



Report of the 50th Session of the D-8 Commission, 15-16 December, Cairo, Egypt

The 50th Session of the D-8 Commission, hosted by the Arab Republic of Egypt, was held in Cairo from 15–16 December 2025. Commissioners and representatives from all Member States participated in the meeting. The List of Participants is attached as Annex I.

Agenda Item 1 – Opening Remarks by the Chair from Egypt

Ambassador Mokhtar Wereida, Deputy Assistant Minister for Economic Groupings and Organizations, Ministry of Foreign Affairs Egypt opened the meeting. The Chair delivered his opening remarks and welcomed all delegates to the meeting.

He highlighted the successful Summit and Ministerial-level meetings (Tourism, Health and Trade), activities, and events organized by Egypt during its Chairmanship period. He expressed his hope for fruitful discussions and successful outcomes of the Session. He also welcomed the Republic of Azerbaijan as the new Member of the Organization and affirmed Egypt's support for Indonesia in assuming the Chairmanship in 2026, expressing readiness to work closely with Indonesia during the transition. His remarks are attached as Annex II.

Agenda Item 2 – Consideration and Adoption of the Draft Agenda

The Commission discussed and adopted its Agenda with amendments. The adopted Agenda is attached as Annex III.

Agenda Item 3 – Statement and Progress Report on Activities Since June 2025 by the D-8 Secretary-General

- a. Sectoral Cooperation
- b. External Relations

The Secretary-General delivered his statement and presented the progress report on the activities of the Secretariat, highlighting key achievements in both Sectoral Cooperation and International Relations. His statement is attached as Annex IV.

Agenda Item 4 – Statements by Heads of Delegation of Member States

The Commissioners and representatives of Member States delivered their respective country statements. These statements are attached as Annex V.

Agenda Item 5 - Consideration of Financial and Administrative Matters of the D-8 Secretariat:

- a. Consideration and Adoption of the proposed annual budget of the Secretariat for 2026.
- b. Approval of Utilization of GRF
- c. Discussion on Audit Report of the Secretariat for the Period of 2023-2024
- d. Discussion on Outstanding Contribution Payments

Under this agenda item, the Commission considered the proposed Budget of the Secretariat for 2026, the utilization of the General Reserve Fund (GRF), the Audit Report for 2023–2024, and the status of outstanding contributions. The Commission reviewed the proposed Budget for 2026, which was introduced by the Director of Administration and legal Affairs Ambassador Mustafa Ozcan of the Secretariat.



The Commission discussed the agenda and made the following decisions:

a. Consideration and Adoption of the Proposed Annual Budget of the Secretariat for 2026

The Commission approved the Budget for 2026, with the understanding that a Working Group—chaired by Indonesia as the incoming Chair and comprising Bangladesh, Egypt, Pakistan, and Türkiye—will be established with the mandate to submit recommendations on the Audit Report for 2023–2024, as well as on future financial regulations and financial control mechanisms of the Secretariat. The Working Group will carry out its work and finalize its recommendations within three months for presentation to the next Commission meeting.

The adopted budget of the Secretariat for 2026 is attached as Annex VI.

b. Approval of Utilization of the General Reserve Fund (GRF)

The Commission also discussed the utilization of the GRF. Pakistan supported the Secretariat’s proposal, noting that temporary advances taken from the GRF for salaries and operational needs would be reimbursed upon receipt of pending contributions, and encouraged placing part of the Fund in fixed deposits. Egypt reiterated that the GRF should not be used for regular expenditures, and Indonesia emphasized transparent and prudent financial management.

The Commission authorized the utilization of GRF for the expenditure proposed by the Secretariat for mandatory expenditures of the Secretariat for the months of November and December 2025 (salaries, social insurance, gratuity and daily operational expenses), with the condition that the Fund must remain positive and reimbursements be made once contributions from Azerbaijan, Iran and Nigeria are received.

The Commission further instructed the Secretariat to explore viable options for depositing a portion of the GRF into an investment account, with a view to generating additional revenue for the Secretariat.

c. Discussion on the Audit Report of the Secretariat for the Period 2023–2024

Regarding the Audit Report for 2023–2024, Member States called for full implementation of audit recommendations within three months. Further decided to conduct annual audit of the Secretariat budget and instructed the Secretariat to share the responses on the Audit observations within one month of the Audit report.

Türkiye highlighted key audit concerns, including the lack of an inventory management system, unauthorized use of GRF funds, and unaligned travel expenditures. Pakistan offered that its audit team auditing the missions in Ankara and Istanbul could also be tasked to audit the accounts of the Secretariat.

The Secretariat reiterated its commitment to annual audits and to providing timely responses to audit observations.

d. Discussion on Outstanding Contribution Payments

In reviewing outstanding contributions, Pakistan suggested for alternative options and explore the possibility of Iran paying its dues in local currency to any of D-8 Mission in Tehran. Pakistan agreed to provide technical details in this regard. Türkiye requested clarity on the previous mechanism used for Iran’s partial settlement in 2024.



Iran informed that part of its arrears would be paid soon in the coming weeks, and Nigeria committed to settling its outstanding contributions before year-end.

Agenda Item 6 - Review & discussion of the progress of the Ad-hoc Committee's work

Ambassador Mustafa Ozcan, Director-I of the Secretariat, delivered a presentation outlining the progress achieved under the Ad Hoc Committee on Reform following its virtual meetings held on 6 and 26 November 2025.

The Commission took note of the progress made and expressed its support for the ongoing work of the Committee on the proposed reforms initiated by the Secretariat.

The Commission further took note of Pakistan's offer to host a Retreat of the Commission to discuss the reform agenda in particularly financial and staff regulations as well as the implementation policy of the Audit observations for 2023-2024, tentatively scheduled before the 51st Session of the Commission, which was generally accepted by Member States.

Agenda Item 7 - Discussions on the Next D-8 Commission, Council and Summit Meetings in Indonesia.

Under this agenda item, the representative of Indonesia briefed the Commission on the schedule of the 12th D-8 Summit and its preceding meetings. He informed that the 51st Session of the Commission will be held from 12–13 April 2026, followed by the 22nd Council of Ministers on 14 April 2026, and the 12th Summit on 15 April 2026.

Pakistan proposed to host the D-8 Business Forum on the sidelines of the Summit in Indonesia, recalling the agreement reached during the decision in the Cairo Declaration during the 4th Meeting of the D-8 Trade Ministers' Council held in Cairo on 2 December 2025.

Regarding the proposal to convene the D-8 Business Forum on the margins of the Summit, Indonesia further advised that the Ministry of Foreign Affairs will hold consultations with the Indonesian Chamber of Commerce and Industry to explore arrangements for organizing the D-8 CCI General Assembly, the D-8 Business and Investment Forum, as well as the D-8 Halal Forum, on the sidelines of the Summit.

Pakistan requested Indonesia to share the details of the business forum through diplomatic channels, so that the information may be formally conveyed to the relevant chambers of commerce and business communities.

Agenda item 8 - Consideration of the Status of the D-8 Legal Instruments.

The Secretary-General presented an update to the Commission on the status of the Organization's legal instruments.

The Arab Republic of Egypt informed the meeting that the ratification process of the D-8 Preferential Trade Agreement (PTA) is at an advanced stage and that the instrument of ratification will be transmitted to the Secretariat upon completion.

