

Statement of the BRICS First Parliamentary Forum (Moscow, June 8, 2015)

The National Congress of the Federative Republic of Brazil, the Federal Assembly of the Russian Federation, the Parliament of the Republic of India, the National People's Congress of the People's Republic of China, the Parliament of the Republic of South Africa,

ON THE BASIS of friendly relations that exist between the Federative Republic of Brazil, the Russian Federation, the Republic of India, the People's Republic of China, and the Republic of South Africa, including within the framework of the BRICS;

BEING INTERESTED in further strengthening of the BRICS as an influential factor of global politics and economy and, at the same time, as a symbol of forming a fair multi-polar world, based on the principles of dialogue, democracy, non-interference in internal affairs and respect for the sovereignty of States, in which each nation has the right to choose its own historical path and to assure a sustainable social and cultural development;

BEING AWARE of the importance of inter-parliamentary dialogue to develop multifaceted cooperation within the BRICS in political, economic, legal, humanitarian and other areas, and actively promote common interests of the BRICS in the international arena;

ESTABLISHING their relations on the principles of openness, pragmatism, solidarity, mutual assistance, inclusive, non-confrontational nature and mutually beneficial cooperation, adopted by the BRICS at the 2011 and 2014 summits;

ON THE BASIS of a mutual desire to create mechanisms for cooperation between legislative bodies and exchange experiences in order to further improve their national legislative systems;

HELD the BRICS First Parliamentary Forum on 8 June 2015 in Moscow, Russian Federation, during which they discussed the significant role of parliaments of the BRICS in resolving critical issues of international concern and making the BRICS an international mechanism for consultation and cooperation on key issues of global politics and economy.

In the year of the 70th anniversary of the founding of the United Nations and the end of the Second World War, participants of the Forum unanimously called for safeguarding the victory of the Second World War and a just and fair international order based on the UN Charter, the strengthening of the central role of the United Nations in the maintenance of international peace and security, full respect for the purposes and principles of the UN Charter and for comprehensive development of cooperation among the BRICS within the UN, including the strengthening of the rule of law in international relations, countering attempts to dilute its fundamental

principles and justify unilateral solutions to conflict situations, involving sanction pressure, unfair propaganda and military force. Participants also underlined the importance of a comprehensive reform of the UN, including its Security Council.

Participants of the Forum recognized the relevance of the inter-parliamentary dimension of the BRICS and promotion across international platforms of joint initiatives on peace and security, peaceful settlement of conflicts, development of international institutions, reforms of the global governance architecture, combating international terrorism, racism and neo-nazism, and other modern challenges, collaboration to form a peaceful, secure, open and cooperative world information space. Participants recalled the centrality of pro-poor policies and programmes which uplift the majority of people in the developing countries.

Participants welcomed progress achieved in the BRICS economic and financial cooperation, especially the founding of the New Development Bank and BRICS Reserve Currencies Pool, and emphasized the importance of the parliamentary support, as may be appropriate, of cooperation in the spheres of economy, culture, science, education, health care, youth, sports and in other areas.

Participants of the Forum stressed that the BRICS First Parliamentary Forum takes place at the landmark year of the 70th anniversary of the victory over nazism and the end of the World War II, unanimously supported intensification of their joint efforts to counter the attempts to impose on the international community the idea of civilizational inequality, – aimed at dividing people into “leaders” and “slaves”, – of exclusivity or superiority of individual nations, as well as to justify racism, xenophobia and extremism in any form.

In order to further deepen the strategic partnership between the BRICS countries, participants of the Forum declared their support for strengthening and promoting all forms of inter-parliamentary cooperation.

Parliamentarians from Brazil, India, China and South Africa expressed their gratitude to the Federal Assembly of the Russian Federation for hosting the BRICS First Parliamentary Forum in Moscow and hospitality accorded to Participants.