Statute of D-8 Chambers of Commerce and Industry (D-8 CCI)

PREAMBLE:

Whereas in response to the common desire of the D-8 member states to improve and enhance the bonds of commercial, agricultural and industrial cooperation; expressed through the Third Sessions of the D-8 Council of Ministers on the importance of involving private sectors, the representatives of National Chambers of Commerce and Industry of the member countries, decided in January 2000 to establish an independent D-8 Forum for Chambers of Commerce. The Forum decided to establish the D-8 Chambers of Commerce and Industry (CCI), to strengthen the economic ties of the business communities and promote trade relations in D-8, whereby these Articles have been formulated to announce its establishment, determine its structure, and the framework of performance of its functions.

This Statute shall come into force as of the date of the approval by all the National Member Institutions of the D-8 CCI in its meeting thereof.

PART-I

DEFINITIONS

The definitions listed below shall have the meanings set before them wherever they are used in this Statute.

D-8 CCI: D-8 Chambers of Commerce and Industry.
Statute: The Statute of the D-8 CCI.
General Assembly: The General Assembly of the D-8 CCI.
Secretariat: The Secretariat of the D-8 CCI.
President: President of the D-8 CCI.
Secretary-General: Secretary-General of the D-8 CCI.
Members: National Member Chambers of the D-8 CCI.
D-8 Secretariat: The Organization of D-8 Member States based in Istanbul, Turkey.
ARTICLE 2:

OBJECTIVES AND MEANS

1) The goals of the D-8 CCI and the means to achieve these goals:
   a) Support cooperation among the business sector in the D-8 countries through diversifying commercial products to exchange among themselves in order to achieve economic integration and economic and social development therein.
   b) Development of industrial and agricultural products in the D-8 countries and promotion of the concept of quality and competitiveness.
   c) Encourage the enhancement of Trade, Service, Industry, Small & Medium Enterprise, Entrepreneurship, Agriculture, Intra-Regional Tourism and Handicrafts; promote collective self-reliance based on the harnessing of complementarities and establishing the value/supply chains among the member countries; propose economic policies mutually advantageous to all D-8 member countries and create avenues for collaboration amongst its members and similar organizations throughout the D-8 region in their efforts for economic development.
   d) Make recommendations to safeguard the economic and business interests of the D-8 Countries, promote investment opportunities and joint ventures among the D-8 Member Countries.
   e) Assist, contribute and encourage the organization of and participation to Business Forums, Trade Fairs, Joint Display Centers, Exhibitions, Seminars, Conferences, Lectures and Publicity Campaigns as and where may be thought advisable.
   f) Promote the exchange of commercial, technical, industrial management and scientific information, education and know-how amongst its members.
   g) Promote joint research and development among the D-8 Member Countries and Collate, collect and disseminate statistical data of D-8 Member Countries.
   h) Act for Trade Facilitation of the region to remove the barriers that hinder the exchange of goods and services among the Member States, as well as identifying and proposing the measures necessary to increase the volume of trade exchange and economic cooperation among them.
   i) Contribute to the improvement of the investment climate in the D-8 countries to enhance the foreign investment.
   j) Provide means for settling commercial disputes that might arise among the companies of members of D-8 CCI.
   k) Strengthen relations with international trade organizations, bodies and unions and chambers similar to the D-8 CCI to promote private sector's role in the process of socio-economic development.

2) In its pursuit to achieve its objectives, the D-8 CCI shall adopt all the means and mechanisms it deems appropriate, for achieving these objectives.
PART-III
MEMBERSHIP

ARTICLE 3:

1) Members of the D-8 CCI are the following National Chambers of Commerce and Industry of the eight founding countries of D-8:
   a) The Federation of Bangladesh Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FBCCI)
   b) Federation of Egyptian Chambers of Commerce (FEDCOC)
   c) Indonesian Chamber of Commerce and Industry (KADIN)
   d) Iran Chamber of Commerce, Industries, Mines and Agriculture (ICCIMA).
   e) National Chamber of Commerce and Industry of Malaysia (NCCIM)
   f) Nigerian Association of Chambers of Commerce, Industry, Mines and Agriculture (NACCIMA)
   g) The Federation of Pakistan Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FPCCI)
   h) The Union of Chambers and Commodity Exchanges of Turkey (TOBB)

