



D-8 ORGANIZATION FOR ECONOMIC COOPERATION

JANUARY-MARCH 2022

ISSUE 1



This ISSUE's news and updates:

Ambassador Isiaka A. Imam is the new Secretary-General of D-8

7th Agriculture Ministerial Meeting held

Secretary-General's Courtesy visit to FM of Turkey

AMBASSADOR ISIAKA A. IMAM ASSUMED THE POSITION OF SECRETARY-GENERAL

Ambassador Isiaka Abdulqadir Imam is from the Foreign Ministry of the Federal Republic of Nigeria and he assumed the position of the

Secretary-General of the D-8 Organization for Economic Cooperation (D-8) on 1 January 2022. He is the fifth Secretary-General of the D-8.



D-8 Organization for Economic Cooperation

Newsletter

MESSAGE OF THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

Distinguished Readers,

I have the pleasure to present to our readers the First Issue of Developing Eight Organization for Economic Cooperation (D-8) Newsletter in the year 2022, which also coincides with the Silver Jubilee Anniversary of D-8, for your review.

This first edition is an overview of the activities, events and developments of the Organization from January 2022 to March 2022.

The D-8 aims to increase economic cooperation among the Member States to boost economic growth, sustain development and promote the well-being of its citizens. In doing so we have focused our attention in six priority areas namely Agriculture, Trade, Transportation, Industry, Energy and Tourism.

Moving towards the second phase of the lifecycle of our Organization, and with a strong conviction that we represent a strong economic power house with



a great history and a bright future, we are determined to focus more on implementing the shared vision set forward by our leaders to achieve the goals of the D-8 for the benefit of our people.

D-8 countries in total account for almost 4 trillion dollars of GDP, 1.5 trillion dollars of export and 110 billion dollars of intra-trade. But the real novelty of D-8 is

that it is home to 1.1 billion people, meaning one in every seven people in the world is living in D-8. This comes with remarkable cultural diversity, economic strengths, natural resources, creativity and innovation, and big opportunities for the future generations.

Sincerely,

**Ambassador Isiaka
Abdulqadir Imam**



HEADLINES

- COURTESY VISITS AND EXTERNAL RELATIONS
- SECTORAL DEVELOPMENTS
- UPDATES FROM D-8 AFFILIATE BODIES



SECRETARY-GENERAL'S COURTESY VISIT TO FOREIGN MINISTER OF TÜRKIYE

The Secretary-General, Ambassador Isiaka Abdulqadir Imam paid a courtesy visit to the Foreign Minister of Türkiye at the latter's office on 18 January 2022.

The Honourable Minister wished the Secretary-General success in his new assignment and emphasized the importance Türkiye attaches to the D-8 Organization. He assured of Türkiye's continued support and assistance to the organization and reiterated the need to expand the membership of the D-8 to reach the desired objectives of the Organization.

The Secretary-General expressed his gratitude to the Honourable Minister for the support and assistance of the Government of Türkiye to the D-8 Organization. He briefed the Honourable Minister of his plans for the organization, during his tenure.

Earlier, the Secretary-General had met His Excellency Faruk Kaymakçı, Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Türkiye and Her Excellency, Ambassador Esen Altuğ, D-8 Commissioner of Türkiye.





Visit to Bangladesh

The Secretary-General of Developing Eight Organization for Economic Cooperation (D-8), H.E Ambassador Isiaka Abdulqadir Imam, while on his maiden visit to Bangladesh, met with the Hon'ble Prime Minister, Sheikh Hasina, at the Ganabhaban in Dhaka on Wednesday, 23 February, 2022.

Both the Prime Minister and the D-8 Secretary General reiterated the need

for materializing the D-8 Preferential Trade Agreement to harness the immense economic potential for

promoting trade among the Member States. The Prime Minister expressed the readiness of her government to make available to Member States exclusive facilities and land in Bangladesh's 'Special Economic Zones' and invited Member States to latch on this opportunity to further enhance economic cooperation.

Ambassador Imam had briefed the Prime Minister, who is also the current Chair of D-8, on the activities and initiatives of the organization, while highlighting the new projects

and initiatives undertaken by D-8.

