

27 development, national and regional industrialization, the
28 transition towards sustainable consumption and production
29 patterns. We observe that the pandemic has introduced new
30 bottlenecks in regional and global supply chains, and the
31 disruption of supply chains has adversely impacted many
32 sectors and firms, including MSMEs.

33 We recognize that since the establishment of the
34 mechanism of Trade Ministers Meeting in 2011, with the efforts
35 of all members, the BRICS economic and trade cooperation has
36 been steadily improved. We agree to further strengthen trade
37 and investment cooperation, harness the potential and address
38 the challenges of the digital economy, improve the resilience
39 and stability of global and regional supply chains, support our
40 efforts to address global challenges, and safeguard the interests
41 of BRICS countries. We expect our efforts will create impetus
42 for sustainable economic recovery.

43 **Support the Multilateral Trading System and the WTO** 44 **reform**

45 BRICS countries support the multilateral trading system as
46 embodied in the WTO. We will engage constructively to pursue
47 the necessary WTO reform to build an open world economy that
48 supports trade and development, preserve the pre-eminent role
49 of the WTO for setting global trade rules and governance,
50 supporting inclusive development and promoting the rights and
51 interests of its members, including developing members and
52 LDCs. We recognize that special and differential treatment as
53 established in WTO rules is a tool to facilitate the achievement
54 of WTO objectives with respect to economic growth and

55 development.

56 We call upon all WTO members to avoid unilateral and
57 protectionist measures that run counter to the spirit and rules of
58 the WTO. We will work closely with other WTO members
59 towards a successful 12th WTO Ministerial Conference (MC12).
60 To this end, we endorse **BRICS Statement on Strengthening**
61 **the Multilateral Trading System and Reforming the WTO.**

62 **Unleash the potential of the digital economy**

63 We reaffirm the guidance on strengthening BRICS
64 cooperation on digital economy outlined in *the Strategy for*
65 *BRICS Economic Partnership 2025* and *the BRICS*
66 *Implementation Roadmap on Trade and Investment related*
67 *aspects of the “Strategy for BRICS Economic Partnership*
68 *2025”*. We recognize the pivotal role of the digital economy for
69 the modernization and transformation of the industry, promotion
70 of inclusive economic growth, facilitation of decision-making
71 process and stimulation of the national economies to meet the
72 UN 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development Goals.

73 We recognize the challenges facing trade and investment
74 development in the digital era and acknowledge that BRICS
75 members are at different levels of digital development, and thus
76 recognize the need to address respective challenges including
77 the digital divide. We reiterate that all members should, on the
78 basis of mutual respect, strengthen communication, deepen
79 dialogue and cooperation, to better promote trade facilitation,
80 create a conducive environment to enhance consumer protection
81 and strengthen the cooperation on MSMEs.

82 Recalling the sound basis for cooperation among BRICS
83 countries on the digital economy and e-commerce, emphasizing
84 the commonalities and complementarities of BRICS members in
85 the digital economy, and considering that a forward-looking,
86 inclusive and open BRICS digital economy partnership
87 framework is conducive to creating more development
88 opportunities, we endorse **the BRICS Digital Economy**
89 **Partnership Framework**. We recognize the importance of
90 cooperation on digital industrialization. In order to better
91 coordinate implementation efforts, we welcome the
92 establishment of the Digital Economy Working Group by
93 upgrading the E-commerce Working Group. The Digital
94 Economy Working Group will coordinate and interact with the
95 Working Group on ICT Cooperation, as well as the workstreams
96 established within this track, namely the Digital BRICS Task
97 Force (DBTF) and the BRICS Institute of Future Networks
98 (BIFN) as practicable to avoid any duplication for advancing the
99 BRICS digital economy in accordance with respective
100 advantages, and within respective domestic legal frameworks.
101 We appreciate this year's support provided by UNCTAD and
102 ITC and their presentations on BRICS Digital Economy.