2) The National Chamber of Commerce and Industry of any country which its membership to D-8 has been approved by the Summit of D-8, may apply through the Presidency of D-8 CCI for the membership to the D-8 CCI. Subject to the approval of the General Assembly of D-8 CCI, membership shall be effective upon submission of the letter of acceptance of the Statute by the applying National Chamber of Commerce and Industry to the D-8 CCI Secretariat.

3) The National Chamber of Commerce and Industry of any country which has been admitted and granted observer status to D-8 by the D-8 Organization, may apply through the Secretariat of D-8 CCI to be admitted and granted observer status to the D-8 CCI. This application shall be decided by the General Assembly. Observers shall submit the letter of acceptance of the Statute to the Secretariat.

Suspension or termination of observer status of any National Chamber, shall be conducted by the Presidency in accordance with the decision of D-8 Organization about the related observer country to D-8.

4) Members and Observers shall accept, respect and execute all the provisions set forth in this Statute.

PART-IV
CONSTITUENT BODIES OF D-8 CCI

ARTICLE 4: The D-8 CCI shall consist of the following bodies:

1) The General Assembly
2) Presidency
ARTICLE 5: GENERAL ASSEMBLY

1) The General Assembly shall be the supreme Authority of the D-8 CCI.
2) The General Assembly shall be composed of 2 representatives from each Member. One representative of each Member shall preferably be the President of that National Member Chamber.
3) The National Member Chambers may appoint alternate member(s) to the General Assembly to work in the absence of nominated member(s).
4) The President of D-8 CCI presides over the General Assembly.
5) Secretary General of the D-8 Secretariat or his representative shall be a permanent invitee to the General Assembly meetings, without having right to vote.
6) Observers may participate to the General Assembly meetings without having right to vote.

ARTICLE 6: JURISDICTIONS OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

The General Assembly shall have jurisdiction over the following matters:

1) Determine the general policy and the program of work of the D-8 CCI.
2) Approve and amend the Statute and rules of procedure of the D-8 CCI including those of Councils, Committees and Sub-Committees.
3) Decide on the admission of new members.
4) Such other matters as may be recommended by the General Assembly duly defined hereinafter in this Statute.

ARTICLE 7: GENERAL ASSEMBLY MEETINGS

The General Assembly of D-8 CCI shall meet at least once every year. General Assembly meetings shall take place formally in the member country assuming the Presidency of D-8 CCI. Notwithstanding, General Assembly may decide the place and the time of the General Assembly or may entrust the President for this purpose. In this case, the President, considering the views and the proposals of the Members, shall decide and notify the Members on the place and time.

ARTICLE 8: NOTICE OF THE MEETING

A notice of at least 30 (thirty) clear days must be given for all meetings of the General Assembly.

ARTICLE 9: QUORUM AND DECISION MAKING

1) At all meetings of the General Assembly of the D-8 CCI, the quorum shall be a simple majority of the National Member Chambers. The presence of even one representative from a National Member Chamber shall constitute the representation of that member.
2) All decisions in the General Assembly meetings shall be taken by consensus, if consensus cannot be achieved then the decision will be taken by a simple majority of the members.

3) Members can attend and vote at meetings electronically.

4) Members can vote electronically within seven days after proposal is circulated.

ARTICLE 10: THE PRESIDENT OF D-8 CCI
The President of the National Member Chamber, whose country assumes D-8 Chairmanship based on D-8 Organization's rotational mechanism, shall be regarded as the President of D-8 CCI. The term of the President of D-8 CCI shall be the same as of the D-8 Chairmanship.

ARTICLE 11: THE POWERS OF THE PRESIDENT
The President of the D-8 CCI shall have the following powers:

1) To preside over the meetings of the General Assembly.

2) To represent the D-8 CCI and leading its delegations and missions as well as implementing the decisions of the General Assembly.