The Secretary General expressed his resolve to further promote the visibility of the organization through enhancing project-based cooperation among Member States, so that the benefits of such cooperation would reach the grassroots level.



COURTESY VISITS AND EXTERNAL RELATIONS



The Secretary General of Developing Eight Organization for Economic Cooperation Countries (D-8), H.E. Ambassador Isiaka Abdulqadir Imam, has played host to the Secretary General of Black Sea Economic Cooperation (BSEC), H.E. Ambassador Lazar Comanescu, who paid a courtesy visit to D-8 Secretariat in Istanbul, Turkey on Monday 31 January 2022.

National Management College of Pakistan at D8 Secretariat



The delegation of the National Management College of Pakistan visited the D-8 Secretariat, in Istanbul, and had a meeting with the D-8 Secretary-General, H.E. Ambassador Isiaka A. Imam, on 7 February 2022.

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Visit to Headquarters of Anadolu News Agency

The Secretary-General Ambassador Imam visited the headquarters of Anadolu News Agency of Türkiye, in Ankara on 1 March 2022 and met with the Director General of Agency, Mr. Serdar Karagöz. Both sides discussed ways of advancing the collaboration between the two institutions.

Secretary-General's Visit To Tika

Ambassador Isiaka Abdulqadir Imam called on the President of Turkish Cooperation and Coordination Agency (TiKA), Mr. Serkan Kayalar, at the latter's office. The meeting discussed the potential cooperation areas of both sides.



Musiad Team at D-8 Headquarters

A delegation from Müstakil Sanayici ve İşadamları Derneği (MUSIAD), a Turkish Business Association, paid a courtesy visit to the D-8 Headquarters in Istanbul and met with the D-8 Secretary-General Ambassador Isiaka A. Imam, on 18 March 2022. Both sides had fruitful discussions on several issues for advancing the cooperation between two institutions.



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Meeting With The Director-General of Sesric



The D-8 Secretary-General paid a courtesy call on the Director-General of Statistical, Economic and Social Research and Training Centre for Islamic Countries (SESRIC), H.E. Mr. Nebil Dabur at the headquarters of SESRIC in Ankara. They discussed various ways of strengthening the cooperation between the two institutions.

Visit to the General Manager of Turkish Airlines



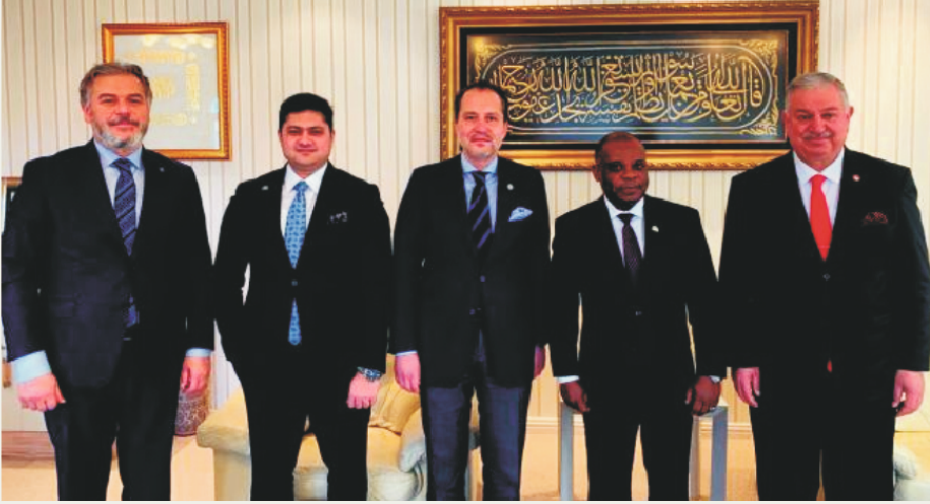
Executive Officer of Turkish Airlines, Mr. Bilal Ekşi, on 3 March 2022, at the Headquarters of the Airline in Istanbul.

The two Chief Executives exchanged views on fostering cooperation in the aviation sector of D8 Member States. Both sides underscored the need to further improve air connectivity among the D-8 Member States to foster greater intra-trade and promote people-to-people contacts.

