

**Report of the
47th Session of the D-8 Commission
Dhaka
22-23 October 2023**

The 47th Session of the D-8 Commission was held from 22-23 October 2023 in Dhaka, People’s Republic of Bangladesh. The meeting was chaired by Ms. Wahida Ahmed, the D-8 Commissioner and Director General, International Organizations, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the People’s Republic of Bangladesh. Commissioners/Delegates from all Member States attended the meeting. The list of participants is attached as **Annex I**.

Agenda Item 1: Opening of the Meeting and welcome statement by Ambassador Masud Bin Momen, Foreign Secretary (Senior Secretary), Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the People’s Republic of Bangladesh

The Foreign Secretary delivered his opening statement and welcomed the delegates to the 47th Session of the D-8 Commission. His statement is attached as **Annex II**.

In line with the proposal of the members, the Commission adopted a “Joint Communique of the D-8 Commission on solidarity with Palestinian People”. The Joint Communique is attached as **Annex III**.

Agenda Item 2: Consideration and Adoption of the Draft Agenda

The agenda was considered and adopted with the amendment proposed by the Islamic Republic of Iran regarding the rotation of the Chair. The adopted agenda is attached as **Annex IV**.

Agenda Item 3: Statement and progress report on activities since February 2023 by the D-8 Secretary-General

Secretary-General, H.E. Ambassador Isiaka Abdulqadir Imam, delivered his statement by welcoming the Commissioners and Delegates to the meeting. The Secretary-General also presented the progress report on the activities of the Organization on Sectoral Cooperation and External Relations since February 2023. His statement is attached as **Annex V**.

Agenda Item 4: Statement by the Heads of Delegations of Member States

The Heads of delegations of Member States delivered their statements. Their statements are attached as **Annex VI**.

Agenda Item 5: Consideration and approval of financial and administrative matters of the D-8 Secretariat:

The Secretary-General presented the Draft Budget proposal for 2024 for approval of the Commission on the following:

- a) Consideration and adoption of the proposed annual budget of the Secretariat for 2024.
- b) Discussion on the reassessment of the scale of contribution by member states
- c) Discussion on the late contribution payment
- d) Discussion on the outstanding contribution payment
- e) Discussion on the Secretariat's proposal for Incorporating a service of a Law Firm

After comprehensive discussion, the Commission:

- Decided to maintain the Budget for 2023 as the Budget for 2024.
- Decided to reconsider member states' contributions, based on UN Scale and the capacity to pay (GDP), in the upcoming Commission meeting. The Republic of Türkiye is not in favour of the UN Scale system and is in favour of continuation of the budget as it is.
- Urged member states to ensure timely payment of their contributions, enabling the Secretariat to fulfill its financial responsibilities without delay.
- The Secretariat's suggestion to hire the legal services of a law firm on a retainer basis, was not endorsed.

The budget of the Secretariat for 2024 is attached as **Annex VII**.

Agenda Item 6: Consideration and adoption of the Secretariat's financial Audit Report for 2021-2022

The Secretary-General presented the Audit Report along with the Secretariat's responses on the observations made by the auditors for consideration and adoption of the Commission.

The Commission deliberated upon and adopted the Report, with the following recommendations:

- Budget to be utilized more efficiently.
- Recommendations of the Audit Report, related to the use of credit cards, post facto approvals, and reappropriations within the same Heads of Accounts, should be followed in letter and spirit.
- Perdiem and travel expenses are to be within the budgetary allocation.

Agenda Item 7: Discussion on the procedure of granting Observer Status and Permitting the Accession of New Members into the organization

The Secretary-General briefed the meeting on the advancements achieved during the Working Group sessions and presented the preliminary document to the Commission regarding the criteria

and modalities for granting observer status and accession of new members into the Organization.

Following an in-depth discussion of the draft text, seven members of the Commission endorsed and referred the text to the next Council of Ministers for approval. Once agreed, the text will be added as a new set of rules in the Basic Documents of the Secretariat with the title of “Criteria and Modalities for granting observer status and accession of new members into the Organization”. According to the 46th Commission meeting, the accession of new states will be dealt at the next Ministerial Council meeting.

As consensus could not be reached due to the disapproval expressed by the Arab Republic of Egypt, the matter will be referred to the next Council of Ministers for further deliberations.

Agenda Item 8: Consideration of the status of the D-8 Legal Instruments

The Secretary-General presented an update on the ratification, implementation, and operationalization of the D-8 Legal Instruments.

The delegates deliberated on the progress made in their own countries on the status of ratification and/or implementation of these legal instruments, namely, the D-8 PTA, the Visa and Customs Agreements, the MoU on Civil Aviation, and the MoU between SMEs and Governmental bodies.

- The delegation from Egypt informed the meeting that his country is in the process of finalizing the ratification process to the D-8 PTA, which will shortly be deposited with the Secretariat.
- The Commissioner of Pakistan informed that a summary on the MoU on SMEs & Governmental Bodies was approved by the Cabinet, which will be deposited with the Secretariat before the next Commission meeting.
- The Commissioners of Indonesia and Malaysia informed that they are in consultation with relevant agencies on ratification of the MoU on SMEs & Governmental Bodies.
- The Commissioner of Indonesia further informed the Session that his government is in the consultation process regarding the Visa Agreement.

Agenda Item 9: Update on Basic Documents and discussion on the appointment of Deputy Secretary General

After discussions, the Commission tasked the Secretariat to consult the Republic of Türkiye for revising the job description as well as financial package for the post of Deputy Secretary General, which will be represented by Republic of Türkiye as the host country on permanent basis.

The updated job description including revised financial package is to be presented by the Secretariat at the next Commission meeting.

Egypt does not welcome the creation of the post of the Deputy Secretary General as a permanent position for any particular member states, because no member states should get any special

treatment then the rest of the members as per the practice in most regional and international organizations.

The proposed amendment in Basic Documents was adopted by the Commission.

Agenda Item 10: Discussion on sub-organizations of the D-8 Organization.

a) Financing mechanism

b) Governing Structure

As per the task given by the 46th Commission, the Secretary-General presented a working paper along with an executive summary, prepared by the Secretariat on the Financing Mechanism of Affiliate Bodies, comparing D-8 organization with similar international organizations, which included all aspects related to governance, funding, administrative arrangements and their relationship with D-8 Organization.

After discussions, the Commission approved the status of all D-8 Sub organizations as *Affiliated bodies*, which will be independent in formulating their governing structure and will be independently self-financed.

Agenda item 11: Endorsement of applications for facility under the Project Support Fund

The Secretary-General presented a proposal along with a comprehensive paper on the establishment of the D-8

Development Fund that will be a sustainable solution for the continuation of the D-8 Project Support Fund. The Commission recommended that the Secretariat should explore further financial support from international development partners and financial institutions such as IsDB, Infrastructure Development Bank, ADB, and others.

The Commission tasked the Secretariat to present the concept paper on the establishment of D-8 Development Fund after fine-tuning it, during a subsequent Commission meeting, once the economic situation in member states improves.

Agenda item 12: Brief on D-8 Special Economic Zone by Bangladesh

The Secretary General presented the progress report on the establishment of the D-8 Special Economic Zone and requested the head of delegation of Bangladesh to inform the meeting about further progress made in this matter.

Bangladesh presented the update and informed the meeting about the various zones allocated as D-8 Special Economic Zone (SEZs). The Chair invited all member states to participate in the initiative. The Chair further invited all Member States, who have not done so, to nominate their respective focal points to facilitate continuous discussion for the establishment of the SEZ. The second meeting of the focal point will be organized in 2024 with a possibility of a site visit to the proposed zones in Bangladesh.

Member states noted with appreciation the progress made and appreciated Bangladesh for their untiring efforts. A layout of the SEZs, as provided by Bangladesh, is attached as **Annex-VIII**.

Agenda Item 13: Consideration and discussion on the Secretariat's proposals

The Secretary General presented the following Secretariat proposals along with concept notes for consideration and review of the Commission.

- a) Establishing D-8 Committee in third countries and international organizations.
- b) D8 Games
- c) Mainstreaming Climate Change issues in D8
- d) Disaster Management
- e) Mainstreaming Women Empowerment issues in D8

The Commission deliberated upon the proposals of the Secretariat and agreed on the following:

- All these initiatives will be implemented by the relevant departments of the member states on voluntary basis without any financial burden.
- Scope of D-8 contact groups should be established first in the capitals of Member states as well as in relevant international Organizations.
- It was noted that the D-8 Games will further enhance the people to people contact. The Republic of Türkiye suggested the Secretariat to continue its discussions with Turkish

Football Federation for hosting the first D-8 football Tournament.

- Welcomed the idea and tasked the Secretariat to coordinate with relevant agencies of member states to materialize the initiative of mainstreaming Climate Change issues in D-8.
- Supported the idea and tasked the Secretariat to coordinate with relevant agencies of member states and explore possible sources of funding for Disaster Management mechanism.
- Welcomed the idea of mainstreaming women empowerment issues in D-8, particularly focusing on their economic empowerment.

The Commission, however, highlighted that the Secretariat should focus primarily on the priority areas of cooperation.

All the relevant concept notes are attached as **Annex IX**.

Agenda Item 14: Discussion on the proposals from Member States on establishment of the following:

- a) D-8 Youth Council
- b) D-8 SME Center

The delegation of Bangladesh updated the meeting on the progress made regarding the establishment of D-8 Youth Council in Dhaka, and its financing and administrative mechanism. She further added that a certain portion of the budget of the council will be borne by the host government, however, the council may accept voluntary contributions and grants from public and private institutions as well.

The delegation of Nigeria briefed the meeting on the progress made regarding the establishment of D-8 SME Center in Abuja. He further informed that due to the change of leadership of the Small Medium Enterprises Development Agency of Nigeria (SMEDAN) the proposed inauguration of the center will be organized in the first quarter of 2024. He further added that the Government of Nigeria has prepared a temporary office, operational vehicle, and other administrative requirements for the initial operation of the center. He also informed that Government of Nigeria will cover the budget of the center in its initial stage.

The Commission decided that both the Organizations will have affiliated status with the D-8 Organization.

Agenda Item 15: Progress reports on the Affiliated Institutions of the D-8

- a) D-8 Health and Social protection Programme office
- b) D-8 Chamber of Commerce and Industries
- c) D-8 Technology Transfer and Exchange Network (TTEN)
- d) D-8 International University
- e) D-8 Network of Pioneers for Research and Innovation
- f) D-8 Research Centre for Agriculture and Food Security

The Secretary General presented a summary of the progress reports of the D-8 Affiliate bodies to the Commission. The Commission appreciated the progress achieved so far.

The President of D-8 TTEN participated and presented the progress report of its institution for consideration of the Commission. He informed that the Charter of D-8 TTEN was

approved by the last High Council meeting held on 02 October 2023 in Isfahan. The Commission welcomed the adoption of the D-8 TTEN Charter.

The delegation of Iran proposed to include a topic of “D-8 Technology Co-fund Initiative” in the agenda of the next Commission meeting. The relevant documents will be shared through Secretariat by Iran, in collaboration with D-8 TTEN.

The president of D-8 CCI, presented their progress and workplan during the period of 2022-2024. He also updated on organizing the 3rd General Assembly of the D-8 CCI in 2024 and called upon member states for participation.

The Commission took note and appreciated on the progress made and activities of the affiliate bodies.

Presentations are attached as **Annex X**.

Agenda Item 16: Progress reports on the following Private Sector initiatives

- a) D-8 Payment card
- b) D-8 Creative Economy and Financial Center (CEFC)
- c) D-8 Barter Trading system

The Secretary General presented the progress report on the private sector initiatives to the Commission.

Malaysia briefed the meeting on progress and the current status of D-8 CEFC and Payment Card developed by the Malaysian companies.

The delegation from D-8 CEFC presented the progress report on the initiative. After deliberation the Commission welcomed the progress made and enjoined member states to make use of the CEFC to promote the economic activities of the organization.

The Commission expressed its confidence that once implemented, the private sector initiatives will be able to generate funds for the organization.

Presentation is attached as **Annex XI**.

Agenda Item 17: Update on the Calendar of Events for 2023-2024

The Secretariat presented the Draft Calendar of Events for 2023-2024 to the Commission. Delegates updated the Commission on their countries' readiness to host the enlisted events. An updated Calendar of Events is attached as **Annex-XII**.

Agenda Item 18: Discussion on Iran's Proposal on rotation of D-8 Chairmanship

The Commission discussed Iran's proposal on automatic rotation of D-8 Chair, and tasked the Secretariat to circulate the proposal to all member states. The proposal will be considered as approved through silence procedure by 23 November 2023.

Agenda Item 19: Briefing by the incoming Chair on the Date, Venue and other arrangements of the Next D-8 Commission, Council of Ministers and Summit Meetings.

The delegation of the Arab Republic of Egypt stated that Egypt will assume the Chair of D-8 as of April 2024, and update on the dates for the next Commission, Council of Minister and Summit to the Secretariat through a diplomatic communication.

Agenda item 20: Any Other Business

In order to facilitate smooth communication with the Secretariat, the Commission tasked the Secretariat to prepare and circulate to member states its list of official holidays in advance.

Agenda Item 21: Consideration and Adoption of the Report of the 47th Session of the D-8 Commission

The Commission considered and adopted the Report of its 47th Session.

Agenda Item 22: Closing of the Meeting

The Chair appreciated and thanked all the delegates for their constructive contributions throughout the meeting proceedings. She also commended the D-8 Secretariat for their work and excellent arrangements for the meeting.

The Secretary-General also thanked the Chairperson and the Commissioners for the meeting outcome.

The Commissioners and Heads of Delegations thanked the Government of the People’s Republic of Bangladesh for the warm reception and hospitality extended to the delegations and excellent arrangements for holding of the 47th Session of the Commission and admirable chairing of the meeting.

The 47th Session of the Commission was adjourned on 23 October 2023.