3) To sign all documents on behalf of the D-8 CCI. To supervise the works of the Secretariat. To inform the General Assembly about appointment of experts, consultants and senior employees. The President will have power to form Working Committees as he may deem fit and proper.

4) The President has the power to delegate.

ARTICLE 12: THE SECRETARIAT AND THE SECRETARY GENERAL

1) The National Member Chamber assuming the Presidency shall establish a Secretariat and the President shall designate a Secretary General who shall be responsible for the proper implementation of the functions of the Secretariat being the executive body of the D-8 CCI. Secretary General shall also be responsible for the implementation of the decisions of the General Assembly and for assisting the councils and committees stemming therefrom and communicating with national and international bodies and institutions to achieve their duties. The President shall communicate the designation of the Secretary General to all National Member Chambers. The term of the Secretary General shall be the same as the term of the President of D-8 CCI.

2) Subject to the general direction of the General Assembly through and under the supervision of the President, the Secretariat, headed by the Secretary General:
   a) Shall be responsible for conducting all the work of D-8 CCI, in accordance with the Statute.
   b) May, in the performance of the duties, communicate, with Government authorities, national and international organizations and institutions in all matters falling within the competence of the D-8 CCI.
c) May consult experts for the study and discussions of questions falling within the competence of the D-8 CCI.

d) May invite national or international organizations to participate consultatively in the study of any question to which economic interest may bear relation and may also accept the invitation of any such organization for the same purpose and under the same conditions.

e) Shall publish quarterly bulletin which will contain activities of D-8 CCI, studies, information and statistical data on D-8 Countries and may also issue publications dealing with the subjects of interests to the General Assembly.

f) Shall prepare annual and future plans and work programs of the D-8 CCI and starting their implementation after being approved by the General Assembly.

g) Shall circulate the preliminary agenda of the General Assembly to all members, 15 days before the date fixed for any such meetings.

h) Shall prepare and circulate to all members summary records of the proceedings of all meetings of the General Assembly.

i) Shall draw up and circulate the annual report to the members after approval by the General Assembly.

j) Shall attend all meetings of the General Assembly without having right to vote and such other Committees as may be appointed from time to time.

3) At the end of the term of the Presidency, the Secretary General shall prepare a report, comprising the information about all the works achieved during the term, their states and the activities planned for the future, and shall hand over to the National Member Chamber to assume the next Presidency.

PART-V

FINANCIAL STATUS OF THE D-8 CCI

ARTICLE 13: FINANCIAL RESOURCES

No membership fee will be collected from the D-8 CCI members. In principle, the host country of the meetings shall be responsible for covering the expenses of the meetings, local transportation and accommodation expenses.

ARTICLE 14: OFFICIAL LANGUAGE

The official language of the D-8 CCI shall be English.
ARTICLE 15: AMENDMENT(S) OF THE STATUTE

1) Amendments of the Statute of the D-8 CCI proposed by any National Member Chamber shall be included in the agenda of the next meeting of the General Assembly and it shall be adopted by two third of the General Assembly.

2) Any proposal for amendment(s) should be notified to the Secretariat of the D-8 CCI for circulation among the National Member Chambers at least 60 days prior to the next General Assembly session.

3) Should the proposal for amendment(s) not reach the Secretariat within the period specified above, the General Assembly session may discuss the proposal if consented by all National Member Chambers.

PART-VI
FINAL TERMS

ARTICLE 16:
This Statute shall come into effect on the date of its approval.

ARTICLE 17:
This Statute has been approved by all the National Member Chambers of the D-8 CCI on 2 November 2018 in Antalya, Turkey.

The Federation of Bangladesh Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FBCCI)
Federation of Egyptian Chambers of Commerce (FEDCOC)
Indonesian Chamber of Commerce and Industry (KADIN)
Iran Chamber of Commerce, Industries, Mines and Agriculture (ICCIMA)
National Chamber of Commerce and Industry of Malaysia (NCCIM)
Nigerian Association of Chambers of Commerce, Industry, Mines and Agriculture (NACCIMA)
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