

# CABINET APPROVES MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING AMONG BRICS NATIONS ON ENVIRONMENTAL COOPERATION

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Cabinet

## Cabinet approves Memorandum of Understanding among BRICS Nations on Environmental Cooperation

Posted On: 24 OCT 2018 1:09PM by PIB Delhi

The Union Cabinet, chaired by the Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi has given its ex-post facto approval for Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) signed among the BRICS Nations on Environmental Cooperation. The MoU was signed during the 10<sup>th</sup> BRICS Summit in July, 2018 in Johannesburg, South Africa.

The MoU identifies the following stress of cooperation:

- a) Air quality;
- b) Water;
- c) Biodiversity;
- d) Climate Change;
- e) Waste Management;
- f) Implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and Sustainable Development Goals; and
- g) Other areas of cooperation as mutually agreed upon by the Participants.

The MoU will enable establishment and promotion of closer and long-term, cooperation between the BRICS countries in the field of environment protection and management of natural resources on the basis of equity, reciprocity and mutual benefits, taking into account the applicable laws and legal provisions in each country.

The concerns of rising environmental issues are not limited to any country but pose a

serious challenge to the entire Globe. The MoU acknowledges the responsibility of the BRICS nations, an association of the five major economies of the world i.e. Brazil, Russia, India, China and South Africa comprising of more than 40% of the population of the world, towards the protection, preservation and sustainability of the Environment.

The Memorandum of Understanding is expected to bring in the latest technologies and best practices suited for bringing about better environment protection, better conservation, and better management of climate change and wildlife protection/conservation. The MoU shall facilitate exchange of experiences, best practices and technical knowhow through both public and private sectors among the participating BRICS nations and shall contribute to sustainable development, protection and preservation of Environment. The Memorandum of Understanding also provides the possibility to have projects in areas of mutual interest.

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