

Sixth Session of D-8 Working Group (Petrochemicals and Fertilizer) on Industrial Cooperation on 08-10-2012:

REPORT OF THE SECOND D-8 TASK FORCE MEETING ON PETROCHEMICAL AND FERTILIZER 8 October 2012, Dhaka, Bangladesh

The **second** Task Force Meeting on Petrochemical and Fertilizer was held in Dhaka, Bangladesh on 8 October 2012. The meeting was attended by participants. List of participants is attached as Annex (1).

Agenda Item No 1: Election of the Chair

Dr. M. Tamim, Professor, Department of Petroleum and Mineral Resources Engineering, Bangladesh University of Engineering & Technology, Dhaka was elected as a chairman by the 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

Dr. Md. Iqbal Hossain, Assistant Professor, Department of Chemical Engineering, Bangladesh University of Engineering & Technology, Dhaka has been nominated as Rapporteur by the house.

Agenda Item No 4: Presentation of Country Papers on the Status of Petrochemical and Fertilize Sector

Under this Agenda Item, **Dr. Dil Afroza Begum**, Professor, Department of Chemical Engineering, Bangladesh University of Engineering and Technology, Dhaka delivered the Key-Note speech from the host country Bangladesh, where the current status of petrochemical and fertilizer industries in Bangladesh was highlighted. Specifically she talked about the needs (i.e., the scope of collaboration with D8 countries) in the fertilizer, plastic, and refinery industries of Bangladesh. She proposed the development of a petrochemical complex in Bangladesh with specific models. She also proposed to develop a common advanced petrochemical institute in Bangladesh, funded by D-8 Secretariat to study, research and co-ordinate scholarly activities required in the sector. In her conclusion, she generously welcomed all D-8 countries to support each other technically, financially in expansion of petrochemical and fertilizer sector, so that every country is benefited and can bring prosperity for others. After her presentation, representatives from Turkey and Iran presented their country papers.

Mr. Ali Barutcuoglu, Office Director, GUBRETAS, Turkey, delivered a pleasant presentation and provided a clear picture about Turkish fertilizer industries. He gave proposal for the joint-venture projects on phosphate- and N₂-based productions.

Ms. Neslihan ERGUN, Technical Specialist, Turkey's Plastic Manufactures Research Development and Educational Foundation, delivered a nice presentation on the plastic industries in Turkey. She showed interest to increase the trade volume of plastic raw-material between Turkey and Bangladesh.

Mrs. Farnaz Alavi, Head of Polymers Market Research, National Petrochemical Company, Iran, presented various ways or facilities to develop business and other relationships between Iran and other D-8 member countries. She proposed to develop a common expert committee for D-8 member countries in the sector of petrochemical and fertilizer.

Delegates from other countries, present in the meeting; exchanged their views and shared their experience with other country representatives about their field of interest.

Agenda Item No 5: *Open Discussion on the Presented Country Papers.*

All delegates present in the meeting attended the open discussion on the presented country papers. They exchanged their views and shared their experience with other country representatives about their field of interest.

Some issues discussed in the open discussion are:

- (1) Formation of a common expert committee for D-8 member countries.
- (2) Formation of a petrochemical institute in Bangladesh funded by D-8 member countries.
- (3) Raising a common fund for the development of petrochemical sector.
- (4) Developing common projects in member countries for mutual benefits.
- (5) Increasing trade volume of petrochemical products among the D-8 countries.

Agenda Item No 6: *Making Key Recommendations*

The house agreed to make the following key recommendations:

- (1) Formation of a common expert committee for D-8 member countries (hereafter called D-8 Petrochemical Expert Group). The committee will decide or propose the possible ways for the collaboration among D-8 member countries for mutual interest. Specifically the committee will

coordinate, communicate, monitor, administer and supervise the implementation of any decision taken. To form the committee, all members will introduce their representatives preferably from senior management to the D-8 secretariat.

The recommended expert committee should be formed within the next three months.

It is to be noted that Iran's petrochemical industry expressed its willingness in forming D8 petrochemical expert group in coordination with D-8 secretariat.

(2) Formation of a petrochemical institute in Bangladesh funded by D-8 member countries.

Agenda Item No 7: Date and Venue of the Next Meeting

Date and venue of the next meeting is to be fixed in consistency with the decision to be taken by the inter-ministerial meeting.

Agenda Item No 8: Adoption of the Report

The Report was adopted by the Task Force members unanimously.

Agenda Item No 9

Task Force Chairman Dr. M. Tamim thanked the Government of the Peoples' Republic of Bangladesh for hosting the meeting.