The Secretary General of the Developing Eight Organization for Economic Cooperation (D8), Ambassador Isiaka Abdulqadir Imam, paid a courtesy call on the Chief

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Secretary-General's Visit to Erbakan Foundation



The Secretary-General of the Developing Eight Organization for Economic Cooperation (D8), Ambassador Isiaka Abdulqadir Imam, visited the Necmettin Erbakan Foundation in Ankara, Türkiye, on 28 March 2022 to discuss full implementation of the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) signed between the two institutions.

VISIT TO ANATOLIAN YOUTH ASSOCIATION (AGD)



On 28 March 2022, the Secretary-General, alongside his delegation, visited the headquarters of Anatolian Youth Association (AGD) in Ankara, Türkiye. The visit was to share ideas on effective collaboration between the two organizations for advancing youth development.



MEETINGS, WEBINARS, EVENTS

Secretary General of Developing Eight Organization for Economic Cooperation (D-8), H.E Ambassador Isiaka Abdulqadir Imam, was one of the global leaders that attended the 2nd Annual Antalya Diplomacy Forum (ADF), which took place from 11-13 March 2022 in the coastal city of Antalya, on the Mediterranean Sea in the Republic of Turkiye. The gathering attracted Heads of State, Ministers, Policy Makers, Diplomats, Business Leaders, Academics, and Representatives of Youth Organizations, as well as the Media.

Ambassador Imam participated as a member of a panel of discussants, along with three other high-ranking dignitaries, on the issue tagged: "Post-Pandemic recovery, livelihoods and localities".

The discussion of the eminent panelists addressed the issue of economic recovery in the post pandemic period.



UNCTAD-D8 JOINT WEBINAR ON IIAS AND PUBLIC HEALTH

The Joint Webinar on International Investment Agreements (IIAs) and Public Health was jointly held by United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (U N C T A D) and D-8 Organization for Economic Cooperation with the participation of Representatives from D-8 Member States and other partners on 28 February 2022. The Secretary-General also addressed the webinar.



Ambassador Imam Attended the Reception to Mark 51st Independence Anniversary of Bangladesh

His Excellency Ambassador Isiaka A. Imam delivered a speech at the reception organized in Ankara, Türkiye, by the Embassy of

Bangladesh to Turkey on the occasion of the 51st Anniversary of the Independence and National Day of Bangladesh on 28 March 2022.



Secretary-General at the 48th Session of CFM Meeting of OIC

The Secretary General of Organization for Economic Cooperation (D-8), H.E. Ambassador Isiaka Abdulqadir Imam, called for closer cooperation and partnership between the D-8 and the Organization of Islamic Countries (OIC), as both organizations share similar objectives of advancing the economic well-being of their peoples. He made the call recently while delivering a good will message at the

48th Session of Council of Foreign Ministers meeting of OIC held from 22-23 March 2022 in Islamabad, Pakistan.

The Secretary-General enumerated various economic potentials available within the D-8 Group of countries and other initiatives that have been embarked upon at the organization.

He told the gathering that D-8 countries have a lot to offer in terms of investments such as in areas of competitive textile industry, advanced industrial and SMEs sector, a vibrant tourism sector, diverse natural resources, skilled and competitive labour force and above all a huge market of over 1.1 billion people.

Sec-Gen Addressed the Capacity Building Workshop



The D8-SG Ambassador Implementation organized Isiaka A. Imam delivered opening remarks at the Capacity Building Workshop on New Approaches to e-Government for SDG (UNDESA) from 15-16 March 2022.

