



A quarterly newsletter of the

# D-8 ORGANIZATION FOR ECONOMIC COOPERATION



## This issue's highlight:

D-8 TRADE MINISTERS MET IN ISTANBUL TO DEEPEN TRADE RELATIONS

D-8 YOUTH MINISTERS MET IN DHAKA TO ENDORSE D-8 YOUTH COUNCIL

SECRETARY-GENERAL PARTICIPATED IN MUSIAD'S INTERNATIONAL CONTRACTING AND FINANCE SUMMIT

SECRETARY-GENERAL ATTENDED THE ANNUAL INVESTMENT MEETING (AIM) CONGRESS 2024

D-8 SECRETARY-GENERAL MET WITH BUSINESSPEOPLE IN ISTANBUL

## THE D-8 COUNCIL OF FOREIGN MINISTERS MET IN ISTANBUL, DISCUSSED THE CRISIS IN GAZA

The Council of Ministers of Foreign Affairs of the Developing-8 Organization for Economic Cooperation (D-8 Council) convened its Extraordinary Meeting at the historic Dolmabahçe Palace in Istanbul on Saturday, 8 June 2024. The Meeting's single agenda was to address the Gaza crisis.

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## MESSAGE FROM THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

**Dear Readers,**

I am happy to greet you again through the Second Edition 2024 of the D-8 Newsletter, which covers our organization's developments between April and June 2024.

On 15 June 2024, the D-8 clocked 27 years old. It is a mature age for an organization that has navigated the dynamic global discourse to become what it is today. We at the D-8 Secretariat are currently working to organize modest activities to commemorate the D-8's 27th anniversary. We will inform you when the activities are ready to materialize.

But June was indeed a blessed month for the D-8. Two ministerial meetings were held that befitted the essence of the anniversary. The first was the Extraordinary Meeting of the D-8 Council of Foreign Ministers, which the Republic of Türkiye hosted at the historic Dolmabahçe Palace in Istanbul on 8 June 2024. The Ministers deliberated on the D-8's common resolve to support Palestine with a view to ending the ongoing Israeli hostilities in the Gaza strip.

Three days later, on 11 June 2024, Türkiye also hosted the Informal Meeting of the D-8 Trade Ministers Council in Istanbul. Here, the Ministers reiterated their shared resolve to bolster trade relations among the D-8 countries further.

Previously, Bangladesh hosted the First D-8 Ministerial Meeting on Youth, preceded by the First D-8 Senior Officials' Meeting on Youth, in Dhaka on 20 – 21 May 2024. The Ministers endorsed the proposal to establish the D-8 Youth Council to be hosted by Bangladesh in Dhaka.

In addition to the three ministerial meetings, our organization also conducted and actively participated in various activities and events in two months. For example, upon the invitation from the Acting Minister of Foreign Affairs of Iran, I attended the 19th Session of the Council of Foreign Ministers of the Asia Cooperation Dialogue (ACD) in Tehran on 24 June 2024.

Moreover, upon the invitation from the Minister of Trade of Türkiye, I also participated in the 3rd Ministerial Meeting of the Trade Negotiation Committee (TNC) of the Trade Preferential System of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation (TPS OIC), in Istanbul on 10 and 11 June 2024.



**Dear Readers,**

I also attended the 2024 Annual Investment Meeting (AIM) Congress in Abu Dhabi in May 2024 upon the invitation of the Government of the United Arab Emirates. In the same month, I participated as a panelist in the 20th Session of the Investment and Enterprise Commission of the United Nations Trade and Development (UNCTAD) in Geneva.

The D-8 Secretariat also participated in several multilateral events, such as the 34th Session of the Regional Conference for Europe of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the UN (FAO ERC) in Rome in May. We also participated in the 2024 United Nations Public Services Forum (UNPSF) in Incheon, Korea, from 24 to 26 June 2024. The D-8 Secretariat's active participation in those multilateral processes further cemented the D-8 position and role in international norm-setting practices. Moreover, the D-8 also gained more exposure and is more globally known. This forward momentum must be maintained to extract tangible results for the D-8 Organization.

I met with renowned businesspeople in Türkiye and the member states on the private sector track to bolster their participation in the D-8 economic activities. As a follow-up to my meetings, I am happy they are now enthused to explore the market and expand cooperation with other Member States.

For example, in June 2024, I met with the President of MUSIAD in Istanbul and attended a conference on international financing for infrastructure development organized by MUSIAD in Istanbul. MUSIAD is scheduled to organize a business mission to the D-8 Member States. MUSIAD is the largest independent business association in Türkiye, with 13.000 individual members and 60.000 enterprises in Türkiye. MUSIAD also has 83 contact points in Türkiye and 85 points in 71 countries.

**Dear Readers,**

Since we also observe Eid-ul-Adha in June, allow me to reiterate my best wishes to you and your loved ones in the spirit of Eid-ul-Adha. May the Almighty God bless you all abundantly.

And now that the summer of 2024 has greeted us, let us be prepared to do more to achieve our shared goals. My colleagues and I at the D-8 Secretariat always stand ready to work with you to materialize our shared goals. Do let us know if we need to make improvements.

Thank you, and happy reading!

**Ambassador Isiaka Abdulqadir Imam**  
Secretary-General

## D-8 MINISTERIAL MEETINGS

### **THE D-8 COUNCIL OF FOREIGN MINISTERS MET IN ISTANBUL, DISCUSSED THE CRISIS IN GAZA**

The Council of Ministers of Foreign Affairs of the Developing-8 Organization for Economic Cooperation (D-8 Council) convened its Extraordinary Meeting at the historic Dolmabahçe Palace in Istanbul on Saturday, 8 June 2024. The Meeting's single agenda was to address the Gaza crisis.



The ministers of foreign affairs of Indonesia, Iran, Malaysia, and Pakistan, the Minister of Social Welfare of Bangladesh, and high-ranking officials of Egypt and Nigeria attended the Extraordinary Meeting at the invitation of H.E. Mr. Hakan Fidan, the Turkish Minister of Foreign Affairs.

The Extraordinary Session was organized against the aggravating situation in the Gaza Strip, Palestine. It aimed at galvanizing support from the D-8 Member States toward Palestine, including providing political, legal, and humanitarian support to the Palestinians in Gaza and the West Bank, as well as those in Al-Quds Al-Sharif.

The Extraordinary Meeting was also called to put pressure on the international community to stop the grave atrocities committed by the occupying power in Gaza.

In his opening remarks, Foreign Minister Fidan underscored the pressing nature of the situation in Gaza, emphasizing the immediate and coordinated humanitarian assistance required. He stated, "In Istanbul, we (D-8 Countries) declare together to the whole world that we are not silent in the face of Israeli oppression in Gaza, and we cannot remain silent." He also stressed the need for consistent international principles, drawing parallels between global reactions to conflicts in different regions.

In his remarks, Ambassador Isiaka Abdulqadir Imam, the Secretary-General of the D-8, expressed condolences for the recent losses of prominent/national figures from Iran and Pakistan. At the same time, he called for a moment of silence in their memory.

