

**REPORT OF THE 27<sup>TH</sup> SESSION OF D-8 COMMISSION**  
**OCTOBER 30-31, 2009**  
**KUALA LUMPUR, MALAYSIA**

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The Government of Malaysia organized and chaired the 27<sup>th</sup> Session of Developing Eight (D-8) Commission in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia on October 30-31, 2009. The meeting was attended by delegates from the People's Republic of Bangladesh, the Arab Republic of Egypt, the Republic of Indonesia, the Islamic Republic of Iran, Malaysia, the Federal Republic of Nigeria, the Islamic Republic of Pakistan and the Republic of Turkey. The list of participants is at Annex I.

**1. Welcoming Remarks by the D-8 Commissioner of Malaysia.**

The meeting was chaired by H.E. Amb. Zainol Abidin Omar, the D-8 Commissioner of Malaysia. In his opening statement, he invited all D-8 Commissioners to consider the programmes and activities that had been organized through various Working Groups and see how it could be of value added programmes by translating them into mutually beneficial projects that can be undertaken by the private sectors. The text of his statement is at Annex II.

**2. Consideration and Adoption of the Draft Agenda**

The Commission adopted its agenda as amended; the adopted agenda is at Annex III.

**3. Presentation of the Report of the D-8 Secretariat by D-8 Secretary General**

H.E. Dr. Dipo Alam, the Secretary General of the D-8 presented his Report on the work of the D-8 since the last Commissioners Meeting is at Annex IV.

**4. Consideration and Adoption of Calendar of Events 2009/2010 and Adoption of Reports**

**a. The Commission considered and recommended the adoption of the Reports of the following activities by the 12<sup>th</sup> Session of the D-8 Council of Ministers:**

- D-8 Ministerial Meeting on Food Security, held on February 25-27, 2009 in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
- D-8 Working Group Meeting on Health Tourism, held on March 1, 2009 in Antalya, Turkey
- First D-8 International Tourism Investment Forum, held on March 2-3, 2009 in Tehran, Iran
- Directorate General for Civil Aviation Task Force, held on March 6-7, 2009 in Istanbul, Turkey

- A Meeting to initiate cooperation between D-8 scientific institutions, research institutes and universities, held on June 2-3, 2009 in Abuja, Nigeria
- Consultative Meeting of D-8 Working Group on Marine and Fisheries Cooperation held on May 13, 2009 in Manado, Indonesia
- 1st D-8 Working Committee Meeting on the Establishment of the Seed Bank held on July 21-24, 2009 in Izmir, Turkey
- Second D-8 Meeting of the Financial Infrastructure Development and Micro-Insurance for D-8 Countries held on October 4-5, 2009 in Cairo, Egypt
- 1st D-8 Workshop on Animal Feed held on October 7-8, 2009 in Surabaya, Indonesia

**b. Calendar of Events 2009/2010**

No	TITLE OF MEETING	TENTATIVE DATE	VENUE
1	Working Group Meeting on Transportation	December 9-10, 2009	Turkey
2	Working Group on Marine and Fisheries	December 2009	Egypt
3	D-8 Meeting of Airline Companies, DGCA and Ministers responsible for Civil Aviation	December 2009 or January 2010	Antalya, Turkey
4	D-8 Working Committee on Boron	December 2009 or January 2010	Turkey
5	First Ministerial Meeting on Industry	February 2010	Tehran, Iran
6	Working Group on Prevention, Care, Support and Treatment of HIV/AIDS in D-8	March 2010	Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
7	D-8 Humanitarian Assistance Forum	To be announced	Turkey
8	D-8 Meeting on Takaful and Infrastructure Development	October 2010 (to be confirmed)	Malaysia
9	D-8 Workshop on E-health and tele-medicine	To be announced	Turkey
10	A Meeting on Migrant Workers and Remittances	To be announced	Bangladesh
11	D-8 Water Forum	To be announced	Turkey

**5. Consideration of the Matrix of Activities for Member Countries**

The Commission urged the Member Countries to use the Matrix prepared by the Secretariat for the follow up of the D-8 Activities. The Commission requested the Secretariat to update the Matrix every 1st of January and 1st of July and submit it to the attention of Member Countries.

