# **BRICS Network of Public Health Institutes**

#### **ISSUE NOTE**

#### **BRICS 2025**

## 1. Background Information

Among the various areas of collaboration among BRICS countries, one of the most promising is the strengthening of public health.

On September 12, 2024, Russia hosted the First BRICS Experts Meeting on Public Health. This initiative aimed at preparing for the launching of the BRICS Public Health Research Network (hereafter referred to as the Network) to foster cooperation and mutual support in the field of public health.

Other meeting objectives included identifying national initiatives of BRICS member states and determining potential areas for collaboration and joint research. The possibility of involving the New Development Bank (NDB) to finance joint research projects aligned with each nation's priorities and interests, as well as those of the Group, was also discussed.

Following the meeting, the Network was unanimously approved.

The central objective of this Network is to develop specialized cooperation among BRICS countries in public health and healthcare. Based on the 'expanded concept of health,' advancements in public health knowledge fostered by the Network are expected to strengthen the national capacities of health systems to provide adequate services. These services include promoting health and responding to threats from prevalent or emerging communicable diseases.

### 2. Priorities

- 2.1. Consolidation of the Network;
- 2.2. Enhancement of best practices sharing among national health systems;
- 2.3. Development of joint studies in epidemiology and the social and environmental determinants of health within BRICS countries;
- 2.4. Further integration between public health, global health, and health diplomacy experts from BRICS countries.



