

CO-OPERATION FOR DEVELOPMENT

SECOND

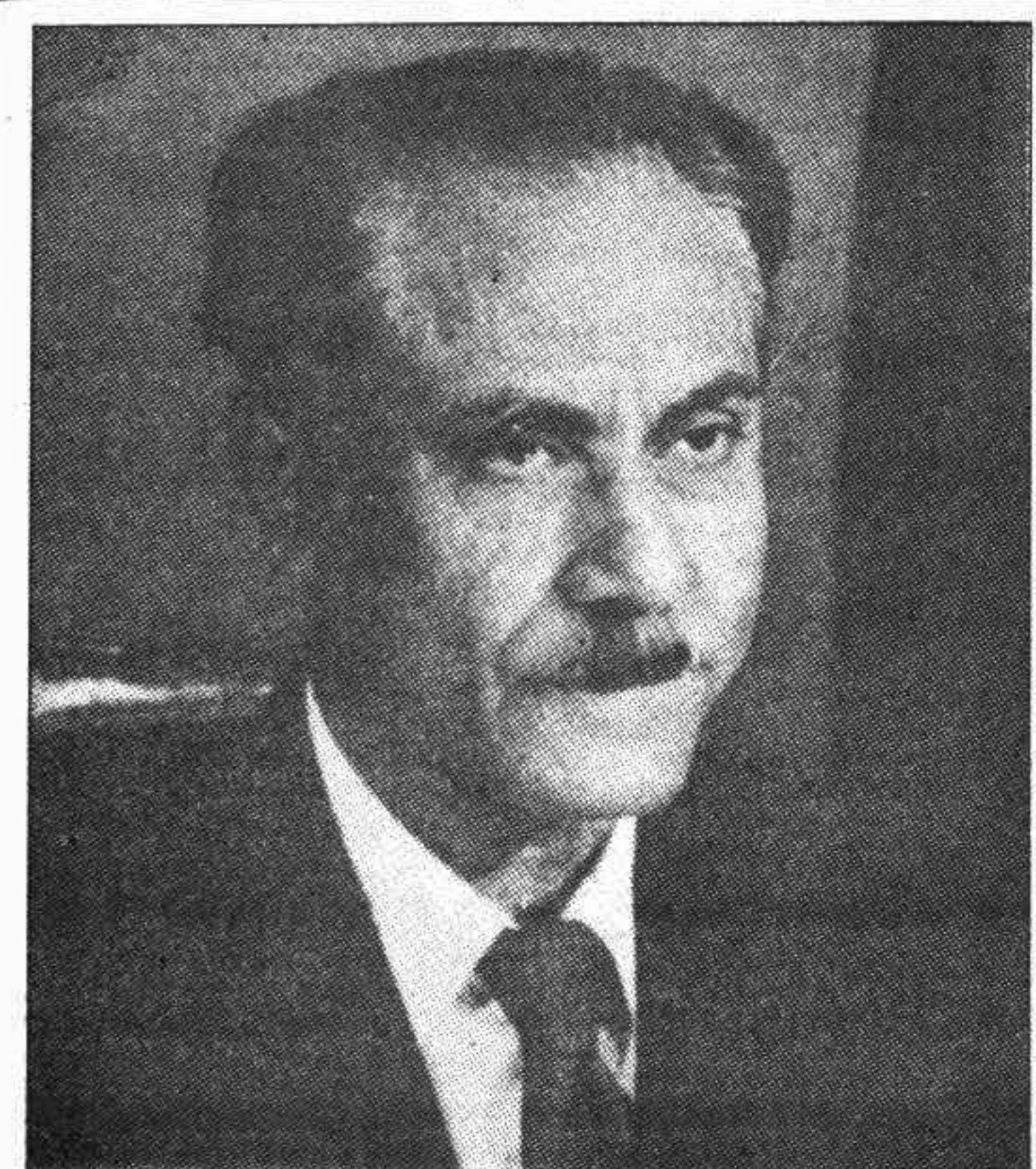
D-8 SUMMIT

1-2 MARCH 1999 DHAKA, BANGLADESH

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Message

I am pleased to learn that the Second D-8 Summit is being held in Dhaka, Bangladesh with representatives of eight developing member countries. I am confident that 2nd D-8 Summit will focus on the economic subjects identified for cooperation among the member countries and draw up priorities and give direction for future activities which I hope will usher in economic prosperity in the member countries. I wish the Second D-8 Summit every possible success and God speed.

Justice Shahabuddin Ahmed
President
People's Republic of Bangladesh

Backgrounder to the Second D-8 Summit

DEVELOPING-8, popularly known as D-8, was formally launched on 15th June, 1997 through the adoption of the Istanbul Declaration at the First Summit of Heads of State and Government of eight developing countries: Bangladesh, Egypt, Indonesia, Iran, Malaysia, Nigeria, Pakistan and Turkey.

