



CAIRO DECLARATION 2024

We, the Heads of State and Government/Representatives 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, forming the membership of the Developing-8 Organization for Economic Cooperation (D-8), gathered in Cairo on 19 December 2024, on the occasion of our Eleventh Summit, being held under the theme, “Investing in Youth and Supporting SMEs: Shaping Tomorrow's Economy.”

Reiterating our pledge to advance our shared development goals under the principles of fraternity, peace, dialogue, justice, equality, rule of law, and democracy, established during the founding of the D-8, as encapsulated in our previous Summit Declarations.

Acknowledging our past progress should serve as a catalyst to renew our focus and intensify our efforts in addressing today's challenges, particularly in the light of the evolving global landscape.

Reiterating the value of unity, equality, mutual respect, and economic cooperation, we reaffirm our commitment to advancing partnerships in priority areas of cooperation, including agriculture and food security, energy, science, technology, industry, development of small and medium enterprises, infrastructure, trade, investment and transportation, to promote inclusive and equitable development that benefits our nations.

Reaffirming our shared endeavor to implement the D-8 Decennial Roadmap for 2020-2030 to deepen further economic cooperation, aligned with UN Development Agenda.

Reaffirming our faith in multilateralism and the importance of enhanced cooperation within the D-8 framework and with relevant regional and international organizations, particularly the United Nations, and the Standing Committee for Economic and Commercial Cooperation of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation (COMCEC) including strengthening South-South Cooperation, that is vital for promoting sustainable development, fostering peace, and addressing global challenges such as poverty, climate change, and inequality.

Realizing that the full and Organization-wide operationalization of the Preferential Trade Agreement Among D-8 Member States (D-8 PTA), the Multilateral Agreement among D-8 Member Countries on Administrative Assistance in Customs Matters (D-8 Customs Agreement), the Agreement on "Simplification of Visa Procedures, for the Businessmen of the D-8 Member States" (D-8 Visa Agreement) and transformation of the D-8 PTA into a more progressive instrument, such as a comprehensive economic partnership agreement will propel our economic power to a new height.



Emphasizing the need to promote investment opportunities and to increase intra D-8 trade with efficient mechanisms including on-line platforms, while also committing to inclusive growth, through the promotion of micro, small, and medium-sized enterprises (MSMEs) in emerging sectors such as digital trade, e-commerce, and fintech, to ensure economic empowerment for all and intensifying efforts in improving logistics, transport, and regulatory frameworks.

Reaffirming our commitment to advancing cooperation in science, technology, and innovation through the existing mechanisms, to study key indicators and assess digital transformation opportunities, including emerging technologies such as artificial intelligence (AI) and the Internet of Things (IoT), to support our objectives.

Highlighting the importance of addressing climate change in the context of sustainable development and poverty eradication.

Recalling decision 14/30 of UNCBD COP14 on cooperation with other conventions, international organizations and initiatives, adopted at the fourteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity, in which the parties welcomed the initiative of the Government of Egypt to promote a coherent approach between the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, the Convention on Biological Diversity and the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification, to address biodiversity loss, climate change and land and ecosystem degradation.

Emphasizing the importance of promoting sustainable agricultural practices, as part of our collective endeavors to ensure food security and safety.

Acknowledging all Member States' participation in the Organization's activities must be strengthened, under the principle of fraternity and dialogue among members, in expanding our cooperation to achieve our shared objectives, and to that end.

We hereby,

1. **Appreciate** and commend the People's Republic of Bangladesh for its excellent stewardship and tireless efforts, since taking over the Chair's role in April 2021, which enabled the D-8 Member States to make significant progress in enhancing cooperation in our key areas of cooperation, as well as organizational expansion, visibility, and international collaboration and partnership, and **extend** our profound appreciation to the leadership of the People's Republic of Bangladesh, for their commitment and dedicated efforts in advancing the D-8 objectives, during their chairmanship of the Organization.
2. **Express** our heartfelt gratitude to **His Excellency Abdel Fattah-El-Sisi**, Honorable President of the Arab Republic of Egypt, as well as the Egyptian government and people,



for successfully hosting the 11th D-8 Summit, and providing such gracious hospitality, and as such, pledge our full support and wish His Excellency the President, tremendous success as the Chair of the D-8 Organization.

3. Acknowledge the commendable work of **His Excellency, Ambassador Isiaka Abdulqadir Imam**, the Secretary-General of the D-8, during his tenure, which commenced on 1 January 2022, and appreciate his determination and meaningful efforts over the last three years, including, in effectively, managing the D-8 Secretariat.
4. **Welcome** the fruitful collaboration with many national, regional, and international organizations, such as the United Nations, the United Nations Trade and Development (UNCTAD), the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO), the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO), the World Trade Organization (WTO), the United Nations Tourism (UN Tourism), the Organization of Islamic Cooperation (OIC), the Islamic Development Bank (IsDB), the Islamic Organization for Food Security (IOFS), the Standards and Metrology Institute of the Islamic Countries (SMIIC), the Islamic Cooperation Youth Forum, the World Tourism Forum Institute, the Economic Cooperation Organization (ECO) and encourage a more profound and broader collaboration with these organizations, to get support necessary for the realization of initiatives and projects to achieve the D-8 objectives.
5. **Applaud** the establishment of the D-8 Youth Council, which the Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh will host in Dhaka and call on Member States to support its functioning to foster youth cooperation in the D-8 and, in the same vein, appreciate the Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh, for hosting the First Ministerial Meeting on Youth on 22 May 2024, and look forward to the hosting of the Second Ministerial Meeting on Youth by Nigeria. Encourages the Member States to organize joint activities in the field of youth by taking best practices into account and invite the Secretariat to coordinate these activities within the framework of "the D-8 Cooperation Action Plan for Youth" to be prepared in line with the proposals of the Member States with reference to the Dhaka Declaration on Youth. Invites the Secretariat and Member States to continue to work in cooperation on the Constitution of the D-8 Youth Council until the Second Ministerial Meeting on Youth.
6. **Commend** the Arab Republic of Egypt for selecting "Investing in Youth and Supporting SMEs: Shaping Tomorrow's Economy" as the theme for this Summit, and welcome the initiative proposed by the Islamic Republic of Iran to establish a D-8 mechanism to support the innovative ideas of the D-8 youth, and Iran's readiness to hold exhibitions as well as



scientific/technological/entrepreneurship tours and specialized meetings with the participation of the youth from the D-8 Member States.

7. **Express** appreciation to the Government of the Federal Republic of Nigeria for their commitment to hosting the D-8 Center for Small and Medium Enterprises in Abuja, including the provision of initial resources to facilitate its operationalization. Recognizing the Center's potential to advance entrepreneurship and collaboration among D-8 Member States, we encourage the timely completion of its setup and call on all Member States to extend their support – whether technical, financial or through capacity-building – to ensure its effective and sustainable operation.
8. **Congratulate** the People's Republic of Bangladesh for organizing the Third Meeting of the D-8 Trade Ministers Council (3rd TMC) in Dhaka on 5 March 2024, as well as the Republic of Türkiye for hosting the Informal Meeting of the Trade Ministers Council of the D-8 Member States (Informal TMC) in Istanbul on 11 June 2024, which marked significant progress in advancing D-8 trade policies.
9. **Welcome** the announcement by the Arab Republic of Egypt to host the Fourth Meeting of the D-8 Trade Ministers Council in 2025, to further enhance existing D-8 trade policies especially through the participation and active engagement of SMEs; and to deliberate new mechanisms to expand and diversify trade among D-8 Member States, through digital trade facilitation platforms, e-commerce, and AI driven technologies.
10. **Welcome** the upcoming ratification by the Arab Republic of Egypt of the Preferential Trade Agreement Among D-8 Member States (D-8 PTA), marking the monumental milestone that all D-8 Member States are now Contracting Members of the D-8 PTA.
11. **Reiterate** the importance of effective implementation and operationalization of the D-8 PTA by all Contracting Members, including organizing capacity-building programs for relevant officials and appreciate that five Contracting Members have completed their internal procedures, to implement the D-8 PTA and call on those ready, to commence trading, under the framework of the D-8 PTA, without delay, to achieve the collective target of its value to at least 10% of the D-8 total external trade value, or at least US\$ 500 billion, by 2030, as outlined in the D-8 Decennial Roadmap for 2020-2030, and welcome the proposal to expand the D-8 PTA scope to meaningfully and equitably cover a wider array of significantly traded products, among the D-8 Member States, to make it more attractive to business entities.
12. **Acclaim** the adoption of the Dispute Settlement Mechanism (DSM) Protocol to the Preferential Trade Agreement Among D-8 Member States (D-8 PTA), during the 3rd TMC



in Dhaka on 5 March 2024 and its subsequent signing by Bangladesh, Indonesia, Iran, and Türkiye, during the Informal TMC in Istanbul, and call on the D-8 Trade Ministers Council to devise means to expedite the process for the Protocol's entry-into-force, as seamless and as most straightforward as possible.

13. **Note with keen interest** the discourse on the need to upgrade the D-8 PTA to a more progressive instrument, such as a comprehensive economic partnership agreement, to enable the D-8 to be a more dynamic, powerful, competitive, and impactful economic bloc, including to venturing into potential sectors for trade in services, in the next phase of cooperation and tasked the D-8 Trade Ministers Council to conduct a study, scoping exercise, and comparative analysis, to identify the modalities and way forward, for the expansion of the D-8 PTA.
14. **Applaud** the adoption of the D-8 Trade Facilitation Strategy, during the Third Meeting of the D-8 Trade Ministers Council, which serves as a guideline for the D-8 Member States to strengthen intra-D-8 trade, by facilitating more accessible trade measures and Customs procedures, and call upon prompt implementation among Member States.
15. **Congratulate** Nigeria for assuming the Chair of the Supervisory Committee of the D-8 PTA starting in May 2024 and thank Bangladesh for their role as the immediate past Chair of the Committee.
16. **Welcome** the proposal to strengthen broader economic cooperation, through regular meetings of the economic ministers and their subsequent technical bodies of the D-8 Member States to provide a clear recommendation on crucial economic cooperation, including various novel ideas, to further promote the achievement of the D-8 economic objectives.
17. **Underline** the tremendous potentials of halal economy and commit to work together in boosting collaboration in this sector through capacity building initiatives and exchange of best practices to support the development of SMEs in halal industries.
18. **Direct** the D-8 Secretariat to conduct studies to devise ways to facilitate easier movement of businesspeople, among the D-8 Member States, guided by the Agreement on Simplification of Visa Procedures for Businessmen of the D-8 Member States.
19. **Emphasize** the importance of enhancing agricultural productivity, improving food security, and fostering rural development through joint initiatives, agricultural innovation, resilient agri-food systems, including sustainable farming techniques, sustainable land and water management practices, and the adoption of modern agricultural technologies, while



reaffirming our commitment to fostering agricultural trade and strengthening food supply chains among us, while highlighting the need to increase resilience to external shocks, such as climate change, pandemics, and geopolitical disruptions, and to that end, commend the 7th D-8 Ministerial Meeting on Agriculture and Food Security hosted virtually by the Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh in Dhaka on 13 January 2022.

