financing of Recruitment for Terrorist Purposes" on the topic of terrorist financing strategies. This report was accepted and will be published by the FATF.¹⁹⁷

On 11 November 2017, President Putin released a joint statement with United States President Donald Trump, in which they agreed to cooperate in resolving the conflict in Syria, and defeating the so-called Islamic State of Iraq and al-Sham (ISIS), and fully implementing of UN Security Council (UNSC) Resolution 2254. The UN released UNSC Resolution 2254 on 18 December 2015, calling for a ceasefire in Syria and for the conflict to be resolved through formal negotiations.¹⁹⁸

On 12 November 2017, Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov met with Baron Waqa, President and Minister of Foreign Affairs and Trade of the Republic of Nauru. In this meeting, they agreed to increase cooperation in combating money laundering and terrorism financing.¹⁹⁹

On 14 November 2017, Prime Minister Dmitry Medvedev attended the 12th East Asia Summit and participated in the leaders' declaration on anti-money laundering and anti-terrorism financing. The declaration called for the implementation of UNSC resolutions on "threats to international peace and

¹⁹³ Указ Президента Российской Федерации от 08.10.2017 № 469 "О внесении изменений в Положение о порядке прохождения военной службы, утвержденное Указом Президента Российской Федерации от 16 сентября 1999 г. № 1237" (Decree of the President of the Russian Federation of 08.10.2017 No. 469 "On Amendments to the Regulations on the Procedure for Military Service, approved by the Decree of the President of the Russian Federation of September 16, 1999 No. 1237"), Официальный интернет-портал правовой информации (Moscow) 9 October 2017. Access Date: 3 February 2018. <http://publication.pravo.gov.ru/Document/View/0001201710090001>

¹⁹⁴ Russia donates rifles, ammo and trucks to PH, Manila Bulletin (Manila) 25 October 2017. Access Date: 3 February 2018. <https://news.mb.com.ph/2017/10/25/russia-donates-rifles-ammo-and-trucks-to-ph/>

¹⁹⁵ On the results of the FATF plenary meeting, Federal Financial Monitoring Service (Moscow) 3 November 2017. Access Date: 3 February 2018. <http://www.fedsfm.ru/releases/2816>

¹⁹⁶ Outcomes Joint FATF/GAFILAT Plenary, 1-3 November 2017, FATF (Buenos Aires) 3 November 2017. Access Date: 3 February 2018. <http://www.fatf-gafi.org/publications/fatfgeneral/documents/outcomes-plenary-november-2017.html>

¹⁹⁷ Joint Statement by the President of the United States and the President of the Russian Federation, US Department of State (Washington) 11 November 2017. Access Date: 3 February 2018.

<https://www.state.gov/r/pa/prs/ps/2017/11/275459.htm>

¹⁹⁸ Resolution 2254 (2015), UNSCR (New York) 18 December 2015. Access Date: 3 February 2018.

http://www.securitycouncilreport.org/atf/cf/%7B65BF9B-6D27-4E9C-8CD3-CF6E4FF96FF9%7D/s_res_2254.pdf

¹⁹⁹ Press release on Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov's meeting with President and Minister of Foreign Affairs and Trade of the Republic of Nauru Baron Waqa, Ministry of Foreign Affairs (Moscow) 12 November 2017. Access Date: 3 February 2018. http://www.mid.ru/en/web/guest/maps/nr/-/asset_publisher/EYw500z6kgNh/content/id/2944638

security caused by terrorism,” and for greater international cooperation on countering terrorism financing and money laundering.²⁰⁰

On 21 November 2017, President Putin spoke with U.S. President Trump, and they reaffirmed their commitment to cooperating in the implementation of UNSC Resolution 2254 and combating terrorism in the Middle East and Central Asia.²⁰¹

On 21 November 2017, President Putin made an opening statement at the 27th plenary of the Eurasian Group on Combating Money Laundering and Financing of Terrorism. He outlined the importance of international cooperation between group’s members in countering terrorism and terrorist financing.²⁰²

On 27 November 2017, Minister for Internal Affairs Vladimir Kolokoltsev met with the Home Minister of India Rajnath Singh to discuss the importance of cooperation between Russia and India in combating terrorism, extremism, and radicalism. They also signed a comprehensive counter-terrorism agreement on the basis that “terrorism must be fought unitedly and there [are] no good or bad terrorists.”²⁰³

On 6 December 2017, First Deputy Defence Minister Valery Gerasimov announced that the Defense Ministry is ready to collaborate with U.S. counterparts to combat ISIS in the western regions of Iraq. This announcement also outlined the importance of international cooperation in ensuring the impossibility of ISIS’s revival.²⁰⁴

On 11 December 2017, Foreign Minister Lavrov met with Chinese Foreign Minister Wang Yi and Indian Foreign Minister Sushma Swaraj. The three parties agreed to boost trilateral cooperation on counter-terrorism operations and efforts.²⁰⁵

On 3 April 2018, the Ministry of Internal Affairs and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs hosted the “Priority Tasks of International Cooperation in Countering Extremism and Terrorism” conference.²⁰⁶ Minister of Internal Affairs Vladimir Kolokoltsev noted the importance of

²⁰⁰ East Asia Summit Leaders’ Declaration on Anti-Money Laundering and Countering the Financing of Terrorism, Association of Southeast Asian Nations (Manila) 14 November 2017. Access Date: 3 February 2018. http://asean.org/storage/2017/11/1.-FINAL_EAS-AML-and-CFT-Leaders-Statement-14-Nov-2017.pdf

²⁰¹ Readout of President Donald J. Trump’s Call with President Vladimir V. Putin of Russia, White House (Washington) 21 November 2017. Access Date: 3 February 2018. <https://www.whitehouse.gov/briefings-statements/readout-president-donald-j-trumps-call-president-vladimir-v-putin-russia/>

²⁰² On the Outcomes of the 27th EAG Plenary and working groups meetings, Federal Financial Monitoring Service (Moscow) 24 November 2017. Access Date: 3 February 2018. <http://www.fedsfm.ru/en/news/2902>

²⁰³ India, Russia sign comprehensive counter terror pact; agree no good or bad terrorists, The Economic Times (New Delhi) 27 November 2017. Access Date: 3 February 2018. <https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/defence/india-russia-sign-comprehensive-counter-terror-pact-agree-no-good-or-bad-terrorists/articleshow/61821754.cms>

²⁰⁴ Russia ready to help US destroy Islamic State terrorists in Iraq, Russian News Agency TASS (Moscow) 6 December 2017. Access Date: 3 February 2018. <http://tass.com/defense/979468>

²⁰⁵ Russia & China joins India to counter state sponsored terror, The Economic Times (New Delhi) 12 December 2017. Access Date: 1 February 2018. <https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/politics-and-nation/russia-china-joins-india-to-counter-state-sponsored-terror/articleshow/62021396.cms>

²⁰⁶ Vladimir Kolokoltsev took part in international scientific and practical conference on cooperation in countering extremism and terrorism, Ministry of Internal Affairs (Moscow) 3 April 2018. Access Date: 14 June 2018. <https://en.mvd.ru/news/item/12697100>

international cooperation through organizations such as United Nations and the Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO) in the fight against terrorism.²⁰⁷

On 4-5 April 2018, the Ministry of Defense hosted the 7th Moscow Conference on International Security, during which the United Nations Under-Secretary-General for Counter-Terrorism Vladimir Voronkov called for increased international cooperation between UN Member States in countering the financing of terrorism.²⁰⁸

On 3-4 May 2018, Deputy Foreign Minister Oleg Syromolotov attended the High-Level International Conference on “Countering Terrorism and Preventing Violent Extremism,” and participated in the signing of the Dushanbe Declaration.²⁰⁹ The declaration called for the recognition of terrorism as an issue that needs to be solved internationally through inter-state and inter-agency cooperation, and pointed to the financing of terrorism as a major issue to address.²¹⁰

On 10-11 May 2018, a delegation led by Deputy Foreign Minister Syromolotov attended the annual Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe Counter-Terrorism Conference in Rome.²¹¹ Deputy Minister Syromolotov called for “greater international counter-terrorism cooperation,” and reiterated the discussions at the Ministry of Internal Affairs’ counter-terrorism conference on 3 April 2018.²¹²

On 14 May 2018, Deputy Foreign Minister Syromolotov attended the 27th session of the UN Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice in Vienna.²¹³ He reiterated Russia’s commitment to combating terrorism, and called for increased cooperation in suppressing terrorism and the financing of terrorism.²¹⁴

On 17 May 2018, Deputy Foreign Minister Syromolotov met with the Swiss Federal Department of Foreign Affairs Ambassador-at-Large for International Counter-Terrorism Stephan Husy.²¹⁵ They

²⁰⁷ Vladimir Kolokoltsev took part in international scientific and practical conference on cooperation in countering extremism and terrorism, Ministry of Internal Affairs (Moscow) 3 April 2018. Access Date: 14 June 2018. <https://en.mvd.ru/news/item/12697100>

²⁰⁸ Statement by Mr. Vladimir Voronkov Under-Secretary-General for Counter-Terrorism, UN Office of Counter-Terrorism (Moscow) 5 April 2018. Access Date: 14 June 2018.

²⁰⁹ Dushanbe Declaration, Government of the Republic of Tajikistan (Dushanbe) 4 May 2018. Access Date: 14 June 2018. <http://www.dushanbeconf2018.tj/declaration>

²¹⁰ Dushanbe Declaration, Government of the Republic of Tajikistan (Dushanbe) 4 May 2018. Access Date: 14 June 2018. <http://www.dushanbeconf2018.tj/declaration>

²¹¹ Press release on the annual OSCE-wide Counter-Terrorism Conference, Ministry of Defense (Moscow) 11 May 2018. Access Date: 14 June 2018. http://www.mid.ru/en/web/guest/foreign_policy/news/-/asset_publisher/cKNonkJE02Bw/content/id/3218784

²¹² Press release on the annual OSCE-wide Counter-Terrorism Conference, Ministry of Defense (Moscow) 11 May 2018. Access Date: 14 June 2018. http://www.mid.ru/en/web/guest/foreign_policy/news/-/asset_publisher/cKNonkJE02Bw/content/id/3218784

²¹³ Statement by Deputy Foreign Minister and head of the Russian delegation Oleg Syromolotov at the 27th session of the UN Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice, Vienna, May 14, 2018, Ministry of Defense (Moscow) 14 May 2018. Access Date: 14 June 2018. http://www.mid.ru/en/web/guest/foreign_policy/un/-/asset_publisher/U1StPbE8y3al/content/id/3222491

²¹⁴ Statement by Deputy Foreign Minister and head of the Russian delegation Oleg Syromolotov at the 27th session of the UN Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice, Vienna, May 14, 2018, Ministry of Defense (Moscow) 14 May 2018. Access Date: 14 June 2018. http://www.mid.ru/en/web/guest/foreign_policy/un/-/asset_publisher/U1StPbE8y3al/content/id/3222491

²¹⁵ Press release on Russian-Swiss anti-terror consultations, Ministry of Defense (Moscow) 17 May 2018. Access Date: 14 June 2018. http://www.mid.ru/en/web/guest/maps/ch/-/asset_publisher/OGeZPtOO3ptm/content/id/3227822

held consultations and discussed the possibility of increased cooperation between Russia and Switzerland on the issue of suppressing international terrorism.²¹⁶

On 1 June 2018, President Putin met with Abu Dhabi Crown Prince Sheikh Mohammed bin Zayed Al Nahyan in Moscow, where they signed a cooperative agreement on security and energy between Russia and the United Arab Emirates (UAE).²¹⁷ The agreement included a commitment from Russia and the UAE to increase cooperative efforts to combat all forms of terrorism, and called upon other states to join their coalition against terrorism and extremism.²¹⁸

On 2 June 2018, Deputy Minister Syromolotov met with his Turkish counterpart Kaan Esener in Ankara, where they held consultations on combating terrorism.²¹⁹ Both ministers called for increased bilateral cooperation between Russia and Turkey in combating terrorism.²²⁰

On 4 June 2018, Foreign Minister Lavrov met with fellow BRICS-countries and counterparts in Pretoria to discuss progress made on commitments for the current compliance cycle.²²¹ All ministers agreed that continued cooperation was necessary between both BRICS and non-BRICS states, in order to address the issues of terrorism and terrorist financing.²²²

On 10 June 2018, President Putin attended the 18th SCO summit in Qingdao and participated in the signing of the Qingdao Declaration.²²³ The declaration called for the implementation of a treaty to combat international terrorism, which was signed between SCO member states.²²⁴

Russia took actions against terrorism, terrorist financing, and money laundering through commitments and legislation consistent with recommendations from the FATF and FSRBs, in addition to significant contributions to the FATF and FSRB plenary meetings. In addition, Russia increased its cooperation on these three issues with multiple other countries including China and India, both of which are also BRICS members.

²¹⁶ Press release on Russian-Swiss anti-terror consultations, Ministry of Defense (Moscow) 17 May 2018. Access Date: 14 June 2018. http://www.mid.ru/en/web/guest/maps/ch/-/asset_publisher/OGeZPtOO3ptm/content/id/3227822

²¹⁷ UAE, Russia Call to Establish Broad Int'l Coalition to Fight Terrorism, Sputnik News (Moscow) 1 June 2018. Access Date: 14 June 2018. <https://sputniknews.com/world/201806011065017004-uae-russia-broad-coalition-fight-terrorism/>

²¹⁸ UAE, Russia Call to Establish Broad Int'l Coalition to Fight Terrorism, Sputnik News (Moscow) 1 June 2018. Access Date: 14 June 2018. <https://sputniknews.com/world/201806011065017004-uae-russia-broad-coalition-fight-terrorism/>

²¹⁹ Press release on Russia-Turkey interagency consultations on the issues of combating terrorism and organized crime, Ministry of Defense (Moscow) 2 June 2018. Access Date: 14 June 2018. http://www.mid.ru/en/web/guest/maps/tr/-/asset_publisher/Fn23Klb76LY2/content/id/3247142

²²⁰ Press release on Russia-Turkey interagency consultations on the issues of combating terrorism and organized crime, Ministry of Defense (Moscow) 2 June 2018. Access Date: 14 June 2018. http://www.mid.ru/en/web/guest/maps/tr/-/asset_publisher/Fn23Klb76LY2/content/id/3247142

²²¹ Meeting of the BRICS Ministers of Foreign Affairs and International Relations, Department of International Relations and Cooperation (Pretoria) 4 June 2018. Access Date: 14 June 2018. <https://www.gov.za/speeches/meeting-brics-ministers-foreign-affairs-and-international-relations-4-jun-2018-0000>

²²² Meeting of the BRICS Ministers of Foreign Affairs and International Relations, Department of International Relations and Cooperation (Pretoria) 4 June 2018. Access Date: 14 June 2018. <https://www.gov.za/speeches/meeting-brics-ministers-foreign-affairs-and-international-relations-4-jun-2018-0000>

²²³ SCO Qingdao declaration calls for common ground to face global challenges, Xinhua News (Qingdao) 10 June 2018. Access Date: 14 June 2018. http://www.xinhuanet.com/english/2018-06/10/c_137244992.htm

²²⁴ SCO Qingdao declaration calls for common ground to face global challenges, Xinhua News (Qingdao) 10 June 2018. Access Date: 14 June 2018. http://www.xinhuanet.com/english/2018-06/10/c_137244992.htm

Thus, Russia receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Ian Stansbury

India: +1

India has fully complied with its commitment to take action consistent with recommendations of the Financial Action Task Force (FATF) and FATF-style regional bodies (FSRBs) and with bilateral/multilateral BRICS cooperation.

On 26 September 2017, India's Permanent Representative to the United Nations, Syed Akbaruddin, called on the UN Security Council to apply sanctions against those funding terrorist activities in Afghanistan.²²⁵

On 1-3 November 2017, an Indian delegation attended the joint plenary of the FATF and the Financial Action Task Force of Latin America in Buenos Aires. India advocated for placing Pakistan back on a three-month reporting cycle due to Pakistan's insufficient efforts to freeze the assets of various terrorist groups. This proposal was successfully adopted with the support of other countries such as Russia and the United States.²²⁶

On 13 November 2017, the Indian government shifted all FATF work from economic affairs to the revenue department, on the basis of and in accordance with FATF recommendations.²²⁷

On 21-24 November 2017, an Indian delegation attended the plenary of the Eurasian Group on Combating Money Laundering and Financing of Terrorism (EAG) hosted by the Russian Federation in Moscow.²²⁸

On 11-12 January 2018, an Indian delegation attended a workshop for judges and prosecutors on anti-money laundering and countering terrorist financing. This workshop was organized by the FATF, EAG and Asia/Pacific Group on Money Laundering, all of which India is a member. This workshop was hosted by the People's Bank of China in Shenzhen.²²⁹

On 1 February 2018, the Ministry of Finance announced that the Finance Act 2018 made amendments to the Prevention of Money-laundering Act (passed in 2002) to widen its scope, enhance its effectiveness, and erase the Act's procedural issues during prosecutions under it.²³⁰

²²⁵ UN Security Council Must Use Sanctions Against Terror Funding In Afghanistan: India, NDTV.com 26 September 2017. Access Date: 3 March 2018. <https://www.ndtv.com/india-news/un-security-council-must-use-sanctions-against-terror-funding-in-afghanistan-india-1755464>

²²⁶ Big Win for India: Terror Funding Watchdog Puts Pakistan on Notice over Lashkar, JuD. ThePrint (New Delhi) 4 November 2017. Access Date: 3 March 2018. www.theprint.in/2017/11/04/fatf-big-win-india-pakistan/

²²⁷ FATF Related Work out of DEA's Domain, GST under Revenue Department, The Times of India (New Delhi) 13 November 2017. Access Date: 3 March 2018. <https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/business/india-business/fatf-related-work-out-of-deas-domain-gst-under-revenue-department/articleshow/61630909.cms>

²²⁸ On the Results of the 27th EAG Plenary Meeting, The Eurasian Group on Combating Money Laundering and Financing of Terrorism (Moscow) 24 November 2017. Access Date: 3 March 2018. www.eurasiangroup.org/detail/news1/on_the_results_of_the_27th_eag_plenary_meeting/

²²⁹ Second Workshop on the Role of Judges and Prosecutors in Tackling Money Laundering and Terrorist Financing, The Eurasian Group on Combating Money Laundering and Financing of Terrorism (Shenzhen) 15 January 2018, Access Date: 3 March 2018.

http://www.eurasiangroup.org/detail/news1/second_workshop_on_the_role_of_judges_and_prosecutors/

²³⁰ Amendments Made to Prevention of Money-Laundering Act, India.com (New Delhi) 1 February 2018, v www.india.com/news/agencies/amendments-made-to-prevention-of-money-laundering-act-2874104/.

On 21-23 February 2018, an Indian delegation attended the FATF Plenary meeting hosted in Paris.²³¹

On 27-28 February 2018, an Indian delegation attended a workshop for judges and prosecutors on the topics of investigating and prosecuting money laundering, terrorism financing and confiscating criminal procedures. This workshop was hosted in Tunis by the Tunisian Financial Analysis Committee, and organized by the FATF and several FATF-Style Regional Bodies.²³²

On 25-26 April 2018, an Indian delegation attended an international conference on combating the financing of Daesh and Al-Qaeda. The conference was held between the Ministers and Heads of international organizations in Paris, upon the invitation of French President Emmanuel Macron.²³³

On 4 June 2018, during her trip to the BRICS Foreign Ministers meeting in South Africa, External Affairs Minister Sushma Swaraj called for a joint BRICS counter-terrorism strategy which prioritizes “money laundering, terrorist-finance, cyber-space and de-radicalization as our priorities.” She also shared the Indian leaders’ call to increase the efficiency and effectiveness of the UN Counter Terrorism framework. She reiterated India’s commitment to the counter-terrorism mandate under South Africa’s BRICS Presidency.²³⁴

On 9-10 June 2018, an Indian delegation including Prime Minister Narendra Modi attended the Shanghai Cooperation Organization Summit with seven other countries, including China and Russia. At the summit, the SCO member states collectively condemned terrorism and called for the “creation of a unified global counter-terrorism front with the central coordinating role of the UN on the basis of international law.” They spoke of many ways to combat terrorism and its growth, which included blocking terrorism financing and the provision of material and technical support.²³⁵

During the compliance period, India took actions against terrorism, terrorist financing and money laundering through commitments and legislation consistent with recommendations from the FATF and FSRBs. In addition, India increased its cooperation on these three issues with other BRICS members.

Thus, India receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Ramsha Naveed

²³¹ Outcomes FATF Plenary, 21-23 February 2018, FATF (Paris) 23 February 2018. Access Date: 15 June 2018.

<http://www.fatf-gafi.org/publications/fatfgeneral/documents/outcomes-plenary-february-2018.html>

²³² FATF workshop on the role of judges and prosecutors in tackling money laundering and terrorist financing in Africa and the Middle East, FATF (Tunis) 28 February 2018. Access Date: 15 June 2018. <http://www.fatf-gafi.org/publications/fatfgeneral/documents/workshop-judges-prosecutors-february-2018.html>

²³³ India sends high-level delegation to Paris meet on combating terror financing, The Economic Times (New Delhi) 25 April 2018. Access Date: 15 June 2018. <https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/defence/more-than-70-nations-hold-talks-on-terror-financing-in-paris/articleshow/63908874.cms>

²³⁴ BRICS meet: Sushma Swaraj calls for joint action against money laundering, terror funding, The Week (Pretoria) 5 June 2017. Access Date: 15 June 2018. <https://www.theweek.in/news/india/2018/06/05/brics-meet-sushma-swaraj-money-laundering-terror-funding.html>

²³⁵ SCO Summit calls for global front under UN coordination to fight terror groups, The New Indian Express (Qingdao) 10 June 2018. Access Date: 15 June 2018. <http://www.newindianexpress.com/world/2018/jun/10/sco-summit-calls-for-global-front-under-un-coordination-to-fight-terror-groups-1826229.html>

China: +1

China has fully complied with its commitment to take action consistent recommendations of the Financial Action Task Force (FATF) and FATF-style regional bodies (FSRBs) and with bilateral/multilateral BRICS cooperation.

