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It is my sincere pleasure to welcome you once again to the D-8 Journal. This is our second edition of the Journal, following our inaugural publication in June, 2013. The pieces featured in this edition cover the period between July to December 2013.

As the New Year begins, I would like to take the opportunity to extend my heartfelt greetings for 2014. I wish you all a happier, brighter and peaceful year.

2013 was a highly significant year for D-8 Organization with a number of milestones. More explicitly, I would like to reveal the 34th Session of the D-8 Commission and 16th Session of D-8 Council of Ministers held on December, spotting a great landmark for the Organization, where our Commissioners and Ministers adopted new strategies for D-8 to have a stronger voice in the world in the very near future.

The year 2014 will mark a new phase for D-8 Organization, having the 9th D-8 Summit ahead of us, to be held in Turkey, which will be the most significant event of this year and a turning point for our Organization in which Turkey would chair the D-8 Council of Ministers held on December, spotting a great landmark for the Organization, where our Commissioners and Ministers adopted new strategies for D-8 to have a stronger voice in the world in the very near future.

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Please do not hesitate to inquire any information related to our Organization by our contact details which you may find by visiting our website (www.developing8.org).

Seyed Ali Mohammad MOUSAVI
Secretary-General
D-8 pledges to Strengthen Tourism Cooperation

The 2nd D-8 Tourism Meeting, hosted by the Islamic Republic of Iran, was successfully held between 1-2 July 2013 in Tehran-Iran. The Meeting was attended by delegations from Member Countries of D-8, namely, the People’s Republic of Bangladesh, the Arab Republic of Egypt, the Republic of Indonesia, Malaysia, the Federal Republic of Nigeria and the Republic of Turkey.

Deputy Head of Iran’s Cultural Heritage, Handicrafts and Tourism Organization (ICHHTO) Dr. Manouchehr Jahanian, underlined that D-8 Tourism Delegations had gone through a thorough discussion finding the ways to enhance tourism cooperation such as ecotourism, health tourism and cultural tourism among the Member Countries during the two days event.

On his part the Secretary-General of the D-8 Organization, Seyed Ali Mohammad Mousavi underlined that Tourism sector nowadays is one of the most significant sectors in the global economy. He mentioned that D-8 Member Countries are very rich in culture as well as in natural beauties. Thus Dr. Mousavi pointed out that Tourism might be an economic driver for Member Countries.

Delegations from Member Countries exchanged views and shared information on tourism initiatives and proposed areas for collaboration. They reviewed and remarked the progress achieved in the implementation of the resolutions and decisions of previous D-8 Tourism Cooperation Meeting. The meeting scrutinized some of the most important issues such as the facilitation of tourist visa, the role of the private sector (SMEs) in tourism development, how to increase the volume of tourists.

At the end, Delegations adopted proposals and recommendations for promoting the field of D-8 tourism cooperation and welcomed the idea to establish a D-8 Tourism Fund and a Working Group for preparing a 10-year Roadmap and hailed Turkey and Malaysia for showing their interest to host the next meeting.

D-8 and ISC signed an MoU to promote cooperation on Scientific Research and Higher Education

In a recent meeting between D-8 Secretary-General, Seyed Ali Mohammad Mousavi, and President of Islamic World Science Citation Center (ISC), Prof. Jafar Mehrad important figure from both Organizations exchanged views on the issue of establishing a good partnership and build up relation with universities and research centers as well as how to develop higher education and scientific cooperation among D-8 Countries.

First day, at ISC campus, Prof. Mehrad gave briefing to Dr. Mousavi on ISC’s goals, objectives, scientific performances, missions and shared scientific map of D-8 Member Countries based on ISC databases. Both figures shared their thoughts during the visit, and committed to study the framework of cooperation to enhance scientific research among the D-8 Member Countries.

Second day, D-8 Secretary-General, Deputy Minister of Science, Research and Technology Dr. Mehdi Nejad Noori attended a gathering of Chancellors from twenty five universities across Iran including Shiraz, Tehran, Ahvaz Shahid Chamran, Yazd, Semnan, Isfahan Industrial, Tabriz and Isfahan universities. Chancellors were introduced the concept of D-8 university cooperation, after that they shared their knowledge, suggestions and experiences.

In his statement, Secretary-General Mousavi underlined a large number of potential scientific researches are going in D-8 universities. He also emphasized to expedite scientific research and active collaboration among education and scientific research communities of D-8 Member Countries by exchanging researchers.

At the end of the meeting both parties, D-8 and ISC, signed an MoU with the aim of establishing ISC Branch Office and producing effective policies in the field of science and technology in D-8 countries, holding workshops and establishing an ISC scholarship for D-8 research communities.
D-8 Secretary-General discussed future projects with Turkish Ministers

In a recent working visit to Ankara-Turkey, D-8 Secretary-General, Dr. Seyed Ali Mohammad Mousavi, had a fruitful discussion with the Ministers of Agriculture and Transportation. At first, Dr. Mousavi paid a courtesy visit to the Minister of Food, Agriculture and Livestock Mr. Mehmet Mehdi Eker. During the visit, Dr. Mousavi pointed out that, “The share of agriculture in D-8 trade volume has increased, but that does not reflect the true potential of D-8. Turkey is one of the top countries in the world with the highest agricultural income thus Turkey should lead D-8 agriculture cooperation”. He added that D-8 Member Countries targeted trade volume around $500 billion in 2018 according to the D-8 Roadmap and in order to reach this target, the share of agriculture must be increased in D-8 trade volume. Dr. Mousavi invited Minister Eker to the 4th D-8 Ministerial Meeting on Agriculture and Food Security which is going to be held in Abuja-Nigeria.

Moreover, the meeting focused on the enhancement of cooperation in agriculture and food security among D-8 Member Countries and discussed the activities of Working Groups on Seed Bank, Maritime Affairs, and Fisheries, Fertilizer, Animal Feed and Trade Standards.

In his visit to Ankara, D-8 Secretary-General also met with Minister of Transport, Maritime Affairs and Communications, Mr. Binali Yıldırım, with whom he had exchange of views on D-8 transport cooperation. He emphasized the significance of the area of transportation for D-8 cooperation and revealed his discomfort on this issue of not holding a D-8 Ministerial Meeting in this crucial cooperation field since the establishment of the Organization.

He added that while there remain many diverse means of transportation such as railways, shipping, road, logistics etc., until now D-8 cooperation has been limited to civil aviation. Minister Yıldırım recognized the importance of continued close collaboration and cooperation within D-8 countries. He fully supported Secretary-General’s view on the efforts to establish new working groups and he graciously offered to host a Ministerial Meeting on transportation in early September in this year in Istanbul.

D-8 Secretary-General Dr. Seyed Ali Mohammad Mousavi had a meeting with H.E. Mr. Mallam Sanusi Lamido Sanusi, Governor of the Central Bank of Nigeria (CBN), in Abuja on 15 August 2013.

Both figures exchanged their views on active involvement of the D-8 Private Sector to D-8 activities for the development of D-8 business relations and how to make SMEs sectors more active in D-8 Member Countries. Dr. Mousavi conveyed brief information on the status of cooperation of D-8. Secretary-General underlined that industrialization and SMEs play a significant role in all economies and are the key generators of employment and income, and drivers of innovation and growth. To expedite the developments in D-8 industrial production, D-8 Organization organized two high-level meetings between D-8 Central Banks so far.

Moreover, a thorough discussion took place between Dr. Mousavi and Mr. Governor on the outcomes emanated from the previous meetings of the Governors of the D-8 Central Banks*. They discussed how to explore innovative policies and measures to confront the new external challenges to our national economies and some other salient points such as frequencies of meetings and establishment of a revolving Secretariat to facilitate the Group’s activities with the D-8 Secretariat, etc.
D-8 Workshop on Microfinance for SMEs and the Central Bank of Nigeria’s 7th Annual Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) Finance Conference hosted by the Federal Republic of Nigeria were successfully held on 15 August 2013 in Abuja-Nigeria.