**Delegation List for the 47th Commission meeting
22-23 October 2023
Dhaka, Bangladesh**

Bangladesh	
1.	H.E. Ambassador Masud Bin Momen Foreign Secretary (Senior Secretary) Ministry of Foreign Affairs Bangladesh
2.	H.E. Ms. Wahida Ahmed (HOD) Director General (International Organizations) Ministry of Foreign Affairs Bangladesh
3.	Ms. Shaila Shama SAS (International Organizations)
Egypt	
4.	Mr. Mina Makary, SS/ CDA, Embassy of Egypt - Dhaka
Indonesia	
5.	H.E. Ambassador Tri Tharyat Director General for Multilateral Cooperation Affairs (D8 Commissioner) Ministry of Foreign Affairs Indonesia
6.	Mr. Supriyanto Suwito Counsellor, Directorate of Socio-Cultural Affairs and International Organization of Developing Countries, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Indonesia
7.	Ms. Alia Fitrati Counsellor, Center of Education and Training, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Indonesia
8.	Mr. R. Pragusdiniyanto Prakasa Soemantri First Secretary, Directorate of Socio-Cultural Affairs and International Organization of Developing Countries, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Indonesia

Iran	
9.	Mr. Abolghasem Tahmasebi Director for Multilateral Economic Organizations, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Iran
10.	Mrs. Neda Alikhani Expert, Multilateral Economic Cooperation, MFA
11.	Mr. Sadegh Ghorbani Expert, Multilateral Economic Cooperation, MFA
Malaysia	
12.	Her Excellency Ambassador Haznah Md Hashim High Commissioner of Malaysia to Bangladesh
13.	Ms. Noor Aida Mohd Adham Assistant Secretary of OIC, Regional Cooperation and D-8 (ORCD) of Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Malaysia
Nigeria	
14.	H.E. Ambassador Adamu Lamuwa Permanent Secretary of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Nigeria and D-8 Commissioner
15.	H.E. Ambassador Abubakar, Salihu Deputy Director Global Institutions Unit, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Nigeria
16.	Mr. Abubakar Habib Second Secretary, Permanent Secretary's Office, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Nigeria
17.	Mr. Omar Yakubu Mohammed Second Secretary, Global Institutions Unit, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Nigeria

Pakistan	
18.	H.E. Ambassador Dr. Diyar Khan Director General for Special Investment Facilitation Council and Economic Diplomacy (SIFC & ED), D-Commissioner, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Pakistan
19.	Ms. Rida e Zahra Assistant Director (SIFC & ED)
Türkiye	
20.	Ambassador Esen Altug Director General for Multilateral Economic Affairs Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Türkiye D-8 Commissioner
21.	Pelin Merve Selek Third Secretary Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Türkiye
D-8 Secretariat	
22.	H.E. Ambassador Isiaka Abdulqadir Imam Secretary General, D8 Secretariat
23.	Mr. Ahmar Ismail Director I (Administrative, Legal and Administrative Issues)
24.	Mr. Punjul Nugraha Director II (Economy, Implementation and External Relations)
25.	Mr. Md. Biplob Tarafder Program Officer
26.	Mr. Muhammad Bilal Khan Executive Assistant

Statement of the Chair at the Opening of the 47th D-8 Commission's Meeting

Excellency Secretary General H.E. Isiaka Abdulqadir Imam
Excellency Commissioners of the D-8
Distinguished Members of the Delegation

Assalamualaikum and a very good morning.

I welcome you to the 47th D-8 Commission in Dhaka. Bangladesh is proud to host the Commission at a time when the D-8 is shifting its paradigm from an economic bloc to an International Organization that is cooperating in areas that are of common interest to its members.

Excellencies,

At the outset, let me thank the Secretary General H.E. Isiaka Abdulqadir Imam and the D-8 Secretariat for their relentless efforts over the time.

I would like you all to join me in welcoming His Excellency Ambassador Ibrahim Adamu Lamuwa of Federal Republic of Nigeria and His Excellency Dr. Diyar Khan as the new Commissioner of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan.

Excellencies,

The D-8 is evolving and incorporating new areas of cooperation including the areas of technology, connectivity, youth empowerment, education, trade and investment. I hope we will be able to contribute fruitfully towards this organization through a common platform.

We have spent the last two decades in identifying the areas common for our economic development and formulating policies and cooperation network to accomplish this goal. We have completed discussion on the D-8 PTA and its

dispute management policy. Now we need to start our work in earnest. We have the potential of businesses and entrepreneurs - who can - with greater incentives and ease of doing business, leverage and capture global markets to their benefit. The D-8 Business Forum is working towards this goal. Now it is time we took collective initiatives to utilize the factors that have brought our eight countries together through our similar demographics and consumption pattern, common development needs and experience and common inherited industrial infrastructure.

We need to devise ways and means for merging the challenge of the 4IR with the human potentials of our countries. We need to incorporate technological brilliance with our knack of business endeavors so that we can sustain the present world situation.

Excellencies,

Employment creation and standard of livelihood is a challenge faced by us particularly during this current global crisis situation when the economies of our D-8 member states are also adversely affected. We as an economic organization have the responsibility to create conducive environment by dealing with not only intra-regional but also global necessities and inequalities, through pro-active deliberations and associations. We need to take lessons from the present global crisis and concentrate on developing alternate energy source and augment our agriculture productivity for the security of our people.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

The back-to-back crisis that we have faced, namely the Covid-19 pandemic and the Russia – Ukraine war have forced us revisit our understanding of the importance of peace to create conducive environment for economic growth. The lessons that we have learned has taught us how to survive facing multifaceted

challenges. We are looking into alternative sources to address the current global crisis particularly in energy, fertilizer and fuel. As the global economy is at a critical stage, we the D-8 countries should think beyond any constraints and make use of this organization. The potentiality of the D-8 has not been explored yet to its fullest. Let us take this opportunity to move forward as an economic bloc.

Excellencies,

As the largest LDC in its graduation transition, Bangladesh, under the prudent leadership of Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina continues to brave through post-pandemic odds and the current global crisis with a robust resilience.

Dear Colleagues,

Over the years we have learned the importance to be with each other and to work and learn from each other. With a combined population of over a billion and an economy projected to reaching the forty trillion marks by 2050 with intra- trade of 129 billion dollar we should focus on building an organization which, through real-time cooperation, mutual trust and understanding, can deliver on its true potential.

I wish you a successful outcome of the meeting.

Joint Communique of the D-8 Commission
On Solidarity with Palestinian people

We, the Commissioners of the Developing-8 Organization for Economic Cooperation and the Heads of Delegations 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, the Republic of Türkiye, gathering for our 47th Session in Dhaka, Bangladesh, on 22-23 October 2023, express our profound condolences to the Palestinian people for the huge loss of lives and suffering that are caused by the ongoing besiege and bombardment of Gaza, Palestine. We pray that Allah, the Almighty, grants the Palestinians consolation and strength in their just struggle to establish a sovereign, independent and viable State of Palestine.

We are deeply concerned over the blatant violation of human rights and international humanitarian law by the Israeli military aggression in Palestine that caused immense sufferings for the Palestinians, mostly women and children. We call for immediate cessation of hostilities and stopping the crimes against humanity in the Gaza Strip, Palestine.

We call for opening a humanitarian corridor inside Gaza to ensure humanitarian assistance and the provision of basic human needs to all Palestinians.

We call upon all member states to provide humanitarian assistance immediately, including collaborating with relevant international organizations, such as the United Nations Relief and Work Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA).

Agenda
47th Session of the D-8 Commission
22-23 October 2023
Dhaka, Bangladesh

1. Opening of the Meeting and welcome statement by the Chair of the People's Republic of Bangladesh
2. Consideration and Adoption of the Draft Agenda
3. Statement and progress report on activities since February 2023 by the D-8 Secretary-General
 - a) Sectoral Cooperation
 - b) External Relations
4. Statement by the Heads of Delegation of Member States (Five Minutes each)
5. Consideration and approval of financial and administrative matters of the D-8 Secretariat:
 - a) Consideration and adoption of the proposed annual budget of the Secretariat for 2024.
 - b) Discussion on the reassessment of the scale of contribution by member states
 - c) Discussion on the late contribution payment
 - d) Discussion on the outstanding contribution payment
 - e) Discussion on Secretariat's proposal for Incorporating a services of a Law Firm
6. Consideration and adoption of the Secretariat's financial Audit Report for 2021-2022
7. Discussion on procedure of granting Observer Status and Permitting the Accession of New Members into the organization issue
8. Consideration of the status of the D-8 Legal Instruments
9. Update on Basic Documents and discussion on the appointment of Deputy Secretary General.
10. Discussion on sub-organizations of the D-8 Organization.
 - a) Financing mechanism
 - b) Governing Structure
11. Discussion on status of the Project Support Fund.
12. Brief on the progress made under D-8 Special Economic Zones proposal by Bangladesh.
13. Consideration and discussion on the Secretariat's proposals
 - a) Establishing D-8 Committee in third countries and international organizations.
 - b) D8 Games
 - c) Mainstreaming Climate Change issues in D8
 - d) Disaster Management

- e) Mainstreaming Women Empowerment issues in D8
- 14. Discussion on the proposals from Member States on establishment of the following:
 - a) D-8 Youth Council
 - b) D-8 SME Center
- 15. Progress report on the Sub-Organizations of D-8
 - a. D-8 Health and Social Protection Programme Office
 - b. D-8 Chamber of Commerce and Industries (D-8 CCI)
 - c. D-8 Technology Transfer and Exchange Network (D-8 TTEN)
 - d. D-8 International University
 - e. D-8 Network of Pioneers for Research and Innovation (D-8 NPRI)
 - f. D-8 Research Center for Agriculture and Food Security (D-8 RCAFS)
- 16. Progress reports on the following Private Sector initiatives
 - a. D-8 Payment Card
 - b. D-8 Creative Economy and Financial Center (CEFC)
 - c. D-8 Barter Trading System
- 17. Update on the Calendar of Events for 2023-2024
- 18. Discussion on Iran's Proposal on rotation on D-8 Chairmanship
- 19. Briefing by the incoming Chair on the Date, Venue and other arrangements of the Next D-8 Commission, Council of Ministers and Summit Meetings.
- 20. Any Other Business.
- 21. Consideration and Adoption of the Report of the 47th Session of the D-8 Commission
- 22. Closing of the Meeting

**STATEMENT BY H.E. AMBASSADOR ISIAKA ABDULQADIR
IMAM, THE D-8 SECRETARY-GENERAL, AT THE 47TH
SESSION OF THE D-8 COMMISSION, DHAKA,
BANGLADESH 22-23 OCTOBER 2023**

Your Excellency Madame Wahida Ahmed, D-8 Commissioner
of the People's Republic of Bangladesh/Chair of the D-8
Commission,

Your Excellencies D-8 Commissioners,

Distinguished Delegates, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Assalamu'alaikum warahmatullahi wabarakatuuhu and good
morning.

I feel greatly honored to be back in the city of Dhaka for the 47th Session of the D-8 Commission. I am always happy for the opportunity to meet Your Excellencies Commissioners and colleagues from the Member States.

Before I proceed further with my address, please permit me to express my deep appreciation to the Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh for hosting this meeting, as well as the warm hospitality they have accorded to all delegates.

I also want to seize this opportunity to congratulate the Government of Bangladesh for successfully Chairing the D-8 Organization since April 2020. The exemplary leadership and commitment of your government, as the Chair of the D-8 Commission in the last three years, have propelled this organization

forward in achieving the goals and objectives for which it was established.

However, as you are all aware, this could not have been possible without the support and cooperation of Her Excellency, the Honourable Prime Minister of Bangladesh, Sheikh Hasina and the Foreign Minister of her Government, Dr A.K Abdul Momen, MP, for having successfully piloted the affairs of our organization in the most commendable manner in the years under review.

May I also use this opportunity to welcome our two new D-8 Commissioners from the Federal Republic of Nigeria and the Islamic Republic of Pakistan. The two Excellencies are joining us today at this meeting for the first time.

And to you, Your Excellency Madame Wahida Ahmed, our Chair, I have all praises for your leadership as Chair of the D-8 Commission for the past three years. Your competence and sense of purpose in overseeing the Commission's meetings have undoubtedly played a crucial role in advancing the Organization's goals and objectives. On behalf of us all here, I thank and applaud you, Madame.

Madam Chair, Excellencies,

As we go forward, it should be noted that our organization has recorded some achievements, albeit modest, since our meeting in Istanbul last February. Our commitment to fostering cooperation and adhering to the principles sets out in the D-8 Charter are evident in the strides we have made so far. Our collaborative efforts, which Your Excellencies helped to foster, have borne fruits in key areas that will catalyze greater economic integration and prosperity among our member states.

On our part, we at the D-8 Secretariat have spared no efforts in maximizing the scarce resources at our disposal to improve on effective functioning of day-to-day running of the Organization, in order to ensure that its goals and objectives are achieved. This we are committed to do and we will continue to do it. The Secretariat has always reminded the esteemed member states to take forward meetings, programs, and activities we agreed upon.

Madame Chair, Excellencies,

You will recall that our organization has, in recent times, suffered several postponements of important meetings and activities that are crucial to achieving the key priority areas of economic cooperation among our member countries. Recently, we have

often failed to meet the quorum required to organize meetings and activities. To say the least, this is quite disappointing.

Allow me to assure Your Excellencies that the D-8 Secretariat has spared no effort in supporting the formation of a quorum for every meeting. Your Excellencies may recall that I made personal appeal to you in the hope that we can organize proposed and scheduled meetings. However, I want to use this opportunity, once again, to appeal to our member states for regular participation in our meetings and activities as scheduled.

Madame Chair, Excellencies,

Nonetheless, May I take this opportunity to brief this esteemed Commission on the various progress we have made on the sectoral front and in external relations. The Islamic Republic of Pakistan

hosted the 3rd D-8 Ministerial Meeting on Tourism, and 4th Senior Official's Meeting in August this year. Prior to that, Bangladesh had convened the first virtual meeting to establish the D-8 Special Economic Zone.

We also inaugurated the D-8 Research Center for Agriculture and Food Security in Faisalabad earlier this March. The Center serves as a sub-organization to bolster our agricultural cooperation. We have several trade, energy, agriculture, civil aviation, tourism, and ICT activities in the pipeline. The complete report of the sectoral track is presented in **Annex 3.1.A**.

I am happy to inform you that our sub-organizations have been active in executing their mandates through activities and programs that align with the objectives of the D8. The D-8 Secretariat has been working closely with them to organize those activities and

events. In February, we hosted four sub-organizations' events, while in March, we held the second meeting of the D-8 Network of Pioneers for Research and Innovation (NPRI) based at COMSATS University, Islamabad. Earlier this month, we celebrated the Tenth Anniversary of D-8 TTEN in Tehran, Iran.

Similarly, we also had the Third Board of Trustees' Meeting of the D-8 International University based in Hamedan, Iran. I want to use this opportunity to appeal to all our Member States to expedite the accreditation process for the Award of Degrees of the D-8 International University in Iran. We will hear the presentation of comprehensive report of our sub-organizations, later under the **Agenda Item 15.**

Madam Chair, Excellencies,

On external relations activities, the D-8 Secretariat continues to forge collaboration with international organizations and Development Partners, particularly those of the United Nations Specialized Agencies such as, UNCTAD, UNDESA, etc. and other sub-regional bodies such as, the Organization of Islamic Cooperation (OIC), the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS), Association of South East Asian Nations (ASEAN), all in a bid to bolster our collective efforts to achieve our goals.

In furtherance of our efforts to engage with our partners to bridge the funding gap, we have initiated contact with Asian Development Bank and the Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank, and other relevant development financing institutions. Therefore, I wish to

advise that if we are to become a result-oriented organization, we need sustainable funding to achieve our aims and objectives.

In order to avoid over reliance on our external partners for funding support, the Secretariat has thought it wise to prepare a proposal for consideration to this esteemed Commission for the establishment of **D-8 Development Fund**. The establishment of the fund, which will be in form of a trust fund, will go a long way to finance some of our programs and activities. A concept note on this proposal has been presented to the esteemed Member States for comments and guidance.

Excellencies,

In continuation of our efforts to engage with international organizations, and to seek for additional resources to support our

programs and activities, we managed to secure funding from the United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UNDESA) to build our capacity on e-government last year. During the period, we also organized two virtual and in-person workshops, with total combined value of around 75,000 Euros.

This year, we have secured support from the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) to organize two workshops, one virtual and the other one in-person. The D-8 and UNCTAD also collaborated to organize the just -concluded 8th World Investment Forum in Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates. The UNCTAD financed the participation of experts from the D-8 Member States with combined total amount provided by UNCTAD estimated at around 45,000 Euros.