**6. Consideration of the Offer Lists under the D-8 Preferential Trade Agreement**

The Commission urged Member Countries to complete their national ratification procedures and to finalize their Offer Lists for the PTA as soon as possible. The Commission welcomed the offer by the Secretariat to host the HLTO meeting to exchange Offer Lists to expedite the ratification of the PTA.

**7. Consideration of Ratification Status of D-8 PTA, Visa Agreement and Customs Cooperation Agreement**

The Commission considered the submission of Bangladesh concerning the typographical numerical errors in the Agreement on Simplification of Visa Procedures for the Businessmen of the D-8 Member States and adopted the relevant Corrigendum as attached to this Report at Annex V. The Commission urged the Member Countries to ratify the three Agreements at the earliest date possible.

**8. Developments with regard to the D-8 private sector cooperation**

The Commission took note of the Secretary General's report on the activities of the Secretariat and D-8 Federation of Chambers of Commerce in engaging the private sector cooperation such as Foreign Economic Relations Board (DEIK) Business Council as well as parallel meetings of D-8 private sector during World Chambers Federation meetings.

**9. Discussions on a Draft D-8 Charter**

In accordance with the decision of the 26<sup>th</sup> Session of the Commission, the D-8 Secretariat presented a draft charter. The 27<sup>th</sup> Session of the Commission decided to request the Council of Ministers to mandate the Commission to begin work on a draft charter. Upon approval of the Council of Ministers, an inter-governmental group of the D-8 may proceed to undertake this work.

**10. Consideration of the Priority List of Areas of Cooperation**

The Commission agreed to give priority to Trade, Agriculture and Food Security, Industrial Cooperation and SMEs, Transportation, Energy and Minerals from the areas of cooperation as stated in the Roadmap.

**11. Consideration and Adoption of the Action Plan in relation to the D-8 Roadmap**

The Commission requested the D-8 Secretariat to revise the draft Action Plan based on the Priority List of Areas of Cooperation and circulate to the Member Countries within one month. The Commission urged Member Countries to forward their views on the Action Plan to the Secretariat in order to be incorporated into the revised text.

**12. Report on the Financial Situation of the D-8 Secretariat for 2009**

The Secretary General presented the detailed budget expenditures of 2009 for the information of the Commission.

**13. Consideration and Adoption of the draft Budget for 2010 of D-8 Secretariat**

The Commission considered and adopted the proposed Budget for the Secretariat for 2010 in conformity with Article 5 of Chapter II of the Financial Regulations of the D-8 Secretariat as at Annex VI for the approval of the 12<sup>th</sup> Session of the D-8 Council of Ministers.

The Commission requested the Secretariat to prepare their future draft budgets with more details and explanations on the budget proposals.

The Commission also requested the assistance of the Turkish Government to expedite the ratification of the Headquarters Agreement which would render stronger support to the budget of the Secretariat.

**14. Consideration and Adoption of the Draft Agenda of the 12th Session of D-8 Council of Ministers**

The Commission agreed on the Provisional Agenda of the 12<sup>th</sup> Session of the D-8 Council of Ministers.

**15. Date and Venue of the 28th Session of the D-8 Commission**

The Commission welcomed the offer by Nigeria to host the 28<sup>th</sup> Session of the D-8 Commission in Abuja, Nigeria. The date of the 28<sup>th</sup> Session of the D-8 Commission will be conveyed to the Member Countries.

**16. Consideration and Adoption of the Report of the 27th Session of the D-8 Commission**

The 27<sup>th</sup> Session of the D-8 Commission adopted its Report and will transmit it to the 12<sup>th</sup> Session of the D-8 Council of Ministers for its consideration.

**17. Any Other Business**

No matter was raised under this Agenda Item.

**18. Closing**

In his Closing Remarks, the Chairman expressed his appreciation to all delegates for the profound and productive discussions and thanked them for the constructive outcomes of the meeting.

The delegations also conveyed their deep gratitude to the Government of Malaysia for this well-organized meeting and also express their thanks for Malaysia's warm hospitality. They also thanked the Chairman for his successful and able leadership throughout the meeting.