During his address, the Secretary-General condemned the inhumane atrocities faced by Palestinians and urged for immediate action, including a ceasefire and the opening of humanitarian corridors to Gaza. He lauded the efforts of D-8 member states for their generous humanitarian support and emphasized the need for a proactive UN role in securing peace and security in the region.



The D-8 Council issued a Joint Declaration on Gaza, enumerating their support for Palestine. They expressed their stronger condemnation of the brutal and inhuman aggression against Palestinians in Gaza and the occupied West Bank, including East Jerusalem. The Council also called for an immediate, permanent, and unconditional ceasefire and cessation of Israeli hostilities.

The D-8 Council further called for humanitarian access to Palestine by ensuring safe and unhindered delivery of humanitarian assistance. They also called for the protection of civilians in accordance with the Fourth Geneva Convention. The Council also reject any attempt to forcibly displace the Palestinians from their land.

The Council also called for support for the work of the United Nations Relief & Works Agency (UNRWA) and reiterated support for Palestine's full membership in the United Nations. Similarly, the D-8 Council voiced its conviction that the two-state solution is the only way to achieve enduring regional peace.

The D-8 Council of Ministers is the political decision-making organ of the D-8. It is a forum for thoroughly and comprehensively considering matters advancing the D-8 cooperation. The Council comprises Ministers of Foreign Affairs from the D-8 Member States.



Following the D-8 Extraordinary Meeting of the Council of Foreign Ministers, the Heads of Delegation from the D-8 Member States and the Secretary-General of the D-8 Organization were honored with a reception by the President of the Republic of Türkiye, H.E. Recep Tayyip Erdoğan, at the Vahdettin Mansion in Istanbul. During the reception, President Erdoğan reiterated Türkiye's commitment to supporting the Palestinian cause and praised the collective resolve of the D-8 Member States in seeking an immediate ceasefire and humanitarian aid for Gaza.

## Joint Declaration on Gaza Crisis by D-8 Council of Foreign Ministers



We, the Foreign Ministers of the Member States of the D-8 Organization for Economic Cooperation and the Heads of Delegations from the People's Republic of Bangladesh, Arab Republic of Egypt, Republic of Indonesia, Islamic Republic of Iran, Malaysia, Federal Republic of Nigeria, Islamic Republic of Pakistan, and the Republic of Türkiye gathering in İstanbul on 8 June 2024 at the invitation of H.E. Hakan Fidan, Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Türkiye, as an expression of our unified position in condemning the brutal Israeli aggression against the Palestinian people in the Gaza Strip and the West Bank, including Al-Quds Al-Sharif,

**Recalling** all the resolutions of the United Nations and other international organizations regarding Palestine, the crimes of the Israeli forces, and the right of the Palestinian people to freedom and independence in all of their territory occupied since 1967,

**Reaffirming** all the resolutions of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation regarding the Palestinian Cause and all the occupied Palestinian territories,

**Underlining** the centrality of the Palestinian Cause and that we stand with all our capacities and capabilities alongside the brotherly Palestinian people in their legitimate struggle to liberate all their occupied territories and to, fulfill all their inalienable rights and to live in their independent, sovereign and contiguous state along the lines of June 4, 1967, with East Jerusalem as its capital,

**Reaffirming** that a just, lasting and comprehensive peace is the only path to guarantee security and stability for all the peoples of the region and protect them from the spiral of violence and wars, and will not be achieved without ending the Israeli occupation and settling the Palestinian issue on the basis of the two-state solution,

**Affirming** our solidarity in confronting the humanitarian catastrophe inflicted on Gaza Strip and its people due to the unflinching Israeli aggression for more than eight months without respect for the most basic moral and humanitarian values;

**Acknowledging** the devastating impacts of the brutal Israeli aggression on Palestinian economy and infrastructure, as well as its damage to regional peace, stability and prosperity;

**-We condemn** in the strongest terms the brutal and inhuman Israeli aggression against the Palestinian people in the Gaza Strip as well as in the occupied West Bank including East Jerusalem;

**-Demand** an immediate, permanent and unconditional ceasefire, the cessation of the Israeli aggression on the Palestinian people in Gaza, and the immediate implementation of the relevant UN Resolutions, particularly UN Security Council Resolution 2728 (2024) which demands immediate ceasefire in Gaza Strip, as well as for providing humanitarian and medical aid and relief, providing fuel, water, electricity and shelter, and full humanitarian access through all possible means for the unhindered and adequate delivery of urgent assistance to the Gaza Strip; and call for compliance with UNSC Resolution 2720 (2023) demanding immediate, safe and unhindered delivery of humanitarian assistance to the Gaza Strip, and the establishment in Gaza of a UN mechanism for that purpose.

**-Call on** all States to ensure Israel to strictly comply with the provisional measures ordered by the International Court of Justice, thereby, immediately halt its military offensive, and any other action in the Rafah Governorate, which may inflict on the Palestinian group in Gaza conditions of life that could bring about its physical destruction in whole or in part; to withdraw from Rafah and provide the conditions for safe, immediate and unhindered humanitarian access through the Rafah crossing, as well as safe and unhindered provision at scale of urgently needed basic services and humanitarian assistance throughout the Gaza Strip; and to take effective measures to ensure the unimpeded access to the Gaza Strip of any commission of inquiry and other fact-finding missions or other investigative bodies mandated by competent organs of the United Nations,

**-Call on** all States, particularly in view of the ongoing genocide and grave violations of International Law and international humanitarian law on the ground, to exert diplomatic, political, economic and legal pressure and take all necessary measures with a view to stopping all the crimes committed by occupying Israeli forces against Palestinian civilians.

**-Call on** all States to support, intervene and/or contribute to the legal processes before the international legal mechanisms/tribunals to ensure accountability for grave violations of International Humanitarian Law and International Law committed against the Palestinian People,

**-Demand** that all countries stop supplying weapons and ammunitions to Israel that are used by its army and extremist settlers to kill the Palestinian people and destroy their homes, hospitals, schools, mosques, churches and all their properties;

**-Call for** efforts to provide protection for Palestinian civilians and to form a practical and effective international protection mechanism for this in implementation of the resolutions of the Security Council and the United Nations General Assembly on the protection of the Palestinian people, including Resolution 904 (1994), and the United Nations General Assembly Resolution A/RES-10/21, dated 27 October 2023, and the report of the UN Secretary-General in this regard,

**-Demand** complete lifting the Israeli siege on Gaza, including through opening of all available land border crossings and allowing the entry of international humanitarian aid convoys, including food, medicine and fuel into the Gaza Strip without any hindrance,

**-Reaffirm** our categorical rejection, by all means, to any attempt at forcibly displacing, expelling or transferring the Palestinian people from their land, and Call for unconditional return to their homes and lands of displaced Palestinians,

**-Commend** the role of the UNRWA in serving the Palestinian refugees and invite all States and the international community to continue supporting it to execute its historic mandate and responsibility with its irreplaceable and indispensable role in providing aid and services to Palestinian people,

**-Emphasize** the obligation for Israel to implement its responsibilities as the occupying power, and to stop all illegal Israeli measures that perpetuate the occupation, especially all settlement activities including the building and expansion of illegal settlements, the confiscation of lands, and the displacement of Palestinians from their homes,

**-Affirm** the State of Palestine's full sovereignty over Al-Quds Al-Sharif, its eternal capital, its rejection and standing against any Israeli decisions or measures aimed at changing its character, being null and void and illegal under the international law and the relevant UN Resolutions,

**-Condemn** the Israeli attacks on the holy sites in Al-Quds, and Israel's illegal measures that violate freedom of worship, and stress the necessity of upholding unchanged the historic status quo in the holy sites in word and in practice, and that of the blessed Al-Aqsa Mosque/Al-Haram Al-Sharif,

**-Condemn** strongly the Israeli actions to escalate the war by provoking regional countries as well as targeting the Embassy of Iran in Damascus through unjustifiable attacks.

