

MEETING OF BRICS NATIONAL SECURITY ADVISORS CONCLUDES IN MOSCOW

The meeting was attended by Antonio Guerreiro, Brazilian Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary to Russia, Nikolai Patrushev, Secretary of the Russian Security Council; Ajit Kumar Doval, Indian Prime Minister's National Security Advisor; Yang Jiechi, member of the State Council of the People's Republic of China; and David Mahlobo, Minister of State Security of South Africa.

Mr Patrushev said they discussed current threats and challenges, exchanged experience in combating unilateral sanctions and attempts to interfere in the internal affairs of sovereign states, considered ways of promoting cooperation among the BRICS countries, the fight against terrorism, separatism, extremism, cross-border crime and drug trafficking, and also agreed to prepare common approaches to information security.

Mr Patrushev pointed out that BRICS has garnered respect as an international association. Many sceptics predicted in 2011 that the five-member association would not survive long, but the results of the group's work have laid this criticism bare, and the BRICS countries have proved their ability to jointly tackle a wide range of issues.

The Secretary of the Russian Security Council said that cooperation among the BRICS countries is aimed at creating a multipolar system of international relations based on the principles of justice and equality. "This provides for laying the old practices of bloc diplomacy to rest," Mr Patrushev added. He said the West has increasingly often been using financial institutions to influence other countries' opinions. In the past 10 years, the total amount of capital flight from the BRICS economies reached at least \$3.5 trillion, including over a half of this sum in the past three years. The Russian Security Council Secretary said the creation of the New Development Bank of the BRICS countries was a vital step towards the group's economic security.

Mr Patrushev added that a foreign invasion of Syria was prevented, Syria's chemical weapons were destroyed and terrorists were prevented from getting a hold of chemical weapon agents thanks to the principled position of Russia and China in the UN Security Council, which the other BRICS countries supported.

According to Ajit Kumar Doval, Indian Prime Minister's National Security Advisor, the BRICS National Security Advisors meeting offered an opportunity to discuss reform of the UN. He said he shares the opinion of his Brazilian colleague on how the UN Security Council should be reformed in order to become more effective. He said he believes the number of permanent UN Security Council members could be increased, and added that the BRICS countries share this view.

David Mahlobo, Minister of State Security of South Africa, said that with more permanent members, the UN Security Council would be able to more efficiently respond to current challenges. The transformation of this important organisation would make the Security Council more representative and increase international trust in it, Mr Mahlobo said.

Yang Jiechi, member of the State Council of the People's Republic of China, spoke in favour of maintaining close political and security cooperation among the BRICS countries in an attempt to create a multipolar world. "We need to reform the global system of governance, especially in view of the economic crisis. We are all in the same boat, and hence we should promote the concept of cooperative, equal, and indivisible security," Mr Yang said.

He said the BRICS countries' talks on international development would help defend the legitimate interests of developing countries. "Only in this case will we create a solid foundation for multipolarity," Mr Yang said.

Antonio Guerreiro, Brazilian Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary to Russia, recalled that one of the fundamental goals of the BRICS New Development Bank is to strengthen security. "Since all of us here are responsible for security and cooperative concepts, we must not forget about the New Development Bank, which is designed to strengthen security and promote practical steps in the financial arena," the Brazilian ambassador said.

Source: <http://en.brics2015.ru/news/20150526/117948.html>