## ANNEX I

### LIST OF PARTICIPANTS

#### BANGLADESH

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Mr. Rahat Zaman

#### EGYPT

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## ANNEX II

### **WELCOMING REMARKS BY H.E. AMBASSADOR ZAINOL ABIDIN OMAR, D-8 COMMISSIONER OF MALAYSIA**

Colleagues,  
Distinguished delegates,

It is my singular privilege and honour to extend to all Commissioners a very warm welcome and "Selamat Datang" to the 27<sup>th</sup> Session of the D-8 Commission meeting. Allow me to also extend a special welcome to our new colleagues, the Commissioners of Pakistan and Turkey. I welcome them to Malaysia as well as to this fraternal gathering of D-8 Commissioners.

I wish to also bid a warm welcome to His Excellency Dr. Dipo Alam, Secretary-General of D-8, and all Distinguished Delegates. I sincerely hope that the meeting arrangements that had been made have met with your satisfaction.

I also wish to avail myself at this opportunity to express my appreciation to His Excellency the Secretary General and his staff for their excellent work at the Secretariat.

Over the last decade, the D-8 has organized programmes and activities under the various Working Groups that had been established. We need to re-visit those programmes and see how we can add value to those programs by translating them into mutually beneficial projects that could be undertaken by our private sectors. Let us have more private sector collaborations through joint-ventures or equity participation in the Programmes and projects of the D-8.

Excellencies/Ladies and Gentlemen,

Since Malaysia took over the Chairmanship of the Group, we had hosted the 26<sup>th</sup> Session of the D-8 Commission Meeting from 16-17 December 2008 in Istanbul and the Ministerial Meeting on Food Security from 25-27 February 2009 in Kuala Lumpur. We had planned to hold the Working Group on Prevention, Care, Support, and Treatment of HIV/AIDS on 29 October 2009 in Kuala Lumpur but regrettably it had to be deferred due to a lack of quorum.

While we have seen the convening of various activities for the past years, I feel that there is still a lot of work that need to be done. The commitments of the D-8 Member Countries as well as the collaboration between governments and private sectors in all identified projects could be the key to an activity's success. It is therefore critical that we keep on organising focused and implementable programmes that are relevant and that would bring tangible benefits for our private sectors.

Malaysia believes that in order to garner strong support for the activities of the D-8, it is essential that the Group comes up with a limited number, may be 8-10 activities and programmes each year. We believe that the number of activities is not necessarily a reflection of the progress of an organization as we feel that the activities and programmes held should be relevant and of interest to D-8 members. In addition, the programmes convened by the D-8 should also result in concrete and implementable projects which would benefit our peoples and countries.

Excellencies/Ladies and Gentlemen,

At the same time, we should also recognize that we have made progress over the last decade. In particular, we have signed thus far three Agreements, one of which is the Preferential Trade Agreement that was signed in Bali in 2005. I firmly believe that when the PTA comes in force, we should see greater intra trade among D-8 members.

In this regard, Malaysia places high hopes that other D-8 Member States would be able to utilise the D-8 Preferential Trade Agreement as a tool and catalyst to increase D-8 intra trade. I believe that the signing and ratification of this Agreement is the

essential ingredient for the future of this Grouping itself as agreed by our leaders in the D-8 Roadmap.

Malaysia believes that the governments of the D-8 countries have a crucial role in creating a facilitating environment to enhance the participation of the private sector in D-8 activities. In this regard, D-8 Member States should continue to put in place the proper infrastructure needed to maintain favourable growth in our economies. This can be executed by enhancing both infrastructure and human capital through private-public sector partnerships. Efforts within the D-8 should be spearheaded by the private sectors, with the governments as the support mechanism in terms of providing hard and soft infrastructure, reducing the barriers and matchmaking opportunities. As such, D-8 governments should portray these efforts by demonstrating the political will through the decisions of the Council of Ministers.

Currently, the D-8 Secretariat has been running on a tight budget. However, we are pleased to note that the D-8 Secretariat has been running well despite its financial limitations. In this regard, we hope that all D-8 members would be able to keep up to date with their contributions to the Secretariat. We have to bear in mind that only with the support of Member States; the D-8 Secretariat would be able to organize programmes and activities benefiting member states themselves.

