

**Report of the Third Meeting
of High Level Trade Officials of the Developing Eight (D-8)
Jakarta, 9-11 October 2004**

1. The Government of the Republic of Indonesia hosted the 3rd Meeting of High Level Trade Officials of the Developing Eight in Jakarta on 9-11 October 2004. The delegations from all member states attended the meeting. The list of participants is attached as **Annex I**.
2. The Deputy Minister of Industry and Trade of the Republic of Indonesia, Mr. Pos M. Hutabarat formally opened the meeting. In his opening remarks, he highlighted the importance of concluding the Preferential Trade Agreement and Multilateral Agreement on Customs Cooperation among D-8 member countries to increase the volume of intra trade, as well as the need to enhance D-8 coordination and solidarity to strengthen D-8 advocacy in global economic issues. The text of his remarks is attached as **Annex II**.
3. The Agenda adopted by the meeting is attached as **Annex III**.
4. Ambassador Ayhan Kamel, Executive Director of D-8 was unable to attend the meeting. However, he sent his written message which was then read out in then meeting by Ms. Linggawaty Hakim, Director for Non UN Cooperation on Economic, Financial and Development affairs of the Department of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Indonesia. In his written message, he highlighted that the development of intra trade is a subject of priority in D-8 cooperation and that the Council of Minister and Commissioner of D-8 were highly appreciate the work of the High Level Trade Officials . The text of the address is attached as **Annex IV**.
5. Two working groups were set up to consider the draft Preferential Trade Agreement and the draft Multilateral Agreement on Mutual Administrative Assistance on Customs Matters.
6. The Working Group on Preferential Trade Agreement was chaired by Mr. Djunari I Waskito of Republic of Indonesia and co-chaired by Mr. Mostafa Sarmadi of Islamic Republic of Iran. It was attended by trade officials from The People's Republic of Bangladesh, The Arab Republic of Egypt; The Islamic Republic of Iran, The Republic of Indonesia, Malaysia, The Federal Republic of Nigeria, The Islamic Republic of Pakistan, and The Republic of Turkey. The Arab Republic of Egypt was represented by trade officer from the Embassy in Jakarta.
7. The Delegation of Iran as Co-Chairman of the Working Group on Preferential Trade Agreement presented his report to the Plenary on the deliberations in the working group.

8. It was reported that the Working Group on Preferential Trade Agreement agreed to make some changes on a number of Articles in the draft text Agreement. Substantive and elaborate discussions on the draft text Agreement covered Articles 3 to 22. The bracketed formulation on some Articles required further consultation and deliberation. The amended draft Agreement is attached in **Annex V**.
 9. The Working Group on Multilateral Agreement on Mutual Administrative Assistance in Customs Matters was chaired by Mr. Liaqat Ally Agha, of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan and Co-Chaired by Mr. Abdurochman of the Republic of Indonesia. It was attended by the customs representatives from The People's Republic of Bangladesh, The Islamic Republic of Iran, The Republic of Indonesia, The Federal Republic of Nigeria, The Islamic Republic of Pakistan, and The Republic of Turkey. The Arab Republic of Egypt and Malaysia were not represented.
 10. The Chairman of the Working Group on Multilateral Agreement on Mutual Administrative Assistance in Customs Matters presented his report to the Plenary the deliberations in the working group. It was reported that the Working Group on Customs has concluded its deliberations and approved the draft Agreement with some changes on a number of text Articles. The amended Draft Agreement is attached as **Annex VI**.
 11. Substantive deliberation in the Working Group on Customs Matters focused on *Article 9: Controlled Delivery; Article 10: Cross Border Cooperation; Article 11: Hot Pursuit; and Article 12: Cross Border Surveillance*. The meeting finally agreed to delete those articles with the following consideration:
 - a. Member countries viewed that the above-mentioned Articles are not in line with the primary objectives of concluding the agreement on mutual administrative assistance in customs matters among D-8 member countries. It was emphasized that activities provided for under those Articles would require further involvement of technical authorities, and might intervene with the existing domestic regulations and procedures in the respective member countries.
 - b. To avoid further complicated arrangement and implementation of those provisions, the meeting agreed to exclude these Articles.
 12. The High Level Trade Officials Meeting decided that the two amended Drafts on *Preferential Trade Agreement* and *Multilateral Agreement on Mutual Administrative Assistance in Customs Matters* be submitted to D-8 Executive Director and circulated to all member countries for their further comments and approval.
 13. The delegation of the Republic of Turkey expressed his willingness to host the fourth meeting of HLTO during the second quarter of 2005.
 14. The Head delegation of the Republic of Turkey on behalf of all participating delegates expressed his appreciation and gratitude to the Government of the Republic Indonesia for hosting the third meeting of High Level Trade Officials.
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