

REPORT OF
THE 2rd D-8 TASK FORCE MEETING ON FOOD INDUSTRIES
8th October, 2012 Dhaka, Bangladesh

The 2rd D-8 Task Force Meeting on Food Industries was held in Dhaka, Bangladesh on 8th October 2012. The meeting was attended by List of participants is attached as Annex 1.

Agenda Item No 1: Election of the Chair

Professor Dr.Md. Shams-Ud-Din of Department of Food Technology & Rural Industries, Bangladesh Agricultural University, Mymensingh was elected as the Chair of the meeting by consensus.

Agenda Item No 2: Adoption of the Agenda

Under this Agenda Item, the proposed agenda was adopted.

Agenda Item No 3: Election of Rapporteur

Under this Agenda Item, Dr.Md.Saleh Ahmed, Post Harvest Handling and Quality Assurance Expert of National Technology Project, Ministry of Agriculture, Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh and Mr.Md. Shafiur Rahman, Assistant Professor, Department of Food Engineering and Technology were assigned as Rapporteur by the Chairman.

Agenda Item No 4: Presentation of Country Papers

Under this Agenda Item, Bangladesh, Egypt, Iran and Indonesia made country paper presentation on food sector of their respective countries.

Paper-1: Title: Food Industries in Bangladesh: Growth Status and Opportunities

Presenter: Dr. Sreekanta Sheel, Logistic Expert, National Agricultural Technology Project
(NATP), Hortex Foundation

Paper-2: Title: "Food Industries in Egypt"

Presenter: Mr. Mohammad Abdullah, Commercial Attache, Ministry of Food Industries,
Egypt

Paper-3: Title: Profile of Food Industry, Marine and Fisheries

Presenter: Sri Hadiati and Ericha Fatma, Ministry of Industries, Mine, Indonesia

Paper-4: Title: Situation of the food and beverage industry

Presenter: Roya Rafie, I.R. Iran

Agenda Item No 5: Review of the Report of the last Task Force Meeting on New Projects and Areas of Cooperation in Food Industries

Decisions of last Task Force Meeting were reviewed by the participants of the D-8 Task Force Meeting on Food Sector.

1. *The information regarding import and export regulations as well as investment legislation relating to food industries should be compiled by the D-8 Member Countries before the next meeting on industry.*

It was stated by the participants that information in this respect should be prepared by the respective member countries that would be compiled by the Secretariat.

2. *Efforts should be made to ensure that more private sector representatives from the D-8 countries participate in meetings in order to engage in the discussion of problems, contribute to problem solving, and increase business cooperation.*

It was stated by the participants that a good number of participants are drawn from private sector in the meetings, so that all may be engaged in discussions of problems, and can contribute for solutions.

3. *To establish electronic media such as websites, blogs and databases in order to share information regarding food legislation and trade-related issues. Central Anatolian Exporter's Unions (OAIB) of Turkey expressed readiness to take the initiative in this respect.*

It was stated by the participants that in the D-8 website, the data base on industrial issues, legislation on investment, and trade regulations etc should be included in the D-8 website.

4. *Efforts should be made, with the support of the D-8 Secretariat, to encourage and facilitate the active participation of Non-governmental Organizations (NGOs) in the D-8 meetings, including those representing food industries.*

It was stated by the participants that in this 2nd meeting a good number of NGOs are invited to participate.

5. *Information exchange through the D-8 website should be made more effective.*

It was suggested by the participants to incorporate all the relevant data on industrial issues along with export and import data, tariff rules in the D-8 website by the D8 Secretariat within six months.

Agenda No.6: New projects and areas of cooperation in food industries

- The D-8 website should be dedicated with information on export-import regulations and investment legislations to be provided by the member countries in a regular manner to the Secretariat.
- Establish a Central Food Technological Research and Development Institute by D-8 Secretariat to act as Centre of Excellence among the D-8 countries to conduct integrated research and development activities for overall improvement of the food industrial sector.
- Arrange capacity building programme in the member countries through various joint events and exchange of data, experience sharing, experts, skills, training in the areas of food processing.

- ❑ Inviting food industries business community of all D-8 countries to organize a meeting during the next working group meeting to determine the areas of cooperation, discuss on export and import opportunities and FDI in each member country under the umbrella of the D-8 Secretariat.
- ❑ Harmonization of food standards among the D-8 member countries and acceptance of *Halal* certification by the member countries.

Agenda No.7: Date and Venue of the next minute

The date and venue will be decided by the Inter Ministerial Meeting later on and it will be duly notified to the participants later on.

Agenda No.8: Any other business

Participants of the member countries agreed in consensus to exchange ideas, to have better communication to improve food industries in future

Agenda No.9: Adoption of the report

The report was adopted by the Task Force members

Agenda No.10:

Task Force Chairman Prof Dr. Md. Shams Ud-Din thanks the Government of the Peoples Republic of Bangladesh to host this fruitful meeting.