

**Outcome of the Working Group Meetings – post 2<sup>nd</sup> IBSA Summit of 2007**

**3<sup>rd</sup> IBSA Summit, 15 October 2008**

**As on 15 October 2008**

Sl. No.	Sector	Meetings held post 2 <sup>nd</sup> Summit	Outcome
1.	Agriculture	2 <sup>nd</sup> Meeting - November 2007 in Brazil  3 <sup>rd</sup> Meeting – May 2008 in Stellenbosch, South Africa.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The five sub-groups identified the thrust areas of cooperation action points and time lines which include prioritizing projects, information exchange, project design, workshops, seminars, technical meetings,</li> <li>• Two Workshops on Mega Food Parks, Delhi and Avian Influenza, Pune would now be held in later part of the year.</li> <li>• India is hosting training on cotton production and value addition on 17-29 November 2008 in Nagpur, expecting at least 5 participants each.</li> <li>• The Concept Paper on IBSA Agriculture Strategy was circulated by India. This would further be discussed and presented to the 4<sup>th</sup> IBSA Summit.</li> </ul>
2.	Culture	Held in May 2008 in South Africa.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• India, Brazil and South Africa agreed to organize the audio-visual conference focusing on films, a seminar on Conservation of Architectural Heritage, Indigenous Knowledge System Conference</li> <li>• As agreed at this WGM, India is hosting the first IBSA Food Festival from 11-17 October 2008.</li> <li>• South Africa to organize a Workshop on Indigenous Knowledge Systems in areas of traditional medicine and pharmaceuticals.</li> </ul>
3.	Climate Change and Environment	1 <sup>st</sup> Meeting - 12 September 2008, New Delhi	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• An MoU has been finalized for signing during the 3<sup>rd</sup> IBSA Summit in New Delhi on 15 October 2008.</li> <li>• Discussions were held on Climate Change, Biodiversity and Forestry and the three countries agreed to enhance implementation of UNFCCC and Bali Action Plan;</li> <li>• The three countries agreed to share their detailed comments on working together on the issue of forestry at a later date.</li> </ul>
4.	Defence	2 <sup>nd</sup> Meeting - 13	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Areas of collaboration to further the strategic</li> </ul>

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		October 2008 in New Delhi	<p>cooperation were discussed. Presentations made by the 3 countries highlight defence capabilities.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The need to promote joint training and exercises was recognized. The first joint IBSAMAR Naval Exercise was held in South Africa in May 2008.</li> <li>• While cooperation in defence production was underscored, it was felt that this could initially be at the level of seminars and symposiums to understand strengths.</li> <li>• India took lead in providing Technology and functional training in Defence Institute for Advance Technology, Pune, Brazil and SA to be invited for Seminars/Conference conducted under the aegis of Indian Ocean Naval Symposium Course on UN Peace Keeping for IBSA countries etc.</li> <li>• Brazil took lead in tri-service scoping mission, Search and Rescue (SAR) support during IBSA Sailing Regatta-2009, courses in Brazilian Military Schools, experience sharing in Special Forces.</li> <li>• South Africa took lead in hosting IBSAMAR II – 2010, Hosting of IBSA Sailing Regatta, Jan 2009, IBSA Trilateral Map Exercise-2011 (UN Peace Keeping Scenario), Military Adventure Sports Event.</li> <li>• A draft MoU and Terms of Reference would be drawn up for enhanced cooperation in the area.</li> </ul>
5.	Education	<p>4<sup>th</sup> Meeting - Held on 7 October in New Delhi</p> <p>3<sup>rd</sup> Meeting - 6-7 May 2008, South Africa</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• IBSA Studies Programmes to be established on two thematic areas : (i) Social Transformation and Social Cohesion and (ii) Global Governance and International Trade and Investment;</li> <li>• Opportunities and resources to be made available to facilitate student exchanges;</li> <li>• Each country to provide funding and student exchange programmes (as undertaken at the 2<sup>nd</sup> IBSA Summit) out of finances of US \$ 50000 set aside by each country.</li> <li>• An Academic Seminar was held in Brazil in August 2008 where nine projects for further action, including 4 in Biotechnology, 4 in engineering and one in Information Technology</li> </ul>