**-Deplore** the killing of more than 100 journalists and in excess of 200 humanitarian aid workers from several countries at the hands of Israel since October 2023.

**-Emphasize** the need for the international community to act immediately to implement the two-state solution in a way that meets all the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people, especially their right to their independent, sovereign and contiguous State along the lines of June 4, 1967, with East Jerusalem as its capital, in accordance with UN resolutions,

**-Acknowledge** the need for a guarantee mechanism so that when a final settlement is reached, its provisions could be implemented in full and in a sustainable fashion,

**-Affirm** the unwavering support of D-8 Member States to the struggle of the Palestinian people to realize their inalienable rights, the full membership of Palestine in the United Nations and all the resolutions related to the Palestinian Cause in international fora,

**-Hail** the recent decisions of a group of countries to recognize the State of Palestine as an endeavour for the sake of peace in the region, and **Call on** all the States that have not yet recognised the State of Palestine to do so as a requirement of peace, international law, justice and conscience,

**-Call on** the United States of America to lift its veto on the full membership of Palestine in the UN as an independent and sovereign State,

**-Urge** our Palestinian brothers and sisters to unite in their struggle to achieve their objectives, and **Call on** Palestinian factions to expedite the completion of national reconciliation,

**-Support** all efforts towards empowering the Palestinian economy as well as rebuilding Gaza following the withdrawal of Israeli forces,

**-Commend** the role of the Arab Republic of Egypt, the Chairman in Office, in providing and facilitating entry of humanitarian aid into Gaza, support all the steps it takes to confront the consequences of the brutal Israeli aggression on Gaza and recent invasion of the Palestinian city of Rafah;

**-Commend** the Government of the Republic of Türkiye for gathering and hosting the Extraordinary Meeting of the D-8 Council of Ministers on the situation in Gaza and appreciate the role of the meeting to further concretize the bonds of fraternity, cooperation and solidarity among the Member Countries.

**-Task** the D-8 Secretary General to facilitate consultation to follow up the elements contained in the Joint Declaration as well as the organization of the consequent meeting of the Council on Gaza.

## D-8 TRADE MINISTERS MET IN ISTANBUL TO DEEPEN TRADE RELATIONS



Member States of the Developing-8 Organization for Economic Cooperation (D-8) have agreed to expand the scope of their flagship trade instrument, the D-8 Preferential Trade Agreement, otherwise known as D-8 PTA to cover broader sectors and products. The agreement for the expansion was reached during the informal meeting of the Ministers of Trade/Commerce of the D8 Member States in Istanbul on 11 June 2024.

In addition, the Meeting also discussed the idea of transforming the D-8 PTA into a more progressive instrument, such as a Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement (CEPA), in the future.

The trade ministers met on the sidelines of the OIC's Trade Preferential System meeting, hosted by the Minister of Trade of the Republic of Türkiye, Dr. Omer Bolat. The meeting, chaired by H.E. Ahmed Samir Saleh, the Minister of Trade and Industry of Egypt, also discussed the roadmap to implement the D-8 PTA in an organization-wide setting.

In his opening statement, Ambassador Isiaka Abdulqadir Imam, the D-8 Secretary-General, highlighted the significant progress made during the previous meetings in Dhaka, Bangladesh, at the end of which the "Dhaka Declaration on Trade Cooperation" was issued. The Declaration includes, among other things, the adoption of the Dispute Settlement Mechanism (DSM) protocol and the D-8 Trade Facilitation Strategy.

Speaking further, Ambassador Imam reminded the ministers of the earlier commitment of the D8 leaders to increase the intra-trade value to at least 10 percent of the total D-8 external trade volume, or US\$500 billion, by the year 2030. He urged member states to ratify the D-8 PTA to achieve this objective. He encouraged member states to engage in robust public and private sector awareness of the D-8 PTA, provide adequate funding for necessary studies, strengthen the D-8 Secretariat, and ensure an effective Supervisory Committee of the D8-PTA.



At the meeting, ministers and deputy ministers of trade and commerce from the D-8 Member States, including the Arab Republic of Egypt, the Republic of Indonesia, the Federal Republic of Nigeria, the Islamic Republic of Iran, and other high-level representatives were in attendance. Ministers and Heads of delegation from the various D-8 Member States took turns sharing their respective status on the implementation of the trade agreement.

Furthermore, the Meeting also discussed the proposed establishment of a D-8 barter trading system and e-commerce platform across the member states to support intra-trade relations.



Finally, Bangladesh, Indonesia, Iran, and Türkiye signed the Protocol of the D-8 PTA on Dispute Settlement Mechanism (DSM), which was adopted during the 3rd Meeting of the D-8 TMC. The protocol's objective is to ensure smooth consultations and amicable resolutions of all trade disputes among the member countries, thereby strengthening the overall trade framework within the D-8 group.

The Meeting also issued the Joint Declaration of the Informal Meeting of the D-8 Trade Ministers Council, which outlines the group's emboldened commitment to trade development and support for Palestine.

## Joint Declaration of the Informal Meeting of the D-8 Trade Ministers Council



We, the Ministers/Heads of Delegations of 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, and the Republic of Türkiye met in Istanbul on 11 June 2024 on the sidelines of 3rd Ministerial Meeting of TPS-OIC Trade Negotiating Committee, for the Informal Meeting of D-8 Trade Ministers Council;

**Reaffirming** our commitments set out in the Summit Declarations held in Istanbul (1997), Dhaka (1999), Cairo (2001), Tehran (2004), Bali (2006), Kuala Lumpur (2008), Abuja (2010), Islamabad (2012), Istanbul (2017), Dhaka (2021) and to the Decennial Road Map (2008-2018) and (2020-2030);

**Recalling** the commitments made in the Declaration adopted at the first meeting of the D-8 Trade Ministers Council in Abuja (2013); Declaration adopted at the 2nd meeting of the Trade Ministers Council in Islamabad (2016) and Declaration adopted at the 3rd meeting of the Trade Ministers Council in Dhaka (2024);

**Reaffirming** the commitment reflected in the Dhaka Declaration adopted at the 10th Summit of the D-8 held on 21 April 2021 in Dhaka on operationalizing the Preferential Trade, the Visa and the Customs Agreement;