Agenda item 9 - Discussions on the Harmonization and Facilitation of Visa Procedures for Holders of Diplomatic and Official Passports.

The Secretary General briefed the meeting on the proposal made by Bangladesh and further invited the Commissioners of Bangladesh to highlight the proposal.



The Commissioner of Bangladesh briefed the meeting on the proposal and informed that similar visa policy regime is implemented in SAARC and expressed its country readiness to host the 4th Meeting of Consular Authorities of D-8 Member States on the implementation of the Agreement on Simplification of Visa Procedures in 2026.

After deliberation the Commission agreed that matters relating to Harmonization and Facilitation of Visa Procedures for Holders of Diplomatic and Official Passports may also be discussed during the Retreat proposed by Pakistan.

The Commission also tasked the Secretariat to study the SAARC Visa Policy and to prepare a concept note for D-8 Member States, to be presented before the next Consular matters meeting for discussion in Dhaka, Bangladesh.

Agenda Item 10 - Discussion on the proposed New Affiliate Bodies by the Republic of Azerbaijan:

- a. D-8 Energy and Climate Center (D-8 ECC)
- b. D-8 Media Excellence Center (D-8 MEC)
- c. D-8 Transport Center of Excellence (D-8 TEC)

The Commissioner of Azerbaijan delivered a briefing on the proposals submitted by his government for the establishment of three new D-8 Affiliate Bodies in Azerbaijan. He informed the Commission of the substantive progress achieved in developing these proposals, including the convening of two rounds of virtual focal points meetings—held from 13–15 August and 13–15 October 2025—with the participation of the relevant ministries of the Member States, as mandated by the 49th Session of the Commission.

He noted that, following these consultations, Azerbaijan had incorporated the views and recommendations of Member States into the updated Concept Notes for the proposed D-8 Energy and Climate Center, the D-8 Transport Excellence Center, and the D-8 Media Excellence Center. The updated Concept Notes have already been circulated to Member States.

Azerbaijan further informed the Commission of its readiness to operationalize all three Affiliate Bodies, with indicative timelines targeting the first, third, and fourth quarters of 2026, respectively.

Iran highlighted the need to streamline the work of all D-8 Affiliate Bodies, including the harmonization of their names and establishing modalities for new D-8 affiliate bodies.

The Commission recalled that the issue of harmonization of rules for D-8 Affiliate bodies is already on the agenda of the D-8 Ad Hoc Committee on Reform.

The Commission took the development made and praised Azerbaijan's efforts to ensure an inclusive and consultative process in the development of the proposals for establishing new Affiliate Bodies. Following deliberations, the Commission approved the establishment of the three proposed Centers in Azerbaijan as D-8 Affiliate Bodies and encouraged Azerbaijan to expedite the necessary steps for their timely operationalization.



Agenda Item 11- Progress Reports on the Following Private Sector Initiatives:

- a. D-8 Payment Card.
- b. D-8 Creative Economy and Financial Center (CEFC).

The Secretary-General briefed the Commission on the progress achieved under the private-sector initiatives proposed by Malaysian companies. These initiatives include the development of the D-8 Payment Card and the D-8 Creative Economy and Financial Center (D-8 CEFC), both aimed at enhancing financial and commercial connectivity among Member States.

The representative of Malaysia informed the Commission that these proposals originated from Malaysian private-sector entities and are intended to contribute to broader D-8 economic cooperation, subject to Member States' review and guidance.

The Commission noted that the proposed D-8 Payment Card is ambitious in scope and emphasized the need for careful consideration during its development and implementation. The Commission underscored that any payment mechanism must be fully aligned with the national payment systems of Member States and must receive the requisite approvals from the respective Central Banks to ensure regulatory compliance and financial security.

The Commission took note of the progress presented by the Secretariat and underscored the need for the D-8 Chambers of Commerce and Industry, and the proposed Business Forum to be held in Jakarta to further examine these initiatives, given their technical and regulatory complexity.

Agenda Item 12 - Update on the Calendar of Events for 2026.

The Commission deliberated and requested the Secretariat to update the calendar as suggested by member states. The proposed calendar is attached as Annex VII.

Agenda Item 13- Any Other Business.

- a. Establishing a Troika (immediate past, present and the incoming Chairs of the D-8), to approve the travel of the Secretariat's Directing Staff.
- b. Cooperation Framework for Food Security in the D-8: Leveraging Contract Farming as a Business Model.
- c. Informal Hand over the Chairmanship from Egypt to Indonesia

The Commissioner of Bangladesh provided background information on the proposals submitted by his government and invited the Commission to review them. He also invites project proposals from member states.

Regarding the proposed Troika Mechanism, Bangladesh suggested that the agenda item may be dropped due to the anticipated reforms in the financial management rules of the Secretariat to be looked at by the proposed working group.

With respect to Bangladesh's proposal on contract farming, Pakistan expressed support and offered to include this topic as an agenda item for discussion at the upcoming Senior Officials/Experts Meeting on Agriculture, tentatively scheduled to be held in Pakistan in 2026.



The Commission tasked the Secretariat to recirculate the proposal on contract farming submitted by Bangladesh, inviting Member States to provide comments and feedback for further consideration.

Agenda Item 14- Consideration and Adoption of the Report of the 50th Session of the D-8 Commission.

The Commission deliberated upon and adopted its report of the 50th Session.

Agenda Item 15- Closing statements by the Secretary General and the D-8 Commissioner of Egypt

The Chair commended and expressed appreciation for the valuable contributions of all delegates, acknowledging their constructive engagement and the diligent efforts they invested in advancing the discussions of the meeting.

List of the Participants
50th Session of the Commission
15-16 December 2025, Cairo

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Opening Statement

H.E. Ambassador Sherif Kamel

**Assistant Foreign Minister for Multilateral International and Regional Economic
Affairs**

Commissioner of Egypt to the D-8, (Current Chairmanship of the D-8)

On the occasion chairing 50th Session of the D-8 Commission,

on 15 & 16 December 2025 in Cairo, Egypt

**Your Excellencies, Distinguished Commissioners
of the D-8 Countries,**

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

Distinguished Delegates,

It is a great privilege to welcome you all, on behalf of the Government and People of Egypt, to Cairo, on the occasion of the 50th Session of the D-8 Commission. I wish to extend my personal warmest greetings to each one of you and wish you an enjoyable stay in Cairo.

My colleagues and I are delighted to host you in the heart of our capital – historic downtown Cairo – within the walls of our own Diplomatic Clubhouse, a building whose foundation stone was laid in 1907.

By convening the 50th Session of the D-8 Commission, Egypt marks the formal conclusion of its current chairship of the D-8. These two years have been a period of energetic cooperation, close coordination and steady progress.

We successfully hosted the D-8 Summit in December 2024, and with the support and full cooperation of all Member States adopted the Leaders' Declaration

reiterating the importance all our countries attach to the D-8 and giving guidance on how to elevate and enhance our cooperation.

We are particularly delighted that our chairship of the D-8 witnessed the first ever expansion of the membership with Azerbaijan becoming the ninth member of our Organization. I extend special welcome to our dear colleague the Commissioner of Azerbaijan.