103 **Promote trade and investment for sustainable development**

104 We note with concern that the COVID-19 pandemic has
105 negatively affected economic development and the progress of
106 the UN 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. We recall
107 the Strategy for BRICS Economic Partnership 2025 in which
108 BRICS members agreed to enhance cooperation on climate
109 change to ensure full and effective implementation of UNFCCC

110 and its Paris Agreement. It is our priority to address the three
111 dimensions of sustainable development, the economic, social
112 and environmental, in an integrated and indivisible manner. We
113 recognize that trade and investment can play an important role
114 in promoting sustainable development, and endeavor to explore
115 the opportunities for promoting industrial development as we
116 address the challenge of climate change.

117 We endorse **the BRICS Initiative on Trade and**
118 **Investment for Sustainable Development**, stressing that the
119 BRICS countries will strengthen cooperation in the area of trade
120 and investment to safeguard their interests. Stressing that the
121 measures taken to protect the environment should not be
122 discriminatory or used as a means of justification for hindering
123 trade and investment, we will work together to meet the
124 environmental challenges and promote a sustainable, resilient
125 and inclusive post-pandemic recovery. We take note of the
126 presentation by UNCTAD on trade and environmental
127 sustainability, and by UNIDO on promoting sustainability and
128 climate action through trade and industrial policies, and take
129 note that UNCTAD has been assigned by Chinese Presidency to
130 prepare a report on BRICS investment.

131 **Enhance cooperation on supply chains**

132 We recognize that the travel and logistics restrictions
133 related to the pandemic, coupled with WTO inconsistent
134 unilateral and protectionist measures, have severely impacted
135 supply chains both at regional and global levels. Developing
136 countries as well as their MSMEs are among the most
137 vulnerable to supply chain shocks.

138 Recognizing the need to enhance cooperation on supply
139 chains, we endorse **the BRICS Initiative on Enhancing**
140 **Cooperation on Supply Chains**, reaffirming that openness,
141 efficiency, stability, transparency, reliability and resilience of
142 the global, regional and national production and supply chains
143 are crucial in combating the COVID-19 pandemic, tackling
144 economic recovery challenges and boosting international trade
145 and investment. We are committed to strengthening dialogue,
146 exchanges and cooperation in areas such as trade facilitation,
147 investment, trade in services, and MSMEs to address supply
148 chain disruptions.

149 Recognizing that trade in services is a key engine for the
150 post-pandemic recovery of international trade, as well as an
151 important path for countries to move up the supply chains, we
152 agree to strengthen engagement of BRICS national focal points
153 with BRICS Business Council, with the aim to promote
154 implementation of BRICS Trade in Services Cooperation
155 Roadmap and relevant documents including the BRICS
156 Framework for cooperation in Professional Services. We take
157 note of the proposal of the Presidency to establish the BRICS
158 Trade in Services Network (BTSN) and will continue discussions.
159 We encourage cooperation among BRICS countries to enhance
160 the interconnectivity of supply chains and promote trade and
161 investment flows. We take note of presentation made by ITC on
162 trade in services.

163 **Other Issues**

164 We thank the WTO, UNCTAD, UNIDO and ITC for their
165 presentations. On the basis of BRICS consultation, the rotating

166 Presidency will continue to draw on their expert advice in
167 contribution to BRICS future cooperation.

168 We take note of China's hosting the "Buy BRICS" online
169 promotion event, and welcome the upcoming "Dialogue on
170 Digital Economy Development of BRICS" "Forum on
171 Sustainable Investment of BRICS" "Forum on Trade in Services
172 of BRICS" "Online training programmes on e-commerce",
173 which are designed to provide effective platforms for promoting
174 the digital economy and sustainable development of the BRICS
175 countries.

176 We appreciate the work done by the BRICS Business
177 Council (BBC) to promote cooperation among the BRICS
178 business communities.

179 We appreciate the contribution of the BRICS Women
180 Business Alliance (WBA) in promoting women's participation
181 in business activities in BRICS countries and in creating
182 economic opportunities for women entrepreneurs.

183 We will strengthen dialogue among BRICS countries and
184 jointly create more development opportunities for emerging
185 markets and developing countries.

186

187 **Annex**

188 I. *BRICS Statement on Strengthening the Multilateral*
189 *Trading System and Reforming the WTO*

190 II. *BRICS Digital Economy Partnership Framework*

191 III. *BRICS Initiative on Trade and Investment for*
192 *Sustainable Development*

193 IV. *BRICS Initiative on Enhancing Cooperation on*
194 *Supply Chains*