

# Traditional leaders to address global challenges

## **DAILY NEWS REPORTER**

TRADITIONAL leaders will take part in the first Brics Indigenous Knowledge Systems (IKS) Conference which opens today as they look at ways to address global challenges using indigenous methods.

The conference is co-hosted by the African Traditional Leadership and the UKZN at

the Moses Mabhida Stadium today and tomorrow.

It will address global challenges such as food security, climate change, human rights, international trade and environmental governance.

The conference seeks to explore the contributions of indigenous languages, traditional healing, religions and value systems such as the Afri-

can philosophy of *ubuntu*.

The IKS said the conference came at a time when “researchers, policy makers, development agencies and the private sector seek sustainable solutions to developmental challenges that should take cognisance of the role of IKS”.

Professor Hassan Kaya, the Department of Science and Technology and the National

Research Foundation Centre in Indigenous Knowledge Systems at UKZN said: “The significance of incorporating IKS in combating these global challenges is based on the awareness that once people feel they are part of the business of the state, they become inspired and ready to protect resources and the environment,” he said.

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