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			were identified.
6.	Energy	<p>5<sup>th</sup> Meeting - 18-19 September 2008, New Delhi</p> <p>4<sup>th</sup> Meeting - 6-7 May 2008, South Africa</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• It was agreed to start implementing concrete projects; Under renewable energy, the focus of cooperation was on biofuels, wind and remote electrification primarily through application of solar technologies.</li> <li>• In Implementation of the MoU, India offered the use of their expertise w.r.t. mapping of wind resources, supply of wind equipment on commercial basis, a training programme in wind energy covering policy, technical aspects for experts from Brazil and South Africa, to host a trilateral seminar on “Trade and Investment Opportunities in Wind Energy in IBSA countries” and the use of their institutions;</li> <li>• Agreed to exchange information on rural electrification programme.</li> <li>• South Africa to initiate the process of formulating an MoU in the solar sector.</li> <li>• India would host a Workshop in Energy Efficiency.</li> <li>• The Need for active engagement of all stakeholders, viz. expert and research institutions and industry for a meaningful cooperation was underscored;</li> <li>• Agreed to cooperate in engine technology, capacity building, research and development and</li> <li>• Brazil, India and South Africa to host a seminar each on flexi-fuels engines modification for cars and two-wheeler standards in March 2009; first and second generation technologies; and technical standards and specifications for biofuels.</li> <li>•</li> </ul>
7.	Health	30 September 2008 in New Delhi	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• It was agreed to collaborate regarding strategies on health surveillance systems and emerging and re-emerging diseases, traditional Indian systems of medicine (especially Ayurveda and Yoga), public health laboratories and collaboration in drug registration and regulation processes.</li> <li>• Cooperation in Health sector to help develop</li> </ul>

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			<p>and expand national systems for delivering quality health care to citizens.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Exchange of experience from Brazil in reducing counterfeiting of medicines and identifying good practices for cooperation.</li> <li>• The IBSA Health Ministers met in New Delhi on 29 July 2008.</li> </ul>
8.	Human Settlement Development	<p>2<sup>nd</sup> Meeting - 6-7 May 2008, South Africa</p> <p>3<sup>rd</sup> Meeting - 8-9 September 2008 in New Delhi</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• An MoU has been finalized for signing at the 3<sup>rd</sup> IBSA Summit in New Delhi on 15 October 2008.</li> <li>• Policy and programme perspectives of the three countries were shared.</li> </ul>
9.	Information Society	<p>5<sup>th</sup> meeting - 10-11 September 2008 in New Delhi</p> <p>4<sup>th</sup> meeting – 6-7 May 2008 in South Africa</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Adoption of an Action Plan 2008-09;</li> <li>• Aims to exchange experiences and practices on e-readiness measurement among IBSA countries;</li> <li>• The existing IBSA website would be made more user-friendly by providing ID and Password to each designated IBSA Focal Point for uploading by respective Working Groups</li> <li>• India hosted a Technical Workshop on e-Governance on 13 October 2008 to promote cooperation in e-Governance standards and data management</li> <li>• IBSA Digital Inclusion Award to be launched based on country specific criteria on common guidelines, to be provided by Brazil. Funds to be requested from IBSA.</li> </ul>
10.	Public Administration	10-11 Sept. 2008	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Review of implementation of PoA 2007-08 and progress made</li> <li>• Technical Task Forces identified in six areas e-viz. Governance, Human Resource Development, Citizen Oriented Service Delivery, Anti-corruption and Ethics, Accountability and Transparency, Integrated Monitoring and Evaluation.</li> <li>• Each country leading in two areas would meet to discuss and finalize the Concept Papers.</li> <li>• In-depth study of setting and improving service standards through exchange of each others standards in specific areas;</li> <li>• Proposal to set up a standard charter on Public Administration on the basis of areas outlined in</li> </ul>

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			<p>the MoU – Brazil to lead;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• India has identified a Task Force represented by a focal point for each of the areas identified in the MoU;</li> <li>• India to host and take leadership in setting up of IBSA Virtual Centre of Excellence</li> </ul>
11.	Revenue Administration	<p>15-18 September 2008, New Delhi</p> <p>6-7 May 2008, South Africa</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Progress has been made in various areas of cooperation in Customs and Tax Administration, including development of a shared approach towards Large Business Centre operations, Taxpayer Relationship management, audit and investigations and dispute resolution.</li> <li>• Steps have been initiated towards establishing an 'Exchange of Information' mechanism to help the three countries in sharing knowledge on customs valuation data, abusive tax avoidance schemes, arrangements and transactions, to strengthen the existing cooperation in terms of Double Taxation Avoidance Agreements (DTAAs) and Customs Mutual Assistance Agreements (CMAAs). This will help curb tax evasion occurring through the use of tax havens, complex corporate structures and other tax avoidance schemes.</li> <li>• The three administrations resolved to effectively meet the challenge of the growing threat to their respective tax bases through misuse of their tax treaties. Emphasis was laid on cooperation for capacity building, modernization and for having common approach in multilateral fora for mutual benefit.</li> </ul>
12.	Science & Technology	<p>Held on 13 October 2008, New Delhi</p> <p>6-7 May 2008, South Africa</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The IBSA S&amp;T Ministers also met after the Working Group Meeting on 14 October 2008.</li> <li>• An MoU on S&amp;T was discussed with possible modes and areas of collaboration and sharing expenses/funding of collaborative activities.</li> <li>• It was agreed to support the Nanotechnology project in the areas of development of sensors and nano-devices; nanostructures organic/inorganic hybrid solar cells; water purification, human capacity development etc. and that Nano schools would be organized to train about 200 scientists/future leaders from</li> </ul>

