



FACT SHEET



SOUTH-NORTH COMMISSION ON DEVELOPMENT

LEADERSHIP

Co-Chair: Laura Chinchilla, Former President of Costa Rica

Co-Chair: Olaf Scholz, Former Chancellor of the Federal Republic of Germany

BACKGROUND

The South-North Commission on Development builds on the legacy of the 1977 “Brandt Commission” which brought international attention to questions of shared prosperity and interdependence between North and South. In this spirit, the South-North Commission seeks to foster pragmatic and durable cooperation between the Global South and the Global North, attuned to the realities of today's multipolar world. Its purpose is to advance international proposals of substance and strengthen the prospects for their implementation — delivering effective responses to the world's shared challenges.

APPROACH

The Commission will meet four times until mid-2028. Its one-day meetings will take place in Asia, Africa, Latin America and Europa. The Commission's regular meetings will be accompanied by parallel consultations. Its results will be presented at the Hamburg Sustainability Conference and published in a final report.

DESIGN & STRUCTURE

The Commission is an independent body established by the Federal German Government. It is composed of a balanced mix of about twenty high-ranking representatives of the Global South and North from international organisations, the private sector, trade unions, academia, civil society, and former high-ranking politicians. The Commissioners are nominated by the two Co-Chairs. The Commission is supported by a Secretariat hosted by the Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ) in Berlin, Germany.

MISSION

The South-North Commission on Development creates an independent space for strategic debate, for new perspectives and for advancing concrete proposals. The Commission will strengthen partnerships and suggest issue based, fairer, and more effective international development cooperation in the emerging multipolar world.

GOALS

The South-North Commission on Development will develop recommendations for new and more effective forms of global partnership, help defend and reform multilateralism, and propose innovative modes of development cooperation for a multipolar world.

It will focus in three areas:

1. Facilitating joint solutions to global challenges.
2. Shaping forward-looking international cooperation.
3. Contributing to the post-2030 agenda.

PRINCIPLES

Partnership: Leaders and representatives from the Global South and North, from government, civil society, business and international organisations will jointly determine the Commission's agenda and shape the recommendations.

Openness and transparency: The Co-Chairs will facilitate open, evidence-based debates that reflect the diversity of positions and interests of the Commissioners.

MILESTONES

30-6-2026	Launch of the Commission at the Hamburg Sustainability Conference (HSC)
16/17-10-2026	1 st Commission Meeting in Bangkok
3/2027 (tbd)	2 nd Commission Meeting in Nairobi
31-5/1-6-2027	HSC
Q2/2027	Interim Report
Q4/2027	3 rd Commission Meeting
Q1/2028	4 th Commission Meeting
Q2/2028	HSC & Draft Recommendations
Q3/2028	Final Report and Recommendations
Q4/2028	Dissemination & Roadshow