**Also reaffirming** the Joint Declaration adopted at the Extraordinary Meeting of the D-8 Council of Ministers on the Situation in Gaza, held in Istanbul, Republic of Türkiye on 8 June 2024;

do hereby,

1. **Condemn** in the strongest terms the brutal and inhuman Israeli aggression against the Palestinian people in the Gaza Strip as well as in the occupied West Bank including East Jerusalem;
2. **Demand** complete lifting the Israeli siege on Gaza, including through opening of all available land border crossings and allowing the entry of international humanitarian aid convoys, including food, medicine and fuel into the Gaza Strip without any hindrance
3. **Reiterate** our determination to strengthen the existing trade and economic cooperation among the member states to further increase the wellbeing of our peoples,
4. **Welcome** the implementation of the Preferential Trade Agreement Among D-8 Member States (D-8 PTA) by Bangladesh, Indonesia, Iran, Malaysia and Türkiye, and call upon the other Contracting Members to commence implementation of the D-8 PTA at their earliest convenience;
5. **Agree** to double efforts to increase the intra-trade of D-8 Member States to at least 10 percent of the D-8 global trade, as reflected in the Decennial Roadmap 2020-2030;
6. **Reemphasize** the importance of having a study to explore the ways and means for the expansion of the PTA;
7. **Congratulate** the Government of Republic of Türkiye for successful hosting and Egypt for excellent chairing of the Informal Meeting of the D-8 Trade Ministers Council.

## D-8 YOUTH MINISTERS MET IN DHAKA TO ENDORSE D-8 YOUTH COUNCIL



The Ministers of Youth from the Developing-8 Organization for Economic Cooperation (D-8) convened their First Ministerial Meeting on Youth in Dhaka, Bangladesh, from 20-21 May 2024. The well-attended meeting was hosted by the Government of Bangladesh, and it was unanimously agreed to establish the D-8 Youth Council, to be hosted by Bangladesh in Dhaka starting in 2024.

The delegates from the D-8 countries also agreed, in principle, on the draft constitution for establishing the D-8 Youth Council. They requested all member states to work together with Bangladesh to perfect the constitution. In the meantime, the ministers also agreed to kick-start the Council by organizing several programs.

The Meeting, chaired by Mr. Nazmul Hassan, the Minister of Youth and Sports of Bangladesh, also issued the “Dhaka Declaration on Youth” 2024. The Declaration encompasses programs and activities to be organized by the member states to mainstream youth empowerment within the D8 framework.

Among the programs identified were capacity-building for youth in digitalization, skill development, entrepreneurship, and climate resilience actions. D-8 delegates also mulled the idea of conducting youth exchange programs to provide an avenue for sharing best practices and promoting cross-cultural understanding among the young people from the D-8 member states.

In his statement, Ambassador Isiaka Abdulqadir Imam, the Secretary-General of the D-8, emphasized that the D-8 Youth Council and the Dhaka Declaration will work in tandem to promote youth empowerment in the D-8's work. He argued that with the youth forming a significant proportion of the D-8 population, mainstreaming youth empowerment should be prioritized in the D-8 agenda.



Bangladesh also hosted the D-8 Youth Senior Officials' Meeting (SOM) in Dhaka on 20 May, a day before the ministerial session. The SOM laid the groundwork for the successful hosting of the ministerial session.

Both the Ministerial Meeting and the SOM also offered their condolences to the people and the Government of the Islamic of Iran on the untimely demise of President Ebrahim Raisi and Foreign Minister Hossein Amir Abdollahian, who tragically passed away in the tragic helicopter crash on Sunday 19 May.

Nigeria will host the second D-8 Youth Ministerial Meeting and the SOM in Abuja in 2025.

## D-8 SECRETARY-GENERAL'S STATEMENT TO MEDIA PARTNERS ON THE 27TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE D-8



*Today, we proudly celebrate the 27th anniversary of the Developing-8 Organization for Economic Cooperation. Over the past 27 years, our organization has grown and evolved, continuously striving to enhance economic cooperation and foster sustainable development among our member states: Bangladesh, Egypt, Indonesia, Iran, Malaysia, Nigeria, Pakistan, and Türkiye.*

*This year has been particularly remarkable for the D-8 Organization, with significant accomplishments across various sectors, especially in trade and mainstreaming youth economic empowerment. We successfully convened the Third D-8 Trade Ministers Council and the Informal D-8 Trade Ministers Council meetings. These meetings led to the signing of the Protocol on Dispute Settlement Mechanism for the D-8 Preferential Trade Agreement, a pivotal step in facilitating smoother and more robust trade relationships among our member states. Additionally, we have engaged extensively with the private sector representatives and business associations, thus reinforcing our commitment to boosting trade activities, within the D-8 community.*

*Our efforts have extended beyond trade. We have significantly increased our media engagements and external relations, collaborating with numerous domestic and international media outlets and organizations. These initiatives have broadened our impact and visibility, furthering our mission of economic cooperation.*

*A historic milestone for the D-8 was the Extraordinary Meeting of the Council of Foreign Ministers, held in Istanbul by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Türkiye, to discuss the situation in Gaza. This meeting, the first of its kind in our organization's history, underscores our commitment to addressing critical global issues and promoting peace and stability, in the region.*



*Another notable event was the First D-8 Youth Ministerial Meeting, held in Dhaka, Bangladesh, on 21 May 2024. This meeting focused on capacity building for youth in digitalization, skill development, entrepreneurship, and climate resilience actions. It also emphasized conducting youth exchange programs to promote cross-cultural understanding among young people from D-8 nations.*

*As the Secretary-General of the Organization, I have had the honor of representing the D-8 at various prestigious events. In March 2024, I participated as a panelist at the Third Antalya Diplomacy Forum, organized by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Türkiye. The topic, titled "Understanding the Global South," provided a platform to discuss and highlight the perspectives and challenges of the Global South, aligning with the D-8's objectives of fostering cooperation and mutual understanding.*

*Furthermore, the D-8 has engaged in numerous partnerships with private sector entities and international organizations, aiming to expand cooperation across various domains. These engagements reflect our ongoing commitment to leveraging synergies and creating new opportunities, for our member states.*

*Additionally, at the D-8 Secretariat, we have various activities, projects and initiative planned both in the short and long term across different areas where the D-8 organization operates, aiming to achieve the fundamental objectives of the Organization.*

*As we celebrate this 27th anniversary, we pay tribute to the founding leaders of the D-8. Their vision and dedication have been the cornerstone of our achievements. We extend our deepest gratitude to all member states, partners, and stakeholders, for their unwavering support and collaboration.*

*The journey ahead promises further growth and success. Together, we will continue to work towards a prosperous future, enhancing economic cooperation and fostering sustainable development for all our nations.*

## **SECTORAL AND EXTERNAL RELATIONS ACTIVITIES**

### **THE D-8 SECRETARY-GENERAL PARTICIPATED IN MUSIAD'S INTERNATIONAL CONTRACTING AND FINANCE SUMMIT**



Ambassador Isiaka Imam, the D-8 Secretary-General, participated as a panelist in the International Contracting and Finance Summit, which was organized by Independent Industrialists' and Businessmen's Association (MUSIAD) in Istanbul on 18 April 2024.

The Secretary-General presented vast potential for various infrastructure projects in the D-8 Member States. He underlined the vast market opportunities of the D-8 group with 1.2 billion people, with a huge appetite for development.

