

Brief on India-Brazil-South Africa (IBSA) Dialogue Forum

IBSA is a unique Forum which brings together India, Brazil and South Africa, three large democracies and major economies from three different continents, facing similar challenges. All three countries are developing, pluralistic, multi-cultural, multi-ethnic, multi-lingual, and multi-religious nations. The grouping was formalized and named the IBSA Dialogue Forum when the Foreign Ministers of the three countries met in Brasilia on 6 June 2003 and issued the Brasilia Declaration. ***South Africa is the current IBSA Chair.***

2. Cooperation in IBSA is on three fronts: ***first***, as a forum for consultation and coordination on global and regional political issues; ***second***, trilateral collaboration on concrete areas/projects, through working groups and People-to-People Forums; and ***third***, assisting other developing countries by taking up projects in the latter through IBSA Fund.

3. So far five IBSA Leadership Summits have been held. The 5th IBSA Summit was held in Pretoria in 2011.

4. The IBSA Trilateral Ministerial Commission (ITMC) is held at the level of Foreign Ministers. The IBSA Foreign Ministers also occasionally meet on the margins of UNGA. In 2018, the Foreign Ministers met in Pretoria and issued *IBSA Declaration on South - South Cooperation*. In 2019, the Foreign Ministers met in New York wherein they issued *IBSA Joint Statement on the Reform of the Multilateral System*. In September 2020, Ministers met through video conferencing and issued the *IBSA Joint Statement on the Reform of the UN Security Council*. The recent IBSA Foreign Ministers Meeting was held sidelines of the 79th Session of the United National General Assembly on 26 September, 2024 in New York.

5. The inaugural IBSA National Security Advisors Meeting was held under India's IBSA Chairship in 2021.

IBSA Trust Fund

6. The IBSA facility for poverty and hunger alleviation (IBSA Fund) was established jointly by India, Brazil and South Africa in 2004 and became operational in 2006. Since its inception, IBSA Funds has allocated over US \$53.27 million, supporting 46 South-South cooperation development

projects in 34 partner countries with the majority of them being Least Developed Countries (LDCs).

IBSAMAR

7. The 8th edition of IBSAMAR, a joint multinational maritime exercise, among the Indian, Brazilian and South Africa navies was held in October 2024 off the coast of South Africa.

IBSA Visiting Fellowships

8. The first round of IBSA Visiting Fellowships concluded in 2018, the second round in February 2019 and third round was concluded in 2023.

Recently held IBSA events

9. The following IBSA events have been held in last 5 years:

- Meeting of Sherpa and Sous Sherpas.
- Standalone Meeting of Ministers of Foreign Affairs
- Meeting of Ministers of Foreign Affairs on the sidelines of 79th UNGA
- IBSA Joint WG on Renewable Energy
- 8th IBSAMAR Exercise
- Inaugural IBSA Coffee Festival
- IBSA Tourism Senior Officers' Meeting
- IBSA Tourism Ministers' Meeting
- 7th IBSA Academic Forum
- 1st IBSA National Security Advisors Meeting
- 5th IBSA Tripartite Meeting of National Organizations of Standards, Technical Regulations and Conformity Assessment
- IBSA Youth Summit
- IBSA Joint Working Group on Energy
- 7th Meeting of IBSA Joint Working Group on Agriculture
- IBSA Tri-Nations Conference on Small and Medium Enterprises
- IBSA Senior Officials' Meeting on Traditional Medicines
- Inaugural Meeting of IBSA Development Cooperation Agencies
- 10th IBSA Trilateral Ministerial Commission
- IBSA Joint Webinar on Cyber Threat Hunting

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