



Global South Matters

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Global South Centre of Excellence



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Key Developments in the Global South

India and China Emphasise Accelerating the Modernisation Process of the Global South



Hon'ble Chinese Foreign Minister H.E. Wang Yi met Hon'ble Indian Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi and expressed his country's readiness to work with India to implement the important consensus reached between leaders of the two nations, continuously enhance trust and dispel doubts, properly handle sensitive issues, deepen mutually beneficial cooperation, maintain the positive momentum of bilateral ties, and jointly advance their respective modernisation processes. During the meeting, he stated that China and India should play an exemplary role in promoting solidarity and self-reliance among Global South nations. Hon'ble Chinese Foreign Minister H.E. Wang Yi also held a meeting with Hon'ble National Security Advisor (NSA) Shri Ajit Doval on the sidelines of the BRICS National Security Advisors Meeting. During their discussions, both sides reviewed recent developments in bilateral relations and noted the progress towards gradual normalisation.

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Hon'ble Indian Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi Highlights India's Global South-Focused Energy Vision for BRICS 2026



Hon'ble Indian Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi highlighted India's vision of placing the Global South at the centre of a secure, resilient, equitable and sustainable global energy future under the current BRICS Chairship 2026. Sharing an article written by Hon'ble Union Minister Shri Manohar Lal Khattar on the social media platform X, he said he believes resilient energy systems are built not only through strong domestic policies but also through strong international partnerships. "As India takes up the BRICS Chairship in 2026, Hon'ble Union Minister Shri Manohar Lal Khattar writes that India seeks to place the Global South at the centre of a secure, resilient, equitable and sustainable global energy future," he said.

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India-Mongolia Friendship Project is Making Progress: Hon'ble Indian External Affairs Minister Dr. S. Jaishankar

Hon'ble Indian External Affairs Minister Dr. S. Jaishankar visited the construction site of the Mongol Refinery Project with the Hon'ble Foreign Minister of Mongolia H.E. Battsetseg Batmunkh and Hon'ble Industry and Mining Minister H.E. Gongor Damdinnyam. In a social media post, he said that the India-Mongolia friendship project is making steady progress. He also reviewed the status of work under implementation with the various teams involved. He interacted with the Indian and Mongolian workforce at the project site. He thanked them for their dedication and commitment to realising such a major project under challenging conditions.

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Hon'ble Indian External Affairs Minister Dr. S. Jaishankar Calls for Expanding Opportunities for the Global South at the Jeju Forum for Peace and Prosperity 2026



Hon'ble Indian External Affairs Minister Dr. S. Jaishankar called for a renewed framework of international cooperation to address the challenges of an increasingly fragmented global order, while delivering the Keynote Address at the Jeju Forum for Peace and Prosperity 2026 in South Korea. Addressing delegates at the international forum, he said that while fragmentation has become a defining feature of the contemporary world, it is not entirely negative. He also urged the international community to enhance opportunities and capacities for the Global South, arguing that empowering developing nations would generate new engines of global growth. The Jeju Forum for Peace and Prosperity is one of Asia's leading international dialogue platforms, bringing together policymakers, diplomats, academics and business leaders to discuss regional and global challenges.

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India's Ministry of Health and Family Welfare Expands QR Code Tracking for Key Medicines and Vaccines



In a major step towards strengthening the quality, safety and integrity of India's pharmaceutical supply chain, India's Ministry of Health and Family Welfare notified amendments to the Drugs Rules, 1945, to expand the ambit of Schedule H2 and bring

additional categories of drugs under the QR Code-based track and trace framework. According to the release, "Under the amended provisions, all vaccines, antimicrobials, narcotic and psychotropic drugs covered under the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances (NDPS) Act, 1985, and all anti-cancer drugs have been included under Schedule H2 of the Drugs Rules, 1945." With this amendment, manufacturers of these drug formulations will be required to print or affix a Bar Code or Quick Response (QR) Code on the primary packaging label of the product or, where there is inadequate space, on the secondary packaging label.

