



# South Centre

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## A BRIEF OVERVIEW



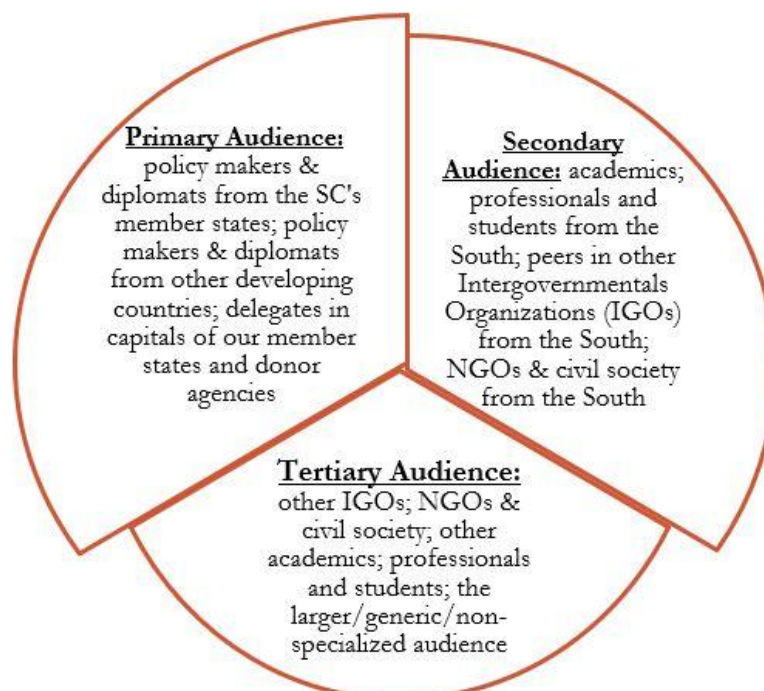
## WHO WE ARE AND WHAT WE DO?

The South Centre is an intergovernmental organization of developing countries established on July 31, 1995, with headquarters in Geneva. It has 54 member countries.

Research and analysis on international policy areas relevant to the protection and promotion of the development interests of developing countries

Responds to requests for policy advice and extends technical and other policy support for international negotiations on development-related issues

### Target Audience Groups



MISSION	VISION	UNIQUE AMONG THE INSTITUTIONS OF THE SOUTH
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), particularly poverty eradication, requires national policies and an international regime that supports and does not undermine development efforts.</li> <li>The South Centre is an intergovernmental policy research think-tank composed of and accountable to developing country Member States.</li> <li>It conducts policy-oriented research on key policy development issues and supports developing countries to effectively participate in international negotiating processes that are relevant to the achievement of SDGs.</li> <li>The Centre promotes the unity of the South in such processes while recognizing the diversity of national interests and priorities.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Our long-term vision is to achieve a just world with an equitable, sustainable development of the South, based on strong South-South cooperation and a fair, supportive multilateral system.</li> <li>The vision for the near future includes helping the South to achieve a fairer international tax and trading system, strengthening the response to climate change, fighting disease and other health threats, and harnessing digital and other technologies for innovation and sustainable development.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Sole multilateral intergovernmental policy research think-tank composed of and accountable to developing country member states. It builds dialogue within and among the South, helps identify and advocates for common priorities at multilateral level and for a constructive participation in international processes.</li> </ul>