Commissioners, Delegates,

This past year since the Summit has been quite active. Right before the 49th Session of the D-8 Commission, we hosted the 4th Ministerial Meeting on Tourism. We also hosted the first Ministerial Meeting on Health in November, and the 4th Meeting of the Trade Ministers' Council earlier this month.

These Ministerial Meetings, along with many other gatherings, both virtual and in-person, reflect the dynamism of the D-8 and the commitment of our countries to further advance our cooperation and achieve our common goals. They also demonstrate that the D-8 is a closely knit “family” that values regular contact and continuity in cooperation.

Thanks to this close and frequent engagement, we have been able to advance our joint agenda across a wide spectrum of sectors – from trade and tourism to health, agriculture, climate and beyond. The active participation of all countries underscores our shared commitment to continue to turn the principles of the D-8 into concrete actions and practical activities.

Distinguished Commissioners,

Over the next two days, we have a comprehensive agenda before us – from reviewing progress since our last meeting in June 2025, and considering important financial and administrative matters, to discussing the status of the Organization's legal instruments, as well as several forward-looking initiatives including visa facilitation, the work of Affiliate Bodies, and private sector-driven mechanisms such as the D-8 Payment Card.

Each of these agenda items reflect our shared determination to advance the D-8 institutional development, strengthen the Organization's financial sustainability, and

reinforce collaboration across all priority sectors – allowing our Organization to continue delivering tangible benefits to our peoples.

In this context, it is critical to highlight that as we review the budget and the D-8 financial needs, we need to maintain a strong focus on the efficient and responsible management of the financial resources. It is also essential to highlight the need for every Member State to ensure that its contribution to the budget is made available on time and in full, in order to guarantee the continuity and stability of the work of the D-8 and its Secretariat without interruption.

Our meeting will also provide an important opportunity to listen to the D-8 upcoming Chair, Indonesia, and what they are planning for their chairship that will commence as of the first of January 2026.

Let me take this opportunity to congratulate our dear colleague the Commissioner of Indonesia, and express our sincere wishes as they take over the leadership of our Organization. We are confident that under Indonesia's stewardship, we will be able to advance our cooperation and achieve many of our common objectives.

Egypt is ready to lend all its support to Indonesia and work closely with its chairship.

Distinguished Commissioners,

As the 50th Session of the D-8 Commission will be the last formal event attended by our distinguished and dear friend His Excellency Isiaka Abdulqadir Imam, the D-8 Secretary General, I know that I speak for all Commissioners, delegates and the entire Secretariat when I express our sincere and profound appreciation and gratitude to his tireless and effective efforts over the last four years as he oversaw the work of our Organization, and led efforts to advance our common objectives and ensure much more effective cooperation between all Member Countries.

Dear Secretary General, we wholeheartedly wish you best of health in the years to come and all success on any endeavours and tasks you decide to undertake.

You will always have the best wishes of your brothers and sisters in the D-8 Countries.

Commissioners, Delegates,

The D-8 is more than an Economic Cooperation Organization - it is a community, a family, built on trust and shared aspirations. Over the past two years, our meetings were a testament of our collective dedication and sacrifice.

On behalf of the Government of Egypt, I thank you wholeheartedly for the support, your governments, and yourselves personally have extended to Egypt's chairship.

This support was critical for our success in leading our Organization and delivering on our common objectives. And please allow me here to recognize and appreciate the outstanding work done by my predecessor, Ambassador Ragui El Atrabi, Egypt's former D-8 Commissioner, and his deputy Ambassador Hazem Zaki, and the entire Egyptian team who worked hard during our chairship of the D-8.

I welcome you once again in Cairo, and wish us all a successful 50th Session.

**Agenda of the
50th Session of the D-8 Commission,
15-16 December, Cairo, Egypt**

1. Opening Remarks by the D-8 Commissioner of Egypt, Ambassador Sherif Kamel Assistant Minister for Multilateral International and Regional Economic Affairs Ministry of Foreign Affairs Egypt.
2. Consideration and Adoption of the Draft Agenda.
3. Statement and Progress Report on Activities Since June 2025 by the D-8 Secretary-General:
 - a. Sectoral Cooperation.
 - b. External Relations.
4. Statement by the Heads of the Delegation of Member States.
5. Consideration of Financial and Administrative Matters of the D-8 Secretariat:
 - a. Consideration and Adoption of the proposed annual budget of the Secretariat for 2026.
 - b. Approval of Utilization of GRF
 - c. Discussion on Audit Report of the Secretariat for the Period of 2023-2024
 - d. Discussion on the outstanding contribution payments.
6. Review & discussion of the progress of the Ad-hoc Committee's work
7. Discussions on the Next D-8 Commission, Council and Summit Meetings in Indonesia.
8. Consideration of the Status of the D-8 Legal Instruments.
9. Discussions on the Harmonization and Facilitation of Visa Procedures for Holders of Diplomatic and Official Passports (added upon Bangladesh request)
10. Discussion on the proposed New Affiliate Bodies by the Republic of Azerbaijan:
 - a. D-8 Energy and Climate Center (D-8 ECC)
 - b. D-8 Media Excellence Center (D-8 MEC)
 - c. D-8 Transport Center of Excellence (D-8 TEC)
11. Progress Reports on the Following Private Sector Initiatives:
 - a. D-8 Payment Card.
 - b. D-8 Creative Economy and Financial Center (CEFC).
12. Update on the Calendar of Events for 2026.
13. Any Other Business.
 - a. Establishing a Troika (immediate past, present and the incoming Chairs of the D-8), to approve the travel of the Secretariat's Directing Staff.
 - b. Cooperation Framework for Food Security in the D-8: Leveraging Contract Farming as a Business Model.
 - c. Informal Hand over the Chairmanship from Egypt to Indonesia

14. Consideration and Adoption of the Report of the 50th Session of the D-8 Commission.

15. Closing statements by the Secretary General and the D-8 Commissioner of Egypt

**STATEMENT BY, H.E. AMBASSADOR ISIAKA ABDULQADIR IMAM,
SECRETARY-GENERAL OF THE DEVELOPING-8 ORGANIZATION
FOR ECONOMIC COOPERATION, AT THE 50th SESSION OF THE D-8
COMMISSION, 15–16 DECEMBER 2025, CAIRO, ARAB REPUBLIC
OF EGYPT**

Honourable Chair,

Excellencies, Esteemed Commissioners,

Distinguished Delegates,

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Asalam-o-Alaikum, and a very good morning, to you all.

It is a great honour to address this esteemed gathering, at the 50th Session of the D-8 Commission. Before I proceed, please allow me to crave the indulgence of this August Commission, that my speech would be a bit longer. This is because the speech will present the organization's progress report. Also, it would be my last, as

Secretary General, as I prepare to step down on 1 January 2025, thus marking the end of my tenure.

I wish to begin by expressing my profound appreciation, to the Arab Republic of Egypt, for hosting us, with such generosity and excellent arrangements. As Chair of our organization, Egypt has demonstrated, outstanding leadership. Her Presidency has been marked by high level of activities, and significant achievements, across key priority sectors. We are grateful, Mr. Chair, for your steadfast commitment, and I am personally indebted, for the cooperation, extended to me, and the Secretariat, throughout this period.

Your Excellencies.