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India Remains Firmly Committed to Ending AIDS as a Public Health Threat by 2030: India's Permanent Representative to the United Nations Shri Harish Parvathaneni



India's Permanent Representative to the United Nations, Shri Harish Parvathaneni, reaffirmed India's commitment to ending AIDS as a public health threat by 2030 while addressing the High-Level Meeting on HIV/AIDS at the United Nations. Delivering India's national statement on the 2026 Political Declaration on HIV/AIDS, he said India supported the global commitment to ending AIDS and highlighted the country's efforts through the National AIDS and STD Control Programme. "As we approach the 2030 deadline, the global HIV response stands at a critical juncture. While remarkable progress has been achieved over the past two decades, persistent inequalities, financing constraints, and emerging global challenges continue to threaten these gains. We therefore support the Declaration's renewed commitment to ending AIDS as a public health threat by 2030 and sustaining progress beyond," he said.

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India's Ministry of External Affairs Mumbai Branch Secretariat Organises Exposure Visit for Global South Diplomats on Cancer Care



The Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) Mumbai branch Secretariat, in collaboration with Advanced Centre for Treatment, Research and Education in Cancer (ACTREC) at the Atma Memorial Centre (TMC), organised an exposure visit for consuls general from the Global South countries to explore ways of collaboration in cancer care, research and capacity building. Consuls general from Afghanistan, Egypt, Mauritius, Sri Lanka and Vietnam, other consulate officials from Bangladesh, Colombia, and Yemen were present for this exposure visit. Dr. Sudeep Gupta, Director, TMC, said that such an initiative will boost collaboration with countries that share the same socio-economic issues as India. Dr. Pankaj Chaturvedi, Director, ACTREC and Dr. Navin Khattri, Deputy Director, ACTREC, apprised officials on ACTREC's journey so far, international collaboration, and pioneering initiatives taken by ACTREC in cancer care and research.

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Hon'ble Brazilian President H.E. Lula Inacio Lula da Silva Urges G7 to Invest More Heavily in the Global South



Hon'ble Brazilian President H.E. Luiz Inacio Lula da Silva has called on the world's richest nations to invest more heavily in the Global South, arguing that sustainable global economic growth depends on creating new consumers and opportunities in developing regions rather than concentrating wealth within advanced economies. Speaking at a press conference in Geneva following his participation in the G7 Summit

in France, he said countries in Latin America, Africa, India and China represent the next major consumer markets and should be at the centre of future investment strategies. According to him, economic expansion cannot remain limited to developed nations. He stressed that creating jobs, increasing wages and attracting investment in developing countries would generate new consumers, strengthen global demand and help rebalance the international economy.

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Indonesia in Talks with India and Bangladesh on Fertiliser Exports



Indonesia is in talks with several countries interested in importing its urea fertiliser to secure stocks amid global supply chain disruptions, according to state fertiliser company PT Pupuk Indonesia. Pupuk Indonesia President Director Mr. Rahmad Pribadi noted that trade discussions are ongoing as Indonesia supplies fertiliser to Australia under a government-to-government (G-to-G) cooperation agreement. “We have begun trade with Australia and are now in talks with other countries, including Bangladesh, India, and several others in Asia,” he remarked after a ceremony welcoming the arrival of 47,250 tonnes of Indonesian fertiliser at the Port of Brisbane, Australia.

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Indonesia Prepares Low-Emission Farming Transition



The Indonesian government is preparing to transition the country toward a low-emission agricultural system through sustainable farming practices under the 2025–2029 Medium-Term National Development Plan. “Indonesia is currently preparing an initiative to promote low-emission rice farming systems, particularly in low- and medium-yield production areas,” Head of the Agricultural Cooperation Bureau at the Ministry of Agriculture Mr. Ade Candradijaya, said. He made the remarks virtually at the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) Sustainable Rice Transformation Dialogue in Sanur, Bali. According to him, the initiative prioritises measurable approaches that can reduce emissions while maintaining productivity and increasing farmers’ incomes. As part of the effort, the use of digital technology is seen as a major opportunity, with data-driven systems supporting more efficient and sustainable rice production.