20. **Commend** efforts by the D-8 Research Center for Agriculture and Food Security (D-8 RCAFS) in Faisalabad, Pakistan, in organizing activities and training programs, under the joint action plan, signed with the Islamic Organization for Food Security (IOFS).
21. **Commit** to enhancing cooperation in sustainable tourism, cultural exchange, and heritage preservation, to promote mutual understanding and socio-economic development, as tourism is a vital economic sector, for D-8 Member States and, for such a purpose, encourage Member States to develop joint initiatives, to boost intra-D-8 tourism, such as simplifying visa procedures, improving regional tourism infrastructures, and implementing collaborative marketing strategies.
22. **Welcome** the announcement by the Arab Republic of Egypt to host the fourth D-8 Ministerial Meeting on Tourism in Aswan, in 2025, and congratulate the Islamic Republic of Pakistan, for successfully hosting the Third D-8 Ministerial Meeting on Tourism on 5 August 2023.
23. **Commend** the D-8 Secretariat for successfully launching the inaugural D-8 Tourism City of the Year Award and congratulate the City of Antalya in the Republic of Türkiye, on its selection as the first D-8 Tourism City of the Year 2025, and express confidence that this initiative will boost tourism, encourage investment, infrastructure development, and cultural exchange, while promoting healthy competition among Member States, and to that end, call on all Member States to support this important initiative and promote travel to Antalya in 2025.
24. **Acknowledge** the need to enhance cooperation in the energy sector, including through engagement with the relevant international organizations, to promote the development and application of energy-efficient technologies and renewable energy and to foster private sector investment in new and renewable energy, to assist our countries in their pathways to just transition.
25. **Commend** the Organization's effort to improve cooperation in enhancing connectivity, including a more substantive collaboration in air connectivity and civil aviation, and appreciate the Republic of Indonesia for hosting the 12th meeting of the Director General and Experts Working Group on Civil Aviation (DGCA) in Bali, Indonesia, from 20 – 21



October 2022, and the Republic of Türkiye, for hosting the 13th D-8 Meeting of the DGCA in Antalya, Türkiye, from 12 – 14 November 2024.

26. **Emphasize** that measures taken to combat climate change, including unilateral ones, should not constitute a means of arbitrary or unjustifiable discrimination or a disguised restriction on international trade.
27. **Call for** allocating adequate, predictable and accessible finance from developed to developing countries, for just energy transition, in line with the principles of Common but Differentiated Responsibilities and Respective Capabilities - CBDR-RC. Stressing that new industrial development models associated with this transition would require enormous investments in existing and new infrastructure.
28. **Underline** the importance of an ocean-based economy to support our shared objectives, while prioritizing the protection of marine biodiversity, promoting sustainable fisheries management, and ensuring the conservation of critical habitats to sustain livelihoods and ecological health by harnessing cooperation in fisheries and aquaculture, renewable ocean energy, seaports and shipping, marine biotechnology, offshore hydrocarbons and seabed minerals, deep sea mining, including through public-private-partnership, to attract investment in this sector.
29. **Encourage** cooperation, among D-8 Member States' academic communities and commend the D-8 Secretariat for establishing the D-8 Network of Pioneers for Research and Innovation (D-8 NPRI), chaired by COMSATS University in Islamabad, Pakistan, which, to date, is participated by 28 prominent universities from six Member States, and encourage the remaining Member States to invite their research-focused universities to participate, to enable the NPRI to play a more significant role in promoting innovation and research as well as advancing commercialization and project-based development, share of experience in developing research strategy, and visit to various research institutions, across all Member States, and as such, we commend the University of Ilorin of Nigeria, for hosting the Third Meeting of the D-8 NPRI in Ilorin, Nigeria, in November 2024.
30. **Welcome** the Arab Republic of Egypt's initiative to establish the D-8 Network for Economic Think Tanks, to serve as a platform for sharing information, exchanging ideas, and enhancing partnerships among think tanks in order to develop informed solutions to the pressing economic development challenges, facing the D-8 Member States, foster economic cooperation and trade, promote the sharing of best practices in economic development, and enhance capacity building in areas such as trade facilitation, entrepreneurship, innovation and digital economy and trade.



31. **Commend** the cooperation in human resource development, including the institutionalization of Diplomatic Training for the Diplomats from the D-8 Member States, which will serve as an investment for the future, by promoting networking from an early stage and noted with utmost appreciation to Bangladesh, Pakistan, and Türkiye, for already organizing diplomatic training, in their respective institutions, and call on other Member States to organize similar programs.
32. **Welcome** the Arab Republic of Egypt's initiative to establish a network for diplomatic institutes and academies in D-8 Member States to foster cooperation among them through [EG] creating a platform for regular dialogue on emerging issues in diplomatic and foreign policy training, encouraging the exchange of ideas among institutes, coordinating on the development of cutting-edge training programs, enhancing the quality and relevance of courses and programs offered by participating institutes, and creating a virtual space for joint discussions on topics such as development, economic diplomacy, food security, energy, trade policies, and climate change.
33. **Applaud** the commendable efforts of the D-8 Technology Transfer and Exchange Network (D-8 TTEN) in Tehran, in fostering cooperation among D-8 countries, through encouraging transfer of technology and the exchange of best practices and recognize the significant impact of regular events, organized by D-8 TTEN, such as the Technology Investment Meeting (TIM), the Business & Technology Meeting (BTM), and the Technology Transfer Award (TTA), in promoting innovation and collaboration. Furthermore, we commend the forward-looking proposals put forth by D-8 TTEN, including the D-8 AI initiative and the D-8 Co-Fund Initiative (D-8 CoFI), which aim to strengthen technological advancement and investment, within the D-8 community and call on Member States, to actively engage in and support these initiatives, for the collective progress of our nations.
34. **Welcome** the Collaborative Education Initiative by the Arab Republic of Egypt, to strengthen educational and scientific collaboration among D-8 Member States, through establishing a periodic online competition for university and vocational students in the fields of artificial intelligence, engineering, science and applied technology with the aim to enhance student engagement through the recognition of their skills, and to foster innovation by encouraging students to develop creative solutions to global and regional challenges.
35. **Highlight** the huge potential impacts of new and emerging technologies, including AI, on our peoples and economies, we instruct the ICT related Ministries in D-8 to seriously consider the optimal ways and means to utilize these technologies for enhanced resilience, nationally and collectively, against possible future shocks. In this regard, welcome the



proposal by the Islamic Republic of Iran that the upcoming meeting of the D-8 ICT Standing Committee, to be hosted by the Islamic Republic of Iran, should start working on the above instruction.

36. **Appreciate** the Islamic Republic of Iran for its continued support to the D-8 International University (D-8 IU) in Hamadan and commend the University for its efforts in expanding academic collaboration and fostering international research, through initiatives such as the ‘International Bridge Initiative’ and its diverse webinars and workshops, and encourage the Member States to support and contribute into its programs and activities.
37. **Call on** the D-8 Chambers of Commerce and Industry (D-8 CCI), to play a more significant role in strengthening economic cooperation, particularly trade and other business activities, through enhancing the productivity and competitiveness of the private sector and facilitating and coordinating business activities, by supporting innovation, investment, and entrepreneurship, as well as promoting cross-border trade and economic cooperation among Member States, and for such an objective, encourage the D-8 CCI to increase business-to-business engagement, among all D-8 Member States, by conducting business forums, one-on-one business matchmakings, business missions, and exchange of information on business opportunities.
38. **Welcome** the hosting by the Arab Republic of Egypt of the Fourth General Assembly of the D-8 CCI on the 17th of December 2024, which witnessed the handover of the D-8 CCI Chairmanship from Bangladesh to Egypt.
39. **Applaud** the D-8 Health and Social Protection Program (D-8 HSP) for carrying out a study on the revitalization of the therapeutic goods health market and hosting the First D-8 Forum on SME and Health in Abuja on 26-27 October 2022, and encourage Member States to promote trade in healthcare, particularly in pharmaceutical goods to ensure equitable access to health care and health products, and at the same time call on D-8 HSP, the D-8 TTEN, the D-8 NPRI, and the D-8 IU, to work together towards promotion of inter-state knowledge sharing, collaborative initiatives in health technology, and pharmaceutical innovation. In this regard Member States can work towards harmonizing their regulatory framework in line with the World Health Organization (WHO) standards and undertake knowledge sharing, as well as collaborative initiatives in health technology and pharmaceutical innovation through mutual recognition agreements (MRAs).
40. **Welcome** the proposal by the Arab Republic of Egypt to strengthen D-8 health cooperation, through regular convening of meetings of health ministers and the subsequent technical bodies of the D-8 Member States and welcome the announcement by the Arab Republic of



Egypt to host the first D-8 Ministerial Meeting on Health, in 2025, to discuss measures to advance preventative, therapeutic and rehabilitative health care, and to accelerate universal health coverage in D-8 Member States, through the inclusion of women and youth, not only as recipients of health care, but also as partners, in health policy making and implementation, including through utilizing digital technology and emerging technologies such as artificial intelligence.

41. **Encourage** the Secretariat to continue promoting private sector initiatives, including the D-8 Payment Card, the D-8 Creative Economy and Financial Center, and the D-8 New Generation Barter Trading. Urge all relevant ministries/agencies and institutions of Member States, to collaborate, closely, with the Secretariat to assess the feasibility of implementing these initiatives.
42. **Renew** our shared commitment to enhancing cooperation in disaster management, including strengthening joint efforts in disaster risk reduction, preparedness, and response, through collaborating on early warning systems, knowledge-sharing on best practices, and capacity-building initiatives to mitigate the impact of disasters.
43. **Underscore** our resolve to promote the economic empowerment of women, as a key driver of economic growth, and sustainable development, including enhancing opportunities for women in entrepreneurship, leadership, and the labor market, driven by the recognition of the vital role of women, in the economic and social progress of their nations, through eliminating barriers to women's economic participation, provide access to financial resources, and support initiatives that foster skills development and innovation, and task the D-8 Council, to work on this novel endeavor.
44. **Reaffirm** our opposition to any unilateral economic sanctions, imposed on D-8 Member States, that undermine global economic stability and violate international legal principles and demand the lifting of such sanctions.
45. **Support** the expansion of D-8 membership in accordance with Articles 3 and 4 of the D-8 Charter and appreciate the work concluded by the Council and the Commission to establish criteria and modalities for the new members and observers.
46. **Welcome** the Republic of Azerbaijan's accession as a full member in the D-8 Organization, and task the Council of Ministers to oversee the procedures related to its accession.
47. **Recognize** the importance of having a stronger and more efficient D-8 Secretariat, to ensure that our collective goals are effectively implemented and, therefore, call upon the Council of Ministers to implement mechanisms to strengthen the Secretariat's capacity and resources.



48. **Endorse** the nomination of the upcoming Secretary-General of the D-8, Ambassador Sohail Mahmood from the Islamic Republic of Pakistan, who will assume office on 1 January 2026.
49. **Welcome** the Republic of Indonesia as the next Chair of D-8, and profoundly appreciate its gracious offer to host the 12th D-8 Summit, the date and venue of which will be communicated in due course.
50. **Reaffirm** our commitment to promoting peace, prosperity, and sustainable development. In this era of unprecedented global challenges, we must work together to create a more resilient and inclusive future for our people, guided by the values of cooperation, mutual respect, and shared prosperity, and our shared resolve to continue our cooperation, under Egypt's leadership and remain committed to the vision outlined, in the D-8 Decennial Roadmap for 2020-2030.

Adopted in Cairo, 19 December 2024.