When I began my tenure, I articulated a vision centered on three interconnected pillars: first, to raise the global visibility of the D-8;

second, to revitalize sectoral cooperation; and third, to strengthen partnership and private sector engagement. I am humbled that, through our collective efforts, this vision, has largely been achieved. Therefore, I am deeply grateful to each Member State, for the unwavering support, that enabled the Secretariat, to contribute, meaningfully, to our shared objectives. Today, the Organization stands stronger, more visible, better connected, and more future-ready, than at any time, in recent years.

Hon Chair, a defining milestone of this period—one that will remain historic, in the annals of our organization—was the first-ever expansion of the D-8, with the accession of the Republic of Azerbaijan. For nearly three decades, the D-8 had been a closed membership arrangement, but our Leaders, recognizing the need to enhance our strategic footprint and relevance, in a rapidly

changing global landscape, thought it wise by granting the request, of Azerbaijan, to join this organization.

The accession of Azerbaijan, Mr. Chair, has broadened our geographic, economic, and political horizons, bringing renewed energy, ideas, and commitment, to our cooperation agenda. Azerbaijan has demonstrated strong engagement, by hosting major activities and proposing the establishment, of new affiliate bodies. This has reflected her dedication, to strengthening the institutional, and operational capacity, of the D-8.

Honourable Chair, Esteemed Commissioners, Distinguished Delegates,

At this juncture, allow me to provide, this August gathering, with report of the achievements, recorded in key areas of our cooperation, including **trade, agriculture, tourism, health,**

youth and **private sector engagements**, as well as, **external relations**.

Under **trade**, which is the cornerstone of the D-8's economic agenda, I am pleased to report that, we successfully convened the Fourth Trade Ministers' Council Meeting, in Cairo, on 2 December 2025, with the adoption of the Cairo Declaration, on D-8 Trade Cooperation. This signaled renewed political commitment, to boosting, intra-D-8 trade relations.

With regard to our flagship trade instrument, the **D-8 Preferential Trade Agreement (D-8 PTA)**, I am happy to report that, six Member States—Bangladesh, Indonesia, Iran, Malaysia, Pakistan, and Türkiye—are implementing the D-8 PTA. The number of certificates of origin issued, under the D-8 PTA, have risen, reflecting the growing confidence, in the mechanism. I

am also encouraged by Egypt's progress, in completing its ratification procedures.

Furthermore, we took decisive action, in our quest, to expand the D-8 PTA, with the launch of the Experts Working Group, on Expansion of the D-8 PTA, into a more progressive arrangement.

Similarly, the **Dispute Settlement Mechanism Protocol of the D-8 PTA** has now been signed by Bangladesh, Egypt, Indonesia, Iran, Pakistan and Türkiye, reinforcing legal certainty, predictability, and effective dispute resolution, under our trade architecture.

Under **agriculture and food security**, our achievements are equally, noticeable. The D-8 Research Center for Agriculture and Food Security, in Faisalabad, inaugurated in March 2023, is now fully operational, organizing activities, such as, youth bootcamps and genomic research initiatives, to enhance scientific capacity

across Member States. Also, we have strengthened thematic engagement, through workshops, on climate-smart agriculture, and expanded collaboration, with FAO, IFAD, IOFS, and other global partners.

The **tourism** sector has also witnessed, dynamic progress. We successfully, hosted the 4th D8 Tourism Ministerial Meeting, in Cairo in May, 2025. We institutionalized the D-8 Tourism City of the Year Award, and produced the first official D-8 Tourism Promotional Video, developed with the support of TRT.

Through these initiatives, we will be able to enhance the visibility of our shared tourist destinations, on the global stage. We must sustain the momentum recorded, under tourism, as it is capable of serving as a catalyst, for economic integration, and people-to-people connectivity.

Another significant development, during the period under review, was the activation of our **Health** cooperation agenda, with the successful convening of the First Ministerial Meeting on Health, in Cairo last month, which culminated in the adoption of the D-8 Cairo Ministerial Declaration, on Health Cooperation. Again, I urge member states, to work, closely with the Secretariat, and our Partners, including the D-8 HSP, to sustain the momentum generated, by ensuring the faithful implementation, of the Cairo Declaration on Health.

In the realm of **youth development**, our progress has been remarkable. While the First Ministers' Meeting on Youth, hosted by Bangladesh, in 2024, laid the foundation, for a structured youth engagement, the D-8 Youth Dialogue, held in Baku, earlier, this month, reaffirmed our collective commitment, to empower our youth, with the adoption of the D-8 Baku Youth Declaration. The

D-8 Youth Council, in Bangladesh, will further boost youth participation, when it becomes operational.

Equally notable, during the period under review, has been the progress in **private sector engagement**. We have strengthened collaboration with the private sector, to deepen our trade cooperation agenda. Currently, we are collaborating with the private sector, to develop a Payment System, an E-Commerce platform, Halal and Counter-Trade. I am encouraged by Türkiye's proposal, to host the Permanent Secretariat of the D-8 CCI. No doubt, this will serve, as the institutional backbone, for private-sector cooperation, and investment facilitation.

A defining feature of my tenure, **Honorable Chair, Esteemed Commissioners**, has been, expanding the visibility of the D-8, globally. Today, the Secretariat now participate, more actively, in

international policy dialogues, including the UNGA, OIC CFM, ECO Summit, COMCEC, UNIDO General Conference, UNCTAD platforms, and FAO Regional Conferences.

Also, we have built new partnerships, and negotiated new MoUs, with reputable international organizations, to strengthen recognition of the D-8, as an emerging economic bloc. Similarly, our communications, and outreach efforts, have grown significantly, with stronger digital engagement, media visibility, and public diplomacy tools, contributing to greater awareness of the D-8's mission, among policymakers, and the broader public.

**Honourable Chair, Esteemed Commissioners,
Distinguished Delegates,**

Allow me to speak, briefly, on two other important issues, that deserve to be mentioned, namely:

- The first-ever Informal Retreat of the D-8 Commission, hosted by Azerbaijan; and Articulating a collective voice, on issues of global concern.

The Informal Retreat of the D-8 Commission, hosted by Azerbaijan in October 2025, marked a historic moment, of introspection. That event, enabled our commissioners, to deliberate on institutional reforms, to reposition our organization, for better performance. No doubt, the reform blueprint, initiated during this period, will serve as a robust foundation, for the next chapter, of institutional development.

Secondly, articulating our collective voice, on issues of global concern, is a new diplomatic engagement initiative, that deserves to be mentioned. For instance, the Extraordinary Council of Foreign Ministerial Meeting on Gaza, held in Istanbul on 8 June 2024, and the Special Sideline Summit on Gaza, Palestine, and Lebanon, held during the 11th D-8 Summit, demonstrated our unity, in addressing

humanitarian crises. I urge our leaders, to sustain this practice, ensuring that it is institutionalized, especially on the margins of key statutory meetings of the D-8, such as, Council and the Summit.

Excellencies,

Today's meeting will deliberate on issues, covering administrative, sectoral, and financial matters. These include the proposed budget for 2026, outstanding contributions, the status of D-8 legal instruments, proposals for new affiliate bodies, and the 2023-2024 Audit Report, amongst others.

These discussions are essential, for ensuring the continuity, stability, and operational efficiency, of our organization. I therefore encourage all Member States, to approach this agenda, with the spirit of cooperation, and shared responsibility.

