

# D-8 Journal



July 2014 - June 2015 Issue 3

## PRESIDENT ERDOĞAN: D-8 TO BE REINVIGORATED

D-8 AGRICULTURE  
MINISTERS MET IN ISTANBUL

IRAN HOSTED D-8  
INDUSTRY  
MINISTERIAL MEETING

D-8 NOW OBSERVER  
AT THE UNGA







BANGLADESH



EGYPT



INDONESIA



IRAN



MALAYSIA



NIGERIA



PAKISTAN



TURKEY



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# Foreword

I cordially welcome you to the fourth edition of the D-8 Journal. This edition covers events during the period between July 2014 and June 2015.

During this period, the Secretariat was heavily engaged with multifarious activities and events that catered to achievement of goals and objectives set in the D-8 Global Vision and the D-8 Roadmap.

We held a number of Ministerial and Senior Official Meetings along with various technical level meetings in our areas of cooperation throughout the year. During this period between July 2014 and June 2015, we successfully accomplished

*In 2014, D-8 was heavily engaged with multifarious activities and events that catered to the achievement of goals and objectives set in the D-8 Global Vision and the D-8 Roadmap*



the Eminent Persons Group (EPG) process that was initiated to add further momentum and infuse dynamism into the affairs of the Organization.

As the incumbent Secretary-General, I put forward to the Council of Ministers of Foreign Affairs last year in Islamabad the idea of Eminent Persons Group (EPG) which would advise the Organization on the most effective course of actions to be pursued for tangible outcome. With the support of the Council and voluntary contribution of Turkey, we successfully held meetings of the EPG in two sessions. The EPG came up with a comprehensive set of recommendations. The report was presented before the Council on 25 September 2014 in its meeting on the sideline of the 69th regular session of the United Nations General Assembly in New York: the Council meeting on the sideline of UNGA in September 2014 marked the beginning of institutional relationship with the United Nations. The process of obtaining observer status in the United Nations General Assembly has successfully completed with grant of

observer status to the D-8 in the UNGA.

The second phase of the Organization will be a turning point to take our common agenda forward in a manner commensurate with the requirements for developments and the pace of change taking place within individual member states and the Organization as a whole.

With constructive engagement and determination by our members, D-8 will continue to march toward consolidating the development cooperation for the uplift of life and living of our peoples.

You will find news and picture of D-8 activities in this edition; for more information, you may visit our website to get updated data and information on the activities pursued by the Organization. Should you require further information related to the Organization and its activities, please feel free to contact us.

**Seyed Ali Mohammad MOUSAVI**  
Secretary - General



## *Secretary-General congratulated new leaders of Indonesia, Nigeria and Turkey*

*Mousavi wished Mr. Erdoğan health, happiness, and success in his new capacity as the leader of Turkey.*

**D**-8 Secretary-General Dr. Seyed Ali Mohammad Mousavi congratulated newly elected leaders of three D-8 Member States. Mr. Joko Widodo, Mr. Muhammadu Buhari, and Mr. Recep Tayyip Erdoğan have been elected as leaders of Indonesia, Nigeria and Turkey, respectively.

Secretary-General Mousavi in his messages to the leaders mentioned that with the decisive result of the Presidential elections, the people of Indonesia, Nigeria and Turkey had entrusted their leaders with the confidence and leadership to guide the nations to an enlightened future. He expressed high hope that these three D-8 Member States' engagement with the D-8 Organization for Economic Cooperation would be more intensive than ever before.

Dr. Mousavi wished the newly elected leaders health, happiness, and success in their new capacity.





## President Erdoğan: D-8 to be reinvigorated

*President Erdoğan: D-8 would be successful in achieving its vision and objectives through partnership*

**M**r. Recep Tayyip Erdoğan, President of Turkey, met editors-in-chief of newspapers and television channels on 14 September 2014 in Istanbul. The issue of D-8 was discussed in the meeting.

President Erdoğan said that he would put fresh efforts to make the D-8 Organization successful in achieving its vision and objectives through partnership. He mentioned that the D-8 would be a mainstream inter-governmental Organization, not only to foster partnership among its Member States but also to work closely with other international and regional Organizations for collaborative partnership.

*President Erdoğan also said that this current situation of the Organization was to be revised and strengthened in terms of budget, personnel and other aspects in to order to give it a yet*

It may be mentioned that the D-8 was established at the initiative of Turkey in 1997. Leaders of Bangladesh, Egypt, Indonesia, Iran, Malaysia, Nigeria, Pakistan and Turkey formed the D-8 Organization for Economic Cooperation through the historic 'Istanbul Declaration'. The spirit of establishment of this inter-governmental entity entails economic cooperation through intensification of trade and commercial relations and enhanced participation in decision-making at international level. The common and shared belief as well as diversity among the Member States makes it a unique organization with opportunities as well as challenges. Turkey, being the key driver for establishment and nurturing of this unique organization, has always been a forerunner in furthering collaborative partnership and economic cooperation among member states to a new height.





*PM Hasina commended the work of D-8 and encouraged the Secretary-General to continue his pursuit of development cooperation*

## ***Prime Minister of Bangladesh reaffirmed commitment to the D-8***

**S**heikh Hasina, Prime Minister of Bangladesh, and one of the founding leaders of D-8, reaffirmed her commitment to the D-8. She expressed her firm attachment to the development of economic partnership in D-8 platform. Prime Minister mentioned this when she received Dr. Seyed Ali Mohammad Mousavi on 26 August 2014 at the Prime Minister's Office in Dhaka.

Dr. Mousavi expressed confidence that her dynamic and visionary leadership would consolidate her commitments towards the people of Bangladesh as well as bring about more prosperous changes in the country and beyond. He also mentioned that her very able and visionary statesmanship would take Bangladesh to a new height of excellence in all strata of

development. He expressed confidence that Bangladesh's engagement with the D-8 Organization for Economic Cooperation would continue to be more intensive than ever before and Bangladesh's role as the esteemed member of the Organization would be expanded to a level that may contribute to gaining maximum benefit from this forum for our peoples.

Dr. Mousavi informed the Prime Minister of the latest developments taking place within the Organization and conveyed that the Secretariat was working in full swing to implement the vision set by the Organization's leaders. He sought her support and guidance in furthering the common agenda to consolidate the partnership among the Member States.

**Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina thanked the Secretary-General for the update and assured him of all cooperation. She said that Bangladesh as the founding member of the Organization remained committed and active in furthering the vision and objectives of the Organization in order to contribute to the uplift of life and living standards of the peoples of the region. She commended the work of the Organization and encouraged the Secretary-General to continue his pursuit of development cooperation.**



Prime Minister Najib thanked the Secretary-General for the update and assured him of all cooperation

# *Malaysia always supportive of the D-8: Prime Minister of Malaysia*

**D**ato' Seri Najib bin Tun Abdul Razak, Prime Minister of Malaysia said that Malaysia had always remained committed to the D-8 and would continue to attach high importance. He hoped that the organization would be more proactive and forthcoming while he received D-8 Secretary-General on 19 May 2015 at the Prime Minister's Office in Putrajaya.

Dr. Mousavi apprised the Prime Minister of Malaysia of the latest developments taking place within the D-8 Organization and informed that the D-8 Secretariat was working hard to implement the vision set by the D-8 Organization's leaders. He sought his support and guidance in furthering the common agenda to consolidate the partnership and close cooperation among the D-8 Member States.

Dr. Mousavi expressed confidence that Malaysia's involvement with the D-8 Organization for Economic Cooperation would continue to be more intensive than before and Malaysia's role as the esteemed member of the Organization would be elevated to a level that may contribute to gaining the maximum benefit for the lives of the peoples.

Prime Minister Najib thanked the Secretary-General for the update and assured him of all cooperation. He informed that Malaysia has always been supportive of the D-8 in its development and remained committed and active in furthering the vision and objectives. He also underlined the importance of increasing and strengthening cooperation amongst member states, particularly in economy and trade.

# *D-8 Secretary-General received 'Strategy' Award from the President of Pakistan*



**D**r. Seyed Ali Mohammad Mousavi, the D-8 Secretary-General, received the 'Islamic World Istanbul Strategy' Award conferred upon the D-8 Organization for Economic Cooperation by Think Tanks Platform of Islamic Countries (ISTTP) as recognition of its institutional contribution and success. He received the award from the President of Pakistan, Mr. Mamnoon Hussain.

The Secretary-General expressed that the award would be inspiring in the endeavour to continuously seek further excellence and cooperative development. He added that this honour would

encourage pursuing continuous efforts for the well-being of all the Member States. He profoundly thanked the organisers for choosing the D-8 Organization for Economic Cooperation.

Mentionable, at the invitation of Mr. Süleyman Şensoy, Chairman, Think Tank Forum of the Islamic Countries (TASAM) and Senator Mushahid Hussain, Chairman, Defence Committee of the Senate of Pakistan, Dr. Seyed Ali Mohammad Mousavi, the D-8 Secretary-General, attended the 6th Think Tanks Forum of the Islamic Countries on Building Multi-Dimensional Security in the Islamic Countries in Islamabad on 07 March 2015.



*Malaysia as the founding member of D-8 remained committed and active in furthering the vision and objectives*

# ***Secretary-General calls on the Deputy Prime Minister of Malaysia***



**D**r. Seyed Ali Mohammad Mousavi called on Tan Sri Muhyiddin Yassin, Deputy Prime Minister of Malaysia on 3 September 2014 at the latter's Office in Putrajaya.

Dr. Mousavi updated the Deputy Prime Minister with developments within the D-8 Organization and conveyed that the D-8 Secretariat was working hard to implement the vision set by the D-8 Organization's leaders. He sought his support and guidance in furthering the common agenda to consolidate the partnership and close cooperation among the D-8 Member States.

The Deputy Prime Minister thanked the Secretary-General for the update and assured him of the support and said that Malaysia as the founding member of the Organization remained committed and active in furthering the vision and objectives of the D-8 Organization.

In addition to the call on Deputy Prime Minister, the Secretary-General also met the Minister of Agriculture, Minister of Transport and high officials of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Malaysia.



*D-8 Council of Foreign Ministers was held in New York by the attendance of the Member States.*

# *D-8 Council meeting held in the sideline of the UNGA for the first time*

**T**he meeting of D-8 Council of Foreign Ministers took place in the sideline of the 69th session of the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) in New York, USA on 25 September 2014 at the UN Headquarters. Mr. Sartaj Aziz, Adviser to the Prime Minister of Pakistan on Security and Foreign Affairs chaired the meeting and delegations from all the D-8 Member States were present.

