

MEDIA ADVISORY

To: Editors & Health Journalists
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South Africa to host BRICS TB Research Network Innovation Summit

Pretoria: South Africa will next week (11-14 December) host the BRICS TB Research Network Innovation Summit, which will bring together scientists and senior officials from BRICS member states to facilitate collaborative scientific research that focuses on innovations in TB diagnostics, vaccines, therapeutics and drugs and health systems strengthening and service delivery.

Deputy Minister of Health, Dr Sibongiseni Dhlomo, will deliver a keynote address on the opening day of this four-day Summit scheduled to take place in Durban, and he will be accompanied by dignitaries including the World Health Organization Country Director Dr Owen Kaluwa, the Director-General and officials from the Department of Health and scientists working on TB research within South Africa.

Each member state is expected to send a delegation of 20 people consisting of scientists, TB researchers and senior health TB programme officials.

This Research Network was established by the Ministries of Health of BRICS countries in 2017 in response to the burden of TB amongst the BRICS countries which accounts for 40% of the TB burden in the world. The theme for this Summit is: "**BRICS Innovations for Ending TB**".

Members of the media are invited to the opening ceremony as follows:

Date : 11 December 2023
Time : 09:00 (registration at 08:00)
Venue : Southern Sun Maharani Hotel, Durban, KwaZulu-Natal
For RSVP : Tlou Tlhako: Mobile: 071 382 7425 / tlou.tlhako@health.gov.za

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