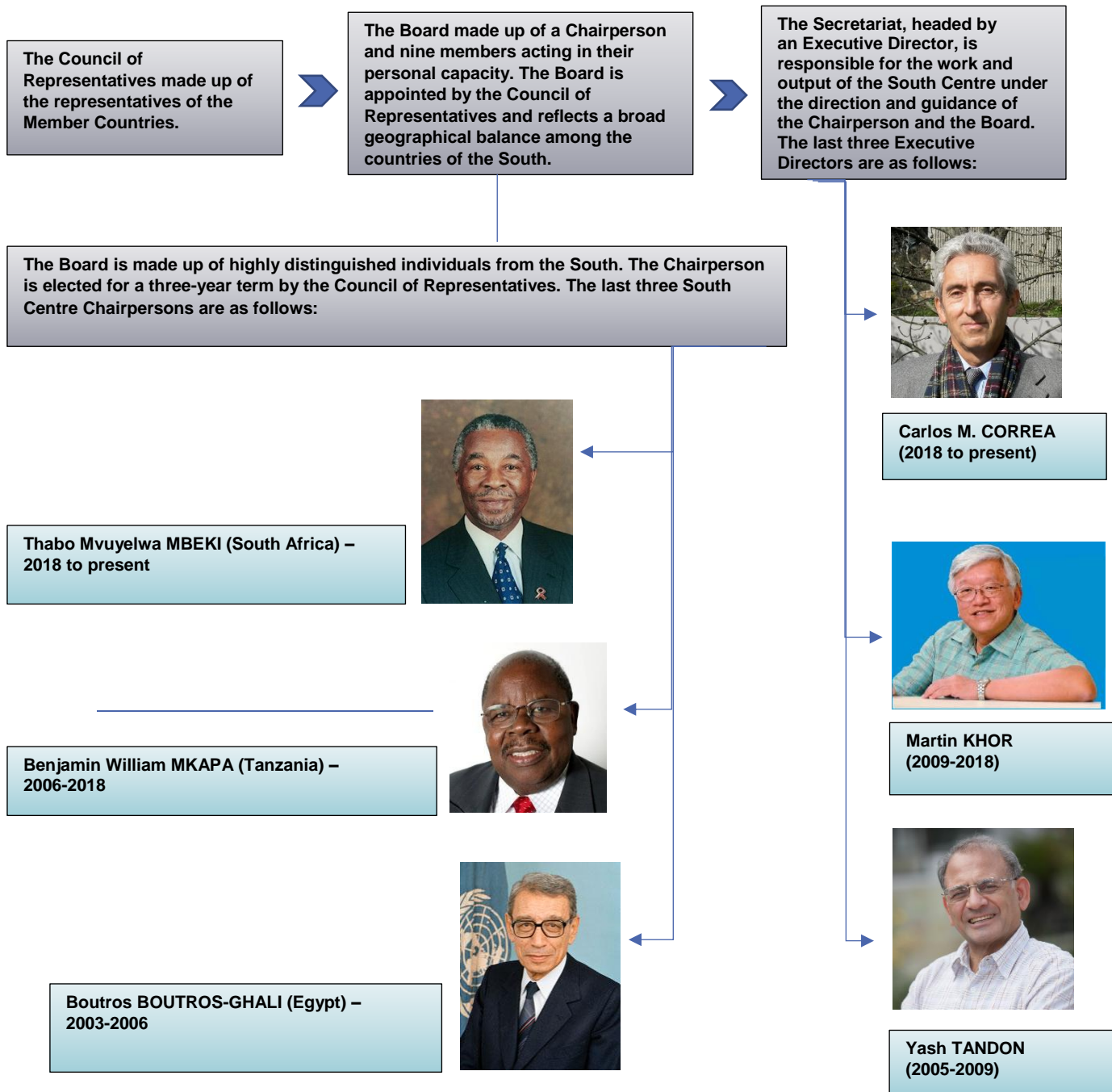
## MEMBER COUNTRIES



## WHAT DO WE STAND FOR?

The South Centre stands for Development of the South and seeks a more equitable international system. The Centre also stands for equity, dignity, sustainable development (social, economic and environmental all together), recognition of different levels of development that call for special and differential treatment and policy space in regards to multilateral rules and their application, and the realization of human rights.

## ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE



## **PROGRAMMES AND WORK AREAS**

**The Sustainable Development, Climate Change and Gender (SDCCG) Programme** undertakes policy research and provides technical assistance and negotiations support in the areas of investment and tax policies, climate change, the Sustainable Development Goals, selected development-related human rights issues, such as business and human rights and the right to development, unilateral coercive measures, and gender.

**The Trade for Development Programme (TDP)** undertakes policy research and analysis and provides technical assistance and support to developing countries on international negotiations in the area of trade. Much of the work of the TDP is focused on the World Trade Organization negotiations which include the following areas: Agriculture, E-commerce issues, Services, Fisheries Subsidies, Development/Special and Differential Treatment. TDP has also specialized in working on trade issues in free trade agreements, particularly in Africa.