The Meeting was attended by delegations from Egypt, Iran, Malaysia, Pakistan, Turkey and Nigeria as the host.

The theme of the Conference was “Strategies for Sustainable MSME Financing”. The workshop sessions of the conference brought to bear, the technical and practical experiences of Nigeria and D-8 countries for better and sustainable economic cooperation.

The workshop sessions have gone a thorough discussion on some crucial issues that will enhance the delivery and usage of financial services, promote economic activities, create wealth and accelerate youth empowerment through the MSME window. Moreover, wholesale funding, enabling environment, appropriate models for SMEs and movable collateral registry for MSMEs financing were discussed.

D-8 is enhancing industrial cooperation with the promotion of SMEs in Abuja-Nigeria.

Secretary-General Seyed Ali Mohammad Mousavi visited Mohammad Azam, Additional Secretary of Information, Broadcasting and National Heritage and exchanged views regarding the establishment of a D-8 News Agencies Association and setting up joint cultural activities between Member Countries.

Secretary-General Mousavi proposed the establishment of D-8 News Agencies Association consisting of media agencies from the eight Member Countries. “Cooperation can be in the form of exchange of news articles, news products or technology to produce news,” he said during his visit.

Mr. Mousavi noted that cooperation between news agencies is significant in order to present first hand information about one country to the other Member Countries. “We are planning to hold a meeting between D-8 News Agencies on the sideline of next D-8 Summit in Istanbul,” he added. Meanwhile Additional Secretary, Mr. Azam expressed his support towards the proposal to establish News Agency’s Association among D-8 members. “We have already signed MoUs and have excellent relations with news agencies from Turkey (AA Anadolu Agency), Iran (IRNA news agency) and Malaysia (Bernama news agency) and Indonesia (ANTARA). We are looking forward to cooperate with other news agencies from D-8 Member Countries,” he said.

Secretary-General Mousavi added that D-8 organization is very active in tapping five areas on priority basis including trade and industry, agriculture, energy, transportation. He also expressed that D-8 is looking forward to enhance cooperation in cultural activities, tourism and high education. D-8 will hold a Film Festival in Istanbul on 20-27 September 2013.

Prior to the meeting, Secretary-General Mousavi visited Pakistan National Council of Arts and had the opportunity to see various galleries displaying the paintings and sculptures of Pakistani artists. He appreciated the calligraphic and sculpture work of the artists.

Pakistan offers the establishment of D-8 Joint Business Council

D-8 Secretary-General, Dr. Mousavi and Minister of Commerce of Pakistan, Mr. Qasim M. Niaz had a bilateral meeting to discuss recent developments in the area of the trade cooperation on the sideline of the 33rd Session of the Commission, held in 2-3 September 2013 in Islamabad, Pakistan.

In the meeting, Dr. Mousavi expressed the need to increase the trade level to $500bn by 2018 as stipulated in the D-8 Roadmap for 2008 – 2018. The statistics illustrated that with the current $148bn intra-trade volume among Member Countries, the group is lagging behind the target indicated in its Roadmap. He said, “Taking into account the current figure of D-8 intra-trade in 2012, which is around $150bn, we are now in the lagging position towards the trade target in D-8 Roadmap, particularly in the second phase, which was expected to reach $170bn in 2012.”

Secretary-General, Dr. Mousavi explained that one of the core objectives of the D-8 Roadmap is to increase the intra-trade of D-8 countries at least to 15 per cent to 20 per cent of their total trade in the world by the end of 2018, which means the group must increase intra-trade from $148bn in 2012 to about $500bn in 2018”.

Minister Niaz expressed that in order to increase D-8 intra-trade, the implementation of D-8 Agreements on Trade, Visa and Customs plays vital role. “Furthermore, for reaching this target we need the active involvement of the private sector of D-8 Member Countries. D-8 private sector must serve, and mostly involve, as the economic engine of growth while the government provides facilitation, policy support and incentives”, he expressed.

He also disclosed that the establishment of a Joint Business Council of D-8 Member Countries can be a viable and effective option. “We can hold a meeting at the sideline of the next Trade Ministers Meeting and discuss the challenges and possibilities and also share experiences, best practices with the private sector”, he added.

Pakistan Urges D-8 to Further Expand Trade Relations

On the sideline of the 33rd Session of the Commission, held in 2-3 September 2013 in Islamabad, Pakistan, Secretary-General Mousavi visited H.E. Sartaj Aziz, Adviser to the Prime Minister on Foreign Affairs and National Security, in his office, where they exchanged views for the enhancement of cooperation among the Member Countries. Mr. Aziz expressed that D-8 Member Countries need to further expand trade relations and urged the organization to initiate the phase of substantive cooperation by making operational the agreements related to removing barriers in trade and business, particularly the Preferential Trade Agreement (PTA).

H.E. Sartaj Aziz suggested that the Member Countries can take initiatives for cooperation in capacity building, transfer of technology, transfer of capital, labour, energy and food security, Islamic banking, and Halal sector development.

Secretary-General Mousavi briefed Mr. Aziz on the recent developments on the PTA with a strong emphasis on the need to activate the D-8 private sector to boost D-8 economic cooperation. Mr. Mousavi also informed Mr. Aziz on the agenda of the 33rd Session of the Commission.
Pakistan successfully hosted the 33rd Session of the D-8 Commission

The Developing Eight Organization (D-8) successfully held its 33rd Session of Commission in Islamabad, in Pakistan’s capacity as the two years Chair of the D-8, during 2-3 September 2013, with full participation from Member Countries. During the D-8 Summit held in Islamabad on 22 November 2012, Pakistan assumed the chairmanship of the D-8 until 2014. The Commissioner's meeting is the second in a series of meetings which Pakistan will host as follow up of the Islamabad Summit.

The meeting reviewed several key agenda items such as the progress in intra-D-8 cooperation in several areas in the context of Roadmap of cooperation from 2008 to 2018. The other particularly important agenda is the review of D-8 Agreements relating to facilitation of trade and business among Member Countries.

Addressing the inaugural session, H.E. Sartaj Aziz, Adviser to the Prime Minister on National Security and Foreign Affairs urged D-8 to initiate a substantive co-operation phase by operationalizing the agreements related to removing barriers in trade and business, particularly the Preferential Trade Agreement. He suggested that the Member Countries can take initiatives for cooperation in capacity building, transfer of technology, transfer of capital, labour, energy and food security, Islamic banking, and Halal sector development.

Later in the meeting, D-8 Secretary-General Dr. Saeed Ali Mohammadmousavi a report on 2013 activities of the organization. He also expressed the hope that the D-8 Preferential Trade Agreement will be implemented soon.

D-8 Secretary-General appreciated H.E. Aziz for the excellent arrangements and warm hospitality extended during the Commission meeting and welcomed Pakistan’s active role in the D-8. He assured support in expediting the implementation of D-8 agreements, in particular the Preferential Trade Agreement (PTA). The implementation of the PTA, will facilitate the target stipulated at the D-8 Roadmap for 2008-2018, which envisages current intra-D-8 trade of $150 billion to reach to $500 billion by 2018, he added.

During the second day of the meeting, the Commissioners continued to review the agenda and issued a report at the conclusion. The member states held very intensive consultations on the roadmap, strategy, annual budget and the structural reforms of the organization. At the second day Syed Fatemi, Special Assistant to the Prime Minister, hosted a luncheon for the D-8 Secretary-General and the Commissioners.

In his speech to the opening ceremony, D-8 Secretary-General Dr. Mousavi underlined that this first launch of cultural activity will pave the way to many more events to take place in the future, which not only will have significant effect in enhancing the visibility of Organization, but also, will bring D-8 countries much closer:

"It is now time for more practical cooperation and D-8 countries would like to see a concrete action plan in cultural cooperation," he added.

