

Comunicado dos Ministros de Energia do BRICS

Brasília, Brasil, 11 Novembro 2019

*Texto Original em Inglês**

1. We, the Ministers of Energy and Heads of Delegation of the Federative Republic of Brazil, the Russian Federation, the Republic of India, the People's Republic of China and the Republic of South Africa, held the fourth BRICS Ministers of Energy Meeting on 11 of November of 2019 in Brasília.

2. Building upon the invaluable outcomes of the previous Presidencies and Ministerial Meetings, we reaffirm the outcomes of previous BRICS Energy Ministers' Meetings and Leaders' Summits and renew our commitment to strengthen cooperation in energy and maximize collaboration potential in order to facilitate the attainment of Sustainable Development Goals (SDG 7) as a guiding principle for energy policy.

3. We adopt the Terms of Reference of the BRICS Energy Research Cooperation Platform. The platform will promote sustainable energy development through research in areas such as technology, policy and innovation and facilitate a broad dialogue on energy among participating States involving officials, business community and academia. We invite the Committee of Senior Energy Officials to nominate focal points in charge of work-streams of the BRICS ERCP and to coordinate and oversee its activities. We appreciate the lead taken by Russia in preparing a study on the use of gas as motor fuel in the transport sector and encourage member countries to propose other areas of cooperation within the ERCP.

4. We note that Brazil, Russia, India, China and South Africa represent some of the world's largest energy consumers and producers. BRICS countries have energy strategies that have proven to be complementary, opening up opportunities for enhanced intra-BRICS energy cooperation to foster domestic and global energy security and stimulate economic growth. Cooperation on energy holds common interest and represents a win-win situation for BRICS countries.

5. Bearing in mind the common challenges we face, our common interests and our fluid and diverse dialogue, we reaffirm the importance of consulting on our positions in

relevant multilateral fora, whenever possible and always respecting national and regional circumstances in order to enhance the BRICS role in dealing with global energy issues

6. We will continue to work to reinforce and deepen intra-BRICS cooperation on energy production and consumption as well as to improve the conditions for investment in energy sector, while paying special attention to project preparation and financing of infrastructure, including through the New Development Bank (NDB).

Energy Access and Affordability

7. We recognize that ensuring access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all in line with SDG 7 is crucial for social and economic development. We are aware that approximately 840 million people still live without electricity and nearly 3 billion still do not have access to clean cooking. We underscore that modern, accessible and affordable energy services is a powerful tool to lift people from poverty. Clean cooking solutions have the potential to improve health, productivity and quality of life of people, particularly women and children.

8. In that context, we welcome the role played by BRICS countries in improving energy access and affordability for all. We will enhance efforts within our countries and on larger scale to overcome energy poverty in line with our commitments to the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

Energy Security and Efficiency

9. We reaffirm the importance of energy security in particular diversification of energy sources, resilience of energy systems, protection and development of energy infrastructure. We support dialogue between producers and consumers of energy that promotes open, flexible and efficient energy markets. BRICS countries will enhance collaboration on topical energy security issues including new challenges linked to energy transitions and application of new technologies.

10. We stress the fundamental contribution of energy efficiency and conservation to the energy transitions as well as their enormous potential for promoting sustainable economic growth and lowering the environmental footprint of the energy sector. We are pleased with the work done by the BRICS Working Group on Energy Saving and Energy Efficiency in the implementation of the Memorandum of Mutual Understanding in Energy Saving and Energy Efficiency and the Plan of Action agreed to at the First

Working Group Meeting in India in 2016 as well as the work promoted by the Working Group meetings in China and South Africa in 2017 and 2018, respectively. We encourage further development of cooperation in energy efficiency and conservation through sharing of knowledge and best practices and disseminating advanced energy efficient technologies. In this regard, we welcome India's energy efficient lighting program – in which around 360 million LED light bulbs have been distributed at affordable prices – as a successful example.

Energy Transitions

11. We recognize the importance of the efficient use of all energy sources, including fossil fuels, nuclear and renewable energy, for transitions to more flexible and sustainable energy systems of the future. A number of challenges to the traditional mode of energy deployment, including in BRICS countries, must be overcome to ensure successful energy transitions. In this regard, we reiterate that cleaner energy systems will be achieved through the adoption of various advanced, flexible, cost competitive and low emissions technologies.

12. The search for increased energy efficiency, modernization of infrastructure, large scale deployment of renewables and the need for more efficient and flexible use of conventional fuels are some axes of transformation that can create new cycles of investment, driving the financial and labor markets and bringing new dynamics to our economies.

13. We will further improve our collaboration in development and deployment of advanced cleaner energy technologies including cutting-edge technologies in all appropriate formats within the BRICS cooperation framework including the ERCP.

Natural Gas

14. We acknowledge that a major role in meeting growing energy demand and lowering GHG emissions can be played by natural gas which is an abundant and affordable energy source. We will promote wider use of natural gas including LNG in our energy systems and undertake measures aimed at efficiency and stability of natural gas markets and the development of necessary infrastructure. We will enhance cooperation in natural gas (including LNG) and the use of natural gas in transportation and other sectors, for the benefit of economic development and well-being of our peoples.

15. We welcome steps undertaken by the Brazilian Government aimed at improving the operation of the gas market and reducing the price of energy as well as steps taken by all BRICS countries in support of wider use of natural gas in various sectors.

Nuclear Energy

16. We emphasize that nuclear energy contributes to the enhancement of energy security as an efficient, stable and zero emission energy source. We will encourage cooperation in the nuclear power sector including new areas such as next generation and small modular reactors, bearing in mind the highest standards of nuclear safety, security, and non-proliferation. We also value the BRICS cooperation on decommissioning of nuclear power plants and final disposal of high-level radioactive waste.

Renewable Energy

17. We welcome the impressive progress achieved in the development and deployment of renewable energy, benefiting from innovation leading to significant cost reductions. Renewable energy sources, such as wind, bioenergy, solar, hydro and geothermal energy, can play a larger role in the transportation, heating and cooling, and industrial sectors worldwide. We encourage research and cooperation in renewable energy sources within BRICS. We also underscore the potential of the low-carbon bioeconomy and welcome the Brazilian Government for hosting the II Biofuture Platform Summit in São Paulo, on March 2020.

18. We note the commendable progress made by India in deploying renewable energy and appreciate India's leadership in the International Solar Alliance (ISA).

19. We support further development of youth cooperation in the sphere of energy and welcome initiatives which help to broaden contacts and exchanges among young specialists, students and researchers. In this regard, we welcome the Summit of BRICS Youth Energy Agency held on 5 October 2019 in Moscow.

20. We note and commend South Africa on the release of the Integrated Resource Plan 2019 which spells out the electricity generation mix that includes coal, nuclear, gas, renewables and energy storage.

21. We express our appreciation for Brazil's hosting of the Fourth BRICS Meeting of Energy Ministers. We look forward to further strengthening our energy cooperation under the chairmanship of the Russian Federation in 2020.