**The Health, Intellectual Property and Biodiversity (HIPB) Programme** undertakes policy research and analysis and provides technical assistance and negotiations support to developing countries in the areas of public health, innovation and technology management, intellectual property, biodiversity, genetic resources and traditional knowledge.

**Finance for Development and South-South Cooperation** – Assists the Executive Director's office in undertaking policy research and analysis and providing technical assistance and negotiations support to developing countries in the areas of finance for development and South-South and triangular cooperation.

## POLICY AREAS

The main themes for the work of South Centre in the period 2020-2022 include:

1. Developments in the global economy, notably in relation to finance for development and external debt.
2. Implementation of the 2030 Agenda, including policy actions to eradicate poverty.
3. Climate Change and other environmental issues, including the green economy and implementation of the UNFCCC Paris Agreement.
4. International trade, including issues relating to agriculture, services, fisheries, e-commerce and the WTO reform, as well as free trade agreements involving developing countries.
5. International regime on investment: protection and promotion of investment and dispute settlement mechanisms.
6. Innovation, intellectual property, technology transfer and protection of traditional knowledge.
7. Biodiversity, access to genetic resources (marine and terrestrial) and benefit sharing.
8. Social and human rights dimensions of development, including income and gender inequality and the realization of economic and social human rights.
9. Health and development issues, including universal health coverage and access to medicines and other medical technologies, anti-microbial resistance, and R&D to address the needs of developing countries.
10. International institutions and global governance, including enhancing the participation of developing countries in decision-making in international organizations and processes.
11. South-South cooperation, particularly the strengthening of the institutional capacity for South-South and triangular cooperation.
12. Reform of the international tax system, taxing rights in the digital economy, illicit fund transfers.
13. The 4th industrial revolution and its impact on industrial policies and development strategies.



## PUBLICATIONS AND WEBSITES

The South Centre undertakes policy-oriented research on various international areas that are relevant to the protection and promotion of the development interests of developing countries. The Centre produces the following publications:

### Books

### Research Papers

### Policy Briefs (including on Climate Change, Tax Cooperation and Investment)

### SouthViews

### Training Papers

### Beijing+25 Update Series

### SouthNews

### South Centre News on AMR

The South Centre also works with other institutions to undertake research and produce occasional joint publications.

The main South Centre website is at the forefront of our digital communications endeavour. It is used to update all our relevant stakeholders and simultaneously linked with our social media channels. The URL is as follows: <https://www.southcentre.int/>

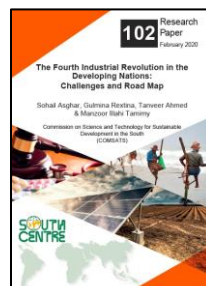
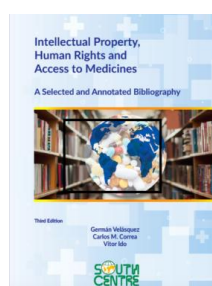
'A Public Health Approach to Intellectual Property Rights'. Through this subsidiary website, the South Centre aims to provide training and other services in the domain of Intellectual Property and Health to its member countries. The URL is as follows: <https://ipaccessmeds.southcentre.int/>

The South Centre Tax Initiative recognizes the need to increase collaboration among developing countries to design effective tax policies by presenting research and analysis produced by developing country authorities and academics, upgrading local capacity to respond to their own needs. The URL is as follows: <https://taxinitiative.southcentre.int/>

Some South Centre publications are published in several languages, particularly **French, Spanish and English**.

The Centre's publications are posted on the **website** and announced via **Note Verbales to the Permanent Missions of the Group of 77 and China in Geneva** and/or the **South Centre e-mailing list**, as well as in **Twitter** and **other social media platforms**. The Centre also disseminates its publications through thematic **networks** and **research platforms**. Some publications are distributed in the **meetings** the Centre organizes.

The Centre is moving to institutionally become a **paper-less organization**.



**Financing:** *The Centre is funded primarily by the governments of its Member States through annual contributions. Other developed and developing countries also provide special contributions. The South Centre also receives funding for specific programmes and projects from international and cooperation agencies, foundations and other aid.*

**Would you like to learn more?**

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