These kinds of activities will enhance cultural exchanges within D-8 Countries, said Ozgur Ozaslan, Turkey’s Undersecretary of Ministry of Culture and Tourism. "Turkey aims to accelerate cultural development as well as economic growth in the D-8 countries," he added.

Speaking at the meeting, Governor Mutlu called on the D-8 countries to explore their potential at cultural sector. He said that D-8 Countries have to promote and enhance joint efforts towards achieving sustainable socio-cultural development through effective utilization of their cultural and social potentials.

The festival was to exhibit a selected group of films from D-8 and ECO Member Countries to facilitate the meeting of cinema people to see the possibilities of cooperation between the filmmakers and the possibilities of marketing and distributing their artistic works. It continued to 27 September by screening 45 well renowned films from the D-8 and ECO countries in eight movie theaters in Istanbul.

Along side the Film Festival, the D-8 Secretariat held a reception to commemorate the 16th anniversary of D-8 Organization of Economic Cooperation.
Mr. Hossein Ghazavi, President of the ECO Trade and Development Bank (ETDB) paid a courtesy visit to D-8 Secretariat-General, Dr. Mousavi, on 27 September 2013. During the meeting, the two interlocutors discussed the possibility of expanding their cooperation through a joint investment.

Dr. Mousavi provided information on the Secretariat’s recent activities regarding the setting up of the D-8 Joint Investment Fund. He has stated that D-8 intra-trade was almost about 150 billion dollars in 2007 which corresponds to 8 percent of the total trade of the Member Countries. “D-8 should move towards designing and implementing a mechanism through which it can increase intra-trade to the target set for 2018, which is estimated to be 500 billion dollars” he said. “In this respect, D-8 countries have huge economic capabilities and high potentials in the field of industry. Therefore, in order to procure monetary resources for using this potential and implementing the joint projects, D-8 needs to establish a fund and also keep relations with the other related organizations like ETDB”, he added.

Mr. Ghazavi also mentioned that both ECO and D-8 countries need to overcome the challenges of supply-side as well as trade-related infrastructure and at this point, ETDB is eager to provide financial assistance in order to support trade and facilitate the implementation of trade-related activities and development projects in the D-8 countries.

The meeting provided an important opportunity for the two respective organizations to discuss further cooperation as well as to establish linkages of trade integration which is a powerful engine of economic growth, productivity, innovation and contribute to employment for the Member Countries of both organizations.

On the occasion of the Forum and Panel, Secretary-General of D-8 Organization, Dr. Mousavi had a bilateral meeting with Mr. Veysel Eroğlu, Turkish Minister of Forestry and Water Affairs. Facing the growing challenges in the domain of water, the two stressed the significance of cooperation on irrigation, production as well as the management of water. They also discussed further areas of cooperation for the next D-8 Ministerial Meeting on Water. Minister Eroğlu emphasized that Turkey is willing to boost D-8 cooperation in all fields related to water.

Dr. Mousavi, for his part, said D-8 needs Turkey’s experience on management of water sources and regulations for achievement of water cooperation. He also expressed that the current panel as well as the D-8 Water Forum that was held in Istanbul before, represent another step further in strengthening and providing an opportunity to build better D-8 water cooperation.

Secretary-General Mousavi was also received by the Governor of Mardin, Mr. Ahmet Cengiz, at his office and they exchanged views on D-8 cooperation in fields of tourism and agriculture. The two interlocutors took this opportunity to strengthen collaboration between Turkey and D-8 and also reviewed the possibilities of holding one of the D-8 Ministerial Meetings in Mardin in future.

Dr. Mousavi also met with President of Mardin Artuklu University, Prof. Serdar Bedli Oray as a part of his visit to Mardin which concluded in giving a conference lecture in the university. They discussed cooperation in higher education, scientific research and strengthening of academic linkages between the D-8 Member Countries. Afterwards, Secretary-General Mousavi gave a presentation to academicians and students and in his presentation, he focused on the D-8 activities, achievements as well as its challenges. The conference ended by the round of questions asked by the audience at the university.
The Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran successfully hosted the 1st High Council Meeting of D-8 Technology Transfer and Exchange Network (D-8 TTEN) from 7 to 9 October 2013 in Tehran, Iran. The Meeting was attended by Delegations from Member Countries of D-8, namely, the People’s Republic of Bangladesh, the Arab Republic of Egypt, the Republic of Indonesia, the Islamic Republic of Iran, the Federal Republic of Nigeria, the Islamic Republic of Pakistan and the Republic of Turkey.

Delegations from Member Countries exchanged views and shared information on the importance of technology transfer and exchange network infrastructure and the need for a strategy for developing inter-linkages among D-8 Member Countries. They agreed that the proper foundation of a technology transfer and exchange network (TTEN) was essential to make an appropriate ground and infrastructure to exchange and transfer of the products data, technologies and services among D-8 Countries. Subsequently, this framework would reinforce and expand the cooperation between the Member Countries in industrial and technology areas.

At the end, Delegations agreed on several issues for promoting the field of D-8 technology cooperation through D-8 TTEN web-portal. The Meeting also agreed that Pardis Technology Park of Iran will be the Secretariat of the D-8 Technology Transfer and Exchange Network (D-8 TTEN) and hailed Nigeria for showing their interest to host the next meeting, which will be held in the second quarter of 2014.

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D-8 Secretary-General, Dr. Seyed Ali Mohammad Mousavi, had a fruitful meeting with Minister of Foreign Affairs of Islamic Republic of Iran, H.E. Mohammad Javad Zarif on Tuesday, 8 October 2013 in Tehran, Iran.

During the Meeting, the Minister emphasized the importance role of the D-8 Organization of Economic Cooperation in taking a leading role in the expansion of South-South cooperation. He further highlighted the importance of the D-8 role in promoting comprehensive cooperation, particularly in the economic, trade and technological fields. In addition, he also expressed hope that the D-8 would play a greater role in boosting regional and international cooperation by holding regular meetings at different levels, implementing agreements and drawing up proper plans.

Responding to the Minister, the D-8 Secretary-General briefed the Minister on a number of the Organization’s activities and plans and expressed that D-8 Member Countries are expected to develop their cooperation in diverse areas of collaboration. He further hoped that the D-8 countries would strengthen cooperation given their great potentials and human resources. In addition, he also invited the Minister to attend the next meeting of D-8 Foreign Ministers, which will be held in Islamabad, Pakistan.

D-8 Secretary-General Dr. Mousavi met with Minister of Foreign Affairs of Iran, Dr. Mohammad Javad Zarif, in Tehran-Iran.
Turkey successfully hosted the 2nd Ad Hoc Meeting to Consider the Formation of Consortium on Fertilizers between 4-6 November 2013 in Antalya. Delegations from Member Countries exchanged views and shared information on the importance of production, distribution, trade, research and development on fertilizers. This event was meant to generate discussion on the importance of the status of production, distribution and trade of fertilizers in D-8 Countries as well as to formulate feasibility of establishment of trade cooperation between D-8 Countries.

In opening Session, D-8 Secretary-General Dr. Mousavi met with Governor of Antalya, Mr. Sebahattin Oztürk and in the meeting with the Governor he said “I am in Antalya for D-8 Fertilizer Meeting and whenever I visit a province in Member Countries, I make courtesy visits to local authorities and provide information about the D-8 cooperation.” Dr. Mousavi also asserted that Turkey is going to take presidency of D-8 by the end of 2014 for a term of two years; therefore, the 9th Summit and many other meetings in this regard.

Dr. Mousavi also asserted that Turkey is going to take presidency of D-8 by the end of 2014 for a term of two years; therefore, the 9th Summit and many other meetings in this regard.