D-8 11'İNCİ DEVLET VE HÜKÜMET BAŞKANLARI ZİRVESİ HİTABI (19 ARALIK 2024, KAHİRE- YENİ İDARİ BAŞKENT)

BİSMİLLAHİRRAHMANİRRAHİM

Cumhurbaşkanı Sayın Abdülfettah es-Sisi,
Saygıdeğer Devlet ve Hükümet Başkanları,
Kıymetli katılımcılar...

Sizleri en kalbi duygularımla, hasretle, muhabbetle selamlıyorum.

ESSELAMU ALEYKÜM VE RAHMETULLAHİ VE BEREKATUH.

11'inci zirvemiz vesilesiyle sizlerle bir araya gelmekten memnuniyet duyuyor, istişarelerimizin ülkelerimiz ve tüm insanlık için hayırlı olmasını diliyorum.

Bu vesileyle, D-8'in kuruluşuna liderlik eden merhum Başbakan Prof. Dr. Necmeddin Erbakan'ı rahmetle yad ediyorum.

Misafirperverlikleri için Mısır Cumhurbaşkanı Sayın Sisi'ye, toplantının organizasyonu için de Sekretaryaya teşekkür ediyorum.

Yaklaşık çeyrek asırlık geçmişe sahip Teşkilatımızın kuruluş felsefesinde yer alan barış, diyalog, işbirliği, adalet ve eşitlik kavramlarının önemi bugün daha iyi anlaşılıyor.

Artan çatışmalar, krizler ve savaşlar karşısında maalesef küresel güvenlik ve istikrarı teminle görevli kurumlar sorumluluklarını yerine getiremiyor.

Gelinen noktada sadece siyasi sistemin değil, temelleri İkinci Dünya Savaşı sonrasında atılan ekonomik nizamın da ciddi sarsıntılar geçirdiğini görüyoruz.

Küresel iktisadi kurumlar cari gerçeklere ya uyum sağlayamıyor, ya da ihtiyaç duyulan desteği vermekte zorlanıyor.

Böylesine hassas bir dönemde gerçekleştirdiğimiz Zirvemizde alacağımız kararların, sorunların çözümünde bize rehberlik etmesini ümit ediyorum.

Toplantımızın temasını teşkil eden "GENÇLER ve KOBİ'LER" ülkemizin son 22 yıldır ekonomi alanında kaydettiği ilerlemenin de lokomotifi oldu.

Üye ülkelerimizdeki toplamda 1 milyardan fazla nüfusumuzun çok büyük kısmı gençlerden oluşuyor.

Avrupa dahil, batıda nüfusun giderek yaşlandığı bir dönemde, genç nüfus iyi değerlendirilebildiğinde bizler için çok büyük bir avantajdır.

Türkiye olarak, sürdürülebilir kalkınmanın ancak gençlerin ekonomiye azami iştirakiyle mümkün olabileceğini biliyoruz.

Gençlerimizin teknolojik ve dijital becerileri ile girişimci ruhlarını geliştiren proje ve programlar yürütüyoruz.

Dünyanın en büyük havacılık, uzay ve teknoloji festivali olan TEKNOFEST'e "En Az Gelişmiş Ülkeleri" de dahil etmek suretiyle küresel adalet ve gelişime katkıda bulunmayı hedefliyoruz.

Keza, KOBİ'lerin desteklenmesinde D-8'in mevcut imkanlarını daha etkin şekilde kullanmamız gerektiğini düşünüyorum.

Ticaretten yatırıma, kırsal kalkınmadan tarıma, turizmden enerji ve ulaştırmaya kadar çeşitli alanlarda KOBİ'leri bilgilendirici programlar düzenlenmesinde fayda vardır.

KOBİ'lerin, Teşkilatımızın en önemli girişimlerinden olan "Tercihli Ticaret" uygulamalarından azami derecede istifade edebilmeleri için programlar geliştirilmesi gerekiyor.

Bu programlar, ülkelerimiz arasındaki ticarete de önemli katkı sunacaktır.

Mısır'ın da "Tercihli Ticaret Anlaşmasını" onaylamasıyla birlikte, artık çok daha geniş bir çerçevede anlaşmanın uygulanması mümkün olacaktır.

Kıymetli Kardeşlerim...

Teşkilatımızı büyütmek suretiyle, etki alanını daha da geliştirmek için yeni üye ve ortaklara kapımızın açık olması gerekiyor.

Bu noktada Endonezya Cumhurbaşkanımızın talebini ben de aynen paylaşıyorum.

Son yıllarda önemli atılımlar gerçekleştiren Azerbaycan'ın, Teşkilatımıza üye olmasıyla birlikte bugün, hamdolsun, dünden daha güçlüyüz.

Kardeş Azerbaycan'a D-8 Ailemize hoş geldiniz diyorum.

Saygıdeğer Katılımcılar...

Bölgemizde ve dünyada önemli hadiseler cereyan ediyor.

Filistin ve Lübnan'daki duruma dair görüşlerimizi bu konulara hasredilen ikinci oturumda sizlerle ayrıca paylaşacağım.

Suriye'deki son dönemde yaşanan gelişmeleri de aynı zaviyeden, Suriye halkının çıkarını önceleyen bir yaklaşımla çok yakından takip ediyoruz.

Suriye halkının birliğe, dayanışmaya, uzlaşmaya ve savaş yorgunu ülkelerini süratle ayağa kaldırmaya ihtiyaçları var.

Biz de komşuları ve kardeşleri olarak, bu zorlu süreçte Suriye'de istikrarın sağlanmasına katkı sunmaya çalışıyoruz.

Suriye'nin toprak bütünlüğünün ve birliğinin yeniden tesisine attığımız önemi her fırsatta vurguluyoruz.

Tüm dini, mezhebi ve etnik grupların yan yana, sulh içinde yaşadığı, terörden arındırılmış bir Suriye'nin inşası, en samimi beklentimizdir.

D-8 üyeleri olarak bu zorlu mücadelelerinde Suriyeli kardeşlerimizin yanında olmamız gerektiğine inanıyorum.

Sözlerime son verirken, D-8 Genel Sekreteri Büyükelçi ABDÜLKADİR İMAM ile Sekretarya personelini çalışmalarından ötürü tebrik ediyorum.

Pakistan tarafından müteakip D-8 Genel Sekreteri olarak belirlenen Büyükelçi SÜHEYL MAHMUD kardeşime başarılar diliyor, Zirvemizin hayırlara vesile olmasını temenni ediyorum.

Please check against delivery [time limit: 5 minutes]

11th D8 Summit

Bangladesh's Statement under Agenda Item # 4

Professor Dr. Muhammad Yunus

Hon'ble Chief Adviser

Government of the Peoples' Republic of Bangladesh

Cairo, 19 December 2024

**President of Arab Republic of Egypt, Excellency Abdel Fattah El-Sisi,
Excellencies, Heads of State and Government,
D-8 Secretary General,**

Assalamu Alaikum.

I am delighted to join the 11th Summit of the D-8 Countries. Being in the fabled city of Cairo - at the confluence of history and heritage – is always a privilege and a delight.

My warmest felicitations to His Excellency President El-Sisi of the Arab Republic of Egypt, on your election.

Excellencies,

We meet at a time when the world is witnessing unprecedented challenges. Yet, so many opportunities beckon us as well.

The theme of the Summit, focusing on youth and the SMEs, aptly resonate with our shared aspirations.

Each of our countries has sizable youth population. Median age in Bangladesh, for instance, is just 27 years. Every year, around two and a half million young people enter the labour market. In a private sector driven economy, as we endeavour to get them fit for the market or, encourage them to emerge as agile entrepreneurs, we see how emergence of technologies is posing challenges and opportunities like never before.

Manufacturing landscape in our countries has millions of workers who generally have low skills. But, the manufacturing and service economy of tomorrow is fast transforming, largely riding on artificial intelligence, machine learning, data-driven tools and applications. In Bangladesh, where agriculture is still a critical mainstay for the society and economy, we see how children of the majority of small farmers

are little interested to pursue back-breaking, risky and often uncertain farming-on-field the ways their parents took upon as a matter of tradition.

Travelling to rural Bangladesh, even across Asia, Africa and Arab world, I see how millions of today's youth are fast embracing technology and innovation, in everything around – either to turn around long-persistent challenges or, eke out newer opportunities that many thought impossible even few years before. Often, the younger folk show uncanny imagination in tackling intractable climatic stress on-the-field. I particularly underline this as our **agriculture** and **food** are changing about securing our economies, and creating wealth, within our own societies, with little outside inputs.

This brings into our consideration the millions of Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs). Most of the SMEs thrive within informal economy. They aspire to grow and connect to global supply chain. Most often, they lack formal structure, access to institutional finance or support architecture and are unfamiliar with market norms-practices-standards. Yet, I see how amazingly capable and competitive the SMEs are. In the D-8 countries, collectively we possess enough of wealth, even in private philanthropy, to stand by these scores of SMEs. With our modest support, we can shape a virtuous 'cycle of good', for them and for our people. We need to let money flow to them, through de-risking finance, for instance.

Beyond what we discuss, let us, the D-8 Governments, convene candid, result-oriented conversation involving communities of youth – startups – business – finance; and see if we can carve out new platform amongst them. Bangladesh would be ready to take such an initiative forward; and convene a first multi-stakeholders meet in 2025.

Excellencies,

The ways the 'world of work' is evolving fast as the world of youth entrepreneurship, the D-8 countries have to re-invent 'learning' to make room for your boys and girls to become leaders of the economy.

In our countries, we have great heritage, wisdom and accomplishments. We have to see how we can blend and build on those. We are yet to take full advantages of the digital revolution that has been with us for years. Now that using AI is here, let us think if we can leapfrog and catch up with the disruptions, to the advantage of our entrepreneurial boys and girls.

As way forward, I would like to propose two specific actions, for our consideration.

One, let us build and deepen functional, impact-driven connects between our Universities and equivalent knowledge institutions, particularly focused on preparing boys and girls into entrepreneurial other than its sake. Applied Science disciplines. We have to bring the entrepreneurs and higher learning much closer than what is today. Our aim should be to generate knowledge output that can produce global secure business and industry from leaders of D8 countries fiercely competitive global market place, with our niche. If this asks to re-look at the D-8 trade and investment frameworks afresh, we should do so. Transforming the business to impact on peoples' lives, not just an occupation to be our wealth. They will engage in social business to create a new civilization.

Second, for years, we tried to impart basic education and skills to millions in our countries through conventional in-person institutional architecture. In a 1.2 billion people, so often that is an increasingly daunting task. To reach 'scale', we tried through distance learning, for instance. We need to think deeper as to how to skill millions of young adults in workplace where right attitudes – values – ethics matter as much as hard skills. And, then we also confront the challenge to re-skill many millions at different vocational streams, on a continuous basis. Now that basic AI-based tools and applications are accessible, let's think of a **cooperative learning agenda** that can complement our national undertakings.

Excellencies,

As we adopt the Cairo Declaration and the Summit outcome reflecting our collective aspiration and shared commitment to addressing pressing issues, I may call upon Excellencies to re-look at our collective agenda, afresh.

I thank you for your kind attention.

As of December 10, 2024 - 1440 hrs
Word count: 919 words

Draft Remarks of the Prime Minister at the D-8 Summit
Cairo, Egypt – 19 December, 2024
***“Investing in Youth and Supporting Small and Medium Enterprises:
Shaping the Economy of the Future”***

**H.E. Mr. Abdel Fattah Al Sisi, President of the Arab Republic of Egypt,
Heads of State and Government,
Ambassador Isiaka Abdulqadir Imam, Secretary General of D-8,
Esteemed Delegates,
Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen**

Assalam-o-Alaikum and a very good morning!