As I had mentioned earlier, **Honorable Chair**, this is my final address to this esteemed Commission. Therefore, allow me to convey, my heartfelt gratitude, to all our distinguished Commissioners, for their cooperation, and understanding, during my tenure. It has been a wonderful time, working with Your Excellencies, for the past few years. Therefore, I am grateful to all Member States, for their trust in me, and to the Chair, for his exemplary leadership, as well as the Secretariat team, for their dedication and resilience.

I also extend warm congratulations, to my successor, His Excellency, Ambassador Sohail Mahmood, from Pakistan, who will assume office, as the next Secretary-General, on 1 January 2026. I am confident that the groundwork laid, during my tenure, will empower him to advance swiftly, and decisively, to take our beloved organization, to the next level.

As I conclude, **Honourable Chair, Esteemed Commissioners and Distinguished Delegates**, I wish to reaffirm, my enduring belief, in the potential of the D-8. We are blessed with both human capital, and economic diversity. With unity of purpose, and a forward-looking approach, I am confident that the D-8, will continue to play, an increasingly meaningful role, in shaping economic cooperation, regional stability, and global development, in the years to come.

Once again, I thank the Arab Republic of Egypt, for hosting this milestone 50th Commission, and for its remarkable leadership. Also, allow me Mr. Chair, to use this opportunity to, congratulate and wish the incoming Chair of the D-8, the Republic of Indonesia, a successful Presidency, for the next two years.

I wish our deliberations, every success, and pray that the outcomes of this meeting, will further strengthen, our collective journey. Thank you for your kind attention. Wa-Asalam-o-Alaikum wa Rahmatullahi, wa Barakatuhu.

Speech of Mr. Elmar Mammadov
D-8 Commissioner of the Republic of Azerbaijan
50th Session of the D-8 Commission

Mr. Chairman,

Mr. Secretary-General,

Distinguished Commissioners,

Esteemed Colleagues,

At the outset, I would like to express my sincere appreciation to the Arab Republic of Egypt for the excellent organization of today's Session and its warm hospitality. It is an honor to address the 50th Session of the D-8 Commission, a milestone that comes at a pivotal moment for both my country and the Organization as a whole.

The accession of the Republic of Azerbaijan to the D-8, decided at the 11th D-8 Summit in December last year in the beautiful city of Cairo, marked a historic milestone not only for my country but also for the Organization itself, expanding its membership for the first time in nearly three decades. Since then, Azerbaijan has taken bold steps to contribute actively to the D-8's vision by streamlining its activities, prioritizing areas of cooperation, and engaging in meaningful reforms.

In early March 2025, the D-8 Secretary-General and his team visited Azerbaijan. During this visit, they were received by H.E. Mr. Ilham Aliyev, President of the Republic of Azerbaijan, as well as ministers, to discuss our potential contributions to the D-8's development through concrete and innovative initiatives. On March 2025, Azerbaijan ratified the Charter of the D-8 and submitted its instrument of ratification, becoming a full member of the Organization. Shortly thereafter, in May 2025, Azerbaijan appointed its first Commissioner to the D-8, and I had the honor of attending the 49th Session of the Commission, where we discussed Azerbaijan's concrete initiatives in line with the Cairo Declaration and the D-8 Decennial Roadmap for 2020-2030. These steps marked the beginning of Azerbaijan's active engagement in shaping the Organization's initiatives.

In October 2025, Azerbaijan hosted the first-ever D-8 Week, featuring the inaugural D-8 Commissioners' Retreat, which launched key reform processes within the Organization aimed at transforming the D-8 into a powerful economic bloc, as well as the D-8 High-Level Climate and Urban Dialogue held within the framework of Azerbaijan's COP29 Presidency, with the participation of Ministers, other high-level representatives, D-8 Commissioners, and Mayors from the D-8 countries. These events provided a platform for dialogue, knowledge sharing, and cooperation among D-8 Member States,

reflecting Azerbaijan's commitment to strengthening integration and solidarity across the D-8 community.

In November and December 2025, Azerbaijan organized the first-ever D-8 Media Forum and the D-8 Youth Dialogue. These gatherings offered young leaders and media professionals from across the D-8 the opportunity to convene, exchange ideas, and develop joint initiatives. From these engagements emerged concrete proposals, including the establishment of a D-8 Youth Exchange Program and the designation of a D-8 Youth Capital, ensuring that youth voices continue to shape the Organization's future.

Since the 49th Commission in May 2025, Azerbaijan has also taken the initiative to establish and host three new D-8 Centers of Excellence in Azerbaijan, each designed to strengthen cooperation and promote shared development goals:

- **The D-8 Media Excellence Center**, designed to strengthen responsible journalism, media cooperation, and information exchange among D-8 countries;
- **The D-8 Energy and Climate Center**, serving as a D-8 hub for collaboration on renewable energy, energy efficiency, climate adaptation, and sustainable urbanization;
- **The D-8 Transport Excellence Center**, aimed at promoting innovation, knowledge exchange, and transport connectivity through sustainable and efficient transport systems.

The establishment of these Centers has progressed through a collaborative and inclusive process, with proposals refined through consultations with national focal points, as well as other D-8 constituencies, including media representatives and youth. Azerbaijan stands ready to operationalize these Centers soon, translating our shared vision into tangible outcomes for the D-8 region.

Looking ahead, Azerbaijan will host the 13th Session of the World Urban Forum (WUF13) next year, building on the successful experience of WUF12 hosted by Egypt. A D-8-related side event within WUF13 will further deepen cooperation and the exchange of expertise on sustainable urban development.

Over the past several months, Azerbaijan has also actively participated in the D-8 Tourism, Health, and Trade Ministerial Meetings, reaffirming our commitment to a comprehensive and multidimensional approach to cooperation.

In conclusion, I would like to commend the successful Chairmanship of the Arab Republic of Egypt, under which Azerbaijan joined the Organization, and to thank Egypt for its continued support and excellent cooperation. I also extend my best wishes to the incoming Chair, the Republic of Indonesia, for a successful and productive tenure.

Finally, I wish to express my appreciation to Secretary-General Ambassador Isiaka Abdulqadir Imam for his dedicated service and tireless efforts in advancing the D-8's work.

I have no doubt that, with continued collaboration, innovation, and commitment, the D-8 will grow not only as a platform for economic cooperation but also as a space where shared ideas and initiatives create lasting impact for our peoples.

Thank you for your attention.

Statement by H.E. Mr. M. Forhadul Islam
Secretary (Intergovernmental Organizations and Consular Affairs)
Ministry of Foreign Affairs
Bangladesh

At the outset, I express my sincere appreciation to the Government of the Arab Republic of Egypt for hosting this 50th Session of the D-8 Commission and for the excellent arrangements. I also thank the Secretary-General and the Secretariat for their continued efforts.

Bangladesh reaffirms its strong commitment to the vision and objectives of the D-8 in strengthening economic cooperation, expanding trade, and promoting inclusive and sustainable development.

We recognize the need for adequate resources for the Secretariat; however, any extraordinary increase in the administrative budget should be closely linked to concrete, project-based and action-oriented activities. Bangladesh has demonstrated its commitment by remitting advance contributions and urges timely payment of outstanding dues by all Member States.