At the end of the Meeting, the D-8 Fertilizer Website (www.d8fa.org) was presented again. The meeting expected that this Website would be improved and used as a database of fertilizer stakeholders in the D-8 Member Countries. In addition, the Meeting highly urged D-8 Member Countries to actively participate in providing their fertilizer information to the aforementioned database collection and information on standard of fertilizers.

The Meeting agreed that the establishing joint research and technological collaboration in production to manufacture customized organic and non-organics fertilizers and establishing intra-D8 trade for better market access were also imperative for further D-8 fertilizer cooperation. It was also mentioned that the advancements in genetics and biotechnology in D-8 Countries would massively contribute towards utilization of fertilizer as well as increased food production. In addition, the volume of production and consumption of fertilizers in D-8 Member Countries were still main challenges for all of D-8 Member Countries to tackle in very concrete terms.

The delegates also discussed the draft Memorandum of Understanding for establishment of D-8 Fertilizer Association. The meeting agreed that the documents discussed would be circulated to all D-8 Member States through the D-8 Secretariat for their further assessment and feedback. It was expected that the documents would be finalized during the Working Group Meeting on Fertilizer, which will be held just before the 4th Agricultural Ministerial Meeting on Food Security (4-6 December 2013, Abuja-Nigeria) for consideration and adoption.

At the end of D-8 Secretary-General Mousavi’s presentation, the audience at the university. Afterward his meeting with Mr. Kurtcephe as part of his visit to Antalya and discussed the possible cooperation in higher education, scientific research and strengthening of academic linkages between the D-8 Countries. Afterward his meeting with Mr. Kurtcephe, Secretary-General Mousavi made a presentation to academicians and students and where he focused on D-8 activities, achievements as well as its challenges. The conference ended with the round of questions by the audience at the university.
D-8 Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry gathered in Iran

The Presidents of D-8 Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FCCI) gathered in Tehran between 26-27 October 2013. During the two-day meeting, Expert Committee met and discussed the finalization of D-8 FCCI Draft Statute and the 8th D-8 FCCI Meeting was held by the attendance of the Presidents of Chambers of Commerce and Industry from the Member Countries. The meeting was chaired by the President of Federation of Pakistan Chamber of Commerce and Industry (FPCCI), Mr. Zubair Ahmed Malik who is also the President of the D-8 FCCI.

The participants discussed each and every Article of D-8 FCCI which proposed various inputs and suggestions to be incorporated in the Statute, which will be finalized in two weeks by Turkey in consultation with its legal experts.

As the President of the D-8 FCCI, Zubair Ahmed Malik emphasized that with a combined population of around one billion and a market size of more than $1.5 trillion, D-8 is set to emerge as one of the world’s most promising trade blocs. “We are looking forward to achieve the target of $500 billion for intra-trade which has been set in D-8 Roadmap by our respective governments for 2018,” he said. He pointed out that it is essential for D-8 FCCI to undertake goal-oriented activities for rendering the need assessed services to the private sector of its Member Countries in order to implement the vision presented in the D-8 Roadmap 2008-2018.

He informed the Member Countries that FPCCI has drawn up a comprehensive action plan of activities for D-8 under which FPCCI will be sending delegations to the Member Countries for development of agriculture, industrial and manufacturing sectors. Moreover, he said, we will forge business linkages, hold D-8 Business Forum and exhibition, organise seminar on SMEs for developing strategies to strengthen D-8 SMEs, by launching a website and creating data bank, etc.

The participants stressed that D-8 FCCI is a very powerful forum that can play a vital role in activating the business community and at the same time pushing governments for resolution of the current impediments on trade. They emphasized on the necessity of more action and more seriousness for improving the level of cooperation in D-8 and appreciated the efforts and measures taken by FPCCI and D-8 FCCI Secretariat for helping to achieve the true objectives of this forum.

D-8 targets $500 billion intra-trade until 2018

D-8 Secretary-General, Seyed Ali Mousavi: “We want to create a D-8 brand. That could be in automobile, airlines, satellite, or in cement sector.”

D-8 Secretary-General, Seyed Ali Mousavi, highlights the aim to increase the intra-trade volume among D-8 countries to reach $500 billion until 2018.

Speaking to Anadolu Agency, Mousavi said the total trade of D-8 countries (Bangladesh, Egypt, Indonesia, Iran, Malaysia, Nigeria, Pakistan and Turkey) at the end of 2012 was $1.8 trillion and it covered the 5.0% of total world trade in 2012, which was around $36 trillion.

Mousavi also expressed that trade between D-8 Countries at the end of 2012 was almost $150 billion and it was 8.2% of the total 1.8 trillion trade volume.

“Increased trade numbers would accord the countries having such potential. Hence according to the Roadmap approved by the State’s Presidents in 2008, it has been aimed to increase this number to $500 billion until 2018,” he said. Highlighting the fact that $500 billion is a huge amount, yet not impossible to reach, Mousavi said the private sector forms the main factor, thanks to private sector’s potential as well as the Preferential Trade Agreement (PTA), visa and customs agreements, which are already entered into force. These agreements would serve positively to reach that aim.

“Turkey has an important role”

Secretary-General indicated the D-8 Summit, which will be held in Turkey in 2014 as a turning point and said, “All the Member Countries have made term presidencies for two years. It will be Turkey’s turn again. Next year Turkey will take over the term presidency. Therefore, in my opinion, the second life-cycle of D-8 is going to start in the history of the Organization.”

“The main factor in reaching $500 billion target is the activities of the private sector. Turkey has an important role here. We will make the private sector more active under the leadership of Turkey,” Mousavi said by reminding that the term presidency is not only a political chairmanship, but an opportunity for Turkish Union of Chambers and Exchange Commodities (TOBB) to take over the presidency of private sector and facilitates its activities while accelerating them.

“Common brand”

The necessity of a brand found a significant place in Mousavi’s highlights and he said, “We want to create a D-8 brand, which could be in automobile, airlines, satellite or cement sector.” Then he added, “The point which Indonesia, Turkey and Malaysia have reached so far in aviation is very good. Indonesia is one of the leading countries in aviation industry, Turkish Aerospace Industry (TAI) has also big potential in Turkey. In addition, satellite production can be considered as well. Turkey produced its own satellite. Iran and Malaysia have their own satellites, too. We can discuss on a common satellite project.”
D-8 Aviation Experts participated in Flight Procedure Design Workshop in Iran

The workshop was organized by the Islamic Republic of Iran’s Aerospace Organization for the D-8 Countries in Civil Aviation Industry from 3 to 7 November 2013 in Tehran, Iran. The workshop covered various aviation topics including designing flight procedures and enclosed subjects like the needs and development of aerospace industry’s know-how among the D-8 Countries.

D-8 activities in Civil Aviation cooperation have proved to be very promising. With a population around 1 billion, 15% of world population, there is abundance of technical and qualified human resources and opportunities available in this field among D-8 community. This potential necessitates us to focus our attention even more as we proceed to consolidate our commonalities for the potential on air transportation between the D-8 Member Countries in the future.

A question was asked concerning other activities and cooperation areas of D-8, where Secretary-General Mousavi explained, “According to D-8 Charter, we have more than twenty cooperation areas. But on 12th D-8 Session of Council of Ministers, in 2009 in Malaysia, the Council agreed on 5 priority areas, Trade, Agriculture and Food Security, Industrial Cooperation and SMEs, Transportation, Energy and Minerals among the other areas of cooperation as stated in the Roadmap. These five priority areas of cooperation were decided due to their direct contribution on the enhancement of intra-D8 trade for promoting development.” Secretary-General continued: “D-8 Trade, Agriculture and Food Security, Industrial Cooperation and SMEs have been showing impressive progress and development. To date, Agriculture and Industrial cooperation had successfully held three Ministerial Meetings (2009, 2011, and 2012). Although trade cooperation had just one Ministerial Meeting (2013), the main vehicle of this area, the Preferential Trade Agreement (PTA), has entered into force between Indonesia, Iran, Malaysia, Nigeria, Pakistan and Turkey since 25 August 2011. In addition, Custom and Visa Agreements has entered into force between the Member Countries”.