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Cuba and Vietnam Increase Economic Cooperation through Investments in Agriculture and Energy



Hon’ble Cuban President H.E. Miguel Díaz-Canel received Hon’ble Vietnam's Minister of Foreign Affairs, H.E. Le Hoai Trung, at a meeting in which the parties highlighted the historic ties of friendship and cooperation between the two countries. During the visit, the Vietnamese representative toured the Mariel Special Development Zone (ZEDM), where he assessed the progress of Vietnamese businesses in sectors such as industry, agri-food production, renewable energy, trade, and finance. The Hon’ble Director General of the Mariel Special Development Zone (ZEDM), Ms. Ana Teresa Igarza Martínez, stated that Vietnam is the country with the second-largest business presence in the zone, with projects aimed at strengthening Cuba's economic development. The two countries reaffirmed their commitment to expanding bilateral cooperation, particularly in areas related to food security, energy and sustainable development.

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Philippines and Egypt Eye Expanded Agriculture, Trade and Investment



The Philippines and Egypt are stepping up efforts to expand agricultural trade and investment cooperation, with a proposed meeting between their Agriculture Ministers in late July expected to advance discussions on fertiliser supply, market access, and new export opportunities. In a statement, Hon'ble Secretary (Department of Agriculture) Mr. Francisco Tiu Laurel Jr. said both countries will benefit from the planned agricultural trade expansion. "We see significant potential to expand agricultural cooperation with Egypt, not only in securing reliable fertiliser supplies for our farmers but also in creating new market opportunities for Philippine agricultural exports," he said. Philippine officials have also been pushing for the approval of market entry of fresh bananas and mangoes to the Egyptian market, while negotiations on a pending Specific Commodity Understanding continue to move forward.

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Jordan and Syria Discuss Health Cooperation



Jordan's Hon'ble Health Minister H.E. Ibrahim Bdour discussed with Syrian Health Minister H.E. Musab al-Ali ways to advance health cooperation and turn signed agreements into executive programs and projects. According to a ministry statement, he arrived in Damascus at the head of an official delegation representing Jordan's health sector. He said the visit comes in implementation of the directives of His Majesty King Abdullah II and Hon'ble Syrian President H.E. Ahmad Sharaa to

strengthen partnership and reinforce ties between the two countries, as well as follow up on the outcomes of the Jordanian-Syrian Higher Coordination Council. He said Jordan is committed to building sustainable institutional partnerships with Syria and exchanging expertise between health institutions in both countries.

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Brunei Darussalam and Indonesia Strengthen Bilateral Healthcare Collaboration



Brunei Darussalam and Indonesia strengthened their healthcare partnership with the signing of a memorandum of understanding (MoU) on health cooperation. Signing on behalf of the Government of His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah, Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam, were Hon'ble Minister of Health H.E. Dato Seri Setia and Dr. Haji Mohd Isham bin Haji Jaafar, while Hon'ble Minister of Health of Indonesia H.E. Budi Gunadi Sadikin signed on behalf of the Government of Indonesia. The MoU marks a significant milestone in further strengthening the longstanding bilateral relations between Brunei Darussalam and Indonesia, particularly in the healthcare sector. It also renews the formal framework for health cooperation between the two countries and provides a more comprehensive platform for expanding strategic collaboration in the years ahead.

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Regional Platform Launched to Strengthen Disability-Inclusive Sexual and Reproductive Health, Rights across Africa



The platform was established during a regional scientific conference on “Breaking Barriers: Disability-Inclusive Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights in Africa”. Despite growing recognition of the rights of persons with disabilities, women, men, and young people with disabilities continue to face significant barriers in accessing quality sexual and reproductive health information and services. The conference brought together governments, faith communities, researchers, health institutions, development partners, and organisations of persons with disabilities to share evidence, practical experiences, and innovations aimed at improving access to sexual and reproductive health services for persons with disabilities.

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The United Nations Development Program Announces Initiative to Drive Sovereign, Open-Source DPI Efforts in Africa



The United Nations Development Program (UNDP) says its Africa Regional Bureau and the Digital, AI and Innovation Hub will launch an initiative that seeks to support African countries in their efforts to build sovereign digital public infrastructure (DPI) that facilitates the delivery of high-value public services. Labelled the Africa Accelerator for Digital Public Infrastructure (AA4DPI), the initiative will be unveiled at an event during the UN Open Source Week 2026, alongside a policy paper titled “Digital public infrastructure in Africa: A Leapfrog Catalyst for Inclusive Growth and Prosperity”. The AA4DPI will help countries strengthen their implementation of

sovereign, scalable and inclusive DPI through technical expertise, institutional strengthening, policy support and investment facilitation.