The D-8 Secretariat will continue to pursue – and push – this kind of collaboration to assist the organization in achieving its objectives in line with the D-8 Decennial Roadmap for 2020-2030. A comprehensive report on external relations and its appendices have been presented as **Annex 3.1.B**.

Distinguished Delegates, Ladies and Gentlemen,

This Organization has vast potential that we must tap into. The agenda presented before us serves as indicator. Let me briefly introduce the crucial items of our Agenda.

Under Agenda Item 3, the Secretariat has shared the comprehensive progress reports on sectoral cooperation and external relations, which you can see in **Annexes 3.1A and 3.1B**, for your consideration and review.

The Secretariat has also developed its budget for 2024 and a new formula on the scale of assessment for contributions of the D-8 Member States to the Secretariat's budget. We have also submitted a proposal on incorporating the services of a law firm, as part of our discussion under **agenda item 5**. Relevant documents, **Annexes 5.1.A, B, C, D, and E** are tabled for your consideration and subsequent decision.

A brief note on the budget, Excellencies. Upon various exercises conducted by the Secretariat, we concluded that an increase in our budget for 2024 is inevitable. I will delve further and deeper into the proposed increase during our deliberation under the appropriate agenda item later.

Still on the financial topic. I wish to report that auditors from Bangladesh and Türkiye have conducted the Financial Audit for the Secretariat Budget for 2021-2022 in June 2023. The Audit Report, along with the Secretariat's responses, is presented to this Commission as **Annex 6.A. and 6.B.** for review and adoption by the esteemed Commission.

The procedure for granting observer status and permitting the accession of new members to the organization will be discussed under **Agenda Item 7.** The draft criteria and modalities for members and observers are presented in Annex **7.A. and 7.B.** for further consideration and review by the esteemed Commission.

The Secretariat presents **Annex 8** as an updated table on the status of the D-8 Legal Instrument for consideration by the Commission. Under **Agenda Item 9,** the Commission will

deliberate upon the proposal of appointment of the Deputy Secretary General from the Republic of Türkiye. The Secretariat has developed a draft job description, along with the financial implications of the post of the Deputy Secretary General, presented as **Annex 9**, for discussion and decision by the esteemed Commission.

As per the decision of the 46th Commission, the Secretariat presents the revised proposal on the financing mechanism of its affiliated sub-organizations along with an executive summary in **Annex 10.A.** for review by the esteemed Commission.

The Commission will deliberate upon the proposal for the establishment of the D-8 Development Fund presented by the Secretariat as **Annex 11.**

The People's Republic of Bangladesh successfully hosted the inaugural meeting of its proposed D-8 Special Economic Zones, and the progress report on the said subject is presented as **Annex 12** for consideration by the Commission.

The Secretariat also wishes to table proposals for establishing the D-8 Committee in third countries, the D8 Games, the mainstreaming of women empowerment, climate change issues in D-8, and disaster management. The concept notes on these proposals have been circulated among member states for their review and also presented before this Commission under **agenda item 13** for review.

In Agenda **Item 14**, Bangladesh and Nigeria may update the Commission on their proposals to establish the two new sub-organizations, namely, the D-8 Youth Council in Dhaka and the D-8 SME Center in Abuja.

The Secretariat has also prepared a progress report on the private sector-led initiatives namely, D-8 payment card, D-8 Creative Economy and Financial Center, and D-8 Barter Trading in **Annex 16. A., B., and C.**, respectively, for the noble Commission's considerations.

We will also deliberate and consider the Tentative Calendar of Activities for 2024, presented as **Annex 17.1.**, which are essential for advancing the organization's agenda forward.

Under Agenda **Item 18**, the delegation of the Arab Republic of Egypt, may update on the preparations for the forthcoming statutory meetings under their Chairmanship, starting in 2024.

Madam Chair, Distinguished Delegates,

Ladies and Gentlemen,

As the Secretary-General, I stand before you with a resolute belief in the potential of our member states to shape a brighter future together. It is imperative that we intensify our collaborative efforts, transcending borders and harnessing the collective strength of our diverse economies. The time has come for us to fortify the D-8 Secretariat by empowering it as a driving force to effectively transform the organization.

Madam Chair, Excellencies Ladies and Gentlemen,

In conclusion, let us seize this opportunity to reaffirm our collective resolve to elevate the D-8 Organization to new heights of prosperity and cooperation. Together, we hold the key to unlocking the full potential of our member states and fostering a brighter future for all our peoples.

I wish this esteemed Commission a successful deliberation.

I thank you all for your attention.

Remarks H.E. Tri Tharyat, D-8 Commissioner of Indonesia
47th Session of D-8 Commission, Dhaka, Bangladesh

1. I would like to thank Her Excellency Wahida Ahmed, D-8 Commissioner for Bangladesh, for organizing our meeting today.
2. My gratitude also goes to the Secretary-General and his team for their dedication to deepen our collaboration.
3. This meeting is our second session of the year.
4. Many of the global challenges that we identified last February ... remain in the picture.
5. Such as the sluggishness of the world's economy and the worrying state of global food security.
6. This gloomy picture is a wake-up call to find creative means for our mutual collaboration.
7. I have several points for our discussion today.
8. First, work harder to realize D-8 PTA.
9. The agreement is not only the way to enhance our collaboration, but also to reenergize our economies.
10. Our intra trade in 2021 stood at USD 136 billion ... while the value of our external trade was USD 2 trillion.
11. We have targeted, by 2030 the value of our intra-trade would reach minimum 10% of total trade.
12. And we do have the resources to reach the target.
13. With a combined GDP of more than USD 4.4 trillion ... D-8 is among the fifth largest economies in the world.

Please check against delivery

14. Indonesia is ready to implement D-8 PTA and looks forward to the new cut-off-date for its full implementation.
15. Second, focus on activities with higher possibility for mutual benefit.
16. Our organization has evolved considerably ... and incorporated plenty of new areas of cooperation.
17. Nonetheless ... the level of engagement of the members varies.
18. Indonesia suggests the Secretariat consider consulting with members to identify areas of cooperation that members believe are critical.
19. Lastly, we should consider aligning our activities with the global agenda.
20. This alignment will encourage members to push further the collaboration, as well as open possibilities for D-8's contribution to global agenda.
21. Precisely for these reasons, Indonesia sees the merit in the Secretariat's proposal on mainstreaming climate change issue and advancing women economic empowerment.
22. Other prospective areas should also be identified.
23. For example, on AI and how it can help create a more sustainable and inclusive future.
24. By identifying comparative advantages among us, we can build stronger basis for mutual collaboration ... and showcasing higher profile of D-8 in the global stage.
25. To conclude, let me reiterate our steadfast commitment to the organization.
26. To strengthen unity and mutual collaboration.
27. I thank you.

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411 words

Statement by

Mr. Aboulghasem Tahmasebi

Director for Multilateral Economic Organizations

(Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Islamic Republic of Iran)

At

47th Meeting of D-8 Commission

Dhaka, 22 October 2023

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

Madame Chair,

This is an honour for me to represent the Islamic Republic of Iran in this D-8 Commission meeting. I would like to extend my sincere gratitude to the Government and People of Bangladesh for warm hospitality and hosting this Commission meeting as well as generously hosting our colleagues in the D-8 diplomatic training course.

The Commission convenes its meeting at the time of unprecedented human sufferings in Palestine. We would like to propose the Commission to send a message of D-8 support and sympathy to the brave people of Gaza Strait against the brutal attacks and war crimes by the occupying Zionist regime.

**Distinguished Commissioners,
Distinguished Secretary General,
Ladies and Gentlemen,**

As an organization for economic cooperation, the prosperity and well-being of D-8 very much hinges on the way the economies of its Member States perform. Since our last Commission meeting, the Islamic

Republic of Iran has made some headway in advancing foreign trade, particularly with neighbouring and developing nations. Despite the unlawful sanctions, our administration has managed to stabilize and, to some extent, lower inflation, increase oil and non-oil exports, and inject more impetus for different economic sectors, including manufacture. We continue to put special emphasis on multilateral cooperation, including in the D-8 context.

Likewise and since last Commission meeting, the Organization has had encouraging activities. It organized ministerial meeting on tourism in Pakistan as well as several other events, workshops and forums. The end of Covid-19 pandemic also created opportunities for different sectors of our economies, including tourism, trade, and energy to revitalize and return to their pre-pandemic normal trajectories. These encouraging developments should motivate us to invest more in our collective endeavors which eventually contribute to higher living standards and well-being of our people.

To the contrary, the frequent postponement of meetings, low-level-participation, and delayed or non-implementation of some projects are not encouraging. As Commissioners, we need to use our leverages to encourage our concerned authorities and entities to participate in the D-8 meetings and activities at the highest and most effective levels. We hope the pending D-8 meetings, including trade ministerial meeting, takes place as soon as possible. Iran will be hosting 2 other ministerial meetings on ICT and Energy. We need to urgently receive the confirmation of participations by the honourable ministers.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

We are of the view that to secure D-8 goals and objectives, we have to re-arrange our activities in a way to align them with our resources and capabilities. We have to put our focus on where it pays off more. Secretariat may draw a list of ongoing programmes and projects and, in consultation with the Member States, determine priority projects. With any criteria, accelerated implementation of the PTA stands high in the priority areas.

Innovation and transfer of technology are another area of priority. The D-8 Technology Transfer and Exchange Network can serve as facilitator. The D8 University can contribute to D-8 technology profile.

Facilitated cooperation among our private sectors and SMEs constitutes another area of priority. We need to encourage more active collaboration among chambers of commerce, including through regular meetings, exchanges and contacts.

Madame Chair,

The Islamic Republic of Iran has submitted some initiatives and proposals for the consideration by the Commission. They include, among others, an initiative to forge collaborative D-8 relations with International Financial Institutions and a proposed arrangement for automatic rotation of D-8 chairmanship. We hope we can have fruitful deliberations and decisions on both of them.

In conclusion, I would like to appreciate efforts by distinguished Secretary General and his team. I need to particularly thank ambassador Imam for his several visits to the Islamic Republic of Iran. In the last visit this month, he had fruitful meetings with four honourable ministers, the Governor General of Ardabil Province, and the President of Chamber of Commerce. He also attended TTEN 10th anniversary as well as BoT of D-8 University.

I look forward to having very useful discussions in this Commission meeting.

I thank you for your attention.

**DRAFT STATEMENT
AT THE 47th D-8 COMMISSIONERS MEETING
DHAKA, PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF BANGLADESH
22-23 OCTOBER 2023**

AGENDA 4: STATEMENT BY THE HEADS OF DELEGATION (5 MINS)

Introduction

On behalf of the Malaysian D-8 Commissioner, I extend his regrets for not being able to be present here today due to a conflicting schedule.

2. First, allow me to congratulate Madam Chair and the Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh for the warm hospitality extended to the Malaysia delegation for this meeting. Let me also thank Ambassador Imam and his team for the excellent arrangements made for this meeting.

3. Please also allow me to welcome His Excellency Dr. Diyar Khan as the new D-8 Commissioner for Pakistan and Ambassador Ibrahim Adamu Lamuwa as the new D-8 Commissioner for the Federal Republic of Nigeria. The presence of both gentlemen would be a tremendous advantage to D-8 as an Organisation.

Fellow Commissioners,

Official Visit of Ambassador Imam to Malaysia

4. I wish to also take this opportunity to commend the visit of Ambassador Imam to Malaysia in July 2023. The successful engagements were a testament to Malaysia's commitment to the Organisation.

D-8 International University

5. On the D-8 International University, Malaysia is prepared to officially recognise and approve the programmes offered by the D-8 International

University through the Malaysian Assessment Agency (MQA). Malaysia urges other D-8 Member States to do the same through their national assessment agencies.

Accession of New Members into the Organisation and the Membership Application by Azerbaijan

6. On the accession of new members, Malaysia echoed our stand at the last D-8 Commissioner Meeting in Istanbul, Turkiye and supported Azerbaijan's membership application. Azerbaijan's desire to enhance cooperation with the D-8 Member States and to become a catalyst for new joint initiatives would feed into the best interests of the D-8 Member States.

The D-8 Private Sector Initiatives

7. Malaysia acknowledges the importance of enhanced private sector engagement in the Organisation's activities. We believe these initiatives would produce progressive results and further improve the socio-economic levels of our Members. Malaysia hopes that work on the existing private initiatives could be expedited.

Israel-Palestine War

8. At the onset, please allow me, along with other Commissioners, to highlight that thousands of Palestinian lives have been lost in and around the Gaza Strip over the past week. Over a quarter of them were innocent children. Those who survive are dying, starving and deprived of any form of basic necessity.

9. Therefore, there is a need to secure an unimpeded and safe humanitarian corridor into Gaza. The Gaza Strip is now inhabitable and could be the worst humanitarian disaster the world has ever seen. Humanitarian aid must reach the Palestinians as soon as possible.

10. In this regard, I call for this August meeting together with the Secretariat to find ways to assist our Palestinian brothers and sisters. I

would like to echo the decision by His Excellency Foreign Secretary for D-8 to come up with a sound Declaration as the outcome of this meeting to condemn the atrocities by the Israelis and convince both parties to go back to the negotiation table.

Lack of Participation in any of the D-8 Meetings

11. One glaring occurrence that has been happening throughout the year is the cancellation and postponement or lack of participation in any D-8 programmes from Member States. Our focal agencies must be informed in advance to plan their attendance at any D-8 meetings.

12. In this regard, Malaysia believes that we can facilitate minimising the risk of this situation by having the D8 Secretariat disseminate the Calendar of Events before the end of the working year so that Member States can plan their schedule, thus creating good participation from Member States.

Madam Chair,

Conclusion

13. Malaysia stands ready and looks forward to working with the Secretariat and all the Member States to build a better future for the D-8 and its people. I wish all of us a successful meeting.

Thank you, Madam Chair.

STATEMENT DELIVERED

BY

AMB. ADAMU IBRAHIM LAMUWA
PERMANENT SECRETARY

**MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS OF THE FEDERAL
REPUBLIC OF NIGERIA**

DURING

**THE 47TH SESSION OF THE D-8 COMMISSION IN
DHAKA, BANGLADESH**

22ND – 23RD OCTOBER, 2023

Pan Pacific Sonargaon

Dhaka, Bangladesh

22nd October, 2023

Protocol

Your Excellency **Sheikh Hasina**, Prime Minister of the Peoples Republic of Bangladesh and Chair of the D-8 Organization,

Your Excellency **Amb. Isiaka Abdulqadir Imam**, Secretary General of the D-8 Commission,

Your Excellencies, Ambassadors/Commissioners,

Distinguished Invited Guests,

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to express my profound gratitude and that of my delegation to Her Excellency, the Government and people of Bangladesh for the warm reception, the D-8 organisation and indeed the Member States for the excellent organisation of this great event.

2. I feel honoured to be in your midst as one of the Commissioners to discuss on the **D-8 Special Economic Zones (SEZ)**. It is no doubt that this economic concept will promote intra-trade and investment among the D-8 Member States and beyond, considering the manner the global architecture

calls for closer examination of economic activities that will reshape and boost nations' economies. Established SEZ focal points within Member States of the organization will reflect its impact on the global stage by providing avenue for trade, investment and especially, draw Member States closer.