Bangladesh supports consensus-based decision-making, while remaining open to majority-based decisions when consensus cannot be achieved. We endorse the expansion of the D-8 PTA towards a CEPA and welcome Türkiye's offer to host the D-8 Chamber of Commerce and Industry.

We propose the establishment of a Troika mechanism to oversee official travel of the Secretariat to ensure transparency, accountability, and cost-effectiveness.

Bangladesh supports the establishment of D-8 Contact Groups in third countries and proposes visa waiver arrangements for holders of diplomatic and official passports. We also express readiness to host relevant D-8 meetings in Dhaka.

We urge approval of Bangladesh's proposal on the Cooperation Framework for Food Security and seek continued support for LDC graduation-related trade flexibilities.

Finally, we call for solidarity with countries facing humanitarian challenges, including sustained support for the Rohingya refugees hosted by Bangladesh.

Bangladesh remains committed to strengthening the effectiveness and impact of the D-8.

Thank you.

Statement

**H.E. Tri Tharyat, Director General for Multilateral Cooperation Affairs
D-8 Commissioner of Indonesia
at the 50th Session of D-8 Commission
Cairo, 15-16 December 2025**

*His Excellency Ambassador Sherif Kamel, Chair and D-8 Commissioner for Egypt,
His Excellency Isiaka Abdulqadir Imam, D-8 Secretary General,
Excellencies D-8 Commissioners,*

1. At the outset, Indonesia conveys its sincere appreciation to Egypt for the warm hospitality and excellent arrangements, and to the Secretariat for its diligent preparation of this meeting.
2. I am pleased to be back here in Cairo and recall the constructive discussions held last year, which continue to provide important direction on strengthening our economic cooperation.
3. And today we continue to build on that positive momentum, amid profound geoeconomic shifts and challenges. Challenges that demand stronger collaboration to ensure that our organization remains relevant, responsive, and future-ready.
4. I recall that our Retreat in Baku a few months back also recognized the need to inject fresh momentum to strengthen collaboration toward a more ambitious and comprehensive economic partnership.
5. To this end, allow me to elaborate on a few priority areas of interest to Indonesia:
6. **First, we must continue to deepen economic and trade integration.** The D-8 Trade Ministers' Meeting held here in Cairo earlier this month also underscored the need to accelerate the implementation and expansion of the D-8 Preferential Trade Agreement.
 - Indonesia welcomes the renewed political commitment expressed by Ministers to broaden tariff coverage, modernize rules, and enhance transparency.
 - We encourage Member States that have not yet ratified the PTA to expedite their domestic processes.
7. **Second, Indonesia sees major opportunities in the halal industry.** With strong consumer bases and growing industrial capacity, D-8 countries can shape global halal value chains and enhance cooperation on standards, certification, and supply-chain integration.

8. **Third, the *Blue Economy* presents another strategic frontier.** Oceans already generate more than USD 2.5 trillion annually and carry over 80% of global trade. With vast coastlines, rich marine ecosystems, and major maritime sectors, D-8 countries can expand cooperation in sustainable fisheries, eco-based tourism as well as research and development.
9. Another important frontier lies in **people-to-people connectivity and digital transformation.** With over 1 billion combined population, a young demographic profile, and rapidly increasing internet penetration, the D-8 can accelerate inclusive digital growth with skills development and interoperable digital systems that bring our peoples closer together.
10. Lastly, **strengthening our institutional architecture** remains a priority. A more effective, better-resourced Secretariat is vital for implementing decisions and ensuring measurable outcomes.

Excellencies,

11. Before I conclude, I wish to express Indonesia's commendation to Ambassador Isiaka Imam, for his able leadership, dedication and hardwork throughout his tenure as D-8 Secretary General. We especially appreciate his tireless efforts in enhancing the visibility of our organization and in forging deeper collaboration among all our members. Thank you Secretary-General, and we wish you success in your every future endeavor.
12. Indonesia also wishes to welcome the incoming Secretary-General, Ambassador Mahmood of Pakistan, and stands ready to work with him.
13. As Indonesia prepares to assume the D-8 Chairmanship, we stand ready to build on this momentum, and once again thanking and commending the Arab Republic of Egypt for its leadership of our organization. Under Agenda Item 7, we will outline our initial priorities to ensure a more cohesive, responsive, and future-oriented D-8.

I thank you.

Remarks by
Mr. Behzad Azarsa
D-8 Acting Commissioner of Islamic Republic of Iran
50th D-8 Commissioners Meeting
15 December 2025 - Cairo, Egypt

In the name of God

Honorable Commissioners
Esteemed Secretary General
Dear colleagues,

As acting-commissioner of Iran to D-8, it is my privilege to address you in the 50th D-8 commissioners meeting in the beautiful city of Cairo.

At the outset, I would like to inform you the new Iran D-8 commissioner, H.E. Ambassador Tootoonchian, as a professional and career diplomat, has been appointed as the new D-8 commissioner replacing Dr. Alavi, who has assumed a post in ECO Secretariat in Tehran. In this regard, you will receive a NV shortly.

As an active member of D-8, Iran is seriously committed to contribute constructively and positively to assist D-8 to reach its goals and objectives.

However, it is a sad story that, in June 2025, as a blatant act of state terrorism and a provocative measure, a military aggression was launched against Iran by Zionist regime and the United States of America, in clear violation of international law especially Article 2 (4) of the United Nations Charter.

Iran, in response, exercised its inherent right of self-defense under Article 51 of the UN Charter, and its response was decisive and proportionate.

Excellencies,

For the past 6 months, D-8 engagements were remarkable, and D-8 as a whole, did a great job, in various fields and areas of cooperation, including Trade, the Preferential Trade Agreement (PTA), the Customs Cooperation Agreement, Transport, Media, Youth, Health, Tourism, Agriculture, among others.

Excellencies,

Ahead of us lies the most important principal organ meeting, D-8 Summit in April 2026, in Indonesia, as the incoming Chair.

This Summit represents a promising sign, a unique opportunity and the highest level of our interaction and policy making format, that should be highly appreciated.

To that end, Iran is preparing itself, to actively participate at the highest level while trying its utmost to address Iran's overdue contributions to D-8.

Iran, in principle, endorses the mandate of Ad-hoc Committee on Reform of D-8 Organization for Economic Cooperation, with its primary responsibility of reviewing the Charter , Staff and Financial Regulations, scale of assessment, as well as proposing institutional, administrative and financial reform to ensure equitable participation of all member states.

Excellencies,

Given the importance of D-8 auditing, I would like to appreciate the job done by distinguished auditors as well as the Secretariat and stress on the point that auditing is crucial for ensuring accountability, building trust, and maintaining the integrity of any system, including the inter-governmental bodies, like our own.

The recommendations and the observations of the auditors were clearly reported, however, the responses from the Secretariat were late and in general format. We expect to receive a detailed answer for each observation.

In conclusion, I would like to thank and appreciate the Arab Republic of Egypt for its remarkable D-8 leadership throughout the year 2025, as the incumbent D-8 Chair, as well as hosting and organizing various events, along with the Secretariat headed by esteemed D-8 Secretary General.

Thank you for your kind attention.

**Malaysia Statement at the 50th Session of the D-8 Commission, Cairo, 15
December 2025**

Malaysia would first like to express our sincere appreciation to you for your able leadership, as well as to the Secretary-General and the entire D-8 Secretariat team for their continued dedication and professionalism throughout the year. Your efforts have ensured continuity, stability, and steady progress for the Organisation as we approach the close of 2025.