On 8 September 2017, Meng Jianzhu, head of the Commission for Political and Legal Affairs of the Communist Party of China (CPC) Central Committee, met with Foreign Minister of Pakistan Khawaja Asif and National Security Advisor Nasser Khan in Beijing, where they agreed to strengthen bilateral cooperation on anti-terrorism and security issues.²³⁶

On 11 September 2017, Meng Jianzhu met with Deputy Prime Minister and Interior Minister of Serbia Nebojsa Stefanovic and agreed to increase bilateral cooperation between China and Serbia in fighting organized crime and terrorism.²³⁷

On 13 September 2017, the State Council General Office released a statement announcing that China will increase its measures in the fight against money laundering, terrorism financing, and tax evasion, with a pledge to have a legal and regulatory system in place by 2020.²³⁸

On 21 September 2017, Meng Jianzhu pledged to increase the use of artificial intelligence in the fight against terrorism and social unrest, in order to increase efficiency and response times.²³⁹

On 27 September 2017, at the 86th session of Interpol General Assembly in Beijing, Minister of Public Security Guo Shengkun met with Director General of Public Security and the Head of State Delegation of Qatar, Major General Saad bin Jassim Al Khulaifi.²⁴⁰ The leaders signed an agreement to enhance cooperation between China and Qatar in combating terrorism, terrorist financing and extremism.²⁴¹

On 29 September 2017, the State Council of China officially published the guiding principles for strengthening institutional regulations with regards to anti-money laundering, anti-terrorist financing, and anti-tax evasion — also known as the Three-Antis Instructions.²⁴² This government-issued document listed more than 20 measures to guide and support anti-money laundering actions from six

²³⁶ China, Pakistan agree to strengthen security cooperation, Xinhua News (Beijing) 8 September 2017. Access Date: 1 February 2018. http://www.xinhuanet.com/english/2017-09/08/c_136595334_2.htm

²³⁷ China, Serbia vow more cooperation on security, Xinhua News (Beijing) 11 September 2017. Access Date: 1 February 2018. http://www.xinhuanet.com/english/2017-09/11/c_136601405.htm

²³⁸ Govt to step up efforts against money laundering, terrorism financing, tax evasion, State Council (Beijing) 13 September 2017. Access Date: 1 February 2018. http://english.gov.cn/policies/latest_releases/2017/09/13/content_281475856300932.htm

²³⁹ China's security chief calls for greater use of AI to predict terrorism, social unrest, South China Morning Post (Beijing) 21 September 2017. Access Date: 1 February 2018. <http://www.scmp.com/news/china/policies-politics/article/2112203/china-security-chief-calls-greater-use-ai-predict>

²⁴⁰ Qatar, China sign security pact to combat terrorism and extremism, Gulf Times (Beijing) 27 September 2017. Access Date: 1 December 2017. <http://www.gulf-times.com/story/565354/Qatar-China-sign-security-pact-to-combat-terrorism>

²⁴¹ Qatar, China sign security pact to combat terrorism and extremism, Gulf Times (Beijing) 27 September 2017. Access Date: 1 December 2017. <http://www.gulf-times.com/story/565354/Qatar-China-sign-security-pact-to-combat-terrorism>

²⁴² Policy Interpretation of Three-Antis Instructions, People's Bank of China (Beijing) 29 September 2017. Access Date: 15 January 2018. <http://www.pbc.gov.cn/fanxiqianju/135153/135173/3391756/index.html>

categories, including strengthening institutional mechanisms, improving the legal system, promoting preventive strategies, deepen international cooperation, and constructing better social atmosphere.²⁴³

On 30 September 2017, the People's Bank of China released a statement echoing the announcement of the State Council General Office on 13 September 2017, reiterating China's commitment to combating money laundering and terrorism financing.²⁴⁴

On 1 October 2017, the People's Bank of China Xi'an Branch and Xi'an City's Anti-Terrorism Leading Group Office co-launched a campaign on anti-money laundering and anti-terrorist financing to provide practical guidance, raise awareness, and spread basic knowledge on the prevention of terrorist financing through training.²⁴⁵

On 18 October 2017, President Xi Jinping made a speech at the 19th Party Congress of the CPC.²⁴⁶

His remarks included provisions for China's commitment to "settling disputes through dialogue and resolving differences through discussion, coordinate responses to traditional and non-traditional threats, and oppose terrorism in all its forms."²⁴⁷

On 12 October 2017, the People's Bank of China issued the Number 305 Document regarding the strengthening of anti-money laundering efforts through client identification checks.²⁴⁸ This official document urged relevant institutions to further increase the efficiency and effectiveness of client identification checks, including non-human entities, special clients and clients within special business networks.²⁴⁹

On 2 November 2017, China blocked a bid by the United States, the United Kingdom and France to list Masood Azhar, leader of Jaish-e-Mohammed (JeM), on the United Nations list of terrorists, due

²⁴³ Policy Interpretation of Three-Antis Instructions, People's Bank of China (Beijing) 29 September 2017. Access Date: 15 January 2018. <http://www.pbc.gov.cn/fanxiqianju/135153/135173/3391756/index.html>

²⁴⁴ China to fight money laundering, terrorist financing in non-financial sectors, Xinhua News (Beijing) 30 September 2017. Access Date: 1 February 2018. http://www.xinhuanet.com/english/2017-09/30/c_136651278.htm

²⁴⁵ People's Bank of China Xian Branch and City Anti-Terrorism Leading Group Office Co-Launched a Campaign of Anti-Money Laundering and Anti-Terrorist Financing, China Business Daily (Xi'an) 1 October 2017. Access Date: 15 January 2018. <http://ehsb.hsw.cn/shtml/hsb/20171001/662459.shtml>

²⁴⁶ Secure a Decisive Victory in Building a Moderately Prosperous Society in All Respects and Strive for the Great Success of Socialism with Chinese Characteristics for a New Era, Xinhua News (Beijing) 18 October 2017. Access Date: 1 February 2018.

http://www.xinhuanet.com/english/download/Xi_Jinping's_report_at_19th_CPC_National_Congress.pdf

²⁴⁷ Secure a Decisive Victory in Building a Moderately Prosperous Society in All Respects and Strive for the Great Success of Socialism with Chinese Characteristics for a New Era, Xinhua News (Beijing) 18 October 2017. Access Date: 1 February 2018.

http://www.xinhuanet.com/english/download/Xi_Jinping's_report_at_19th_CPC_National_Congress.pdf

²⁴⁸ Number 305 Document: The Notice for Further Strengthening Anti-Money Laundering Clients' Identification Check by People's Bank of China, People's Bank of China (Beijing) 20 October 2017. Access Date: January 15 2018. <http://qh.newone.com.cn/upload/20171219/20171219140337771.pdf>

²⁴⁹ Number 305 Document: The Notice for Further Strengthening Anti-Money Laundering Clients' Identification Check by People's Bank of China, People's Bank of China (Beijing) 20 October 2017. Access Date: January 15 2018. <http://qh.newone.com.cn/upload/20171219/20171219140337771.pdf>

to non-consensus in China's National Congress.²⁵⁰ The UN has already designated JeM as a terrorist organization.²⁵¹

On 8 November 2017, the 7th China Anti-Money Laundering Summit Forum opened at Fudan University in Shanghai. The conference established the Anti-Money Laundering International Coalition and announced the Anti-Money Laundering Shanghai Declaration.²⁵² The Chinese Anti-Money Laundering Alliance and Russian Anti-Money Laundering and Anti-Terrorist Financing Internet Institute also reached a series of cooperation agreements, as did the China Centre for Anti-Money Laundering Studies and the Russia International Finance Supervision Centre.²⁵³

On 28 November 2017, the National Development and Reform Commission announced that it would begin monitoring Chinese businesses and nationals located outside of China to prevent activities such as tax fraud, money laundering, and illegal financing.²⁵⁴

On 4 December 2017, the People's Armed Police Force and the Russian Federation National Guard began a joint anti-terrorism training program, in efforts to deepen cooperation between China and Russia on anti-terrorism activities.²⁵⁵

On 11 December 2017, Foreign Minister Wang Yi met with Russian Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov and Indian Foreign Minister Sushma Swaraj, and reached an agreement to boost trilateral cooperation in counter-terrorism operations and efforts.²⁵⁶

On 26 December 2017, Chair of the Standing Committee of the National People's Congress Zhang Dejiang reiterated Xi Jinping's statement from the Chinese Communist Party's 19th Party Congress on 18 October 2017. Zhang stressed that China opposes all forms of terrorism, and that international cooperation and responding to terrorism in "a coordinated manner" is of utmost importance.²⁵⁷

²⁵⁰ China blocks US, France, UK bid to list Masood Azhar as global terrorist by UN, MSN (Beijing) 2 November 2017. Access Date: 1 February 2018. <https://www.msn.com/en-ca/news/world/china-blocks-us-france-uk-bid-to-list-masood-azhar-as-global-terrorist-by-un/ar-AAuIXW0?li=AAggbRN>

²⁵¹ China blocks US, France, UK bid to list Masood Azhar as global terrorist by UN, MSN (Beijing) 2 November 2017. Access Date: 1 February 2018. <https://www.msn.com/en-ca/news/world/china-blocks-us-france-uk-bid-to-list-masood-azhar-as-global-terrorist-by-un/ar-AAuIXW0?li=AAggbRN>

²⁵² 2017 Anti-Money Laundering Shanghai Declaration, China Centre for Anti-Money Laundering Studies at Fudan University (Shanghai) 8 November 2017. Access Date: 15 January 2018. <http://www.ccamls.org/newsdetail.php?did=32724>

²⁵³ 2017 Anti-Money Laundering Shanghai Declaration, China Centre for Anti-Money Laundering Studies at Fudan University (Shanghai) 8 November 2017. Access Date: 15 January 2018. <http://www.ccamls.org/newsdetail.php?did=32724>

²⁵⁴ China to set up system to monitor its firms overseas, Reuters (Beijing) 28 November 2017. Access Date: 1 February 2018. <https://www.reuters.com/article/us-china-investment-overseas/china-to-set-up-system-to-monitor-its-firms-overseas-idUSKBN1DS0NR>

²⁵⁵ China, Russia hold joint anti-terrorism training, Ministry of National Defense (Yinchuan) 4 December 2017. Access Date: 1 February 2018. http://eng.mod.gov.cn/news/2017-12/04/content_4799008.htm

²⁵⁶ Russia & China joins India to counter state sponsored terror, The Economic Times (New Delhi) 12 December 2017. Access Date: 1 February 2018. <https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/politics-and-nation/russia-china-joins-india-to-counter-state-sponsored-terror/articleshow/62021396.cms>

²⁵⁷ China opposes terrorism in all forms, top legislator tells a joint speakers' meeting, Xinhua News (Beijing) 26 December 2017. Access Date: 1 February 2018. http://www.xinhuanet.com/english/2017-12/26/c_136852890.htm

On 9 January 2018, President Xi and French President Emmanuel Macron met in Beijing and reached a consensus on advancing the strategic partnership between China and France.²⁵⁸ President Xi also mentioned the prospect for collaboration between China and France on terrorism and cyber-security.²⁵⁹

On 12 January 2018, the People's Bank of China urgently issued the Number 301 Document regarding anti-money laundering and on-site inspection towards non-banking payment service institutions.²⁶⁰ The document indicates that the People's Bank of China and its branch organizations will begin on-site inspection of anti-money laundering policies against non-banking payment service companies starting on 1 March 2018.²⁶¹

On 12 January 2018, the People's Bank of China hosted a workshop in Shenzhen between the FATF and both FSRBs for the region — the Asia/Pacific Group on Money Laundering and the Eurasian Group on Combating Money Laundering and Financing of Terrorism.²⁶² At the workshop, judges and prosecutors had the opportunity to discuss the challenges and most effective practices of combating money laundering and terrorist financing.²⁶³

On 22 May 2018, President Xi hosted the 13th meeting of the Security Council Secretaries of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO) in Beijing, where he called for increased cooperation in fighting against the “three evil forces” of terrorism, extremism, and separatism.²⁶⁴

On 27 May 2018, President Xi and the Prime Minister of India Narendra Modi held a meeting in Wuhan, where they emphasized the common threat of terrorism, and pledged to increase collaborative counter-terrorism efforts between China and India.²⁶⁵

On 28 May 2018, the People's Armed Police Force hosted the Great Wall 2018 International Forum on Counter-Terrorism in Beijing.²⁶⁶ The forum attracted delegations and representatives from 28

²⁵⁸ China, France agrees to inject new impetus into ties, Xinhua News (Beijing) 10 January 2018. Access Date: 1 February 2018. http://www.xinhuanet.com/english/2018-01/10/c_136883412.htm

²⁵⁹ China, France agrees to inject new impetus into ties, Xinhua News (Beijing) 10 January 2018. Access Date: 1 February 2018. http://www.xinhuanet.com/english/2018-01/10/c_136883412.htm

²⁶⁰ People's Bank of China issued Number 301 Document to Further Strengthen Anti-Money Laundering Regulation, China Centre for Anti-Money Laundering Studies at Fudan University (Shanghai) 12 January 2018. Access Date: January 20 2018. <http://www.ccamls.org/newsdetail.php?did=32685>

²⁶¹ People's Bank of China issued Number 301 Document to Further Strengthen Anti-Money Laundering Regulation, China Centre for Anti-Money Laundering Studies at Fudan University (Shanghai) 12 January 2018. Access Date: January 20 2018. <http://www.ccamls.org/newsdetail.php?did=32685>

²⁶² Second workshop on the role of judges and prosecutors in tackling money laundering and terrorist financing, FATF (Shenzhen) 12 January 2018. Access Date: 1 February 2018. <http://www.fatf-gafi.org/publications/methodsandtrends/documents/workshop-judges-prosecutors-january-2018.html>

²⁶³ Second workshop on the role of judges and prosecutors in tackling money laundering and terrorist financing, FATF (Shenzhen) 12 January 2018. Access Date: 1 February 2018. <http://www.fatf-gafi.org/publications/methodsandtrends/documents/workshop-judges-prosecutors-january-2018.html>

²⁶⁴ Xi calls for enhanced SCO security cooperation, State Council (Beijing) 23 May 2018. Access Date: 22 June 2018. http://english.gov.cn/news/top_news/2018/05/23/content_281476157489288.htm

²⁶⁵ Modi and Xi in Wuhan: Bringing Normalcy Back to the China-India Relationship, The Diplomat (Wuhan) 1 May 2018. Access Date: 11 May 2018. <https://thediplomat.com/2018/05/modi-and-xi-in-wuhan-bringing-normalcy-back-to-the-india-china-relationship/>

²⁶⁶ Chinese armed police host international counter-terrorism forum, Xinhua News (Beijing) 28 May 2018. Access Date: 22 June 2018. http://www.xinhuanet.com/english/2018-05/28/c_137212944.htm

countries, and had the aim of promoting increased international cooperation in the fight against terrorism.²⁶⁷

On 10 June 2018, President Putin attended the 18th SCO summit in Qingdao and participated in the signing of the Qingdao Declaration.²⁶⁸ The declaration called for the implementation of a treaty to combat international terrorism, which was signed between SCO member states.²⁶⁹

On 10 June 2018, President Xi met with the President of Afghanistan Ashraf Ghani in Qingdao, and called for increased cooperation between China and Afghanistan on multiple issues including terrorism.²⁷⁰

On 12 June 2018, the Anti-Money Laundering Bureau of the People's Bank of China held a workshop in Beijing on anti-money laundering and anti-terrorism financing practices. The workshop was held in collaboration with the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC).²⁷¹ Attended by individuals, businesses, organizations and governments, the workshop aimed to raise awareness on these aforementioned issues, as well as increase the capabilities of workshop participants in countering these issues.²⁷²

China took actions against terrorism, terrorist financing, and money laundering through commitments and legislation consistent with recommendations from the FATF and FSRBs. In addition, China increased its cooperation on these three issues with multiple other countries including Russia and India, both of which are also BRICS members.

Thus, China receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Adolphus Lau, Juntian Li and Ian Stansbury

South Africa: +1

South Africa has fully complied with its commitment to take action consistent with recommendations of the Financial Action Task Force (FATF) and FATF-style regional bodies (FSRBs) and with bilateral/multilateral BRICS cooperation.

On 21 September 2017, the Minister of International Relations and Cooperation Maite Nkoana-Mashabane chaired the annual meeting of BRICS Ministers of Foreign Affairs/International Relations. The ministerial meeting discussed the commitments of the Xiamen BRICS Summit, and

²⁶⁷ Chinese armed police host international counter-terrorism forum, Xinhua News (Beijing) 28 May 2018. Access Date: 22 June 2018. http://www.xinhuanet.com/english/2018-05/28/c_137212944.htm

²⁶⁸ SCO Qingdao declaration calls for common ground to face global challenges, Xinhua News (Qingdao) 10 June 2018. Access Date: 14 June 2018. http://www.xinhuanet.com/english/2018-06/10/c_137244992.htm

²⁶⁹ SCO Qingdao declaration calls for common ground to face global challenges, Xinhua News (Qingdao) 10 June 2018. Access Date: 14 June 2018. http://www.xinhuanet.com/english/2018-06/10/c_137244992.htm

²⁷⁰ Xi calls for closer China-Afghanistan cooperation, Xinhua News (Qingdao) 10 June 2018. Access Date: 22 June 2018. http://www.xinhuanet.com/english/2018-06/10/c_137245000.htm

²⁷¹ UNODC, China join efforts to counter illicit use of money or value transfer services in West and Central Asia, UNODC (Beijing) 12 June 2018. Access Date: 22 June 2018. <http://www.unodc.org/unodc/en/frontpage/2018/June/unodc--china-join-efforts-to-counter-illicit-use-of-money-or-value-transfer-services-in-west-and-central-asia.html>

²⁷² UNODC, China join efforts to counter illicit use of money or value transfer services in West and Central Asia, UNODC (Beijing) 12 June 2018. Access Date: 22 June 2018. <http://www.unodc.org/unodc/en/frontpage/2018/June/unodc--china-join-efforts-to-counter-illicit-use-of-money-or-value-transfer-services-in-west-and-central-asia.html>

reaffirmed the pledges of BRICS countries to fully implement the Xiamen Declaration.²⁷³ The ministers also reiterated the importance of the role of the BRICS Counter-Terrorism Working Group, and the importance of international cooperation in counter-terrorism initiatives.²⁷⁴

On 29 September 2017, the Minister of Finance Malusi Gigaba released an amended version of the 2001 Financial Intelligence Centre Act, aimed at strengthening South Africa's regulatory system to reduce money laundering and terrorism financing in accordance with the recommendations made by the FATF.²⁷⁵ The FATF agreed to end its follow-up process with South Africa as result of the amended Financial Intelligence Centre Act, a process that was paused in 2017 (after its initiation by the FATF in 2009) after correcting the deficiencies identified in South Africa's Mutual Evaluation Report.²⁷⁶

On 17 October 2017, Foreign Minister Maite Nkoana-Mashabane met with India's Union Minister of State for External Affairs Vijay Kumar Singh and Brazil's Minister of Foreign Affairs Aloysio Nunes Ferreira to discuss trilateral cooperation.²⁷⁷ The discussion included the condemnation of terrorism in all its forms, and called for the implementation of the Comprehensive Convention on International Terrorism adopted by the UN General Assembly.²⁷⁸ The three ministers called upon the international community to establish a broad international counter-terrorism coalition in accordance with the principles of international law, to support the United Nations' central coordinating role in international counter-terrorism cooperation" and "recalled the responsibility of all States to prevent and counter terrorism, including the financing of terrorist networks and terrorist actions from their territories."²⁷⁹

On 23 October 2017, Foreign Minister Maite Nkoana-Mashabane met with Iran's Minister of Foreign Affairs Mohammad Javad Zarif, and they agreed to increase cooperation between South Africa and Iran on multiple issues, including counter-terrorism.²⁸⁰ More specifically, they "called on

²⁷³ International Relations on Meeting of BRICS Ministers of Foreign Affairs/International Relations, Department of International Relations and Cooperation (Pretoria) 21 September 2017. Access Date: 3 February 2018.

<https://www.gov.za/speeches/international-relations-meeting-brics-ministers-foreign-affairsinternational-relations-21>

²⁷⁴ International Relations on Meeting of BRICS Ministers of Foreign Affairs/International Relations, Department of International Relations and Cooperation (Pretoria) 21 September 2017. Access Date: 3 February 2018.

<https://www.gov.za/speeches/international-relations-meeting-brics-ministers-foreign-affairsinternational-relations-21>

²⁷⁵ Financial Intelligence Centre Act, 2001 (Act No. 38 of 2001): Amendments to Money Laundering and Terrorist Financing Control Regulations, Ministry of Finance (Pretoria) 29 September 2017. Access Date: 3 February 2018.

https://www.gov.za/sites/default/files/41154_r10765_gon1062.pdf

²⁷⁶ FATF Agrees to End South Africa's Mutual Evaluation Follow-Up Process, FATF (Paris) 10 November 2017. Access Date: 3 February 2018.

<https://www.fic.gov.za/Documents/FATF%20Outcome%20%20Press%20Release%20%2010%20November%202017%20+FIC.pdf>

²⁷⁷ International Relations and Cooperation on IBSA Trilateral Ministerial Commission meeting, Department of International Relations and Cooperation (Pretoria) 17 October 2017. Access Date: 3 February 2018.

<https://www.gov.za/speeches/8th-ibsa-trilateral-ministerial-commission-meeting-17-oct-2017-0000>

²⁷⁸ International Relations and Cooperation on IBSA Trilateral Ministerial Commission meeting, Department of International Relations and Cooperation (Pretoria) 17 October 2017. Access Date: 3 February 2018.

<https://www.gov.za/speeches/8th-ibsa-trilateral-ministerial-commission-meeting-17-oct-2017-0000>

²⁷⁹ International Relations and Cooperation on IBSA Trilateral Ministerial Commission meeting, Department of International Relations and Cooperation (Pretoria) 17 October 2017. Access Date: 3 February 2018.

<https://www.gov.za/speeches/8th-ibsa-trilateral-ministerial-commission-meeting-17-oct-2017-0000>

²⁸⁰ Joint Communiqué of 13th Joint Commission between South Africa and Islamic Republic of Iran, Department of International Relations and Cooperation (Pretoria) 23 October 2017. Access Date: 3 February 2018.