3. The benefits of the SEZ focal points are not limited to the D-8 Member States but to the world at large. It will provide job opportunities and reduce poverty which are part of the key issues the world is trying to tackle. The D-8 Member states are blessed with marketable zones that if properly utilized, will be a goldmine. For example, Nigeria, apart from Oil and Gas, there are other zones such as Tourism, ICT, Industrial Parks, Export Processing, Free Trade amongst others. As there are a lot of home-based companies producing made in Nigeria products that can compete anywhere around the world, Foreign Direct investment (FDI) is open and available to any entity willing to invest within the provided rules in sectors like Agribusiness & Agro Allied, Construction and light Manufacturing, Solid Minerals to name a few.

Your Excellencies,

Distinguished delegates,

4. Another benefit of the SEZ focal points is that it will provide an avenue for more economic cooperation and collaboration amongst Member States which is one of the reasons that gave birth to the D-8 Organization. The concept can lead to other ways of solving problems among nations.

5. Dedication on the establishment of these zones within Member states will strike a balance for the organization to find common economic ground on matters of global interest. Each nation has its interest in the world market, hence, the current global economic challenge is also one of the reasons the focal points should be accorded consideration.

6. At this juncture, I would like to call on Member States to remain committed to providing focal points that will be used for the SEZ, which is one of the consistent efforts of the organization to foster economic growth among its members. Through dedicated economic collaborative initiatives and

policy frameworks, this organization and its member states are used to rotate the steering of the world economic ground.

7. In conclusion, the SEZ is an important mechanism for the members of this organization. It demonstrates love for unity, cooperation and willingness to address economic challenges within member states.

8. I thank you for your attention.

**Statement of the D8 Commissioner of Pakistan for the 47th Session
of the D8 Commission**

**Madam Chairperson,
Secretary General D-8
Distinguished Delegates, Ladies and Gentlemen**

Assalam o Alaikum and good morning!

At the outset, I would like to extend our profound gratitude to the People's Republic of Bangladesh, for hosting the 47th Session of the D-8 Commission, and extending us warm hospitality. We are delighted to be in the beautiful and bustling Dhaka and look forward to fruitful deliberations.

I also take this opportunity to congratulate Bangladesh for successfully hosting the 2nd D-8 Diplomatic Training Course.

I also thank the D-8 Secretariat for their great efforts in facilitating preparations for the session, and circulating the necessary working documents in time.

Ladies and gentlemen,

In the contemporary world, we find ourselves at a crossroads of multiple interrelated crises - spanning from the ongoing challenges of post-pandemic recovery and armed conflicts to the escalating socio-economic disparities within societies and the pressing issue of climate change. The confluence of these challenges, coupled with the unfolding cost-of-living crisis, the specter of a looming economic recession, energy shortages, and disruptions in global supply chains, creates a recipe for what might be termed a "perfect storm," especially for the developing and underdeveloped countries.

I would be remiss if I don't mention the huge calamity which has befallen our brothers & sisters in Gaza. Our hearts go out to our

Palestinian brothers and sisters for the loss of precious lives and unseen destruction and brutality in the face of Israeli aggression, which Pakistan condemns in the strongest terms.

Dear friends,

Geopolitical tensions and global economic volatility have given rise to instability, with the international system appearing increasingly fragmented, and ongoing power shifts and multilateralism facing mounting strain. It's worth emphasizing that the economies of developing countries have borne the brunt of these crises.

In the midst of these challenging circumstances, our platform holds the potential to serve as a space for exploring opportunities and mitigating the adverse effects of these crises for member states. International cooperation, and particularly enhanced collaboration within the D8 framework, is of paramount importance in this regard.

Excellencies,

Pakistan remains committed to supporting the commendable efforts of the D8 Secretary-General in enhancing and fortifying this organization. I take note of his particular focus on elevating intra-D8 trade and increasing the visibility of the organization as some of his central priorities. Pakistan was honored to host the Secretary General for the inauguration of the D-8 Research Center for Agriculture and Food Security (RCAFS) on 6-7 March 2023 and the 4th D-8 Senior Officials and 3rd D-8 Ministerial Meetings on Tourism from 3-6 August 2023. This shows the unwavering commitment of Pakistan to the goals of D-8.

Distinguished Delegates,

I will now comment on some of the items on the agenda.

Firstly, the D8 Preferential Trade Agreement (PTA) is a crucial instrument for realizing the full potential of sectoral cooperation and trade among D8 member states. Pakistan remains committed to the

complete implementation of the D8 PTA. However, we believe that a revision of the offer list and tariff lines is essential to unlock the true potential of intra-D8 trade. This adjustment aligns with the goals set for the preparatory phase of the Decennial Roadmap for 2020-2030. We hope that discussions on this matter can be concluded promptly to fully implement the PTA.

Secondly, the emerging economies of D8 member states boast large markets capable of attracting international investments. Given that investment regimes are an integral part of trade agreements today, we propose the inclusion of a D8 Investment Agreement within the D8 PTA, with negotiations commencing as soon as possible.

Thirdly, it is high time we invigorate our efforts to harness the full potential of our human resource development, diversify our national economies, develop markets, nurture our value chains, especially in agro-business, and create linkages for trade. This includes fostering backward linkages and facilitating technology transfer, revitalizing the services sector, and enhancing our capacity to present a unified voice for the Global South.

Lastly, Pakistan supports Azerbaijan's bid to become a member of the D8. Expanding membership by including new countries with shared objectives and emerging economies will open up further avenues for economic cooperation. This expansion is likely to have a positive impact on intra-D8 trade and the overall economic well-being of member states.

Excellencies,

Pakistan has ratified five out of the six D8 legal instruments, and we are dedicated to their full and faithful implementation.

The ratification process for the D8 MoU on SMEs and governmental bodies is currently underway. All procedural formalities have been completed, and it is anticipated that we will formally ratify this agreement before the end of this year.

In addition to this, Pakistan is dedicated to convening the second meeting of the D8 Research Center at the University of Agriculture in Faisalabad and the third meeting of the D8 Network of Pioneers of Research and Innovation (NPRI) at COMSATS University, Islamabad. These endeavors are indicative of our unwavering commitment to promoting cooperation and integration within the D8 framework.

Before I conclude, I would like to share some information about the latest development in the investment landscape of Pakistan. In order to facilitate, fast-track and protect foreign investments, the Government of Pakistan has established a high level oversight committee which is headed by the Prime Minister of Pakistan and includes all federal and provincial Ministers, Secretaries as well as high level representation from the armed forces of Pakistan known as Special Investment Facilitation Council or SIFC. The Council is primarily geared towards facilitating government level, large scale investments in the lucrative sectors Mining and Minerals, Energy, Agriculture, livestock, IT and defense production. These sectors in Pakistan carry immense potential of profitability and development on win-win basis. We are open to investments in these sectors from governments of all countries in the region and beyond including member states of D8. Such investment will be prioritized, fast-tracked and facilitated under the supervision of SIFC at the Prime Minister's office.

Ladies and gentlemen,

In conclusion, I want to assure you Madam Chair all distinguished delegations of our wholehearted commitment to providing full cooperation and engaging constructively in the proceedings of the 47th session. Together, we can achieve our shared goals and strengthen our bonds of cooperation within the D8 framework.

I thank you.

Gelişen Sekiz Ülke Teşkilatı (D-8) 47. Komisyon Toplantısı

Sayın ÇEGM Hitap

(22,23 Ekim 2023)

**Madame Chairperson,
Mr. Secretary General,
Distinguished Commissioners,
Esteemed colleagues,**

I am pleased to attend the 47th Session of the D-8 Commission Meeting, representing the Republic of Türkiye.

First, we convey our condolences for the loss of lives and urge for the unconditional access to humanitarian aid to Gaza.

Let me thank our Bangladesh colleague for hosting us.

I would also like to express our gratitude to Bangladesh for its active chairmanship for almost 3 years.

I extend our thanks to Mr Secretary General and his team for their efforts in transforming D-8 to be a more efficient and result-oriented organization.

D-8 Organization stands as a testament to the power of international cooperation. Our commitment to fostering economic growth, sustainable development, and prosperity is key to our success.

In the face of numerous global overlapping challenges and geopolitical tensions, the D-8 remains a beacon of hope, underlining the significance of unity and shared objectives.

We firmly believe that by deepening our collaboration, we can overcome the various obstacles that continue to impede the progress of our member states.

With its vibrant economy and dynamic population, Türkiye remains dedicated to playing a constructive and leading role within the D-8 community.

In the spirit of the D-8's mission, we must place strong emphasis on sectoral cooperation, as it holds the key to our collective economic advancement.

Türkiye is committed to working closely with our fellow members to explore new opportunities for growth, investment, and technological advancement within specific sectors such as agriculture, industry, technology, and energy.

These sectoral partnerships can provide a catalyst for sustainable economic development.

We also believe that the enlargement of the D-8 organization is a critical step to enhance our collective strength, as well as our regional and global visibility and influence.

As such, Türkiye supports expanding the D-8 community to include new member states that share our vision for economic growth and development.

Needless to say, we expect Azerbaijan's membership application done on 9 May 2022 to be assessed based on existing rules, and the process to be finalized without further delay.

Turning our attention to the D-8's economic agenda, we must remain dedicated to advancing economic cooperation among member states.

The economic agenda should focus on reducing trade barriers, enhancing investment opportunities, and promoting innovation.

Türkiye is ready to contribute actively to the formulation of strategies that will unlock the full potential of the D-8 economies.

Adding to the impacts of climate change, the pandemic, increased commodity prices and rising geopolitical tensions and the war in Ukraine have further endangered global food security.

We are nowhere near achieving Sustainable Development Target (SDG) 2, by which we had committed ourselves to create a world free of hunger by 2030.

It is essential to ensure continued supply of food to global markets, especially to the Least Developed Countries.

Türkiye is willing to collaborate closely with our D-8 partners to address these issues and reinforce our commitment to the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals.

This includes the areas of poverty alleviation, healthcare, education, and environmental sustainability, all of which have a direct bearing on our economic growth.

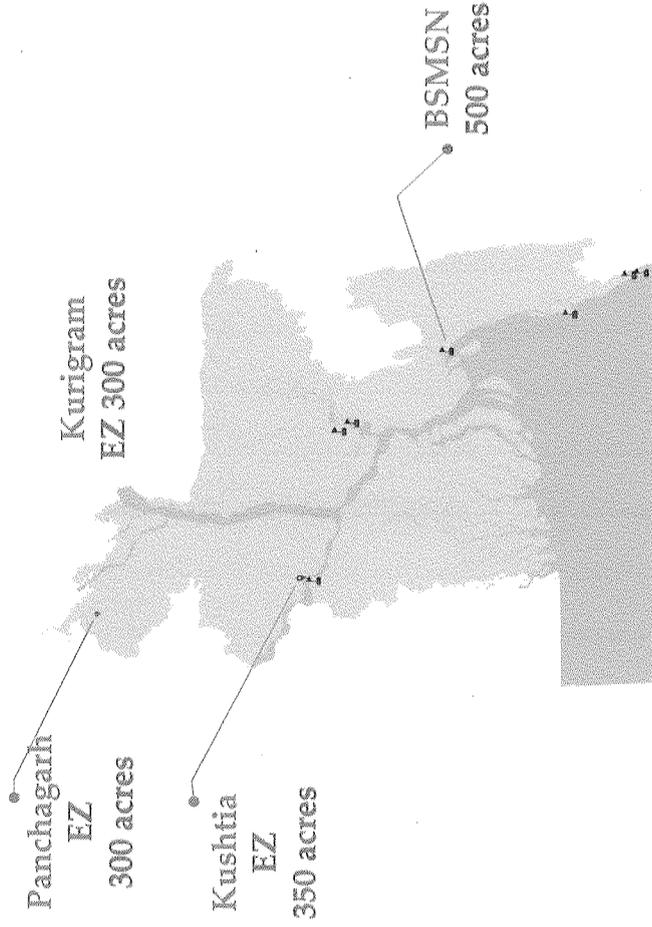
In closing, let me reiterate Türkiye's unwavering support for the D-8 organization, with a strong emphasis on sectoral cooperation, enlargement, and the advancement of the D-8's economic agenda.

As the host country of D-8 Secretariat, we are convinced that, by working together with renewed focus on these priorities, we can overcome the challenges before us and unlock the full potential of our nations.

I look forward to fruitful discussions and the formulation of actionable strategies during this session, as we collectively strive to advance the prosperity and well-being of our people.

Thank you.

Potential Sites for D-8 SEZ


01.10.23

(Md. Helal Ahmed)
Deputy Secretary
Manager (Planning-5)
Bangladesh Economic Zones Authority
Prime Minister's Office, Dhaka.

CONCEPT NOTE

D-8 COMMITTEE IN THIRD COUNTRIES AND INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

The D-8 Secretariat establishes this concept note to provide the rationale for the proposal to develop D-8 committees in third countries.

I. INTRODUCTION

1. The D-8 Organization can enjoy broader support and partnership with international partners if it can manage strengthened relations with other countries and international organizations. In addition, support and collaboration can also be garnered if the international community understands the D-8 organization better.
2. Furthermore, the D-8 Leaders reaffirmed their commitment to active participation, effective coordination, and cooperation with all relevant regional and international organizations to maximize the realization of the Organization's interests and to contribute to the development of the D-8 Member States, as envisioned in the Dhaka Declaration 2021.
3. Upon taking office on 1 January 2022, the D-8 Secretary-General envisioned enhancing the Organization's visibility, both within the D-8 Member States and in the global arena, as one of his twin visions. Accordingly, the outward-looking policy is intended to enhance the organization's visibility. In so doing, the D-8 Secretariat revamp its efforts to forge a stronger relationship with other international organizations and entities.
4. The D-8 Secretariat also believes that the Organization must nurture friendly relations with external entities to promote a broader scope of cooperation through mutually beneficial dialogue, partnerships, and tangible collaboration.
5. The Organization's enhanced visibility will bring more benefits by making it more widely known. The enhanced visibility would also significantly contribute to achieving the Organizations' objective to improve developing countries' positions in the world economy, diversify and create new opportunities in trade relations, enhance participation in decision-making at the international level, and provide a better standard of living for its citizens.
6. Moreover, the D-8 Organization is currently in its second life cycle, comprised of result-oriented and tangible programs in the priority areas delineated in the D-8 Decennial Roadmap 2020-2030. Many of the Organization's projects and programs require significant resources and financial support, which may be obtained from other international entities.
7. For example, the United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UN DESA) provided full coverage to the Capacity-Building Workshop on the New Approaches to E-Government Implementing new approaches to E-government for SDG Implementation, jointly organized by the D-8 Secretariat and UN DESA in Istanbul, on 17-18 November 2022.
8. In its effort to enhance the Organization's visibility in the global arena, the D-8 Secretariat is of the view that the D-8 Organization can utilize the diplomatic strength and resources of its Member States to support the promotion of its interest and

identities in the global setting through the establishment of a D-8 committee in a third country or international organization.