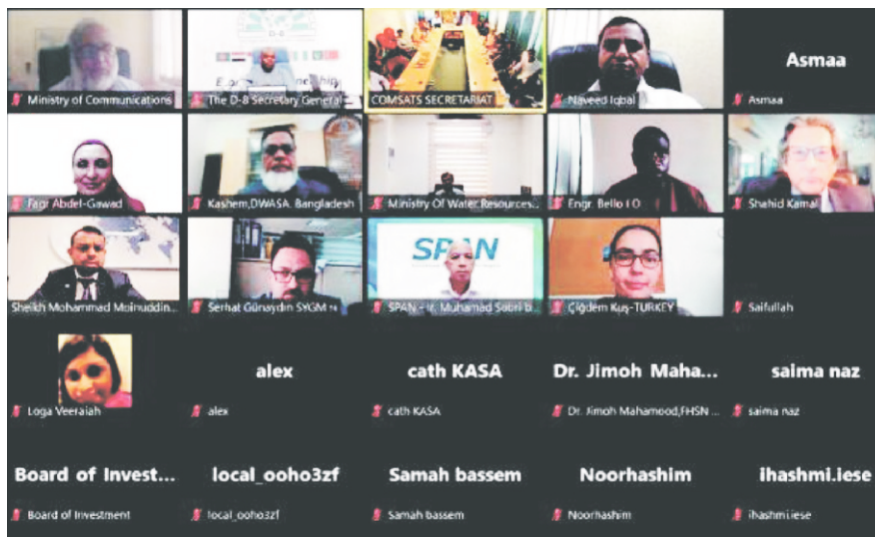


SECTORAL DEVELOPMENTS *Seventh D-8 Agriculture Ministerial Meeting*

The People's Republic of Bangladesh hosted the 7th D-8 Ministerial Meeting on Agriculture and Food Security virtually from 12-13 January 2022, under the theme: "Promotion of Climate Smart Agriculture: Key issues for D-8 Member States".

The Meeting discussed comprehensively on exploring opportunities for sustainable Agricultural Development and Promoting Climate Smart Agriculture (CSA) in D-8 Member States.

In this regard, the People's Republic of Bangladesh proposed the project "Scaling up Climate Smart Agriculture (SCSA)" for D-8 Member Countries. The project is aimed at capacitating farmers and the rural communities in D-8 countries to improve their agricultural production systems towards food and nutrition security, scaling up crop intensification, increased farm income and livelihood improvement through coping, adapting and mitigating unpredictable climate impacts.



...Also 'safe Drinking Water Through Water Conservation'

Webinar on "Feasibility Study of Provision of Safe Drinking Water through Water Conservation (SDWC)" among D-8 Member States' researchers and professionals hosted by COMSATS University of Pakistan, on 30 March 2022.

D-8 AFFILIATE BODIES

D-8 Technology Transfer And Exchange Network (D-8 TTEN)

Technology Investment Meeting, Tim 2022 Held

The 4th Technology Investment Meeting (TIM 2022) was organized in a hybrid format (in-person and virtual attendance) by the D-8 Organization for Economic Cooperation, the D-8 Technology Transfer and Exchange Network (D-8 TTEN) Secretariat and Pardis Technology Park in Tehran, Iran, from 21-22 February, 2022. The Meeting was honored to host the D-8 Secretary-General, Ambassador Isiaka Abdulqadir Imam through live broadcast.

The event was attended by participants drawn from D-8 Member Countries, representatives of local and foreign companies and investors from



different parts of the world. Technology investment is one of the main areas through which Member States could derive maximum benefits in economic cooperation. TIM 2022 offered participants from D-8 countries platform to create synergy between stakeholders operating in the IT sector.

Activities of TIM 2022 included speeches, panel discussions, B2B

meetings. Highlights of the event were:

- i. Establishment of network D-8 VC investors to improve long-term cooperation in the field of technological investment.
- ii. Establishment of D-8 CO-Fund and forming of Innovation Co-Fund Working Group.

At the end of the event, it was announced that TIM 2023 will be held at the Pardis Technology Park in Iran from 27-28 February, 2023.



Inaugural Meeting of D-8 Innovation Co-fund Initiative (D-8 COFI Working Group)

The inaugural meeting held on February 22, 2022 on the sideline of 4th Technology Investment Meeting. The D-8 TTEN Secretariat hosted the meeting where delegates from Egypt, Iran, Malaysia, Nigeria, Pakistan and Turkey attended the meeting virtually and in-person.

D-8 Innovation Co-Fund Initiative is a multilateral cooperative funding platform established to

enable participants to:

- Share the national science, technology & industrial policies, and research activities in the member countries and create joint collaborations for benefit of member states;
- Mobilize multi-national and transdisciplinary collaborative STI actions;
- Strengthen the interactions of

the enterprise research and development impacts; and,

- Facilitate mutual investment opportunities for joint SMEs in multi-national innovation ecosystems.

