



# **BRICS TVET Cooperation Alliance CHARTER**

**Adopted on 5 June 2025**

## **PREFACE**

Based on previous cooperation and taking full account of TVET advantages of each country, work regarding the BRICS TVET Cooperation Alliance was initiated in April 2022 to tap cooperation potential, promote sharing and joint efforts, and prepare TVET talents for economic transformation and industrial upgrading, so as to support BRICS better serving world economic development. This Charter is formulated with the aim of guiding the substantive work of BRICS TVET Cooperation Alliance.

## **CHAPTER I**

### **GENERAL PROVISIONS**

#### **ARTICLE 1 – Name of the Alliance**

The name of the Alliance is **BRICS TVET Cooperation Alliance** (hereinafter referred to as **BRICS-TCA**).

#### **ARTICLE 2 – Nature of BRICS-TCA**

BRICS-TCA is a non-profit and non-governmental initiative without legal entity status. It is jointly integrated by professional bodies, TVET institutions, research institutes and other stakeholders and enterprises of BRICS countries on an equal, consensus and voluntary basis, under the guidance and coordination of national education authorities.

#### **ARTICLE 3 – Mission of BRICS-TCA**

BRICS-TCA is dedicated to developing a multilateral platform for sharing of information, resources and best practices for mutual benefits, catalyzing substantive collaboration, and endeavoring to empower individuals, ensuring their full integration into the world of work, while enhancing employability and the quantity, quality and relevance of TVET provision.

## **CHAPTER II**

### **SCOPE OF COOPERATION**

#### **ARTICLE 4 – Strengthening Communication and Dialogue in TVET**

BRICS-TCA will organize TVET activities in yearly cycles to share information, knowledge and resources, deepen understanding and trust among members, so as to form a strong foundation for collaboration activities.

#### **ARTICLE 5 – Promoting Substantial Cooperation in TVET**

BRICS-TCA encourages members to collaborate in joint teaching-learning, curriculum development and faculty capacity building, as well as mapping sectoral skills and prospecting future technological trends and collaboration on the establishment of centres of excellence. Whenever possible, BRICS-TCA will carry out student and faculty exchanges, sharing of resources, mutual recognition of credits, teacher trainings, joint researches, skills contests and other activities amongst its members. BRICS-TCA promotes inclusiveness and encourages the participation of disadvantaged, underprivileged and underrepresented groups, such as people with disabilities.

#### **ARTICLE 6 – Integrating TVET with Industry**

In response to industrial restructuring and technological upgrading and advancement, BRICS-TCA will actively work to connect TVET institutions with industries, match education with the needs of enterprises and future of work, expand reskilling initiatives and promote apprenticeships, seeking to provide apprentices with valuable expertise and cultural exposure in more than one country, so as to foster international collaboration for a changing world of work.

#### **ARTICLE 7 – Enhancing Research Collaboration**

BRICS-TCA encourages joint research and academic collaboration that strengthen applied research programs and contribute to improved TVET relevance, increased skills development and employability, and a better match between labour force and labour market.

#### **ARTICLE 8 – Supporting Recognition of TVET Standards**

BRICS-TCA encourages members to jointly develop professional standards, curricula and teaching-learning resources that respond to the industrial development trends of the BRICS Member States. BRICS-TCA will also promote scaling up and mutual

recognition of well-developed standards, courses and other materials and bolster collaboration to minimize barriers to the recognition of qualifications in a timely manner, leading to better outcomes for students, graduates, academics, researchers and education and training institutions across BRICS.

**ARTICLE 9 – Sustainability and Sustainable Skills Initiatives:** In response to global environmental challenges and the need for sustainable development, BRICS-TCA commits to promoting sustainable skills training across member states. This initiative will focus on developing competencies that support sustainability, with the objective of preparing a workforce capable of advancing environmental conservation, adaptation and mitigation, and sustainable practices within the emerging low-carbon economy.

**ARTICLE 10 – Access to Digital Training:** To enhance the accessibility and sharing of educational resources among BRICS Member States, BRICS-TCA will support an inclusive digital transformation of TVET provision, ensuring that all member institutions can benefit from advancements in educational technologies and e-learning solutions, such as online peer learning and mentoring.

**ARTICLE 11 – Inclusion Programs:** Recognizing the importance of equitable access to education and the need for large-scale reskilling and upskilling opportunities, BRICS-TCA will implement appropriate specialized inclusion programs aimed at integrating disadvantaged, underprivileged, underrepresented, and other groups historically excluded from educational and economic opportunities into TVET. These programs will provide tailored educational pathways, support services, and mentorship opportunities to ensure that all individuals, regardless of their background, have the opportunity to develop relevant skills and participate fully in the workforce.