II. DEFINITION & PROVISIONAL TERMS OF REFERENCE

9. The D-8 committee in third countries and international organizations is a mechanism comprising heads of diplomatic missions of the D-8 Member States in a particular third country or in relation to an international organization.
10. The committee may conduct activities in a host country or international organization by utilizing resources of the respective mission of the D-8 Member States. The proposed activities must be communicated to the D-8 Commission through the D-8 Secretary-General for consideration by the Commission.
11. The committee may meet one every quarter, or more frequently, if deemed necessary.
12. The head of mission of the D-8 Member State that chairs the D-8 Organization should assume the position as chair of the D-8 committee in their host country or international organization.

III. PURPOSE & OBJECTIVES

13. The purpose of a D-8 committee in a third country is to promote the interests and identity of the D-8 Organization in the host countries and international organizations. The committee manages the D-8 Organization external relations with the host countries and international organizations.
14. The objectives of the committee is to enhance the D-8 Organization's visibility in the global arena, strengthen cooperation between the D-8 Organization with external parties, and promote the D-8 Organization's interest and identity in the respective host country to support the D-8 Organization's effort to improve its position in the world economy, diversify and create new opportunities in trade relations, enhance participation in decision-making at the international level, and provide a better standard of living.
15. Such objectives can be elaborated further as follows:
 - a. Raising awareness of all stakeholders in the host country or international organization towards the D-8 Organization, its objectives, interests, identity, and role toward the international order to the global audience.
 - b. Harnessing stronger partnerships with the host country and prominent institutions to broaden the opportunity of tapping resources for the benefit of the D-8 Organization.
 - c. Coordinating and cooperating effectively with third countries and relevant regional and international organizations to maximize the realization of the Organization's interests.

IV. PROCEDURES AND TIMELINE

16. The D-8 Commission may deliberate the present concept note during its 46th Session in Istanbul, 15-16 February 2023. If the D-8 Commission endorses the proposal, it will forward it to the D-8 Council for consideration during the Council's 21st Session in 2023.
17. Upon approval by the D-8 Council, the D-8 Secretary-General and the Chair of the D-8 Commission, through consultation with the Member States, will develop specific rules of procedures for the operationalization of a D-8 committee in a third country.
18. At the early stage, the D-8 committee in a third country may be established in countries and international organizations with which the D-8 has the strongest interest and interactions. The D-8 Secretariat envisions that, upon the approval by the D-8 Council, for this purpose, committees may be established in the following posts, among others:
 - a. Berlin, Germany, to foster cooperation with the Federal Republic of Germany, particularly the German International Cooperation Agency (GIZ).
 - b. Brussels, Belgium, for the European Union.
 - c. Geneva, Switzerland, for the United Nations Office in Geneva, World Trade Organization (WTO), World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO), and the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD).
 - d. Jeddah, Saudi Arabia, for the Organization of Islamic Cooperation (OIC) and the Islamic Development Bank.
 - e. New York, the United States, for the United Nations.
 - f. Rome, Italy, for the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) and International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD).
 - g. Tokyo, Japan, to foster cooperation with Japan, particularly the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA).
 - h. Vienna, Austria, for the United Nations Office in Vienna, the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO), and to foster cooperation with the Government of Austria, particularly Advantage Austria.
19. For the next step, other committees may be established in other countries and international organizations upon approval from the D-8 Council.

V. ACTIVITIES

20. A D-8 committee in a third country may conduct activities to support the objectives outlined in this concept note. Proposed activities may include:
 - a. Regular meetings and engagement with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the host country or relevant departments of the international organizations to provide updates on the development of the D-8 Organization.
 - b. Joint seminars or workshops with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Ministry of Trade, National Chambers of Commerce, or other prominent institutions in the host country to further enhance the visibility of the D-8 Organization in the host country.

- c. Joint cultural activities in the host country's territory or premises of the international organizations, particularly to commemorate the anniversary of the establishment of the D-8 Organization every June.
- d. Engagement with local media and news agencies, such as the production of featurettes on D-8 Organization.

VI. CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATION

- 21. The D-8 Secretariat views the establishment of the D-8 committees in third countries will contribute to the Organization's effort to enhance its visibility.
- 22. Therefore, the D-8 Secretariat recommends that the D-8 Commission and the D-8 Council consider the present proposal positively.

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PS

The suggestion that the Chair of the D8 should equally assume the position of Chair and coordinate the activities of the D8 Committee in third countries is commendable.
Therefore, please do include this in the concept note and resubmit



D-8 Football Tournament Concept note



D-8 FOOTBALL TOURNAMENT

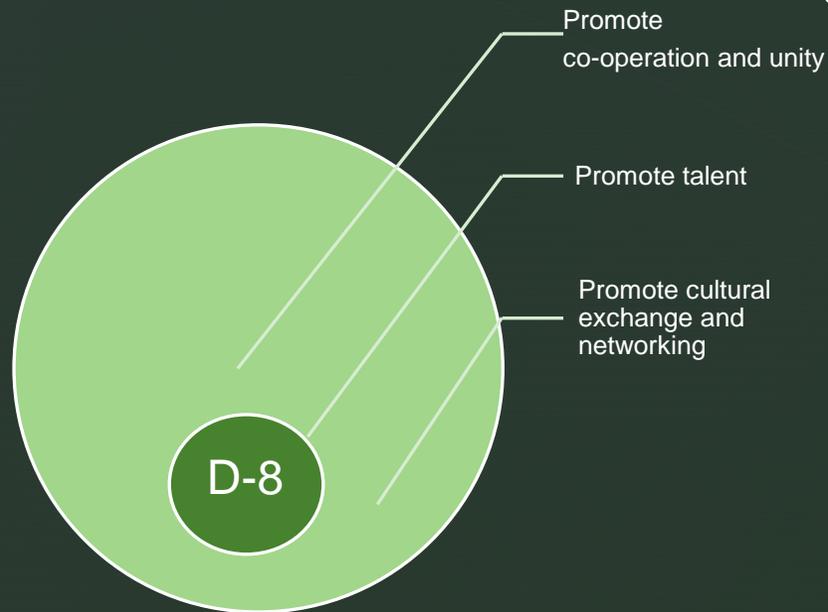


Introduction.

Developing Eight Organization (D8) is an inter-governmental organization for economic development and cooperation among Eight member states.

The football tournament proposed by Developing 8 Organization for Economic Cooperation is primarily aimed at promoting stronger people-to-people relationships and promote cooperation among the member states.

The tournament will bring together teams from the eight member states of D-8 and provide a platform to:



This concept note outlines the format of the tournament, the benefits of participation and sponsorship, and the budget required for successful execution.



Member States

The member states of D-8 include Bangladesh, Egypt, Indonesia, Iran, Malaysia, Nigeria, Pakistan, and Turkey.

Each of these countries has a rich soccer culture, and this tournament will provide an opportunity for teams to showcase their talents and compete against each other.



The Tournament Organizers



- The proposed Tournament will be organized and owned / supervised by the following entities:
- D8 Secretariat
- Football Federation of the D8 Member States
- FIFA

AGE GROUP



- Under 19
- Hence, the tournament could be tagged D8 Under 19 Football Tournament

LOCATION



- The tournaments could be hosted by member states of D8 on an annual or bi-annual basis and on voluntary basis.
- The Republic of Türkiye, through the Turkish Football Federation, has agreed to host the maiden edition the tournament in Türkiye.
- TFF has proposed to host the maiden edition in November, 2023

Objectives

- To create and strengthen platforms that build common interests among member states
- To Develop and promote talent, especially in the disciplines of sports
- To promote cooperation and unity among members states
- To utilize tournament platforms to mobilize, sensitize & empower effective response to social and economic issues



Tournament Format



The tournament will consist of two stages: the group stage and the knockout stage.

The group stage will consist of two groups, with four teams in each group.

The top two teams from each group will qualify for the knockout stage, which will be played in a single-elimination



Group stage



Pro-schedule

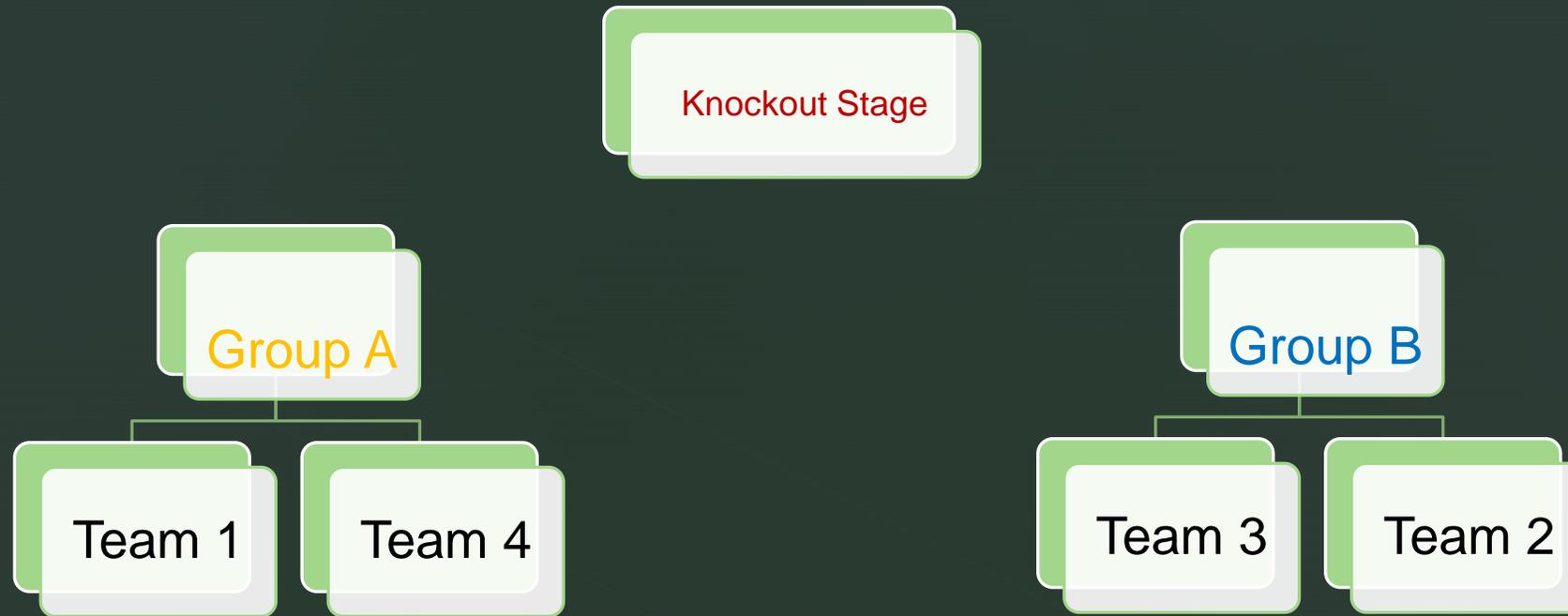
To achieve the tournament schedule the group stage will be held over four days, with each team playing three games.

The top two teams from each group will qualify for the knockout stage.

The group stage will be held in two different locations in Istanbul, ensuring that teams from different regions get an opportunity to host and participate in the tournament.



Knockout Stage



Knockout Stage

The knockout stage will be held over two days, with the semi-finals being played on the first day and the final and third-place playoff being played on the second day.

The knockout stage will be held in a central location in Istanbul, which will be accessible to all teams and spectators.



Tournament Timeline

- Inception Meetings of the Football Federation of D8 member states-15 June,2023
- Concept Development & Branding
- League Committee Establishment
- Partnerships with Key Stakeholders
- Registration & Draw
- Launch Preparations

❖ Set up a 8 member tournament committee

❖ Established Key Operational Partnerships

❖ Registration of 8 participating teams

Knockouts (Quarter, Semi, Losers, Final) (7 Matches)

Launch: 1st Round of Group Matches (24 Matches)

Break



Incentives & Rewards

To create interest, excitement & motivation to take part in the competition, the following incentives are proposed

Grand Prize(s)The Champion shall win:

- Branded Trophy
- Cash Prize(s) –worth \$20,000
- Recognition certificates

Footballs

Two footballs will be provided to each of the 8 teams

Jerseys

Each team will receive a playing D-8 customized kit (Shirt & Short)

Branded merchandize shall be made available for purchase



Tournament Opportunities

Engagement/Reach:

Traffic (potential spectators): Primary Audience, Youth & Adult 15-65 years. Host country is a football nation. Therefore outreach is expected to be high

Average Crowd per game, 400 – 4000

Media presence and exposure (Organic &/or Sponsored)

Brands recognition, each game will feature local on-ground commentary and thus opportunities for brand mentions & messaging Major Events



Key Anticipated Outcomes:

- Talent Identification & Promotion
- Productive Engagement for Youths Behavioral Promotion, utilizing the platform for promotion of desirable Social Behavior
- Brand & Product Promotion & Equity through Sponsorship Opportunities
- Corporate Social Investment/Responsibility



Sponsorship Needs

- ✓ Team Facilitation
- ✓ Player allowances
- ✓ Welfare
- ✓ Logistic
- ✓ Field rentals
- ✓ Production of Visibility Items for Tournament Promotion
- ✓ Production of kits & mechanize
- ✓ First Aid & Health Cover
- ✓ Media productions
- ✓ Publicity
- ✓ Refreshment
- ✓ Mobilization
- ✓ Trophy
- ✓ Cash prize for winner
- ✓ Prize for runner up
- ✓ Security
- ✓ Officiating cost
- ✓ Administrative compensation
- ✓ Overhead cost

Needs Preference



Benefits of Sponsorship

- ➔ **Increased credibility** – Gaining exposure can be very helpful but getting respect and commendation is far more of value. sponsoring the tournament will be a great way to gain respect and enhance credibility by building positive public relationships.
- ➔ **(CSR) Community involvement:** Sponsoring the tournament will demonstrate an organization's commitment to supporting the local community and promoting sportsmanship.
- ➔ **Brand exposure:** Sponsors will have the opportunity to promote their brand to a wide audience of soccer fans, both in person and through various media channels.
- ➔ **Business Networking:** Sponsors will have an opportunity to network with other sponsors, business leaders, and government officials from the member states.



Sponsorship Packages

Gold 20000 USD

Silver 15000 USD

Bronze 10000 USD



Gold Sponsorship

Benefits



- ❖ Exclusive invitation to opening ceremony press conference with participant badge
- ❖ Brand visibility and exposure for patronage to all D-8 member states and beyond
- ❖ Business name/logo incorporated in participant jersey designs (front)
- ❖ Business name and logo on major tournament printed collateral.
- ❖ Sponsors will appear on the main Sponsors page of our website
- ❖ Sponsors will have a dedicated page on our website with a company description and a link back to their own website and social media profiles.
- ❖ Fence signage
- ❖ Unlimited VIP ticket to all event and game related to the tournament
- ❖ Priority position on tournament website and written media publications and press release.
- ❖ Exclusive TV media interview to be circulated to all member state of D-8 organization media houses and platforms.
- ❖ Acknowledgement on all tournament related emails and marketing.
- ❖ Business name & logo on premium item distributed to all participants. examples include souvenir's, kit, water bottle, string back-pack, etc.
- ❖ Business name & logo recognition on Photo Opp. Banner to be used for team and Individual Pictures displayed at the venue on game days.
- ❖ Business name & logo recognition on all match schedules and social media post
- ❖ Company representative will be participating at the presentation of medals to the finalist
- ❖ **Five** VIP Sponsors Kits including Polo Top, cap and Hoodie.



