



## **DECLARATION OF THE VI BRICS CULTURE MINISTERS' MEETING 02 July 2021**

### **PREAMBLE**

We, the Ministers of Culture and assigned representatives of the Federative Republic of Brazil, the Russian Federation, the Republic of India, the People's Republic of China and the Republic of South Africa, held a virtual meeting on July 02, 2021 under the chairship of India, to discuss the advancement and expansion of cultural activities among the BRICS countries under the theme of *Bonding and Harmonizing Cultural Synergy*, and hereby

Acknowledge our historical, traditional and ancient links and recognize culture as the most opportune area of collaboration to take our cooperation to new heights

Reaffirm our commitment to the implementation of the Agreement between the Governments of the BRICS States on Cooperation in the Field of Culture signed on 9 July, 2015

Acknowledge and commend the organization of events and activities under the Action Plan 2017-2021 signed on July 6, 2017 in Tianjin, the People's Republic of China.

Recognize the important role of creative economy and innovation as drivers of economic growth and support the continuity of the dialogue established through the BRICS Culture Working Group comprising of senior officers signed during IV BRICS Culture Ministers' Meeting held in Curitiba, the Federative Republic of Brazil, on October 11, 2019.

Reaffirm the commitments of the Declaration signed during the V Meeting of the BRICS Ministers of Culture in 2020, held through video conference, under the Chairship of the Russian Federation



Recalling that 2021 was recognized by the United Nations General Assembly as the International Year of Creative Economy for Sustainable Development through the resolution A/RES/74/198.

Further pledge to continue our cooperation and coordination to further strengthen our cultural bonding through the following:

## **1. BRICS Working Group on Culture**

1.1 BRICS Working Group on Culture comprising senior officials meets on the eve of Ministerial meeting to discuss and firm up the deliberations for the ministerial meeting.

1.2 Each representative in the Working Group shares the information on BRICS participation profile of respective Member state.

1.3 Members of the Working Group exchange tentative information on the upcoming large-scale events to be held in their countries with a view to facilitate prior planning for participation in the events.

## **2. BRICS Alliances of Cultural Cooperation**

2.1 We commend the active participation of all Member States in the events held under the BRICS Alliances of cooperation in the field on Museums, Theatre, Art, and Libraries within our respective areas of competence.

2.2 Facilitate alliance of libraries for substantial cooperation in book preservation, especially in ancient book and rare work, document and digital library and also through the exchange of information, books and publications.



2.3 We appreciate the BRICS Cultural Festival hosted by Russian Federation in online format which began an era of virtual cultural cooperation to respond to the situation created by the pandemic.

2.4 Facilitate alliance of Theaters for children and young people, participate in each other's theater festivals, cultural events and theatre workshops and encourage art institutions.

2.5 We look forward to successful opening of BRICS Corner in the National Library of India under the auspices of BRICS Alliance on Libraries during India's BRICS Chairship.

2.6 We look forward to extending greater support and cooperation among the member countries in developing museum and culture spaces by sharing best possible practices.

2.7 Encourage initiatives to promote literature by encouraging classics' mutual translation and exchange of translators and to support partnership programmes which will further this objective within our respective areas of competence.

2.8 We look forward to the BRICS Cultural Cooperation continuing to gain further momentum and wish for stronger mutual bonding.

### **3. Cultural heritage**

3.1 Reassure each other to encourage and extend support in preservation, restoration of our cultural heritage and exchange of information, expertise and skills in the field.

3.2 Agree to facilitate cooperation on the safeguarding of our tangible and intangible cultural heritage through exchange of information, experts and good practices and joint training programs.



3.3 We agree to facilitate the establishment of a BRICS Alliance between cultural institutions of member countries in the areas of conservation, preservation and digitization of ancient manuscripts and archival materials within our respective areas of competence.

3.4 Reaffirm commitment to conserve and preserve cultural heritage, archeological sites or remains, archives and exchange of knowledge, expertise, skills and technologies in the field

3.5 Agree to cooperate and collaborate in the realm of online exchange and sharing of cultural experiences between member countries in the areas of both tangible and intangible cultural heritage.

#### **4. Other areas of Cooperation**

4.1 Agree, that the incumbent BRICS Chair would consider, in consultation with other BRICS partners, proposals from other BRICS Members to host BRICS cultural events.

4.2 Support greater cooperation between the BRICS countries to promote people to people exchange, share the best practices in the areas of arts, culture and heritage.

4.3 Agree to continue the practice of organizing online events to promote and continue our endeavor for taking our cultural bonding to new heights.

4.4 Promote access for people with disabilities to cultural programs and activities.

4.5 Assist in developing and facilitating widest possible cooperation in the field of popular and traditional expressions of culture.



4.6 Agree to facilitate exchange of films and cinema between the member countries.

The English language version of this Declaration is signed on July 02, 2021 in five counterparts following the virtual meeting of BRICS Culture Ministers under the Chairship of India.

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<p><b>FOR THE SPECIAL SECRETARIAT FOR CULTURE OF THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM OF THE FEDERATIVE REPUBLIC OF BRAZIL</b></p>	<hr/>
<p><b>FOR THE MINISTRY OF CULTURE OF THE RUSSIAN FEDERATION</b></p>	<hr/>
<p><b>FOR THE MINISTRY OF CULTURE OF THE REPUBLIC OF INDIA</b></p>	<hr/>
<p><b>FOR THE MINISTRY OF CULTURE AND TOURISM OF THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA</b></p>	<hr/>
<p><b>FOR THE MINISTRY OF SPORT, ARTS AND CULTURE OF THE REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA</b></p>	<hr/>