The meeting reviewed and discussed the latest and most important developments held within the Developing Eight Organization for Economic Cooperation (D-8) as well as the short and long term goals, objectives and strategic course of action.

The meeting discussed, among others, future D-8 external relations subsequent to the Observer Status in the UNGA, outcome of the D-8 Eminent Persons Group (EPG) process and the 9th D-8 Summit. The D-8 Secretary-General presented the report of the EPG to the Council. He also apprised the Ministers of the latest developments on the upcoming 9th Summit scheduled in December 2014 in Turkey.

The Council took note of the important fact that with the completion of the first phase of its life-cycle by the 9th Summit in 2014 in Turkey, the second phase of the Organization would be a turning point to take the common agenda forward in a manner commensurate with the requirements for developments and the pace of change taking place within individual member states and the Organization as a whole. They discussed the best pursuit for the Organization for a smooth shift from its current state of a 'Policy coordinating body' to a mix of 'Policy coordination & Project implementation', in line with the Charter, the Roadmap of 2008-2018 and the Global Vision.

The Council discussed on the Summit and stressed the high importance for confirmation of the date and venue of the Summit to ensure maximum participation at the highest level. They agreed that a special Commission Meeting should be convened in Islamabad in the coming month before Summit to discuss the Summit outcome documents and other Summit related issues.



D-8 EPG was chaired by Deputy Prime Minister of Turkey, Mr. Numan Kurtulmuş



D-8 Eminent Persons Group (EPG) meets for the second round of discussion

## ***D-8 Eminent Persons Group (EPG) finalized recommendations for more dynamism and momentum***

The second meeting of the D-8 Eminent Persons Group (EPG) was convened in Istanbul from 08 to 09 September 2014. Eminent Persons from Bangladesh, Egypt, Indonesia, Iran, Malaysia, Nigeria, Pakistan and Turkey met to finalize their recommendations for more effectiveness of the Organization. The Eminent Persons discussed the outcome of the first meeting and subsequently engaged into detailed discussion on the finalization of the EPG report containing the set of recommendations for a more performing and efficient Organization. They finalized a comprehensive report containing a set of recommendations, both long- and short-run as well as general and specific. The report was received by the Council in its special session in the sideline of the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) in New York on 25 September 2014. It refers to, inter alia, the need for member states to be

serious and adhere to their commitment in furthering development cooperation in different areas of cooperation, priority areas in particular, limited physical and institutional infrastructure and resources such as budget, staffing etc., absence of institutional framework or incentive to involve private sector into the D-8 affairs, non-adherence to the legal instruments already concluded, need for own financing mechanism to further sectoral cooperation, inaction of Working Groups and Task Forces and lack of a comprehensive action plan. The Group came up with a set of actions based on the fundamental premise of constructive and cordial engagement by the Member States of the D-8 Organization.

*Some of the important recommendations made by the group are enumerated below:*

- *Immediate ratification of the Charter*
- *Set up of the institutional framework to incorporate private sectors in the areas of cooperation.*
- *Formation of a D-8 Business Council.*
- *Formation of an 'Investment Fund' or 'Trade & Development Bank' within the framework of the Organization.*
- *Increase in the regular budget as well as establishment of a Feasibility and General Purposes Fund (FGPF) for the D-8 and project/activity based on voluntary Funds in the budget framework.*
- *Preparation of the post-2014 Development Action Plan with specific time frame for implementation of programs.*
- *Coordinating role of the D-8 Member States in other international and regional organizations.*



Secretary-General calls on Mr. Abul Hassan Mahmood Ali, Foreign Minister of Bangladesh

## *Bangladesh renewed its pledge to deepen relations with D-8*

**D**-8 Secretary-General Dr. Seyed Al-Mohammad Mousavi called on Mr. Abul Hassan Mahmood Ali, Foreign Minister of Bangladesh on 25 August 2014 at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in Segun Bagicha.

Dr. Mousavi expressed confidence that Bangladesh's engagement with the D-8 Organization for Economic Cooperation would continue to be more intensive than ever before and Bangladesh's role as the esteemed member of the Organization would be expanded to a level that may contribute to gaining the maximum benefit from this forum for our peoples.

Dr. Mousavi informed the Foreign Minister of the latest developments taking

place within the Organization and conveyed that the Secretariat was working in full swing to implement the vision set by the Organization's leaders. He sought his support in furthering the common agenda to consolidate the partnership among the Member States. Secretary-General Mousavi invited Foreign Minister Mahmood Ali to the upcoming Council of Foreign Ministers scheduled in December 2014 in Turkey.

Foreign Minister Mahmood Ali thanked the Secretary-General for the update and assured him of all cooperation. He informed that Bangladesh as the founding member of the Organization remained committed and active in furthering the vision and objectives of the Organization in order to contribute to the uplift of life

and living standards of the peoples of the region.

Earlier, Secretary-General Mousavi called on Mr. Md. Shahriar Alam, State Minister for Foreign Affairs at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and informed him of the activities and developments taking place within the Organization. State Minister Alam appreciated the active role of the Secretary-General and commended his efforts in furthering the agenda of the Organization for the common benefit of the peoples.

State Minister Alam and Dr. Mousavi fondly recalled active role of the Prime Minister of the Bangladesh in establishing the Organization in 1997.

# Turkey committed to increasing capacity, efficiency and visibility of D-8



*D-8 Secretary-General received by the Foreign Minister of Turkey, Mr. Mevlüt Çavuşoğlu*

Turkey's Foreign Minister Mr. Mevlüt Çavuşoğlu reassured the country's commitment to increasing capacity, efficiency and visibility of D-8 Organization. He mentioned this when Dr. Seyed Ali Mohammad Mousavi, the D-8 Secretary-General, called on Mr. Mevlüt Çavuşoğlu, Foreign Minister of Turkey on 27 February 2015 at the latter's office in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in Ankara.

The two interlocutors held a very fruitful and effective discussion in a cordial environment. Dr. Mousavi congratulated the Minister once again on his assumption

of the high office of Foreign Minister and expressed confidence that his versatile and dynamic leadership would pave the way for successful foreign policy implementation of the country.

The D-8 Secretary-General reiterated his confidence that Turkey's engagement with the D-8 Organization for Economic Cooperation would continue to be more intensive and reach a new height.

Foreign Minister Çavuşoğlu thanked the D-8 Secretary-General for the update and assured him of all cooperation. He

informed that Turkey as the founding member of the Organization remained committed and active in furthering the vision and objectives of the Organization in order to contribute to the uplift of life and living standards of the peoples of the region. He underscored the need for new impetus in order to put the Organization to a new height with its expanded vision. He appreciated the active role of the Secretary-General and commended his efforts in furthering the agenda of the Organization for the common benefit of the peoples.





*D-8 Secretary-General called on Foreign Adviser of Pakistan, Mr. Sartaj Aziz.*

# *Pakistan as D-8 Chair to focus on increasing intra-trade*

**D**r. Seyed Ali Mohammad Mousavi, the D-8 Secretary-General, called on Mr. Sartaj Aziz, Adviser to the Prime Minister on National Security & Foreign Affairs of Pakistan on 06th March 2015 at the latter's office in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in Islamabad.

The two interlocutors held a very fruitful and effective discussion in a cordial environment. Dr. Mousavi reiterated his confidence that Pakistan's engagement with the D-8 Organization for Economic Cooperation would continue to be more intensive than ever before and Pakistan's role as the current Chair and founding member of the Organization would be expanded to a level that may contribute to gaining the maximum benefit from this

forum for our peoples.

Dr. Mousavi informed the Adviser of the latest developments taking place within the Organization and conveyed that the Secretariat was working in full swing to implement the vision set by the Organization's leaders. He sought his support in furthering common agenda to consolidate the partnership among the Member States.

Foreign Adviser Aziz thanked the D-8 Secretary-General for the update and assured him of all cooperation. He informed that Pakistan remained committed and active in furthering the vision and objectives of the Organization in order to contribute to the uplift of life

and living standards of the peoples of the region. He underscored the need for new impetus in order to put the Organization to a new height with its expanded vision. He appreciated the active role of the Secretary-General and commended his efforts in furthering the agenda of the Organization for the common benefit of the peoples.

The same day, Dr. Mousavi called on Mr. Aizaz Ahmad Chaudhry, Foreign Secretary of Pakistan and informed him of the activities and developments taking place within the Organization. He also held meeting with the D-8 Commissioner of Pakistan.

# Malaysia Reaffirms Commitments to Forge Closer Cooperation with D-8



Secretary General called on the Minister of Foreign Affairs of Malaysia, Dato' Sri Anifah Aman,

**D**r. Seyed Ali Mohammad Mousavi, D-8 Secretary-General, called on Dato' Sri Anifah Aman, Minister of Foreign Affairs of Malaysia on 20 May 2015 at Putrajaya.

Dr. Mousavi updated the Minister with the latest developments particularly the five priority areas of cooperation namely trade, industry and SMEs, agriculture and food security, transportation and energy. He expressed confidence that Malaysia's commitment with the D-8 Organization for Economic Cooperation would continue to be more intensive than ever before and Malaysia might consider organizing and hosting more sectoral meetings

related to these five priority sectors.

Dr. Mousavi also viewed that continuous support from the Member States in furthering the common agenda is of prime necessity.

The Minister thanked the Secretary-General for the update and assured him of Malaysia's engagement in furthering the vision and objectives of the Organization in order to contribute towards realization of the goal and target set by the leaders of the D-8 Organization.



*Secretary-General Mousavi and Minister held a very fruitful and effective discussion in a cordial environment*

## ***Pakistan to host next Agriculture Ministers' meeting: Minister Pakistan***

**P**akistan would host next Ministerial meeting on agriculture and food security in December 2015: Mr. Sikandar Hayat Khan Bosan, Federal Minister of National Food Security and Research confirmed when Dr. Seyed Ali Mohammad Mousavi, the D-8 Secretary-General, called on him on 06 March 2015 at the latter's office in the Ministry of National Food Security and Research in Islamabad.

The two interlocutors held a very fruitful and effective discussion in a cordial environment. Dr. Mousavi informed the Adviser of the latest developments taking place within the Organization and conveyed that the Secretariat was

working in full swing to implement the vision set by the Organization's leaders. He updated the Minister with the outcome of recently held 5th Agricultural Ministerial Meeting in Istanbul and conveyed that the 'Istanbul Initiative' adopted in the Ministerial plenary outlined short and long term goals and strategies the D-8 Organization would pursue in order to achieve its objectives. He added that the Task Forces and Senior Officials must continue with their untiring efforts till the next Ministerial session.