Silver Sponsorship Benefits



- ❖ Recognition at the opening ceremony press conference
- ❖ Brand visibility and exposure for patronage to all D-8 member states and beyond
- ❖ Business name/logo incorporated in participant jersey designs (front)
- ❖ Sponsors will have a page on our website with a company description and a link back to their own website and social media profiles.
- ❖ Fence signage
- ❖ Four VIP ticket to all event and game related to the tournament
- ❖ Appearance on tournament website and written media publications and press release.
- ❖ Acknowledgement on all tournament related emails and marketing.
- ❖ Business name & logo on premium item distributed to all participants. examples include souvenir's, kit, water bottle, string back-pack, etc.
- ❖ Business name & logo recognition on Photo Opp. Banner to be used for team and Individual Pictures displayed at the venue on game days.
- ❖ Business name & logo recognition on all match schedules and social media post
- ❖ **Two** VIP Sponsors Kits including Polo Top, cap and Hoodie.



Bronze Sponsorship

Benefits



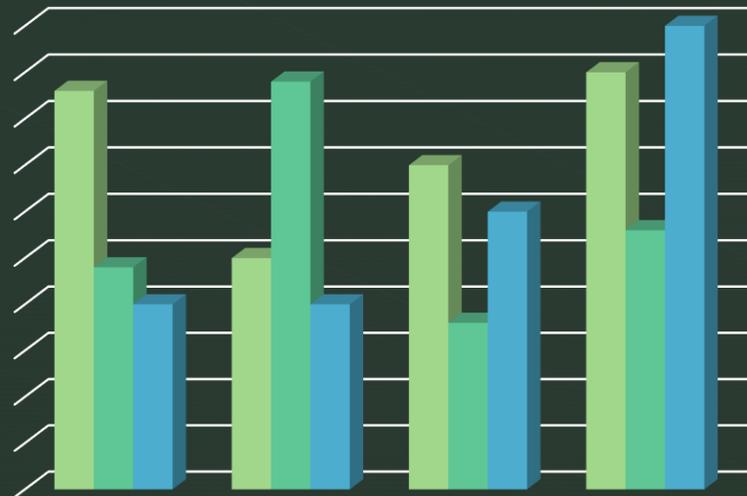
- ❖ Brand visibility and exposure for patronage to all D-8 member states and beyond
- ❖ Business name/logo incorporated on training kit and off match polo
- ❖ Sponsors will have a spot page on our website with a company description and a link back to their own website and social media profiles.
- ❖ Two VIP ticket to all event and game related to the tournament
- ❖ Acknowledgement on all tournament related emails and marketing.
- ❖ Business name & logo on premium item distributed to all participants. examples include souvenir's, kit, water bottle, string back-pack, etc.
- ❖ Business name & logo recognition on Photo Opp. Banner to be used for team and Individual Pictures displayed at the venue on game days.
- ❖ Business name & logo recognition on some of the match schedules and social media post



Budget

The estimated budget for the tournament is \$250,000.
The budget will cover expenses

- ✓ Team Facilitation
- ✓ Player allowances
- ✓ Welfare
- ✓ Logistic
- ✓ Field rentals
- ✓ Production of Visibility Items for Tournament Promotion
- ✓ Production of kits & mechanize
- ✓ First Aid & Health Cover
- ✓ Media productions
- ✓ Publicity
- ✓ Refreshment
- ✓ Mobilization
- ✓ Trophy
- ✓ Cash prize for winner
- ✓ Prize for runner up
- ✓ Security
- ✓ Officiating cost
- ✓ Administrative compensation
- ✓ Overhead cost



Potential Sponsors

- Crowd Funding
- Football Federation of D8 Member States
- FIFA
- Islamic Development Bank (ISDB)
- Al Hidayah Group (D8-CEFC)
- UMBRO Türkiye for Clothing and Equipment's
- Turkish Airlines for Air Transportation
- National Airlines of D-8 Countries
- Anadolu Agency for Media Coverage
- Others

Conclusion

In conclusion, the spirit of sportsmanship is powerful and relevant in promoting unity of purpose, globally. It has been observed that sport is one of the unifier force of humanity that foster friendly international relationship across all divides and class of people.

The Football tournament proposed by Developing 8 Organization for Economic Cooperation can contribute immensely to the promotion of greater cooperation and unity among member states and beyond. While also promoting the visibility of the Organization in the member states and beyond.





Doc: D-8/COM/47/13

Dated: 22-23 October 2023

Annex 13C

1. Introduction

The D-8 Decennial Roadmap for 2020-2030, which the D-8 Leaders adopted during their 10th Summit in 2021, provides guidelines for the D-8 Organization to strengthen its goals and objectives to assist the achievement of the United Nations 2030 Development Agenda (UN Sustainable Development Goals/SDGs).

According to the United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), *climate action* (Goal 13) and *life on land and below water* (Goals 14 and 15) are directly linked to goals related to poverty eradication, hunger, health, education, and economic growth, which are interconnected with economic, social, and environmental dimensions.

Climate change, driven primarily by the emission of greenhouse gases from human activities, poses significant threats to economies and ecosystems. Rising temperatures, sea-level rise, extreme weather events, and disruptions to agricultural patterns can lead to economic losses, displacement of communities, and ecological degradation.

Furthermore, traditional economic activities that harm the environment, such as deforestation, pollution, and overexploitation of natural resources, can undermine the long-term economic viability of a region. Protecting and conserving natural resources and ecosystems is essential for maintaining their vital services, such as clean water, fertile soil, and biodiversity.

Sustainable economic development, climate change, and environmental protection are complexly interconnected. Achieving sustainable economic development while addressing climate change and protecting the environment is a critical challenge that requires international collaboration. To address these issues, the UN plays a crucial role through some of its key programs/activities, among others, the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), the Paris Agreement, the UN Environment Programme (UNEP), the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC), and the Climate Finance and Technology Transfer.

The UN also hosts and supports various international conventions to address specific environmental issues. It uses its global platform to raise awareness about the urgency of addressing climate change and environmental protection. Events like the annual Earth Day and the Secretary-General's Climate Action/Ambition Summit provide world leaders, activists, and stakeholders opportunities to come together and discuss solutions.

Against such a backdrop, the D-8 Secretariat, which subscribes to the idea that the D-8 Member States could benefit from a D8-tailored approach to combat climate change and promote sustainable development, co-organized its first Virtual Workshop with UNCTAD titled "The International Investment Regime and Climate Change for D-8 Member Countries" on 3 July 2023.

This workshop was the first step towards addressing issues of common interest in climate change and environmental protection. There is no doubt that the geographical characteristics



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of each Member State give rise to country-unique challenges. However, collective efforts and joint programmes could address those many common issues.

2. Way forward

Mainstreaming climate change and environmental protection within the D-8 Member States requires a comprehensive and collaborative approach. To this end, awareness about the importance of climate change and environmental protection within Member States needs to be raised. Furthermore, the D-8 Member States should work towards integrating climate change and environmental protection considerations into their national policies, strategies, and development plans. This can involve revising existing policies to include sustainability objectives, setting targets for reducing greenhouse gas emissions, promoting renewable energy, and adopting sustainable land and water management practices.

Achieving these goals successfully relies on the support provided by the public/private sectors of the D-8 Member States and beyond in the following three key areas:

- Governance and policy making
- Research, technology transfer, and innovation
- Financing and investment

2.1 Governance and Policy Making:

This can be achieved through seminars, workshops, training programs, and public awareness campaigns. Capacity-building initiatives can empower government officials, policymakers, and relevant stakeholders with the knowledge and skills to integrate environmental concerns into policies and decision-making. Given the position of the D-8 Organization as an intergovernmental entity, it can enter into discussions with other international organizations, such as the UN, to secure and co-organize joint activities according to the needs of the D-8 group.

2.2 Research, Technology Transfer, and Innovation:

The following four affiliated bodies of the D-8 may be assigned to engage with the scientific societies and entrepreneurs of the D-8 group for research and data sharing. Collaborative research initiatives can provide member states with the necessary data and information to understand climate change and environmental degradation's local impacts. The D-8 could establish a platform for sharing research findings, best practices, and innovative solutions among member states.

- D-8 Network of Pioneers for Research and Innovation (D-8 NPRI)
- D-8 Technology Transfer and Exchange Network (D-8 TTEN)
- D-8 Health and Social Protection Programme (D-8 HSP)
- D-8 Research Center for Agriculture and Food Security (D-8 RCAFS)

The D-8 Organization can task these affiliated bodies to facilitate, in areas of their expertise and through forming relevant working groups, the exchange of environmentally friendly



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technologies and innovations among member states. This could include promoting renewable energy technologies, waste management solutions, and sustainable agricultural practices.

While embracing green technologies and sustainable practices can stimulate economic growth, renewable energy, energy efficiency, and eco-friendly agriculture can create jobs, attract investments, and reduce reliance on fossil fuels, fostering economic diversification and long-term prosperity for D-8 nations.

2.3 Financing and Investment:

Climate change and environmental protection initiatives often require financial resources. The D-8 could explore mechanisms to support Member States accessing climate finance from international sources and regional endeavors to fund projects promoting sustainability.

Encouraging green investments and sustainable business practices within member states can drive economic growth while addressing environmental concerns. The D-8 could facilitate partnerships between the public and private sectors to promote green investments and sustainable entrepreneurship.

3. Call for Action

Climate change and environmental issues often transcend national boundaries. The D-8 member states can collaborate on regional projects and agreements to address common challenges. For this purpose, the D-8 could use its collective voice to advocate for stronger international climate change mitigation and adaptation commitments. By collaborating and speaking as a united group, Member States can have a stronger impact on global discussions and negotiations.

Establishing a mechanism for tracking progress on climate change and environmental protection goals is also crucial. The D-8 could create a system for member states to regularly report on their achievements and challenges, fostering accountability and transparency.

4. Conclusion

Mainstreaming climate change and environmental protection within the D-8 Organization is crucial for safeguarding Member States from climate impacts and promoting sustainable development, economic growth, global cooperation, and public well-being. The D-8 Organization member nations are vulnerable to the adverse effects of climate change. Rising sea levels, extreme weather events, and changing precipitation patterns threaten their economies, food security, and overall stability. By prioritizing climate action, D-8 can mitigate these risks and enhance resilience.

Mainstreaming climate and environmental concerns align with global sustainability goals like the Paris Agreement and the United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals. Demonstrating commitment to these objectives promotes international cooperation and attracts funding and technical support for climate projects, benefiting Member States' development agendas.



D-8 Organization for
Economic Cooperation

CONCEPT NOTE
Mainstreaming the Issue of Climate Change and
Environmental Protection within the Framework of
the D-8 Organization

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Dated: 22-23 October 2023

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Disaster Response & Relief Concept note:

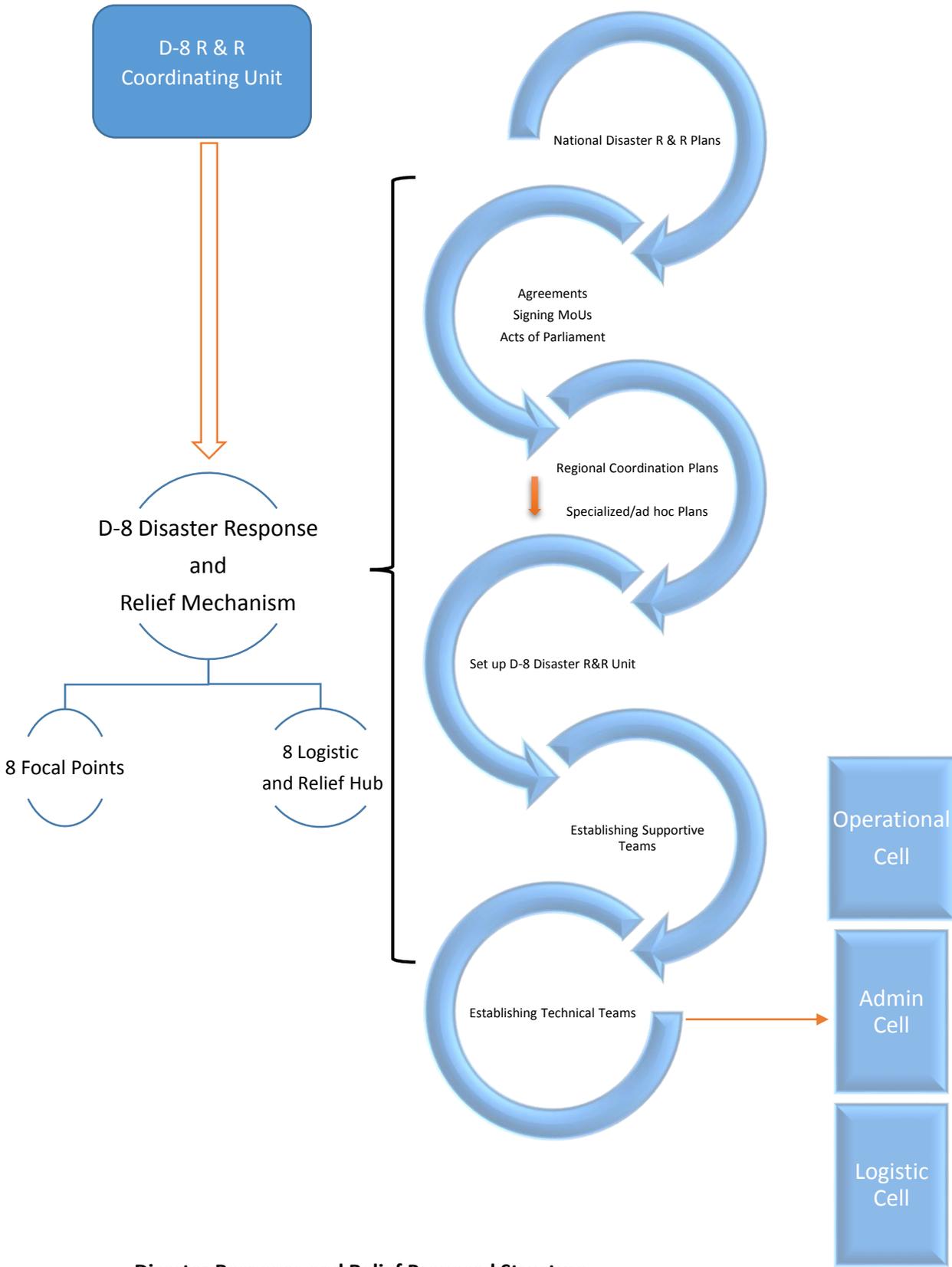
Considering the negative environmental impacts of the natural disasters on the region and each member state of the D- 8 Group and following the political will and official agreement of the D-8 member states to set up a D-8 disaster response and relief mechanism, Iranian Red Crescent Society, as performing its auxiliary role to the government, is pleased to propose its viewpoints and suggestion concerning the response and relief mechanism.

Primarily, this mechanism must provide the essential elements and pillars for Response & Relief operations as a collective road map. It consequently guides the development of individual and collective capacity building of its National Societies and other related organizations.

D-8 disaster response and relief mechanism will base on the collaboration and cooperation of all member states and a number of key international, regional and national organizations and also their respect National Societies.

Regarding the auxiliary role of the National Societies, it should be noted that they will have the lead role in this mechanism. This system could be composed of the plans, procedures and guidelines and also will entail specialized group of response / relief units and teams.