However, the cooperation on energy and transportation has not yet been satisfactory. For instance, in transportation sector, only civil aviation has developed so far and there was no concrete progress on the other sectors like road, railroad, logistics and shipping cooperation up to this date. After my discussion with Turkish Ministers on this issue, Turkey agreed to hold the first Ministerial level meeting on both areas in 2014. We have also initiated several possible new areas of cooperation that might bring positive effect to D-8, such as Tourism and University cooperation. These areas could be taken as independent area of cooperation or under established ones, for instance academy under Science, Technology & Innovation “

D-8 Secretary-General, Dr. Mousavi, participated in Flight Procedure Design Workshop in Iran

D-8 Secretary-General, Dr. Seyyed Ali Mohammed Mousavi, participated in a TV program titled “BilaKuyud” on TRT et Turkiyye, on 17 November 2013 in Istanbul and he answered a set of questions in this live program.

In answering a question regarding the activities and achievements of D-8 during the last sixteen years, he explained the major activities of the Organization by valuating the performance since its inception 15 years ago. “I believe D-8 has achieved remarkable progress, and the statistics regarding the level of cooperation in various sectors support this largely positive assessment. Just to cite an example, the substantial increase in intra-D8 trade can indeed be attributed to the Group’s success. The creation and implementation of the Visa Agreement, Customs Agreement and Preferential Trade Agreement (PTA) have served to facilitate, regulate and promote actual cooperation among the Member Countries” Dr. Mousavi stated.

He also mentioned that among these legal instruments, the PTA, which came into force almost a year ago, should be taken as a model. Its full implementation will epitomize the real success of the group. Intra-D8 trade volume accounted to 150 Billion US in 2012, should be increased to 500 Billion USD by 2018 which is among the targets stipulated in the Roadmap, he added.

Upon a question on whether he thinks that D-8 will reach this target, Dr. Mousavi said “It is a very challenging target but I believe with strengthening economic and trade relations among D-8 private sector, creating new and additional mechanisms and also with above mentioned agreements we can reach this target. In this regard, private sector is the essential element in assuring the effectiveness of the work of the D-8 Economic Cooperation and we need a very active involvement of the private sector of D-8 Member Countries.”
Delegation from Gothenburg University met D-8 Secretary-General

Secretary-General Mousavi advised the students on taking the opportunity whenever possible, to practice what they learn in the classroom by using them in the real-world. During the presentation, he focused mainly on the importance of achieving the target of $500 billion for intra-trade, which has been set by our respective governments for 2028,” added Dr. Mousavi.

After the presentation, students had the opportunity to ask questions on D-8 trade figures, social welfare, industrial cooperation, environmental problems and future projects, scientific cooperation, etc. Dr. Mousavi answered the questions one by one and underlined the potential scientific researches in D-8 universities.

He also emphasized to expedite scientific research and active collaboration among education and scientific research communities of D-8 Member Countries by exchanging researchers. He mentioned that D-8 is required to further highlight the role of science and technology in the economic development, to orient the youth towards scientific professions and activities. “We, as D-8 countries, need to forward some policy actions to attain further progress in this important field, including encouraging research and developing programmes, improving educational institutions and facilitating academic interaction and exchange of knowledge among academic institutions in the Member Countries,” he added.

Concluding his presentation, Dr. Mousavi pointed out that “We shall prove to the governments and decision-makers that science and scientific methods are the most efficient means of achieving developments. To this end, I will suggest a meeting among D-8 higher education Ministers to discuss the expansion and improvement of the educational and scientific cooperation between D-8 Member Countries.”

D-8 Secretary-General, Seyed Ali Mohammad Mousavi meets with UN Deputy Secretary-General

“From the very inception, D-8 has been eager for the establishment and promotion of liaison and cooperation with other regional and multilateral institutions and organizations. Conclusion of MoUs with Organization of Islamic Cooperation (OIC), Economic Cooperation Organization (ECO) represents the outcome of the activities undertaken since the beginning,” said Secretary-General Mousavi, as he addressed the Mr. Jan Eliasson during the meeting. He continued, “During this second term, D-8 Organization is going to strengthen its cooperation and will build strategic partnerships with other international and regional organizations, which are especially active in D-8 priority areas, such as OIC, ECO, UNIDO, UNCTAD, FAO, UNAIDO, ITC, IFAD, ICAO, AARDO, ASEAN, IRENA etc.”

He also gave information about the partnership between African - Asian Rural Development Organization (AARDO) and D-8. “The first step towards this cooperation is through establishing constant contact, participating in relevant meetings with the aim to promote cooperation, inter alia, by signing of MoUs, or by other forms of cooperation. Now D-8 and AARDO have finalized the draft of an MoU and are planning to sign the document in Abuja during the Ministerial Meeting on Agriculture on 6 December 2013. We are confident that the signing of the MoU will pave the way for further cooperation between the two organizations”, he concluded.

Secretary-General Mousavi expressed his pleasure for the first high-level talks held between the D-8 and the UN. He said that as a young and promising organization, D-8 looks forward to an early opportunity to working closely with the United Nations. Therefore D-8 has started to get observer status in the United Nations’ General Assembly.

“In this regard, I will seek Member Countries’ assistance on obtaining a standing invitation from United Nations to participate as a permanent observer in the sessions and the work of the UN General Assembly during our upcoming Commission and Council of Foreign Ministers meetings. With the assistance of Pakistan as the current Chair of D-8, and Turkey, which is the next chair of D-8, I am confident that we will direct D-8 toward achieving this critical objective through their precious work and with other Member Countries’ support” he finally emphasized.
Secretary-General Seyyed Ali Mohammad Mousavi paid an official visit to Tehran, Iran between 25-27 November 2013 to attend the 21st Meeting of the Council of Ministers of the Economic Cooperation Organization (ECO). The meeting was opened by President of Iran, Dr. Hassan Rouhani and chaired by Foreign Minister Dr. Javad Zarif with the presence of other Ministers from ECO Member Countries on Tuesday 26 November.

During his visit to Tehran, Secretary-General Mousavi met with President Rouhani on Wednesday and explicated some of D-8 accomplishments, activities and future targets. The meeting focused mainly on the ways and means of improving the cooperation between D-8 and Iran. Dr. Mousavi expressed his gratitude for the good bilateral relations existing between D-8 and the new Government of Iran and requested more support from President in regards to Organization’s activities. President Rouhani welcomed the idea of more regular dialogue, increased cooperation and deeper relationship with D-8 Organization. He also highlighted the need for more economic collaboration among the developing countries.

Secretary-General Mousavi addressed the ECO Council of Ministers Meeting in his speech while appreciating the invitation and hospitality of Government of Iran. He continued that such meetings provide a chance for broader strategic discussions on how to implement the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) and other cooperation agreements between the two organizations.

During the retreat session of the meeting, he met with the Adviser to Pakistan Prime Minister on National Security and Foreign Affairs, Mr. Sartaj Aziz and discussed upcoming D-8 Council of Minister in Islamabad on 19 December 2013. Secretary-General thanked the Adviser for organizing the Commission and Council Meetings and appreciated Pakistan’s active role in the D-8 activities as the Chair. He also discussed several issues on the upcoming D-8 Council of Minister Meeting with Foreign Minister of Turkey, Mr. Ahmet Davutoglu, and Foreign Minister of Iran Mr. Javad Zarif. He also considered the Ministers’ ideas about future efforts in terms of enhancing D-8 cooperation and strengthening the relations among Member Countries.

Secretary-General Mousavi underlined the particular importance of fortifying economic and trade relations among D-8 private sector, creating new and additional mechanisms, which are vital for implementation and reaching the Organization’s targets in both organizations.