He sought his support in furthering common agenda to consolidate the partnership among the Member States.

Minister Bosan warmly appreciated the Secretary-General and assured him of all cooperation. He informed him of the latest policy developments within Pakistan and shared some success stories in different sub-sectors of Agricultural production and export. He mentioned that Pakistan had a great potential to tap into in terms of agricultural production and expressed keen interest in expanding cooperation within the framework of D-8. He also assured the Secretary-General of his utmost positive consideration on the next Ministerial session. He suggested that the next Ministerial meeting should elaborately discuss, inter alia, food security and food safety framework within the D-8.



Secretary-General called on Civil Aviation and Tourism Minister, Mr. Rashed Khan Menon

## *Bangladesh reassured its full-fledged support to D-8*



Secretary-General called on Commerce Minister, Mr. Tofail Ahmed

**D**-8 Secretary-General Dr. Seyed AliMohammad Mousavi met several Ministers, including Mr. Abul Maal A Muhith, Minister for Finance, Mr. Tofail Ahmed, Minister for Commerce, Mr. Amir Hossain Amu, Minister for Industries and Mr. Rashed Khan Menon,

Minister for Civil Aviation & Tourism during his visit to Dhaka in August 2014.

During his calls on, Dr. Mousavi expressed confidence that Bangladesh would continue to engage in different areas of cooperation in order to meet the

targeted goal of US\$ 500 billion intra-trade by 2018, as set by Organization's leadership.

Dr. Mousavi also informed the Ministers of the latest developments on Trade, Industry, SMEs, Civil Aviation and



Secretary-General was received by the Finance Minister, Mr. Abul Maal A Muhith

Tourism sectors taking place within the Organization and conveyed that the Secretariat was working in full swing to implement the vision set by the Organization's leaders. He sought the Ministers' support in furthering the common agenda to consolidate the partnership among the Member States.

Then Ministers thanked the Secretary-General for the update and assured him of all cooperation. They informed that Bangladesh as the founding member of the Organization remained committed and active in furthering the vision and objectives of the Organization in order to contribute to the uplift of life and living standards of the peoples of the region.



Secretary-General was received by Industries Minister, Mr. Amir Hossain Amu

# 5<sup>th</sup> D-8 Agricultural Ministerial Meeting held in Istanbul



*The meetings were widely attended by the high dignitaries and delegations from the D-8 Member States as well as international and regional organizations*

**T**he 5th D-8 Agriculture Ministers' meeting was held on Wednesday, 03 December 2014, at Le Meridian in Istanbul, Turkey. The meeting was preceded by 5 (five) Working Group meetings on different sub-sectors in agricultural cooperation and Senior Officials' Meeting on Agriculture. The meetings were widely attended by the high dignitaries and delegations from the D-8 Member States as well as international and regional organizations.

Minister of Agriculture, Food and Livestock of Turkey, D-8 Secretary-General, Deputy Minister of Agriculture of Iran, Deputy Minister of Agriculture of Malaysia, Minister of State of Agriculture of Nigeria, AARDO Secretary-General were, among others, present in the Ministerial session on Wednesday.

Dr. Seyed Ali Mohammad Mousavi, the D-8 Secretary-General, stated in his statement that agriculture was an extremely crucial and important sector

having pervasive impact on the economy and livelihood of the majority of the peoples of the D-8 Member States and therefore, this occasion should be utilized with maximum efficacy and productivity in order for the D-8 Organization to achieve objective outcome that may positively contribute to the life of the people of the region. He also stated that the average contribution of all D-8 Member States' agricultural sector to the GDP growth was around 20% by the end of 2013. He mentioned that there was no room for

complacency though; the Organization should strive to achieve the minimum target of 25% contribution to the GDP by agricultural sector.

Dr. Mousavi thanked the Government of the Republic of Turkey, the Ministry of Food, Agriculture and Livestock in particular, for all the arrangements made for the meetings.

*Mr. Mehdi Eker, Minister of Agriculture, Food and Livestock of Turkey, underscored the importance of enlarging agricultural zones and called for joint action on food security. He said that more than 30 percent of the total workforce in the D-8 is linked with the agricultural sector.*

The most significant element for ensuring overall security and welfare in the countries, Minister Eker pointed out, is food security and population of D-8 states covers nearly 14% of world population. Minister Eker added "More than 30 percent of the total workforce in the D-8 is linked with the agricultural sector. However, contribution of agriculture sector to countries' economy is limited. This is because of low productivity in agriculture."

Stating that food and nutrition is the most fundamental element of humankind, Minister Eker mentioned about the challenges to meet this need due to problems in food access and delivery. The factors such as increase in world population, movements from rural area to urban, limited sources of soil and water, global warming and international migration cover a part of these challenges on food security problem, Mr. Eker added.

African-Asian Rural Development Organization (AARDO), International Center for Agricultural Research in the Dry Areas (ICARDA), Representation of Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) in Turkey, Representation of Islamic Development Bank (IDB) in Istanbul and delegation of Somalia attended the event as Observers.

The Ministerial session adopted a Ministerial Declaration namely, 'Istanbul Initiative', reaffirming their commitment to give priorities in areas such as, maintaining food availability and affordability, advancing sustainable agricultural-led growth, increasing food supplies, sharing food reserves in the larger producing countries and strengthening the income of small farmers, fishermen and rural communities.



*Mr. Mehdi Eker, Minister of Agriculture of Turkey, underscored the importance of enlarging agricultural zones and called for joint action on food security*

# *D-8 Industry Ministers met on the occasion of the 4th D-8 Ministerial meeting on Industry in Tehran*



*The meetings were widely attended by the high dignitaries and delegations from the D-8 Member States as well as international and regional organizations.*

**4**<sup>th</sup> D-8 Ministerial Meeting on Industry was successfully held on 28 January 2015 in Tehran, Iran with high-level participation from the Member Countries.

Dr. Seyed Ali Mohammad Mousavi, the D-8 Secretary-General, expressed his appreciation to the Islamic Republic of

Iran, especially to the Ministry of Industry, Mine and Trade of Iran for hospitality extended to the delegations as well as excellent arrangements made to host the meeting.

Dr. Mousavi mentioned that the Ministerial meeting would be more fruitful if the follow-up works are effectively pursued

in terms of implementing the decisions in the Ministerial forum. He also stressed that the Member States utilize their existing capacities to initiate feasibility studies and explore the potential to implement feasible projects with a view to concretizing industrial cooperation.

The D-8 Secretary-General emphasized





Secretary-General Mousavi: It is high time to realize the policies into tangible project.

that a harmonized action on implementation of projects and commitment towards collective partnership were the pre-requisites for success; implementation of projects and close cooperation with government and private sector are vital not only for the industrial cooperation but also for other areas of cooperation.

He stressed that the Organization developed policies and cooperative framework during the past years since establishment. Now, it is high time that the Organization moved forward to implement the decisions taken in the previous meetings and this meeting in order to realize the policies into tangible actions.

Turkey's Industry Minister Fikri Işık called on his D-8 counterparts to participate in creating a joint venture car brand. "We need to reflect this cooperation between member states with tangible projects and move it to further levels. As Turkey we have started

a domestic car project, and I invite member states to take more initiatives to develop our cooperation," Minister Işık added.

*Iran's Minister of Industry Mohammad Reza Ne'matzadeh said that through proper planning and implementing previously signed agreement, the D-8 industry ministers should culminate in specific results in the economic sphere for the member states. Minister Ne'matzadeh stated that 14 specialized working groups have been formed to implement goals of the D8 meeting in the industrial sector. He emphasized the need to offer applicable suggestions by the working groups, adding that setting targets in developing plans will provide a bright outlook of implementing the plans.*

#### Task Forces under D-8 Industrial Cooperation

1. Automotive
2. Energy
3. Food Industry
4. Technology Cooperation
5. Petrochemicals
6. Cement
7. Iron-steel
8. Textile
9. Standardization and Accreditation
10. Small Medium Enterprises (SMEs)
11. Electronics and ICT
12. Machinery
13. Ceramic and Glass

# Turkey reassures full support to implement tangible D-8 Project



D-8 Secretary-General called on Science, Industry and Technology Minister of Turkey

**D**-8 Secretary-General, Seyed Ali Mohammad Mousavi paid a visit to Mr. Fikri Işık, Minister of Science, Industry and Technology of Turkey on 31 October 2014 in Ankara.

Secretary-General recalled that Turkey as a founding member would continue to be more intensive than ever before. He discussed several issues on industry which is one of the D-8 Priority Areas. Secretary-General said that industry played a significant role in D-8 economies and is the key generator of employment, income and innovation.

He informed the Minister of the latest developments on Industry and SMEs

sector taking place within the D-8. He also underlined that D-8 was moving towards implementation of policies in the next phase of its life cycle and it is very keen to undertake common projects that would directly benefit people to improve their economic standard.

At this juncture Secretary-General sought the Minister's support in furthering common agenda to enhance cooperation in the industry sector and come out with tangible projects for implementation. He underlined the importance active of participation of the private sector in the industrial cooperation meeting.

Minister Işık thanked the Secretary-

General for the update and assured him of all cooperation. He informed that Turkey as the founding member of the Organization remained committed and active in furthering the vision and objectives. He also said that there are huge human and natural resources in the D-8 countries. "D-8 can emerge as a powerful organization through proper utilization of the resources", he added. The Minister also assured his full support and cooperation to strengthen cooperation in the industry sector and come out with the tangible projects for implementation.



Secretary-General Mousavi, gave an outline of cooperation in science, technology and innovation within the D-8 and focused on broadening the scope of cooperation between the NAM and the D-8

# Secretary-General underscored need to expand cooperation with NAM

At the invitation of the Minister of Science, Research and Technology of I.R. Iran, Dr. Seyed Ali Mohammad Mousavi, D-8 Secretary-General, attended the Ministerial Conference of Science, Technology and Innovation of Non-Aligned Movement (NAM) on 23-24 February 2015 in Tehran, Iran.

Dr. Mousavi, in his speech at this meeting, gave an outline of cooperation in science, technology and innovation within the D-8 framework and focused on broadening the scope of cooperation between the NAM and the D-8. He informed the audience of the current development

taking place within the D-8 Organization and also gave a background of D-8 and highlighted the role and engagement of the Organization as a prominent inter-governmental entity for economic development as envisaged by its leaders. He said that D-8 provided a good platform for promoting South-South Cooperation. He mentioned that D-8 has marked significant progress over the period of 17 years since its establishment in the areas such as science and human development, industry, trade, transportation etc. and thus had contributed to the economic uplift of the people of the region. He also pointed to the fact that states are increasingly mo-

ving toward regional cooperation because of the commonalities they share and of effectiveness in cooperation

The D-8 Secretary-General underscored the need for academic excellence that was once a glory of this region. He referred to the D-8 effort in establishing unique technology transfer forum to facilitate technology availability as well as the D-8 International University in Iran in order to nurture brilliant minds. He stressed on the need for investment and use of technology, innovation and scientific excellence and hoped to work closely with NAM.