The cooperation includes joint funding of transnational cooperative research, development and innovation projects. The joint funding is organized based on national/regional funding programs with both joint evaluation and investment procedure. The cooperation also applies to any related activities between members, especially promotion of the initiative and the co-organization of rotating partnering events.

D-8 HEALTH AND SOCIAL PROTECTION PROGRAMME (D-8 HSP)

D-8 HSP Engagement with the United Nations High Commission of Refugees (UNHCR)



In line with the Sustainable Development Goals of the United Nations, the Developing-8 has focused its attention on improving the health and livelihoods of its citizens through the Health and Social Protection Programme (D-8 HSP), which supports governments of Member countries to accelerate progress towards reduction of poverty, hunger, improvement of health and livelihoods. These interventions of the D-8 directly contribute to accelerating the attainment of SDGs 1, 2 & 3. One of D-8 HSP's key priorities is innovative resource mobilization in accordance with

her strategic plan 2021-2025, under the thematic area of innovative financing to support D-8 countries in identifying innovative financing strategies to complement government funding for health and social protection interventions. In Nigeria, the D-8 HSP's consultation on the pooling of Zakat to address poverty, hunger and improve health and wellbeing gained momentum following series of engagements with the Nigeria Country Office of the United Nations High Commission on Refugees (UNHCR). D-8 HSP has received endorsement of the UNHCR with regard to

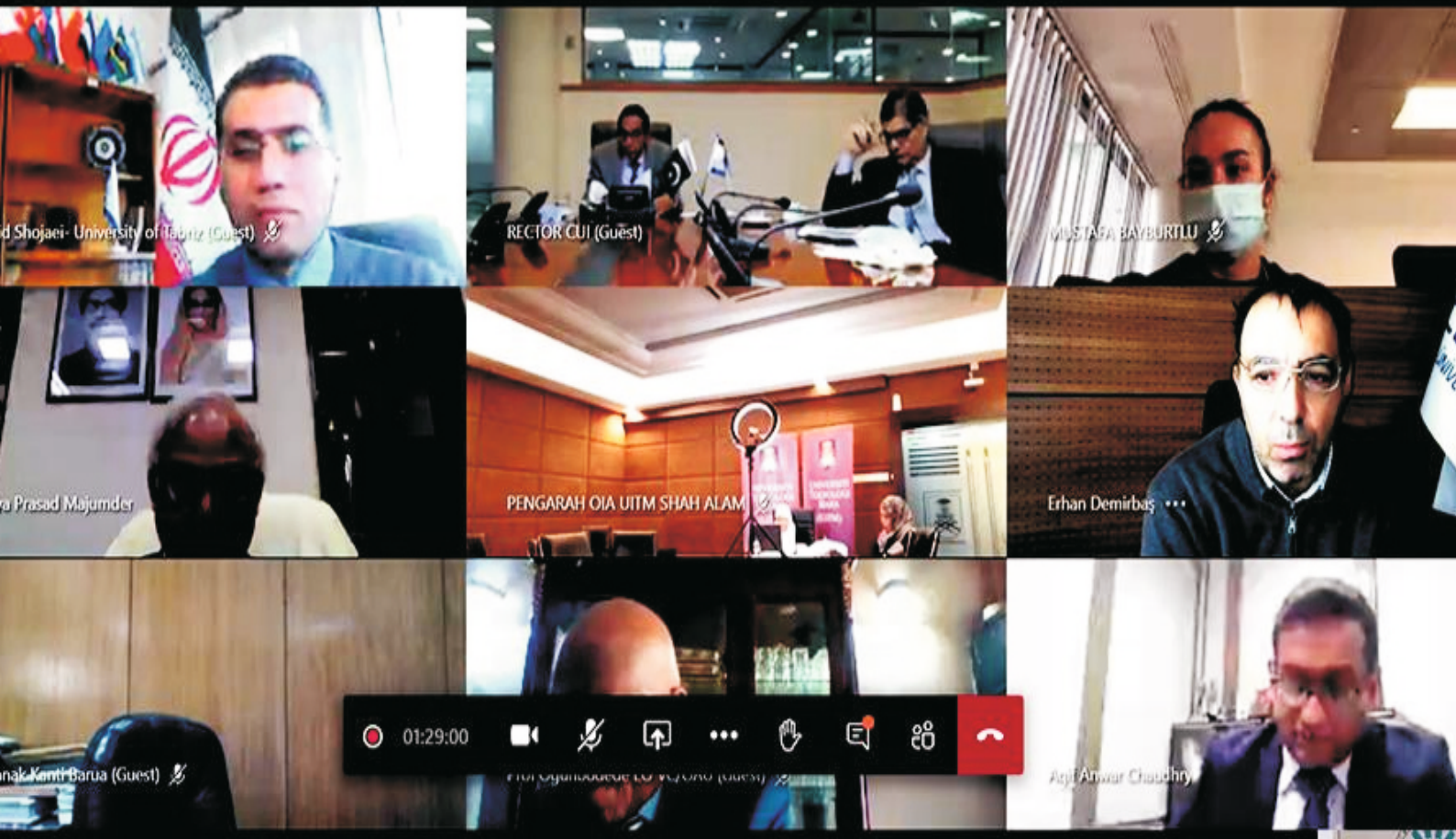
pioneering work in mobilizing zakat and waqf for displaced people.