During the retreat session of the meeting, he met with the Adviser to Pakistan Prime Minister on National Security and Foreign Affairs, Mr. Sartaj Aziz and discussed upcoming D-8 Council of Minister in Islamabad on 19 December 2013. Secretary-General thanked the Adviser for organizing the Commission and Council Meetings and appreciated Pakistan’s active role in the D-8 activities as the Chair. He also discussed several issues on the upcoming D-8 Council of Minister Meeting with Foreign Minister of Turkey, Mr. Ahmet Davutoglu, and Foreign Minister of Iran Mr. Javad Zarif. He also considered the Ministers’ ideas about future efforts in terms of enhancing D-8 cooperation and strengthening the relations among Member Countries.

Secretary-General Mousavi also paid a visit to Imam Sadiq University to exchange views with academicians on the D-8 higher education and scientific cooperation. During the meeting, Dr Mousavi underlined that to overcome economic, political and social challenges, D-8 Member Countries need to improve educational standards and conquer such challenges in the field of higher education, science, technology, research and innovation.

The outcome of both meetings brighten up the necessity for D-8 to accord its increased attention to the expansion of scientific research and to promote active collaboration among education and scientific research communities in the Member Countries. The academicians also highlighted the importance of exchanging expertise through the communication networks in academic and research domains. “We also need to strengthen the research capacities of existing centers and universities, establish new centers in vital scientific research disciplines and to improve the quality of education at our universities, with a view to enabling them to enhance their stand at the international level. In order to achieve the objectives, we should encourage the exchange of expertise among intellectuals and scholars, as well as the universities and the scientific research institutions in our countries” they emphasized.
D-8 Plans to Launch News Network

The Islamic Republic News Agency (IRNA) headquarter in Tehran on 27 November 2013. In a meeting with Mr. Mohammad Khodadi, President of IRNA, Dr. Mousavi stated that D-8 has planned to set up a news network and it hopes to accomplish this plan before the next D-8 Summit in 2014. “Before IRNA, I have exchanged fruitful discussions with AA, ANTARA, and MENA on the issue of increasing the visibility and leverage of the Organization through a closer cooperation among D-8 news agencies. During my meeting with Director-Generals of these agencies, we came to this conclusion together with other news agencies from Member Countries, that we can shape a closer cooperation among D-8 countries”, he added. Mr. Khodadi expressed that IRNA is ready to help D-8 to launch the news network and to render services and assist D-8 Secretariat to accomplish establishing such network. “Thanks to its invaluable experiences, IRNA could provide D-8 Secretariat with good services”, he said.

Secretary-General Mousavi thanked Mr. Khodadi for his views and contribution to the news agencies cooperation process. He underlined that it is an important aspect for D-8’s visibility and reflects the implementation of identified projects and activities in each group through solid collaboration between government, private sectors and related agricultural institutions.

The Senior Officials Meeting was held subsequently on 5 December 2013. In this meeting, delegates considered the reports of all Working Groups and welcomed the D-8 Programme for Food Security (D-8 PFS) as well as D-8 Information and Knowledge Management Network, which will serve, inter alia, as a guideline for further activities of D-8 agricultural cooperation. Subsequently, the Meeting also encouraged private institutions and businessmen to participate in creating a framework of cooperation through public-private partnerships in the fields of development of effective food supply chains, feasibility study on nutrition, and food systems transformation.

The main event, 4th D-8 Agricultural Ministerial Meeting on Food Security, was held on 6 December 2013. The Heads of Delegations from each Member Country adopted the “Abuja Initiative” as a pragmatic approach to underscore the needs of strengthening and energizing collective efforts in order to achieve self-reliance and self-sufficiency at the D-8 national level in food production. The meeting also welcomed the proposals of Nigeria concerning D-8 agricultural cooperation as well as sharing lessons learned between both organizations and their experiences, including the human resource development, joint implementation of development projects, sharing information, knowledge and resources, promotion of agri-trade and networking.
D-8 Secretary-General, Seyed Ali Mohammad Mousavi, had a fruitful meeting with Mr. Ahmet Davutoğlu, Minister of Foreign Affairs of Turkey, on 10 December 2013, in Ankara, Turkey. During the meeting, at the outset, Mr. Mousavi presented brief information about D-8, its activities, areas of cooperation, achievements as well as challenges and future projects. He expressed his pleasure for Turkey’s support to D-8.

The meeting focused mainly on the agenda of next Council meeting in Islamabad and also next Summit to be held in Turkey in 2014. Secretary-General Mousavi expressed that by the 9th Summit in 2014, D-8 will be completing the first phase of its life cycle after the inception of the Organization in 1997. “In the upcoming Summit, the vital role of Chairman will be rotated again to the Republic of Turkey, as the initiator of the Organization, and I expect D-8 will coherently denote the shift from “policy coordination” to “project implementation” phase. This summit will be very significant to strategically devise effective ways to achieve D-8’s entire goals” he continued.

Foreign Minister Davutoğlu underlined that as the founder of the initiative, the host country of the Secretariat and the upcoming chair, Turkey attributes paramount importance to cooperation within the framework of the D-8. He also highlighted that Turkey always supports the efforts of the D-8 Secretariat with a view to setting up a more institutionalized structure. “I believe that given the institutional novelties that it is expected to bring about, the 9th Summit in Turkey will be recalled as a turning point in the history of the D-8.” he said.

At the end of the meeting, both sides agreed that the upcoming Summit will display a major crossroads throughout the history of the Organization. This Summit will not only offer the Organization an opportunity to take stock of the achievements by now but also will provide us to assess the challenges that the Organization faces today.

D-8 Secretary-General, Seyed Ali Mohammad Mousavi met with Foreign Minister Mr. Ahmet Davutoğlu in Ankara-Turkey.

D-8 successfully held its 34th Session of Commission and 16th Session of the D-8 Council of Ministers in Islamabad

Taking into account the situation where the governments of D-8 Member Countries are facing ahead with their economic reforms agenda that envisages increased business and commercial linkages amongst themselves, the Developing Eight Organization (D-8) successfully held its 34th Session of Commission and 16th Session of the D-8 Council of Ministers in Islamabad, in Pakistan’s capacity as the two years Chair of the D-8, during 17-19 December 2013, with full participation from Member Countries.

The 34th Session of the D-8 Commission was held on 17-18 December 2013. The meeting, which was chaired by H.E. Tanveer Akhtar Khaskheli, D-8 Commissioner of Pakistan, discussed various agenda items in regards with activities of the Organization. In this two days meeting, Report Activities of the D-8 Secretariat, Adoption of Calendar of Events, the status of D-8 Legal Doc-
documents, the possible outcome of the 9th Summit of D-8, the Statutory Documents for the Secretariat, and the idea of the establishment of an Eminent Persons Group as well as the appointments of D-8 Directors were discussed fruitfully. The outcome of this meeting would be considered and adopted by the Council of Ministers meeting.

Having the successful meeting of the Commission, the 16th Session of the D-8 Council of Ministers was held on the following day, 19 December 2013 in same place, Islamabad. The Minister of Foreign Affairs of Islamic Republic of Iran, H.E. M. Javad Zarif, Minister of Foreign Affairs of Republic of Turkey, H.E. Ahmet Davutoglu, as well as Vice Minister of Foreign Affairs of Republic of Indonesia, H.E. Amb. Wardana participated in this important Meeting.

Addressing the inaugural session, H.E. Sartaj Aziz, Adviser to the Prime Minister on National Security and Foreign Affairs highlighted all possible facilitation to the businessmen and investors from D-8 countries with the help of the framework agreements so that private sectors can interact regularly without any administrative bottlenecks. He also added there were several potential sectors in Pakistan that ready to be invested by other Member Countries, inter alia, the energy, agriculture and agro-based industries, mineral development, transport and engineering sectors.