Malaysia acknowledges the notable progress made across various D-8 initiatives over the past year. We have seen strengthened engagement among Member States, more structured discussions within our sectoral tracks, and continued progress on key institutional matters. These developments reflect our collective commitment to ensuring that the Organisation remains relevant, forward-looking, and capable of delivering tangible benefits to our economies and societies.

As we take stock of these achievements, it is equally important to recognise that several challenges remain. Addressing these challenges requires a combination of political will, financial discipline, and institutional reform, areas where Malaysia believes the D-8 must continue to improve.

Malaysia reiterates that reform of the Organisation must be guided by clarity of purpose. As we move forward, the D-8 must be realistic and strategic in defining its aims. With limited financial and human resources, our priorities should remain anchored to the core mandate of promoting economic cooperation, increasing intra D-8 trade, and creating meaningful economic opportunities for our peoples.

In this regard, Malaysia emphasises that the full implementation of the Preferential Trade Agreement (PTA) and progress toward the proposed D-8 Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement (CEPA) must remain top priorities. These are central pillars of our economic agenda, and they carry the greatest potential to strengthen trade facilitation, reduce barriers, and deepen economic integration.

While Malaysia supports the advancement of other subsidiary initiatives and affiliated

bodies, these efforts must not overshadow our primary economic commitments. We must avoid overstretching the Organisation by taking on too many simultaneous undertakings, especially those that require sustained financial and technical resources. A focused approach will ensure better outcomes and greater credibility for the Organisation.

Malaysia also encourages the continued work of the Ad-Hoc Committee on D-8 Reform, which has been tasked with examining the institutional, structural, and procedural improvements needed to make the Organisation more effective and agile. We look forward to further discussions within this Committee, including on governance mechanisms, resource allocation, and more efficient decision-making processes. Strengthening the D-8's institutional foundation is essential for delivering long-term impact.

Financial prudence must remain at the heart of D-8 reform. An organisation of our size and ambition requires stable and predictable financial resources. Malaysia is concerned about the continuing issue of Member States in arrears. This undermines not only the Secretariat's capacity to function effectively, but also the credibility of our agreements and commitments.

Therefore, Malaysia respectfully calls upon Member States with outstanding contributions to honour their obligations. At the same time, we recognise that some Member States may face financial constraints. For this reason, Malaysia encourages the Secretariat to work closely with the concerned countries to develop a realistic, time-bound, and mutually agreeable payment plan. Such an approach will help restore financial stability while ensuring fairness and accountability among all Member States.

In parallel, Malaysia urges the Secretariat to continue strengthening its internal financial management practices, including more transparent reporting, clearer budgeting, and enhanced monitoring mechanisms. These efforts will improve confidence in the Organisation's financial governance.

As we prepare for the next cycle of D-8 engagements, Malaysia looks forward to the upcoming meetings in early 2026, particularly the next D-8 Summit scheduled to be

held in Jakarta, Indonesia, in April. The Summit will be an important opportunity for us to reaffirm our collective vision, address key reform issues at the highest level, and chart a more strategic and results-focused path forward for the Organisation.

Malaysia stands ready to work constructively with all Member States and the Secretariat to ensure the Summit is a success and delivers concrete, actionable outcomes that advance our shared goals.

Malaysia, through the Malaysian Technical Cooperation Programme (MTCP) has shared its experience and expertise with 5,761 participants from D-8 Countries under the framework of South-South Cooperation. In addition to this, a total of 99 students have benefitted from the MTCP Scholarship programme, to pursue their higher education in Malaysia.

Malaysia welcomes nominations from the D-8 Member States for MTCP courses made available for the D-8 Member States and MTCP Scholarship for postgraduate education in economics, engineering, financial and banking, international relations, political studies, science, social development and technology.

Malaysia reaffirms its commitment to a stronger, more efficient, and more impactful D-8 Organisation, one that remains true to its core mission while adapting to the evolving needs of Member States and the global economic landscape.

Statement by the D-8 Commissioner of Pakistan
50th Session of the D-8 Commission
Cairo, Republic of Egypt

Respected Chair,

Mr. Secretary General,

Distinguished Commissioners, Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Assalamo Alaikum and a very good morning.

It is indeed a great honour and privilege to represent Pakistan at the 50th Session of the D-8 Commission. First, I would like to take this opportunity to extend my heartfelt gratitude to **H.E. Ambassador Isiaka Abdulqadir Imam, Secretary-General of the D-8 Organization**, for his tireless efforts in guiding and overseeing the affairs of the D-8, which support our collective success.

I also wish to express my deepest appreciation to the Arab Republic of Egypt, for graciously hosting this important session and for Egypt's unwavering dedication to fostering economic cooperation within our bloc.

I would also like to acknowledge the commendable efforts of the D-8 Secretariat in ensuring comprehensive preparation of the working documents and seamless coordination of this session.

Excellencies,

We all are gathered here today at the 50th session of the D-8 Commission. I recognize the significance of this gathering in advancing our shared vision of deeper economic cooperation and sustainable growth among our Member States.

Our journey in strengthening this partnership has been marked by continuous efforts, strategic deliberations, and collective commitment. The discussions ahead will focus on

critical areas, and our collective expertise and commitment will be instrumental in shaping policies that maximize benefits for our economies and people.

In our pursuit of achieving shared prosperity and success for all member States, Pakistan assures you its full cooperation and support. Pakistan believes in strengthening of D8 secretariat, and in this regard is also fully supportive of reforms proposed.

Respected Commissioners,

To realize our full potential of the decennial roadmap 2023, all member states need to vigorously engage in mutually beneficial projects in all identified areas of cooperation. I would like to highlight here the successful holding of Foreign Diplomatic Course for D8 member states, currently ongoing in Pakistan. We received nominations from Egypt, Bangladesh, Iran, Indonesia and Malaysia. We offer the remaining member states i.e. Turkiye, Nigeria and Azerbaijan to nominate their diplomats to attend the next batch which will be held from 10-30 January, 2026 in Islamabad.

Furthermore, I am also delighted to announce that Pakistan is ready to host the next meeting of the working group on agriculture next year.

Looking ahead, Pakistan is honored to assume the responsibility of the D-8 Secretary General in 2026. We view this as both a privilege and a solemn responsibility to contribute more substantively to the vision and progress of our Organization.

Distinguished delegates

In conclusion, let me reiterate Pakistan's steadfast commitment to the D-8 vision. We are ready to work hand in hand with our partners to realize the full potential of this platform and to forge a future that reflects the aspirations of our peoples; a future rooted in solidarity, shared prosperity, and sustainable development.

I encourage all participants to engage in insightful, constructive dialogue that fosters inclusivity, and practical solutions. The strength of our cooperation lies in our ability to work together in good faith, ensuring that our decisions align with the long-term goals of the D-8 economic bloc. I wish that our deliberations be fruitful and drive us toward a more integrated, dynamic, and prosperous future.

I thank you.

