No. MOFA/MEA/D-8/Gen/101/13/4

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh presents its compliments to the D-8 Secretariat and with reference to latter's communication no. MIN/09/103 dated 27 March 2009, has the honour to forward the views of the Energy and Mineral Resources Division of the Ministry of Power, Energy and Mineral Resources of the People's Republic of Bangladesh on "The Plan of Action of Working Group on Mining and Minerals".

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh avails itself of this opportunity to renew to the D-8 Secretariat the assurances of its highest consideration.

Enclosure: (2 pages)

Dhaka, 12 May 2009

D-8 Secretariat
Istanbul, Turkey
Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh
Ministry of Power, Energy and Mineral Resources
Energy and Mineral Resources Division
Development-2 Branch

Subject: Comments on Plan of Action of Working Group on Mining and Minerals

Introduction

Minerals are necessary in maintaining today’s modern life. Minerals can, therefore, enhance economic growth potential and social development of a country. Rapid growth in economic activity and industrial production in the past four decades have resulted in a significant increase in the demand of mineral resources worldwide.

D-8 countries are rich with natural resources—especially mines and minerals. In recent years, increased global consumption has further boosted demand and prices of minerals. This has created unique incentives and opportunities for D-8 countries to commercialize their mineral reserves.

Under the aforesaid situation, members of D-8 countries decided to establish cooperation in the fields of mining and minerals. The Working Group of Mining and Minerals Chalked out a plan of action in its first meeting held in Bali, Indonesia during 11-12 December 2008.

Objective:

The objective of the D-8 Minerals Cooperation Action Plan (DMCAP), prepared by the Working Group is well defined and envisages sustainable minerals development among the members countries. Bangladesh will be highly benefited from this plan of activities.

Time Frame

The Action Plan must have Tentative Programme, Projects and Activities, with suggested timelines. The Working Group who prepared this Action Plan provided a table showing strategy-wise 'Suggested Timelines' against 'Programme/Projects' with detailed 'Activities'. However, following comments may be considered towards implementation on Action Plan:

Strategy 1: Facilitating and Enhancing Trade and Investment in Minerals

| TI | Establishment of a one-stop
| 2ii) | mineral trade and investment promotion/facilitation center in each D-8 member country.

This is an important activity in relation to its completion for the strategy of the other activities, as such special consideration is to be made for the commencement of this Action.

Comments on D-8 Action Plan

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Ministry of Power, Energy and Resources
Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh
Establishing a web based
Directory On Trade and
Investment in Minerals.

Strategy 2: ES1 to ES6 on
Promoting Environmentally and
Socially Sustainable Mineral

Strategy 3: Strengthening
Institutional and Human Capacities
in the DS Minerals Sector

Conclusion

Successful implementation of any Action Plan depends on the steps to be taken as per set time frame. There are some activities, which are supposed to be implemented during 2009-2013. Bangladesh is committed to supporting implementation of those activities and take initiative to maintain schedule towards sustainable development of minerals.

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Director General
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Comments on D-8 Action Plan