

**SPEECH BY**

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*Assalamu'alaikum Warrahmatulahi Wabarakatuh,*

*Excellencies D-8 Leaders*

1. **After more than a year**, the world is still facing the pandemic and its challenges.
2. I see the global crisis brought by the pandemic **as a stepping stone** for all of us to move forward.
3. **We have the potential and strength to advance.**
4. **With a total population of 1.1 billion.**  
**➔ And an economic potential of nearly USD 4 trillion.**
5. **D-8 must be a vital part for the world to exit the pandemic .... for the world to recover.**
6. Allow me to explain **three areas of contribution for D-8.**
7. **FIRST ... D-8 must continue to promote equitable access to vaccines.**

8. **Vaccine availability and affordability is key to exit the pandemic**
9. However ... we witness an increase in **vaccine nationalism**.
10. We must reject this ... we must support vaccine multilateralism.
11. In times of pandemic ... COVID-19 vaccines are a **global public good**.
12. The world must come together to produce and distribute vaccines for all.
13. This means that ... the world must be able to **multiply production capacity**.
14. There must be no restrictions on vaccine production and distribution.
15. **This is where D-8 can play a role ... offering its production capacity to...**
  - ➔ Increase production....
  - ➔ promote equitable access to vaccine ... and
  - ➔ encourage transfer of technology.
16. Some of us, including Indonesia, are developing **our own vaccines**.
17. D-8 must be open to **future cooperation in vaccine development and production**.
18. **SECOND ... D-8 must contribute to global economic recovery.**
19. With a potential intraregional trade of **more than USD 1.5 billion** ... D-8 can play a significant role in global economic recovery.
20. We must encourage **intraregional trade facilitation within D-8**.
21. **Barriers to trade** must be reduced.
22. **Intensifying intraregional trade** between D-8 members is key.
23. This will become an **engine of economic growth**.
24. **THIRD ... D-8 must develop digital technology.**
25. Digitalization, artificial intelligence, computing power, big data and data analytics have led to **breakthroughs**.
26. This is the **economy of the future**.
27. D-8 must make use of such technology for the welfare of our people.
28. **D-8 has great potential**.
29. **The demographic advantage of D-8 youths stands around 323 million people, about 27.3% of the population.**

➔ It is much higher than **the number of youths in G-7 countries**, around **135 million** or **17.3%** of the **total population**.

30. **Investing in youth** ... means investing for the future.
31. Therefore ... **we must continue to foster innovation**.
32. We must continue to support **the start-up industry**.
33. We must harness the benefit that we have ... as Muslim-majority countries.
34. For instance, by developing **sharia-based start-up industry**.

**Excellencies,**

35. This year, we are entering our **24<sup>th</sup> year**.
36. There is no option for us D-8 countries other than working together.
37. Together, I believe D-8 will move forward and prosper as one.
38. Thank you.

***Wassalamu'alaikum Warrahmatulahi Wabarakatuh.***

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