I am delighted to visit this beautiful and historic city of Cairo, and to be among friends, brothers and sisters.

I congratulate the Egyptian government and its leadership on hosting the D-8 Summit - an important platform for development cooperation between like-minded countries.

The theme of this year’s Summit - *“Investing in Youth and Supporting Small and Medium Enterprises: Shaping the Economy of the Future”*, is timely and serves as the blueprint for our collective growth in the 21st century.

Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen

Youth and SMEs are key drivers of economic development.

Youth brings energy, fresh ideas, and creativity, whereas SMEs create jobs, foster innovation, and promote local entrepreneurship. It is vital for building a strong and inclusive economy.

By investing in both, we can build resilient economies that are ready for the global challenges of today and tomorrow.

For D-8 Member-States, empowering youth and entrepreneurship presents an opportunity to harness the power of our young population and create environments where small businesses can thrive.

The D-8 can lead this process by fostering partnerships, supporting entrepreneurship, and prioritizing education and skills development, thereby ensuring that our future is in the hands of an empowered generation.

Excellencies, Ladies & Gentlemen

For Pakistan, investing in youth and supporting SMEs, is crucial for our socio-economic development and progress.

With over 60% of our population under the age of 30, we possess immense potential for innovation and growth.

But unlocking this potential requires providing the right skills, opportunities, and resources.

By fostering an environment where youth-led businesses can thrive, Pakistan is seeking to harness its demographic advantage and shape a vibrant economic future.

Through the **Prime Minister's Youth Programme**, my Government is committed to providing quality education, create jobs, and offer meaningful opportunities.

Our goal is to empower youngsters with the skills and confidence they need to become self-reliant and contribute to Pakistan's growth.

Since 2013, this program has distributed **over 600,000 laptops**, awarded **216,151 scholarships**, and **trained over 100,000 individuals** in demand-driven skills such as artificial intelligence, data analytics, and cyber security.

We have also created the **Digital Youth Hub**, as a one-stop shop for education, employment, engagement, and environmental opportunities.

Pakistan is home to one of the largest freelance communities in the world. We are focusing on IT training at a mass scale to equip our youth with the necessary tools to connect with the digital world and capitalize on those opportunities.

Ladies and Gentlemen

My government has launched several initiatives to empower young entrepreneurs, both men and women, as well as to support small businesses.

The **Prime Minister's Youth Business and Agriculture Loan Scheme** has disbursed billions in loans, enabling young Pakistanis to start and scale their own businesses.

The **State Bank of Pakistan's SME Finance Scheme** offers concessionary financing, especially for SMEs in the manufacturing sector, helping them grow and create jobs.

Additionally, **Startup Pakistan** aims to foster a vibrant startup ecosystem, providing mentorship, funding, and incubation opportunities for innovative, tech-driven ideas.

With interest-free loans and favourable financing terms, we are helping youngsters start and grow their businesses, even in challenging times.

The **Small and Medium Enterprise Development Authority (SMEDA)** provides training, mentorship, and funding opportunities to empower young individuals.

We recognize and support our young innovators through the **National Innovation Award**, by offering funding to promising startups to help job seekers become job creators.

We are also in partnership with the Asian Development Bank, USAID, ILO, UNIDO, UNDP, and ITC, to promote social inclusion, sustainability, innovation, formalization, and internationalization in Pakistan.

Ladies & Gentlemen

Today's Summit offers a valuable opportunity for D-8 countries to share best practices, pool resources, and create programs that support youth and SMEs across borders.

Competitions such as **Regional Innovation Award**, can promote eco-innovation and sustainable entrepreneurship in all our countries.

D-8 Countries also need to foster partnerships through mentorship and training to bridge skill gaps, improve employability, and bring fresh ideas into our economies.

Additionally, initiatives such as the **D-8 Technology Transfer and Exchange Network (D8-TTEN)** facilitate the exchange of technology, research, and knowledge among member states.

This will help us to bridge the technological gap, drive sustainable development and strengthen key sectors such as agriculture, energy, and manufacturing.

Pakistan actively supports, and will continue to encourage, such initiatives through the D-8 platform to enhance South-South cooperation and to promote collective progress.

Excellencies,

Connectivity has become a defining feature of the modern global economy and is rightly hailed as a vehicle for peace and prosperity.

As emphasized in the Dhaka Declaration earlier in 2021, we need to explore the possibilities of developing and enhancing transport connectivity among D-8 member states, for intra-trade facilitation.

Connectivity initiatives can be a force multiplier, not only for enhancing trade, but also for building efficient transport corridors and reliable supply chains.

We need to explore initiatives focusing on connectivity, across the D-8 member countries to open up new avenues for trade, investment, job creation and shared prosperity.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Investing in youth and SMEs is more than just a strategy. It is a responsibility.

Let us pledge today to elevate youth voices, empower their dreams, and support their enterprises.

By doing so, we will not only shape the economy of the future but also build a legacy of hope, prosperity, and resilience for generations to come.

I thank you.

If Azerbaijan is approved as a new D-8 Member, PM may please state the following:

Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen,

(Here, I also take this opportunity to welcome Azerbaijan as a new member of D-8. I can sure that under the able leadership of our brother President Ilham Heydar Oglu Aliyev, Azerbaijan will play an important role in achieving the objectives of the D-8. I also congratulate Turkiye on assuming the chairmanship of the D-8.)

Thank you.

**NATIONAL STATEMENT BY
H.E. PRABOWO SUBIANTO
PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF INDONESIA
AT THE
11TH SUMMIT OF D-8 ORGANIZATION
CAIRO, 19 DECEMBER 2024**

**Thank you Mr. Chair
Bismillahirrohmanirrohim
Assalamualaikum Warahmatullahi Wabarakatuh**

- ***His Excellency Abdel Fattah el-sisi, President of the Arab Republic of Egypt***
- ***Honourable Heads of State and Government of the D-8 organization,***
- ***Ambassador Isiaka Abdulqadir Imam, Secretary-General of D-8,***
- ***Distinguished Guests of Honor of the D8:***
 - ✓ ***His Excellency Mahmoud Abbas, President of the State of Palestine;***
 - ✓ ***His Excellency Najib Mikati, Prime Minister of the Republic of Lebanon***
 - ✓ ***His Excellency Ali Asadov, Prime Minister of the Republic of Azerbaijan***
 - ✓ ***His Excellency Hissein Brahim Taha, Secretary-General of the OIC;***
 - ✓ ***His Excellency Ahmed Aboul Gheit, Secretary-General of the League of Arab States***
- ***Distinguished representative of the delegation of the United Nations***

Thank you, President Abdel Fattah el-Sisi for the warm welcome and generous hospitality given to us the delegates to the D8 Summit 2024. I also commend the Secretary-General of the D-8, Ambassador Imam, for effective leadership in guiding this Summit.

In a world often shaped by the few, this Summit highlights our collective power as a transformative force. We must realize that the D-8 indeed holds immense potential. Together, the D-8 represents the third-largest economic bloc globally, with a combined GDP of USD 4.81 trillion in 2023. Price Waterhouse Coopers predicts all D-8 member countries will rank among the 25 largest economies by 2050.

Another vast potential that we often forget is our common maritime resources. With access to major oceans of the world, such as the Atlantic, Mediterranean, the Indian, and the Pacific Oceans, all D-8 countries are uniquely positioned to harness the benefits and the resources of the blue economy. This is a very strategic collaboration. For example, the total value of the fishery industries in the world is USD 600 billion. We can imagine if we concentrate in making the most of the blue economy, our various economies will really be strong.

But to give more tangible benefits for our people, D-8 must deepen economic integration. and cooperation. Among others: (1) we must implement effectively of the Preferential Trade Agreement (PTA) between us; (2) we also must establish a streamlined and simplified customs procedures within intra-D8 trade; (3) we must also create halal value chains through a strengthened D-8 Halal Economy Network.

Excellencies,

The D-8 must be more than an economic bloc—it is a movement of the Global South. Therefore, we must also continue advocating for a Fairer Global Order on the basis of international law, inclusivity, fairness, and shared prosperity.

Achieving this requires greater representation of the Global South in decision-making processes. For that D-8 must be united, we must work together to be united. We must leave behind our differences; we must look for the greater good of our people. Without unity, without integration we will be weak. And if we are weak, we will be exploited. That is the law of history

In this spirit, Indonesia reaffirms our commitment to strengthening the D-8, and also, we must consider if it is not wise for us now, to invite more members to join the D-8. There must be strength. Strength in number, strength in unity. Let us look towards the future, let us learn from the present. Once again, we must learn from the geopolitical situation that is happening around us now.

Without unity, without overcoming our differences, we cannot be strong. We say that we support Palestine. But if we are weak, how can we support Palestine

Therefore, Excellencies,

Let us harness our collaboration. We must drive economic growth; we must work to achieve industrial and technological strength; and we must make the Muslim world a prosperous world, overcoming poverty.

Let us unite to make the D-8 a catalyst for positive change to be a champion for the aspirations of the Global South and for the Muslim ummah. As Indonesia prepares to face the future, we reaffirm our steadfast commitment to this shared vision. Let us transform the D-8 into a beacon of hope for all of our nations and the world.

I thank you.

Wassalamualaikum warahmatullahi wabarakatuh

In the name of God, the Most Gracious, the Most Merciful

Your Excellency Mr. Abdel Fattah Al-Sisi

President of the Arab Republic of Egypt;

At the outset, I would like to thank Your Excellency for hosting the 11th important summit of the D-8 leaders, and I would like to express my pleasure and that of my accompanying delegation in being present in the brotherly country of Egypt. I would also like to thank our dear colleagues in the D-8 Commission and appreciate the efforts of the honorable Secretary General, Mr. Imam, and his esteemed colleagues in the Secretariat.

Undoubtedly, important manifestations of the history of human civilization have taken place in the land of Egypt and along the great Nile River, and the historical and enchanting beauties of this Islamic land have also depicted a masterpiece of combining ancient civilization and rich Islamic culture. I hope that during the Egypt presidency over the D-8 organization, we will witness the deepening of friendship and brotherhood among the members and taking of serious steps in the process of increasing multilateral cooperation to achieve the visions envisaged in the D-8.

Excellencies;

Distinguished Participants;

Before starting the discussion, I would like to point out that, in relation to the recent developments in the West Asian region and the changes that have transpired, it has been more than 14 months since the West Asia, especially Gaza and southern Lebanon, and now Syria, have been subjected to widespread attacks by the usurping Zionist Regime. The merciless killing of civilians and the bloodshed of women, children, and people affected by war and widespread terror have revealed new dimensions of its illegitimate goals in spreading insecurity. And now it is our religious, legal, and human duty to prevent further harms to our loved ones in the crisis-stricken regions by greater convergence and precise and immediate practical measures.

Dear Colleagues,

The Honorable Secretary General

For the time being, the importance of maintaining friendship and creating new ties of multilateral cooperation among Islamic countries based on development and collective interests is felt more than ever. Moving towards multilateralism and creating smart economic and trade networks among countries is a correct trend and derived from the will of the majority of countries.