The proposed structural framework for the mechanism is as follow:



Disaster Response and Relief Proposed Structure

Draft Concept Note-

Promotion of Women Empowerment for Economic Development in the D-8 Member States

I Background

The Developing Eight Organization for Economic Cooperation (D-8 Organization) consists of eight developing countries, namely Bangladesh, Egypt, Indonesia, Iran, Malaysia, Nigeria, Pakistan, and Türkiye. The Organization's objectives revolve around economic cooperation that is aligned with the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (UN SDGs), namely Agriculture and Food security, Energy, Industry / SMEs, Trade, Transportation and Tourism.

In recent time, D8 leaders have subscribed to the notion that women could play a greater role in the accomplishment of the mission of the Founding Fathers of the D-8 Organization. A look at the D-8 demographics shows that the number of women constitute a significant portion of the workforce in member states. The combined female population of D-8 Member States stands at over 600 million or 50% of the group's total population.

Country	Female Population in D8 MS in 2023	
	thousands ppl.	%
Bangladesh	87,282	50.47
Egypt	55,728	49.44
Indonesia	137,826	41.43
Iran	44,170	49.53
Malaysia	16,788	48.93
Nigeria	110,671	49.45
Pakistan	119,229	49.58
Türkiye	42,824	49.90
Total	614,521	48.59 ~ 50

Source: SESRIC Data.

Furthermore, the labor force participation of the women in the population of D8 countries is equally significant, as could be seen from the following table, which shows that there is much room for improvement, even in the best-performing countries among the D-8 Member States.

#	Country	Labor Force Participation Rate, Female -2022- (% of female population ages 15-64)
1	Bangladesh	40
2	Egypt	16
3	Indonesia	54
4	Iran	16
5	Malaysia	57
6	Nigeria	52
7	Pakistan	26
8	Türkiye	37

Source: The World Bank

In view of the forging, the D-8 Organization recognizes the necessity to develop a roadmap to enable the promotion of women's empowerment in economic development. For instance, the Chair of the D8 20th Council of Minister Meeting held in Dhaka, Bangladesh, in his welcome address, called for the recognition of women's

potential as the major power in every country. Therefore, the D-8 Organization must endeavor to involve them in economic development by providing priority to female education and skills training and creating a conducive working environment for women.

Unlocking the economic potential of the female population to foster innovation and productivity, stimulate demand, and promote sustainable economic growth in the D-8 region, requires a multifaceted approach involving various stakeholders. This includes governments, employers, educational institutions, and civil society. It is important to note that the strategies and priorities may vary across different countries, depending on their specific socio-cultural contexts and the unique challenges faced by women in each Member State.

Considering D-8 Organization's objectives and its position to call for effective cooperation with other relevant entities, there are a number of strategies that D-8 Organization could employ to enhance women's participation in the labor force, inter alia:

- **Access to Education and Training:** Enhancing educational opportunities for girls and women, particularly in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) fields, which are traditionally male-dominated¹.
- **Financial Inclusion and Access to Credit:** Establishing microfinance programs and support initiatives that provide women entrepreneurs with the necessary financial resources to start and expand businesses.
- **Mentorship and Networking Programs:** Creating mentorship programs that pair women with successful professionals who can provide guidance, advice, and support. Fostering networking opportunities that connect women with industry leaders and potential collaborators.
- **Workforce Development Programs:** Developing and implementing training programs that target skills development and entrepreneurship training for women.
- **Data Collection and Monitoring:** Establishing robust data collection mechanisms to monitor progress and identify gaps in women's participation in the labor force. Regularly evaluating and assessing the effectiveness of policies and initiatives to inform evidence-based decision-making.

The D-8 Organization could supplement this approach with a Plan of Action to address the diversity of approaches to create an effective and lasting endeavor in promoting women's empowerment in the D-8 Organization's economic agenda.

2 Way Forward

Setting a goal for the economic empowerment of women involves defining a specific, measurable, achievable, relevant, and time-bound (SMART) objective. The followings are steps that the D-8 Organization could consider to promote women empowerment in economic development:

1. **Focus Area:** Increasing women's access to finance, promoting entrepreneurship, improving women's representation in leadership positions, and reducing the pay gap between women and men.
2. **Objectives:** To create a conducive environment for women to be more active in the economic development of the D-8 organization, particularly in the identified priority areas as stipulated by the D-8 Decennial Roadmap for 2020-2030 and in achieving the UN Sustainable Development Goals.
3. **Measurement Methods:** The D-8 Organization could define and develop metrics such as the number of women entrepreneurs supported, the percentage increase in women's income or employment, or the number of women in leadership positions in targeted sectors.
4. **Achievable Targets:** The D-8 Organization could develop targets in numbers and figures, including quantifying intangible outputs to ensure that the goal is attainable within the specified timeframe through a realistic assessment of the capacity, support systems, and potential challenges and their possible solutions.
5. **Time-Bound:** D-8 could set a specific timeframe and timeline for achieving the goal to create a sense of urgency within the D-8 Member States.

¹ Diekman, A. B., Brown, E. R., Johnston, A. M., & Clark, E. K. (2010). *Seeking congruity between goals and roles: A new look at why women opt out of science, technology, engineering, and mathematics careers*. *Psychological science*, 21(8), 1051-1057.

6. **Ensuring Relevance:** The D-8 Organization could refer to the UN Sustainable Development Goals in setting the scene for promoting the economic empowerment of women and addresses specific needs or gaps in the context it is working in, taking into account the sociocultural, economic, and political factors that may influence women's economic participation and tailor the goal accordingly.
7. **Developing Strategies:** Executing strategies and action plans through key activities, interventions, and resources to drive economic empowerment for women.
8. **Identifying and Engaging Stakeholders:** The identified stakeholders, both within and outside the Organization, such as the UN specialized agencies, development partners, and countries, could be engaged to forge partnerships, leverage expertise, and secure necessary resources to enhance the chances of success.
9. **Monitor and Evaluate:** The monitoring and evaluation process, conducted annually could be developed to contribute to the necessary adjustment in executing the strategy.

3 Call for Action

To carry out the abovementioned tasks, the D-8 Organization may need to establish an assembly of experts on the topic of women's empowerment. Hence, member states may wish to organize the 1st D-8 Meeting on Women Empowerment for Economic Development. In this regard, a member state may wish to volunteer to host the proposed meeting. This meeting aims to bring together policymakers, experts, activists, and stakeholders from member countries² of the D-8 Organization to discuss the establishment of a dedicated D-8 Council on Women and put forward recommendations on possible structure of the Council, such as sources of finance for its budget³, governing structure, staffing, office accommodation etc.

If approved, the Council will be mandated to:

1. Conduct a comprehensive study to assess the current status of women's economic empowerment in each Member State⁴.
2. Gather data on various indicators such as education and employment.
3. Identify specific challenges and barriers faced by women in each Member State.
4. Identify the economic challenges that women and girls in D-8 countries may face due to disasters and climate change and taking necessary measures.
5. Based on the collected and analyzed sex-disaggregated data, recommend evidence-based interventions by D-8 Organization to address the specific needs of women in different sectors and industries, which are of common interest to the D-8 Member States.
6. Establish a monitoring and evaluation framework to track the progress and outcomes of women's empowerment initiatives by D-8.
7. Regularly review and assess the impact of programs and projects implemented across member states.
8. Share findings and lessons learned to facilitate knowledge exchange and improvement.

4 Conclusion

In conclusion, paying attention to the role of women in its member states is crucial for the D-8 Organization to achieve its objectives. By empowering women and providing them equal opportunities, the D-8 Organization can

² The United Nations recognizes gender equality as a crucial component of sustainable development, as stated in UN SDG/Goal 5: "Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls". Hence, The United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women, also known as UN Women, might be considered to be one of the attendees of the 1st D-8 MEEW.

³ Since D-8 could potentially represent over 600 million women, it can capitalize on this number to open the way for collaboration with international organizations, NGOs, and civil society to leverage resources and seek partnerships with donor agencies and foundations to secure funding for women-focused projects in D-8 countries.

⁴ The D-8 Secretariat might present the D-8 CEEW with the idea of utilizing D-8 International University focal points to reach out to academic societies of their respective countries and call for submission of relevant working papers on the topic of economic empowerment of women in D-8 region.

tap into its potential and contribute to economic growth in its Member States by boosting productivity and enhancing overall economic performance⁵.

Moreover, D-8 Organization can enhance programs to increase the representation of women in decision-making bodies of member states.

Furthermore, The D-8 Organization's Member States have made commitments to international instruments promoting equality between women and men and women's empowerment, such as the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action⁶ and the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW)⁷. By prioritizing the role of women, the D-8 Organization can fulfill its obligations under these agreements and contribute to global efforts towards inclusive development and the equality between women and men. *****

⁵ Stephan Klasen (2000). *Does Gender Inequality Reduce Growth and Development? Evidence from Cross-Country Regressions*. World Bank Policy Research Report Working Paper No. 7.

⁶ “*The Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action*” was a resolution and a visionary agenda for the empowerment of women adopted by consensus at the end of the Fourth World Conference on Women on 15 September 1995. It is also one of the reference frameworks to analyse the situation of women around the world and to assess the efforts of States in support of women’s empowerment.

⁷ CEDAW is an international treaty adopted in 1979 by the United Nations General Assembly. It is often described as the international bill of rights for women, and is one of the key international agreements that guides the work of UN Women in achieving gender equality and empowering all women and girls.



D-8 TTEN IN 2023

REPORT OF D-8 TTEN'S PERFORMANCE
IN THE YEAR 2023

5th TIM

FEBRUARY 27-28, 2023

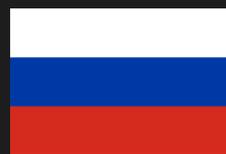
PARDIS TECHNOLOGY PARK

350

Participants

12

Countries



TIM >
The 5th Technology Investment Meeting
TIM2023
27th-28th February 2023 Pardis Technology Park

EVENT CONTENT

- Incentives and Regulations for International Investment Panel
- Innovation Co-Fund Establishment for D-8 Members Panel
- Customer Insight Panel
- Pitch Decks Presentation
- Industry case Panel

5th TIM

HIGHLIGHTS

Event Booklet

9

MOUs & Contracts

\$30

Total

114

B2B Meetings

30

Pitch Decks

3

Specialized Panels

8

Keynote Speeches

4

Selected Startups

Poster

Unveiling of the 6th TIM

TIM >
The 5th Technology Investment Meeting
TIM2023
27th-28th February 2023 | Pardis Technology Park

EVENT CONTENT

- Incentives and Regulations for International Investment Panel
- Innovation Co-Fund Establishment for D-8 Members Panel
- Customer Insight Panel
- Pitch Decks Presentation
- Industry case Panel

Logos of participating organizations and countries: USA, Pakistan, India, Turkey, Saudi Arabia, UAE, Oman, Qatar, Bahrain, Kuwait, and others.



7th HCM

FEBRUARY 27-28, 2023

PARDIS TECHNOLOGY PARK

In-Person Attendees



Online



**Reviewing the
Charter of D-8 TTEN**

**Discussion on the D-8
Technology Co-Fund initiative**



D-8 TTEN's Pavilion at INOTEX 2023

MAY 9-12, 2023

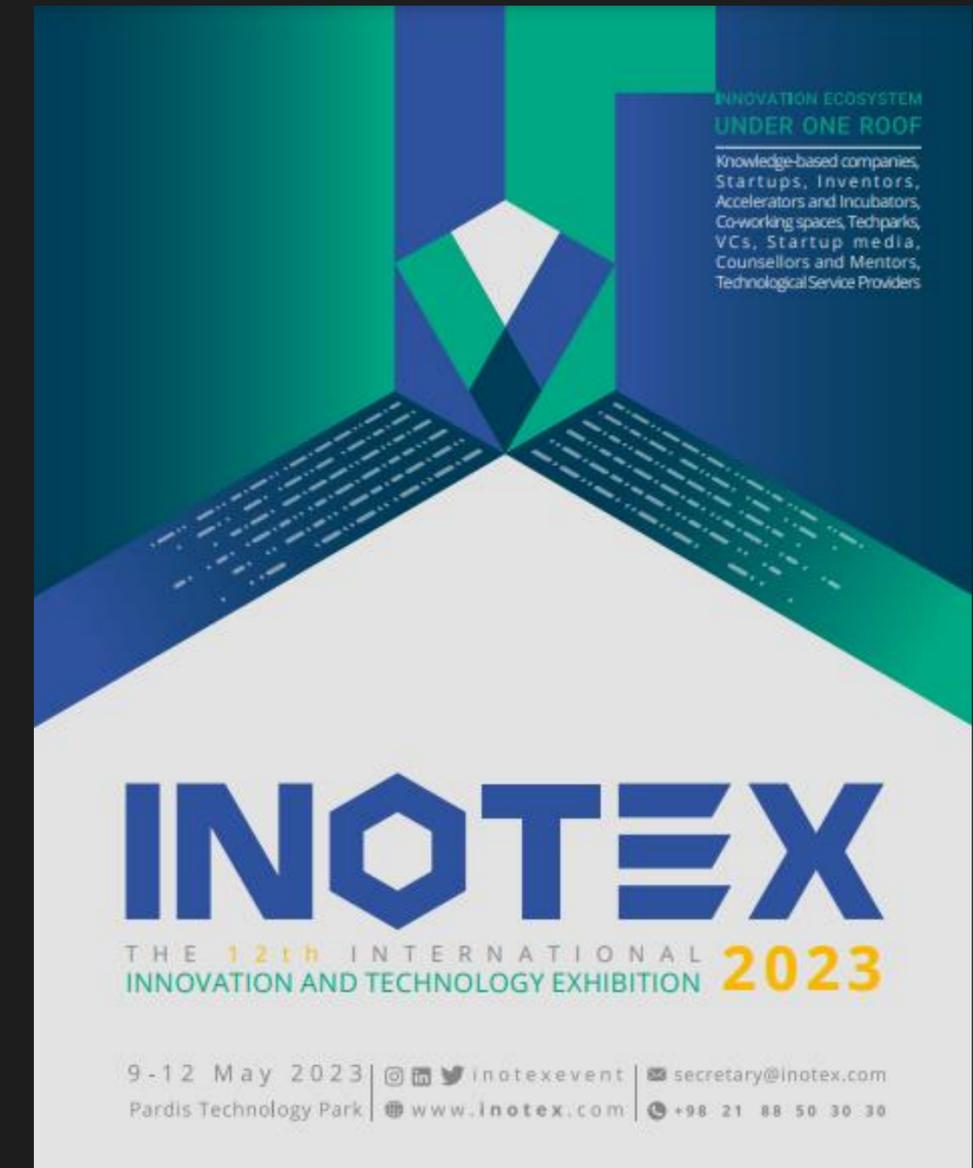
PARDIS TECHNOLOGY PARK

600

Visitors

150

Companies



4th BTM

OCTOBER 2, 2023

ISFAHAN, I.R. IRAN

70

Companies

50

Scientists

Areas

Health (biological products), Renewable energies, Environment, and IT

Keynote speech by the
Director of D-8 HSP

MOU between GSN-Pars (Iran) and
Empress Venture (India) worth €12 Million

MOU between Shams Animation Studio
(Iran) and Nurfilix (Malaysia)



The poster for the 4th International Business Technology Meeting (BTM) features a central graphic of two hands shaking, rendered in a blue, wireframe, digital style. The text is arranged in a structured layout. At the top left is the BTM logo, and at the top right is the event title. Below the handshake graphic, the date '20 Oct 23' is prominently displayed in large, stylized numbers, with 'Abbasi Hotel Isfahan Iran' written below it. To the left of the date, a list of fields of interest is provided. To the right, the program highlights and contact information are listed. The bottom of the poster includes logos of various participating organizations.