# Malaysia already implemented D-8 Preferential Trade Agreement (PTA)



Secretary General called on Minister of Trade and Industry of Malaysia

**D**r. Seyed Ali Mohammad Mousavi, D-8 Secretary-General, called on Datuk Mustapha bin Mohamad, Hon. Minister of Trade and Industry of Malaysia (MITI) on 20 May 2015 at the MITI's office in Kuala Lumpur.

Dr. Mousavi updated the Minister with the latest progress taking place within the D-8 Organization, particularly trade, industry and SMEs cooperation. The Secretary-General expressed confidence that Malaysia's commitment with the D-8 Organization for Economic Cooperation

would continue to be more intensive than ever before and the country might consider organizing and hosting sectoral meetings. He also informed that it was crucial to expedite implementation of PTA among the Member States and this required supports from the Member States in furthering the common agenda to consolidate the partnership among the Member States.

The MITI Minister Mustapha thanked the Secretary-General for the update and assured him of all cooperation. He said

that Malaysia had already completed internal procedure to implement the D-8 Preferential Trade Agreements (PTA) to reach the aim to increase the intra-trade volume among D-8 countries to reach \$500 billion until 2018. He also informed that Malaysia as one of the founding members of the D-8 Organization remained committed in furthering the vision and objectives of the Organization in order to contribute to the uplift of life and living standards of the peoples of the region.

# 36<sup>th</sup> session of D-8 Commission held in Islamabad



The Commission meets twice each year in accordance with the directives stipulated in the D-8 Charter

**3**6<sup>th</sup> regular session of the D-8 Commission was held in Islamabad, Pakistan from 4-5 June 2015 with the Chairmanship of Pakistan. Commissioners and Heads of delegation from all the D-8 Member States took part in the 2-day session. Mr. Syed Tariq Fatemi, Special Assistant to the Prime Minister on Foreign Affairs inaugurated the meeting and made opening statement.

Mr. Fatemi expressed confidence that the Commission would review the progress made since the last Commission in June

2014 in Islamabad and take necessary measures to expedite the process of cooperative partnership to a new height. He assured that Pakistan will play its due role in realizing the objectives of the organization agreed upon during the previous meetings. He also said that Pakistan is making sincere efforts to make D-8 forum more vibrant, effective, and energetic for the benefit of the member states.

The Commission discussed progress in regular activities of the Organization,

including finalizing the Calendar of Events for 2015, consideration on the update of legal documents, status and future course on the EPG recommendations, next Council meetings, the Summit etc.

It may be mentioned that the Commission is the Executive body of the Principal Organ of the D-8 Organization. The Commission meets twice each year in accordance with the directives stipulated in the D-8 Charter. It is presided over by the Chairman-in-Office.

# Secretary-General met D-8 Commissioner of Turkey

**D**r. Seyed Ali Mohammad Mousavi met Ambassador Ayşe Sinirlioglu, the new D-8 Commissioner of Turkey in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs on 10 October 2014.

Dr. Mousavi congratulated Ambassador Sinirlioglu for her assumption into the office and her new role as the D-8 Commissioner. He discussed the D-8 activities and achievements with her and shared his views.

Ambassador Sinirlioglu welcomed Secretary-General and thanked him for the achievements of the Secretariat especially during his tenure. She mentioned that the D-8 had special significance to Turkey and as host of the D-8 Secretariat, Turkey would put more efforts to reinvigorate the Organization. She agreed with Secretary-General that the Organization must accelerate its efforts in order to reach the intra-trade target of US\$ 500 billion set by the D-8 Leaders in the Roadmap at Kuala Lumpur Summit. Although trade is high, it is not reflective of the real potentials of the D-8 countries.

They agreed that the D-8 was moving towards implementation of policies in the next phase of its life cycle and Turkey had a more significant role to put the policies and agreements into action during its Chairmanship in the coming years. They underscored the need for projects that would directly benefit people to improve their economic standard.

They discussed the importance of the



Secretary-General Mousavi congratulated Ambassador Sinirlioglu for her assumption into the office and her new role as the D-8 Commissioner

D-8 Observer status in the United Nations General Assembly which would add to the image of the Organization. They also emphasized more actions to improve visibility and image of the Organization. Secretary-General invited the Commissioner of Turkey to take part at the special session of the Commission

to be held on 6-7 November 2014 in Istanbul. They also discussed the 9th Summit which is scheduled to be held in December 2014. The Commissioner of Turkey informed that the Government is working to finalize the date and venue of the Summit and would announce the same at the soonest.

# Secretary-General met D-8 Commissioner of Malaysia



Secretary-General Mousavi and Ambassador Zainal Abidin, D-8 Commissioners of Malaysia

**D**r. Seyed AliMohammad Mousavi met Ambassador Zainal Abidin, D-8 Commissioners of Malaysia, on 20 May 2015 at Putrajaya.

Dr. Mousavi updated the Commissioner with latest developments taking place within the D-8 Organization, particularly five priority areas of cooperation namely trade, industry and SMEs, agriculture and food security, transportation and energy. The Secretary-General also hoped that the Commissioner would be able to attend the upcoming 36th D-8 Commission in June

2015 in Islamabad and help advance the agenda ahead. He underscored the crucial role of the D-8 Commissioners as the Executive organ of the Organization.

Ambassador Zainal thanked the Secretary-General for the update and assured him that Malaysia remained committed in the D-8 Organization and would contribute towards realization of the goal and target set by the Leaders of the D-8 Organization for the benefit of the people in the region.

# *D-8 Secretary-General received by the President of Turkey in Republic Day ceremony*

**D**r. Seyed Ali Mohammad Mousavi attended the ceremony on the occasion of the 91st anniversary of the proclamation of the Republic of Turkey.

Hosted by the President of Turkey, Mr. Recep Tayyip Erdogan, the ceremony

was attended by Parliament Speaker Cemil Cicek, Prime Minister Ahmet Davutoglu, Foreign Minister Mevlüt Çavuşoğlu, as well as other cabinet ministers, politicians, military officials, bureaucrats, artists, scientists, business figures and diplomats.

Secretary-General Mousavi congratulated President Erdogan on the occasion of the Republic Day. He also expressed high hope that Turkey's engagement with the D-8 would be more intensive than ever before during his Presidency.



*Secretary-General Mousavi congratulated President Erdogan on the occasion of the Republic Day*



# *D-8 Ambassadors Received by Agriculture Minister of Turkey*

**M**r. Mehmet Mehdi Eker, Agriculture Minister of Turkey, invited Ambassadors of the Developing Eight (D-8) countries on 11 September 2014 for exchange of views and briefing on the upcoming D-8 Ministerial meeting on Agriculture. The Secretary-General of the D-8 and all the resident D-8 Ambassadors attended the program. Minister Eker informed the Ambassadors of the upcoming 5th D-8 Ministerial Meeting on

Agriculture scheduled on 15-17 October 2014 in Istanbul.

Dr. Mousavi informed the Minister and Ambassadors of the recent activities and developments of D-8 agriculture cooperation. He also highlighted upcoming D-8 meetings to be held in Turkey with particular reference to the 9th D8 Summit which will be held in December 2014.



*Minister Eker with Ambassadors of the D-8 Member States*

# *D-8 advances aviation cooperation*



*Eighth D-8 meeting of Directors-General of Civil Aviation was held in Bangladesh*

**B**angladesh hosted eighth D-8 meeting of Directors-General and Expert Working Group on Civil Aviation from 24-25 August 2014 in Dhaka. Attendance by the Heads of Civil Aviation and high-level participation from the D-8 member states made the event more successful and result-oriented. Transportation, civil aviation in particular, is one of the priority sectors identified in the D-8 Roadmap for the economic uplift of the peoples of the region.

The aviation industry has significant inter-connected role in the thriving of the tourism industry, service sector and the growing global economy. The D-8 leaders envisaged closer and intense cooperation in this sector among the member states and agreed on the framework for engagement.

*The Meeting discussed current development of D-8 civil aviation cooperation, particularly the works of Task forces, states of capacity building as well as current development of Memorandum of Cooperation between D-8 and ICAO. The meeting also assessed and evaluated the updates the report of Task Forces on Air Navigation & Air Traffic Management, Commercial Issues, Safety & Security and Training & Capacity Building. Individual Task Forces on each of these issues apprised the meeting of the developments so far made.*

The next day was scheduled for presentation from Civil Aviation Administration on States Capability on training related to safety & security oversight, ANS & ATM, Airworthiness

and other areas to develop data base of member states.

The D-8 civil aviation cooperation has proved to be very promising. With a population of around 1 billion, which is 15% of global population, there is abundance of technical and qualified human resources and opportunities available in this field among D-8 community. According to the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO), air passengers carried in both domestic and international sectors of air carriers reached around 250 million people in 2013 in D-8 countries, of which around 34% was contributed by Indonesia, followed by a 30% lead by Turkey.



*Attendance by the Heads of Civil Aviation and high-level participation from the D-8 member states made the event more successful and result-oriented*

## *Civil aviation experts met for 9<sup>th</sup> DGCA in Kuala Lumpur*

**M**alaysia hosted 9th D-8 meeting of Directors-General and Expert Working Group on Civil Aviation (DGCA) from 18-19 May 2015 in Kuala Lumpur. Attendance by the Heads of Civil Aviation and high-level participation from the D-8 member states made the event more successful and result-oriented.

Dr. Seyed AliMohammad Mousavi, D-8 Secretary-General, called upon the Heads of the DGCA to ensure continuity of future work of the D-8 Civil Aviation. He underscored the need for critical assessment of past performance, action plan and implementation of programs under the framework of the MOU on

civil aviation sign among the D-8 Member States in year 2007. He also emphasized the need for projects with specific time frame for implementation.

The meeting discussed, among others, Multilateral Air Services Agreement among D-8 Member States. Dr. Mousavi expressed confidence that the discussion on this agreement would pave the way forward for final outcome document. The meeting also discussed effective linkage between task forces in the areas of safety and security, capacity building, commercial issues and air services management.

