

**Government of Pakistan
Ministry of Ports & Shipping**

BY FAX

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Subject: **SECOND MEETING OF THE D-8 WORKING GROUP ON SHIPPING TO BE HELD IN ABUJA, NIGERIA FROM 17-18 OCTOBER, 2011.**

Reference Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Islamabad's U.O. No. EC(D-8)-8/15/2011 dated 10-10-2011 on the subject mentioned above.

2. The requisite views / comments on the agenda of the forthcoming D-8 Commission Meeting and the D-8 Roadmap scheduled to be held on 17-18 October, 2011 are as under:-

- (a) All agenda points, except Point 5(b), relate to other Ministries / Departments whose considered views / comments may be solicited by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.
- (b) As regards Point 5(b), scheduling "Discussion on the Implementation of Roadmap for Economic Cooperation in the Second Decade of Cooperation (2008-2018)", Key Programme No. VIII "Transportation" partly relates to this Ministry, which has accordingly been examined and found in order; being generally in conformity with the recommendations of the Working Group made in the Seminar on "Prospects of Shipping in D-8 Countries" held in Karachi on 20-21 April 2005. However, in order to broaden the scope of this Key Programme, following proposals may also be included therein so as to help achieve the envisaged objectives and goals during the 2nd Decade of Cooperation:
 - i) Setting up of a D-8 Ports & Shipping Business Forum, as per recommendations of the Working Group, with adequate infrastructure, by first half of the decade (2013), with a view to deal with all maritime issues, ship-owning, ship operating, port terminals, cargo handling, education, training etc.
 - ii) Utilizing each other's skilled human resource, particularly seafarers, where needed, in preference to the non D-8 countries.

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- iii) Promoting transfer of technology, relating to shipping and maritime transport industry, amongst the D-8 countries.
- iv) Analyzing / formulating ship-owning rules, regulations and procedures within D-8 Group so as to encourage cross-registration of ships.
- v) Presenting and pursuing common opinion / strategy / agenda, on various maritime issues including transportation, by the D-8 Group at the International for a, associations, conferences, etc. with a view to consolidate the group's position threat.
- vi) Providing MFN treatment to each others vessels at their respective ports.
- vii) Collectively lobbying, internationally, to eradicate unfair practices against D-8 seafarers.

3. Capt. Aftabuddin Siddiqui, Executive Director of PNSC has been nominated to attend the subject meeting. Efforts are being made for the endorsement of visa from Nigerian Embassy, Islamabad. However, if the nominee is unable to attend the subject meeting, Pakistan's High Commissioner at Nigeria may be requested to attend the same.

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✓ Ministry of Foreign Affairs (Mr. Shakeel Asghar, Director (FoDP/EC)), Islamabad.
 M/o Ports & Shipping's U.O. No. 1(5)/2005-Coord, dated 13-10-2011.

Cc.

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