<https://www.gov.za/speeches/joint-communiqu%C3%A9-13th-joint-commission-between-south-africa-and-islamic-republic-iran-23>

the international community as well as international organisations to act in a responsible manner and to work collectively within the ambit of the multilateral system in addressing the manifold challenges including the war on terrorism in all its forms.”²⁸¹

On 2 February 2018, the South African Reserve Bank (SARB) imposed administrative sanctions against the China Construction Bank (CCB), and fined the bank a total of SAR75 million. After an inspection of the company, SARB found weaknesses in CCB’s policies in relation to money laundering and the financing of terrorism.²⁸²

On 7-9 May 2018, Deputy Director-General for Global Governance and Continental Agenda Mxolisi Nkosi met with the Executive Directorate of the UN Counter-Terrorism Committee (CTED) to participate in a follow-up assessment to CTED’s prior visits regarding South Africa’s counter-terrorism policies.²⁸³ He reiterated South Africa’s dedication to counter-terrorism activities and policies to the CTED delegation, expressing South Africa’s intention to align itself with international obligations.²⁸⁴

On 4 June 2018, Foreign Minister Lavrov met with fellow BRICS-countries and counterparts in Pretoria to discuss progress made on commitments for the current compliance cycle.²⁸⁵ All ministers agreed that continued cooperation was necessary between both BRICS and non-BRICS states, in order to address the issues of terrorism and terrorist financing.²⁸⁶

South Africa took actions against terrorism, terrorist financing, and money laundering through commitments and legislation consistent with recommendations from the FATF and FSRBs, convincingly enough for the FATF to end its follow-up process on South Africa. In addition, South Africa increased its cooperation on these three issues with multiple other countries including Brazil and India.

Thus, South Africa receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Ian Stansbury

²⁸¹ Joint Communiqué of 13th Joint Commission between South Africa and Islamic Republic of Iran, Department of International Relations and Cooperation (Pretoria) 23 October 2017. Access Date: 3 February 2018. <https://www.gov.za/speeches/joint-communicu%C3%A9-13th-joint-commission-between-south-africa-and-islamic-republic-iran-23>

²⁸² South African Reserve Bank imposes administrative sanctions on China Construction Bank, SARB (Pretoria) 2 February 2018. Access Date: 14 June 2018. <https://www.gov.za/speeches/south-african-reserve-bank-imposes-administrative-sanctions-china-construction-bank-2-feb>

²⁸³ CTED conducts follow-up visit to South Africa, UNSC (New York) 11 May 2018. Access Date: 14 June 2018. <https://www.un.org/sc/ctc/news/2018/05/11/cted-conducts-follow-visit-south-africa/>

²⁸⁴ CTED conducts follow-up visit to South Africa, UNSC (New York) 11 May 2018. Access Date: 14 June 2018. <https://www.un.org/sc/ctc/news/2018/05/11/cted-conducts-follow-visit-south-africa/>

²⁸⁵ Meeting of the BRICS Ministers of Foreign Affairs and International Relations, Department of International Relations and Cooperation (Pretoria) 4 June 2018. Access Date: 14 June 2018. <https://www.gov.za/speeches/meeting-brics-ministers-foreign-affairs-and-international-relations-4-jun-2018-0000>

²⁸⁶ Meeting of the BRICS Ministers of Foreign Affairs and International Relations, Department of International Relations and Cooperation (Pretoria) 4 June 2018. Access Date: 14 June 2018. <https://www.gov.za/speeches/meeting-brics-ministers-foreign-affairs-and-international-relations-4-jun-2018-0000>

5. Crime and Corruption: International Cooperation

“We support the strengthening of international cooperation against corruption, including through the BRICS Anti-Corruption Working Group, as well as on matters related to asset recovery and persons sought for corruption.”

BRICS Xiamen Leaders Declaration

Assessment

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

Background

At the 2013 Durban Summit, BRICS members affirmed their commitment to fight against crime and corruption for the first time.²⁸⁷ At the 2014 Fortaleza Summit, this commitment was reaffirmed. The BRICS leaders committed themselves to “combat domestic and foreign bribery, and strengthen international cooperation, including law enforcement cooperation, in accordance with multilaterally established principles and norms, especially the UN Convention against Corruption (UNCAC).”²⁸⁸

The UNCAC is a global, legally binding, international anti-corruption convention, intending “to promote and strengthen measures to prevent and combat corruption more efficiently and effectively.”²⁸⁹ The BRICS leaders further committed themselves “to tackle transnational organized crime, with full respect for human rights, in order to reduce the negative impact it has on individuals and societies.”²⁹⁰ The convention’s vitality stems from the guidelines and proposed implementation mechanisms it provides to UN members in their pursuit to fight corruption.²⁹¹

At the 2015 Ufa Summit, BRICS members reaffirmed their commitment to combat crime and corruption. To that end, they committed to “mutual legal assistance, in accordance with the UNCAC

²⁸⁷ BRICS and Africa: Partnership for Development, Integration and Industrialisation, BRICS Information Center (Durban) 27 March 2013. Access Date: 17 November 2017. <http://brics.utoronto.ca/docs/130327-statement.pdf>

²⁸⁸ The 6th BRICS Summit: Fortaleza Declaration, BRICS Information Center (Fortaleza) 15 July 2014. Access Date: 15 November 2017. <http://brics.utoronto.ca/docs/140715-leaders.html>

²⁸⁹ United Nations Convention Against Corruption, United Nations Office of Drugs and Crime (Vienna) 2004. Access Date: 15 November 2017. https://www.unodc.org/documents/treaties/UNCAC/Publications/Convention/08-50026_E.pdf

²⁹⁰ The 6th BRICS Summit: Fortaleza Declaration, BRICS Information Center (Fortaleza) 15 July 2014. Access Date: 15 November 2017. <http://brics.utoronto.ca/docs/140715-leaders.html>

²⁹¹ United Nations Convention Against Corruption, United Nations Office of Drugs and Crime (Vienna) 2004. Access Date: 2 November 2017. https://www.unodc.org/documents/treaties/UNCAC/Publications/Convention/08-50026_E.pdf

and multilaterally established principles and norms.”²⁹² The BRICS leaders furthered their commitment by creating the BRICS Working Group on Anti-Corruption.²⁹³

At the 2016 Goa Summit, BRICS members reaffirmed their commitment to oppose crime and corruption. BRICS leaders acknowledged “that corruption including illicit money and financial flows, and ill-gotten wealth stashed in foreign jurisdictions is a global challenge which may impact negatively on economic growth and sustainable development.”²⁹⁴ Thus, the BRICS leaders committed to “coordinate our approach in this regard and encourage a stronger global commitment to prevent and combat corruption on the basis of the UNCAC and other relevant international legal instruments.”²⁹⁵ The leaders also reaffirmed their commitment to the BRICS Working Group on Anti-Corruption.²⁹⁶

Commitment Features

BRICS members committed to supporting the strengthening of international cooperation against corruption, including through the BRICS Anti-Corruption Working Group, as well as on matters related to asset recovery and persons sought for corruption. The commitment is divided into two parts: (1) supporting the strengthening of international cooperation against corruption, and (2) with regards to matters related to asset recovery and persons sought for corruption.

Part One: Support Strengthening International Cooperation

Support is defined as “the action or act of providing aid, assistance, or backing up an initiative, or entity.” Strengthening is defined as “to make or become stronger.”²⁹⁷ The BRICS member must support the strengthening of international cooperation, with regards to anti-corruption.

The UNCAC defines support for international cooperation in anti-corruption as “where appropriate and consistent with their domestic legal system, States Parties shall consider assisting each other in investigations of and proceedings in civil and administrative matters relating to corruption. In matters of international cooperation, whenever dual criminality is considered a requirement, it shall be deemed fulfilled irrespective of whether the laws of the requested State Party place the offence within the same category of offence or denominate the offence by the same terminology as the requesting State Party, if the conduct underlying the offence for which assistance is sought is a criminal offence under the laws of both States Parties.”²⁹⁸

The BRICS leaders created the Anti-Corruption Working Group in 2015 because “corruption is a global challenge which undermines the legal systems of states, negatively affects their sustainable

²⁹² VII BRICS Summit: 2015 Ufa Declaration, BRICS Information Center (Ufa) 9 July 2015. Access Date: 15 November 2017. http://www.brics.utoronto.ca/docs/150709-ufa-declaration_en.html

²⁹³ VII BRICS Summit: 2015 Ufa Declaration, BRICS Information Center (Ufa) 9 July 2015. Access Date: 15 November 2017. http://www.brics.utoronto.ca/docs/150709-ufa-declaration_en.html

²⁹⁴ 8th BRICS Summit: Goa Declaration, BRICS Information Center (Goa) 16 October 2016. Access Date: 15 November 2017. <http://www.brics.utoronto.ca/docs/161016-goa.html>

²⁹⁵ 8th BRICS Summit: Goa Declaration, BRICS Information Center (Goa) 16 October 2016. Access Date: 15 November 2017. <http://www.brics.utoronto.ca/docs/161016-goa.html>

²⁹⁶ 8th BRICS Summit: Goa Declaration, BRICS Information Center (Goa) 16 October 2016. Access Date: 15 November 2017. <http://www.brics.utoronto.ca/docs/161016-goa.html>

²⁹⁷ G8-G20 Reference Manual for Commitment and Compliance Coding, G20 Research Group Information Center (Toronto) 22 September 2011. Access Date: 17 November, 2017. <http://www.g8.utoronto.ca/evaluations/compliancemanual-110922.pdf>

²⁹⁸ United Nations Convention Against Corruption, United Nations Office of Drugs and Crime (Vienna) 2004. Access Date: 15 November 2017. https://www.unodc.org/documents/brussels/UN_Convention_Against_Corruption.pdf

development and may facilitate other forms of crime.”²⁹⁹ The working group is intended to foster international cooperation, which “plays a pivotal role in countering and preventing corruption.”³⁰⁰ Compliance with this part of the commitment can equate to participation in the working group’s meetings.

Part Two: Support on Asset Recovery and Persons Sought for Corruption

Support on matters related to asset recovery shall be regarded with reference to the UNCAC definition of asset recovery. According to this definition, “each State Party shall take such measures as may be necessary, in accordance with its domestic law, to require financial institutions within its jurisdiction to verify the identity of customers, to take reasonable steps to determine the identity of beneficial owners of funds deposited into high-value accounts and to conduct enhanced scrutiny of accounts sought or maintained by or on behalf of individuals who are, or have been, entrusted with prominent public functions and their family members and close associates.”³⁰¹

Furthermore, according to the UNCAC, each party shall:

- “Issue advisories regarding the types of natural or legal person to whose accounts financial institutions within its jurisdiction will be expected to apply enhanced scrutiny, the types of accounts and transactions to which to pay particular attention and appropriate account-opening, maintenance and recordkeeping measures to take concerning such accounts.”³⁰²
- “Notify financial institutions within its jurisdiction, at the request of another State Party or on its own initiative, of the identity of particular natural or legal persons to whose accounts such institutions will be expected to apply enhanced scrutiny, in addition to those whom the financial institutions may otherwise identify.”³⁰³
- “implement measures to ensure that its financial institutions maintain adequate records, over an appropriate period of time, of accounts and transactions involving the persons mentioned in paragraph 1 of this article, which should, as a minimum, contain information relating to the identity of the customer as well as, as far as possible, of the beneficial owner.”³⁰⁴

²⁹⁹ VII BRICS Summit: 2015 Ufa Declaration, BRICS Information Center (Ufa) 9 July 2015. Access Date: 15 November 2017. http://www.brics.utoronto.ca/docs/150709-ufa-declaration_en.html

³⁰⁰ VII BRICS Summit: 2015 Ufa Declaration, BRICS Information Center (Ufa) 9 July 2015. Access Date: 15 November 2017. http://www.brics.utoronto.ca/docs/150709-ufa-declaration_en.html

³⁰¹ United Nations Convention Against Corruption, United Nations Office of Drugs and Crime (Vienna) 2004. Access Date: 15 November 2017. https://www.unodc.org/documents/treaties/UNCAC/Publications/Convention/08-50026_E.pdf

³⁰² United Nations Convention Against Corruption, United Nations Office of Drugs and Crime (Vienna) 2004. Access Date: 15 November 2017. https://www.unodc.org/documents/treaties/UNCAC/Publications/Convention/08-50026_E.pdf

³⁰³ United Nations Convention Against Corruption, United Nations Office of Drugs and Crime (Vienna) 2004. Access Date: 15 November 2017. https://www.unodc.org/documents/treaties/UNCAC/Publications/Convention/08-50026_E.pdf

³⁰⁴ United Nations Convention Against Corruption, United Nations Office of Drugs and Crime (Vienna) 2004. Access Date: 15 November 2017. https://www.unodc.org/documents/treaties/UNCAC/Publications/Convention/08-50026_E.pdf

- “implement appropriate and effective measures to prevent, with the help of its regulatory and oversight bodies, the establishment of banks that have no physical presence and that are not affiliated with a regulated financial group”³⁰⁵

The aforementioned actions can count towards compliance of matters related to asset recovery.

“Persons sought for corruption” can be defined with the aid of the UNCAC, which deals specifically with transfer of sentenced persons and extradition:

Transfer of Sentenced Persons: “States Parties may consider entering into bilateral or multilateral agreements or arrangements on the transfer to their territory of persons sentenced to imprisonment or other forms of deprivation of liberty for offences established in accordance with this Convention in order that they may complete their sentences there.”

Extradition: “This article shall apply to the offences established in accordance with this Convention where the person who is the subject of the request for extradition is present in the territory of the requested State Party, provided that the offence for which extradition is sought is punishable under the domestic law of both the requesting State Party and the requested State Party.”³⁰⁶

BRICS members ought to comply with both parts, in order to receive a full compliance score. Partial compliance scores will be attributed to members who comply with only one of the two parts. Scores of non-compliance will be attributed to members that do not comply with either of the two parts of this commitment.

Scoring Guidelines

-1	BRICS member does not support the strengthening of international cooperation against corruption, including through the BRICS Anti-Corruption Working Group and matters related to asset recovery and persons sought for corruption.
0	BRICS member supports the strengthening of international cooperation against corruption, including through the BRICS Anti-Corruption Working Group, but does NOT cooperate on matters related to asset recovery and persons sought for corruption; OR the BRICS member supports either the strengthening of international cooperation against corruption, including through the BRICS Anti-Corruption Working Group OR cooperates on matters related to asset recovery and persons sought for corruption.
+1	BRICS member supports the strengthening of international cooperation against corruption, including through the BRICS Anti-Corruption Working Group AND matters related to asset recovery and persons sought for corruption.

Brazil: 0

Brazil has partially complied with its commitment to support the strengthening of international cooperation against corruption, including through the BRICS Anti-Corruption Working Group and matters related to asset recovery and persons sought for corruption.

³⁰⁵ United Nations Convention Against Corruption, United Nations Office of Drugs and Crime (Vienna) 2004. Access Date: 15 November 2017. https://www.unodc.org/documents/treaties/UNCAC/Publications/Convention/08-50026_E.pdf

³⁰⁶ United Nations Convention Against Corruption, United Nations Office of Drugs and Crime (Vienna) 2004. Access Date: 15 November 2017. https://www.unodc.org/documents/treaties/UNCAC/Publications/Convention/08-50026_E.pdf

On 3 November 2017, representatives of the Department of Asset Recovery and International Legal Cooperation attended the first plenary meeting of mandate 29 of the Financial Action Task Force in Buenos Aires. Representatives from over 50 countries gathered to discuss measures to combat transnational crimes such as money laundering.³⁰⁷

On 3 November 2017, the Ministry of Justice and Public Security carried out five extraditions, two of which were active and three of which were liabilities. The extraditions were made possible by international cooperation with the governments of Columbia, United Kingdom, Peru, Portugal and Uruguay.³⁰⁸

On 23 November 2017, the Minister of Justice and Public Security Torquato Jardim announced eleven new actions against corruption and money laundering at the 15th Plenary Meeting of the National Strategy to Combat Corruption and Money Laundering.³⁰⁹

On 27-28 November 2017, the Director of the Department of Asset Recovery and International Legal Cooperation Luiz Roberto Ungaretti participated in the Meeting of the Working Group of Initiative for Mutual Legal Assistance. This meeting aimed to improve the use of digital systems in substantiating international legal cooperation.³¹⁰

On 28 November 2017, the Department of Asset Recovery and International Legal Cooperation (DRCI) of the National Secretariat of Justice announced the extradition of Vinícius Claret Vieira Barreto and Cláudio Fernando Barbosa from Uruguay, who have been listed as wanted for their involvement in a criminal organization that laundered over USD1 million.³¹¹

On 13 December 2017 and 14 December 2017, DRCI representatives and the Federal Police attended the first meeting of the Interpol Platform Focal Points Working Group on Asset Recovery in Abu Dhabi.³¹²

On 19 December 2017, the Office of the Federal Prosecutor in Curitiba charged the Swiss-Spanish banker David Muino Suarez with laundering USD21 million. Suarez was arrested under the

³⁰⁷ Brazil attends international meeting on money laundering and terrorism, Ministry of Justice and Public Security (Brasilia) 03 November 2017. Access Date: 29 January 2018. <http://www.justica.gov.br/news/brasil-participa-de-reuniao-internacional-sobre-lavagem-de-dinheiro-e-terrorismo>

³⁰⁸ International legal cooperation makes possible five extraditions, Ministry of Justice and Public Security (Brasilia) 27 November 2017. Access Date: 29 January 2018. <http://www.justica.gov.br/news/cooperacao-juridica-internacional-possibilita-efetivacao-de-cinco-extradicoes>

³⁰⁹ New anti-corruption and money laundering actions announced, ENCCLA (Campina Grande) 23 November 2017. Access Date: 29 January 2018. <http://enccla.camara.leg.br/noticias/novas-acoes-de-combate-a-corrupcao-e-a-lavagem-de-dinheiro-sao-anunciadas>

³¹⁰ Electronic filing of requests for legal cooperation is the subject of an international forum, Ministry of Justice and Public Security (Brasilia) 29 November 2017. Access Date: 29 January 2018. <http://www.justica.gov.br/news/tramitacao-eletronica-de-pedidos-de-cooperacao-juridica-e-tema-de-foro-internacional>

³¹¹ Extradition of treasure hunt investigated in Lava-Jato of Rio de Janeiro, Ministry of Justice and Public Security (Brasilia) 28 December 2017. Access Date: 29 January 2018. <http://www.justica.gov.br/news/efetivada-extradicao-de-doleiros-investigados-na-lava-jato-do-rio-de-janeiro>

³¹² Asset recovery officials gather in Abu Dhabi, Ministry of Justice and Public Security (Brasilia) 15 December 2017. Access Date: 29 January 2018. <http://www.justica.gov.br/news/autoridades-em-recuperacao-de-ativos-se-reunem-em-abu-dhabi>

“Operation Car Wash Probe.” The laundered money is due to be repatriated from Swiss bank accounts.³¹³

On 3 January 2018, the DRCI reported that it had repatriated USD36 million through international legal cooperation.³¹⁴

While Brazil strengthened international cooperation against corruption and worked with other countries on matters related to asset recovery and persons sought for corruption, there has been no evidence of its work through the BRICS Anti-Corruption Working Group.

Thus, Brazil receives a score of 0.

Analyst: Anton Rizor

Russia: 0

Russia has partially complied with its commitment to support the strengthening of international cooperation against corruption, including through the BRICS Anti-Corruption Working Group and matters related to asset recovery and persons sought for corruption.

On 30 November 2017, the Russian Security Council recommended the creation of an independent internet for BRICS members. This would serve as a tool to control corruption and avoid national security threats.³¹⁵

On 15 December 2017, former Russian economy minister Aleksey Ulyukayev was found guilty of taking bribes worth of USD2 million. He was sentenced to eight years in prison. The money was offered in exchange for his support for Rosneft, a state oil company that wished to complete the purchase of another state oil company, Bashneft.³¹⁶

On 18 December 2017, it was announced that Vyacheslav Gayzer, the former head of the republic of Komi, was scheduled to appear in court. The charges included bribery, money laundering, and embezzlement. Previous searches in Gayzer’s house uncovered sums of money totalling USD1 million and RUB 4.5 million in property.³¹⁷

On 29 December 2017, Russian President Vladimir Putin signed a law stating that all those who have been dismissed from their jobs due to corruption allegations (a total of 1,200 individuals) should be placed on a list. The law is to be applied equally to federal and municipal civil servants, military

³¹³ Brazil charges Swiss bank manager with laundering bribe money, Reuters (Brasilia) 19 December 2018. Access Date: 29 January 2018. <https://www.reuters.com/article/us-brazil-corruption-swiss/brazil-charges-swiss-bank-manager-with-laundering-bribe-money-idUSKBN1EE0D4>

³¹⁴ Money blocked by corruption exceeds annual average of last five years, Ministry of Justice and Public Security (Brasilia) 03 January 2018. Access Date: 29 January 2018. <http://www.justica.gov.br/news/dinheiro-bloqueado-por-corrupcao-supera-media-anual-dos-ultimos-cinco-anos>

³¹⁵ Разработка «независимого интернета» для стран БРИКС связана с угрозой терроризма и коррупции, заявил Сергей Степашин (The development of an "independent Internet" for the BRICS countries is linked to the threat of terrorism and corruption, said Sergei Stepashin). Niasam (Moscow). 30 November 2017. Access Date: 31 January 2018. <http://www.niasam.ru/Politika/Razrabotka-nezavisimogo-interneta-dlya-stran-BRIKS-svyazana-s-ugrozoy-terrorizma-i-korrupsii--zayavil-Sergej-Stepashin100291.html>

³¹⁶ Russian ex-economy minister Ulyukayev sentence to 8 years in prison in \$2mn bribery case, Russia Today (Moscow) 15 December 2017. Access Date: 31 January 2018. <https://www.rt.com/politics/413289-ulyukayev-minister-corruption-guilty/>

³¹⁷ Abuse of office, bribes & embezzlement: top 5 Russian corruption scandals, Russia Today (Moscow) 18 December 2017. Access Date: 31 January 2018. <https://www.rt.com/politics/413538-top-5-recent-russian-corruption/>

personnel, law enforcement agents, state corporations, and other state organizations and institutions such as the Central Bank. The purpose of this bill is to increase the difficulty for alleged corrupt officials to seek new jobs in the state apparatus. Public employers will be required to keep this list whenever accepting applications.³¹⁸

On 1 February 2018, Nikita Belykh, ex-governor of the Kirov region, was sentenced to eight years in prison because he accepted USD400,000 in bribes from various businessmen. After further investigation, it was found that the sum had risen to USD600,000.³¹⁹

Russia has taken action on strengthening international cooperation against corruption, particularly in regards to persons sought for corruption and asset recovery. However, Russia has not worked with the BRICS Anti-Corruption Working Group.