The theme of today's summit has been chosen very intelligently. Youths are undoubtedly valuable assets, and planning to develop their capacities is the most productive investment in line with our national and collective interests. Given the increasing prosperity of industrial fields and entering into new areas of technology, it is necessary to seriously review the way of formulating future cooperation. Knowledge-based applications and moving towards development are areas in which young people are the flag-bearers, and the D-8 countries, by benefiting from their extensive human and infrastructural capabilities, can gain a distinguished position in the process of integrating industry and technology.

The Islamic Republic of Iran, while expressing interest in exchanging experience and sharing its achievements, will support any initiative and proposal that will lead to synergy in economic fields and paving the way for youth to enter development-oriented programs. We are also ready to implement joint measures within the framework of D-8, such as establishing a “D-8 joint bank of ideas and capital”, “establishing joint science and technology hubs and parks”, “holding scientific and technological tours and meetings”, “granting sabbaticals, scholarships and professor-student exchanges”, “providing entrepreneurship facilities for youth”, “investing in small and medium-sized enterprises to solve youth employment problems”, and also holding exhibitions of knowledge-based achievements and products, in cooperation with members, to collectively support young entrepreneurs. The D-8 Technology Transfer Network, which is located in the Pardis Technology Park in Tehran, can help advance joint programs in the field of the youth.

Dear Colleagues,

Trade between the D-8 member states is far from the organization's Vision 2030. We hope that during Egypt's presidency over the organization, we will witness enhancement in trade among members. In this direction, barter can play a decisive role in increasing trade between members.

On the other hand, the geographical distances in the D-8 environment indicate the importance of development of transit routes for the flourishing of economic and trade cooperation. In addition to the strategic importance of this issue, the members' attention should be focused on areas that, while contributing to sustainable growth and collective interests, will allow us to be more resilient to possible shocks in the future. In this regard, it is necessary for the members to collectively adopt new technologies such as artificial intelligence and manage their negative consequences. For this reason, I propose that the summit issue the necessary instructions for the optimal use of new technologies to enhance the resilience of the economies of the member countries.

The first meeting of the "Standing Committee on Communications and Information Technology of D-8", is soon to be hosted by the Islamic Republic of Iran, and we can begin working on this guideline with the cooperation of the members. I believe that knowledge-based start-ups and new technologies, including artificial intelligence, have opened new suitable avenues for the cooperation of the youth of Islamic countries, who, while preserving their indigenous and religious values, take great steps towards the development and progress of their countries and societies.

Excellency the Chairman

In conclusion, I express hope for deepening of intra-organizational relations. I am confident that in the new period and with the competent management and leadership of Egypt, the D-8 organization will take important steps towards development. Once again, I would like to thank the esteemed government and people of the Arab Republic of Egypt for hosting us.

I wish you all the best

As presented by YB MOHE on 19 December 2024



**NATIONAL STATEMENT BY
DR ZAMBRY ABDUL KADIR
MINISTER OF HIGHER EDUCATION**

AT

THE 11TH DEVELOPING EIGHT (D-8) SUMMIT

EGYPT

19 DECEMBER 2024

**"INVESTING IN YOUTH AND SUPPORTING SMEs: SHAPING
TOMORROW'S ECONOMY"**

The Honourable Abdel Fatah El-Sisi

**President of the Arab Republic of Egypt and Chair of the
D-8 Summit**

**Honourable Heads of State and Heads of Government of
Developing Eight Member States,**

His Excellency Ambassador Isiaka Abdulqadir Imam

Secretary General of D-8

Excellencies,

Assalamualaikum Warahmatullahi Wabarakatuh.

- 1. On behalf of the PM Anwar Ibrahim, let me begin by expressing my sincere appreciation to The Honourable President Abdel Fatah El-Sisi and the Government of the**

Arab Republic of Egypt for the warm hospitality extended to me and my delegation during our stay in this magnificent city.

2. I would like to congratulate the Arab Republic of Egypt on its assumption of D-8 Chairmanship and for convening this 11th D-8 Summit.

Excellencies,

D-8 Background

3. The D-8 was established back in June 1997, with the eight countries believing in working on one platform that focuses on economic development and international cooperation. It was born as a strategic grouping not as an alternative, but as a platform of like-minded countries, with one goal, and that is to improve our economic standing.

4. Our countries are blessed with bountiful resources and a vast amount of land. We have an abundant, talented, skilled labour force and diversified human capital. With a total population of 1.2 billion people or 15% of the world population, the market of the D-8 Member States is estimated to be valued at USD 2.1 trillion, accounting for 6.88% of the global trade total, which stands at USD 30.5 trillion in 2023. Unfortunately, our trading among the D-8 members are accounted at approximately USD 147 billion only.

5. As a grouping that addresses the social economics development of its Member States, and based on the fact that the global economy has shifted its direction, it is timely for us to relook into the areas of cooperation, and the economic achievements we have achieved thus far.

6. The future economic sectors are the halal-based industry, digital economy and green economy; where AI and sustainable, renewable energy are at the core of every discussion at every economic platform. These emerging economic sectors are poised for the D-8 countries to seize the opportunity. We must take decisive action to optimise our economic prospects in the digital economy and green economy without hesitation, or risk being left behind.

7. Hence, this is why the theme of today's Summit is befitting, in order for us to move ahead. "Investing in Youth and Supporting SMEs: Shaping Tomorrow's Economy", would allow us to deliberate on strategies that leverage the immense potential of our youth to drive the economies of D-8 Member States forward.

Malaysia's Initiatives in Investing in Youth and Supporting SMEs

Excellencies,

8. The theme of this Summit also aligns closely with the priorities of the Malaysia Madani Government, which recognises that the future of the Malaysian economy relies on the readiness of its youth and the resilience of its Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs).

9. Our youth represent the most valuable resource of our nations. Amidst the uncertainties, vulnerabilities, and disruptions of our time, their potential remains boundless. In this age of artificial intelligence, innovation, and disruptive technologies, it is essential that we not only equip our youth with technical skills but also nurture them into holistic individuals. A balanced education must integrate advanced competencies with moral and ethical

values. Compassion, humanity, and the dignity of humankind should remain at the core of our education systems, for a society bereft of these values is a society adrift.

10. SMEs are the backbone of economic resilience and innovation. Within the D-8 framework, strengthening SMEs and fostering cross-border collaborations in emerging industries, such as the halal economy, agribusiness, green technologies, and digital solutions, can unlock unprecedented opportunities.

Excellencies,

A Vision for Recalibrating D-8 Economic Cooperation

11. The current global economic climate compels us to recalibrate our D-8 economic cooperation with a forward-looking vision. This recalibration must prioritise

inclusivity and innovation, ensuring that no Member States or community is left behind. Our plans must address:

- i. Knowledge sharing to accelerate industrialisation;**
- ii. Digital transformation and the integration of disruptive technologies into SMEs; and**
- iii. Cross-border trade facilitation within D-8 markets to create seamless movement of goods and services.**

Excellencies,

Outcome Documents of 11th D-8 Summit

12. Malaysia supports the Cairo Declaration and the Joint Communiqué on the Situation in Palestine and Lebanon. The adoption of the Cairo Declaration affirms our commitment to D-8.

13. Additionally, by endorsing the Joint Communiqué, we reinforce our collective resolve and unity in advocating for the rights and dignity of the Palestinian people, who have faced unimaginable suffering, including indiscriminate killings and acts of genocide perpetrated by the domineering and oppressive regime of the Zionist Israel.

14. As a united bloc, we must rally together to provide scholarships, vocational training, and start-up programmes specifically tailored to empower Palestinian youth. Let us help them rebuild their futures and restore their dignity.

Closing

15. In conclusion, Malaysia reaffirms our unwavering commitment to the D-8 Organisation and stands prepared to work collaboratively and strategically with all Member States. Together, we aim to advance the organisation's

objectives, fostering tangible improvements in the socio-economic well-being of our nations and their people.

16. Let us combine our efforts to work together and shape the future through:

- i. First: Cultivate a generation of innovation and compassionate leaders;**
- ii. Second: Build resilient economies that thrive amidst uncertainty;**
- iii. Third: Reinforce the bonds with solidarity, compassion and shared humanity, that define us part of a global community.**

17. May the D-8 rise as a beacon of hope not just for ourselves, but for the world at large.

Thank you.

Words: 938 words

Speaking time: 7 mins 12 seconds

Allocation: 4-5 mins

DRAFT STATEMENT PREPARED

FOR

H. E. BOLA AHMED TINUBU, GCFR

PRESIDENT OF THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF NIGERIA

FOR THE

11TH SUMMIT OF THE DEVELOPING EIGHT (D-8)

COUNTRIES

19TH DECEMBER, 2024

Your Excellency, Abdel Fattah El-Sisi, President of the Arab Republic of Egypt and Chairman of the D-8 Organisation for Economic Cooperation,

Your Excellencies, Heads of State and Government,

Honourable Ministers,

Secretary-General of the D-8 Organisation,

Distinguished Delegates,

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I am pleased to be part of the 11th Summit of the D-8 Organisation, being held in this historic city. My delegation and I are profoundly grateful for the warm hospitality extended to us by the host Government and the very friendly people of Egypt. We are sincerely appreciative of your generosity.

2. I also want to acknowledge the exceptional service rendered to the D-8, by Ambassador Isiaka Abdulqudir Imam, the Secretary-General of the Organisation. Nigeria appreciates your hard work and achievements and we are proud of your performance.

3. Today, we come together under the theme, **“Investing in Youth and Supporting SMEs: Shaping Tomorrow’s Economy”**. This theme reflects our aspirations and emphasises the urgent need for strategic action in today’s rapidly evolving world. As we all know, a well informed and technically capable youth population is the greatest asset of any country.

4. In Nigeria for example over 60% of the population is over the age of 25. This demographic shift presents both a significant opportunity and a formidable challenge. By investing in education, training and capacity building of a young people, we can engender a culture of innovation and growth that will elevate our economies.

Mr. Chairman,

5. Deliberate investment in our youths is a precondition for sustainable peace and security in our communities, as well as the development of our respective national economies. We must therefore, prioritize initiatives that promote entrepreneurship among youth and equip them with the right skills that are suitable for effective participation in today's global digital economic systems.

6. This can be achieved through partnerships with educational institutions, private sector and other international organizations with focus on enhancing entrepreneurial education and vocational training.

7. Small and Medium Enterprises (SME) have remained a catalyst for job creation in developing economies on all necessary effort must be sustained towards the consolidation of the SMEs as primary enablers of sustainable growth and development of our economies.

8. In Nigeria, SMEs play a crucial role in job creation and economic growth, yet they face challenges such as limited access to capital, inadequate infrastructure and regulatory obstacles. In addressing these obstacles, we have formulated a national policy on SMEs (reviewed every four years) with the objective of sustaining vibrant SMEs sub-sector to be the major driver of national economic growth and employment generation.

9. Our national SMEs policy seeks to overcome the challenges of SMEs in Nigeria through seven broad programmes covering (i) financing, (ii) institutional, legal and regulatory framework, (iii) skills development, (iv) technology, research and development, (v) extension of support services, (vi) marketing and (vii) infrastructure and cost of doing business.

Mr. Chairman, Excellencies Ladies and Gentle men

10. The D-8 Organisation a veritable framework for Member States, to collectively confront any challenge capable of undermining our resolve towards not creating a better future for our youth, but also entreacnching a solid foundation for sustainable growth and development in our countries.

11. In support of SMEs development in D-8 Member States, I would like to reiterate Nigeria's interest to host the D-8 SMEs Centre, as plans by the Small and Medium Enterprises Development Agencies of Nigeria (SMEDAN) are nearing completion for the Centre's launch in early 2025.