Excellencies/Ladies and Gentlemen,

Looking to our Agenda, we, the Commissioners have a lot of work ahead of us in the next two days to finalize the documents for the adoption of the Council of Ministers. There are some important issues that we have to address including enhancing trade amongst us. Over the next two days, we look forward to having substantial discussions on issues concerning this Grouping such as the Preferential Trade Agreement and other D-8 Agreements as well as how to enhance cooperation in trade, tourism, agricultural and the financial sectors, and other sectors. As the Executive organ of the D-8, we would also be addressing the various administrative matters of the Group, including the convening of the forthcoming 7<sup>th</sup> D-8 Summit in which I hope my distinguished colleague from Nigeria would be able to enlighten us.

All in all, I hope that my distinguished colleagues, the D-8 Commissioners, would accord me the closest cooperation and assistance in undertaking my duties as Chairman of this Meeting. Our joint efforts will enable us to ensure that our Ministers are best prepared to address the various issues when they convene their Ministerial Council Meeting on Monday, 2 November 2009.

I reiterate my hope that, in the next two days, we can find agreement on what needs to be done. I am confident, that we will make headway in all the issues confronting us. I look forward to the frank and fruitful discussions on the topics before us.

Thank you.

## ANNEX III

### 27<sup>TH</sup> SESSION OF THE D-8 COMMISSION 30-31 OCTOBER 2009, KUALA LUMPUR, MALAYSIA

#### PROVISIONAL AGENDA

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1. Welcoming Remarks by the D-8 Commissioner of Malaysia
2. Consideration and Adoption of the Draft Agenda
3. Presentation on D-8, Consideration of Report by the D-8 Secretary General
4. Consideration and Adoption of Calendar of Events and Adoption of Reports
5. Consideration of the Matrix of Activities by Member Countries
6. Consideration of the Offer Lists under the D-8 Preferential Trade Agreement
7. Consideration of Ratification Status of D-8 PTA, Visa Agreement and Customs Agreement
8. Developments with regard to the D-8 private sector cooperation
9. Discussions on the Draft D-8 Charter
10. Consideration of the Priority List of Areas of Cooperation
11. Consideration and Adoption of the Action Plan in relation to the D-8 Roadmap
12. Report on the Financial Situation of the D-8 Secretariat for 2009
13. Consideration and Adoption of the draft Budget for 2010 of D-8 Secretariat
14. Consideration and Adoption of the Draft Agenda of the 12<sup>th</sup> Session of D-8 Council of Ministers
15. Date and Venue of the 28<sup>th</sup> Session of the D-8 Commission

16. Consideration and Adoption of the Report of the 27<sup>th</sup> Session of the D-8 Commission
17. Any Other Business
18. Closing

## ANNEX IV

**D-8 Secretary General's Address to  
27<sup>th</sup> Session of the Commission  
Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, October 30, 2009**

Excellencies D-8 Commissioners, distinguished Ladies and Gentlemen,  
Assalamualaikum Warrahmatullahi Wabarakatuh,

First of all, although a month has already passed, please allow me to wish you a blessed, peaceful and joyous Eid-ul Fitr 1430H. May Allah rewards us continuous peace, unity and prosperity for our people and countries; Amen!

However, I also wish to extend my deep condolence to the loss of life and devastation that's been caused by the recent earthquake in West Sumatra of Indonesia, and the flood, in Istanbul, Turkey. We believe that the Indonesian and the Turkish governments, assisted with the international community, are working at their best to resolve the disaster, and provide utmost assistance to the affected region and its people.

After our 26th Commissioner meeting in Istanbul 16-17 December 2009, there have been new commissioners appointed by some of our member countries. In this opportunity, I would like to congratulate them; namely H.E Md. Zulfiqur Rahman from Bangladesh; H.E Amb. Mohamed Elorabi from Egypt; H.E Amb. Zainol Abidin Omar from Malaysia; H.E Prof. Nicholas Damachi from Nigeria; H.E Syed Hassan Raza from Pakistan and H.E Amb. Hakkı Akil from Turkey. I am convinced that with their reputable track records, dedication and professionalism, D-8 stands to benefit the most. I would also like to wish my highest appreciation to H.E Ambassador Selim Kunalp, from Turkey, who would soon leave us to assume a new post in Brussels. His dedication, sincerity, expertise and endless support to the Secretariat have been undoubtedly overwhelming.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

It is an enormous pleasure to see so many friends here today, and I would like to thank all of you for coming. It is also a great pleasure for me to address you the latest developments and achievements of our cooperation activities since our 26<sup>th</sup> Session of the Commissioner in Istanbul last year. It is worth noting that this Commissioners Meeting would most likely be the last opportunity for all of us to address the substantive issues before the 7<sup>th</sup> Summit. Of course if need be, there could be another Commissioners Meeting organized by the Chair Country.