Thus, Russia receives a score of 0.

Analyst: Flavian Berneaga

India: 0

India has partially complied with its commitment to support the strengthening of international cooperation against corruption, including through the BRICS Anti-Corruption Working Group and matters related to asset recovery and persons sought for corruption.

On 15 September 2017, the Indian parliament released a draft resolution promoting anti-corruption among youth. The draft resolution aims to provide guidelines to cultivate youth anti-corruption and to protect young whistle-blowers.³²⁰

In September 2017, India first utilized the existing Foreign Account Tax Compliance Act signed with the U.S. to improve the government's knowledge of Indian assets in the United States, and to prevent money laundering and corruption.³²¹

On 30 October 2017 and 4 November 2017, the Central Vigilance Commission under the Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances, and Pensions initiated Vigilance Awareness Week. The week was initiated with a focus on the theme of "My Vision — Corruption Free India." The purpose of observing Vigilance Awareness Week is to educate the public about corruption-related practices and how to report such acts.³²²

³¹⁸ Putin signs law establishing register of officials sacked over corruption, Russia Today (Moscow) 29 December 2017. Access Date: 31 January 2018. <https://www.rt.com/politics/414522-putin-signs-law-ordering-unified/>

³¹⁹ Ex-governor Belykh sentenced to 8 years for large-scale bribery. Russia Today (Moscow) 1 February 2018. Access Date: 2 February 2018. <https://www.rt.com/politics/417587-ex-governor-belykh-convicted-of/>

³²⁰ Youth Against Corruption, Parliamentary Assembly 15 September 2017. Access Date: 18 January 2018. <http://assembly.coe.int/nw/xml/XRef/Xref-XML2HTML-EN.asp?fileid=24013&lang=en>

³²¹ Automatic Exchange Portal, Global Forum on Transparency and exchange of information 15 January 2018, Access Date: 30 January 2018. <http://www.oecd.org/tax/automatic-exchange/>

³²² Vigilance Awareness Week to be observed from 30th October to 4th November, 2017 with theme "My Vision-Corruption Free India", Press Information Bureau, Government of India (New Delhi) 26 October 2017, Access Date: 10 January 2018. <http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=171955>

On 3 January 2018, the Indian Ministry of Law and Justice launched the Companies (Amendment) Act 2017. The existing penalty provisions for the commission of corporate fraud were modified to better facilitate the government's efforts against bribery and corruption.³²³

On 1 February 2018, Finance Minister Arun Jaitley presented the Union Budget 2018-19 and stated that the government will allocate INR 4.29 crore for the anti-corruption body of Lokpal. The government will also increase INR 1.5 crore in outlay for the Central Vigilance Commission, and this action has been proposed for the next fiscal cycle.³²⁴

On 1 February 2018, the government announced the introduction of e-assessment for all by amending the Income Tax Act to cut discretion at the hands of income tax officials and promote transparency.³²⁵

On 28 February 2018, Indian police arrested the son of former Finance Minister P. Chidambaram, and investigated suspected criminal misconduct related to his approvals of investment deals.³²⁶

On 4 June 2018, the BRICS Ministers of Foreign Affairs met in Pretoria, South Africa. The Ministers noted with concern "the growth of criminal misuse of ICTs and in this regard reiterated the need to develop an international universal legally binding instrument on combating criminal use of ICTs within the UN," and underscored "the work to promote cooperation according to the BRICS Roadmap of Practical Cooperation on Ensuring Security in the Use of ICTs or any other mutually agreed mechanism."³²⁷

On 10 June 2018, India joined the Shanghai Cooperation Organization, and participated in the jointly issued Qingdao Declaration of the Council of Heads of State of Shanghai Cooperation Organisation. The Declaration underscored "that corruption, as a threat to national and regional security, in all its forms and manifestations leads to less effective public administration, adversely affects investment appeal and hampers socioeconomic progress." It also expressed the "intention to develop comprehensive international cooperation in anti-corruption activities, including through the sharing of experience and information."³²⁸

³²³ The Company (Amendment) Act 2017, Ministry of Law and Justice (New Delhi) 3 January 2018, Access Date: 31 January 2018. <http://www.nfcg.in/UserFiles/THE-COMPANIES-AMENDMENT-ACT-2017.pdf>

³²⁴ Budget 2018: No change in allocation for anti-corruption body Lokpal; minor increase in outlay for CVC, Financial Express (New Delhi) 1 February 2018. Access Date: 1 February 2018. <http://www.financialexpress.com/budget/budget-2018-no-change-in-allocation-for-anti-corruption-body-lokpal-minor-increase-in-outlay-for-cvc/1043889/>

³²⁵ Govt amends Income Tax Act, introduces e-assessment for all, The Indian Express (New Delhi) 1 February 2018. Access Date: 1 February 2018. <http://indianexpress.com/article/business/budget/govt-amends-income-tax-act-introduces-e-assessment-for-all-5047804/>

³²⁶ Indian police probing graft case arrest son of former finance minister Chidambaram, BRICS Business Council (Chennai) 28 February 2018. Access Date: 14 June 2018. <https://www.bricsbusinesscouncil.co.za/brics-news/indian-police-probing-graft-case-arrest-son-of-former-finance-minister-chidambaram/>

³²⁷ Media Statement after meeting of the BRICS Ministers of Foreign Affairs / International Relations, Ministry of External Affairs, Government of India (New Delhi) 4 June 2018. Access Date: 15 June 2018. <http://www.mea.gov.in/bilateral-documents.htm?dtl/29952/Media+Statement+after+meeting+of+the+BRICS+Ministers+of+Foreign+Affairs++International+Relations>

³²⁸ Qingdao Declaration of the Council of Heads of State of Shanghai Cooperation Organization, Shanghai Cooperation Organization (Qingdao), 10 June 2018. Access Date: 15 June 2018. <https://www.google.com.sg/url?sa=t&rct=j&q=&esrc=s&source=web&cd=3&ved=0ahUKEwjg48LTl9fbAhWQLnWKHY5FD2wQFggzMAI&url=http%3A%2F%2Feng.sectsc.org%2Fload%2F443667%2F&usg=AOvVaw08WswD8Wwhcbbp4dA8PLFq>

While India supports the strengthening of international cooperation against corruption, and cooperates on matters related to asset recovery and persons sought for corruption, there has been no evidence of its work through the BRICS Anti-Corruption Working Group.

Thus, India receives a score of 0.

Analyst: Sisi Zhu

China: 0

China has partially complied with its commitment to support the strengthening of international cooperation against corruption, including through the BRICS Anti-Corruption Working Group and matters related to asset recovery and persons sought for corruption.

On 19 September 2017, the Central Commission for Discipline Inspection (CCDI) hosted a seminar in collaboration with the World Bank, on the topic of international cooperation in the fight against corruption. The seminar focused on topics surrounding creating corruption-free business environment and anti-corruption cooperation between participants of the Belt and Road Initiative.³²⁹

On 7 November 2017, at the Conference of the State Parties to the United Nations Convention against Corruption, China's Assistant Minister of Foreign Affairs Qian Hongshan stated that the Government of China is in favour of developing a guideline document as a reference for states formulating legal mechanisms dedicated to asset recovery.³³⁰

On 13 November 2017, the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) released a joint statement with the Government of China at the 20th ASEAN-China Summit, calling for increased cooperation in the fight against corruption.³³¹

On 21 November 2017, Politburo Member and CCDI Deputy Secretary Yang Xiaodu called for the "establishment of a new international anti-corruption order" in cooperation with South Africa, during a meeting with South African Minister of Public Service and Administration Faith Muthambi.³³²

On 6 December 2017, CCDI called for the establishment of new global orders of anti-corruption, and reiterated its willingness to cooperate with international agencies in asset recovery and fighting corruption.³³³

On 22 January 2018, China and the Community of Latin American and Caribbean States (CELAC) signed a Joint Action Plan, which laid out plans to increase cooperation on key areas, including corruption.³³⁴

³²⁹ China to host forum on international cooperation to fight corruption, Xinhua News (Beijing) 15 September 2017. Access Date: 24 June 2018. http://www.xinhuanet.com/english/2017-09/15/c_136612769.htm

³³⁰ China calls for asset recovery guidelines in global anti-corruption efforts, Xinhua News (Vienna) 7 November 2017. Access Date: 27 February 2018. http://www.xinhuanet.com/english/2017-11/07/c_136734756.htm

³³¹ ASEAN-China Joint Statement on Comprehensively Strengthening Effective Anti-corruption Cooperation, ASEAN (Manila) 13 November 2017. Access Date: 24 June 2018. <http://asean.org/asean-china-joint-statement-comprehensively-strengthening-effective-anti-corruption-cooperation/>

³³² China, South Africa to promote new int'l anti-corruption order, Xinhua News (Beijing) 21 November 2017. Access Date: 24 June 2018. http://www.xinhuanet.com/english/2017-11/21/c_136769415.htm

³³³ China looks for more int'l cooperation in anti-graft fight, Xinhua News (Beijing) 6 December 2017. Access Date: 24 June 2018. http://www.xinhuanet.com/english/2017-12/06/c_136806240.htm

On 8 April 2018, President Xi Jinping met with the President of Austria, Alexander Van der Bellen, in Beijing to discuss a strategic partnership between China and Austria. Xi proposed increased cooperation between the two countries on various topics, including anti-corruption efforts and asset recovery.³³⁵

On 15 May 2018, Vice Minister of Justice Liu Zhiqiang signed a joint plan of action with the UN Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC). The joint action plan aims to strengthen cooperation between China and UNODC on a range of issues, including anti-corruption efforts.³³⁶

On 23 May 2018, the Commissioner of the National Supervisory Commission (NSC) Zou Jiaye addressed the UN General Assembly at a high-level debate. She called for increased consensus on “collaborative mechanisms” for cooperative international investigations. She also called upon countries to “set aside their differences” and “improve their anti-corruption regimes.”³³⁷

China supported international anti-corruption efforts on matters related to asset recovery and corruption, and has made significant efforts to increase international collaboration. However, no efforts have been made to collaborate through the BRICS Anti-Corruption Working Group.

Thus, China receives a score of 0.

Analysts: Tiffany Wang and Ian Stansbury

South Africa: 0

South Africa has partially complied with its commitment to support the strengthening of international cooperation against corruption, including through the BRICS Anti-Corruption Working Group and matters related to asset recovery and persons sought for corruption.

On 28-29 January 2018, South African President Jacob Zuma attended the 30th Ordinary Session of the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the African Union. The theme was “Winning the Fight against Corruption: A Sustainable Path to Africa’s Transformation.”³³⁸

On 15 February 2018, South Africa’s state prosecutor declared Ajay Gupta a “fugitive from justice,” and South African police issued an arrest warrant for one of the three Gupta brothers. Gupta was wanted in connection to state corruption. South African police also stated that they have arrested eight people as part of an investigation into alleged corruption related to the Gupta family.³³⁹

³³⁴ CELAC and China Joint Plan of Action for Cooperation on Priority Areas (2019-2021), CELAC (Santiago) 22 January 2018. Access Date: 24 June 2018. <https://celac.rree.gob.sv/documento-oficial/celac-and-china-joint-plan-of-action-for-cooperation-on-priority-areas-2019-2021/>

³³⁵ China, Austria agree to establish friendly strategic partnership, Central Military Commission (Beijing) 9 April 2018. Access Date: 24 June 2018. http://eng.chinamil.com.cn/view/2018-04/09/content_7997511.htm

³³⁶ UNODC, China to strengthen crime prevention, criminal justice cooperation through new joint action plan, UNODC (Vienna) 15 May 2018. Access Date: 24 June 2018. <https://www.unodc.org/unodc/en/press/releases/2018/May/unodc-china-to-strengthen-crime-prevention--criminal-justice-cooperation-through-new-joint-action-plan.html>

³³⁷ Battle against Corruption Vital to 2030 Agenda, General Assembly President Tells High-level Commemoration of Anti-Corruption Treaty’s Adoption, UN (New York) 23 May 2018. Access Date: 24 June 2018. <https://www.un.org/press/en/2018/ga12017.doc.htm>

³³⁸ South Africa: President Jacob Zuma Arrives in Ethiopia for the African Union Summit, All Africa (Pretoria) 26 January 2018. Access Date: 16 February 2018. <http://allafrica.com/stories/201801290912.html>

³³⁹ South Africa: Arrest warrant for Zuma associate Ajay Gupta, DW 15 February 2018. Access date: 19 February 2018. <http://www.dw.com/en/south-africa-arrest-warrant-for-zuma-associate-ajay-gupta/a-42601737>

On 16 February 2018, South Africa's new president Cyril Ramaphosa made his State of the Nation address. The address focused on fighting corruption. He stated: "this is the year in which we will turn the tide of corruption in our public institutions... We urge professional bodies and regulatory authorities to take action against members who are found to have acted improperly and unethically. This requires that we strengthen law enforcement institutions and that we shield them from external interference or manipulation." Ramaphosa also announced the establishment of a commission of inquiry into tax administration and governance at the South African Revenue Service to "restore its credibility." He stated, "we must understand that tax morality is dependent on an implicit contract between taxpayers and government that state spending provides value for money and is free from corruption."³⁴⁰

On 23 May 2018, the head of South Africa's anti-corruption agency joined other heads and senior leaders of Commonwealth countries in Africa at the 8th Commonwealth Conference of Heads of Anti-Corruption Agencies. The theme of the conference was "Partnering Towards assets Recovery and its Return." This conference called for the introduction of new laws to encourage whistleblowing and protection for individuals who report corruption to authorities.³⁴¹

South Africa supported international efforts aimed at matters related to asset recovery. However, it did not support the BRICS Anti-corruption working group or matters related to persons sought for corruption.

Thus, South Africa receives a score of 0.

Analyst: Alissa Xinbe Wang

³⁴⁰ Ramaphosa's plan to fight corruption, Mail and Guardian 16 February 2018. Access Date: 19 February 2018. <https://mg.co.za/article/2018-02-16-ramaphosas-plan-to-fight-corruption>

³⁴¹ Commonwealth Africa promises a stronger fight against corruption, The Commonwealth (Abuja) 23 May 2018. Access Date: 15 June 2018. <http://thecommonwealth.org/media/news/commonwealth-africa-promises-stronger-fight-against-corruption>

6. Information and Communications Technology: Infrastructure and Connectivity

“We will enhance joint BRICS research, development and innovation in ICT [information and communication technology] including the Internet of Things, Cloud computing, Big Data, Data Analytics, Nanotechnology, Artificial Intelligence and 5G and their innovative applications to elevate the level of ICT infrastructure and connectivity in our countries.”

BRICS Leaders Xiamen Declaration

Assessment

	No compliance	Partial compliance	Full compliance
Brazil			+1
Russia			+1
India			+1
China			+1
South Africa			+1
Total		+1.00	

Background

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

The 2015 Ufa declaration emphasized that “ICTs are emerging as an important medium to bridge the gap between developed and developing countries.” It also recognized “the potential of developing countries in the ICT ecosystem” and acknowledged that [they] “have an important role to play in addressing the ICT-related issues in the post-2015 development agenda.” In 2015 the decision was made to create BRICS working group on ICT cooperation. During the 2016 Goa Summit BRICS leaders reaffirmed their commitment to ICT expansion as a key to enable sustainable development, international peace and security and human rights. In the Goa declaration BRICS members also committed to “bridging digital and technological divides, in particular between developed and developing countries.”

During China’s 2017 presidency ICT agenda became even more important. The leaders committed to “enhance joint BRICS research, development and innovation in ICT including the Internet of Things, Cloud computing, Big Data, Data Analytics, Nanotechnology, Artificial Intelligence and 5G and their innovative applications to elevate the level of ICT infrastructure and connectivity in our countries.”³⁴² The attention was also given to the need of “establishment of internationally applicable rules for security of ICT infrastructure, data protection and the Internet that can be widely accepted by all parties concerned, and jointly build a network that is safe and secure.”³⁴³ BRICS countries also

³⁴² BRICS Leaders Xiamen Declaration 4 September 2017, BRICS Information center University of Toronto. Access date: 11 October 2017. <http://www.brics.utoronto.ca/docs/170904-xiamen.html>

³⁴³ BRICS Leaders Xiamen Declaration 4 September 2017, BRICS Information center University of Toronto. Access date: 11 October 2017. <http://www.brics.utoronto.ca/docs/170904-xiamen.html>

underlined the importance of increasing the investment in ICT and unleashing the dynamics of innovation in producing goods and services. The leader also pledged to “encourage identification and facilitation of partnership between institutes, organizations, enterprises in the implementation of proof of concepts and pilot projects by leveraging complementary strengths in ICT hardware, software and skills through developing next generation of innovative solutions in the areas of smart cities, health care and energy efficient device, etc.”³⁴⁴ Finally, full support was promised to “active collaboration in implementing the BRICS ICT Development Agenda and Action Plan.”³⁴⁵

Commitment Features

This commitment aims to elevate the level of ICT infrastructure and connectivity in BRICS countries through joint research, development and innovation. It contains two important aspects: enhancing the ICT infrastructure inside the country and conducting joint BRICS research and elevating connectivity.

To enhance the ICT infrastructure inside the country BRICS members can

- launch different government projects in the ICT sector
- encourage private companies to conduct R&D programs
- increase financing into ICT projects in spheres such as Internet of Things (IoT), cloud computing, big data, data analytics, nanotechnology, artificial intelligence (AI) and 5G
- take other measures leading to the improvement of ICT infrastructure inside the country.

The second aspect of the commitment implies

- joint research projects with other BRICS members
- joint ICT infrastructure projects
- eliminating internet barriers for BRICS partners
- joint financing and other support for projects in IoT, cloud computing, big data, data analytics, nanotechnology, AI and 5G.

To comply fully with the commitment the BRICS member should take measures to both elevate the level of ICT infrastructure inside the country and promote intra-BRICS projects aimed at ICT infrastructure development and connectivity.

³⁴⁴ BRICS Leaders Xiamen Declaration 4 September 2017, BRICS Information center University of Toronto. Access date: 11 October 2017. <http://www.brics.utoronto.ca/docs/170904-xiamen.html>

³⁴⁵ BRICS Leaders Xiamen Declaration 4 September 2017, BRICS Information center University of Toronto. Access date: 11 October 2017. <http://www.brics.utoronto.ca/docs/170904-xiamen.html>

Scoring Guidelines

-1	BRICS member does not take any actions to elevate the level of ICT infrastructure inside the country OR to promote intra-BRICS projects aimed at ICT infrastructure development and connectivity.
0	BRICS member takes actions to elevate the level of ICT infrastructure inside the country BUT does not promote intra-BRICS projects aimed at ICT infrastructure development and connectivity.
+1	BRICS member takes actions to elevate the level of ICT infrastructure inside the country AND promotes intra-BRICS projects aimed at ICT infrastructure development and connectivity.

Brazil: +1

Brazil has fully complied with the commitment on information and communications technology (ICT).

On 1 November 2017, the National Council for Scientific and Technological Development, the Ministry of Science, Technology, Innovation and Communications and the Framework Program for ICT in BRICS have launched a call for support to joint projects in research and development and in innovation projects. Among the prioritized topics of research is information technology and high-performance computing.³⁴⁶

On 23 November 2017, the Brazilian government launched the “Connected Education” innovation policy to provide connectivity in the country’s education network. The initiative is conducted in partnership with the Ministries of Education and Science and Technology, Innovations and Communications and aims to universalize access to high-speed internet in schools.³⁴⁷

On 6 February 2018, Ministry of Science, Technology, Innovation and Communications announced that Brazil will share five major global research infrastructures with the BRICS member countries. The proposal is that Brazil will initially make it accessible to receive researchers and exchange experiences with the BRICS some of its major research platforms, including its supercomputer Santos Dumont.³⁴⁸

On 6 June 2018, the Ministry of Science, Technology, Innovation and Communications (MCTIC) and the National Bank for Economic and Social Development (BNDES) launched a call for selection of pilot projects to develop Internet of Things. In total, BRL20 million will be made available in non-reimbursable resources to boost projects in the sector.

On 19 June 2018, the Minister of Science, Technology, Innovation and Communications Gilberto Kassab participated in the launch of the Programme to Promote the Internet of Things and other

³⁴⁶ CNPq lança chamada de apoio a projetos envolvendo países do BRICS, National Council for Scientific and Technological Development 1 November 2017. Access date: 7 February 2018. http://cnpq.br/noticiasviews/-/journal_content/56_INSTANCE_a6MO/10157/5895996

³⁴⁷ Governo lança programa para levar internet de alta velocidade às escolas do país, Agencia Brasil 23 November 2017. Access date: 7 February 2018. <http://agenciabrasil.ebc.com.br/educacao/noticia/2017-11/governo-lanca-programa-para-levar-internet-de-alta-velocidade-escolas-do>

³⁴⁸ Infraestruturas de pesquisas brasileiras poderão ser compartilhadas pelo Brics, Ministry of Science, Technology, Innovation and Communications of Brazil 6 February 2018. Access date: 7 February 2018. http://www.mctic.gov.br/mctic/opencms/salaImprensa/noticias/arquivos/2018/02/Infraestruturas_de_pesquisas_brasileiras_poderao_ser_compartilhadas_pelo_Brics.html

technologies to enhance the opportunities of Industry 4.0. The initiative will receive BRL1 billion in resources.³⁴⁹

On 21 June 2018, Gilberto Kassab met with the board of the Brazilian Association of Internet and Telecommunications Providers in São Paulo. During the meeting, the president of the association Basílio Perez delivered the results of the study on the role of regional providers and public policies for the telecommunications sector. According to the minister, some of the proposals presented in the document are already part of ministry's projects. The minister also informed that BNDES is finalizing studies to allocate financing to regional providers.³⁵⁰

On 21 June 2018, MCTIC held a public hearing in São Paulo to present the draft ordinance that will regulate the application of resources of the Information Technology Law (Law no. 8,248/1191) in investment funds for the capitalization of technology-based companies. It aims at boosting the development of IT-related start-ups in the country.³⁵¹

Brazil has taken actions to elevate the level of ICT infrastructure inside the country and promotes intra-BRICS projects aimed at ICT infrastructure development and connectivity.