He also invited MUSIAD to invest in various projects in the D-8 Member States, such as in the proposed D-8 Special Economic Zone in Bangladesh.

### **THE D-8 SECRETARY-GENERAL PARTICIPATED AT THE UNCTAD'S INVESTMENT COMMISSION MEETING**

Ambassador Isiaka Abdulqadir Imam, the D-8 Secretary-General, participated as a panelist at the Investment Facilitation Panel of the 14th Session of the Investment, Enterprise and Development Commission of the UN Trade and Development (UNCTAD), at the UN Office in Geneva, on 29 April 2024.

The D-8 Secretary-General presented the collaboration between the D-8 and UNCTAD in investment facilitation and promotion to achieve the UN Sustainable Development Goals.



He underscored the publication of the "Joint D-8 and UNCTAD Guiding Principles for Investment Policymaking" jointly formulated by the D-8 and UNCTAD in 2019.

He also highlighted three perspectives through which the D-8 and UNCTAD collaboration can play a mutually beneficial role, in the D-8 vast investment opportunities, the D-8's digitalization efforts to support the SDGs, and the creation of D-8 special economic zones (SEZs).

Attending upon the invitation from the UNCTAD, the D-8 Secretary-General shared the stage with distinguished speakers from El Salvador, Jordan, Mexico, and Egypt. The Permanent Representative of Vietnam to the UN Headquarters in Geneva chaired Session.

## THE D-8 SECRETARY-GENERAL ATTENDED THE ANNUAL INVESTMENT MEETING (AIM) CONGRESS 2024



Ambassador Isiaka Abdulqadir Imam, the D-8 Secretary-General, participated in the 13th Edition of the Annual Investment Meeting (AIM) Congress in Abu Dhabi, the United Arab Emirates (UAE), from 7 to 9 May 2024. The UAE government invited the D-8 Secretary-General to participate.

The D-8 Secretary-General participated as a panelist on “Investment Facilitation in Investment Agreements,” which the UN Trade and Development (UNCTAD) organized on 8 May 2024, as part of the AIM Congress 2024.

At the Panel, the D-8 Secretary-General presented the D-8’s endeavor to bolster investment cooperation internally and with the collaboration of external partners. He underlined the need to bolster investment facilitation in the healthcare sector, infrastructure, and information and communication technologies.

Furthermore, the D-8 Secretary-General called on H.E. Dr. Thani bin Ahmed Al Zeyoudi, the Minister of State for Foreign Trade/Vice Chairman of the Industry Development Council of the United Arab Emirates on the margins of the AIM Congress event. The D-8 Secretary-General introduced the D-8 Organization to his host, focusing on trade cooperation, particularly the D-8 Preferential Trade Agreement (D-8 PTA).

The D-8 Secretary-General signed the Memorandum of Understanding between the D-8 Secretariat and the AIM Global Foundation during the AIM Congress 2024. Mr. Dawood Al Shezawi, the President of the AIM Global Foundation, countersigned the MoU on behalf of the AIM Global Foundation. The MoU covers activities in the economic sector, focusing on trade and investment promotion.

Also, at the AIM Congress 2024, the D-8 Secretary-General met with Mr. Ismail Ersahin, the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of the World Association of Investment Promotion Agencies (WAIPA), on 8 May 2024.

The D-8 Secretary-General also had an impromptu meeting with H.E. Sandiaga Salahuddin Uno, the Minister for Tourism and Creative Economy of the Republic of Indonesia.

## D-8 SECRETARIAT ATTENDED THE 34th SESSION OF THE FAO REGIONAL CONFERENCE FOR EUROPE

Upon the invitation of the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), the D-8 Secretariat, represented by the Director for Economy, Implementation, and External Relations, Mr. Punjul S. Nugraha, participated in the 34th Session of the FAO Regional Conference for Europe (ERC34), hosted by the Republic of Moldova at the FAO headquarters in Rome from 14 to 17 May 2024.



The Director delivered a statement on behalf of Ambassador Isiaka Abdulqadir Imam, the D-8 Secretary-General, highlighting the D-8's agricultural and food security cooperation. He underlined D-8's initiatives, enshrined in the Dhaka Declaration, as the outcome of the 7th D-8 Ministerial Meeting on Agriculture in 2021.

The Director also took the opportunity to attend ERC34 to strengthen collaboration between D-8 and FAO and seek support from FAO for D-8's agricultural and food security initiatives, particularly in the areas of innovation and digitalization. These initiatives, according to him, are crucial to supporting sustainable agricultural practices, including climate-resilient and low-emission approaches.

The Director also discussed the possibility of continuing discussion to establish an instrument of cooperation between the D-8 and the FAO.

## A DELEGATION FROM MUSIAD VISITED THE D-8 SECRETARIAT



Ambassador Isiaka Abdulqadir Imam, the D-8 Secretary-General, met with Mr. M. Emre Akkaş and Dr. Lütfi Şimşek, members of the International Economic Relations Commission of Independent Industrialists and Businessmen's Association (MUSIAD), at the D-8 Secretariat in Istanbul on 24 May 2024.

The meeting discussed collaboration between the two sides, particularly on MUSIAD's proposed business mission to D-8 countries and the convening of a business and investment forum in Istanbul in the near future.

## AMBASSADOR OF RWANDA TO TÜRKİYE VISITED D-8 SECRETARIAT



Ambassador Isiaka Abdulqadir Imam, the D-8 Secretary-General, received in audience the Ambassador of Rwanda to Türkiye, H.E Charles Kayonga, who visited the D-8 Secretariat in Istanbul on 24 May 2024.

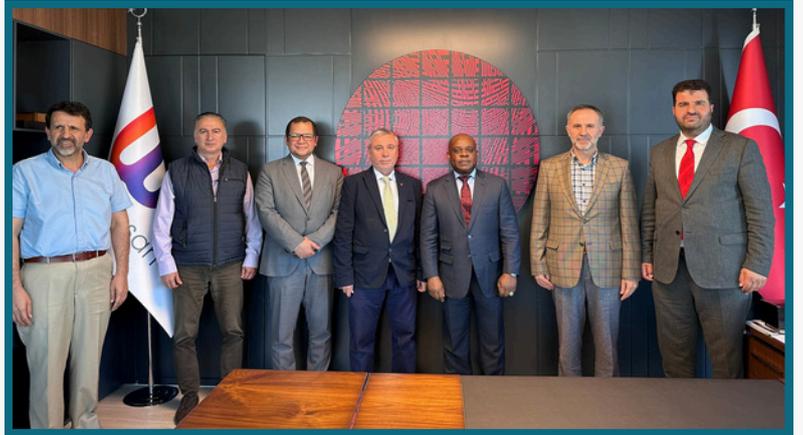
The D-8 Secretary General used the opportunity to introduce the activities of D-8 Organization, particularly on the D-8 PTA, agriculture, health, industry, small and medium enterprises, and tourism. He highlighted the D-8's vast potential for economic development.

Ambassador Kayonga introduced Rwanda's tourism industry, which has rebounded since the COVID-19 pandemic. He emphasized that collaborating with international football teams to promote Rwanda's tourism has paid off.