# *D-8 to consolidate fertilizer cooperation through private sector collaboration*



*D-8 to consolidate fertilizer cooperation through private sector collaboration*

**4**<sup>th</sup> Ad Hoc Meeting to Consider the Formation of D-8 Fertilizer Association (D8FA) was held in Dhaka on 03-04 April 2015. Delegates from Bangladesh, Iran, Malaysia and Turkey attended the 2-day meeting.

The objective of this meeting was to update status of production, distribution and trading of fertilizers in D-8 Member States as well as to finalize establishment of trade Consortium on Fertilizers. Delegations from Member States exchanged views and shared information on the importance of production, distribution, trade, research and development on fertilizers.

The Meeting explored opportunities at private sector level to expand cooperation through Business-to-Business (B2B)

relations with a view to boosting volume, variety and fields of fertilizer trade and also reviewed the documents related to the establishment of D-8 Fertilizer Association (D8FA)- a management body to manage commerce, marketing research, fertilizer production and trade among Member States.

The Meeting reviewed and finalized the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) and the Articles of Incorporation on D8 Fertilizer Association (D8FA).

Agriculture provides the basis of subsistence for the population by production of food and raw materials. This sector constitutes a large share of national output and employs a majority of the labor force in most developing countries.

# *D-8 enhanced its fertilizer cooperation through private sector collaboration*



Participants from fertilizer stakeholders of the D-8 member states attended the 2-day meeting.

**M**alaysia hosted 3rd Ad Hoc Meeting to Consider the Formation of D-8 Fertilizer Association (D8FA) on 9-10 October 2014 in Kuala Lumpur. Participants from Bangladesh, Iran and Malaysia fertilizer stakeholders of the D-8 member states attended the 2-day meeting. For many developing countries in the world, including D-8 as one of economic grouping, fertilizer availability and affordability are critical to increasing agriculture production.

Taking into account the progressing of fertilizer utilization and awareness of the food system transformation in D-8 countries, this meeting underscored the needs for strengthening and energizing collective efforts in private sector level to achieve self-reliance and self-sufficiency at the D-8 national level in production, distribution and trade of fertilizer.

The objective of the event was to engage fertilizer stakeholder from private sector entity with more good practices and collaboration so that the industry could provide a good start for the further development of fertilizer sector.

The Meeting explored opportunities at private sector level as well as expand connections and cooperation, including promoting the establishment of a joint management body of D8FA, initiating a comprehensive business plan for further cooperation, starting business-to-business (B2B) collaboration among D-8 countries, utilizing the D8FA website for sharing information as well as the appointment of national Focal Point for D8FA.



Participants from the D-8 Member States of Indonesia, Iran, Malaysia, Nigeria, Pakistan and Turkey attended the program.

# *D-8 Newborn Resuscitation Programme to benefit D-8 member states in capacity development*

**T**urkey hosted the Evaluation Meeting for D-8 Countries on Newborn Resuscitation Programme, Breast Milk Trainings and Maternal-Child Health from 10th till 14th November 2014 in Ankara. Participants from the D-8 Member States of Indonesia, Iran, Malaysia, Nigeria, Pakistan and Turkey attended the program.

This evaluation meeting is a unique initiative to accelerate the joint efforts toward attainment of common development objectives. Health is one of the areas of cooperation within the D-8 Organization, as envisaged in the D-8 Roadmap.

The 4-day program would include discussion, among others, on steps for resuscitation, positive pressure ventilation, breast compression, endotracheal intubation and laryngeal mask, drugs, resuscitation of preterm babies, lactating in Turkey and lactating process, specifications of breast milk, nutrition of sick

and low-birth-weight babies, insufficient milk, maternal-child health and programs carried out in Turkey etc.

The program had been designed in such manner as participants may share their best medical practices, experiences and interact among themselves with ease and cordiality. The particular importance to give increased attention to timely and effective resuscitation process, breast-feeding and nutritional care immediately after birth to both mother and the newborn has been sequentially touched upon in the programme for maximum efficacy. It is expected that the meeting would benefit the participants to effectively carry out their work.

This timely initiative of the Ministry of Health of Turkey would help the D-8 attain its development objectives by strengthening the joint efforts.

# *First D-8 meeting on Rural Women Empowerment held*



*The meeting discussed the progress made by the D-8 Member States in Rural Development*

**T**he D-8 Meeting on Rural Women Empowerment was inaugurated with participation from Bangladesh, Egypt, Indonesia, Malaysia, Pakistan and Turkey and some international organizations namely, APRACA, UNDP, UNICO, ECO, UNID and FAO on 17 November 2014 in Tehran, Iran.

Dr. Mollaverdi, Vice President of Women and Family Affairs of Iran, Mr. Hajiya Zainab Maina, Minister of Women Affairs and Social Development of Federal Republic of Nigeria, Dr. Talebi, Chairman and CEO of the Agriculture Bank (the host), Mr. Bizmark, the D-8 Commissioner of Iran, and Dr. Mousavi, the D-8 Secretary-General were among the dignitaries present during the inauguration of the event.

The dignitaries delivered their statements in the opening ceremony and afterwards, in course of the proceedings of the

meeting, the Agenda was adopted and Nigeria was elected as Rapporteur.

The meeting, in its two-day course, discussed the progress made by the D-8 Member States in Rural Development as well as exchange experiences, best practices, rural women employment, job creation, access to information through internet infrastructure and banking with better financing package and capacity building schemes etc.

The meeting was a very good occasion for the D-8 institutions working in rural development to work together and create mutual collaboration between D-8 governments and private sectors in order to enhance the role and productivity of our rural women, reinforce initiatives for rural areas development and promote further prosperity, equity, and justice.

# *Nigeria Hosted SMEs Governmental Bodies Meeting*



**5**th SMEs Governmental Bodies Meeting was held on 18-19 November 2014 in Abuja, Nigeria. The meeting was attended by delegates from Egypt, Indonesia, Iran, Nigeria, Pakistan and Turkey.

Participants discussed, among others, the status of draft MoU on SMEs and underscored the need to finalize it soon.

They also discussed financial and technological challenges of SMEs, Promotion of sustainable manufacturing and innovation in small enterprises, role of government in sustainable

development through Green SMEs and recommended more private sector involvement in the development of MSMEs, upgrading of database and statistics, developing an eco-system that links government bodies, higher institutions and SMEs to stimulate appropriate policy outputs, encouraging technology on recycling & re-use of waste, increasing buy-in through effective sensitization on SMEs products, effective government intervention on interest rates, need for a stronger synergy between Research and Development Institutions, accelerating establishment of Industrial Parks as agreed by member countries etc.





Participants from the D-8 Member States of Egypt, Indonesia, Iran, Malaysia, Nigeria, Pakistan and Turkey attended the program

## 2nd D-8 TTEN meeting held in Abuja

**N**igeria hosted 2nd High Council Meeting of D-8 Technology Transfer and Exchange Network (TTEN) from 9th till 10th December 2014 in Abuja. Participants from the D-8 Member States of Egypt, Indonesia, Iran, Malaysia, Nigeria, Pakistan and Turkey attended the program.

Minister of Industry, Trade & Investment and Minister, Federal Ministry of Science & Technology of Nigeria were, among others, present in the inauguration of the event.

This meeting is the sequel of the first meeting of the D-8 TTEN, which was successfully held on 7-9 October 2013 in Tehran. In the first meeting, the delegates put their effort to lay a tangible foundation for D-8 TTEN cooperation,

including the inauguration of D-8 TTEN Secretariat based in Pardis Technology Park in Tehran as well as the D-8 TTEN website. The 2nd meeting made strategic assessment, analysis and review of the state of D-8 TTEN cooperation, with particular emphasis on the identification of technology requests and technology offers from the D-8 Member States in order to inter-connect or develop database for technology products, technology services, technology demands, and commercialized technology of the D-8 Member States in an integrated internet-based system.

The meeting underscored the primary need to operationalize the TTEN website in order to implement the virtual interface among the public and private entities

both within and outside the D-8 member States.

The 2-day program included discussion, among others, on steps for sharing of experiences and practices, Challenges and Discussions of Scientific and Technological Capabilities of D-8 Member Countries, devising efficacious and action-oriented strategies, institutional visits etc.

This timely initiative of the Government of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, National Office for Technology Acquisition and Promotion (NOTAP) in particular, would help the D-8 attain its development objectives by strengthening the joint efforts.

# *D-8 University to be established in Iran*



Islamic Azad University and the D-8 have signed a Letter of Intent (LoI) on 28 January 2015

In order to establish the D-8 University in Iran with a view to increasing economic and scientific cooperation among the D-8 Member States, Islamic Azad University and the D-8 have signed a Letter of Intent (LoI) on 28 January 2015 on the occasion of the 4th D-8 Ministerial Meeting on Industry.

Establishment of the D-8 University will be a significant forward step in the development of human resources within the D-8 Member States and Islamic Azad University, with its exceptional standard of education, has a lot to offer. The D-8 Secretary-General, Dr. Seyed AliMohammad Mousavi explained the purpose of this initiative to improve scientific, research and technology

cooperation among the D-8 countries. He emphasized that higher education institutions play a pivotal role in imparting education and bringing about economic and social changes in any society. Dr. Mousavi underlined that D-8 Member States need to improve educational standards and overcome challenges in higher education, science, technology, research and innovation.

*“D-8 aims at making economic development in the Member States. Universities being the centres of excellence will create grounds to promote economy. With the initiative of the Islamic Azad University, D-8 University will be established in Iran”, Dr. Mousavi added.*

Mr. Seyed Javad Angaji, Director-General of the Islamic Azad University said that establishing a university had been Iran's commitment since the last five years; “One billion population and large young proportion in the D-8 countries can provide excellent ground and opportunity to improve scientific and educational cooperation among the Member States,” he added.

“Islamic Azad University has 1.7 million students nationwide, who attend courses in 420 branches of the University across the country. This provides for the opportunity for the Islamic Azad University to sign the LoI and be part of large-scale cooperation”, Mr Angaji emphasized.



The meeting was inaugurated by Hon. Mr. Rana Tanwer Hussain, Minister of Science and Technology of Pakistan

# *D-8 to put joint efforts in harmonizing halal standard*

**P**akistan hosted 1<sup>st</sup> Halal Sector Development meeting on 27-28 April 2015 in Islamabad with the theme of 'Harmonizing Halal Standard-Let's do it together'. Participants from Bangladesh, Indonesia, Iran, Malaysia, Pakistan and Turkey attended the meeting. This meeting laid tangible foundation for D-8 Halal Sector cooperation and explored the potential of Halal market.

The meeting was inaugurated by Mr. Rana Tanwer Hussain, Minister of Science and Technology of Pakistan. In his key note address, Mr. Hussain mentioned the potential of the Halal industry.