Thus, Brazil receives a score of +1.

Analysts: Nikita Efremov and Irina Popova

Russia: +1

Russia has fully complied with the commitment on information and communications technology (ICT).

On 2 November 2017, Minister of Communications and Mass Media of the Russian Federation Nikolay Nikiforov made a working visit to the People's Republic of China. He took part in the 22nd meeting of the heads of governments of Russia and China. The participants discussed various issues including deepening of Russia-China cooperation in ICT.³⁵²

On 19 December 2017, Deputy Minister of Communications and Mass Media Rashid Izmailov made a working visit to Switzerland to participate in the 12th Internet Governance Forum and the round-table discussions on development of digital economy in BRICS countries (Cyber BRICS). During the

³⁴⁹ Ministro participa de lançamento de ação de fomento à Internet das Coisas, Ministry of Communications of Brazil 20 June 2018. Access date: 2 July

2018.http://www.mctic.gov.br/mctic/opencms/salaImprensa/noticias/arquivos/2018/06/Ministro_participa_de_lançamento_de_acao_de_fomento_a_Internet_das_Coisas.html

³⁵⁰ Minister receives proposals to boost regional Internet providers, Ministry of Communications of Brazil 22 June 2018. Access date: 2 July

2018.http://www.mctic.gov.br/mctic/opencms/salaImprensa/noticias/arquivos/2018/06/Ministro_recebe_propostas_para_impulsionar_provedores_regionais_de_internet.html

³⁵¹ MCTIC promove audiência sobre aplicações em startups via Lei de Informática, Ministry of Communications of Brazil 22 June 2018. Access date: 2 July

2018.http://www.mctic.gov.br/mctic/opencms/salaImprensa/noticias/arquivos/2018/06/MCTIC_promove_audiencia_sobre_aplicacoes_em_startups_via_Lei_de_Informatica.html

³⁵² The closing ceremony of Russia-China Years of Mass Media, Ministry of Mass media and Communications of Russian Federation 2 November 2017. Access date: 16 January 2018.<http://minsvyaz.ru/ru/events/37575/>

discussion, Izmailov underlined the importance of ICT infrastructure development across the member states of BRICS.³⁵³

On 29 December 2017, the Ministry of Communications and Mass Media of the Russian Federation accepted amendments to the construction rules and regulations concerning engineering installations necessary for construction of modern communications infrastructure. The reason for recent updates of legislation is to extend access to high-speed internet connection in multi-stage residential houses; in particular, the amendments set out guidance for internet providers to make accessible connection with minimal speed of 100 Mbit/sec.³⁵⁴

On 15 February 2018, in Sochi heads of the Ministry of Communications and Mass Media of the Russian Federation, PJSC “Rostelekom,” Karachai-Cherkess Republic, Komi Republic and the Irkutsk Region and the Ryazan Region signed three four-way agreements on cooperation to bridge the digital divide. The aim of the agreements is providing cooperative support for ICT infrastructure development and high-speed connection to the Internet for users.³⁵⁵

On 02 April 2018, the Ministry of Communications and Mass Media of the Russian Federation has announced allocation of RUB 3 billion to finance three dimensions of the federal program of development of digital technologies in Russia. One of the pillars of the program is the action plan “Information Infrastructure” of the Federal Agency “Rosreestr” that will be funded among other related programs.³⁵⁶

On 25 May 2018, on the margins of the St. Petersburg International Economic Forum three trilateral agreements were signed. The parties of the agreements were PJSC “Rostelekom,” the Ministry of Communications and Mass Media of the Russian Federation and the heads of Sverdlovsk Oblast, Khakassia Republic and Samara Region; the aim of the agreements is to bridge the digital divide of the regions of Russia, namely small remote settlements.³⁵⁷

Russia has taken actions to elevate the level of ICT infrastructure inside the country and promotes intra-BRICS projects aimed at ICT infrastructure development and connectivity.

Thus, Russia receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Alexander Ignatov

India: +1

India has fully complied with the commitment on information and communications technology (ICT).

³⁵³ Rashid Izmailov took part in the 12th Internet Governance Forum, Ministry of Mass media and Communications of Russian Federation 19 December 2017. Access date: 16 January 2018.<http://minsvyaz.ru/ru/events/37735/>

³⁵⁴ New amendments to ease access in residential houses for internet providers, Ministry of Mass media and Communications of Russian Federation 29 December 2017. Access date: 16 January 2018.<http://minsvyaz.ru/ru/events/37763/>

³⁵⁵ Three four-way agreements signed to bridge the digital divide, the Ministry of Communications and Mass Media of the Russian Federation 15 February 2018. Access date: 02 July 2018.<http://minsvyaz.ru/ru/events/37926/>

³⁵⁶ Funds to be allocated to fulfil obligations under “Digital Economy” program, the Ministry of Communications and Mass Media of the Russian Federation 02 April 2018. Access date: 02 July 2018.<http://minsvyaz.ru/ru/events/38098/>

³⁵⁷ 600 settlements in three regions to be provided with modern communications, the Ministry of Communications and Mass Media of the Russian Federation 25 May 2018. Access date: 02 July 2018.<http://minsvyaz.ru/ru/events/38266/>

On 16-17 November 2017, the second India–China Technology Transfer, Collaborative Innovation and Investment Conference was organized by the India-China Trade Center in cooperation with China’s Yunnan Academy of Scientific and Technical Information. The conference was supported by the PHD Chamber of Commerce and Industry, the Union Ministry of Science and Technology and Ministry of Food Processing, and the National Research and Development Center. Collaboration in ICT development and transfer was one of the key topics for discussion.³⁵⁸

On 28 November 2017, the fifth Global Conference on Cyberspace was held in New Delhi. During the conference Manoj Sinha, India’s Minister of Communications met with Iranian counterpart to discuss potential areas of cooperation and engagement in the ICT sector.³⁵⁹

On 6-7 December 2017, the Government of India organized the INDIA-ASEAN ICT Expo 2017 in Jakarta, Indonesia. Minister of Communication Shri Manoj Sinha headed the delegation. The focus was on information technology and telecommunications, which form the backbone for the growth of any region/any country. Indonesia was one of the fastest growing markets in Asia in ICT adoption and communication technology. The expo provided a platform for participating Indian and companies from members of the Association of South East Asian Nations to showcase ICT products and services and how they can support each other through close cooperation and mutual-benefit.³⁶⁰

On 15 January 2017, India signed four agreements for collaboration in the ICT sector with Sri Lanka. The agreements were signed for collaboration in ICT sector and the establishment of e-offices.³⁶¹

On 4 January 2018, Prime Minister Modi approved a memorandum of understanding between India and Belgium on cooperation in ICT. Taking forward the vision of Digital India, the MOU intends sharing best practices in ICT policy focusing on developing manufacturing and services, e-governance, exchange programs, cyber security, conferences and research. Belgium is the India’s second largest trading partner within Europe.³⁶²

On 23 May 2018, the Union Cabinet approved Implementation of a Comprehensive Telecom Development Plan for the North Eastern Region in Meghalaya at a total estimated project cost of INR30 billion to be funded by the Universal Service Obligation Fund.³⁶³

On 23 May 2018, the Union Cabinet approved the memorandum of understanding the between India and Angola to promote bilateral cooperation in the field of Electronics and Information Technology. The MoU intends to promote closer cooperation in the areas of e-Governance, HRD

³⁵⁸ Press Release “2nd India–China Technology Transfer, Collaborative Innovation And Investment Conference 2017” (17-11-2017), India China Trade Center 17 November 2017. Access date: 7 February 2018. <http://www.ictc.org.in/press-release-2nd-india-china-technology-transfer-collaborative-innovation-and-investment-conference-2017-17-11-2017/>

³⁵⁹ Iran & India Expand Ties in the ICT Sector, 28 November 2017. Access date: 28 November 2017. <http://techrasa.com/2017/11/28/iran-india-expand-ties-ict-sector/>

³⁶⁰ India-Asean Ict Expo 2017 In Jakarta, Nasscom 6 December 2017. Access date: 6 December 2017. <http://www.nasscom.in/events/india-asean-ict-expo-2017-jakarta>

³⁶¹ India, Sri Lanka sign four agreements for collaboration in ICT sector, January 16, 2018. Access date: January 16, 2018. <https://currentaffairs.gktoday.in/india-sri-lanka-sign-agreements-collaboration-ict-sector-01201851671.html>

³⁶² India-Belgium MoU in ICT & E gets cabinet nod, 4 January 2018. Access date: 4 January 2018. <http://knnindia.co.in/news/newsdetails/global/india-belgium-mou-in-ict-e-gets-cabinet-nod>

³⁶³ Cabinet approves USOF scheme for provision of mobile services in Meghalaya under CTDP for North Eastern Region, Press Information Bureau 23 May 2018. Access date: 2 July 2018. <http://www.pib.gov.in/PressReleseDetail.aspx?PRID=1533120>

for IT education, Information Security, Electronics Hardware manufacturing, IT embedded Software industry, Telemedicine etc.³⁶⁴

On 25 May 2018, National Informatics Centre set up a new cloud enabled National Data Centre at Bhubaneswar to conduct operations with secure hosting for e-Governance applications of the Government and its departments. A centralized cloud environment has been established to host multiple applications with simplified operations and increased application responsiveness to support the new generation of distributed applications while accommodating existing virtualized and non-virtualized environments.³⁶⁵

India has taken actions to elevate the level of ICT infrastructure inside the country and promotes intra-BRICS projects aimed at ICT infrastructure development and connectivity.

Thus, India receives a score of +1.

Analysts: Vadim Agroskin and Irina Popova

China: +1

China has fully complied with the commitment on information and communications technology (ICT).

On 7 September 2017, China announced that the Ministry of Industry and Information Technology together with other ministries and related departments would draft policies to cultivate the artificial intelligence (AI) industry. The policies would include tax cuts and set up national innovation centres to support for AI and clear legal risks.³⁶⁶

On 16-17 November 2017, the second India–China Technology Transfer, Collaborative Innovation and Investment Conference was organized by the India-China Trade Center in cooperation with China's Yunnan Academy of Scientific and Technical Information. The conference was supported by the PHD Chamber of Commerce and Industry, the Union Ministry of Science and Technology and Ministry of Food Processing, and the National Research and Development Center. Collaboration in ICT development and transfer was one of the key topics for discussion.³⁶⁷

On 14 December 2017, China unveiled a three-year plan to boost AI application in automobile, robots, healthcare and other sectors to upgrade the country's real economy. The plan, published on the official website of the Ministry of Industry and Information Technology, said China aims to build a globally competitive smart internet-connected car industry by 2020, with breakthroughs in self-driving platforms.³⁶⁸

³⁶⁴ Cabinet apprised of the MoU between India and Angola for promoting bilateral cooperation in the field of Electronics and Information Technology, Press Information Bureau 23 May 2018. Access date: 2 July 2018. <http://www.pib.gov.in/PressReleaseDetail.aspx?PRID=1533138>

³⁶⁵ ShriRavi Shankar Prasad to inaugurate cloud enabled Data Centre at Bhubaneshwar, Press Information Bureau 25 May 2018. Access date: 2 July 2018. <http://www.pib.gov.in/PressReleaseDetail.aspx?PRID=1533487>

³⁶⁶ Govt set to give AI sector huge policy boost, China Daily 8 September 2017. http://english.gov.cn/state_council/ministries/2017/09/08/content_281475843927886.htm

³⁶⁷ Press Release "2nd India–China Technology Transfer, Collaborative Innovation And Investment Conference 2017" (17-11-2017), India China Trade Center 17 November 2017. Access date: 7 February 2018. <http://www.ictc.org.in/press-release-2nd-india-china-technology-transfer-collaborative-innovation-and-investment-conference-2017-17-11-2017/>

³⁶⁸ Key AI guidelines unveiled, China Daily 15 December 2017. http://english.gov.cn/state_council/ministries/2017/12/15/content_281475977265006.htm

On 12 October 2017, South African students were sent for ICT training in China. During the two-week study and cultural exchange trip, they received training in technologies such as 5G, LTE and cloud computing in Huawei, which sponsored the program. This program was also supported by the South African Ministry of Telecommunications and Postal Services and the Chinese government.³⁶⁹

On 30 January 2018, it was announced that following a series of processes including solicitation, acceptance, review and approval, the Key Intergovernmental Projects of the 2017 National Key Development Program — BRICS Cooperation Projects — were officially launched for implementation. Among them, there are 8 projects selected by the Ministry of Science and Technology (MOST) for participation on behalf of the Chinese side, involving five fields of natural disaster management, geographic spatial technology and applications, new energy, renewable energy and energy efficiency, information technology and high-performance computing, and optoelectronics.³⁷⁰

On 11 April 2018, the 1st Session of the China-Laos Inter-governmental Joint Committee on Science and Technology Cooperation was successfully held in Beijing. The meeting was co-chaired by Minister of Science and Technology of China Zhigang and Minister of Science and Technology of Laos Boviengkham Vongdara. According to the Agreement on Science and Technology Cooperation between the Government of the People's Republic of China and the Government of the People's Democratic Republic of Laos signed by the heads of state of the two countries in November 2017, the two sides set up an Inter-governmental Joint Committee on Science and Technology Cooperation. The session is one of the means for the implementation of the consensus reached by leaders of the two countries.³⁷¹

On 25 May 2018, the 37th Session of China-Poland Scientific and Technological Cooperation Committee was held in Beijing. The two sides reviewed the projects endorsed at the 36th Session of China-Poland Scientific and Technological Cooperation Committee, deliberated on and adopted new bilateral intergovernmental projects on science and technology exchanges, involving materials, ecological protection, machinery, energy and agriculture.³⁷²

China has taken actions to elevate the level of ICT infrastructure inside the country and promotes intra-BRICS projects aimed at ICT infrastructure development and connectivity.

Thus, China receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Anna Tsvetkova

South Africa: +1

South Africa has fully complied with the commitment on information and communications technology (ICT).

³⁶⁹ S. African students set out for ICT training in China, Xinhua 12 October 2017. Access date: 7 February 2018. http://www.xinhuanet.com/english/2017-10/13/c_136675628.htm.

³⁷⁰ 2017 Intergovernmental Key R&D Program – BRICS Cooperation Projects Launched for Implementation, Ministry of Science and Technology of China 30 January 2018. Access date: 2 July 2018. http://www.most.gov.cn/eng/pressroom/201801/t20180130_137927.htm

³⁷¹ 1st Session of China-Laos Inter-governmental Joint Committee on Science and Technology Cooperation Held in Beijing, Ministry of Science and Technology of China 23 May 2018. Access date: 2 July 2018. http://www.most.gov.cn/eng/pressroom/201805/t20180523_139612.htm

³⁷² 37th Session of China-Poland Scientific and Technological Cooperation Committee Held in Beijing, Ministry of Science and Technology of China 25 May 2018. Access date: 2 July 2018. http://www.most.gov.cn/eng/pressroom/201807/t20180703_140405.htm

On 12 October 2017, South African students were sent for ICT training in China. During the two-week study and cultural exchange trip, they received training in technologies such as 5G, LTE and cloud computing in Huawei, which sponsored the program. It was also supported by the South African Ministry of Telecommunications and Postal Services and the Chinese government.³⁷³

On 25 October 2017, the South Africa Big Data Analytics Summit was held. Participants explored how data analytics impacts businesses, also considering its connections with predictive analytics and the new area of real-time analytics.³⁷⁴

On 26 October 2017, the Big Data Artificial Intelligence and Cognitive Science Summit 2017 was held in Johannesburg. Its purpose was to help in understanding and implementing data driven strategies in business.³⁷⁵

South Africa has taken actions to elevate the level of ICT infrastructure inside the country and promoted intra-BRICS projects aimed at ICT infrastructure development and connectivity.

Thus, South Africa receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Anastasia Kataeva

³⁷³ S. African students set out for ICT training in China, Xinhua 12 October 2017. Access date: 7 February 2018.

http://www.xinhuanet.com/english/2017-10/13/c_136675628.htm.

³⁷⁴ South Africa Big Date analytics, 25 October 2017. Access date: 10 January 2018.http://www.unicomlearning.com/2017/SouthAfrica_Analytics_Summit/

³⁷⁵ Big Date Visualization And Cognitive Science Summit, 26 October 2017. Access date: 10 January 2018.<https://www.agileglobalevent.com/conference/Agile/big-date-summit-johannesburg>

7. Energy: Natural Gas

“We will work together to promote most effective use of fossil fuels and wider use of gas, hydro and nuclear power, which will contribute to the transformation toward a low emissions economy, better energy access, and sustainable development.”

BRICS Leaders Xiamen Declaration

Assessment

	No compliance	Partial compliance	Full compliance
Brazil			+1
Russia			+1
India			+1
China			+1
South Africa			+1
Total		+1.00	

Background

The BRICS made its first commitment to fight climate change at the 2009 Yekaterinburg Summit, when the leaders pledged to “support international cooperation in the field of energy efficiency” and expressed readiness to engage in “a constructive dialogue on how to deal with climate change based on the principle of common but differentiated responsibility, given the need to combine measures to protect the climate with steps to fulfill our socio-economic development tasks.”³⁷⁶

Since then the BRICS has maintained climate change as an integral agenda item, committing to support international efforts to combat its effects and immediate causes.

However, the 2016 Goa Declaration represented the first time the BRICS leaders addressed the topic of natural gas promotion as “economically efficient and clean fuel.”³⁷⁷

The reference to natural gas as an economically efficient and clean fuel is backed by international organizations’ assessments. According to the International Energy Agency (IEA), in 2014 global carbon dioxide emissions resulting from natural gas combustion totalled around 6.4 billion tonnes, while those for its most widespread alternatives — oil and coal amounted to 10.9 billion tonnes and 14.9 billion tonnes, respectively.³⁷⁸ Thus, natural gas has comparatively lower environmental impact than the energy sources.

In 2015, according to the IEA statistics, coal constituted the largest part of energy mix in China (66.7 per cent), India (44.5 per cent) and South Africa (67.9 per cent). Oil was the most widely used source of energy in Brazil, where it accounted for 40.1 percent. Only in Russia natural gas accounted for more than a half of primary energy supply (51.2 per cent).³⁷⁹

³⁷⁶ Joint Statement of the BRIC Countries' Leaders, BRIC 16 June 2009. Access date: 10 October 2017. <http://www.brics.utoronto.ca/docs/090616-leaders.html>.

³⁷⁷ 8th BRICS Summit: Goa Declaration, BRICS 16 October 2016. Access date: 10 October 2017. <http://www.brics.utoronto.ca/docs/161016-go.html>.

³⁷⁸ CO2 Emissions from Fuel Combustion 2016 Edition, IEA 2016. Access date: 10 October 2017. http://www.iea.org/bookshop/729-CO2_Emissions_from_Fuel_Combustion.

³⁷⁹ Statistics, IEA. Access date: 10 October 2017. <http://www.iea.org/statistics/statisticssearch/>.

Commitment Features

The pledge to expand the use of natural gas is central to the commitment. This expansion implies extending the territorial breadth of the use of natural gas as a primary energy source. Thus, promoting the use of natural both domestically and abroad was chosen as the primary criterion for the assessment.

The commitment can be fulfilled by both taking domestic actions and promoting international cooperation or providing support to foreign economies in the field of natural gas exploration, transportation or distribution, as well as introducing related technologies and practices, including those aimed at increasing energy efficiency and reducing environmental impact.

To achieve full compliance members must take both domestic and international action to promote wider use of natural gas.

Scoring Guidelines

-1	BRICS member did not take actions aimed at expanding the use of natural gas.
0	BRICS member took action aimed at expanding the use of natural gas either domestically or abroad.
+1	BRICS member took action aimed at expanding the use of natural gas both domestically and abroad.

Brazil: +1

Brazil has fully complied with the commitment to expand the use of natural gas.

On 29 December 2017, President Michel Temer sanctioned a law that creates a special taxation regime for oil companies by giving them exemptions until 2040. The law guarantees a special tax regime for oil and natural gas exploration, development and production activities in the country. Imports or purchases of raw materials and intermediate are also entitled to exemption. This type of measure facilitates investments in the sector, which is expected to gain even more prominence in the national economy after the last auctions of oil and gas exploration blocks and will increase their usage within the country.³⁸⁰

On 22 March 2018, the Director general of the National Agency of Oil, Gas and Biofuels Décio Oddone participated in 33rd Iberian-American Liquefied Petroleum Gas (LPG) Congress, organized by the Iberian-American LPG Association. Among the main topics addressed at the congress were the increase in the supply of LPG in the world and the change in ownership of the storage terminals from state to private; security of supply; the de-bureaucratization of the norms in force to encourage investments; strengthening compliance to avoid competitive risks; and the attributes of the GLP that allow its use in several fronts.³⁸¹

On 9-17 April 2018, Décio Oddone was in London and Abu Dhabi for a series of meetings and meetings with investors and representatives of oil and gas companies. The objective was to publicize

³⁸⁰ New law facilitates investment in Oil & Gas, BrazilGovNews 29 December 2017. Access date: 12 January 2017. <http://www.brazilgovnews.gov.br/news/2017/12/new-law-facilitates-investment-in-oil-gas>

³⁸¹ ANP participa de congresso internacional de GLP, National Agency of Oil, Gas and Biofuels of Brazil 22 March 2018. Access date: 2 July 2018. <http://www.anp.gov.br/noticias/4372-anp-participa-de-congresso-internacional-de-glp>

investment opportunities in Brazil, such as the next round of bidding and the permanent offer of areas.³⁸²

On 29 June 2018, Décio Oddone participated in a series of events and meetings in the United States to present investment opportunities in the oil and gas sector in Brazil. He gave lectures at the World Gas Conference 2018, the world's largest natural gas industry meeting in Washington, DC. He was invited to the panels "The regulatory driving forces in natural gas markets" and "Young Professionals Program — The Changing Regulatory Landscape." He also presented opportunities for investment in Brazilian natural gas industry.³⁸³

Brazil has taken actions aimed at expanding the use of natural gas domestically and abroad.

