



## **IBSA Working Group on Culture**

### **1. Introduction**

India, Brazil, and South Africa signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) on Cultural Cooperation in October 2007. The areas of co-operation under this MOU include, but are not limited to the following:

- Research and development in arts and culture;
- Education and training in arts and culture;
- Cultural promotion through festivals;
- Cultural heritage promotion through exchange of exhibitions, experts, trade fairs and book fairs;
- Cultural dialogue through conferences and workshops;
- Promotion of cultural diversity focusing on the exchange of best practices of measures to protect and promote the diversity of cultural expressions.

### **2. Objectives**

The objectives of the Working Group on Arts and Culture based on the signed Memorandum of Understanding are the following:

- Promote the exchange of cultural and expertise between IBSA countries;
- Develop cooperation in the areas of preservation of historic, artistic, cultural heritage and development of creative industries;
- Encourage visibility of arts and culture by the nationals and residents of the three countries and
- Serve as a platform to foster and strengthen mutual understanding in the field of arts and culture as well as areas linked to the economy of culture in the three countries.

### **3. Progress**

Brazil has previously organized and hosted the IBSA Music and Dance Festival. Both India and South Africa sent their cultural groups to Brazil to participate at the Festival.

It has been agreed that there is a need to enhance the visibility of IBSA cultural cooperation and also to raise the profile of arts and culture within IBSA. It is planned to also organize cultural events during the Summits.

In preparation of the 6<sup>th</sup> IBSA Summit to be held in New Delhi, India, the Culture Working Group met in New Delhi, on 29 April 2013. The Working Group aims to organize cultural performances prior the 6<sup>th</sup> IBSA Summit. Various other cultural activities are also being planned.