The meeting made strategic assessment and analysis with particular emphasis on harmonization of halal standards, halal certification toward Mutual Recognition Agreement among the

D-8 Member States. The D-8 Member States would also develop database on halal products, standard codes and commercialize halal products among the D-8 Member States and for the global market.

The two-day meeting included discussion, presentation of the country report, sharing of experiences and best practices among the D-8 Member States. Among other strategies in harmonizing the Halal Standard, the meeting discussed Halal Standard of the OIC Countries as a guideline for the D-8 Member States.

The global Halal industry is estimated to be worth around USD 2.3 trillion (excluding Islamic finance) by the end of 2014. Growing at an estimated annual rate of 20%, the industry is valued at about USD 560 billion a year, making it one of the fastest growing consumer segments in the world.

# *D-8 to strengthen rural development cooperation*

**T**urkey hosted the Workshop on Exchange of Information on Rural Development Policies on 14-15 May 2015 in Ankara, Turkey. The workshop was attended by participants from Bangladesh, Egypt, Indonesia, Iran, Malaysia, Pakistan and Turkey. The workshop was organized as part of the follow up programme under the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) signed between the D-8 and the Agriculture and Rural Development Support Institution (ARDSI) in March 2015.

The objective of this two-day workshop was to strengthen cooperation in the field of rural development between D-8 Member States and the Agriculture and Rural Development Support Institution (ARDSI) of Republic of Turkey through transfer of knowledge and experience as well as technical assistance.

The course of workshop included European Union (EU) and Turkish rural development policies and implementations, organizational structure and implementation processes of

ARDSI, project preparation, project evaluation, project cycle management and business plan evaluations, Spot Controls and Payment Authorization of Rural Development Projects as well as Payment Implementation and Accounting of Rural Development Projects.

D-8 Member States were encouraged to operate within the provisions of the MoU for further collaboration and partnership with ARDSI. The D-8 Member States may consider cooperation in capacity building, technical assistance and project implementation. The cooperation may involve partnerships at all stages and ensure the participation of private and public stakeholders.

It is expected that the workshop would earmark a crucial point in leveraging the rural-urban nexus for development, promoting an empowerment agenda for rural livelihoods, investing in smallholder family agriculture for global food security and nutrition as well as promoting the resilience of poor rural households.



*The objective this two-day workshop was to strengthen cooperation in the field of rural development between D-8 Member States and Turkey's ARDSI*



# *D-8 now Observer at the UNGA*



**T**he United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) unanimously adopted the Resolution granting 'Observer Status' to the D-8 Organization. At the 68th Meeting of the 69th session of the United Nations General Assembly, all the Member States of the United Nations adopted the text of the resolution on Observer status for the Developing Eight Countries Organization for Economic Cooperation in the General Assembly without a vote.

The Sixth Committee of the United Nations General Assembly in its 18th

meeting on 23 October 2014 adopted the draft resolution concerning grant of Observer Status to the Developing Eight Organization for Economic Cooperation without a vote. With the adoption of the resolution recommended by the Sixth Committee, the process of obtaining observer status at the UNGA has come to fruition. The Secretary-General of the D-8 congratulate all the Members of the D-8 for this significantly forward movement and thank the untiring efforts of all in furthering the process.

Observer status in the General Assembly will enable the Developing Eight countries

Organization for Economic Cooperation strengthen its public visibility, benefit from worldwide experience, including the opportunity to enhance its capacity-building process, and share a platform with international community. As a young and promising intergovernmental organization, it looks forward to the opportunity to work closely with the United Nations. Such closer relations will enable it to make great strides in its march forward and to play its due role at the regional and international levels, particularly with regard to the peoples of its member States.



Secretary-General called on Iyad Ameen Madani, OIC Secretary-General in Jeddah

## *Secretary-General called on OIC Secretary-General*

**D**r. Seyed Ali Mohammad Mousavi called on Secretary-General of OIC, Mr. Iyad Ameen Madani at the OIC Secretariat in Jeddah on 2nd July 2014.

Dr. Mousavi appreciated the role of OIC in promoting and upholding the brotherhood as an essential pre-requisite for the Muslim ummah. It may also be mentioned that all members of D-8 are also members of OIC, which gives a unique opportunity for close cooperation between the two Organizations.

The two Secretaries-General discussed various issues of common interest and agreed to consolidate efforts to strengthen institutional cooperation between the two Organizations. They

also reiterated the need to implement the provisions of the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) already concluded between the OIC and the D-8.

Issues such as establishment of a formal mechanism for regular consultations, identification of areas whereby both the organizations can work together for possible joint studies, projects etc. were discussed during the meeting.

Dr. Mousavi invited the Secretary-General to attend the upcoming D-8 Summit scheduled in Istanbul in December 2014.

# Secretary-General called on President of IDB

**D**r. Seyed Ali Mohammad Mousavi called on Dr. Ahmad Mohamed Ali, President of Islamic Development Bank (IDB) at the IDB Headquarters in Jeddah on 2nd July 2014.

Dr. Mousavi congratulated Dr. Ali and the IDB member states on the occasion of the 40th anniversary of the establishment of the IDB celebrated last week. He appreciated the role of IDB in promoting the economic activities among the member states through projects, financing and participation.

Mousavi informed the IDB President of the developments that took place within the D-8 in the last 16 years in areas such as Trade, Agriculture, Industry & SME, Energy, Transportation etc. He mentioned that the D-8 was moving towards implementation of policies in the next phase of its life cycle. He also referred to that fact that the Organization was very keen to undertake common projects that would directly benefit people to improve their economic standard.

They discussed the possibility of establishing institutional links between the two Organizations. They agreed to work on exploring collaborative links in order to explore mutual areas of cooperation and possible financing mechanism by the IDB on common projects in member states.

Dr. Mousavi invited the IDB President to attend the upcoming D-8 Summit scheduled in Istanbul in December 2014.



Secretary-General called on Dr. Ahmad Mohamed Ali, President of IDB in Jeddah



## ***D-8 and ECO Secretaries-General met in New York***

**S**ecretaries-General of two intergovernmental organizations met on 24 September 2014 in New York. Dr. Seyed Ali Mohammad Mousavi, the Secretary-General of the D-8 Organization for Economic Cooperation and Mr. Shamil Aleskerov, Secretary-General of the Economic Cooperation Organization discussed various issues and aspects to foster cooperative relationship between the two Organizations.

They reviewed the current status of cooperation and discussed on the possible strategic discourse in order to consolidate cooperative relationship. The meeting, inter alia, focused on proposals to jointly organize events such as workshops and training courses in the areas of Transport and Communications

and Agriculture, Industry and Tourism, ensuring greater engagement of the two sides in each other's relevant initiatives/activities in the aforementioned areas and participation of the two sides in each other's technical/ministerial level meetings in the priority sectors.

Dr. Mousavi and Mr. Aleskerov agreed on the need for more frequent and closer communication. They assigned focal points in the two Secretariats in order to follow-up decisions, cooperation and actions.

Dr. Mousavi invited Mr. Aleskerov to attend the 9th D-8 Summit scheduled to be held in December 2014 in Turkey.



# *D-8 and BSEC pledge to work together in trade and commercial development*



*D-8 and BSEC signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) to set institutional framework for development cooperation*

**D**-8 and Organization of the Black Sea Economic Cooperation (BSEC) signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) on 18 June 2015 in Chisinau, Moldova to set institutional framework for development cooperation. Dr. Seyed Ali Mohammad Mousavi, Secretary-General of D-8 and Dr. Victor Tvircun, BSEC Secretary-General, signed the MoU on behalf of their respective organizations. Foreign Ministers of the BSEC Member States witnessed the signing.

The MoU aims to promote joint efforts in the area of trade development, provides general framework for development cooperation through carrying out cooperation for the transfer of knowledge and experience gained by the Development Institutions in the area of trade, agriculture, industry, tourism, energy, transportation etc.

On the occasion of signing of the MoU, Secretary-General Mousavi expressed confidence for close partnership with BSEC, and stated that this MoU would provide a general framework to facilitate collaboration and cooperation in promoting and undertaking issues of mutual interest on rural development in member countries. He also gave a highlight of the D-8 Organization in his statement delivered during the Ministerial session.

The MoU envisages, among others, cooperation in capacity building, technical assistance and project implementation. Both the Organizations will identify areas of mutual cooperation and explore possibilities of partnership in those identified areas.



## ***D-8 and TIKA signed MoU on development cooperation***

**D**-8 and Turkish Cooperation and Coordination Agency (TIKA) signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) on 22 July 2014 at the TIKA Headquarters in Ankara to set the institutional framework for development cooperation. Dr. Seyed Ali Mohammad Mousavi, Secretary-General of D-8 and Dr. Serdar Çam, President of TIKA signed the MoU on behalf of their respective institutions.

The MoU provides general framework for development cooperation through financing of projects and programs. Secretary-General Mousavi and President Çam expressed satisfaction that the MoU would consolidate the partnership between the D-8 and the TIKA.

The MoU envisages, among others, cooperation in capacity building, technical assistance and project implementation. Both the Organizations will identify areas of mutual cooperation and explore possibilities of partnership in those identified areas.



# *D-8 will work closely with ITC and UNCTAD for trade development*

## *UNCTAD*



*D-8 and UNCTAD had a lot of scope for joint effort in order to yield mutual benefit, sharing of information and analytical framework*

## *ITC*



*The two interlocutors agreed to work on development of collaborative partnership program in the area of trade*

**D**r. Seyed Ali Mohammad Mousavi, Secretary-General of D-8, met Mr. Mukhisa Kituyi, the UNCTAD Secretary-General on 23 June 2015 at the UNCTAD Secretariat in Geneva.

The two interlocutors agreed to work on development of collaborative partnership program in areas such as, trade, capacity-building, trade related technical assistance etc. and the promotion of entrepreneurship. The UNCTAD having institutional capacity for trade development will assist in capacity building within the D-8 Organization. Both concurred that the two Organizations had a lot of scope for joint effort in order to yield mutual benefit, sharing of information and analytical framework in particular. He appreciated the Secretary-General for the inputs and looked forward to working together in future.

**D**-8 and the International Trade Center (ITC) have expressed their cordial intent to facilitate close co-operation between the ITC and the D-8 with the objective of promoting and accelerating trade development, focusing its activities on poverty reduction in the States of Common Membership.

Dr. Seyed Ali Mohammad Mousavi, Secretary-General of D-8, met Ms. Arancha González, the ITC Executive Director on 22 June 2015 at the ITC Headquarters in Geneva.