Thus, Brazil receives a score of +1.

Analysts: Nikita Efremov and Irina Popova

Russia: +1

Russia has fully complied with the commitment to expand the use of natural gas.

On 13 October 2017, the high-level officials of Russia and Pakistan signed a cooperation agreement on liquefied natural gas (LNG), which allows Russia to send LNG supplies to regasification terminals in Pakistan. The partner companies — Gazprom (Russia) and Pakistan LLG Limited — plan to sign a long-lasting agreement of sale and purchase in two months.³⁸⁴

On 26 October 2017, Gazprom NGV Fuel, the first Russian-made natural gas liquefaction unit, allows the production of 600 kg of LNG per hour for gas-powered vehicles. The first commercially effective unit is planned to be installed in several cities of Russia (Kemerovo, Krasnodar, Naberezhnye Chelny and Bagrationovks).³⁸⁵

On 1 November 2017, Russian Energy Minister Aleksandr Novak signed a memorandum of understanding to back a new gas pipeline project connecting India and Iran. The countries will build a 1,200-km pipeline from Iran to India with Gazprom developing several Iranian deposits along the route.³⁸⁶

On 23 November 2017, Alexander Novak signed several documents on cooperation in gas sphere with Bolivia on margins of the 4th Gas Forum in Santa Cruz de la Sierra, Bolivia. Agreements

³⁸² ANP divulga oportunidades de investimentos no Brasil a 40 instituições estrangeiras, National Agency of Oil, Gas and Biofuels of Brazil 19 April 2018. Access date: 2 July 2018. <http://www.anp.gov.br/noticias/anp-e-p/4419-anp-divulga-oportunidades-de-investimentos-no-brasil-a-40-instituicoes-estrangeiras>

³⁸³ Nos EUA, ANP apresenta oportunidades de investimentos no Brasil, National Agency of Oil, Gas and Biofuels of Brazil 29 June 2018. Access date: 2 July 2018. <http://www.anp.gov.br/noticias/anp-e-p/4575-nos-eua-anp-apresenta-oportunidades-de-investimentos-no-brasil>

³⁸⁴ Russia – Pakistan LNG deal, Ministry of Energy of the Russian Federation 13 October 2017. Access date: 16 January 2018. <https://minenergo.gov.ru/node/9551>.

³⁸⁵ Russia has developed its first natural gas liquefaction unit, Ministry of Energy of the Russian Federation 26 October 2017. Access date: 16 January 2018. <https://minenergo.gov.ru/node/9644>

³⁸⁶ Russia to build pipeline to supply Iranian natural gas to India, Russia Today 1 November, 2017. Access date: 9 February 2018. <https://www.rt.com/business/408432-gazprom-iran-india-gas-pipe/>

include the memorandum on establishment of a joint venture for gas fuel infrastructure development.³⁸⁷

On 21 December 2017, Alexey Miller of Gazprom (majority state-owned) and Wang Yilin of the China National Petroleum Corporation (state-owned) signed an agreement for natural gas to be supplied from Russia's Far East to China. The document outlines the basic parameters of future supplies, namely the volumes, the terms of the contract, the starting date, surge periods and cross-border points. The corresponding contract is expected to be inked in 2018. The parties also signed the Coordination Agreement — the addendum to the Sales and Purchase Agreement for gas to be supplied via the eastern route. The new agreement sets out, inter alia, the modalities of interaction and the gas metering procedure for conveying gas.³⁸⁸

Russia has taken actions aimed at expanding the use of natural gas domestically and abroad.

Thus, Russia receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Alexander Ignatov

India: +1

India has fully complied with the commitment to expand the use of natural gas.

On 18 October 2017, Minister of Economy, Trade and Industry of Japan Hiroshige Seko, and Minister of State for Petroleum and Natural Gas of India Debendra Pradhan, signed the Memorandum of Cooperation on Establishing a Liquid, Flexible and Global Liquefied Natural Gas Market. Japan and India will aim to conduct joint activities to establish a highly liquid, flexible and transparent global market for liquefied natural gas (LNG) that is open to all consumers and producers, and to this end, they will share knowledge to improve the functioning of the global LNG market and to conduct initiatives for raising public awareness of best practices.³⁸⁹

On 16 January 2018, Prime Minister Narendra Modi signed a memorandum of understanding between India and Israel on cooperation in the oil and gas sector. The cooperation envisaged facilitates promotion of investments in each other's countries, technology transfer, research and development, conducting joint studies, capacity building of human resources, and collaboration in the area of start-ups.³⁹⁰

On 19 March 2018, the Government launched Pradhan Mantri LPG Panchayat — an interactive communication platform for rural LPG users on various subjects such as safe usage of LPG, its

³⁸⁷ Alexander Novak to take part in signing ceremony on margins of the 4th Gas Forum, the Ministry of Energy of Russia 24 November 2017. Access date: 02 July 2018. <https://minenergo.gov.ru/node/9924>

³⁸⁸ Alexey Miller: basis laid for another pipeline route of Russian gas supplies to China, Gazprom 21 December 2017. Access date: 7 February 2018. <http://www.gazprom.com/press/news/2017/december/article388463/>

³⁸⁹ Japan and India Signed a Memorandum of Cooperation on Establishing a Liquid, Flexible and Global Liquefied Natural Gas Market, October 18, 2017. Access date: 18 October 2017. http://www.meti.go.jp/english/press/2017/1018_002.html

³⁹⁰ Shri Narendra Modi signed the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between India and Israel on cooperation in the Oil and Gas Sector, Press Information Bureau 16 January 2018. Access date: 16 January 2018. <http://www.pib.gov.in/PressReleaseDetail.aspx?PRID=1516832>

benefit to environment, women empowerment and women health, and also use the forum to motivate the consumers to use LPG regularly as a clean cooking fuel.³⁹¹

On 17 April 2018, India-US Strategy Energy Partnership Joint Statement was issued. Through the Partnership, the United States and India collectively seek to enhance energy security, expand energy and innovation linkages across our respective energy sectors, bolster our strategic alignment, and facilitate increased industry and stakeholder engagement in the energy sector.³⁹²

India has taken actions aimed at expanding the use of natural gas domestically and abroad.

Thus, India receives a score of +1.

Analysts: Vadim Agroskin and Irina Popova

China: +1

China has fully complied with the commitment to expand the use of natural gas.

On 8 September 2017, Deputy Minister of Finance Liu Wei said that local finances will contribute about RMB 69.7 billion (USD 11 billion) to complete clean heating renovations in the next three years. The program came after the government work report said that China will address pollution caused by coal, with measures including clean winter heating in the north and replacing coal with electricity and natural gas in more than 3 million households.³⁹³

On 11 December 2017, Beijing obtained a loan of USD 250 million from the Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank to promote coal-to-gas conversion process in China. The project is also aimed at improving air quality in Beijing and surrounding areas. New facilities are planned to be completed by 2021 and would provide 510 rural villages with non-coal energy.³⁹⁴

On 21 December 2017, Alexey Miller of Gazprom (majority state-owned) and Wang Yilin of the China National Petroleum Corporation (state-owned) signed an agreement for natural gas to be supplied from Russia's Far East to China. The document outlines the basic parameters of future supplies, namely the volumes, the terms of the contract, the starting date, surge periods and cross-border points. The corresponding contract is expected to be inked in 2018. The parties also signed the Coordination Agreement — the addendum to the Sales and Purchase Agreement for gas to be supplied via the eastern route. The new agreement sets out, inter alia, the modalities of interaction and the gas metering procedure for conveying gas.³⁹⁵

China has taken actions aimed at expanding the use of natural gas domestically and abroad were.

Thus, China receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Anna Tsvetkova

³⁹¹ LPG connection to every household, Press Information Bureau 19 March 2018. Access date: 2 July 2018. <http://www.pib.gov.in/PressReleaseDetail.aspx?PRID=1525181>

³⁹² India-US Strategy Energy Partnership Joint Statement, Press Information Bureau 19 April 2018. Access date: 2 July 2018. <http://www.pib.gov.in/PressReleaseDetail.aspx?PRID=1529335>

³⁹³ China spends big to ensure clean winter heating, Xinhua 9 September 2017. http://english.gov.cn/state_council/ministries/2017/09/09/content_281475846157278.htm

³⁹⁴ AIIB OKs \$250m loan for Beijing's natural gas project. China Daily 11 December 2017. Access date: 08 February 2018. URL: <http://www.chinadaily.com.cn/a/201712/11/WS5a2e13eaa310eefe3e9a2750.html>

³⁹⁵ Alexey Miller: basis laid for another pipeline route of Russian gas supplies to China, Gazprom 21 December 2017. Access date: 7 February 2018. <http://www.gazprom.com/press/news/2017/december/article388463/>

South Africa: +1

South Africa has fully complied with the commitment to expand the use of natural gas.

On 14 September 2017, the new open-access terminal for liquefied petroleum gas was launched at the west coast Port of Saldanha in South Africa for exports and imports. The project was initiated as a joint public-private venture by Royal Bafokeng Holdings and the government's Industrial Development Corp.³⁹⁶

On 9-11 October 2017, the International Gas Cooperation Summit took place in Durban under the auspice of the Department of Energy of the Republic of South Africa. The summit showcased gas procurement and utilization strategies with participation of international and regional partners. The main objective was building an energy hub for gas cooperation along the international gas value chain.³⁹⁷

On 25 October 2017, the government's Petroleum Agency South Africa granted environmental authorization for Tetra4, a subsidiary of privately owned Renergen, to explore and develop the first inland gas field in South Africa. The authorization is required for further construction of gas-processing facilities in Free State. Tetra4 is planning to start construction early in 2018 and start producing liquefied natural gas for the local market in 2019.³⁹⁸

On 16 May 2018, Minister of Energy Jeff Radebe delivered the 2018/2019 Budget Policy Statement of the Department of Energy to Parliament of South Africa. The minister highlighted 5 key areas of the Department's activity for next year; one of them is further promotion of use of natural gas by designing and building infrastructure required to transport natural gas and LNG.³⁹⁹

South Africa has taken actions aimed at expanding the use of natural gas both domestically and abroad.

Thus, South Africa receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Alexander Ignatov

³⁹⁶ South Africa opens Sunrise Energy LPG terminal, LNG World Shipping 14 September 2017. Access date: 15 January 2018. http://www.lngworldshipping.com/news/view,south-africa-opens-sunrise-energy-lpg-terminal_49161.htm

³⁹⁷ International Gas Cooperation Summit (IGCS), Durban / 9-11 October 2017, Energynet. Access date: 15 January 2018. <http://www.energynet.co.uk/event/international-gas-co-operation-summit>

³⁹⁸ Renergen secures onshore petroleum production right in South Africa; will locally produce LNG, South African Oil and Gas Alliance 25 October 2017. Access date: 15 January 2018. <https://www.saoga.org.za/news-events/general-news/renergen-secures-onshore-petroleum-production-right-south-africa-will>

³⁹⁹ Media Statement by the Minister of Energy: Jeff Radebe on the 2018/19 Budget Vote of the Department of Energy, the Department of Energy of South Africa 16 May 2018. Access date: 03 July 2018. <http://www.energy.gov.za/files/media/pr/2018/MediaStatement-by-the-Minister-on-the2018-19Budget-Vote-of-the-Department-of-Energy-16May2018.pdf>

8. Finance: Local Currency Bonds

“We agree to promote the development of BRICS Local Currency Bond Markets and jointly establish a BRICS Local Currency Bond Fund, as a means of contribution to the capital sustainability of financing in BRICS countries, boosting the development of BRICS domestic and regional bond markets, including by increasing foreign private sector participation, and enhancing financial resilience of BRICS countries.”

BRICS Leaders Xiamen Declaration

Assessment

	No compliance	Partial compliance	Full compliance
Brazil	-1		
Russia	-1		
India		0	
China		0	
South Africa	-1		
Total		-0.60	

Background

Local currency bond markets (LCBMs) play an important role in improving the resilience of the domestic economy and financial systems.⁴⁰⁰

On 19 June 2017, at their second meeting under the Chinese presidency BRICS finance ministers and central bank governors agreed on promoting cooperation in the area of developing the local currency bond markets in BRICS countries.⁴⁰¹

At the Xiamen Summit, BRICS leaders made a commitment on promoting the development of local currency bond markets in their countries and jointly establishing a BRICS local currency bond fund.

Commitment Features

Being a new priority for BRICS, the development of local currency bond markets has been actively discussed by the G20. The G20 mandated major international financial institutions to enhance collaboration and information sharing on relevant issues.

In 2016, the International Monetary Fund prepared an overview of recent developments in the local currency bond markets and made some recommendations for policymakers in this regard. In particular, the report highlighted that:

- The reform process requires a sustained effort by authorities at both a high level, to remove roadblocks and at a technical level. Long-term reforms should use interim markers to ensure that focus is maintained and targets are met. In addition, it would be important to have in place a macroprudential framework and to assess at regular intervals the balance across all key components of the bond market to avoid potential risks to financial stability. During the process, country authorities may need to put appropriate buffers in place to facilitate a smooth transition. For

⁴⁰⁰ Local currency bond markets, OECD. Access date: 9 February 2018. <https://www.oecd.org/g20/topics/financing-for-investment/local-currency-bond-markets.htm>

⁴⁰¹ The Second BRICS Finance Ministers and Central Bank Governors Meeting in 2017 Held in Shanghai, People’s Bank of China 23 June 2017. Access date: 9 February 2018. <http://www.pbc.gov.cn/english/130721/3331850/index.html>

instance, to mitigate the potentially destabilizing effects of volatile capital flow, country authorities may want to review prudential limits and reserves buffers before increasing their efforts to diversify the investor base to include foreign investors.

- Key stakeholders in LCBM development need to coordinate a holistic reform program for development of the primary and secondary markets. Particularly important is the role of the debt manager, where the design and implementation of debt strategies have critical implications for the development of LCBMs. Debt managers need to work in close coordination with other stakeholders, such as regulators and central banks, to ensure greater alignment of policies to foster an overall LCBM development and maintain an active dialogue with market participants.
- The regulatory and supervisory frameworks should be designed to cover all financial intermediaries. It is critical to have supervisory bodies able to develop and implement suitable regulations to facilitate market development, while safeguarding financial stability, as increased competition and financial innovation may lead to increased risk-taking and financial stability risks.
- The sequencing of LCBM reforms should be comprehensive and implemented gradually, according to timeframes based on the stage of market development. For example, the treasury management capacity of domestic market participants, the level of economic financial development, as well as the level of national savings, need to be taken into account in LCBM reforms.⁴⁰²

To comply with this commitment, BRICS countries should promote the development of local currency bond markets by taking actions specified above, and make technical or financial efforts to establish a BRICS local currency bond fund. Taking actions in one of the two areas means partial compliance.

Scoring Guidelines

-1	BRICS member takes no action to promote the development of local currency bond markets or establishing a BRICS local currency bond fund.
0	BRICS member takes actions to promote the development of local currency bond markets OR to establish a BRICS local currency bond fund.
+1	BRICS member takes actions to promote the development of local currency bond markets AND to establish a BRICS local currency bond fund.

Brazil: -1

Brazil has not complied with the commitment on finance in support of BRICS local currency bond markets.

No actions were found during the compliance period.

Brazil has taken no actions to promote the development of local currency bond markets or to establish a BRICS local currency bond fund.

Thus, Brazil receives a score of -1.

Analyst: Nikita Efremov

⁴⁰² Development of local currency bond markets. Overview of recent developments and key themes, IMF. Access date: 9 February 2018. <https://www.imf.org/external/np/g20/pdf/2016/121416.pdf>

Russia: –1

Russia has not complied with the commitment on finance in support of BRICS local currency bond markets.

On 24 October 2017, the research-to-practice conference on financial initiatives of the BRICS countries took place in Moscow. The conference was organized by the Russian Institute of Strategic Research. The participants discussed various topics including China's BRICS Plus initiative, banking sector reforms, over-the-counter derivatives regulation and quota reform of the International Monetary Fund.⁴⁰³

Russia has taken no actions to promote the development of local currency bond markets or establish a BRICS local currency bond fund.

Thus, Russia receives a score of –1.

Analyst: Alexander Ignatov

India: 0

India has partially complied with the commitment on finance in support of BRICS local currency bond markets.

On 22 September 2017, the Indian government listed its first ever bond index on the London Stock Exchange, opening the country's debt markets to the rest of the world. This index was launched in collaboration with global index and data provider FTSE Russell. It will consist of Indian rupee-denominated government bonds.⁴⁰⁴

India has taken actions to promote the development of local currency bond markets but has not taken steps to establish a BRICS local currency bond fund.

Thus, India receives a score of 0.

Analysts: Vadim Agroskin and Irina Popova

China: 0

China has partially complied with the commitment on finance in support of BRICS local currency bond markets.

On 13 November 2017, Premier Li Keqiang said that China is keen to enhance financial cooperation with members of the Association of South East Asian Nations in the course of internationalizing the renminbi to expand the scale of local currency settlement, facilitate the development of local currency bond markets, and promote the use of local currency in regional investment and trade.⁴⁰⁵

On 1 July 2018, it was announced that China Development Bank is expected to issue 35 billion yuan (USD5.29 billion) financial bonds to global investors under “bond connect” scheme. The date of

⁴⁰³ Sustainable development: BRICS financial initiatives, National Committee for BRICS Research 26 October 2017. Access date: 18 January 2018.<http://www.nkibrics.ru/posts/show/59f1ce9d6272697ac43b0000>

⁴⁰⁴ India lists its first-ever bond index as it looks to attract foreign investors, 22 September 2017. Access date: 22 September 2017. <https://www.cnn.com/2017/09/22/india-lists-its-first-ever-bond-index-as-it-looks-to-attract-foreign-investors.html>

⁴⁰⁵ Full text of Premier Li's speech at the 20th China-ASEAN Summit, Ministry of Foreign Affairs 15 November 2017. Access date: 9 February 2018.http://english.gov.cn/premier/speeches/2017/11/15/content_281475943411182.htm

issue marks the one-year anniversary of the “bond connect” scheme launched to link China’s market with overseas investors. This latest issue will include five products with maturity dates between one to ten years.⁴⁰⁶

China has taken actions to promote the development of local currency bond markets but has not taken steps to establish a BRICS local currency bond fund.

Thus, China receives a score of 0.

Analyst: Anna Tsvetkova

South Africa: –1

South Africa has not complied with the commitment on finance in support of BRICS local currency bond markets.

No actions were found during compliance period.

South Africa has not taken any actions to promote the development of local currency bond markets or establish a BRICS local currency bond fund.

Thus, South Africa receives a score of –1.

Analyst: Anastasia Kataeva

⁴⁰⁶ China Development Bank to issue 35 bill, Reuters 1 July 2018. Access date: 2 July 2018. <https://www.reuters.com/article/us-china-cdb-bonds/china-development-bank-to-issue-35-billion-yuan-bonds-via-connect-scheme-report-idUSKBN1JR17L>

9. Regional Security: Iraq

“We congratulate the people and Government of Iraq for the recovery of Mosul and for the progress achieved in the fight against terrorism and reaffirm our commitment to Iraq’s sovereignty, territorial integrity and political independence and our support for Iraqi government and its people.”

BRICS Leaders Xiamen Declaration

Assessment

	No compliance	Partial compliance	Full compliance
Brazil		0	
Russia		0	
India		0	
China		0	
South Africa	-1		
Total		-0.20	

Background

Iraq and its people face severe political, security and socioeconomic challenges due to ongoing regional instability, terrorist activity and lack of governmental capacity to tackle the current crisis. The fall of Saddam Hussein’s regime in 2003 and a long military campaign drove the country to the verge of collapse; assistance provided by the American forces and the allied powers helped the new government of Iraq to maintain control in main cities of the country. The withdrawal of the American forces in 2011 and the emergence of the Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant as the main threat to regional peace and security again led to internal crisis in Iraq and endangered the local population.

For the first time the BRICS leaders addressed the situation in Iraq in 2014, expressing their concern and support for the Iraqi government in its “effort to overcome the crisis, uphold national sovereignty and territorial integrity.”⁴⁰⁷ The BRICS leaders urged regional and global players to refrain from interference that may further deepen the crisis and to support the local government and the people of Iraq in its efforts to “build a stable, inclusive and united Iraq.” The commitment was reiterated in 2015 in Ufa, when the BRICS countries again expressed concerns about “spillover effects of the instability in Iraq ... resulting in growing terrorist activities in the region” and proclaimed that they “reaffirm our commitment to the territorial integrity, independence and national sovereignty of the Republic of Iraq.”⁴⁰⁸

Commitment Features

Iraq now faces the challenges that are closely interconnected and do not possess the capabilities to tackle them successfully. To overcome crisis, the country needs massive support in economic, social, security and other spheres. The current problems of Iraq fall within the local government’s jurisdiction, that is why the BRICS countries’ support for Iraq in its fight against terrorism should be aimed at providing necessary resources, dedicated to capacity-building.

⁴⁰⁷ 2014 Fortaleza Declaration and Action Plan, RANEPF. Access date: 9 February 2018. http://www.ranepa.ru/images/media/brics/brazpresidency2/6th_BRICS_Summit_Fortaleza_Declaration_and_Action_Plan.pdf

⁴⁰⁸ 2015 Ufa Declaration, RANEPF. Access date: 9 February 2018. http://www.ranepa.ru/images/media/brics/ruspresidency2/Declaration_eng.pdf

The commitment requires the BRICS members to provide capacity-building assistance to Iraq in socioeconomic development, security and good governance that will contribute to national reconciliation, fight with terrorism, security facilitation, promotion of independent political and economic course. The possible actions were listed in the United Nations Security Council Resolution 2367 (2017) extending the mandate of the UN Assistance Mission in Iraq (UNAMI).⁴⁰⁹

Advise, support and assistance for Iraq may include support for national reconciliation, electoral process, constitutional review and implementation of constitutional provisions, resolution of disputed internal boundaries, regional dialogue on border security, energy and refugees, planning, funding and implementing reintegration programs for former members of illegal armed groups, and initial planning for the conduct of a comprehensive census.