Genesis and Evolution of D-8

As a prelude to the holding of the First D-8 Summit on 22nd October, 1996 under the auspices of the Government of Turkey, a Ministerial level Conference on Co-operation and Development of the eight Developing countries was held. This was followed by a Senior Officials Meeting on 9th November, 1996 in Ankara, Turkey. These meetings may be called the forerunner to the ultimate formation of the D-8 group. They recommended the formation of a co-operative mechanism called the Developing-8 (or, D-8). At this meeting, nineteen areas for possible co-operation were identified. Among them were: (a) Co-operation among Private Sectors through establishment of a Joint Business Council, (b) Consultation and collaboration at international forum, (c) Finance and Banking, (d) promotion of investment, (e) Scientific research and development, (f) Technological and Industrial Co-operation, etc.

Objectives and Priorities of the D-8 Group
In the Istanbul Declaration

It has been stated that the main objective of the D-8 would be socio-economic development in accordance with the following guiding principles:

- Peace instead of conflict
- Dialogue instead of confrontation
- Co-operation instead of confrontation
- Justice instead of double standards
- Equality instead of discrimination
- Democracy instead of oppression

Thirteen sectors were identified for co-operation and project development. They are: Trade, Industry, Telecommunications and Information, Finance, Banking and Privatization, Rural Development, Science and Technology, Poverty Alleviation and Human Re-

tire decision-making organ of D-8 and acts as a forum for thorough and comprehensive consideration of issues. This council meets prior to the Summit.

The Commission: The Commission is the executive organ of D-8 and is composed of senior officials appointed by their respective governments. Each country appoints a commissioner who is responsible for national co-ordination in his/her respective country. So far, six sessions of the Commission have been held.

An Executive Director assists in the coordination of D-8 activities. Turkey has been providing a temporary secretariat for the D-8, located at Istanbul, and the services of an Executive Director.

All decisions in the D-8 pro-

positional arrangements and plans of action were discussed. At Dhaka these plans would be reviewed for follow up.

Telecommunication, Information, Science and Technology: Following the holding of a workshop in Iran, a decision was taken to set up an Industrial and Technological Data Bank Network. Under this project the member States create networking arrangements between universities and scientific institutions and a national network center for eventual networking among the D-8 countries. They have plans to draw upon the experience of the OIC net and other regional and specialized networks to maximize efficiency, and benefit.

Trade: Trade is the most promising area of cooperation among the D-8 countries. As the coordinating country, Egypt is expected to hold an expert group meeting in April. Representatives of both the public and private sectors will be associated, with a view to ascertaining the most promising areas of cooperation. Egypt has also proposed the establishment of an international marketing and trading company to facilitate trade among the member countries. Among other proposals being considered are the establishment of Business Service centers (suggested by Turkey), a Joint Shipping Company (proposed by Iran) and a Trade Data Base for the D-8 Group (recommended Egypt).

Rural Development: As the co-ordinating country, Bangladesh held a Working Group Meeting on Rural Development on 20-22 October, 1997. Some projects were discussed at that Meeting, and recommendations made. Based on the interests of the participating countries, a project on promoting rural industrialization (small scale) is now being considered for implementation. Egypt and Bangladesh would cooperate to implement this project, and the member countries would participate.

Health: A working group meeting was convened by the Turkish authorities in June, 1997. Based on the recommendations of the meeting, a project was taken up on D-8 cooperation on AIDS Prevention and Control. A sub-working group meeting on AIDS was held in Ankara in October, 1998. Further follow-up action would be