Because of limited allocation of time, and opportunity for me to explain under the relevant agenda items, I will refrain from going into much details at this moment, but allow me to underline priorities needed to be expressed and noted at this juncture.

First, I would like to report significant progress of our efforts on institutional development of our organization. Step by step we have been moving forward to set up institutional development of D-8 organization to facilitate our cooperation and its implementation; such as on: (1) The establishment of permanent Secretariat that supported by appropriate budget; (2) Roadmap 2008-2018 as major guideline of our cooperation programs and activities in the next decade; (3) PTA, Visa, and Custom agreements; (4) Headquarter Agreement; (5) Rules and Procedures of D-8 Organization; (6) Strengthening and Additional Working Groups of cooperation that supported by some task forces and prime movers which allows Secretariat could monitor; evaluate and take initiatives for the cooperation; (7) Functioning all cooperation activities by inviting and involving private sectors; (8) Establishing cooperation networks with international organizations; chambers of commerce, industrial and trade associations; and (9) growing public relations by having more effective website as a clearing house of information for public, governments, media, private sectors, and academia.

In this opportunity I need your support for adding proposal as part of our effort in institutional development; namely D-8 Charter and D-8 Action Plan for Implementing Roadmap 2008-2018. Secretariat has prepared the drafts that we circulated to you, and subject to be discussed in this meeting. The Charter is needed as legal instrument on the existence of the organization in its headquarters in Turkey, beside the HQ Agreement, and cooperation with international organizations and other institutions. The Action Plan is needed to achieve the goals and objectives that we would like to pursue in our Roadmap.

During the last eleven months, D-8 Organization has held several activities, which hopefully could lead to some potential cooperation programs in the future: Food Security, particularly establishing D-8 Seed Bank, consultations on marine and fisheries and technical cooperation on animal feed production and research, tourism, financial infrastructure development and micro-insurance cooperation among D-8 Countries, cooperation between D-8 scientific and research institutions of Universities, continuing cooperation through Task Forces related to airlines and DGCA activities.

There are some activities that were confirmed in the 26<sup>th</sup> Commissioners Meeting, and proposed for 2009, but due to some technical difficulties had to be postponed by Host Countries namely, the 5<sup>th</sup> Working Group on Industrial Cooperation (5<sup>th</sup> WGIC); and “1<sup>st</sup> Ministerial Meeting on Industry in Iran”; and “the 1<sup>st</sup> D-8 Airlines Business Meeting; the 4<sup>th</sup> DGCA; and the 1<sup>st</sup> Ministerial Meeting on Transportation in Turkey”. All of these meetings are so important for D-8 that I would like to request Organizers to volunteer and propose new dates as soon as possible. There are also pending events which I refer you to the Matrix of Activities, prepared by the Secretariat and invite you to offer dates for their realizations. It is obvious that if any event is frequently postponed or cancelled, it would mean that there is no interest among Member Countries and therefore it should be put aside for sometimes to come.

I believe that for our Organization to be efficient in its day to day activities, all Member Countries should announce their hosting readiness at least two months prior to



the meeting and distribute Basic Documents such as Terms of References, Agenda, Administrative Arrangements etc through Secretariat one month before meeting is held. In order to be effective in our approaches in implementing the objectives of the Roadmap (2008-2018), I strongly recommend Commissioners to avoid bypassing Secretariat in dissemination of information on any D-8 Meetings.

Here allow me to report to you very briefly the Activities of the Secretariat ever since the 26<sup>th</sup> Session of Commission. Meeting government officials and international organizations as well as calling on private sectors to promote D-8 activities, constitutes two major tracks of which were constantly followed by us at the Secretariat. In this regard, the details of these activities by the Secretariat have been compiled and already put at your disposal. One of the major accomplishments of the Secretariat for 2009 is to finalize draft Headquarters Agreement and negotiate it with the officials of Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Turkey which culminated to its signing ceremony at the premise of the MFA Turkey on February 20, 2009. In this opportunity, I would like the assistance of the Government of Turkey, i.e. the MFA, kindly intervene to pursue the Turkish Parliament to ratify the Agreement. This Agreement is a part of our accomplishment in developing our cooperation institution.