Actions of BRICS countries in support for Iraq may be aimed at improving coordination and delivery of humanitarian assistance, establishing cooperation with donors and international financial institutions, coordinating and implementing programs to provide essential services for people of Iraq, reforming the economy, building capacity and improving conditions for sustainable development, developing effective civil, social and essential services, and supporting contributions by UN agencies, funds and programs. Further assistance in protecting human rights and reforming judicial and legal systems to maintain the rule of law in the country also might be counted as a valid action. Also signing of significant documents like memorandum of understanding or memorandum of actions covering wide spectrum of bilateral relations can be counted as compliance.

Scoring Guidelines

-1	BRICS member does not provide assistance to Iraq in addressing security, socioeconomic development and governance challenges.
0	BRICS member provides assistance to Iraq in addressing only one or two of the following challenges: security, socioeconomic development or good governance.
+1	BRICS member provides assistance to Iraq in addressing all of the following challenges: security, socioeconomic development and good governance.

Brazil: 0

Brazil has partially complied with the commitment on regional security to provide support to Iraq.

On 9 September 2017, Iraq’s Interior Minister Qasim al-Araji met with Brazil’s ambassador to Iraq Miguel Júnior França Chaves de Magalhães to discuss his visit to Brazil. The objective is to meet Brazilian producers of defence equipment.⁴¹⁰

On 26 June 2018, the Brazilian mission visited Baghdad, to sign memorandum of understanding to establish a mechanism for political consultations with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Iraq. The Policy Consultations aim to develop dialogue on bilateral, regional and international issues of common interest, promoting mutual understanding and cooperation in international fora. The two sides stressed the need to develop bilateral relations, especially in agricultural and technical fields, and urged Brazilian companies to invest in Iraq and contribute to the reconstruction of

⁴⁰⁹ Resolution 2367 (2017), United Nations 14 July 2017. Access date: 9 February 2018. http://uniraq.org/index.php?option=com_k2&view=item&task=download&id=2350_ee28e2b0225d9ad690f632397835ed99&Itemid=654&lang=en

⁴¹⁰ Iraqi Interior Minister to come to Brazil, Brazil-Iraq Chamber for Commerce and Industry 19 September 2017. Access date: 7 February 2018. <http://www.brasiliraq.com.br/ministro-do-interior-do-iraque-vira-ao-brasil/>

liberated areas of terrorist gangs, as well as joint coordination through exchanging experiences and information in the face of the terrorist challenges that threaten the international community.⁴¹¹

Brazil has not provided assistance to Iraq in addressing security, socioeconomic development and governance challenges. However, the important memorandum of understanding covering all areas addressed by the commitment was signed. This can be considered as “work in progress.”

Thus, Brazil receives a score of 0.

Analyst: Irina Popova

Russia: 0

Russia has partially complied with the commitment on regional security to provide support to Iraq.

On 25 September 2017, Russian President Vladimir Putin and Iranian President Hassan Rouhani discussed support measures to Iraq during a telephone conversation. The two leaders highlighted the importance of territorial and border integrity of Iraq in reference to the recent referendum on independence on territories under the Kurds control.⁴¹²

On 23-25 October 2017, Iraqi Foreign Minister Ibrahim al-Jaafari during an official visit to Moscow, met with Russian Foreign Minister Sergei Lavrov to discuss Russia’s position on preserving Iraq’s sovereignty and territorial integrity given the ISIS threat and the Kurdish referendum on independence. al-Jaafari remarked on Russia’s friendly position towards maintaining peace among peoples of Iraq, including the Kurds.⁴¹³

On 16 January 2018, Sergey Lavrov had a meeting with the United Nations Special Representative for Iraq and Head of the United Nations Assistance Mission for Iraq (UNAMI) Jan Kubis on the prospects for the development of the situation in Iraq and the tasks of the post-conflict stabilization. Russia reiterated its support for Iraq’s territorial integrity and sovereignty and urged all the parties concerned to participate in the multilateral dialog for the national reconciliation.⁴¹⁴

On 19 April 2018, military and special forces officials of Russia, Iraq, Iran and Syria held a meeting in Baghdad, Iraq. The meeting was devoted to joint actions against terrorist forces in the region, namely exchange of intelligence information.⁴¹⁵

Russia has provided assistance to Iraq in addressing security challenges, but not in socioeconomic development or good governance spheres.

⁴¹¹ Consultas Políticas com Omã, Iraque, Kuwait, Bahrein e Emirados Árabes Unidos – 24 de junho a 2 de julho de 2018, Brazilian Ministry of Foreign Affairs 26 June 2018. Access date: 2 July 2018. <http://www.itamaraty.gov.br/pt-BR/notas-a-imprensa/19080-consultas-politicas-com-oma-iraque-kuwait-bahrein-e-emirados-arabes-unidos>

⁴¹² Iran, Russia support Iraq’s territorial integrity, Xinhua 25 September 2017. Access date: 17 January 2018. http://news.xinhuanet.com/english/2017-09/25/c_136637563.htm

⁴¹³ Russia stands by Baghdad and insists on Iraq’s territorial integrity, Euronews 25 October 2017. Access date: 17 January 2018. <http://www.euronews.com/2017/10/23/russia-stands-by-baghdad-and-insists-on-iraqs-territorial-integrity>

⁴¹⁴ Russian top diplomat, US Iraqi envoy discuss post-conflict situation in Iraq, TASS 16 January 2018. Access date: 17 January 2018. <http://tass.com/politics/985372>

⁴¹⁵ Iraq, Iran, Russia and Syria’s officials to hold a meeting in Baghdad, TASS Information Agency 19 April 2018. Access date: 02 July 2018. <http://tass.ru/mezhdunarodnaya-panorama/5142304>

Thus, Russia receives a score of 0.

Analyst: Alexander Ignatov

India: 0

India has partially complied with the commitment on regional security to provide support to Iraq.

On 12 October 2017, India's Minister of State for Health and Family Welfare Anupriya Patel met with Iraq's Health Minister Adeela Hammoud Hussein in New Delhi to discuss bilateral cooperation on health.⁴¹⁶

On 17 October 2017, India expressed its stance on the Kurds' referendum and stated it has always remained steadfast in its support for Iraq in the ongoing war against terrorism and in the efforts to uphold its national sovereignty and preserve the territorial integrity. We remain committed to a stable, peaceful, democratic and a united Iraq that is able to settle its internal affairs amicably through peaceful process of dialogue and other constitutional means, which serve the interest of the people of Iraq.⁴¹⁷

On 11 December 2017, the foreign ministers of the Russian Federation, the Republic of India and the People's Republic of China held their 15th Meeting in New Delhi and discussed global and regional issues of common concern. Iraq was one of the topics of the meeting.⁴¹⁸

On 14 February 2018, Minister of State for External Affairs Akbar stated that India is opening the consulate general office in Erbil city. India has also contributed USD 20 million for assistance to the people of Iraq. Activities under this pledge included milk food supplies through the World Food Programme (WFP), training of Iraqi Foreign Service officers in diplomacy, and other Iraqi officials in information technology.⁴¹⁹

India has provided assistance to Iraq in addressing socioeconomic development and good governance, but has not taken actions to support Iraq in security issues.

Thus, India receives a score of 0.

Analysts: Vadim Agroskin and Irina Popova

China: 0

China has partially complied with the commitment on regional security to provide support to Iraq.

⁴¹⁶ Dr. Adeela Hammoud Hussein, Health Minister of Iraq meeting with Smt. Anupriya Patel, Minister of State for Health and Family Welfare in New Delhi on October 12, 2017 and discussed a wide range of issues in the field of Health for bilateral cooperation, Indian Embassy in Baghdad 12 October 2017. Access date: 9 February 2018. http://www.indianembassybaghdad.in/news_detail/?newsid=26

⁴¹⁷ India's position on the Referendum held in the Kurdistan Region of Iraq. October 17, 2017. Access date: October 17, 2017. <http://www.mea.gov.in/press-releases.htm?dtl/29033/indias+position+on+the+referendum+held+in+the+kurdistan+region+of+iraq>

⁴¹⁸ Joint Communiqué of the 15th Meeting of the Foreign Ministers of the Russian Federation, the Republic of India and the People's Republic of China, December 11, 2017. Access date: December 11, 2017. <http://www.mea.gov.in/bilateral-documents.htm?dtl/29171/joint+communiqu+of+the+15th+meeting+of+the+foreign+ministers+of+the+russian+federation+the+republic+of+india+and+the+peoples+republic+of+china>

⁴¹⁹ India assures Iraq of commitment to rebuilding process, The Indian Express 14 February 2018. Access date: 2 July 2018. <https://indianexpress.com/article/india/india-assures-iraq-of-commitment-to-rebuilding-process-5064099/>

On 25 September 2017, Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesperson Lu Kang presented Beijing's official position on the independence referendum in the region of Iraq under control of the Kurds saying that China supports the territorial integrity and sovereignty of Iraq.⁴²⁰

On 26 December 2017, the deal between China's ZhenHua Oil and Iraq's Oil Ministry was announced. The deal concerns exploration of the oil field of East Baghdad. The counterparts plan to reach daily productivity of 40,000 barrels; the personnel policy would favor the local natives that would consist at least 50 per cent of workers. Chinese company is also interested in developing local social infrastructure and plans to construct a new school, a healthcare center and a kindergarten near the oilfield.⁴²¹

On 8 May 2018, the Government of Iraq, ExxonMobil and PetroChina (a subsidiary to CNPC, state-owned company) have announced terms and conditions of a trilateral agreement on development of the South Integrated Project. The project is aimed at full-scale exploration of oil fields in southern Iraq including massive infrastructure construction works.⁴²²

China has provided assistance to Iraq in addressing socioeconomic development challenges, but has not taken actions to support Iraq in other spheres.

Thus, China receives a score of 0.

Analysts: Anna Tsvetkova and Alexander Ignatov

South Africa: -1

South Africa has not complied with the commitment on regional security to provide support to Iraq.

No actions were found during compliance period.

South Africa has not provided assistance to Iraq in addressing security, socioeconomic development or good governance.

Thus, South Africa receives a score of -1.

Analyst: Anastasia Kataeva

⁴²⁰ Foreign Ministry Spokesperson Lu Kang's Regular Press Conference on September 25, 2017, China's Ministry of Foreign Affairs 25 September 2017. Access date: 08 February 2018. http://www.fmprc.gov.cn/mfa_eng/xwfw_665399/s2510_665401/t1496727.shtml

⁴²¹ The Ministry of Oil Signs a Contract to Develop the East Baghdad Oil Field, Ministry of Oil 27 December 2017. Access date: 7 February 2018. <https://oil.gov.iq/index.php?name=News&file=article&sid=991>

⁴²² ExxonMobil, PetroChina "AgreeTerms" on South Integrated Project, Iraq-Business news 05 May 2018. Access date: 03 July 2018. <http://www.iraq-businessnews.com/2018/05/05/exxonmobil-petrochina-agree-terms-on-south-integrated-project/>

10. Health: Surveillance and Medical Services

“We agree to improve surveillance capacity and medical services to combat infectious diseases, including Ebola, HIV/AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria, as well as non-communicable diseases.”

BRICS Leaders Xiamen Declaration

Assessment

	No compliance	Partial compliance	Full compliance
Brazil			+1
Russia			+1
India			+1
China			+1
South Africa			+1
Total		+1.00	

Background

BRICS countries have addressed health and medicine issues several times. There have been 11 commitments since the first mention of the issue in 2011 in the Sanya declaration, where the BRICS leaders stated “firm commitment to strengthen dialogue and cooperation in the fields of social protection, decent work, gender equality, youth, and public health, including the fight against HIV/AIDS.”⁴²³

In 2012 BRICS health ministers committed to “focus on cooperation in combating HIV/AIDS through approaches such as innovative ways to reach out with prevention services, efficacious drugs and diagnostics, exchange of information on newer treatment regimens, determination of recent infections and HIV-TB co-infections.”⁴²⁴ At their third meeting in 2013 they reiterated their joint commitment to “collaborate on key thematic areas focusing on strengthening health surveillance systems; reducing Non-Communicable Disease (NCD) risk factors through prevention and health promotion; Universal Health Coverage (UHC); strategic health technologies, with a focus on communicable and non-communicable diseases; medical technologies; and drug discovery and development.”⁴²⁵

In 2014 at their fourth meeting, health ministers during Brazil’s presidency expressed deep concern about recent outbreak of Ebola in West African countries and called for “urgent and comprehensive international support to the efforts coordinated by the UN [United Nations], and particularly to the actions undertaken by the WHO [World Health Organization], to accelerate the response to the Ebola outbreak.”⁴²⁶

In 2015, under Russia’s presidency, BRICS leaders expressed deep concern with “continuing spread of major diseases (HIV/AIDS, [tuberculosis], malaria and others), and with the emergence of

⁴²³ Sanya Declaration, 2011, RANEP. Access date: 9 February

2018.<http://www.ranepa.ru/images/media/brics/chpresidency1/Sanya%20Declaration.pdf>

⁴²⁴ Communiqué of the II Meeting of BRICS Health Ministers, RANEP. Access date: 9 February

2018.<http://www.ranepa.ru/images/media/brics/inpresidency1/health%202013%201.pdf>

⁴²⁵ Communiqué of the III Meeting of BRICS Health Ministers, RANEP. Access date: 9 February

2018.<http://www.ranepa.ru/images/media/brics/sapresidency1/health2013.pdf>

⁴²⁶ Communiqué of the IV Meeting of BRICS Health Ministers, RANEP. Access date: 9 February

2018.<http://www.ranepa.ru/images/media/brics/brazpresidency2/Communiqu%C3%A9%20of%20the%20IV%20Meeting%20of%20BRICS%20Health%20Ministers.pdf>

infections with a pandemic potential, such as highly pathogenic influenza, novel coronavirus or Ebola” and agreed to work together in such areas as:

- Management of risks related to emerging infections with pandemic potential;
- Compliance with commitments to stop the spread of and eradicate communicable diseases that hamper development (HIV/AIDS, tuberculosis, malaria, “neglected” tropical diseases, poliomyelitis, measles);
- Research, development, production and supply of medicines aimed at providing increased access to prevention and treatment of communicable diseases.⁴²⁷

Between 2011 and 2015 BRICS countries discussed such issues as HIV/AIDS, Ebola, and sexual and reproductive health. At the 2016 Goa Summit, the BRICS made its first commitment on antimicrobial resistance.⁴²⁸

Commitment Features

This commitment requires the BRICS countries to respond better to infections and non-communicable diseases by building surveillance capacity and improving medical services.

In 2008, WHO presented “A Guide to Establishing Event-Based Surveillance” that defines surveillance capacity as organized and rapid capture of information about events that are a potential risk to public health.⁴²⁹ In April 2009, WHO has published the document “Global Surveillance during an Influenza Pandemic” that states out the list of possible governmental actions aimed at building surveillance capacity.⁴³⁰ In this case, actions may include but not limited to the following activities:

- detection and identification of an influenza virus with pandemic potential;
- confirmation that an influenza virus with pandemic potential has acquired the ability to transmit from person-to-person and to initiate and sustain community level outbreaks;
- description of the early epidemiological, virological and clinical characteristics of the outbreak;
- estimation of the geographical extent of virus spread to inform containment and control efforts;
- alert other member states of a public health event of international concern or public health emergencies of international concern.

WHO defines medical service as a varying from country to country matter that includes several basic pillars namely “robust financing mechanism; a well-trained and adequately paid workforce; reliable information on which to base decisions and policies; well-maintained facilities and logistics to deliver

⁴²⁷ Ufa Declaration, 2015, RANEP. Access date: 9 February 2018.http://www.ranepa.ru/images/media/brics/ruspresidency2/Declaration_eng.pdf

⁴²⁸ Goa Declaration, 2016, RANEP. Access date: 9 February 2018.<http://www.ranepa.ru/images/media/brics/indianpresidency2/Goa%20Declaration.pdf>

⁴²⁹ A Guide to Establishing Event-based Surveillance, WPRO. Access date: 9 February 2018.http://www.wpro.who.int/emerging_diseases/documents/docs/eventbasedsurv.pdf

⁴³⁰ Global Surveillance during an Influenza Pandemic, WHO. Access date: 9 February 2018.http://www.who.int/csr/disease/swineflu/global_pandemic_influenza_surveillance_apr09.pdf

quality medicines and technologies.”⁴³¹ To achieve full compliance score by matching the “improving medical service” criteria, a BRICS member is obliged to take actions to facilitate any of the pillars mentioned above.

Scoring Guidelines

-1	BRICS member does not take actions aimed at building surveillance capacity or improving medical services.
0	BRICS member takes actions aimed at building surveillance capacity OR improving medical services.
+1	BRICS member takes actions aimed at building surveillance capacity AND improving medical services.

Brazil: +1

Brazil has fully complied with the commitment on health to build surveillance capacity and improve medical services.

On 6 October 2017, the Ministry of Health provided USD 30.4 million on the fight against the *Aedes aegypti* mosquito, which is a carrier of malaria and the Zika and Chikungunya viruses.⁴³²

On 3 January 2018, the Ministry of Health provided USD 85 million to create special subdivisions of doctors and nurses, who will provide service to people living in the river areas. These subdivisions will use special boats with all necessary equipment to reach hard-to-access areas.⁴³³

On 9 January 2018, Minister of Health Ricardo Barros announced a campaign to stop the spread of yellow fever, which will be held during the whole year.⁴³⁴

In May and June 2018, the Special Sanitary District of Indigenous Health Kayapó Pará held the I Meeting of permanent education in mental health and well-being of indigenous population. The objective of the meeting was to contribute to the qualification of the professionals working with indigenous people, to prevent injuries and promote healthy lifestyle among them.⁴³⁵

⁴³¹ World Health Organization, Health systems. Access date: 9 February 2018. http://www.who.int/topics/health_systems/en/

⁴³² Ministério da Saúde repassa R\$ 30,4 milhões de recurso extra para combate ao Aedes, Portal Ministerio da Saude 6 October 2017. Access date: 12 January 2018. <http://combateaedes.saude.gov.br/pt/noticias/910-ministerio-da-saude-repassa-r-30-4-milhoes-de-recurso-extra-para-combate-ao-aedes>

⁴³³ Ministério da Saúde destina R\$ 85 milhões para construção de UBS Fluviais em estados da Amazônia Legal, Portal Ministerio da Saude 3 January 2018. Access date: 10 January 2018. <http://portalms.saude.gov.br/noticias/agencia-saude/42278-ministerio-da-saude-destina-r-85-milhoes-para-construcao-de-ubs-fluviais-em-estados-da-amazonia-legal>

⁴³⁴ Campanha de vacinação terá dose fracionada de febre amarela em três estados, Portal Ministerio da Saude 9 January 2018. Access date: 13 January 2018. <http://portalms.saude.gov.br/noticias/agencia-saude/42289-campanha-de-vacinacao-tera-dose-fracionada-de-febre-amarela-em-tres-estados>

⁴³⁵ DSEI Kayapó Pará capacita equipes para ampliação de ações de bem viver, Brazilian Ministry of Health 29 June 2018. Access date: 2 July 2018. <http://portalms.saude.gov.br/noticias/sesai/43758-dsei-kayapo-para-capacita-equipes-para-ampliacao-de-aco-es-de-bem-viver>

On 21 May 2018, Russia and Brazil have signed a MoU on cooperation in the public health sphere. The document lays down the foundation for further cooperation in preventing spread of non-communicable diseases.⁴³⁶

On 22 May 2018, Health Minister Gilberto Occhi and US Secretary of Health and Human Services Alex Azar pledged to invest USD 14 million for health research and innovation. Joint health research will prioritize areas such as infectious diseases, HIV/AIDS and their comorbidities, mental health (in particular, their relationship with HIV/AIDS and Zika), neurodegenerative diseases, neurological complications of HIV/AIDS and Zika, environmental health (in particular, its relationship with Zika), cardiovascular diseases and noncommunicable diseases.⁴³⁷

On 1 June 2018, it was announced that the Ministry of Health will spend BRL 2.12 million to fund the nephrology services offered to chronic kidney patients, through the Unified Health System, in the municipality of Codó. The new resource is a financial incentive to expand hemodialysis and dialysis procedures.⁴³⁸

On 14 June 2018, it was announced that the coordinated action by the Ministry of Health and the Brazilian Air Force made it possible to deliver vaccines to indigenous people, rural population and riverside in the North of the country. Rural and riverine populations living in approximately 485 locations with the most difficult geographical access to the state of Amazonas can be vaccinated against several immunopreventable diseases such as measles, yellow fever and meningitis.⁴³⁹

On 15 June 2018, in order to reduce the risks of reintroducing diseases already eliminated in the Americas, such as measles, rubella and poliomyelitis, the Mercosur states signed three agreements to increase health and surveillance actions, including actions in the frontier and focused on the current situation of migrants. The commitment was signed by the Brazilian Minister of Health Gilberto Occhi and the representatives of the other four countries of the bloc - Argentina, Uruguay, Paraguay and Chile - during the 42nd Ordinary Meeting of Mercosur Health Ministers in Asuncion, capital of Paraguay. One of the key commitments is for countries to work to achieve and maintain polio vaccination coverage in excess of 95%, strengthening epidemiological surveillance and updating disease outbreak response plans according to the needs of each region.⁴⁴⁰

On 21 June 2018, Gilberto Occhi announced the Order to begin the construction of the first linear accelerator bunker in the state of Roraima. The equipment is the most modern for radiotherapy

⁴³⁶ Ministry of Public Health of Russia, Brazil to sign a MoU, the Ministry of Public Health of Russia 24 May 2018. Access date: 02 July 2018. <https://www.rosminzdrav.ru/news/2018/05/21/7977-ministerstvo-zdravoohraneniya-rossiyskoy-federatsii-i-ministerstvo-zdravoohraneniya-federativnoy-respubliki-brazilii-podpisali-memorandum-o-sotrudnichestve-v-sfere-zdravoohraneniya>

⁴³⁷ Brasil e EUA vão destinar R\$ 14 milhões para pesquisas, Brazilian Ministry of Health 22 May 2018. Access date: 2 July 2018. <http://portalms.saude.gov.br/noticias/agencia-saude/43324-brasil-e-eua-reforcam-cooperacao-em-saude-e-destinam-r-14-milhoes-para-editais-de-pesquisa>

⁴³⁸ Maranhão terá mais R\$ 2,12 milhões para nefrologia, Brazilian Ministry of Health 1 June 2018. Access date: 2 July 2018. <http://portalms.saude.gov.br/noticias/agencia-saude/43412-ministerio-da-saude-oferece-mais-recursos-para-nefrologia-em-codo-ma>

⁴³⁹ Operação Gota leva vacinas a regiões de difícil acesso no Amazonas, Brazilian Ministry of Health 15 June 2018. Access date: 2 July 2018. <http://portalms.saude.gov.br/noticias/agencia-saude/43477-operacao-gota-leva-vacinas-a-regioes-de-dificil-acesso-no-am>

⁴⁴⁰ Países do Mercosul fazem acordo para evitar a reintrodução de doenças, Brazilian Ministry of Health 16 June 2018. Access date: 2 July 2018. <http://portalms.saude.gov.br/noticias/agencia-saude/43590-paises-do-mercosul-fazem-acordo-para-manter-eliminacao-de-doencas-transmissiveis>

sessions, used effectively in cancer treatment. The ministry will invest BRL10 million in the acquisition and work of the accelerator, scheduled to open in July 2019.⁴⁴¹

On 21 June 2018, the Unified Health System introduced new solutions in the treatment of rare diseases. Mucopolysaccharidoses, type I and II, will have new drug options: laronidase and alpha-idursulfase. For those affected with Biotinidase Deficiency, the novelty is the approval of the protocols that guide the assistance in the public health network. The Ministry of Health also updated Protocols that guide the care for Turner Syndrome and Autoimmune Hepatitis.⁴⁴²

On 28 June 2018, Gilberto Occhi launched the Regula + Brazil project with the goal of reducing the service queues in the Unified Health System. The action will allow the expansion of the “Telesaúde Brasil Redes” program of the Ministry of Health, with a focus on tele-medicine. The program already in practice in the state of Rio Grande do Sul acts as a regulatory entity between primary care and referral to medical services of medium and high complexity.

