

IBSA Foreign Ministers' Meeting on UNGA sidelines – Press Release

The External Affairs Minister of the Republic of India, H.E. Ms. Sushma Swaraj, the Minister of External Relations of the Federative Republic of Brazil, H.E. Mr. Aloysio Nunes Ferreira Filho, and the Minister of International Relations and Cooperation of the Republic of South Africa, H.E. Ms. Maite Nkoana-Mashabane, met in New York on 21 September 2017, on the sidelines of the 72nd Session of the United Nations General Assembly.

The Ministers discussed and exchanged views on global political situation, Global Economic and Financial Situation, Reform of Global Governance and Sustainable Development.

The Ministers highlighted that the three countries' commitment to democratic values, inclusive social development and multilateralism constitutes the basis for their growing cooperation and close coordination, which encompasses a range of regional and global issues of mutual interest. They reiterate their commitment towards further deepening and strengthening on the IBSA Dialogue Forum. They noted that the existing comprehensive legal and institutional framework under IBSA, comprising of intergovernmental interaction and People-to-People Fora for multifaceted mutually beneficial cooperation, provides a solid base to take the IBSA cooperation forward. The Ministers stressed the importance of close coordination and cooperation among IBSA countries in various multilateral fora, including the UN, G20, BRICS, WTO, WIPO, etc.

They emphasized the growing importance of South-South cooperation. In this context, they reviewed the progress of the implementation of the IBSA Fund, progress on Poverty and Hunger alleviation. They stressed that the IBSA Fund plays an important role in sharing of developmental experience of IBSA countries for inclusive and sustainable growth and empowerment of the peoples of developing countries.

The Ministers exchanged views on furthering IBSA cooperation and the various work-streams, including exploring cooperation in Blue Economy.

The Ministers emphasized the urgent need for a comprehensive reform of the global institutions of political and economic governance. In this context, they stressed the need for early reform of the UN Security Council in order to make it more representative, inclusive, legitimate and effective.

The Ministers underscored that terrorism is a grave challenge to international peace and security. They called for a comprehensive and determined international action, including strengthening of international normative regime through the early conclusion and adoption of the Comprehensive Convention on International Terrorism to address this menace.

The Ministers agreed to hold the 8th meeting of IBSA Trilateral Ministerial Commission in South Africa on 17th October, 2017, and the 6th IBSA Summit in India, in 2018, which is the 15th anniversary of the IBSA Dialogue Forum.

New York, 21 September 2017.