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			<p>IBSA countries.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Workshop on HIV/AIDS organized on 10 October 2008. It was agreed that projects in priority areas would be developed.</li> <li>• Brazil would host two Workshops on Malaria and Bio Technology in 2009 and an Antarctic Symposium in 2009 to establish framework cooperation on Antarctic issues.</li> <li>• A call for proposals will be launched soon.</li> <li>• It was recommended to include three new areas, viz. Indigenous knowledge systems, Alternative and renewable energy, information and communication technology.</li> <li>• Ph.D students to be attached to the approved projects for a period of six months. Idea of IBSA fellowships have been mooted and will be further worked out.</li> <li>• An IBSA Science Council would be set up to provide high level guidance and overview of collaboration activities.</li> <li>• The S&amp;T Ministers reaffirmed their commitment to support R&amp;D projects and to create a seed fund of US \$ 1 million annually in each country for making adequate provision to implement scientific projects.</li> </ul>
13.	Social Issues	Held on 6 October 2008, New Delhi	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A Workshop on IBSA Social Development Strategy was organized by Indian Council of Social Science Research (ICSSR) on 3-4 October 2008 to discuss and prepare a Paper on 'IBSA Social Development Strategy'. This would further be discussed and presented at the next Summit.</li> <li>• Detailed Activity Plan has been drawn up.</li> <li>• Exchange programmes/seminars proposed to be held.</li> <li>• South Africa and Brazil to identify counterparts of ICSSR to take up issues with the objective to share experience and make joint research studies to support the research agenda. The Working Group will ensure that the identified institutions enter into partnership agreement.</li> <li>• NABARD to host a Seminar in December08/January 09 on poverty eradication strategies in the rural non-farm sectors, tribal development and disadvantaged communities.</li> </ul>

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			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Brazil to host an Int. Seminar on Social Development in April/May 2009.</li> </ul>
14.	Tourism	20-25 September 2008, Kochi	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• An MoU has been finalized for signing at the 3<sup>rd</sup> IBSA Summit;</li> <li>• Exchanged views on economic, social and political importance of tourism sector in respective countries and the need to strengthen tourism cooperation under IBSA;</li> <li>• To establish a mechanism to encourage exchange of information related to tourism resources, tourist arrivals to understand the dynamics of the sector in each other's country and to provide an opportunity to share experience;</li> </ul>
15.	Trade and Investment	15-16 September 2008, New Delhi 6-7 May 2008, South Africa	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• An MoU on Standards, Technical Regulations and Conformity Assessment to give concrete shape to the working mechanism and work agenda to be finalized for signing at the 3<sup>rd</sup> IBSA Summit;</li> <li>• An MoU on IPR Issues circulated by India earlier was revised with Brazilian comments and provided to South Africa for their comments.</li> <li>• Matter relating to inclusion of Tri-Nations Summit on Small Business in the IBSA process as a people-to people forum was discussed and to hold the Tri-Nations Summit to coincide with future IBSA Summits starting 2009 in Brazil.</li> <li>• Re-affirmed earlier decision to constitute a sub-group on SMMEs with government representatives</li> <li>• The WG agreed on the importance of undertaking confidence-building measures among the other members of SACU and MERCOSUR for a successful outcome of the Trilateral Trade Arrangement (TTA) Initiative.</li> </ul>
16.	Transport Maritime Shipping Civil Aviation	9-10 September 2008, New Delhi 6-7 May 2008, South Africa	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Five Year Action Plans on Maritime Shipping and Civil Aviation have been finalized to be signed during the 3<sup>rd</sup> IBSA Summit.</li> <li>• The Technical Groups under Civil Aviation would be identified by all three countries.</li> </ul>