

IBSA FOREIGN MINISTERS MEET



The principles, norms and values underpinning the India-Brazil-South Africa (IBSA) Dialogue Forum are participatory democracy, respect for human rights and the Rule of Law. The strength of IBSA is the shared vision of the three countries that democracy and development are mutually reinforcing and key to sustainable peace and stability.

The Eighth IBSA Trilateral Ministerial Commission (ITMC) Meeting took place on 17 October 2017 in Durban. The meeting was chaired by the Minister of International Relations and Cooperation, Maite Nkoana-Mashabane, and attended by her counterparts from Brazil, Minister Aloysio Nunes Ferreira, and India, Minister VK Singh.

The ministers emphasised the growing importance of South-South cooperation. In this context, they recognised that the IBSA Fund for Alleviation of Poverty and Hunger played an important role through the sharing of developmental experience by IBSA countries. This contributes to inclusive and sustainable development for the empowerment of the peoples from developing countries.

The ministers agreed to the proposal of streamlining and clustering IBSA working groups in alignment with the United Nations 2030 Development Goals along its social, economic and environmental pillars.

The ministers also agreed that the Joint Working Group on Defence would continue with its work, including the convening of IBSA MAR in 2018. They also agreed to explore the possibility of IBSA Coast Guard cooperation.

The ministers agreed to the creation of a Working Group on the Blue Economy and they agreed to the convening of its first meeting in 2018.

The ministers of India and South Africa accepted with appreciation the Brazilian proposal to host the Ninth ITMC Meeting at a mutually convenient time and expressed their full support to India with its preparations to host the Sixth IBSA Summit in New Delhi in 2018.