Later in the meeting, D-8 Secretary-General Dr. Seyed Ali Mohammad Mousavi, emphasized the momentum of the political significance of the upcoming 9th Summit. He also expressed the Organization was bound to seize this impetus to enter its second life-cycle phase, and strategically devise effective way to achieve its entire goals, in accordance with the ideals of its great founders, as enshrined in the Charter, Roadmap 2008-2018, and later on, Global Vision. In addition, he also underlined several challenges for the Organization in the upcoming years. One of the heaviest was to envisage current intra-D-8 trade of $150 billion to reach to $500 billion by 2018, as stipulated in the Roadmap.

It was worth to mention that the 16th Session of the D-8 Council of Ministers was an important step towards the 9th D-8 Summit, to be held in 2014 in Turkey. In this regard, the Ministers and Heads of Delegations discussed on several important issues, inter alia, the possible outcome of the Summit as well as the idea of the establishment of an Eminent Persons Group (EPG). It was expected that the EPG would study and review the work of the Organization following 16 years of its establishment in order to enhance the dynamism, efficiency and visibility of the Organization and provide recommendations to be submitted to the 9th Summit. In addition, the Meeting also exchanged views on the policies that need to address concerns for taking on board the businessmen and entrepreneurs in D-8 countries in order to forge trade and business linkages.

The Office of the Permanent Mission of Nigeria to the D-8 Secretariat, the first of its kind, was established in September 2011. This Mission was as a reflection of Nigeria’s commitment as the Chairman (2010-2012) to the Organization and with the objective of promoting Nigeria’s economic and trade relations with the other fellow Member Countries. Secretary-General has close contact and communication with the Permanent Mission of Nigeria to D-8.
Affiliated Institutions

The increasing level of activities and cooperation within the Organization, among others, reflected in the annual workload of the Secretariat, made it all more obvious that the attempt to increase the level of organizational development could be strengthened with the affiliated institutions. These institutions would serve collaborative cooperation with the Secretariat towards the implementation of programmes and projects, as stipulated in the D-8 Roadmap, as well as to overcome the challenges ahead of the Organization in the ever-changing world.

\[\text{b) D-8 Animal Feed Information Center (D8 AFIC)}\]

In response of the ongoing food price volatility, particularly the price and availability of the food for livestock, D-8 Organization established D-8 Animal Feed Information Center (D-8 AFIC, www.d8-afic.org), in October 2012 in Indonesia. This webpage would fortify the purposes of D-8 Working Group on Animal Feed in tackling the production and supply of quality animal feed by executing existence research and project in tangible ways, including as the main media to exchange data, information and products of animal feed.

\[\text{a) Federation of D-8 Chambers of Commerce and Industry (D-8 FCCI)}\]

The idea of private sector engagement in the activities of the Organization goes back to its very early days, as reflected, inter alia, in the Istanbul Declaration (1997). Along this line, the Cairo Declaration (2001) called for the establishment of a business forum. Further perusal of the Cairo recommendation finally led to the creation of the D-8 Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry (D-8 FCCI, www.d8fcci.ir) in February 2004 in Iran - with the stated objective of bringing the concerned entities in the Member Countries under a common umbrella and promoting private sector activities within the Organization.
The magnitude role of fertilizers in supporting food security is clearly essential for developing countries, especially volume and availability of production and consumption of fertilizers. Congruent with this situation, D-8 Organization established D-8 Fertilizer Association (D8FA, www.d8fa.org) in March 2013 in Iran. The Association would facilitate large-scale governmental and private companies, institutions, investment banks and research institutions of the member states involved in the trade of chemical fertilizers (nitrogen, phosphate and potash) and bioorganic fertilizers business.

c) D-8 Fertilizer Association (D8FA)

In the age of globalization, the proper foundation of a technology transfer and exchange network is essential to make an appropriate ground and infrastructure to exchange and transfer of the products, data, technologies and services among D-8 Countries. With this in mind, D-8 Organization established D-8 Technology Transfer and Exchange network (D-8 TTEN, www.d8tten.org) in October 2013 in Iran. The website would serve as a web-based market space for technology suppliers and seekers to exchange their technology offers and requests, including database of the availability of the latest technologies, technology offers and requests and technology suppliers and seekers from the D-8 countries.

d) D-8 Technology Transfer & Exchange Network (D-8 TTEN)

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D-8 External Relations

D-8 has viewed with positive eyes the establishment and promotion of liaison and cooperation with other regional and multilateral institutions and organizations. Actual establishment of such liaison was pursued following the establishment of the Secretariat (2006) and, more specifically, after the appointment of D-8 Secretary-General (2007). Conclusions of Memorandum of Understandings (MoUs) with the Organization of Islamic Conference (OIC), the Economic Cooperation Organization (ECO), African-Asian Rural Development Organization (AARDO), International Youth Foundation (IYF), Islamic World Science Citation Center (ISC) and a Letter of Intent (LoI) with World Maritime University (WMLU) represent the outcome of the activities undertaken since.

ORGANIZATION OF ISLAMIC COOPERATION (OIC)

The Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between the Organization of the Islamic Cooperation (OIC) and the D-8 Organization for Economic Cooperation was signed on 7 October 2010. All the eight Member Countries of D-8 are also members of the OIC. The MoU seeks to encourage the development of joint programmes and projects in all sectors through the utilization of the human and material resources of both organizations, including in such priority areas as trade promotion, agriculture, food security, and tourism development.

ECONOMIC COOPERATION ORGANIZATION (ECO)

The Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between the D-8 Organization for Economic Cooperation and Economic Cooperation Organization (ECO) was signed, on 6 October 2011 in Istanbul on the sidelines of the 2nd D-8 Industry Ministerial Meeting. As stated in the MoU, the two Organizations wish to strengthen their cooperation in such areas as trade, transport, energy, agriculture, food security, industrial cooperation and small and medium enterprises (SMEs) development. The MoU has also underlined the need for exchange of information, knowledge, best practices and experiences between the two Organizations. To ensure efficient and timely implementation of planned activities, the two Organizations have agreed to conduct joint mid-term reviews of the implementation of the MoU and consider further cooperation activities.
AFRICAN-ASIAN RURAL DEVELOPMENT ORGANIZATION (AARDO)

Taking into account the importance of practical strategies towards promoting sustainable agricultural growth in D-8 Member States, the D-8 Organization for Economic Cooperation signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with African-Asian Rural Development Organization (AARDO) on 6 December 2013 in Abuja-Nigeria on the sideline of the 4th D-8 Agricultural Ministerial Meeting on Food Security. The MoU would serve pragmatic strategy to achieve the expansion of agricultural cooperation as well as sharing lessons learned between both organizations’ experiences, including the human resource development, joint implementation of development projects, sharing information, knowledge and resources, promotion of agri-trade and networking.

INTERNATIONAL YOUTH FOUNDATION (IYF)

The Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) was signed between the D-8 and the International Youth Foundation (IYF) on 3 December 2008 in Baltimore, USA. According to the signed MoU, both Organizations will work to develop a framework for sustained cooperation between them, with particular emphasis on participation from D-8 countries in IYF programs on youth education and employ-ment.

WORLD MARITIME UNIVERSITY (WMU)

A Letter of Intent (LoI) on establishing cooperation between D-8 and the World Maritime University (WMU) was signed in July 2012 in Malmo, Sweden. The LoI intends to establish cooperative and friendly relations between the two institutions. Exchange of experiences and expertise, provision of technical advice, capacity building, and utilization of the human and material resources of both organizations have been particularly highlighted in the Letter of Intent.

