

Protocol of ITG Energy meeting

June 25, 2020

2020 Summer online meeting of BRICS NU International Thematic Group on Energy was held on Cisco Webex platform on June 25, 2020. The meeting was arranged by National Research University “Moscow Power Engineering Institute”, Russia. The meeting was chaired by Prof. Igor. Zhelbakov. The following universities took part in the ITG Energy meeting by their representatives:

- National Research University “Moscow Power Engineering Institute”, Russia
- Peoples’ Friendship University of Russia, Ecological Faculty, Russia
- National University of Science and Technology “MISIS”, Russia
- North-West University, South Africa
- Indian Institute of Technology Bombay, India
- Banaras Hindu University Varanasi, India
- Hunan University, China

(no Brazil university responded to our invitation)

1. Chair of the meeting Prof. Zhelbakov informed the audience about Russian NCC initiative on the transition to the next stage of BRICS NU development. The draft Concept of BRICS Network University and new Roadmap were delivered in advance. Prof. Shirinskii from National Research University “Moscow Power Engineering Institute”, Russia highlighted key features of the Concept and some practical items of the Roadmap.

2. Prof. Zhelbakov presented Russian state scholarship, which can be provided by Russian Ministry of Science and Higher Education to support academic mobility of foreign students within joint educational programs under BRICS NU.

3. Several presentations have been delivered describing partner universities and their educational programs that could be used as a base for BRICS joint educational program:

- National University of Science and Technology “MISIS”: “Science and Materials of Solar Energy”
- National Research University “Moscow Power Engineering Institute”: “Sustainable Thermal and Energy Systems”
- Peoples’ Friendship University of Russia: “Integrated Solid Waste Management” and MOOC “Practical Tools of Solid Waste Management & Environmental Damage Reducing”
- Banaras Hindu University Varanasi: Post Graduate Diploma in Non Conventional Energy sources; Certificate Course on Clean Coal Technology; Energy Resource Management; Post Graduate Course in Energy Economics and Hydrogen Energy Center with research projects

4. During the discussion several suggestions were made:

- to support the overall Concept of BRICS Network University and Roadmap
- [while lockdown] to organize online workshops to share our research activities so our staff can find partners in some fields
- [after lockdown] to arrange real mobility of staff and students: we need not only education, but also direct communication, acquaintance with the university, its people and its labs, acquaintance with the country, its way of thinking and culture
- to know BRICS specific conditions to support joint activities: what umbrella of BRICS NU gives to its participants
- to exchange information between similar structures of partner universities: like MPEI Hydrogen Center and BHV Hydrogen Energy Center
- to take full advantage of state support for academic mobility: Russian state scholarships for foreign students; Chinese scholarships for foreign students (from state government and province governments); Indian Ministry of Higher Education promise to support activities of our ITG Action Plan

5. After meeting a questionnaire was sent to all coordinators from partner universities and analysis of the answers led to the following conclusions:

All partner universities are interested in the following joint activities:

- academic mobility for PhD students
- joint PhD courses
- research collaboration

Most partner universities are interested in the following joint activities:

- academic mobility for Bachelor and Master students
- staff mobility
- exchange of distant learning courses
- development of joint MOOC

Some partner universities are interested in the following joint activities:

- joint Bachelor and Master programs with double (two) diploma

6. After getting official information about 2020 BRICS NU conference a new ITG online meeting should be arranged (supposedly in September).

Chair of the meeting

Prof. Igor Zhelbakov
National Research University
“Moscow Power Engineering Institute”, Russia