Upon request of the 26<sup>th</sup> Session of Commission, Secretariat has made couple of discussions with DEIK (Foreign Economic Relations Board of Turkey) with a view to establishing D-8 Business Council. Instead of establishing a D-8 Business Council which seemed to be duplicated on the part of DEIK and Secretariat, the Secretariat was invited to attend the meetings of Executive Boards of the Business Councils with D-8 Countries operating under DEIK.

We also have been recording a gradually increasing level of interactivity and information sharing through our online website since our initial launching in March 2007. Until October this month, we have received 220,066 hits, with 95,431 unique visitors in our website, with various purposes of research, business inquiries, and development studies. We are pleased to see it continuously grows as a reliable platform of information sharing among our member states, their peoples and academia. We shall be constantly advanced its feature and database to cater all the need of both our D-8 public and private sectors.

Excellencies, distinguished ladies and gentlemen,

The global financial crisis that erupted in 2008 has had dramatic socio-economic, environmental and political consequences for all countries during 2009 and beyond. Now, we recognize the effects of global recession on trade and investment in D-8 Countries; its possible impact on future agricultural growth and poverty reduction; and the ways for meeting the energy and food needs of our people. I believe that we should focus on implementation of PTA, Custom and Visa Agreements with a view to increasing our intra-trade. Although each country has its own strong points to support D-8 activities, in such turbulent times of financial difficulties, the main burden for further trade developments is mainly on the shoulders of countries such as Malaysia and Turkey.

Let's refresh our memory: during the 6<sup>th</sup> Summit in Kuala Lumpur, July 2008, the world was focusing on the challenges of high oil and food commodities prices. We set up and launched a number of cooperation on the food security program such as the 11<sup>st</sup> Ministerial meeting in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia; Seeds Bank Meeting in Antalya, Turkey, Marine and Fisheries Meeting in Manado, Indonesia; and the most recent: the Animal Feed Meeting in Surabaya, Indonesia last month. However, more cooperation efforts are certainly needed to achieve the goals of our agricultural cooperation as suggested in our Roadmap 2008-2018. According to two UN Agencies in charge of Food, the global economic crisis has hit some nations hardest, revealing a fragile world-food-system which is in urgent need of reform. Food and economic crises have resulted in one sixth of the world's population going hungry and being under-nourished. So considering our countries population and sensitivity of agriculture for our people by means of employment and food security, Agriculture will keep its importance among D-8 Countries for a long time.

By the end of 2009, we would still have been challenged by the world economic downturn due to the global financial crisis; although many believe that by 2010 the world economy would be slightly better than 2008-2009. Therefore in this precious opportunity, I need your support for smooth implementation of the Statutory Document of the Secretariat, primarily your support for the Secretariat 2010 budget. Within this context, I would like to thank all Member Countries to have lived up to their mandatory annual contributions except one country that has not yet its contribution for 2009. Special thanks go to Bangladesh for clearing all her dues ever since 2002.

Excellencies,

Before I conclude my report, I would like to draw your attention to the remaining programs for year 2009 by considering the following remarks:

1. Considering our 2009 Calendar of Events, there are still few remaining steps to be taken and lots of new activities to be proposed for 2010. Among these steps I would like to stress on food security programs within agriculture cooperation, energy particularly renewable energy and Center for energy studies, industrial cooperation and it's Ministerial Meeting, completion of Terms of References of 11 Task Forces of WGIC, financial cooperation especially Islamic Finance and Halal Industry.

Remittances as an issue close to the heart of all D-8 countries was addressed by Secretariat through contacting such organizations as IBL, IYF and IFAD and offered a draft proposal for mutual cooperation. In this regard, I hope that Bangladesh, who has already indicated her interest in the subject, would further lead this field of cooperation and report its result to the next Commissioner Meeting.