Mr. Chairman,

12. To achieve our Organisation's objectives, we must ensure sustained funding, to provide adequate financial resources for the smooth operation of this esteemed multilateral platform. I also call on Member States to facilitate effective knowledge sharing, to boost trade and economic development, thereby strengthening our cooperation. In this regard, I urge Member States to support the D-8 Network of Pioneers for Research and Innovation (D-8 NPRI).

13. In accordance with the principles of this Organisation and in support of the joint declaration of the extraordinary meeting of the D-8 Council of Ministers on the situation in Gaza, which is in line with Nigeria's position, I call on all Member States of this Organisation to redouble efforts towards achieving a peaceful settlement of the Palestinian question on the basis of a two-State solution.

14. To energise our resolve for shared prosperity among countries of the global south, through cooperation and partnerships in the face of ever-changing geopolitical dynamics, I wish to encourage us to accord the desired attention to the expansion of our membership, in a manner that aligns with our fundamental aspirations.

Your Excellencies,

15. Let us commit to the ideals of this Organisation, ensuring that our actions reflect our vision for a peaceful and prosperous future. Nigeria's dedication to the success of the D-8 remains unwavering and we will continue to champion the objectives of the Organisation. In this regard,

Nigeria reaffirms its commitment to hosting the first D-8 Ministerial Meeting on Youth and other D-8 activities.

Your Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen

16. In conclusion, we are ready to collaborate with one and all, and strengthen our commitment to investing in our youth and supporting our SMEs. Together, we can build an inclusive and resilient economic future that transcends borders and uplifts all our people.

I Thank you.

11th D-8 Summit

Opening remarks by

Professor Dr. Muhammad Yunus

Hon'ble Chief Adviser
Government of the Peoples' Republic of Bangladesh

19 December 2024
Cairo, Egypt

Bismillahir Rahmanir Rahim

His Excellency President Abdel Fattah El-Sisi,
Excellency Heads of State and Heads of Government,
Secretary General of D-8, Amb Isiaka (ইসিয়াকা) Abdulqadir Imam,

Assalamu Alaikum and good morning.

As the outgoing Chairmanship of Bangladesh, I am pleased to welcome you all, at the 11th D-8 Summit.

My warmest felicitation to our Incoming Chair and the Host, President Abdel Fattah El-Sisi of the Arab Republic of Egypt, indeed for making the meticulous arrangements and gracious hospitality in the historic city of Cairo.

I must complement the Government of Egypt for its unwavering commitment to the principles of the organization in advancing our shared vision, for progress and cooperation.

Excellencies,

Since assumption of D-8 Chairmanship in April 2021, Bangladesh endeavoured to advance D-8 cooperation under quite challenging circumstances. We first battled the limitations and constraints in the wake of the COVID-19 pandemic; and then the poly crisis that afflicted many of our countries, in so many ways.

Establishment of the D-8 Youth Council, and ratification of D-8 Preferential Trade Agreement, during this time are particularly

noteworthy. This could not be accomplished with the member states' unwavering support, and understanding, of our collective interest.

Bangladesh is thankful to all the D8 Governments for the support extended throughout our Chairmanship, and the level of commitment shown in advancing our collective interests.

While we officially hand over the Chairmanship to Egypt, I complement President El-Sisi for the theme of this Summit, "*Investing in Youth and Supporting SMEs*". It resonates aptly with our aspirations in D-8. In times of changing world of work, we need to re-discover and re-position learning, regarding youth and work in the economy of tomorrow. Things often evolve too fast and gets difficult for Governments to comprehend, and implement. But we must keep on recalibrating our efforts, to match the difficulties.

Excellencies,

As Bangladesh passes the baton to Egypt, let me affirm Bangladesh's unwavering support to the Egyptian Chairmanship in furtherance of our cooperative agenda. Team Egypt, under wise leadership of President El-Sisi, can count on Bangladesh.

May D-8 flourish, under Egypt's leadership, and help our countries accomplish greater freedom, stability, harmony and prosperity in an unpredictable world.

I thank you.



SPEECH OF

**H.E. MR. HISSEIN BRAHIM TAHA,
SECRETARY GENERAL OF THE
ORGANIZATION OF ISLAMIC COOPERATION**

AT

**THE 11TH SUMMIT OF THE DEVELOPING EIGHT ORGANIZATION FOR
ECONOMIC COOPERATION (D-8)**

CAIRO, ARAB REPUBLIC OF EGYPT

19TH DECEMBER, 2024

Bismillahir Rahmanir Rahim

Your Excellency Mr. Abdel Fattah El-Sisi, President of the Arab Republic of Egypt,

Your Excellencies Heads of State and Government,

Your Excellency Ambassador Isiaka Abdulqadir Imam, the Secretary General of the D-8 Organization for Economic Cooperation,

Distinguished Heads of Delegation,

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Assalamu Alaykum wa-Rrahmatullahi wa-Barakatuhu

I am pleased and honoured to address the 11th Summit of the D-8 Organization for Economic Cooperation being held in this historical city of Cairo, which is one of the world's oldest Islamic cities and located at the crossroads of international trade routes from Europe, Asia and Africa. Cairo is also known as the cradle of human civilization in many different ways.

At the outset, please allow me to express my deep gratitude to His Excellency Abdel Fattah El-Sisi, President of the Arab Republic of Egypt, and the Government and the people of Egypt, for hosting the 11th Summit of the D-8 Organization for Economic Cooperation and for placing these excellent facilities at the disposal of delegates. I must also commend the D-8 Organization for Economic Cooperation for the elaborate preparations and thoughtful arrangements made to ensure the success of this important event.

This 11th Summit of D-8 Organization for Economic Cooperation is being held at a crucial time, when the pressing global challenges and emerging opportunities call for strong collective efforts from our Member States. The current global economic outlook is profoundly influenced by geopolitical tensions, particularly the relentless and brutal crimes of aggression and genocide being committed by Israel, the occupying power, against the peoples of Palestine and Lebanon, which resulted in immense lives lost, humanitarian catastrophe, widespread destruction of vital infrastructures and mass displacement of millions of people. In this context, we affirm the responsibility of the international community to implement the UN Security Council Resolution No.2735, impose

immediate, permanent and unconditional ceasefire, ensure delivery of humanitarian assistance in full-scale to Gaza Strip, and support for the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people for self-determination and establishment of their independent Palestinian State on the 1967 borders with East Jerusalem as its capital.

Undoubtedly, these developments negatively impact the economy, both globally and for individual countries. Accordingly, the proceedings of this Summit are of significant importance to the OIC, since all the eight Member-States of D8 Organization for Economic Cooperation belong to the OIC and represent about 63% of OIC total population and 55% of their total Gross Domestic Production (GDP). In addition, the two Organizations share common economic objectives and are desirous of collaborating in such areas as agriculture and food security, trade, tourism and transportation.

It should be mentioned here that the mutual desire to collaborate was concretized by concluding a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between the two Organizations in Istanbul, Republic of Türkiye, on 7th October 2010. This MoU seeks to encourage the development of joint programmes and projects in all sectors through utilization of the human and material resources of both Organizations. Evidently, cooperation between our two Organizations is based on a solid foundation and this is especially important at a moment when we are all being tested on many fronts.

**Your Excellencies,
Distinguished Delegates,**

As this Summit seeks to address issues relating to the expanding economic cooperation among the D-8 countries, we all recognize that the current international and regional situation is complex, and our countries are faced with both opportunities and challenges, which makes cooperation among our countries very crucial to our collective socio-economic development.

It is in this context that OIC is currently preoccupied with scaling-up its socio-economic cooperation efforts with a view to promoting inclusive growth through increased intra-OIC trade and investment, enhancing food security, addressing unemployment as well as developing human and social infrastructures of its Member States.

**Your Excellencies,
Distinguished Delegates,**

You are well aware that our countries face similar challenges in terms of economic development. This situation requires that we foster win-win partnerships that address the needs of our peoples in order to secure sustainable socio-economic development in our countries. Accordingly, OIC, in pursuit of its economic agenda, will continue to collaborate with its partners, including your Organization, to support socio-economic development in its Member States, since such partnership would provide the technical support needed to accelerate the implementation of developmental projects in OIC countries.

I am confident that at this critical time, this Summit will adopt far-reaching decisions necessary to stimulate actions in areas of critical importance for socio-economic development in D8 Organization for Economic Cooperation countries.

As I look forward to productive discussions and outcomes of this Summit, let me assure you that the OIC will continue to explore all ways to collaborate with you for the realization of our noble objectives of promoting the welfare of our people and development of OIC community.

In conclusion, I thank you for kind your attention and wish this Summit a resounding success.

Wassalamu Alaykum wa-Rrahmatullahi wa-Barakatuhu.

Dedicated D-8 Team for preparing the 11th Summit and its preceding meeting:
REMARKS

by the Prime Minister of the Republic of Azerbaijan, Ali Asadov, at the 11th Summit of the Developing Eight Organization for Economic Cooperation (D-8)

Cairo, Egypt
19 December 2024

**Your Excellency, Mr. President Abdel Fattah al-Sisi,
Esteemed Heads of State and Government,
Ladies and Gentlemen.**

At the outset, we would like to thank the friendly and brotherly Arab Republic of Egypt for the invitation and great hospitality at the 11th Summit of the D-8 Economic Cooperation Organization.

First time, President of the Republic of Azerbaijan Mr Ilham Aliyev participated in the D-8 Summit held in Istanbul at the invitation of President Mr Recep Tayyip Erdogan.

Our participation at today's Summit has special historic significance.

Thus, today, the member states, based on friendship and trustful relations with Azerbaijan, took a unanimous decision to elect our country as a member of D-8.

We are grateful to all the member states for this.

Azerbaijan will closely contribute to protecting the organization's fundamental principles and further deepening cooperation.

Dear Summit participants,

Against the backdrop of modern conflicts and political tensions, ensuring security and stability, developing mutually beneficial cooperation in our vast region is of paramount importance.

In this regard, the Republic of Azerbaijan stands as one of the reliable regional centers with its geopolitical position, huge economic potential and modern transport infrastructure.

Located at the crossroads of Europe and Asia, Azerbaijan has an important role in implementing critical energy projects and in developing international transport corridors.

Azerbaijan, along with successfully chairing a number of international organizations, contributes to solving global problems.

Our country's four-year chairmanship of the Non-Aligned Movement, the world's largest organization after the UN, as well as our chairmanship of the COP29, which is considered one of the prestigious events in the world, are a clear indicator of Azerbaijan's growing influence on the international arena.

Taking this opportunity, we express our gratitude to the D-8 member states for their important contribution to the work of COP29.

Esteemed Summit participants,

As it is well-known, Azerbaijan, by ending almost 30 years of Armenian occupation, has fully restored its territorial integrity and sovereignty.

Armenia conducted ethnic cleansing against Azerbaijanis in the territories it had occupied, and more than 1 million Azerbaijanis became refugees and IDPs.

Urbicide, culturcide, and ecocide were carried out in our territories.

The cultural and religious heritage of the Azerbaijani people was destroyed. 65 mosques out of 67 in those territories were raised to the ground.

Currently, largescale restoration and construction work is underway in these territories, villages and cities are built from scratch.

Thousands of former internally displaced persons have already returned to their ancestral lands.

The new realities open up unique opportunities for lasting peace and stability in the region, as well as for mutually beneficial cooperation.

