

THE 7TH D-8 SUMMIT SCHEDULED TO HOLD FROM 4TH – 10TH JULY, 2010

MEDIA BRIEFING NOTE

Nigeria will be hosting the 7th D-8 Summit from 4-10 July, 2010 with the theme, “Enhancing Investment Cooperation among D-8 Members”. Member States of Developing Eight countries comprises: Bangladesh, Egypt, Indonesia, Iran, Malaysia, Nigeria, Pakistan and Turkey. D-8 which has a population of 930 million people has its Secretariat located in Istanbul, Turkey. The Secretariat is headed by a Secretary General.

2. Basically, D-8 has the objective of enhancing economic cooperation through sharing of expertise in the fields of Energy, Transport, Tourism, Banking, Financial Institution, Infrastructural Development, Human Resources Development, Science and Technology, Migrant Workers and remittances, Small and Medium Scale Enterprises as well as Information and Communication Technology. All these corporations are with the view to improving the well being of its peoples in a global economy. Also, it is aimed at boosting the participation of member States in the process of decision making at the international level.

3. To achieve these objectives, Member States of D-8 apportioned to themselves specific item of cooperation to coordinate. Consequently, Nigeria coordinates matters on Energy, Science and Technology Sectors. A Commissioner in each of the D-8 member State handles the responsibilities for this coordination.

4. D-8 has three principal Organs namely: the **Summit**, the **Council** and the **Commission**.

- I. The **Summit** is the supreme Organ of the D-8 and is comprised of Heads of State/Government of member States. Summit is convened every two years on alphabetical rotational basis. Nigeria will assume the Chairmanship of the Organization for a two year period (2010-2012).

- II. The **Council of Ministers**: the Council is composed of Foreign Ministers of member countries. The Council is the policy formulation Organ of the Organization. It meets at least once in a year to report its work to the Summit. The Nigerian Foreign Minister will assume the Chairmanship of the Council during the Summit.
- III. The **Commission** is the Executive Organ of D-8. It comprises technocrats appointed from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of D-8 States to implement the resolutions and roles assigned to each Member State. Nigeria's D-8 Commissioner is the Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

D-8 Road-Map For Economic Cooperation In The Second Decade Of Cooperation 2008-2018

5. The Roadmap is the guideline for providing guidance and formular for the implementation of D-8 Programmes and projects. D-8 member States in the next decade will achieve the following:
 - I. Intra-trade among D-8 member States, will raise to at least 15-20 % of global trade by 2018;
 - II. Trade facilitation, Customs cooperation, capacity building, policy programmes and the drafting of the private sector in its activities, and to
 - I. Enhance performance of working group on all sectors mentioned in paragraph 2.

D-8 Priority Areas

6. During the 12th Session of D-8 Council of Ministers of Foreign Affairs held in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia in 2009, D-8 activities has been rationalized to focus on five (5) priority areas viz: Trade, Agriculture and Food Security, Industrial Cooperation and Small and Medium Scale Enterprises, Transportation, Energy and Minerals.

ACTIVITIES LINED UP FOR THE 7TH SUMMIT

7. The activities lined up for the 7th Summit include: hosting of meetings of D-8 Commissioners, Council of Foreign Ministers and the Summit and Retreat of D-8 Heads of State. There will be parallel events namely: D-8 Central Bank Governors' Meeting, Exhibition and Business Forum and a programme for D-8 Heads of State Spouses.

Participants for the Summit

9. The Summit will draw participation from D-8 Heads of State and Government, D-8 Foreign Ministers, D-8 Technocrats, D-8 Private Sector, members of the Press and stakeholders on D-8.

Expected Outcome of the 7th D-8 Summit for Nigeria

10. The Summit will definitely further elevate the current tempo of Nigeria's interactions with other D-8 Member countries, which in no doubt will serve the interest of Nigerians in her quest for accelerated economic growth and in the achievement of her economic reform agenda, especially in its drive towards the attainment of the Seven (7) Point Agenda and Vision 20-2020. Specific expectations are that:

- II. Nigeria would ratify the following agreements: a). Preferential Trade Agreement (PTA); b). Multilateral Agreement on Administrative Assistance on Custom Matters; c). Agreement on the Simplification of Visa Procedures for Businessmen of the D-8 Member States; and d). the MOU for the establishment of D-8 Member States' Working for Cooperation in Civil Aviation.
- III. Nigeria would steer up one of the dormant sectors of D-8 Programme so as to enhance intra-trade level among D-8 member countries;
- IV. The Summit would be a platform to firm up Nigeria's cooperation with D-8 member countries at multilateral and at bilateral levels.

Benefit for Nigeria

11. It is expected that Nigeria would benefit through D-8 Member States' collaborative assistance in Nigeria's Energy Sector, particularly in Power

generation and distribution, renewable energy, oil and gas, fertilizer manufacturing, capacity building especially in Research and Development as well as to generally assist in expanding economic and trade activities.

12. Member countries of D-8 are looking onto Nigeria to raise the profile and activities of D-8 member States to enable the Organization compete effectively in global socio-political and economic spheres.

Abuja Declaration

13. At the end of the Summit, Abuja Declaration would be released. This declaration, hopefully, would address issues that could help cushion the effects and challenges facing D-8 member States on: global economic recession, World Energy question, Climate change and global warming as they affect Agriculture and food security, transportation, and matters on world trade.

Public Communications Division

Ministry of Foreign Affairs

Abuja