

**Statement by the D-8 Secretary-General  
His Excellency Ambassador Dato' Ku Jaafar Ku Shaari  
at the 5<sup>th</sup> High Council Meeting of the D-8 Technology Transfer and Exchange Network on  
22 December 2020**

**Mr. Chairman,  
Distinguish Delegates,  
Ladies and Gentleman,**

Asalam o Alaikum and Good Morning/ Afternoon to All.

I would like to begin with lots of gratitude and appreciation to the Ministry of Industries and Production Government of Pakistan (Engineering Development Board) for graciously organizing the 5<sup>th</sup> High Council of D-8 Technology Transfer and Exchange Network and I feel honored and pleased to be part of this important event.

The entire team of Engineering Development Board of the Ministry of Industry and Production also deserves to be applauded for the excellent arrangements made for this conference. I am optimistic that distinguished participants will make meaningful contributions and the event will be a huge success.

We are all living witnesses to the revolution in industry and engineering and currently the industrial revolution has entered its 4.0 phase, which is technologically the most advanced era. The fourth industrial revolution and emerging technologies such as the internet of things, artificial intelligence, robotics and additive manufacturing are spurring the development of new production techniques and business models that will fundamentally transform production.

**Distinguished Delegates,  
Ladies and Gentleman,**

We recognize the pivotal importance of according priority to science, technology and engineering in the activities of the Organization as the main source for future economic growth. Inevitably, we cannot achieve sustainable economic growth and development without integrating the new and emerging technologies into our scheme of things. Our eco-system model is based on equal partnership, shared responsibility, mutual respect, common interest and common benefits.

The D-8 Organization for Economic Cooperation is in the process of developing an eco-system through which we can provide opportunities to the people such as the D-8 Payment Card, D-8 Clearing House, D-8 Qualified Industrial and Economic Zones and D-8 Airports Associations. We are also augmenting our research and development capabilities through the D-8 universities association (D-8 NPRI). We are also promoting the use of local currency in trade as well as the

adoption of barter trading system which can be a very useful tool in settling our trade balances and reducing the enormous pressure on scarce foreign exchange.

**Distinguish Delegates,  
Ladies and Gentlemen,**

I would like to praise the D-8 TTEN for its excellent work. The D-8 TTEN is providing a platform for two or more Member States' companies and institutions to transfer and exchange researches and technologies. It is a prime example of the local value chains mechanism within the D-8 Member States.

In the same vein, the D-8 TTEN encourage and support the startups of the technological firms in order to showcase their good work within D-8 and beyond. While doing such, it promotes the concept of local value chains.

I must appreciate the good work done by D-8 TTEN. It has brought together three companies from D-8 Member States of Iran, Malaysia and Turkey, namely ARYOGEN PHARMED CO, INNO BIO VENTURES SDN BHD and NOBEL ILAC. Two of them have experience in producing biosimilars and INNO BIO has a well-equipped research laboratory facility in Nilan, Malaysia.

Therefore, these companied exchanged their experiences and best practices with INNO BIO to produce biosimilars vaccines particularly for cancerous diseases. The vaccines produced through this unique partnership made available medicaments at affordable prices to the masses and saved human lives.

It also important to point out that D-8 Member States companies are going to enjoy access to the ASEAN market through this technological collaboration. This is the clear example of how the local value chain arrangement can be converted into the global value chains.

**Distinguished Delegates,  
Ladies and Gentleman,**

Science, technology and innovation play critical roles in addressing contemporary challenges of development across multiple dimensions including poverty alleviation, crop management, food processing, healthcare, marketing, resource management, environmental management and preservation, communication, transportation and ensuring security of food, water and energy at the moment and in the years to come. Thus, sharing technology and innovation play an essential part in the development of the economy with its numerous changes contributing immensely to the growth of the economy in various ways.

To further stimulate the adoption of emerging technologies into its production systems, targeted measures to improve D-8's ability to innovate through increased spending on research and development, broader access to the internet and enhanced cybersecurity protection should be

prioritized. Furthermore, a strengthened institutional framework and governance is a crucial enabler.

**Ladies and Gentleman,**

I would like to give a clear message to the developing world that they must come together and build their own technologies for their survival and meaningful participation in global value chains. Technological collaboration in developing world is inevitable. In line with the need for capacity building and technological collaboration, we at the D-8 Secretariat introduced several new initiatives as we believe strongly that without building our own infrastructure and technological base, we will remain behind.

**Mr. Chairman  
Distinguished Delegates,  
Ladies and Gentleman,**

The last point is collaboration. All countries are at different levels of development and possess different competitive elements. While one Member is resource-rich, the other has better infrastructure, demographics demand advantage or technology. Therefore, we should complement each other and promote collaboration as none of us will climb that ladder on its own.

I thank you for your kind attention.