Azerbaijan is committed to the regional peace agenda and will continue its decisive steps in this direction.

Ladies and gentlemen,

D-8, whose member countries` population constitutes 60% of the world Muslims, plays an important role in Islamic solidarity.

Taking into consideration the growing Islamophobia, extremism, and radicalism in the world, it is important for our organization to unite efforts to strengthen Islamic solidarity.

Azerbaijan, throughout history, has played a bridge role between the East and the West, and has been one of the main cultural, religious, and civilization centers of the Islamic world.

Our country has made great contributions to the formation of an environment of multiculturalism and tolerance, the establishment of intercultural dialogue, and the promotion of Islamic values in the world.

Dear Summit participants,

Following the fall of the Asad regime in Syria, it is of utmost importance to restore peace and stability in the country and put an end to the civil conflict.

Azerbaijan reiterates its support for the territorial integrity and sovereignty of Syria.

We hope that the challenges will be resolved in accordance with the will of the Syrian people, as well as through domestic political dialogue.

Azerbaijan will not spare its support in addressing the humanitarian problems faced by the Syrian people.

Close contacts with the brotherly Republic of Türkiye to take practical steps in this direction are ongoing.

Ladies and gentlemen,

Azerbaijan, which maintains friendly and brotherly relations with Muslim countries, will continue to make its valuable contribution to strengthening Islamic solidarity.

We are confident that the “2020-2030 Roadmap” and future strategies to be adopted will not only develop cooperation among the D-8 countries, but also serve to review existing international mechanisms in the conditions of a changing world.

Once again, we thank each and everyone of you for the decision to elect our country as a member of D-8.

We wish success to the Summit and in the future activities of the Organization.

Thank you for your attention!

**STATEMENT BY H.E. AMBASSADOR ISIAKA ABDULQADIR IMAM,
THE SECRETARY-GENERAL OF THE D-8, AT THE 11TH D-8
SUMMIT, CAIRO, 19 DECEMBER 2024**

***Your Excellency, President Abdel Fattah El-Sisi,
Honorable President of the Arab Republic of Egypt and
Chairperson of the D-8 Organization for Economic
Cooperation, and our generous host.***

***Your Excellency, Professor Muhammad Yunus, the Chief
Adviser of the Government of the People's Republic of
Bangladesh, our immediate past D-8 Chair.***

***Your Excellencies, Presidents, Your Excellencies Prime
Ministers.***

***Your Excellencies, Heads of Delegations, of the D-8
Member States.***

The Special Guests of Honor.

Distinguished Delegates, Ladies and Gentlemen.

Assalamu'alaikum and good morning.

I am honored to address this momentous gathering of our Leaders, at the 11th Summit of the Leaders of the Developing-8 Organization for Economic Cooperation.

I extend my heartfelt gratitude to the Government of the Arab Republic of Egypt, for their exceptional organization of this Summit, in the magnificent city of Cairo. This city, holds a special place in my heart, as I am an alumnus of the American University in Cairo, while my late beloved father, served as Ambassador of Nigeria to Egypt, from 1978 to 1984.

I would like to express my sincere appreciation to His Excellency, **Abdel Fattah El-Sisi**, the President of the Arab Republic of Egypt, for hosting this, Summit. The arrangements and hospitality extended to us, since our arrival, have been truly outstanding.

**Honorable Chairman, Excellencies, Esteemed Leaders,
Distinguished Delegates, Ladies and Gentlemen,**

Allow me to congratulate His Excellency, President **Abdel Fattah El-Sisi**, on assuming the role of D-8 Chairman. We are confident, that under his able leadership, the D-8 will achieve its goals and grow to a higher level.

I commend the People's Republic of Bangladesh, for their remarkable efforts, during their tenure, as D-8 Chair. I also congratulate His Excellency, **Muhammad Yunus**, a renowned figure globally and Nobel Laureate, on being chosen as the Chief Advisor of the Government of Bangladesh.

Also, I congratulate His Excellency **Masoud Pezeshkian**, on his election as President of the Islamic Republic of Iran.

To His Excellency, **Prabowo Subianto**, President of Indonesia, congratulations on your recent assumption of Office. We look forward to seeing Indonesia prosper, under your guidance.

I also warmly congratulate His Excellency **Anwar Ibrahim**, Prime Minister of Malaysia, for steering Malaysia, toward socio-economic stability and progress.

To His Excellency **Bola Ahmed Tinubu, GCFR**, President of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, I commend your bold reforms and dedication to socio-economic development, which has positioned Nigeria, for significant progress.

My heartfelt congratulations, goes to His Excellency **Shehbaz Sharif**, on his re-election, as Prime Minister of Pakistan. Under his leadership, Pakistan's economic recovery has been,

noteworthy, putting the country on a promising path of development.

I also commend His Excellency **Recep Tayyip Erdogan**, President of the Republic of Türkiye, for his exemplary leadership, elevating Türkiye's global standing, and setting a benchmark for development and progress.

Honourable Chairman, Excellencies, Esteemed Leaders,

Since this is my first time addressing this noble Summit, I must express what an honor it has been to serve this esteemed Organization as its Secretary-General. Since assuming office in January 2022, I have worked diligently to advance the D-8 agenda. With your continued support, I pledge to discharge my duties with dedication until the conclusion of my term next year.

The Egyptian D-8 Presidency comes at a pivotal moment for two reasons.

First, we are recovering from the unprecedented COVID-19 pandemic, which underscored the necessity of collaboration in addressing global challenges. Second, conflicts persist globally, including the deeply concerning situations in Palestine and Lebanon. Egypt's resolve to host this Summit and dedicate a special session to these crises is highly commendable.

Since taking office, I have prioritized innovative approaches to strengthen cooperation, particularly through enhanced private-sector engagement and integration with public sectors. This has boosted intra-trade cooperation and enhanced the visibility of the D-8 both within member states and globally.

We have achieved significant milestones in several key areas:

Trade: The D-8 Preferential Trade Agreement (D-8 PTA) has been effectively implemented by Türkiye and Indonesia, with Egypt set to join as a Contracting Member. Additionally, the Dispute Settlement Mechanism Protocol was finalized this year and is gaining traction among member states.

Tourism: Our tourism cooperation agenda advanced with the successful 3rd Ministerial Meeting on Tourism in Pakistan and the launch of the D-8 Tourism City of the Year Award, with Antalya, Türkiye, as the inaugural recipient for 2025.

Agriculture: We organized workshops on climate-smart agriculture and inaugurated the D-8 Research Center for Agriculture and Food Security in Faisalabad, Pakistan. Furthermore, an MoU with the Islamic Organization for Food Security was finalized.

Youth: The First D-8 Youth Ministers Meeting was successfully hosted by Bangladesh, with plans underway to launch the D-8 Youth Council. Nigeria is set to host the second meeting in 2025.

External Relations: We have forged impactful collaborations with international organizations like the UN, OIC, and ECO, focusing on e-Government networks, SME development, and capacity-building.

Private-Sector Engagement: Initiatives such as the Super App project with Al-Hidayah Group and the New Generation Barter Trading System are expected to significantly contribute to member economies.

Honourable Chairman, Excellencies, Esteemed Leaders,

To further our economic integration, I propose the following strategic initiatives:

D-8 Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement

(CEPA): This initiative aims to deepen economic integration. I urge the leadership to direct relevant ministries and agencies to collaborate with the Secretariat to bring this vision to fruition. Implementing the D-8 Visa Agreement will be crucial for its success.

D-8 Development Fund: Establishing this fund will catalyze innovative projects proposed by entrepreneurs across member states. I request your support in directing relevant entities to

collaborate with the Secretariat on a comprehensive feasibility study.

Support for SME Development: SMEs are the backbone of our economies, and I call upon our leaders to bolster their capacity through microfinance, e-commerce facilitation, industrial parks, and streamlined regulatory processes. The establishment of the D-8 Centre for SMEs in Nigeria and the D-8 Youth Council in Bangladesh will benefit greatly from your political support.

In conclusion, the D-8 Organization remains a beacon of prosperity and inclusive economic development for the Global South. With collective commitment, we can bring tangible socio-economic progress to our nations. My team and I at the D-8 Secretariat stand ready to facilitate this noble quest.

I am confident that under the leadership of His Excellency **President Abdel Fattah El-Sisi**, the D-8 Organization will continue advancing its goals. I extend my best wishes to my

successor from Pakistan, who will assume office on 1 January 2026.

Finally, I express my heartfelt appreciation to all leaders and participants at this Summit and extend our gratitude to the Republic of Türkiye for their generosity in hosting the Secretariat in Istanbul.

Long live the D-8 Organization, and may our member states prosper together.

Thank you for your attention.



كلمة
السيد أحمد أبو الغيط
الأمين العام لجامعة الدول العربية

في
الجلسة الخاصة بغزة ولبنان
قمة منظمة الدول الثمانية للتعاون الاقتصادي

العاصمة الإدارية الجديدة: 2024/12/19



فخامة الرئيس عبد الفتاح السيسي

رئيس جمهورية مصر العربية

رؤساء دول وحكومات مجموعة الثماني

السيدات والسادة،

تعيش المنطقة العربية لحظة قد تكون هي الأخطر في تاريخها الحديث.. ولا يخفي علينا جميعاً قدر تعقد الأزمات التي تواجهها، وتشابكها وتسارع انفجارها .

لقد أثبتت أحداث العام المنصرم، بكل مصاعبها وآلامها، أن بقاء الأزمات من دون حل.. أو تجميد الصراعات من غير تسوية... هو طريق محفوف بالمخاطر، ولا يوفر سوى أمان خادع، واستقرار هش قابل للانفجار في أي لحظة.

ولا شك أن الصراع الأطول في تاريخ هذه المنطقة هو الصراع الفلسطيني الإسرائيلي... وهو صراعٌ لا يمكن تعريفه سوى بأنه قضية استقلال وطني لشعب يزرع تحت الاحتلال... هكذا نفهم الصراع في العالمين العربي والإسلامي.. بل هكذا تفهمه الأغلبية الكاسحة من دول العالم التي بادرت إلى الاعتراف بالدولة الفلسطينية... وتبنت حل



الدولتين كصيغة وحيدة لتسوية الصراع سلمياً على نحو يضمن الأمن للجميع، والسلام للجميع.

ومن الواضح أن دولة الاحتلال هي الطرف الوحيد الذي لا يُريد الاعتراف بهذه الحقيقة.. إذ تتصور إسرائيل أن العدوان الوحشي على المدنيين سيقود إلى استدامة الاحتلال... وأن القوة تجلب السلام والأمن.. وحقيقة الأمر أن هذا محض وهم... وإلا ما رأينا انفجار الأوضاع على نحو ما صار في العام الماضي... وستظل الأوضاع قابلة للانفجار.. وسيظل الأمن هشاً والسلام مفقوداً طالما لم يُمارس الشعب الفلسطيني حقه في تقرير مصيره في دولة مستقلة، أسوة بكل شعوب الدنيا التي تخلصت من نير الاحتلال.

إن إسرائيل، في سعيها إلى استدامة الاحتلال، تجلب على المنطقة كلها، بل وعلى العالم بأسره، مخاطر بلا حدود... وقد رأينا كيف اتسعت رقعة الصراعات الإقليمية، واندلعت الحرائق في المنطقة عبر الشهور الماضية.. وشهدنا كيف تنتقل الشرارة من مكان إلى مكان... وكيف تجاوزت تداعيات العدوان على غزة جغرافية فلسطين إلى المشرق العربي، وما وراءه .

