

D-8 Summit

Closing statement by

H.E. Sheikh Hasina

Hon'ble Prime Minister
Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh

Thursday, 08 April 2021

Dhaka, Bangladesh

Your Excellencies the Honourable Heads of State and Government,
Excellencies the Foreign Ministers,
The Secretary General,
Distinguished Delegates,
Ladies and Gentlemen,

We have reached the end of the 10th D-8 Summit held today in virtual platform. Thank you for your interventions and very positive and substantive inputs and suggestions for further strengthening the D-8 organisation.

2. I would also like to thank the special guests who spoke this afternoon for their valuable remarks.

Excellencies,

3. As it has been mentioned, the world is now passing through a critical period. The COVID-19 pandemic has created havoc in global economy. It is now more important than ever to work unitedly for building back better.

4. At this point of time, hearing your statements and suggestions, I feel hopeful and confident that working together, the D-8 can create a better tomorrow for the 1 billion plus peoples in the Member States.

Excellencies,

5. The last four days have truly inspired all of us. As we, our Ministers and the Commissioners deliberated on the theme of this year's D-8 - "Partnership for Transformative World: Harnessing the Power of Youth and technology", new ideas were floated, discussed and adopted. New solutions were encouraged. New ways were explored to transform the society and the economy by optimally using the demographic dividend and the 4th industrial revolution. This is the first time we held the Youth Summit. Let us take the benefit of the demographic dividend that we as a Group are enjoying now. We also sincerely hope that the private sectors of our countries will have more productive, mutually beneficial interaction and cooperation.

6. I would also like to take this opportunity to congratulate again Secretary-General Ambassador Dato' Ku Jafaar Ku Shaari (দাতো কু জাফর কু শারি) for his contribution to this organisation during his tenure. Under his leadership, the Secretariat has become more vibrant, more invigorated, more tuned to serve the Member States. I wish him success in his future endeavours. At the same time, I wish his successor, Ambassador Isiaka Abdulkadir Imam (ইসিয়াকা আব্দুল কাদির ইমাম) a productive and successful tenure as the next Secretary-General of the D-8.

Excellencies,

7. In my opening remarks, I had mentioned that the D-8 is now poised to deliver its goal of economic development through creating synergies. I am happy to note that all distinguished Heads of State and Government are also of the same view. This common position will help us to fulfil the ambitions of the Organisation as a whole.

8. In the last two hours, we heard about the several different initiatives of the D-8, covering wide ranging issues like technology, agriculture, business, health and education. I am confident that with our support and encouragement, D-8 will flourish further in the coming days, and we will be able to achieve even more. At this juncture of time, let us transform D-8 into a more dynamic, more visionary, more forward-looking Group. Let us take the D-8 to newer heights, let us work for closer economic and social ties. Let us work together to achieve our common vision of achieving peace and prosperity for our peoples.

I thank you.

Joi Bangla, Joi Bangabandhu
May Bangladesh Live Forever
Long live the D-8.