### **CHAPTER III**

#### **MEMBERS OF BRICS-TCA**

##### **ARTICLE 12 – Obligations of Members**

Members shall fulfill the following obligations:

1. Comply with the Charter of BRICS-TCA;

2. Uphold BRICS-TCA's reputation and interests;
3. Participate actively in BRICS-TCA's activities and advance its cause;
4. Share with BRICS-TCA TVET-related information and opportunities for education, skill development and training, and industry integration;
5. Seek the consent of relevant BRICS-TCA's member(s) on cooperation content, model, funds and other necessary details before any specific BRICS cooperation projects or activities are embarked. Initiatives shall be mutually agreed upon before relevant contents and/or terms take effect.

### **ARTICLE 13 – Rights of Members**

Members have the following rights:

1. Access to BRICS-TCA's resources for the purposes of sharing, research, academic exchange, and talent cultivation;
2. Voting rights and oversight rights over internal affairs of BRICS-TCA;
3. Engage in cooperation and contact with other members under the coordination of the Joint Management Committee (JMC);
4. Refer non-members entities to join BRICS-TCA;
5. Form partnerships among BRICS-TCA members.

### **ARTICLE 14 – Application for Membership**

Eligible institutions—defined as accredited TVET institutions and associations, professional bodies, recognized research centres, education authorities, or sector-relevant enterprises within BRICS countries— may apply for membership or be nominated by each country's national coordinator(s). Applications to join BRICS-TCA shall be submitted to the Secretariat for initial review, after which the applications will be submitted to the JMC. Consensus is required for a candidate to be accepted.

### **ARTICLE 15 – Withdrawal from Membership**

Members intending to leave BRICS-TCA shall submit a notice in writing to the Secretariat 30 days in advance, which shall inform the rotating Chair. Members intending to leave must uphold all their previous commitments to other members.

## **ARTICLE 16 – Removal from Membership**

If a member significantly breaches BRICS-TCA's Charter or regulations, damages BRICS-TCA's reputation or interests, or fails to fulfill its member obligations for more than two years, it shall lose its membership upon the decision of the JMC.

## **CHAPTER IV**

### **ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE AND RESPONSIBILITIES**

## **ARTICLE 17 – Rotating Chair and Responsibilities**

BRICS-TCA is chaired by the BRICS-TCA national coordinator(s) of the rotating president country. During his/her term of office, the rotating Chair shall be responsible for:

1. Convening JMC meetings at least once a year;
2. Coordinating discussions on BRICS-TCA's internal affairs;
3. Facilitating adoption of resolutions;
4. Integrating resources from across multiple sectors;
5. Overseeing the implementation of BRICS-TCA's cooperation activities.

## **ARTICLE 18 – Joint Management Committee (JMC)**

The JMC is the decision-making body of BRICS-TCA. Guided by BRICS countries' educational authorities and led by the BRICS-TCA national coordinator(s), the JMC is formed by four members designated by each country.

## **ARTICLE 19 – Responsibilities of the Joint Management Committee**

The JMC has the following responsibilities:

1. Draft, discuss, and suggest to ministers any amendments to the Charter;
2. Review and approve the membership, withdrawal or delisting of members;
3. Approve work plans;

4. Take decisions on internal affairs, and approve resolutions;
5. Coordinate, organize and monitor BRICS cooperation activities of member institutions.
6. Take decisions on submissions from member institutions to take up the role of BRICS-TCA Secretariat.
7. Promote capacity building opportunities as offered by member institutions to one another.

#### **ARTICLE 20 – Results-based Framework**

To ensure effectiveness, the JMC shall establish a results-based framework. This framework will include strategic goals and a biennial review by the Joint Management Committee to assess impact and propose improvements.

#### **ARTICLE 21 – Secretariat of BRICS-TCA**

The Secretariat of BRICS-TCA will operate on a rotational basis among member countries. However, until another member expresses interest in assuming the role, it will remain hosted by the China Education Association for International Exchange (CEAIE), a national non-profit organization specialized in international education.

China is willing to continue hosting the Secretariat under the current arrangement, but rotation will be prioritized if any member demonstrates the willingness to take on the responsibility.

#### **ARTICLE 22 – Responsibilities of the Secretariat**

The Secretariat has the following responsibilities:

1. Annually organize JMC meeting and convene TVET forums and conferences;
2. Perform routine work and act as liaison with members;
3. Implement JMC's decisions;
4. Assist the rotating Chair in implementing BRICS-TCA's annual agendas;
5. Handle membership applications and departure notices;

6. Support the preparation of reports to the BRICS countries' Ministers of Education and Alliance members on BRICS-TCA's outcomes annually;
7. Complete other tasks designated by the rotating Chair and JMC;
8. Prepare the biennial progress report for the JMC.

## **CHAPTER V**

### **TERMINATION OF BRICS-TCA**

**ARTICLE 23** – A decision to dissolve the BRICS-TCA, either voluntarily or due to other causes, has to be deliberated upon by the JMC if its submission receives support from at least two-thirds of member institutions.

## **CHAPTER VI**

### **SUPPLEMENTARY PROVISIONS**

**ARTICLE 24** – This Charter shall serve as a reference to the future drafting of BRICS-TCA's regulations.

**ARTICLE 25** – This Charter does not create legal obligations to member countries and shall enter into effect on the date of its release.