GELİŞEN SEKİZ ÜLKE TEŞKİLATI (D-8)**50. KOMİSYON TOPLANTISI****SAYIN EPGY'NİN HİTABI**

(15-16 Aralık 2025, Kahire)

Distinguished Chair,

Dear Commissioners,

Mr. Secretary General,

Esteemed Colleagues,

I am pleased to attend the Session of 50th Commission Meeting, and extend our Commissioner, Ambassador Sekizkök's greetings to you all.

Let me express our gratitude to Egypt for its active Chairmanship and for hosting us here and wish every success to Indonesia for its upcoming Chairmanship.

I extend our thanks to Mr. Secretary General and his team for their efforts in our joint endeavor to transform D-8 into a more efficient and result-oriented. We wish you success at your next assignment.

Dear Colleagues,

As we are all aware, with Azerbaijan's accession D-8, a reassessment of organizational structure and priority areas of the D-8 has become necessary.

We believe that this development presents an important opportunity to lay the groundwork for long-overdue discussions and much-needed reform efforts concerning the future of our Organization.

In this regard, we attach importance to the work of the Ad-Hoc Reform Committee.

Distinguished Commissioners,

A robust Secretariat is not a luxury but a necessity if we are to put our shared vision into practical outcomes. This requires to enhance both institutional and financial capacity of the Secretariat.

Additionally, member states must be prepared to assume greater responsibilities, both politically and materially.

Dear Colleagues,

While concepts such as near-shoring and friend-shoring are gaining importance, we believe that D-8, which is founded on a shared cultural and brotherly principles, holds a distinct advantage in adapting to the evolving dynamics of global international system.

As the founding and host country, Türkiye is ready to transform the D-8 to benefit from the ongoing changes and transformations of the international system.

In order to achieve success in this direction, we think that it is necessary for member countries to make concrete, project-focused and efficient progress in the organization's priority areas through their initiatives and voluntary efforts.

Focusing on our joint economic targets rather than diminishing our strength through ramification into non-productive areas may be the key to overcome present obstacles.

In line with this understanding, we have taken significant and concrete steps regarding the effective implementation of the D-8 Preferential Trade Agreement such as the expansion of its scope, and initiation of renegotiations at the D-8 Trade Ministers Council which took place in İstanbul couple of weeks ago.

We are very pleased to be hosting the Permanent Secretariat of the D-8 Chamber of Commerce and Industry in İstanbul in collaboration with the Union of Chambers and Commodity Exchanges of Türkiye (TOBB).

Furthermore, we believe that holding the Business Forums on the margins of future Trade Ministers Council meetings will create a positive impact with a multiplier effect.

Distinguished Commissioners,

We look forward to welcoming you all to COP31 next year in Türkiye, where we hope to further strengthen our partnerships and commitments towards a more sustainable future.

During our COP Presidency, we will work towards bridging the gap between developed and developing countries.

Dear Colleagues,

Last but not least, I once again want to stress that our Organization's success depends on our political will, solidarity and shared responsibility.

Let us, therefore, work together to strengthen the D-8 and its Secretariat for our shared goals to pursue an economic agenda that is ambitious yet realistic and target oriented.

Thank you.

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D-8 CALENDAR OF EVENTS 2026

Title of Meeting	Date	Host	Status
Statutory Meetings			
51 st D-8 Commission Meeting & 23 rd Council of Ministers Meeting 12 th D-8 Summit D-8 Business Forum	12-13 April 2026 14 April 2026 15 April 2026 14 April 2026	Indonesia	Confirmed
2 nd Retreat Commission Meeting	TBC-2026	Pakistan	Confirmed
Sectoral Cooperation			
5 th Session of the D-8 Trade Ministers Council	Q3 - 2026	Indonesia	TBC
9 th Meeting of the Supervisory Committee of the D-8 PTA	Q2- 2026	Nigeria	Confirmed in Abuja
First Negotiation Meeting for the Expansion of the Offer Lists of the D-8 PTA.	Q3- 2026	Türkiye	TBA
8 th Senior Officials Meeting on Agriculture 8 th Ministerial Meeting on Agriculture	Q3 - 2026	Pakistan	TBC
7 th Ministerial Meeting on D-8 Industrial Cooperation	Q2 - 2026	TBC	TBC
The Meeting of the SME Governmental Bodies	Q2 - 2026	Nigeria	TBC
6 th Senior Officials meeting on Tourism / 5 th Ministerial Meeting on Tourism	Q4- 2026	Nigeria	TBA
First D-8 Tourism Investment Forum	Q2 - 2026	D-8 City of the Year for 2026	TBC
1 st Ministerial Meeting on Transport	Q4 – 2026	Azerbaijan	TBC

Title of Meeting	Date	Host	Status
1 st D-8 Ministerial Meeting on Energy	Q3 - 2026	Azerbaijan	TBC
2 st Ministerial Meeting on Health	Q4- 2026	Turkiye	TBC
D-8 Youth Meeting	Q4- 2026	Indonesia	TBA
4 th Meeting of Consular Authorities of D-8 Member States on the implementation of the Agreement on Simplification of Visa Procedures	Q1 – 2026	Virtual/Bangladesh	TBC
14 th D-8 Meeting of Directors-General and Expert Working Group on Civil Aviation Task Force on Training & Capacity Building (Chair: Türkiye, Deputy Chair: Nigeria) Task Force on Commercial Issues (Chair: Indonesia, Deputy Chair: Türkiye) (Virtual) Task Force on ‘Safety & Security’ (Chair: Malaysia, Deputy Chair: Pakistan) (Virtual) Task Force on Air Navigation & Air Traffic Management (Chair: Iran, Deputy Chair: Indonesia) (Virtual)	Q-3 - 2026	TBC	TBA
The D-8 Energy ⁱ Forum	TBA	TBC	TBC
D-8 Meeting of the Governor of the Central Banks on the sidelines of the ISDB Governors Meeting	Q3- 2026	Azerbaijan	TBC
Ministerial Meeting on D-8 Transportation	Q4	Azerbaijan	TBC
Meetings of the D-8 Affiliate Bodies			
4 th Board of Trustee Meeting of the D-8 International University	Q2 - 2026	D-8 International University / Iran	TBA

Title of Meeting	Date	Host	Status
9 th High Council Meeting of D-8 TTEN (HCM)	Q3 - 2026	D-8 TTEN/ Iran	TBA
Second Meeting of the D-8 Research Center for Agriculture (D-8 RCAFS)	Q3 - 2026	D-8 RCAFS/ Pakistan	Confirmed
5 th Meeting of the D-8 Network of Pioneers for Research and Innovation (D-8 NPRI)	Q4- 2026	Universiti Teknologi Malaysia (UTM)	TBC
General Assembly of the D-8 Chamber of Commerce and Industry (D-8 CCI)	April 2026	D-8 CCI/ Indonesia	TBC
Third Meeting of the D-8 Health and Social protection Program (D-8 HSP)	TBA	D-8 HSP / Nigeria	TBC
Inauguration of the D-8 Media Excellence Center (D-8 MEC)	Q1- 2026	Azerbaijan	TBC
Inauguration of the D-8 Energy and Climate Center	Q3- 2026	Azerbaijan	TBC
Inauguration of the D-8 Transport Excellence Center (D-8 TEC)	Q4 – 2026	Azerbaijan	TBC
Private 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
Technical meeting on the D-8 Payment Card	TBA	Secretariat KOMEPS/ Malaysia	TBC

TBA: To be Announced

TBC: To be Confirmed