BTM 4th International
Business Technology Meeting

In The Fields of

- Renewable Energies & Environment
- Health & Pharmaceuticals Technology
- Information Technology & Artificial Intelligence

20 Oct 23
Abbasi Hotel Isfahan Iran

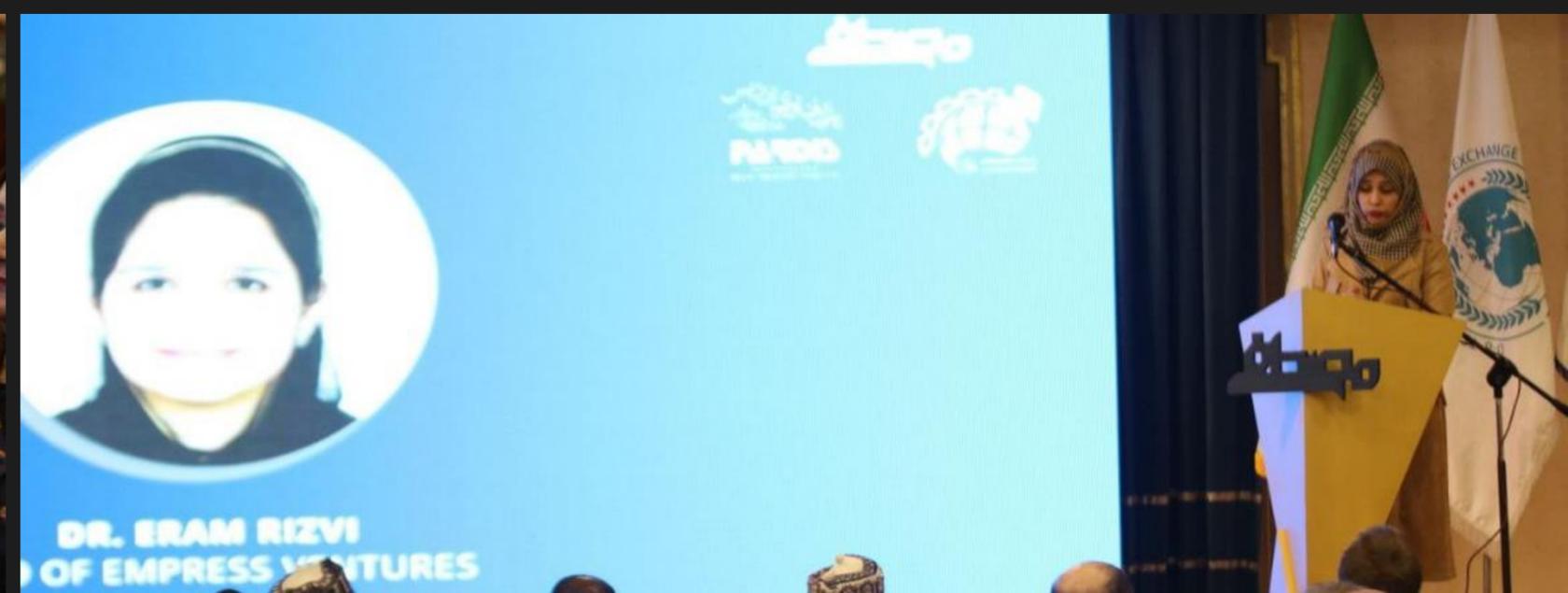
Programs

- Keynote Speech:
- Company Reverse Pitch
- B2B sessions

Contact us

- ✉ Info@d8tten.org
- 🌐 www.D8tten.org
- ☎ 021-86013862





8th HCM

OCTOBER 2, 2023

ISFAHAN, I.R. IRAN

In-Person Attendees



Online



Announcement of the appointment of Dr. Milad Sadrkhanlou as the President of D-8 TTEN

MOU Proposal from COMSTECH

- Organizing the D-8 Technology Festival
- Mapping Technology and Innovation Ecosystems of member countries

DEVELOPING 8 COUNTRIES
D-8 ORGANIZATION FOR ECONOMIC COOPERATION

D-8 TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER & EXCHANGE NETWORK
TTEN

SPECIAL
HCM

The Special High Council Meeting of
D-8 Technology Transfer & Exchange Network

12AM-2PM
MONDAY
OCT. 2 **2023**

ZARRIN HALL, ABBASI HOTEL
ISFAHAN, I.R. IRAN



10th Establishment Anniversary Ceremony of D-8 TTEN

OCTOBER 4, 2023

PARDIS TECHNOLOGY PARK

Representatives from

D-8 Organization for Economic Cooperation

Indian Ocean Rim Association (IORA)

Economic Cooperation Organization (ECO)

Mustafa Science and Technology Foundation

Standing Committee for Scientific and Technological Cooperation (COMSTECH)



Official announcement of

The establishment of an international specialized investment fund in technology in D-8 member states by H.E. Isiaka A. Imam

MOU between D-8 TTEN and IORA RCSTT



1ST MEETING OF D-8 AFFILIATED BODIES

OCTOBER 4, 2023

PARDIS TECHNOLOGY PARK

Host of the 2nd Council

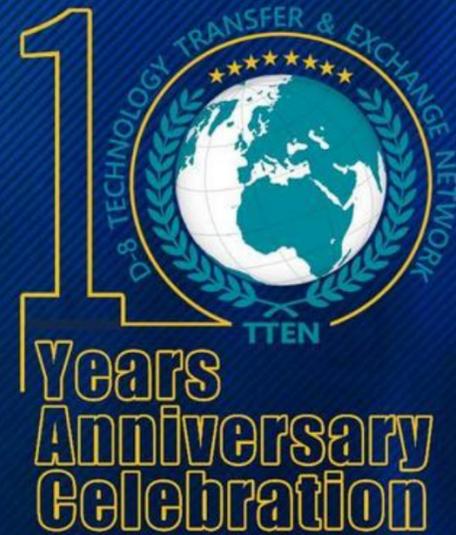
D-8 Research Center for Agriculture and Food Security

Venue of the 2nd Council

Iran

Name suggestion

"Affiliated Brothers" by the D-8 Creative
Economy and Financial Center



The Frist-Ever Advisory Board Council (ABC)

of D-8 Technology Transfer & Exchange Network (D-8 TTEN)

OCT 4 | 2PM
Pardis Tech Park
Tehran - I r a n

info@d8tten.org

+98 9179888797

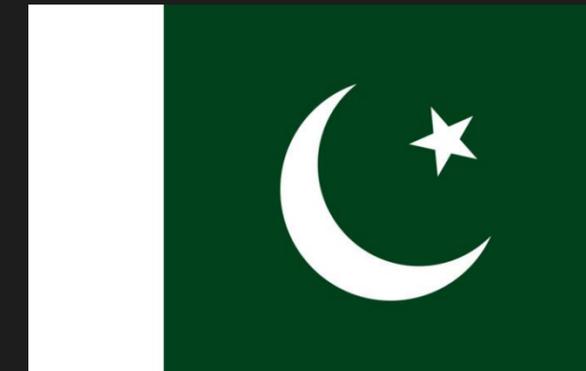


ADVISORY BOARD COUNCIL (ABC)



OCTOBER 4, 2023

PARDIS TECHNOLOGY PARK



**Thank you
for your kind
attention**

● info@d8tten.org

● www.d8tten.org

D-8 TTEN Video Presentation Link:

https://drive.google.com/file/d/186bE-7VDBf_SR4gkMDcrmGB9_hS7bMFz/view?usp=share_link

D-8 CEFC Presentation, Video and Progress Report Link:

https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1nEcpkNsghXFVRkcWABIWO4i-uXQZ6mRh?usp=drive_link

D-8 CALENDAR OF EVENTS 2023-24

Title of Meeting	Date	Host	Status
Statutory Meetings			
48 th D-8 Commission Meeting & 21 st Council of Ministers Meeting & 11 th D-8 Summit	2 nd quarter April 2024	Egypt	TBC
Sectoral Cooperation			
7 th Supervisory Committee on D-8 PTA Meeting and 3 rd Trade Ministers Council	1 st half of 2024	Bangladesh	Meeting Postponed due to insufficient quorum
8 th Senior Officials Meeting on Agriculture 8 th Ministerial Meeting on Agriculture	2024	Nigeria	TBC
1 st Technical Meeting on ‘Promoting and Scaling up Climate Smart Agriculture’ (as per Dhaka Initiatives 2022) Virtual	15 Nov 2023	Türkiye	Confirmed
7 th Ministerial Meeting on D-8 Industrial Cooperation and inauguration of the D-8 SME Center	2024	Nigeria	Meeting Confirmed. date to be announced
5 th Senior Officials meeting on Tourism / 4 th Ministerial Meeting on Tourism	TBA	Member States	TBC
First D-8 Tourism Investment Forum	2024	Iran/ <small>See to prepare the Concept Note</small>	Confirmed date to be announced
D-8 Cultural and Tourism Event	June 2024	Secretariat	TBC
1 st D-8 Ministerial Meeting on Energy	2024	Iran	Meeting Confirmed. date to be announced
1 st Ministerial Meeting on Health	TBA	Nigeria	TBC

Title of Meeting	Date	Host	Status
1 st Senior Officials and Ministerial Meetings of D-8 Youth	2024	Bangladesh	Confirmed date to be announced
4 th Meeting of Consular Authorities of D-8 Member States on the implementation of the Agreement on Simplification of Visa Procedures	TBA	Bangladesh	Meeting Confirmed. date to be announced
13 th D-8 Meeting of Directors-General and Expert Working Group on Civil Aviation	Dec 2023	Türkiye	TBA
Task Force on Training & Capacity Building (Chair: Türkiye, Deputy Chair: Nigeria)	2023	Türkiye	Meeting Confirmed. date to be announced
Task Force on Commercial Issues (Chair: Indonesia, Deputy Chair: Türkiye) (Virtual)	2023	Indonesia	Meeting Confirmed. date to be announced
Task Force on ‘Safety & Security’ (Chair: Malaysia, Deputy Chair: Pakistan) (Virtual)	2023	Malaysia	Meeting Confirmed. date to be announced
Task Force on Air Navigation & Air Traffic Management (Chair: Iran, Deputy Chair: Indonesia) (Virtual)	2023	Iran	Meeting Confirmed. date to be announced
Standing Committee on ICT Virtual	Nov 2023	Iran	Meeting Confirmed. date to be announced
The D-8 Private-sector-led Energy ⁱ Forum	TBA	Nigeria	Meeting Confirmed. date to be announced
The 1 st D-8 E-Government Network Meeting ⁱⁱ	TBA	Secretariat and Digital Transformation Office, Türkiye	Proposed
D-8 Games ⁱⁱⁱ	TBA	Member States / Secretariat	Proposed

Title of Meeting	Date	Host	Status
Technical Meetings/Workshops/Other Activities in Partnership with International Organizations			
Joint Conference on D-8 and UNCTAD Guiding Principles for Investment	Abu Dhabi, UAE, 16 October 2023	In partnership with UNCTAD, as a part of the 8 th World Investment Forum, 16-20 October 2023	Confirmed
Conference on “The Role of Youth in Attaining the UN Sustainable Development Goals”	Istanbul, Türkiye, 2-3 December 2023	In partnership with COMCEC, at the margin of the 39 th COMCEC Ministerial Meeting	TBC
Focus Group Discussion “Developing the IP Capacities of the Members of the D-8 Organization for Economic Cooperation”	Virtual, December 2023 or Q1 2024	In partnership with WIPO	TBC
First D-8 Think Tanks Webinar on "How can D-8 be made more Effective"	Virtual, 26 th October 2023	In partnership with Institute of Regional Studies (IRS) Islamabad	Confirmed
Meetings of the D-8 Sub-Organizations			
3 rd Board of Trustee Meeting of the D-8 International University	09 October 2023	D-8 International University / Iran	Concluded
8 th High Council Meeting of D-8 TTEN (HCM)	TBA	D-8 TTEN/ Iran	Concluded
5 th D-8 Technology Transfer Award of D-8 TTEN (TTA)	12-13 March 2024	Gebze University/D-8 TTEN, Iran	TBC
Second Meeting of the D-8 Research Center for Agriculture (D-8 RCAFS)	TBA	D-8 RCAFS/ Pakistan	TBC
Third Meeting of the D-8 Network of Pioneers for Research and Innovation (D-8 NPRI)	TBA	D-8 NPRI/COMSATS University, Pakistan	TBC
General Assembly of the D-8 Chamber of Commerce and Industry (D-8 CCI)	TBA	D-8 CCI/ Bangladesh	TBC

Title of Meeting	Date	Host	Status
Third Meeting of the D-8 Health and Social protection Program (D-8 HSP)	TBA	D-8 HSP / Nigeria	TBC
Prive Sector-led Cooperation			
Second Meeting of the D-8 Creative Economy and Financial Center (D-8 CEFC)	TBA	Secretariat and Al-Hidayah Group/ Malaysia	TBC
Inaugural meeting of the D-8 Barter Trading System	TBA	Secretariat and Avrasya Barter, Türkiye	TBC
Technical meeting on the D-8 Payment Card	TBA	Secretariat KOMEPS/ Malaysia	TBC

TBA: To be Announced

TBC: To be Confirmed

ⁱ The D-8 Private-Led Energy Forum was proposed during the First D-8 Forum on SMEs and the Health Market in Abuja, 25-27 October 2022 and was further discussed during a series of meeting between the D-8 Secretary-General with the Nigerian Association of Chambers of Commerce, Industry, Mining, and Agriculture (NACCIMA) and the Nigerian Bulk Energy Trading, Plc. (NBET). NACCIMA and NBET have expressed their readiness to support the proposal to organize the Energy Forum. The Concept Note for the Forum has been developed and presented to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Nigeria and 46th Session of the D-8 Commission as well as NACCIMA, and NBET.

ⁱⁱ The establishment of a D-8 e-Government Network was one of the outcomes of the UNDESA-D8 Capacity-Building Workshop on e-government held in Istanbul, 17-18 November 2022. The proposal was discussed further during the meeting between the D-8 Secretary-General and the President of the Digital Transformation Office of the Presidency of the Republic of Türkiye, where a follow-up event to the proposal was agreed upon in principle. The objective of this proposal is to strengthen digital transformation cooperation among the D-8 Member States.

ⁱⁱⁱ This proposal aims to strengthen people-to-people contact to promote more frequent engagements among relevant stakeholders among the D-8 Member States through sports. The D-8 Secretary-General discussed this proposal with the Turkish Football Federation, which agreed to lend their support in hosting the first D-8 football tournament as part of the broader initiative of the D-8 Games. The Secretariat submitted a concept note to the Türkiye Football Federation (TFF) and is still waiting for their response. Meanwhile, the Secretariat is proposing this new concept of D-8 Games for consideration by the Commission and would like to request that any interested member states, if they would like to host games or events, inform the meeting accordingly.