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Hon'ble Ethiopian Prime Minister H.E. Abiy Ahmed Inaugurates Africa's First Unified Digital Public Service Platform



Hon'ble Ethiopian Prime Minister H.E. Abiy Ahmed inaugurated the Unified MESOB Application, describing it as Africa's first unified digital public service platform that integrates services from multiple government institutions into a single digital system. The application was officially launched during the "Digital for Excellence" Summit held in Addis Ababa. According to him, the launch marks a major milestone in Ethiopia's digital transformation journey and reflects the country's deliberate investment in technology and digital innovation. He said the Unified MESOB Application constitutes critical economic infrastructure, enabling citizens to access a wide range of government services through a single platform while saving time in obtaining public services. He said the integrated digital system would also help close corruption gaps, strengthen institutional integrity, and improve efficiency across government institutions.

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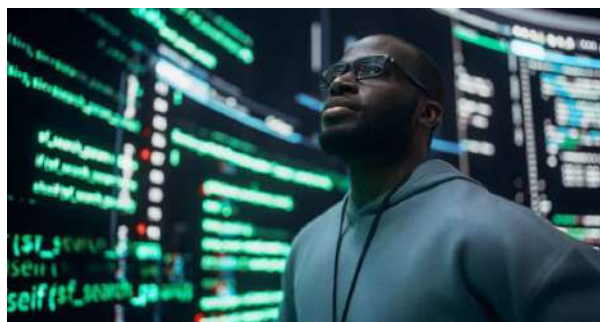
Egypt Advances Regional Digital Hub Ambitions with \$400 Million Data Centre



Egypt is continuing to strengthen its digital infrastructure. The National Telecommunications Regulatory Authority (NTRA) granted a license to Hassan Allam Digital Infrastructure and Data Centre Solutions to build and operate a data centre in the country. Developed in partnership with technology company A15, the project includes an initial investment of US \$400 million for its first phase. According to the developers, the investment marks the first stage of a broader program that will grow over the coming years. The facility, designed to meet international standards, will provide data hosting services, cloud computing capabilities and infrastructure suited for artificial intelligence applications. It will serve government agencies, financial institutions, and local and international companies.

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Kenya Moves to Institutionalise Trust as Digital Government Services Expand



Lawmakers in Kenya have consented to the setting up of a dedicated body dubbed the National Cybersecurity Agency (NCSA) that will strengthen the security and trust ecosystem of the country's digital infrastructure. The move is seen not only as an effort to consolidate national digital infrastructure security governance, but also the institutionalisation of digital trust, given the nation's growing digital economy. The country is part of a three-nation pilot to test digital ID for cross-border trade within the framework of the Africa Continental Free Trade Area agreement (AfCFTA). The development comes as the Kenyan government continues to expand its digital ID coverage, with the Ministry of Interior announcing that more than 42 million identity records were digitised in the 2025/2026 fiscal year.

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The United Nations Development Program sees South-South Cooperation as a Key Development Driver



The future of global development will increasingly be shaped by countries learning directly from one another, sharing solutions to shared challenges, and strengthening institutions to sustain progress, according to the United Nations. This message was delivered by H.E. Fatmata Lovetta Sesay, UNDP Resident Representative in Rwanda and UN Resident Coordinator, during the opening of the inaugural two-day Convention on South-South and Triangular Cooperation (SSTrC). Held under the theme ‘Strengthening Collaboration and Institutional Frameworks for Effective Implementation’, the convention brought together ministers, diplomats, development partners, UN agencies, financial institutions, researchers and civil society leaders to explore how Global South countries can accelerate sustainable development through stronger partnerships.

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South-South, Triangular Convention Closes with Call to Spur Investments



The Inaugural Convention on South-South and Triangular Cooperation concluded in Kigali with calls for developing countries to move toward more structured, investment-ready and accountable cooperation frameworks aimed at addressing persistent development financing gaps. Closing the two-day meeting, Rwanda's Hon'ble Minister of State for Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation, H.E. Usta Kaitesi, said South-South Cooperation must evolve from traditional solidarity and knowledge-

sharing into a more practical economic approach focused on mobilising capital and delivering measurable outcomes. She called for stronger institutional arrangements, saying South-South Cooperation must be embedded in durable frameworks with clear mandates, sustainable funding, and accountability systems to ensure continuity and impact.

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