Both the interlocutors agreed to work closely to further inclusive development, build capacities of Member States, explore avenues for common projects in productive sectors, tap their potentials and explore options for effective implementation of instruments.

# *D-8 and GECF to work closely for mutual benefit: D-8 Secretary-General*



*The two interlocutors held a very fruitful and effective discussion in a cordial environment*

**D**r. Seyed Ali Mohammad Mousavi, the D-8 Secretary-General, held a meeting with Dr. Seyed Mohammad Hossein Adeli, Secretary-General of the Gas Exporting Countries Forum (GECF) on 09 March 2015 at the latter's office in the GECF Headquarters in Doha.

The two interlocutors held a very fruitful and effective discussion in a cordial environment. Dr. Mousavi informed the GECF Secretary-General of the latest developments taking place within the Organization and conveyed that 03 (three) members of GECF have common membership with the D-8. He also said that the D-8 was moving towards implementation of policies in the next phase of its life cycle and undertaking common projects that would directly benefit people to improve their economic standard.

The D-8 Secretary-General informed Dr. Adeli that Energy

was one of the priority areas of the D-8 cooperation and the Organization put a lot of emphasis on energy cooperation among its members. He mentioned that cooperation between the D-8 and the GECF may benefit Member States in designing their energy usage.

Dr. Adeli warmly welcomed the D-8 Secretary-General to the GECF Headquarters and informed him of the GECF scope of work. Both concurred that the two Organizations had a lot of scope for joint effort in order to yield mutual benefit, sharing of information and analytical framework in particular. He viewed that within the D-8 Organization, Member States that produced energy could form joint partnership projects with Member States that consumed energy. He appreciated the Secretary-General for the inputs and looked forward to working together in future.

# *D-8 and UNIDO to work closely to promote inclusive and sustainable industrial development*

**T**he Developing Eight Organization for Economic Cooperation and the United Nations Industrial Development Organization have expressed their cordial intent to facilitate close co-operation between the UNIDO and the D-8 with the objective of promoting and accelerating inclusive and sustainable industrial development, focusing its activities on poverty reduction and environmental sustainability in the States of Common Membership.

Dr. Seyed Ali Mohammad Mousavi, Secretary-General of D-8, met Mr. LI Yong, Director-General of UNIDO, on 02 April 2015 at the UNIDO Secretariat in Vienna. The meeting was followed by release of a Joint Declaration signed by the two interlocutors to consolidate institutional partnership.

The Joint Declaration aims at mutual collaborative partnership in areas such as, trade capacity-building, capacity-building for development of small and medium-sized enterprises and the promotion of entrepreneurship, ceramic and glass, cement, machinery, automotive, food industry, iron and steel, textile and garment and petrochemical, rural renewable energy and industrial energy efficiency, climate change and cleaner production, investments and technology promotion etc. The UNIDO having institutional capacity for inclusive and sustainable industrial development linked to the Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) will assist in capacity building within the D-8 Organization.



The D-8 Secretary-General updated the UNIDO Director-General with latest developments taking place within the Organization and added that cooperation in D-8 priority area of industrial cooperation is taking concrete shape. He hoped that in close cooperation with the UNIDO, the D-8 Organization would be able to accelerate its capacity in industrial development.

The UNIDO Director-General warmly welcomed the D-8 Secretary-General to the UNIDO Secretariat in Vienna and informed him of the agency's scope of work. Both concurred that the two Organizations had a lot of scope for joint effort in order to yield mutual benefit, sharing of information

and analytical framework in particular. He appreciated the Secretary-General for the inputs and looked forward to working together in future.

Both the interlocutors agreed to work closely to further inclusive development, build capacities of Member States, explore avenues for common projects, identify and establish value chain in order to connect from manufacturing to marketing so that benefits are maximized. They also agreed to work together in the UNGA to support the process of mutual collaboration.

The meeting was held in a very warm and congenial environment.



*The two interlocutors held a very fruitful and effective discussion in a cordial environment*

# ***D-8 and OPEC to foster mutual collaboration***

**D**r. Seyed AliMohammad Mousavi, the D-8 Secretary-General, held a meeting with Mr. Abdalla Salem El-Badri, Secretary-General of the Organization of the Petroleum Export Countries (OPEC) on 01 April 2015 at the latter's office in the OPEC Secretariat in Vienna.

The two interlocutors held a very fruitful and effective discussion in a cordial environment. Dr. Mousavi informed the OPEC Secretary-General of the latest developments taking place within the Organization and conveyed that 02 (two) members of OPEC have common membership with the D-8. He also said that the D-8 was moving towards implementation of policies in the next phase of its life cycle and undertaking common projects that would directly benefit people to improve their economic standard.

The D-8 Secretary-General also informed Mr. El-Badri that Energy is one of the priority areas of the D-8 cooperation and the Organization put a lot of emphasis on energy cooperation among its members. He stated that as oil producers' forum, OPEC plays a critically important role in the global energy interplay and cooperation between the D-8 and the OPEC may benefit Member States in designing their energy usage.

Mr. El-Badri warmly welcomed the D-8 Secretary-General to the OPEC Secretariat and informed him of the OPEC scope of work. Both concurred that the two Organizations had a lot of scope for joint effort in order to yield mutual benefit, sharing of information and analytical framework in particular. He appreciated the Secretary-General for the inputs and looked forward to working together in future.

# *D-8 and ARDSI pledged to work together in rural development*



Secretary-General Mousavi and Mr Ali Recep Nazlı, President of ARDSI signed the MoU on behalf of their respective institutions

**D**-8 and Turkey's Agriculture and Rural Development Support Institution (ARDSI) signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) on 18 March 2015 at the ARDSI Headquarters in Ankara to set the institutional framework for rural development cooperation. Dr. Seyed Ali Mohammad Mousavi, Secretary-General of D-8 and Mr Ali Recep Nazlı, President of ARDSI signed the MoU on behalf of their respective institutions. The MoU that aims to improve regional knowledge base and promote joint efforts in the area of rural development, provides general framework for rural development cooperation through carrying out cooperation for the transfer of knowledge and experience gained by the Agriculture and Rural Development Support Institution in the area of agriculture and rural development during

the process of Turkey's candidacy for the European Union to the D-8 Member States through the D-8 Secretariat.

On the occasion of signing of the MoU, Secretary-General Mousavi expressed his pleasure for close partnership with ARDSI, and stated that this MoU will provide a general framework to facilitate collaboration and cooperation in promoting and undertaking issues of mutual interest on rural development in member countries.

The MoU envisages, among others, cooperation in capacity building, technical assistance and project implementation. Both the Organizations will identify areas of mutual cooperation and explore possibilities of partnership in those identified areas.



UCLG-MEWA Secretary General Mehmet DUMAN paid a visit to the D-8 Secretariat

## ***UCLG-MEWA to cooperate with D-8***

**M**r. Mehmet DUMAN, UCLG-MEWA Secretary General, met Dr. Seyed Ali-Mohammad Mousavi on 20 August 2014. Dr. Mousavi warmly welcomed the Secretary-General Duman to the D-8 Secretariat.

Mr. Duman briefed Dr. Mousavi on UCLG-MEWA activities and publications. He stressed that the region in which UCLG-MEWA operates substantially overlaps with the D-8 countries and also expressed belief that establishment of structural cooperation between D-8 and UCLG-MEWA would benefit each other. He underlined that both organizations' headquarters are located in Istanbul and it will be beneficial to them. Mr. Duman stated that UCLG-MEWA may explore local partnership of D-8, and a

memorandum of understanding may be signed between the two organizations in this regard.

Dr. Seyed Ali-Mohammad Mousavi congratulated Secretary-General Duman for the recent activities of UCLG-MEWA and stated that the basic areas of activity of D-8, particularly transportation, tourism and energy are directly related to local authorities and that D-8 organization attach importance to the local authorities in this context. Dr. Mousavi welcomed Mr. Duman's proposal of to sign a MoU and expressed that UCLG-MEWA and D-8 may co-organize some of their events in the upcoming period.





*Dr. Mousavi, in his speech, underscored the need to recognize development as the prerequisite for peace and by the same token, peace as the prerequisite for development*

# ***D-8 Secretary-General reiterated economic freedom for comprehensive security***

**A**t the invitation of Mr. Süleyman Şensoy, Chairman, Think Tank Forum of the Islamic Countries (TASAM) and Senator Mushahid Hussain, Chairman, Defence Committee of the Senate of Pakistan, Dr. Seyed Ali Mohammad Mousavi, the D-8 Secretary-General, attended the 6th Think Tanks Forum of the Islamic Countries on Building Multi-Dimensional Security in the Islamic Countries in Islamabad on 07 March 2015.

Dr. Mousavi, in his speech at the inaugural session, underscored the need to recognize development as the prerequisite for peace and by the same token, peace as the prerequisite for development. He mentioned that security with all the dimensions required collective actions.

The D-8 Secretary-General outlined current developments taking place within the D-8 Organization and also gave a background of the D-8 and highlighted the role and engagement of the Organization as a prominent inter-governmental entity for economic development as envisaged by its leaders. He said that D-8 provided a good platform for promoting South-South Cooperation. He mentioned that D-8 had marked significant

progress over the period of 16 years since its establishment in the areas such as industry, trade, transportation, agriculture, technology etc. and thus had contributed to the economic uplift of the people of the region. He further mentioned that contributing to economic freedom of the peoples of the region marked with secure society and less vulnerability.

Dr. Mousavi said that the theme of this conference reflected multi-faceted nature of security. Size of population, economic potential, geographical orientation, composition of human resources, huge skilled and unskilled labour etc. of the D-8 Member States make this group unique within the Islamic world. The Organization is working to tap the potential and realise the same into strengths so that the benefits are accrued into the public domain. He emphasized that a sustainable change in the life of millions of people who lack basic amenities would not only ensure growth within national frontier, but also would assure the world of a safer place. With the strength of partnership and universal brotherhood, the Organization hopes to achieve its aim.

# *Students from LSE, Tilburg University, Parahyangan Catholic University and Club of Hohenheim e.V. visited D-8*



Students from Parahyangan Catholic University, Indonesia



Students from Tilburg University



Students from London School of Economics (LSE)

‘The Developing Eight Organization for Economic Cooperation has been making steady progress in terms of concretising cooperation and partnership’— this was conveyed to the group of students from London School of Economics (LSE), Tilburg University, Parahyangan Catholic University in Indonesia and Club of Hohenheim e.V. visiting Turkey separately.