إن ثمن الاحتفاظ بالاحتلال الإسرائيلي للأرض الفلسطينية مروّع.. وهو ثمن لا تدفعه المنطقة وحدها، وإنما العالم كله...



فضحايا العدوان على غزة ليسوا فقط الفلسطينيين الذين قتل وجرح منهم مئات الآلاف .. وهُجر ملايين، مرة بعد مرة ... وإنما أيضاً القانون الدولي والقانون الإنساني الدولي ومبادئ العدالة.. كانت كلها ضحية لهذا العدوان.. وسيكون لعجز العالم عن التعامل مع استهزاء إسرائيل بكل معاني القانون والإنسانية تبعات خطيرة على النظام العالمي وقواعده في المستقبل، إذ فقدت هذه المعاني قدسيتها ورمزيتها بعد أن انتهكت في غزة على مرأى ومشهد من العالم كله.

ما نطالب به اليوم هو وقف فوري للعدوان على غزة .. والبدء فوراً في مرحلة التعافي من هذه المأساة غير المسبوقة من تدمير لمجتمعٍ بأسره.. ببشره ومقدراته ومؤسساته وإمكانيات بقائه... ونثق في أن الدول لإسلامية، ومنها بالتأكيد الدول المشاركة اليوم في قمة منظمة الثماني، ستكون في طليعة الدول التي تقف إلى جوار الفلسطينيين لاستعادة مجتمعهم.. وأؤكد أن كل دعمٍ للفلسطينيين للصمود على أرضهم والبقاء فيها، وصناعة الأمل بديلاً عن اليأس.. هو نوع من التصدي الفعال للمخطط الإسرائيلي بتصفية القضية والتخلص من الشعب بعد الاستيلاء على الأرض، تحت دعاوى توراتية عنصرية صار لها تمثيل في حكومة الاحتلال وتحدث بكل تبجح عن احتلال الأرض كلها وزرع المستوطنات فيها وضمها لإسرائيل.. وهو ما لن يكون أبداً بإذن الله.



السيدات والسادة،

تحتاج لبنان أيضاً كل الدعم في هذه المرحلة الحرجة من أجل التعافي من آثار عدوان غاشم، وإنهاء حالة الشلل السياسي الذي استمر لما يربو على سنتين... إن استمرار وقف إطلاق النار، وتنفيذه على نحو دقيق وشامل، هو الضمان لاستقرار الأوضاع، ولاستعادة هذا البلد المنهك لعافيته، وعودة النازحين لبيوتهم.. بما يُعطي الشعب اللبناني فرصة جديدة للخروج من دائرة اليأس والإفقار والصراع.

ولا شك أن الشعب اللبناني يستحق هذه الفرصة بعد سنوات المعاناة، وهو أيضاً مسئولٌ عن اغتنامها عبر الإسراع بتعزيز استقرار النظام السياسي بانتخاب رئيس للجمهورية يكون ممثلاً لكل اللبنانيين، ومُعبراً عن تطلعاتهم جميعاً لمستقبل أفضل.

إننا نتطلع في هذه المرحلة الخطيرة من تاريخ المنطقة إلى دعم الأصدقاء.. وإلى مساندة حقيقية من المجتمع الدولي.. لتجاوز الآثار الإنسانية الصعبة لعدوان إسرائيل على غزة ولبنان... ونحتاج أكثر من أي وقت مضى إلى إرادة حقيقية لتنفيذ حل الدولتين، وليس مجرد تبينه كشعار أو إعلانه كمطلب.

شكراً لكم،



Note Verbale No: SU/24/770

Subject: Statements by Leaders/Heads of Delegation and the Cairo Declaration 2024 – 11th D-8 Summit

The Secretariat of the Developing-8 Organization for Economic Cooperation (D-8) in Istanbul presents its compliments to the Ministries of Foreign Affairs of the D-8 Member States and has the honour to share the ***Cairo Declaration 2024*** along with the statements delivered by the Leaders/Heads of Delegation during the 11th D-8 Summit, held on **19th December 2024** in **Cairo, Arab Republic of Egypt**.

The Secretariat of the Developing-8 Organization for Economic Cooperation (D-8) in Istanbul avails itself of this opportunity to renew to the Ministries of Foreign Affairs of the D-8 Member States the assurances of its highest consideration.

Encl: As Stated.



Istanbul, 31 December, 2024

D-8 Commissioner's Office
Ministries of Foreign Affairs of D-8 Member States

Download from the following link:

https://s3.us-east-1.amazonaws.com/downloads2.unmultimedia.org/public/video/evergreen/MSG+SG+/SG+16+Dec+24/323305_MSG+SG+SUMMIT+OF+THE+D-8+ORGANIZATION+16+DEC+24.mp4

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كلمة السيد الرئيس / عبد الفتاح السيسي
رئيس جمهورية مصر العربية
القمة الحادية عشر لمنظمة الدول الثماني النامية للتعاون الاقتصادي
القاهرة/ العاصمة الإدارية الجديدة
19 ديسمبر 2024

بسم الله الرحمن الرحيم

—

أصحاب الفخامة والمعالي رؤساء الدول والحكومات ورؤساء الوفود المشاركة؛

معالي السيد/ إيزيكا عبد القادر إمام، سكرتير عام منظمة الدول الثماني النامية للتعاون الاقتصادي؛

السيدات والسادة؛

السلام عليكم ورحمة الله وبركاته. أرحب بكم جميعاً في مصر، وبالتحديد في العاصمة الإدارية الجديدة بما تحمله من أبعاد ثقافية وحضارية وتنموية. وبالتأكيد فإن لكل دولة من دولنا تاريخ وحضارة وثقافة، وكذا خلفيتها الاقتصادية التي تميزها، وهو الأمر الذي يعلي من قيمة منظماتنا ويعزز من روح التضامن والتكامل والعمل المشترك فيما بيننا. وأغتم هذه المناسبة لأعرب عن بالغ تقديري للدكتور/ محمد يونس، رئيس الحكومة المؤقتة لدولة بنجلاديش الشقيقة، لما بذلته بلاده من جهود متواصلة خلال رئاستها للمنظمة. كما أود أن أشكر سكرتارية المنظمة بقيادة السيد "إيزيكا إمام" على عملها الدؤوب وجهودها في الإعداد لهذه القمة.

الحضور الكريم،

تتعد اليوم القمة الحادية عشر للمنظمة تحت عنوان "الاستثمار في الشباب.. ودعم المشروعات الصغيرة والمتوسطة: نحو تشكيل اقتصاد الغد". وهو عنوان له أكثر من دلالة لتركيزه على الاستثمار في الشباب الذين يمثلون عماد أوطاننا في

الحاضر والمستقبل، فضلاً عن أبعاده الاقتصادية المرتبطة بدعم المشروعات الصغيرة والمتوسطة، وهي قاطرة حقيقية للتنمية في الدول النامية.

السيدات والسادة،

نجتمع اليوم في وقت يشهد فيه العالم، ومنطقة الشرق الأوسط بشكل خاص، تحديات وأزمات غير مسبوقة، تحتل فيها الصراعات والحروب صدارة المشهد، وتسود فيها كذلك الحمائية الاقتصادية والتجارية وازدواجية المعايير. ولعل أبرز الشواهد على ذلك استمرار الحرب الإسرائيلية ضد الشعب الفلسطيني في تحد لقرارات الشرعية الدولية، وما يصاحب ذلك من خطورة وتهديد من امتداد الصراع لدول أخرى، مثلما حدث مع لبنان وصولاً إلى سوريا، التي تشهد تطورات واعتداءات على سيادتها ووحدة أراضيها، مع ما قد يترتب على احتمالات التصعيد واشتعال المنطقة من آثار سوف تطول الجميع سياسياً واقتصادياً. وفي هذا السياق، وانطلاقاً من مسئوليتنا المشتركة للتضامن مع الشعبين الفلسطيني واللبناني الشقيقين، فقد قررنا تخصيص جلسة خاصة خلال قمتنا اليوم عن الأوضاع في فلسطين ولبنان.

أصحاب الفخامة والمعالي،

تواجه الدول النامية تحديات جسيمة تعيق تحقيق تطلعات شعوبها نحو الرخاء والتنمية. فمع نقص التمويل وتفاقم الديون وتوسع الفجوة الرقمية والمعرفية وارتفاع معدلات الفقر والجوع والبطالة، خاصةً في أوساط الشباب، تجد الدول النامية نفسها في صعوبة بالغة في تحقيق التقدم والنمو على نحو مقبول.

إن مواجهة تلك التحديات المركبة تتطلب تضافر الجهود لتعزيز التعاون المشترك وتنفيذ مشروعات ومبادرات مشتركة في مختلف المجالات، وعلى رأسها الاتصالات وتكنولوجيا المعلومات والاقتصاد الرقمي وتطبيقات الذكاء الاصطناعي والزراعة والصناعات التحويلية والطاقة الجديدة والمتجددة، وخاصة الهيدروجين الأخضر، بالإضافة إلى دعم تطوير المشروعات الصغيرة والمتوسطة. وعلى الرغم من تنوع المستويات الاقتصادية بين دولنا إلا إننا نتفق جميعاً على أهمية تبادل الخبرات والتجارب الناجحة لتحقيق أهداف التنمية المستدامة. ومصر على أتم الاستعداد لمشاركة تجاربها المضيئة مع الدول الأعضاء، خاصة تجربتها في تنفيذ مبادرتي "حياة كريمة" و"تكافل وكرامة"، ومشروعات البنية الأساسية والعمران.

وإيماناً منا بأهمية إعطاء دفعة للتعاون المشترك بين دولنا، يسعدني أن أعلن عن إطلاق المبادرات التالية خلال رئاسة مصر للمنظمة:

أولاً: تدشين "شبكة لمديري المعاهد والأكاديميات الدبلوماسية" .. لتعزيز التعاون فيما بينها، وبناء قدرات الكوادر الدبلوماسية لمواكبة قضايا العصر الحديث.

ثانياً: إطلاق مسابقة إلكترونية لطلاب التعليم ما قبل الجامعي في الدول الأعضاء في مجالات العلوم والهندسة والتكنولوجيات التطبيقية.

ثالثاً: تدشين "شبكة للتعاون بين مراكز الفكر الاقتصادي" في الدول الأعضاء لتبادل الأفكار والرؤى حول سبل الارتقاء بالتعاون الاقتصادي والاستثماري ومعدلات التجارة بين دولنا.

رابعاً: تدشين اجتماعات دورية لوزراء الصحة بالدول الأعضاء واستضافة مصر للاجتماع الأول عام 2025 لمناقشة سبل تعظيم الاستفادة من التطبيقات التكنولوجية والعلمية المتطورة لتطوير هذا القطاع المهم.

كما أود أن أعتنم هذه الفرصة لأعلن عن اعتزام مصر التصديق على اتفاقية التجارة التفضيلية التابعة للمنظمة تأكيداً لأهمية تعزيز التجارة البينية بين الدول الأعضاء.

وختاماً أتمنى لكم جميعاً التوفيق في مشاورات ومباحثات مثمرة لتحقيق أهدافنا ومصالحنا المشتركة ولتلبية آمال وتطلعات شعوبنا في مستقبل أفضل بإذن الله تعالى.

أشركم جميعاً والسلام عليكم ورحمة الله وبركاته.
