JOINT DECLARATION OF THE HEADS OF THE MIGRATION AUTHORITIES OF THE BRICS COUNTRIES – THE RUSSIAN FEDERATION, THE REPUBLIC OF INDIA, THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA, AND THE REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRIC

(October 8, 2015, Sochi, the Russian Federation)

We, the Heads of the Migration Authorities from the Russian Federation, the Republic of India, the People's Republic of China, the Republic of South Africa, guided by the Ufa Declaration and the commitment to respect human rights included in that declaration:

1) Affirm the interest of BRICS countries in exchanging views and sharing experience on migration issues;

2) Acknowledge the interrelationship between transnational migration and development and the need to deal with the opportunities and challenges that migration presents and take advantage of its positive impacts;

3) Reaffirm the openness of the BRICS to deepen collaboration with other countries, international and regional organizations, based on principle of equality and mutual respect for discussing and addressing the issue of international migration including the facilitation of safe and orderly migration;

4) Acknowledge the impact of migration to the social and economic development and demographic situation in the BRICS countries;

5) Express the interest of BRICS countries in sharing best practices in the development and implementation of national migration policies or procedures;

6) Acknowledge the relevance of cooperation in the field of migration in the BRICS space;

7) Recognize the importance of promoting the mobility of skilled workers in the space of the BRICS countries;

8) Reiterate the commitment to combat and prevent organized criminal human trafficking and migrant smuggling;

9) Welcome strengthening of the dialogue and cooperation in the field of migration, including migration policies, procedures and strategies as well as working meetings of representatives of the migration authorities of the BRICS countries;

Confirm our commitment to strengthen our partnership for our common development and to this end adopt this Joint Declaration, which is open for other countries to join.