Diverse Islamic groups, under the umbrella of Association of Zakat and Waqf Organizations in Nigeria (AZAWON), have been engaged by D-8 HSP and are keen to see how learning from the conventional Zakat collection and payment in Nigeria, the D-8 HSP would generate digital tools, build mobilization capacities and expand the scope to directly reduce poverty, hunger and help Nigeria in reducing health inequalities and burden of out-of-pocket expenses for health through Zakat.

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D-8 Network of Pioneers on Research and Innovation (D-8 NPRI)

Activities and Initiatives of D-8 NPRI on Research, Science and Innovation



After having the First Meeting on 21 December 2020, the Comsats University Islamabad, who is the current chairman of NPRI, plans to hold the Second Meeting of NPRI in 2022 in Pakistan and bring new initiatives and projects to improve the engagements of the relevant universities and authorities of the D-8 Member States on

research, science and innovation.

Some of the on-going and proposed activities and initiatives of NPRI are as follows:

- Signing a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with D-8 International University
- Organizing D-8 Research Support Program Project

Awardee at Comsats University Islamabad

- An initiative to create D-8 Research and Development Council to promote collaboration among research institutions of D-8 countries
- Establishment of D-8 Universities Association

Announcement

Comsats University Islamabad Offers
Scholarships For MS And Phd Students
From International Universities of D-8 Member States



MS/PhD Scholarship Opportunities for students from D-8 International Universities Member Countries at COMSATS University Islamabad, Pakistan

Program	MS	PhD	Programs	MS	PhD
Computer Science			Development Studies		
Computer Engineering			Conflict Peace and Development		
Software Engineering			English (Linguistics and Literature)		
Information Security			International Relations		
Health Informatics			Biotechnology		
Electrical Engineering			Environmental Sciences		
Mechatronics Engineering			Sustainable Water Sanitation Health and Development		
Renewable Energy Engineering			Mathematics		
Chemical Engineering			Chemistry		
Civil Engineering			Pharmacy		
Environmental Engineering			Biosciences		
Management Sciences			Bioinformatics		
Project Management			Biochemistry and Molecular Biology		
Economics			Molecular Genetics		
Energy Management			Microbiology and Immunology		
Banking and Finance			Molecular Virology		
Strategic Marketing			Meteorology		
Geology			Remote Sensing and GIS		
Geophysics			Statistics		
Nanotechnology			Physics		
Mechanical Engineering					

TIMELINE FOR APPLICATION SUBMISSION

- Deadline for submission of application: 15 July every year

APPLICATION PROCEDURE

- Apply online at <http://ww3.comsats.edu.pk/internationalstudents/>



D-8 Organization for Economic Cooperation



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D-8 Organization

Headquarters

Darüşşafaka Cd. Seba Center İş Merkezi

No:45 Kat:3 34460 İstinye-Sarıyer

Istanbul / Turkey

T: +90 212 356 1823 F: +90 212 356 1829

E: info@developing8.org

W: www.developing8.org