The student groups expressed keen interest on the functioning of this unique inter-governmental organisation which stretches its membership in three continents in Asia, Europe and Africa. They were updated with current development taking place within the D-8 Organization, background of D-8 and role and engagement of the Organization as a prominent inter-governmental entity for economic development as envisaged by its leaders. They were also briefed that the D-8 provided a good platform for promoting South-South Cooperation.

The groups noted that the D-8 had marked significant progress over the period of 16 years since its establishment in areas such as industry, trade, transportation etc. and thus had contributed to the economic uplift of the people of the region. Significant increase in D-8 intra-trade, people-to-people contact, ease in

access to markets etc. has created enabling environment for people to widen their scope of economic activities as well as prospect.



Students from Club of Hohenheim e.V.

# Tackling Climate Change is a shared responsibility: D-8 Secretary-General



Secretary-General Mousavi addressed in the ECO Safranbulu Ministerial Conference on Climate Change in Safranbulu, Turkey

**D**r. Seyed Ali Mohammad Mousavi, Secretary-General of D-8, said that climate change would have direct impact on the ability of nations, developing world in particular. He called upon greater action for a strong climate change agreement which would encompass all externalities, enhance capacities of nations to handle changed circumstances and above all, create enabling environment for the ones struggling hard to survive. He underscored the need for a development approach which is sustainable in order to make people ready for anticipated change.

The D-8 Secretary-General stressed the critical need for a concerted global effort in combating impacts of climate change in his address in the ECO

Safranbulu Ministerial Conference on Climate Change held on 27 March 2015 in Safranbulu. He mentioned that the timing and venue for the ECO Safranbulu Ministerial Conference on Climate Change cannot be more apposite.

In his speech, Dr. Mousavi also mentioned that developing countries will lose their GDP as well as competitiveness; climate induced migration and refugees will make people's lives vulnerable and therefore, he underlined, that climate negotiations and subsequent outcomes should be robust, enabling and all-encompassing. He mentioned that the D-8 Organization is working to contribute to the sustainable development process within its periphery as well as in partnership with specialized international agencies.

The D-8 Secretary-General informed the meeting of the latest developments taking place within the Organization and also gave a background of the D-8 and highlighted the role and engagement of the Organization as a prominent inter-governmental entity for economic development as envisaged by its leaders. He said that the D-8 provided a good platform for promoting South-South Cooperation. He mentioned that D-8 had marked significant progress over the period of 16 years since its establishment in the areas such as industry, trade, transportation etc. and thus had contributed to the economic uplift of the people of the region.



The two interlocutors exchanged fruitful discussion on the role of Indonesia to D-8

## *Ambassador of Indonesia to Turkey visited the D-8 Secretariat*

**M**rs. Nahari Agustini, Ambassador of the Republic of Indonesia to the Republic of Turkey, paid a farewell visit to the D-8 Secretary General, Dr. Seyed Ali Mohammad Mousavi on 12 September 2014 at the D-8 Secretariat.

During the meeting, the two interlocutors exchanged fruitful discussion on the role of Indonesia to D-8 as well as furthering development within the D-8 Organization.

Dr. Mousavi commended Indonesia's active role in the D-8 as one of the founding Members of the Organization. He also appreciated the critical role of Indonesia in furthering common agenda in areas of cooperation. He congratulated Ambassador Nahari for successful completion of the recent Presidential election in Indonesia and hoped that the new leadership would be equally and more enthusiastically supportive of the D-8 cooperation.

Dr. Mousavi deeply hoped that the new President of Indonesia would attend the 9th D-8 Summit to be held in December 2014 in Turkey.

Mrs. Agustini appreciated the Secretary-General for his active and dynamic role in furthering the D-8 agenda. She noted that the D-8 was undertaking many activities in order to consolidate development cooperation. She hoped that these activities would pave grounds for the enhancement of the D-8 cooperation.

Dr. Mousavi thanked Mrs. Nahari for all her support and cordial cooperation during her office in Ankara and wished her health and success in coming days. He also expressed confidence that the succeeding Ambassador would be equally supportive of the D-8 activities.

# *D-8 Secretary-General met Mayor of Istanbul*



*Secretary-General was warmly welcomed by Mr. Kadir Topbaş, Mayor of the Metropolitan Municipality of Istanbul*

**D**-8 Secretary-General Dr. Mousavi met Mr. Kadir Topbaş, Mayor of the Metropolitan Municipality of Istanbul on 10 November 2014.

In this visit, D-8 Secretary-General suggested to enhance level cooperation between the Municipalities of the D-8 Member States. These include the role of Municipality Development cooperation at international level. "Bilateral and Multilateral cooperation is important to bring development that reaches people. In this context, the formation of Municipal Development Partnerships between concerned actors is seen as a promising path." he said.

Dr. Mousavi underlined that due to common challenges facing the major cities of D-8 Member States, it is high time for the Municipalities of the D-8 Member States to cooperate. This will provide an avenue for the Member States to deliberate and consider numerous of urban issues, exchange views and come

out with tangible project for implementation and way forward for cooperation.

Istanbul Mayor Mr. Kadir Topbaş who is also the Head of the United Cities and Local Governments (UCLG), said that in the last few years, local and regional governments have played major role in the development process of the cities and regions. It is also important for the local authorities to get support from the stakeholders and the government as their decision may have an impact at local and regional level" Topbaş stressed.

He continued "D-8 cities, should exchange views and share experiences for the benefit of the people and region". Mayor Topbaş also underlined that strengthening cooperation between D-8 metropolitan cities is of great importance which will pave way for collaboration in the area of urban management and cities development.

# *D-8 Secretary-General's provincial visits in Turkey*

**D**r. Seyed Ali Mohammad Mousavi, D-8 Secretary-General visited important provinces, universities and foundations in Turkey as part of the Organization's external relations to establish and nurture effective partnership with local authorities,

universities and institutions in Turkey. During his visits, Dr. Mousavi addressed the audience in seminars and conferences at universities and institutions.

## *Adana*



*Dr. Mousavi addressed an audience in a seminar at the Anadolu Youth Foundation*



*Dr. Mousavi also met Rector of Çukurova University, Prof. Dr. Mustafa KİBAR*



*D-8 Secretary-General met Chairmen of Chambers of Commerce and Industry of Adana, Mr. Atıla Menevşe and Mr. Zeki Kıvanç*



*D-8 Secretary-General Mousavi was warmly welcomed by Mr. Mustafa Büyük, the Governor of Adana*

# Trabzon



Dr. Mousavi interacted and exchanged with academicians and students at the Karadeniz Technical University

# Ankara



Dr. Mousavi delivered a speech at the Birlık Vakfı and ESAM on the current development taking place within the D-8



D-8 Secretary-General met Prof. Metin DOĞAN, Rector of Yıldırım Beyazıt University, and discussed possible cooperation in higher education between the D-8 Countries

# Karabük

D-8 Secretary-General visited Karabük on 26 March 2015 and was warmly received by the authorities and institutions



Dr. Mousavi addressed Students and academicians in Karabük University



# Erzurum



*D-8 Secretary-General was warmly welcomed by Mr Ahmet Altıparmak, the Governor of Erzurum*



*Dr. Mousavi met Prof. Dr. Hikmet Koçak, Rector of Erzurum Atatürk University*

# Ağrı



*D-8 Secretary-General met Mr. Musa Işın, the Governor of Ağrı*

*Dr. Mousavi briefed the students of Ağrı İ.Ç. University on the current development taking place within the D-8*



# Van



*D-8 Secretary-General met Mr Ibrahim Taşyapan, the Governor of Van*



*Dr. Mousavi met Prof. Dr. Peyami BATTAL, Rector of Van YüzüncüYıl University and also interacted and exchanged with academicians and students at the university*

## 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 Observer Status at the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA), Joint Declaration with the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO), Memorandum of Understandings

(MoUs) with the Organization of Islamic Conference (OIC), the Economic Cooperation Organization (ECO), African-Asian Rural Development Organization (AARDO), the Black Sea Economic Cooperation (BSEC), Turkish Cooperation and Coordination Agency (TIKA), Agriculture and Rural Development Support Institution (ARDSI), Islamic World Science Citation Center (ISC), International Youth Foundation (IYF), and a Letter of Intent (LoI) with World Maritime University (WMU) represent the outcome of the activities undertaken since.

### United Nations General Assembly (UNGA)

[www.un.org](http://www.un.org)



### Organization of Islamic Cooperation (OIC)

[www.oic-oci.org](http://www.oic-oci.org)



### Economic Cooperation Organization (ECO)

[www.ecosecretariat.org](http://www.ecosecretariat.org)



### United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO)

[www.unido.org](http://www.unido.org)



### African-Asian Rural Development Organization (AARDO)

[www.aardo.org](http://www.aardo.org)



### Organization of the Black Sea Economic Cooperation (BSEC)

[www.bsec-organization.org](http://www.bsec-organization.org)



### Islamic World Science Citation Center (ISC)

[www.isc.gov.ir](http://www.isc.gov.ir)



پایگاه استنادی علوم جهان اسلام

### Turkish Cooperation and Coordination Agency (TIKA)

[www.tika.gov.tr](http://www.tika.gov.tr)



### International Youth Foundation (IYF)

[www.iyfnetwork.org](http://www.iyfnetwork.org)



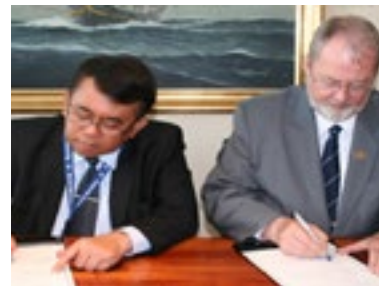
### Agriculture and Rural Development Support Institution (ARDSI)

[www.tkd.gov.tr](http://www.tkd.gov.tr)



### World Maritime University (WMU)

[www.wmu.se](http://www.wmu.se)



# D-8 SUMMITS



First Summit (15 June 1997, Istanbul Turkey)



The late Prime Minister Necmettin Erbakan of Turkey and the D-8 Foreign Ministers at the first Council meeting ( 4 January 1997, Istanbul, Turkey)



Second Summit (1-2 March 1999, Dhaka, Bangladesh)



Third Summit (25 February 2001, Cairo Egypt)



Fourth Summit (18 February 2004, Tehran, Iran)

# D-8 SUMMITS



Fifth Summit (13 May 2006, Bali, Indonesia)



Sixth Summit (8 July 2008, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia)



Seventh Summit (8 July 2010, Abuja, Nigeria)



Eighth Summit (22 November 2012, Islamabad, Pakistan)



Adoption of the D-8 Charter is considered an important achievement for the Islamabad Summit



[www.developing8.org](http://www.developing8.org)