## D-8 SECRETARY-GENERAL MET WITH BUSINESSPEOPLE IN ISTANBUL

To engage the private sector to support the D-8 economic cooperation, H.E. Ambassador Isiaka Abdulqadir Imam, the D-8 Secretary-General, met with businesspeople in Istanbul on 29 May 2024.

They discussed potential joint projects within the D-8 framework, particularly in energy, industry, and trade. A business mission to be conducted within the year was also discussed.



## AMBASSADOR IMAM VISITED EMSAŞ GROUP OF TÜRKİYE



Energy cooperation is one of the D-8 priorities. To support it, Ambassador Isiaka Abdulqadir Imam, the D-8 Secretary-General met with Mr. Ali Rıza Arslan of the Emsaş Group of Türkiye in Istanbul on 30 May 2024.

The meeting identified cooperation in the renewable energy sector, including solar, hydrogen, and wind.

## THE SECRETARY-GENERAL VISITED ÇİFT KARTAL GROUP IN ISTANBUL

Continuing the D-8's effort to engage the private sector, Ambassador Isiaka Imam, the D-8 Secretary-General met with Mr. Cihangir Fikri Saatcioğlu of the Çift Kartal Group in Istanbul on 30 May 2024.

The meeting identified areas of collaboration in the industrial sector, particularly on turnkey machinery to support various industries in the D-8 countries. A business mission to visit D-8 member states also formed part of their discussions.



## THE SECRETARY-GENERAL SIGNED THE CONDOLENCES BOOK AT THE IRANIAN CONSULATE GENERAL IN ISTANBUL



To commiserate with the people and Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran on the untimely demise of the late President Ebrahim Raisi, the late Foreign Minister Amir Abdollahian, and their entourage, which was caused by the tragic helicopter crash near the Iranian border with Azerbaijan on 19 May 2024, Ambassador Isiaka Abdulqadir Imam signed the Books of Condolences at the Consulate General of the Islamic Republic of Iran in Istanbul on 24 May 2024.

The D-8 Secretary-General offered condolences, on behalf of the D-8 Organization, on the tragic incident that claimed the souls of the leadership of Iran.

## THE CONSUL-GENERAL OF IRAN IN ISTANBUL PAID A VISIT TO D-8 SECRETARIAT

On 3 June 2024, the Consul-General of the Islamic Republic of Iran in Istanbul, Mr. Ahmad Mohammadi, paid a courtesy call on the D-8 Secretary-General, Ambassador Isiaka Abdulqadir Imam.

Ambassador Imam briefed Mr. Mohammadi on the D-8 Preferential Trade Agreement and D-8 affiliated bodies, especially D-8 International University and the D-8 Technology Transfer and Exchange Network (D-8 TTEN).

In his response, Mr. Mohammadi expressed his hope that under the leadership of D-8 Secretary-General, the intra-trade volume of D-8 countries would increase to its real potential.



## D-8 SECRETARY-GENERAL PAID A VISIT TO THE PRESIDENT OF MUSIAD



As part of efforts to strengthen the private sector's role as the prime mover of D-8 economic cooperation, Ambassador Isiaka Abdulqadir Imam, the D-8 Secretary-General, met with the team of Independent Industrialists and Businessmen Association (MUSIAD), led by Mr. Mahmut Asmalı, the President of MUSIAD, at the MUSIAD Headquarters in Istanbul on 4 June 2024.

The meeting discussed collaboration between the D-8 and MUSIAD, including the forthcoming business mission to D-8 member states, its 27th Anniversary, and the forthcoming MUSIAD Expo in November.

## SECRETARY-GENERAL PARTICIPATED IN THE 19TH SESSION OF THE ASIA COOPERATION DIALOGUE (ACD)



Ambassador Isiaka Abdulqadir Imam, the D-8 Secretary-General, participated in the 19th Session of the Asia Cooperation Dialogue (ACD) Meeting of the Foreign Ministers, hosted by the Government of Iran in Tehran on 24 June 2024.

Upon the invitation from H.E. Ali Bagheri, the Acting Minister of Foreign Affairs of Iran, the D-8 Secretary-General delivered his remarks at the ACD Meeting, where he updated the esteemed gathering on the various activities and initiatives of the D-8 organization. He, however, called for closer collaboration between the D-8 and ACD, considering the aligned interests of the two organizations, and to further enhance their shared objectives.

While in Tehran, the D-8 Secretary-General also paid a courtesy call on the acting minister of foreign affairs of Iran to present the progress of the D-8.

## AMBASSADOR IMAM PARTICIPATED THE 3rd MINISTERIAL MEETING OF THE TPS-OIC TRADE NEGOTIATING COMMITTEE



Ambassador Isiaka Abdulqadir Imam, the D-8 Secretary-General, attended the 3rd Ministerial Meeting of the Trade Negotiation Committee (TNC) of the Trade Preferential System of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation (TPS-OIC) in Istanbul on 11 June 2024. He was at the TNC of the TPS-OIC meeting upon the invitation from the Turkish Minister of Trade.

While at the meeting, the D-8 SG noted numerous outcomes that were achieved during the meeting to boost trade relations among the OIC member states. He also noted the parallel between the TPS-OIC and the D-8 PTA.

Furthermore, Ambassador Imam participated, as an observer, in the senior officials' meeting of the TPS-OIC Trade Negotiation Committee on the previous day in Istanbul on 10 June 2024. As an observer, the D-8 SG noted some salient points from the meeting, including how to effectively implement various trade instruments, including the D-8 PTA.



On the same day, Ambassador Imam also attended the TPS-OIC Business Roundtable, organized by The Union of Chambers and Commodity Exchanges of Türkiye (TOBB) on the margin of the 3rd Ministerial Meeting of the Trade Preferential System of the OIC on 10 June 2024.

Similarly, the D-8 Secretary-General also participated in the Panel Discussion on Global Alternative Dispute Resolution organized by the OIC Arbitration Center on the margins of the 3rd Ministerial Meeting on Trade Negotiation Committee of the Trade Preferential System of the OIC in Istanbul on 10 June 2024.

## THE D-8 SECRETARIAT PARTICIPATED IN THE 2024 UNITED NATIONS PUBLIC SERVICE FORUM IN INCHEON, SOUTH KOREA



Upon the invitation from the co-organizers, The D-8 Secretariat, represented by Mr. Punjul S. Nugraha, Director for Economy, Implementation, and External Relations (Director II), participated in the 2024 United Nations Public Service Forum (UNPSF) and Award Ceremony, co-organized by the United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UN DESA) and the Ministry of the Interior and Safety (MOIS) of the Republic of Korea, in Incheon on 24 – 26 June 2024.

Director II also participated as Chair of the Workshop on Changing Mindsets: Cultivating Systems Thinking and Foresight in Public Sector Leadership, Session 1: Building Foundation, held on 24 June 2024.

The UNPSF consisted of two plenaries, seven parallel workshops, a ministerial roundtable, an Award Ceremony, and an exhibition.

The plenaries discussed the role and impact of artificial intelligence for future government and revitalizing partnerships for sustainable development, respectively.

