DECLARATION OF THE PARTICIPANTS IN THE FORUM OF THE BRICS COUNTRIES' LEADING MEDIA OUTLETS "TOWARDS CREATING A COMMON INFORMATION SPACE FOR THE BRICS COUNTRIES"

We, the participants in the forum of the BRICS countries' media outlets, "**Towards Creating a Common Information Space for the BRICS Countries,**" which took place in Moscow on 8 October 2015, welcome the initiative of the Russian BRICS Presidency for a discussion on creating a common information space based on the plurality of opinions, journalistic ethics, openness, and a desire to learn more about partner countries' cultures.

The forum participants exchanged opinions on **the following issues**:

- Integration trends in the global information space;
- BRICS media development models;
- Creating a common BRICS information space.

Based on the outcome of the forum, the participants **declare** therefore:

1. The forum participants welcome the considerable progress that has been made during Russia's BRICS Presidency and at the BRICS Summit in Ufa.

2. The forum participants have held a constructive discussion on the creation of a BRICS common information space and have also outlined priorities for further cooperation.

3. Considering that BRICS has become a major influence on the global stage, the forum participants have set the goal of working towards the effective and proportionate representation of the BRICS countries in the global information exchange.

4. The forum participants have decided to strengthen their strategic partnership towards creating and distributing products, exchanging information and content, and providing journalistic and other assistance to each other.

5. The forum participants have pointed to the strong stimulating role of the media for strengthening cooperation and have reaffirmed their commitment to strengthen friendship and mutual understanding between the BRICS countries and to promote their political, trade, economic, cultural, humanitarian and other cooperation by providing objective, unbiased, comprehensive and prompt coverage of BRICS activities.

6. Having analysed the main challenges to journalism in the world, including in the BRICS countries, the forum participants have agreed to join efforts in promoting the mutual

professional development of journalists and in organising onsite training and exchanges among young journalists and cooperation between the journalism schools and media in the BRICS countries.

7. The forum participants express sincere hope that these meetings will be held regularly and will develop into a discussion platform for an open exchange of opinions on the current issues of BRICS media space development.