On 30 June 2018, Gilberto Occhi announced new resources to expand health care in 29 municipalities in the state of Alagoas. The funds were allocated to basic healthcare, qualifications of new personnel and quality hospital care of medium and high complexity.⁴⁴³

Brazil has taken actions aimed at improving medical services and building surveillance capacity during the compliance period.

Thus, Brazil receives a score of +1.

Analysts: Nikita Efremov and Irina Popova

Russia: +1

Russia has fully complied with the commitment on health.

On 1 November 2017, Deputy Minister of Health Sergei Kraevoy took part in an international research-to-practice conference on socially sensitive and especially dangerous diseases. In his speech Kraevoy highlighted the importance of further improvement of epidemiological surveillance capacity. The participants discussed various topics including issues of biosecurity of Russia.⁴⁴⁴

On 14 December 2017, Assistant Director of the Department of Public Health and Communications Valery Buzin took part in the first international forum on socially sensitive diseases prevention. He underlined the importance of patient-oriented approach in a daily routine of healthcare facilities and

⁴⁴¹ Roraima ganhará primeiro serviço de radioterapia, Brazilian Ministry of Health 21 June 2018. Access date: 2 July 2018. <http://portalms.saude.gov.br/noticias/agencia-saude/43610-roraima-ganhara-primeiro-servico-de-radioterapia>

⁴⁴² SUS incorpora novos tratamentos para doenças raras, Brazilian Ministry of Health 21 June 2018. Access date: 2 July 2018. <http://portalms.saude.gov.br/noticias/agencia-saude/43678-sus-incorpora-novos-tratamentos-para-doencas-raras>

⁴⁴³ Ministro da Saúde anuncia recursos para ampliar assistência em Alagoas, Brazilian Ministry of Health 30 June 2018. Access date: 2 July 2018. <http://portalms.saude.gov.br/noticias/agencia-saude/43757-ministro-da-saude-anuncia-recursos-para-ampliar-assistencia-em-alagoas>

⁴⁴⁴ Deputy Minister Kraevoy took part in the IV International research-to-practice conference on socially sensitive and especially dangerous diseases, Ministry of Health 1 November 2017. Access date: 18 January 2018. <https://www.rosminzdrav.ru/news/2017/11/01/6364-zamestitel-ministra-sergey-kraevoy-prinyal-uchastie-v-iv-vserossiyskoy-nauchno-prakticheskoy-konferentsii-s-mezhdunarodnym-uchastiem-sotsialno-znachimye-i-osobopasnye-infektsionnye-zabolevaniya>

announced the start of the new national program “cost-conscious hospital” aimed at improving healthcare services.⁴⁴⁵

On 26 December 2017, the Federation Council of the Russian Federation has approved ratification of the Council of Europe Convention on the counterfeiting of medical products and similar crimes involving threats to public health previously approved by the State Duma. The convention promotes joint actions of the parties to it against the spread of counterfeit medication.⁴⁴⁶

On 29 December 2017, the Government of the Russian Federation approved the national healthcare program until 2025. One of the purposes of the program is to improve quality of the healthcare system and patients’ satisfaction.⁴⁴⁷

On 21 May 2018, Russia and Brazil have signed a MoU on cooperation in the public health sphere. The document lays down the foundation for further cooperation in preventing spread of non-communicable diseases.⁴⁴⁸

Russia has taken actions aimed at building surveillance capacity and improving medical services.

Thus, Russia receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Alexander Igantov

India: +1

India has fully complied with the commitment on health to build surveillance capacity and improve medical services.

On 11 September 2017, Minister of State for Health and Family Welfare Ashwini Kumar Choubey participated in the seventh International Conference and Workshop on Cost Effective Use of Technology in eHealth Care at the All India Institute of Medical Science in New Delhi. Choubey underscored the urgency for harnessing information technology for better and effective healthcare delivery in the country. Referring to the Digital India initiative, he emphasized the need for making optimal use of technology for delivering healthcare services. He further stated that that e-application in healthcare will reduce cost and save time for doctors and patients.⁴⁴⁹

⁴⁴⁵ Assistant director Valery Buzin took part in the First international forum on socially sensitive diseases, Ministry of Health 14 December 2017. Access date: 18 January 2018. <https://www.rosminzdrav.ru/news/2017/12/14/6604-zamestitel-direktora-departamenta-obschestvennogo-zdorovya-i-kommunikatsiy-valeriy-buzin-prinyal-uchastie-v-pervom-forume-s-mezhdunarodnym-uchastiem-profilaktika-i-lechenie-sotsialno-znachimyh-zabolevaniy-v-terapevticheskoy-praktike>

⁴⁴⁶ The Federal Council approved ratification of the MEDICRIM Convention, Ministry of Health 26 December 2017. Access date: 18 January 2018. <https://www.rosminzdrav.ru/news/2017/12/26/6702-sovet-federatsii-odobril-ratifikatsiyu-konventsii-medikrim>

⁴⁴⁷ The Government of the Russian Federation approved the state healthcare program, Ministry of Health 29 December 2017. Access date: 18 January 2018. <https://www.rosminzdrav.ru/news/2017/12/29/6771-pravitelstvo-rossiyskoy-federatsii-utverdilo-gosudarstvennyu-programmu-razvitie-zdravoohraneniya>

⁴⁴⁸ Ministry of Public Health of Russia, Brazil to sign a MoU, the Ministry of Public Health of Russia 24 May 2018. Access date: 02 July 2018. <https://www.rosminzdrav.ru/news/2018/05/21/7977-ministerstvo-zdravoohraneniya-rossiyskoy-federatsii-i-ministerstvo-zdravoohraneniya-federativnoy-respubliki-brazilii-podpisali-memorandum-o-sotrudnichestve-v-sfere-zdravoohraneniya>

⁴⁴⁹ Shri Ashwini Choubey inaugurates the 7th International Conference on Cost Effective Use of Technology in eHealth Care, 11 September 2017. Access date: 16 January 2018. <http://www.pib.gov.in/PressReleaseDetail.aspx?PRID=1516832>

On 17 November 2017, the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare announced the launch of daily regimen for tuberculosis (TB) patients across the country under the Revised National TB Control Programme (RNTCP). Daily doses of anti-TB drugs will be made available through private pharmacies or practitioners to patients who seek care in private sector free of cost.⁴⁵⁰

On 3 January 2018, the Union Cabinet approved the establishment of a new All India Institute of Medical Science in Bilaspur (Himachal Pradesh) under the Pradhan Mantri Swasthya Suraksha Yojana. The cost of the project is INR 1351 crore. The institute will serve the dual purpose of providing quality healthcare to the population while also helping create a large pool of doctors and other health workers in this region that can be available for primary and secondary level institutions and facilities being created under the National Health Mission.⁴⁵¹

On 4 January 2018, Secretary of Health and Family Welfare Ministry Preeti Sudan launched the allied and healthcare professionals' database portal, as a part of ministry's commitment to ensure better systems and frameworks for the healthcare workforce in the country.⁴⁵²

On 28 February 2018, the Union Cabinet approved signing of a memorandum of understanding between India and Macedonia on cooperation on health. It covers capacity building and short-term training of human resources in health; exchange and training of medical doctors, officials, other health professionals and experts; assistance in developing human resources and setting up health care facilities.⁴⁵³

On 28 February 2018, the Union Cabinet approved a memorandum of understanding between India and Jordan on cooperation in the field of health and medical science. It covers universal health coverage; health system governance; services and information technology in health; health research; national health statistics; health finance and health economy; chronic disease control; tobacco control; and diagnosis, treatment and medication in tuberculosis.⁴⁵⁴

On 13 March 2018, the memorandum of agreement between India and World Health Organization was signed. It will facilitate in improving the public health status of the people in India.⁴⁵⁵

On 21 March 2018, the Union Cabinet approved the launch of a new Centrally Sponsored Ayushman Bharat -National Health Protection Mission. This cover will take care of almost all secondary care and most of tertiary care procedures. To ensure that nobody is left out (especially women, children and elderly) there will be no cap on family size and age in the scheme. The benefit

⁴⁵⁰ Health Ministry introduces Daily Drug Regimen for treatment of Tuberculosis, Press Information Bureau of Government of India 17 November 2017. Access date: 7 February 2017. <http://www.pib.gov.in/PressReleaseDetail.aspx?PRID=1516832>

⁴⁵¹ Cabinet approves setting up of new AIIMS in Bilaspur, Prime Minister of India 3 January 2018. Access date: 7 February 2018. http://www.pmindia.gov.in/en/news_updates/cabinet-approves-setting-up-of-new-aiims-in-bilaspur/?comment=disable

⁴⁵² Health Secretary launches the Allied Health Professionals' Database Portal, Ministry of Health & Family Welfare of India 4 January 2018. Access date: 7 February 2018. https://mohfw.gov.in/sites/default/files/download%20%281%29_0.pdf

⁴⁵³ Cabinet approves MoU between India and Macedonia on cooperation in the field of Health, Press Information Bureau 28 February 2018. Access date: 2 July 2018. <http://www.pib.gov.in/PressReleaseDetail.aspx?PRID=1522119>

⁴⁵⁴ Cabinet approves signing of MoU between India and Jordan on Cooperation in Health Sector, Press Information Bureau 28 February 2018. Access date: 2 July 2018. <http://www.pib.gov.in/PressReleaseDetail.aspx?PRID=1522117>

⁴⁵⁵ Cabinet apprised of the Memorandum of Agreement between India and World Health Organisation represented by its Regional Office for South-East Asia acting through its Country Office in India, Press Information Bureau 25 April 2018. Access date: 2 July 2018. <http://www.pib.gov.in/PressReleaseDetail.aspx?PRID=1530140>

cover will also include pre and post-hospitalisation expenses. All pre-existing conditions will be covered from day one of the policy. A defined transport allowance per hospitalization will also be paid to the beneficiary.⁴⁵⁶

India has taken actions aimed at building surveillance capacity and improving medical services.

Thus, India receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Irina Popova

China: +1

China has fully complied with the commitment on health to build surveillance capacity and improve medical services.

On 9 October 2017, a decision was made at the State Council executive meeting to support advanced healthcare equipment, the pharmaceutical industry, technology and traditional Chinese medicine. Premier Li Keqiang said, “The effect of some Chinese herbs’ extracts has already been recognized by the international community. Yet our technologies such as purification still need to be improved.”⁴⁵⁷

On 11 October 2017, China announced it will promote the application of artificial intelligence technologies in the healthcare sector to improve services for patients, especially at the grassroots level, according to the nation’s top health authority. “Further improving the quality and efficiency of medical care is an important task for health authorities,” said a statement released by the National Health and Family Planning Commission.⁴⁵⁸

On 12 October 2017, it was announced that scientists in China had identified DNA markers specific to liver cancer, which is expected to greatly improve accuracy in diagnosis of one of the most common cancers in China. Using the new technology, doctors can provide a diagnosis and prognosis to patients with liver cancer through simple blood tests. That could decrease the chances of a misdiagnosis by more than half, according to Xu Ruihua, Director of the Sun Yat-sen University Cancer Centre in Guangzhou, who led the research.⁴⁵⁹

On 28 November 2017, China released a new plan to control the spread of viral hepatitis and improve the living quality of patients.⁴⁶⁰

On 8 January 2018, the breakthrough by Lu and his team, after 20 years of research, was awarded at the National Science and Technology Award Conference in Beijing. Chinese researchers have developed a method for diagnosing lupus that could improve the accuracy to over 90 per cent. The

⁴⁵⁶ Cabinet approves Ayushman Bharat – National Health Protection Mission, Press Information Bureau Government of India Cabinet 21 March 2018. Access date: 2 July 2018. <http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=177816>

⁴⁵⁷ Premier: Put more resources into tackling cancer, Site of Central People’s Government of the People’s Republic of China (English version) 11 October 2017. Access date: 9 February 2018. http://english.gov.cn/premier/news/2017/10/11/content_281475903461586.htm

⁴⁵⁸ Use of AI to grow in nation’s medical sector, Site of Central People’s Government of the People’s Republic of China (English version) 11 October 2017. Access date: 9 February 2018. http://english.gov.cn/news/top_news/2017/10/11/content_281475903475884.htm

⁴⁵⁹ Better test developed to detect liver cancer, China Daily 12 October 2017. Access date: 9 February 2018. http://english.gov.cn/news/top_news/2017/10/12/content_281475904398040.htm

⁴⁶⁰ China releases new plan to control viral hepatitis, Xinhua 30 November 2017. Access date: 9 February 2018. http://english.gov.cn/state_council/ministries/2017/11/30/content_281475959527034.htm

method has been adopted by 23 hospitals in China, Lu said, adding that he had applied for patents for the technique both at home and abroad in hopes of benefiting more patients.⁴⁶¹

On 7 March 2018, Chinese scientists announced that LTRIN, a protein obtained from the salivary glands of *Aedes aegypti*, or yellow fever mosquito, facilitates the transmission of the Zika virus. Researchers at Kunming Institute of Zoology under the Chinese Academy of Sciences said that the finding offers a potential therapeutic strategy for diminishing Zika transmission.⁴⁶²

On 25 March 2018, it was announced that at least 1,000 people in China diagnosed with multidrug-resistant tuberculosis will receive treatment using a newly developed medication for free.⁴⁶³

On 29 April 2018, a human papilloma virus (HPV) vaccine became available in China for women between 16 to 26 years old. The country's top drug regulator has allowed the new vaccine to enter the Chinese market after meeting certain requirements.⁴⁶⁴

China has taken actions aimed at building surveillance capacity and improving medical services.

Thus, China receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Anna Tsvetkova

South Africa: +1

South Africa has partially complied with the commitment on health to build surveillance capacity and improve medical services.

On 19 September 2017, the National Institute for Communicable Diseases (NICD) published “Influenza FAQ 2017,” which describes what influenza is and how to fight it.⁴⁶⁵

In November 2017, the NICD published the “Public Health Surveillance Bulletin” that described the most spread inflectional diseases. It contains highly significant public health information for South Africa.⁴⁶⁶

In December 2017, the NICD published the “NICD Communiqué” for the purpose of providing up-to-date information on communicable diseases in South Africa. Much of the information is therefore preliminary and should not be cited or utilized for publication.⁴⁶⁷

On 1 February 2018, the South African government announced the opening of ten new ophthalmology clinics in Soweto and surrounding areas.⁴⁶⁸ The initiative is a cross-border public-

⁴⁶¹ Chinese researchers make breakthrough in lupus diagnosis, Xinhua 10 January 2018. Access date: 9 February 2018. http://english.gov.cn/news/top_news/2018/01/10/content_281476008135936.htm

⁴⁶² Chinese scientists find facilitator in Zika transmission, National Health Commission of China 7 March 2018. Access date: 2 July 2018. http://en.nhfpc.gov.cn/2018-03/07/c_73171.htm

⁴⁶³ New drug to be provided free to Chinese TB patients, National Health Commission of China 26 March 2018. Access date: 2 July 2018. http://en.nhfpc.gov.cn/2018-03/26/c_73232.htm

⁴⁶⁴ HPV vaccine becomes available in China for women between 16 to 26 years old, National Health Commission of China 29 April 2018. Access date: 2 July 2018. http://en.nhfpc.gov.cn/2018-04/29/c_73354.htm

⁴⁶⁵ Influenza FAQ 2017, National Institute for Communicable Diseases 19 September 2017. Access date: 13 January 2018. <http://www.nicd.ac.za/index.php/influenza-faq/>

⁴⁶⁶ Public Health Surveillance Bulletin, National Institute for Communicable Diseases November 2017. Access date: 13 January 2018. <http://www.nicd.ac.za/index.php/publications/communicable-diseases-surveillance-bulletin/>

⁴⁶⁷ NICD Communiqué, National Institute for Communicable Diseases December 2017. Access date: 13 January 2018. <http://www.nicd.ac.za/index.php/publications/nicd-nhls-communicable-diseases-communique/>

private partnership between the Gauteng Department of Health, the Standard Chartered Bank, and the Brien Holden Vision Institute.⁴⁶⁹ The initiative is also a part of the Vision Service Plan Global program, and is aimed towards fulfilling the goals of the WHO's Vision 2020 initiative, which aims to eliminate the causes of preventable blindness by 2020.⁴⁷⁰

On 21 June 2018, Minister of Health Dr. Aaron Motsoaledi presented the National Health Insurance Bill aimed at improving universal access to health services all across the country.⁴⁷¹

South Africa has taken actions aimed at building surveillance capacity and improving its medical services.

Thus, South Africa receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Anastasia Kataeva

⁴⁶⁸ Gauteng Health on opening of eye clinics in Soweto, The Government of South Africa (Pretoria) 1 February 2018. Access date: March 5 2018. <https://www.gov.za/speeches/gauteng-health-opening-eye-clinics-soweto-1-feb-2018-0000>.

⁴⁶⁹ Gauteng Health on opening of eye clinics in Soweto, The Government of South Africa (Pretoria) 1 February 2018. Access date: March 5 2018. <https://www.gov.za/speeches/gauteng-health-opening-eye-clinics-soweto-1-feb-2018-0000>.

⁴⁷⁰ Gauteng Health on opening of eye clinics in Soweto, The Government of South Africa (Pretoria) 1 February 2018. Access date: March 5 2018. <https://www.gov.za/speeches/gauteng-health-opening-eye-clinics-soweto-1-feb-2018-0000>.

⁴⁷¹ National Health Insurance Bill 2018, the Department of Health of South Africa 21 June 2018. Access date: 03 July 2018. <http://www.health.gov.za/index.php/gf-tb-program/398-national-health-insurance-bill-2018>

Appendix: BRICS Compliance over Time

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 160 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 almost 60 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. At the summits between 2009 and 2017, BRICS leaders adopted 431 commitments. 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 reaching 127 pledges; at Goa in 2016 the number decreased considerably to 45 commitments, but at Xiamen the number of commitments reached 125.

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 (without South Africa, which became a member in 2011), 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 2015 Ufa Summit marked beginning of the operations of the New Development Bank (NDB) and the Contingent Reserve Arrangement. The leaders expressed their expectation that the NDB would approve its inaugural investment projects in early 2016. In the Strategy for BRICS Economic Partnership, the leaders directed their relevant ministries and agencies to take practical steps for efficient implementation and to assess the feasibility of developing a roadmap for BRICS trade, economic and investment cooperation for the period until 2020. They confirmed their commitment to the post-2015 Sustainable Development Goals and to South-South cooperation. For the first time in many years, the leaders' declaration made pledges on health. BRICS members agreed to work together in areas such as managing risks related to emerging infectious diseases with pandemic

potential and eradicating communicable diseases such as HIV/AIDS, tuberculosis, malaria, neglected tropical diseases, poliomyelitis and measles.

In Goa the leaders reiterated the determination to use all policy tools — monetary, fiscal, and structural, individually and collectively, to achieve the goal of strong, sustainable, balanced and inclusive growth. On energy they expressed support for a wider use of natural gas as an economically efficient and clean fuel.

They agreed to strengthen joint efforts to enhance security in the use of information communication technology (ICT), combating the use of ICT for criminal and terrorist purposes and improving cooperation between technical, law enforcement, research and development and innovation in ICT, and capacity-building institutions. Last but not least they confirmed commitment for cooperation among health and/or regulatory authorities, with a view to share best practices and discuss challenges, as well as identify potential areas for convergence.

In Xiamen, the leaders announced their intention to promote the development of local currency bond markets and also make joint efforts to create BRICS Local Currency Bond Fund. In the area of macroeconomic regulation, member countries reaffirmed their commitment to industrial cooperation within the BRICS, including on issues such as industrial capacity and industrial policy, a new production infrastructure and new industry standards, and the interaction between small, medium and micro-enterprises (SMEs). Several commitments were made in the new key area of BRICS agenda - the development of ICT and digitalization: the leaders promised to encourage joint research, development and innovation in BRICS countries in the field of ICT. Leaders adopted a number of specific commitments in the health, what can be considered a success of the Chinese presidency. Members have committed to developing clean, sustainable energy, including through the expansion of the use of natural gas, to strengthen cooperation in the fight against terrorism and corruption. Countries have pledged to abstain from the introduction of new protectionist measures and abolish existing ones. In the declaration attention was also paid to regional security, however, few commitments were made and they concerned cooperation with the traditional countries - Afghanistan, Iraq and some African countries. The promotion of international development also became an important component of the agenda of the Chinese presidency, a number of commitments were made to support countries of African continent.