Secretariat paid special attention to the result of Working Group on Civil Aviation which was held in Bali, Indonesia last year and encouraged both Indonesian and Turkish national carriers to sign a MoU which was finally operationalized by the

first flight of Turkish Airlines on September 3<sup>rd</sup> to Jakarta. This is one of the outcomes of the Secretariat intervention which was welcomed by both sides and therefore promoted by bilateral trade and businesses.

2. The Secretariat on its own initiative compiled and produced a “Matrix of Activities to be Followed by Member Countries” based on adopted Reports of Principle Organs. This document would assist Member Countries to follow through with the major tasks on the hand. Therefore this can function as reference document for Member Countries.
3. During the last Commissioner Meeting, it was decided that the base year for the Offer List under PTA shall be January 1, 2008. Therefore since then Member Countries have been requested to send their Offer Lists or confirmation letters concerning their previously submitted list. So far the Secretariat has received Offer Lists/Confirmation Letters from Indonesia, Turkey, Bangladesh and Nigeria. It is repeatedly mentioned that unless Offer Lists are tabled by all Member Countries, PTA could not be implemented.
4. Secretariat expects Member Countries to complete the ratification procedures of the three Agreements of D-8, Visa, Customs and PTA. These three Agreements are important for the promotion of trade and cooperation among Member Countries. I would like to draw your attention to some typographical errors on “Agreement on Simplification of Visa Procedures” which were noted by MFA of Bangladesh. The details of which were reflected in Secretariat circular. I request you to adopt these changes and allow Secretariat to annex a Corrigendum to the Agreement.
5. I would like to bring to your kind attention the importance of D-8 Charter in order to codify all D-8 rules and regulations, strengthen its legal and institutional framework and promote it in international community. As most of the chapters of a Charter have already been adopted by D-8 Organs in different legal forms, it will mostly be a reaffirmation of current legislation in one legal arrangement which will serve as a firm foundation. As the Secretary General of D-8, the draft Charter was circulated to all Commissioners eight months ago. The text is straight forward and therefore I might not required negotiations. I request the Commissioners to finalize the text in this meeting and submit it to the 12th Council for its approval.
6. This Action is going to be main blueprint for activities to be continually implemented and monitored by all Member Countries. Therefore Secretariat requests Member Countries to affirm their commitments by taking charge of different activities as prime movers or interested parties to as many activities as possible.
7. A Priority List of Areas of Cooperation has been drafted by the Secretariat and according to paragraph 18 of the 6th Summit Declaration, the D-8 Commission

would consider this List with particular emphasis on enhancing intra-D-8 trade and come up with a final List.

8. There are two more months left for the implementation of the Budget 2009. The Budget 2010 has been mainly formulated on the basis of 2009. The Secretariat is exercising its utmost efforts to economize the expenditures and keep the routine administrative expenses to minimum. This is why we only have enough budgets to survive up to the end of December; otherwise the contributions of Member Countries to the budget of Secretariat would have been dried up by beginning of December 2009. Of course if the Headquarters Agreement is ratified by the Parliament of Turkey, the Secretariat would be eligible for income tax exemption of salaries of its Turkish Nationals which would make it easier for Secretariat to survive up to the end of its financial year. I sincerely request the Commissioner of Turkey to follow up the ratification of Headquarters Agreement. At the same time it is vital for the Secretariat to receive annual contributions by Member Countries on time.

During past year, I have maintained and promoted bilateral relations and cooperation with our sister organization, OIC, as Secretary General of D-8. I believe that the success of either of the two is hinged upon closer synergy in all potential fields of cooperation. Therefore I would very much like to request the member countries of both organizations to utilize this potential opportunity to its maximum extent.

Honorable Ministers, Excellencies, ladies and gentlemen,

Thank you for your attention, I wish you a very fruitful deliberation and a very successful outcome.

Wassalamualaikum Warrahmatullahi Wabarakatuh.

ANNEX V

CORRIGENDUM

AGREEMENT ON “SIMPLIFICATION OF VISA PROCEDURES FOR  
THE BUSINESSMEN OF THE D-8 MEMBER STATES”:

**In the second paragraph (b) of the article 9 of the above agreement, 8/a(i) and 8/a(ii) should be corrected as 9/a(i) and 9/a(ii) respectively and also that ‘8’ in article 10(a) should be corrected as ‘9’.**

**ANNEX VI**

This annex will be provided only to the Member States upon request.