ISLAMIC WORLD SCIENCE CITATION CENTER (ISC)

The Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) was signed between the D-8 and Islamic World Science Citation Center (ISC) on 4 July 2013 in Shiraz, Iran. The MoU aims to establish ISC Branch Office, produce effective policies in the field of science and technology, hold workshops, and promote higher education and scientific cooperation among D-8 countries.
### CALENDAR OF EVENTS 2013

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<tr>
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<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>1st Expert Meeting on D-8 Joint Investment Fund</td>
<td>21-22 January 2013</td>
<td>Tehran, Iran</td>
<td>Successfully Held</td>
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<td>2</td>
<td>D-8 Water Forum</td>
<td>21-23 February 2013</td>
<td>Istanbul, Turkey</td>
<td>Successfully Held</td>
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<td>3</td>
<td>1st Ad Hoc Meeting on the possible formation of Consortium on Fertilizer</td>
<td>9-11 March 2013</td>
<td>Kish Island, Iran</td>
<td>Successfully Held</td>
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<td>4</td>
<td>2nd D-8 Supervisory Committee on PTA</td>
<td>29 March 2013</td>
<td>Ankara, Turkey</td>
<td>Successfully Held</td>
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<td>5</td>
<td>D-8 Workshop Meeting on Metrology</td>
<td>6-8 May 2013</td>
<td>Gebze, Turkey</td>
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<td>6</td>
<td>D-8 Working Group on Petrochemical</td>
<td>13-14 May 2013</td>
<td>Tehran, Iran</td>
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<td>7</td>
<td>7th Working Group on Civil Aviation</td>
<td>3-4 June 2013</td>
<td>Dhaka, Bangladesh</td>
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<td>8</td>
<td>Senior Officials Meeting for the preparation of the 9th Trade Minister Council Meeting</td>
<td>24 June 2013</td>
<td>Abuja, Nigeria</td>
<td>Successfully Held</td>
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<td>9</td>
<td>9th Trade Minister Council Meeting</td>
<td>25 June 2013</td>
<td>Abuja, Nigeria</td>
<td>Successfully Held</td>
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<td>10</td>
<td>2nd D-8 Meeting of Tourism Cooperation</td>
<td>1-2 July 2013</td>
<td>Tehran, Iran</td>
<td>Successfully Held</td>
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<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>Workshop on microfinance for SMEs</td>
<td>15-16 August 2013</td>
<td>Abuja, Nigeria</td>
<td>Successfully Held</td>
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<td>12</td>
<td>The 33rd Session of Commission</td>
<td>2-3 September 2013</td>
<td>Islamabad, Pakistan</td>
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<td>13</td>
<td>D-8 and ECO Film Festival (D-8 Anniversary Celebration)</td>
<td>20-27 September 2013</td>
<td>Istanbul, Turkey</td>
<td>Successfully Held</td>
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<tr>
<td>14</td>
<td>First World Irrigation Forum (WIF1)</td>
<td>29 Sept. - 3 Oct. 2013</td>
<td>Mardin, Turkey</td>
<td>Successfully Held</td>
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<td>15</td>
<td>High Council Meeting of D-8 TTEN</td>
<td>7 – 9 October 2013</td>
<td>Tehran, Iran</td>
<td>Successfully Held</td>
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<td>16</td>
<td>Workshop on Flight Procedure Design (PANS-POS)</td>
<td>3-7 November 2013</td>
<td>Tehran, Iran</td>
<td>Successfully Held</td>
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<td>17</td>
<td>2nd Ad Hoc Meeting on Possible Formation of Consortium on Fertilizer</td>
<td>4-6 November 2013</td>
<td>Antalya, Turkey</td>
<td>Successfully Held</td>
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<tr>
<td>18</td>
<td>Workshop on D-8 Central Hospital Appointment System (CHAS)</td>
<td>27-30 November 2013</td>
<td>Ankara, Turkey</td>
<td>Successfully Held</td>
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<tr>
<td>19</td>
<td>4th Agriculture Ministerial Meeting on Food Security</td>
<td>4-6 December 2013</td>
<td>Nigeria</td>
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<tr>
<td>20</td>
<td>34th Session of Commission &amp; 16th Session of Council of Ministers</td>
<td>17-19 December 2013</td>
<td>Islamabad, Pakistan</td>
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<td>Venue</td>
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<td>1</td>
<td>Ad Hoc Meeting on D-8 Association of Petrochemical Industry &amp; Fertilizer</td>
<td>1st Quarter of 2014</td>
<td>Iran</td>
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<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>3rd D-8 Expert Working Group Meeting on Shipping</td>
<td>1st Quarter 2014</td>
<td>Nigeria</td>
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<td>3</td>
<td>Meeting of Consular Authorities of D-8 Member States on Simplification of Visa Procedure</td>
<td>17-18 February 2014</td>
<td>Tehran, Iran</td>
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<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>First Meeting of D-8 Free Trade Zones Authorities</td>
<td>24-25 February 2014</td>
<td>Qeshm, Iran</td>
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<td>5</td>
<td>1st Ministerial Meeting on Energy</td>
<td>20-21 May 2014</td>
<td>Kayseri, Turkey</td>
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<td>6</td>
<td>5th Agricultural Ministerial Meeting on Food Security</td>
<td>15 – 17 October 2014</td>
<td>Istanbul, Turkey</td>
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<td>7</td>
<td>Deputy Ministers Meeting on Industrial Cooperation</td>
<td>1st Half of 2014</td>
<td>Tehran, Iran</td>
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<td>8</td>
<td>D-8 Senior Officials’ Meeting on Tourism</td>
<td>1st Half of 2014</td>
<td>Malaysia</td>
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<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>2nd High Council Meeting of D-8 Technology Transfer and Exchange Network (TTEN)</td>
<td>2nd Quarter of 2014</td>
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<td>10</td>
<td>D-8 Workshop on Investment in Animal/Livestock Feeds Production</td>
<td>2nd Quarter of 2014</td>
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<td>11</td>
<td>2nd Ministerial Meeting on Tourism</td>
<td>2nd Half of 2014</td>
<td>Turkey</td>
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<td>12</td>
<td>8th D-8 Working Group on Civil Aviation (WGCA) and Director Generals Meeting</td>
<td>June 2014</td>
<td>Bangladesh</td>
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<td>13</td>
<td>D-8 Governmental Bodies Meeting on Small and Medium Enterprises Development Bodies</td>
<td>3rd Quarter 2014</td>
<td>Nigeria</td>
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<tr>
<td>14</td>
<td>D-8 Workshop on Cooperation Among D-8 countries in Forestry and Environmental Issues</td>
<td>3rd Quarter 2014</td>
<td>Nigeria</td>
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<tr>
<td>15</td>
<td>D-8 Mega Cities Mayors Meeting</td>
<td>TBA</td>
<td>Iran</td>
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<tr>
<td>16</td>
<td>1st D-8 University Chancellors Meeting on Science, Technology and Innovation</td>
<td>TBA</td>
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<td>17</td>
<td>Communication Navigation Surveillance/Air Traffic Management CNS/ATM</td>
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<td>18</td>
<td>3rd Meeting of D-8 Working Committee on Renewable Energy (WCRE)</td>
<td>TBA</td>
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<td>19</td>
<td>35th Session of Commission</td>
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<td>Meeting on Cooperation on Engineering Sector</td>
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<td>21</td>
<td>Halal Sector Development Meeting</td>
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<td>2nd Trade Ministers Council</td>
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<td>3rd Supervisory Committee of PTA</td>
<td>TBA</td>
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<td>24</td>
<td>• 36th Session of Commission&lt;br&gt; • 17th Session of Council of Ministers&lt;br&gt; • 9th D-8 Summit</td>
<td>TBA</td>
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<td>1st Ministerial Meeting on Transportation</td>
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<td>26</td>
<td>Working Group on Mother and Child Health Care</td>
<td>TBA</td>
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<td>27</td>
<td>4th Ministerial Meeting on Industry</td>
<td>TBA</td>
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RELATED LINKS

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<tr>
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Heads of State/Government of D-8 Member Countries at the Eighth Summit (22 November 2012, Islamabad, Pakistan)

The adoption of the D-8 Charter is considered an important achievement for the Islamabad Summit.