The seven workshops discussed (i.) gender-inclusive leadership and public sector innovation for sustainable development, (ii.) engaging young people for a more innovative, effective, and future-ready public sector, (iii.) changing mindsets to cultivate systems thinking and foresight in public sector leadership, (iv.) fostering innovation through digital sandboxes and AI sandboxes, (v.) enhancing global resilience to disasters and climate change, (vi.) navigating future government through AI in the public administration, and (vii.) strengthening public institutions for climate action.

Director II of the D-8 Secretariat served as a Chair at the Session 2 of Workshop 3, discussing the need to change mindsets among public service officials to cultivate systems thinking and strategic foresight.

The Ministerial Roundtable discussed the take-aways from the workshops and produced relevant outcomes.

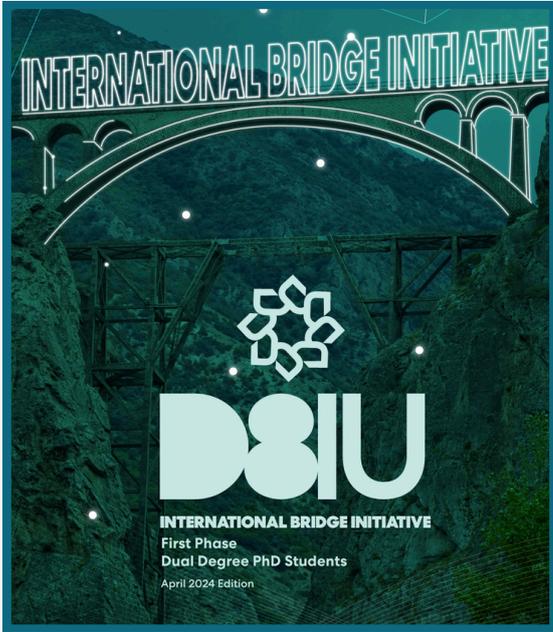
Two entities from the D-8 Member States, i.e., the Ministry of Environment and Forestry of the Republic of Indonesia and the City of Semarang from Indonesia received awards for their respective categories.

The UNPSF 2025 will be hosted by Uzbekistan in Samarkand on 24-26 June 2025.

## ACTIVITIES OF D-8 AFFILIATED BODIES

### D-8 INTERNATIONAL UNIVERSITY

#### **International Bridge Initiative Launched by D-8 International University**



The Public and International Affairs Office of the D-8 International University (D-8IU) is proud to announce the launch of the International Bridge Initiative, a transformative multi-phase process designed to offer the D-8 Member States students, professors, staff, and universities invaluable opportunities for international academic experience.

The first phase of this groundbreaking initiative, which introduces an innovative approach to Dual-Degree Ph.D., has already been rolled out to select universities within the network and is currently underway. This phase aims to provide a unique platform for academic collaboration and cross-border educational exchange, enhancing the global academic footprint of participating institutions.

Detailed information about the International Bridge Initiative's progress will be circulated soon by the D8IU.

#### **UiTM, Malaysia and D-8IU Host Webinars on Water Reclamation and Conservation**

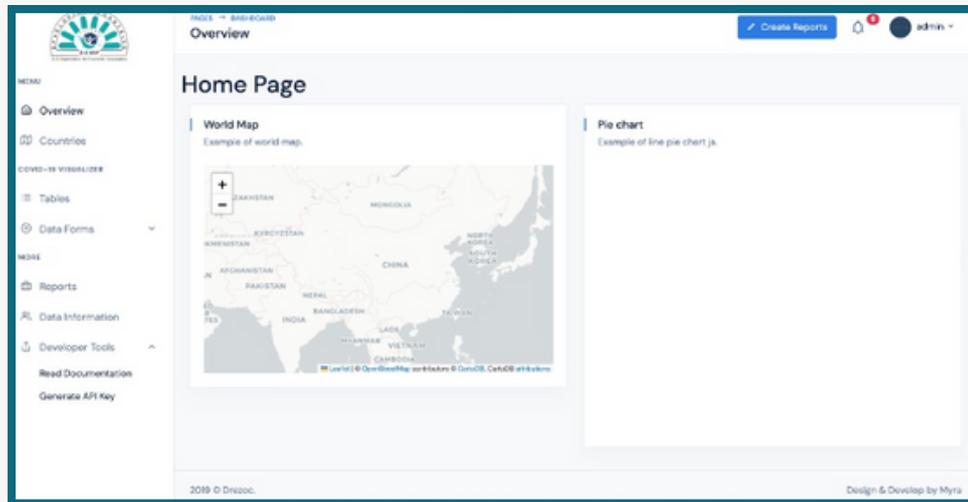
The Public and International Affairs Office of D-8 International University (D-8IU) is pleased to announce the successful hosting of two webinars in collaboration between Universiti Teknologi MARA (UiTM), Malaysia, and D-8 International University (D-8IU).

The first webinar, "Advanced Methods for Wastewater Reclamation: Nanotechnology Impact," was a multidimensional event that included participation from scholars and students at Khulna University (KU), Bangladesh, as well as D-8IU and UiTM, exploring innovative nanotechnology applications in wastewater treatment. The second webinar, "Online Exchange Program for Water Conservation Education Awareness Project," focused on educational initiatives promoting water conservation.

These events highlight the strong academic collaboration between UiTM, D-8IU, and KU, addressing critical global water challenges.

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

### Development of Health Market Dashboard



In collaboration with the Ministry of Science and Technology of Nigeria, D-8 HSP commenced the development of a Health Market Dashboard to mark areas of need and clusters to build partnerships within the health sector to benefit the D-8 member states. The dashboard allows users to do the following:

I. Request insights from other countries and generate periodic reports, and easily enter data points relevant to their specific markets. This includes things like:

- Economic indicators (GDP, inflation, unemployment)
- Industry-specific metrics (sales figures, market share)
- Consumer trends (purchasing habits, demographics)

II. Data Validation: Implement checks to ensure data accuracy and consistency of existing information shared between D-8 countries.

III. Market Insights & Comparative Analysis: Users can compare their market data with data from other countries.

## 2024 D-8 Medical Mission: Enhancing community health for resilience



The official Flag-off of D-8 HSP 2024 Medical Mission and Outreach took place on June 28, 2024, in Minna, Niger State of Nigeria, with the theme: Enhancing Community Health for Resilience. As part of its Mandate, the D-8 HSP incorporates community engagement and participation to better understand the needs of the community, collect primary data, and provide sustainable strategies to improve health and livelihoods.

With Data for Performance and Impact, D-8 HSP carries out field activities, deploys tools to collate data, and uses them to shape health policies and programs. D-8 HSP does this by engaging with communities to enhance their overall health and provide support to improve health systems.

In June 2024, the D-8HSP held a Medical Mission in 6 states in Nigeria namely Bauchi, FCT, Enugu, Osun, Kano, and Niger, to provide a comprehensive range of medical services, including nutritional supplements, Family Planning services, hypertension checks, blood sugar checks, HIV testing, malaria testing, and the distribution of vitamin A supplements, deworming drugs, Multi-nutrient Powder for Under five children and Multiple Micronutrient Supplements (MMS) for pregnant women. Four hundred (400) delivery kits were given to pregnant mothers to alleviate the financial burden of families expecting new babies, along with donations of 200 new bedsheets to hospitals to support their services.

