

**IBSA Policy Dialogue
Draft Proposal for Thematic Panel
IPC-IG**

Area

IBAS co-operation: A Minilateral approach

Rationale:

There has been a growing interest in "minilateral arrangements" (particularly, in the areas of trade and climate change negotiations) either as an alternative or as a complement to bilateral regional and multilateral arrangements. The agenda in such negotiations can be geared to the specific interests of the participants and special administrative bodies can be established to provide a consultation and dispute settlement mechanism "for members only". Minilateralism has the potential to eliminate the "free rider" problem in multilateral negotiations, and even establish more favorable conditions for multilateral agreements.

Themes

Role and potential of IBAS as a minilateral arrangement

Areas of minilateral engagement

(1) IBAS as catalyst for collaborative position building in areas of interest to the global South, including the G-20 on issues of global economic governance, UN reform, Climate change

(2) IBAS as a forum for direct sharing of development experiences between emerging developing economies

Responsible in IPC-IG

Director and Melissa Andrade

Presentations and Issues for Discussion:

Papers

(1) Thematic paper on minilateralism and its prospects in the contemporary world

(2) 3 papers on areas of minilateral engagement

Participants

- 3 invited policy makers from each country
- 3 invited researcher from each country.

- 3 Senior media personnel from each country
- Selected members of IBAS delegation who are able to attend (including parliamentarians, strategic analysts etc)

Authors of papers:

(1) Jawaharlal Nehru University Delhi, department of international relations

(2) IPEA international relations department

(3) South Africa: TBD