

**Embassy of India
Tokyo

**Remarks by Ambassador Sibi George at the event -
“Glimpses of Voice of Global South Summit”,
February 1, 2023**

Excellencies,
Distinguished guests, Friends, Ladies and Gentlemen,
Good evening to one and all.

On behalf of Embassy of India in Tokyo, I extend a very warm welcome to each one of you. Today we have invited you to a unique briefing session captioned “Glimpses of Voice of Global South Summit”. I thank the Political Wing of the Mission for the initiative in organising this unique event.

It is present to you the highlights of a major event, a special Summit, that India hosted on 12th and 13th January 2023 with the participation of over 120 countries. The summit was captioned “Voice of Global South Summit” under the theme – ‘Unity of voice, Unity of purpose’.

The Summit was aimed at bringing together countries of the global South and share their perspectives and priorities on a common platform across a whole range of issues. This initiative was inspired by Hon’ble Prime Minister of India Shri Narendra Modi's vision of ‘Sabka Saath Sabka Vikas, Sabka Vishwas aur Sabka Prayas’ meaning “Together, for everyone's

growth, with everyone's trust and everyone's efforts" and is also underpinned by India's philosophy of Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam (World is one family).

Dear Friends,

The Voice of Global South Summit was India's endeavour to provide a common platform to deliberate on some of the major concerns, interests and priorities that affect the developing countries also to exchange ideas and solutions, and most importantly, to unite in voice and purpose in addressing these elements of our concerns and priorities. India's endeavour was to ensure that the valuable inputs generated from partner countries in the Voice of Global South Summit deliberations receive due cognizance globally.

India's ongoing presidency of the G20 provides us a special opportunity to channelize these inputs into the deliberation and discourse of the G20. While assuming our Presidency Hon'ble Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi had said that India's G20 priorities would be shaped in consultation with not just G20 partners but also with our fellow travellers in the Global South, whose voice often goes unheard. This Summit was an opportunity for those countries that are not part of the G20 process to share their ideas and expectations through this mechanism with the G20. You would recall that the theme of India's current G - 20 Presidency is "One Earth · One Family · One Future".

The inaugural session addressed by Hon'ble Prime Minister revolved around 'Voice of Global South - for human centric development'. He said and I quote: "together the Global South can produce new and creative ideas. These ideas can form the basis of our Voice in the G-20 and other forums." He spoke about a global agenda of 'Respond, Recognize, Respect and Reform': (i) Respond to the priorities of the Global South by framing an inclusive and balanced international agenda; (ii) Recognize that the principle of 'Common but Differentiated Responsibilities' applies to all global challenges. (iii) Respect sovereignty of all nations, rule of law and peaceful resolution of differences and disputes; and (iv) Reform international institutions, including the United Nations, to make them more relevant.

There were ten sessions at the Summit. The Finance Ministers' session was on the theme of 'Financing People Centric Development'. The Environment Ministers' session focused on the theme on 'Balancing Growth with Environment Friendly Lifestyles'. It also covered the initiative LiFE Mission that the Prime Minister launched on Lifestyle for Sustainable Environment. I am happy to mention that in coming weeks Embassy will organise a special event on LiFE Mission. I look forward to your participation. The Foreign Ministers' session on the first day was on the theme of 'Priorities of the Global South - Ensuring a Conducive Environment'.

The Energy Ministers' session focused on the theme 'Energy Security and Development - Roadmap to Prosperity'.

The Health Ministers' session focused on the theme 'Cooperation to build Resilient Healthcare Systems', given the background of Covid 19 pandemic. The Education Ministers' session focused on the theme of 'Human Centric Development and Capacity Building' among the countries of the Global South. The Commerce and Trade ministers' session focused on the theme 'Developing Synergies in the Global South - Trade, Technology, Tourism and Resources'. Given the ongoing Indian Presidency of the G20, the Foreign Ministers' session on day two focused on the theme G20 captioned 'G20 - Suggestions for India's Presidency'.

I think I will stop here. We have a detailed presentation on the highlights of the Summit. I once again thank you for joining us today.

Thank you and good evening.