This initiative represents a significant opportunity to improve the health, nutritional status and overall well-being of 4,000 children under 5 years old and 1,200 pregnant mothers at the rural communities in Nigeria.

## D-8 TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER AND EXCHANGE NETWORK (D-8TTEN)

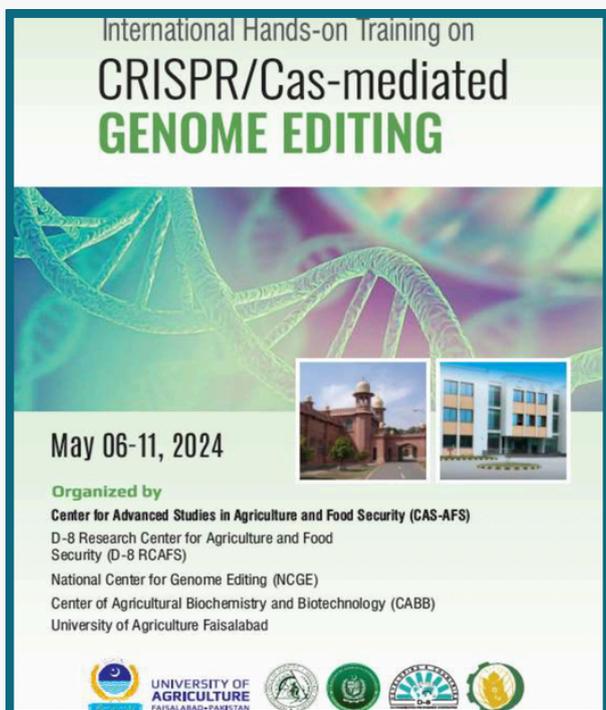
### The 2024 Technology Transfer Award Ceremony is rescheduled



The D-8 Technology Transfer Award ceremony, initially scheduled to be organized by the TTEN Secretariat on 22 May 2024, is rescheduled to be held later. The Technology Transfer Award recognizes the best technology transfer agreements between technological and innovative companies across the D-8 member nations. For more information, please visit <https://d8tten.org/technology-transfer-award/>

### Sixth Technology Investment Meeting to be hosted by Malaysia

The Ministry of Science and Technology of Malaysia, acting as the 'National Coordination Office' (NaCO) for the D-8 Technology Transfer and Exchange Network, will host the sixth Technology Investment Meeting on August 12 and 13 this year in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia. This event serves as an important gathering for investors and investees in technology and innovation and has gained significant credibility over the years. For further details, please visit [www.d8tten.org](http://www.d8tten.org).

**D-8 RESEARCH CENTER FOR AGRICULTURE AND FOOD SECURITY (D-8 RCAFS)****International Hands-on Training on Genome Editing**

The D-8 Research Center for Agriculture and Food Security (D-8 RCAFS) of the University of Agriculture-Faisalabad (UAF), Pakistan and the National Center for Genome Editing (NCGE) of the 'Pakistan Council of Scientific and Industrial Research' (PCSIR) organized a training workshop on genome editing in University of Agriculture Faisalabad and PCSIR Labs in Lahore Pakistan, for young researchers from the D8 member states from 6 to 11 May, 2024. The program aimed at mainstream genome editing in biological research.

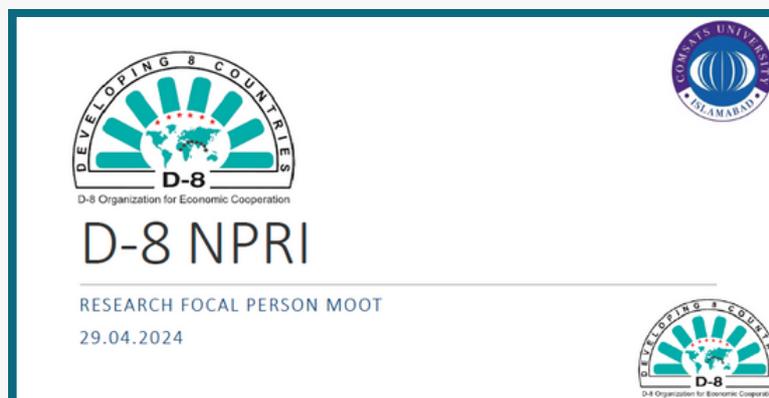
This training covered both the practical and theoretical aspects of genome editing technology and its applications, targeting young and early career researchers in academia. Participants were provided with:

- A comprehensive understanding of both theoretical and practical aspects of genome editing technology.
- Exposure to the potential of genome editing tools across different disciplines.
- Hands-on experience in conducting basic gene editing experiments in a lab environment.
- The skills to design genome editing experiments for their research.

The workshop saw the participation of twenty-eight researchers from various countries, including three D8 countries namely Iran, Nigeria, Pakistan. The training was conducted in the state-of-the-art genome editing labs at D-8 RCAFS and PCSIR-Lahore. Renowned scientists who served as resource persons included Dr. Daniel Voytas from the University of Minnesota, Dr. Brad Ringeisen from the University of California at Berkeley, Dr. Holger Puchta from Karlsruhe Institute of Technology, Germany, and Dr. Simon Lillico from the Roslin Institute, UK.

## D-8 NETWORK FOR PIONEERS FOR RESEARCH AND INNOVATION (D-8 NPRI)

### The Meeting of the Focal Persons of the D-8 NPRI was held virtually



The Meeting of the Focal Persons of the D-8 Network for Pioneers for Research and Innovation (D-8 NPRI) was held on 29 April 2024, virtually. The meeting was attended by participants as follows:

1. Bangladesh
  - Bangladesh University of Engineering and Technology (BUET) (Prof. Muhammad Anisuzzaman Talukder)
  - Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujib Medical University (BSMMU) (Prof. Sayedur Rahman)
  - Bangladesh Agricultural University (Prof. Purba Islam)
2. Nigeria
  - University of Ilorin (Prof. Fawale)
  - University of Ilorin (Prof. Lateef Onireti Ibraheem)
3. Pakistan
  - University of Agriculture Faisalabad (Prof. Sultan Habibullah Khan)
  - COMSATS University Islamabad (Prof. Aqif Anwar Chaudhry)
4. Türkiye
  - Middle East Technical University (Mrs. Burcu Akpınar)
5. D-8 Secretariat
  - Mr. Ahmar Ismail, Director
  - Mr. Bilal Khan, Executive Assistant

Highlights of the meeting included discussions on some potential thematic suggestions for the 3rd D-8 NPRI Meeting to be hosted by the University of Ilorin, in the Federal Republic of Nigeria in 2024. The meeting underscored the need to seek more focal person nominations for the D8 NPRI from the D8 member states.

Also, members stressed that Innovations and Intellectual Property from member states can be exploited from those member states which possess a more mature translational portfolio. There were suggestions that D-8 NPRI should work towards establishing a connectivity portal to allow people-to-people connections.



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