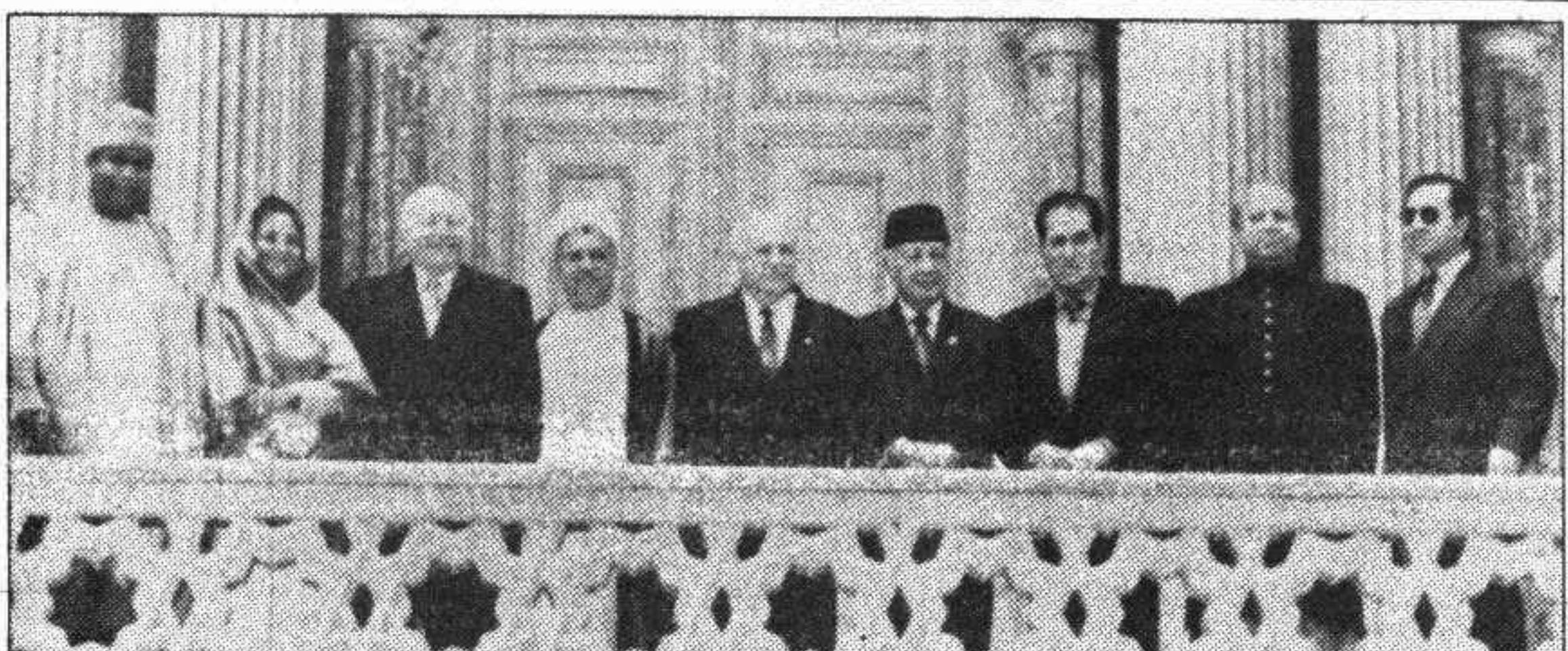


Message

I am very happy to know that the Second D-8 Summit of the global economic group of eight developing member countries is being held in the historic city of Dhaka. Bangladesh welcomes this auspicious gathering of important leaders of the developing world, who are deeply committed to the economic development of their countries through useful and effective global cooperation. Bangladesh fully shares this commitment as we are keen and determined to improve the socio-economic well-being of our people and realise the dream of Sonar Bangla of the Father of the Nation Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman. I sincerely hope that the Second D-8 Summit will succeed in providing a definite course of action for the new organisation. I wish the summit every success.

Joi Bangla, Joi Bangabandhu
May Bangladesh Live Forever

Sheikh Hasina
Prime Minister
Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh



Heads of State/Government of D-8 countries seen together after having met in Istanbul on 15 June 1997

Message

It gives me much pleasure to be able to say a few words on the eve of the Second Summit of the D-8 group to be held in Dhaka on 1st and 2nd March, 1999.

The Second Summit of D-8 countries is taking place at a time when the world economy is passing through a transition phase. With the demise of colonialism and super power rivalry, confrontation has given way to co-operation, the hitherto prevailing isolationist concept has now faded into oblivion. The progressively increasing level of inter-dependence has necessitated co-operation for achieving socio-economic development. We now live in a competitive environment and have to act globally and think locally in order to survive.

Bangladesh is constitutionally committed to pursuing a policy of peace, friendship, non-alignment and understanding among nations. We would like to develop relations of mutual understanding and fruitful co-operation with whom we have commonality of interests. Imbued by these guiding principles in the sphere of our external relations we have become member of the D-8 group. It is our belief that given the right directions this organisation will prosper in the future and thus foster enduring relations among its members. Therefore, our support to all D-8 activities as envisaged under the framework of co-operation is unequivocal. As we step into the next century, I hope that this Dhaka meet through its deliberations would go down in the annals of history as a decisive turning point in the D-8 movement.

I wish the Second D-8 Summit all success.

Joy Bangla, Joy Bangabandhu
May Bangladesh Live Forever.

Abdus Samad Azad
Minister for Foreign Affairs
Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh

source Development, Agriculture, Energy, Environment, Health, Tourism, and Culture and Sports.

For focus-oriented work and greater concentration of effort and resources, each member took up at least one area for co-ordination of activities in that sphere. The countries that acted as lead countries are as follows: Bangladesh — Rural Development and Micro Credit.

Egypt — Trade and Industry. Indonesia — Poverty Alleviation and Human Resources Development.

Iran — Science and Technology. Malaysia — Finance Banking and Privatisation.

Nigeria — Energy. Pakistan — Agriculture. Turkey — Industry, Health.

At the very initial stage some projects under some selected areas/fields were identified, as indicated below:

Finance, Banking and Privatization — Takaful (Islamic Insurance in Private Sector)

Telecommunication and Information — Industrial and Technological Data Bank Network among member countries.

Industry — Design, Development, Production and Marketing of Agricultural Aircraft.

Trade — International Marketing at Trading Company.

Functioning of the D-8
The D-8 operates at three levels:

The Summit: This is the supreme organ of the D-8 and is composed of the Heads of State and Government of member States. The Summit is held on an annual basis. It is customary to adopt a declaration at the end of the Summit.

The Council: The Council comprises the Ministers in charge of Foreign Affairs of member States. It is the second-

cess are arrived at through consensus.

The Dhaka Summit

The first Summit of the D-8 established the organization. The Dhaka Summit is going to be more thematic and focus-oriented in its approach. It is expected to review the progress in the activities of the D-8 since the first Summit and give directions on future cooperation.

Some of the major activities since the first Summit are described below:

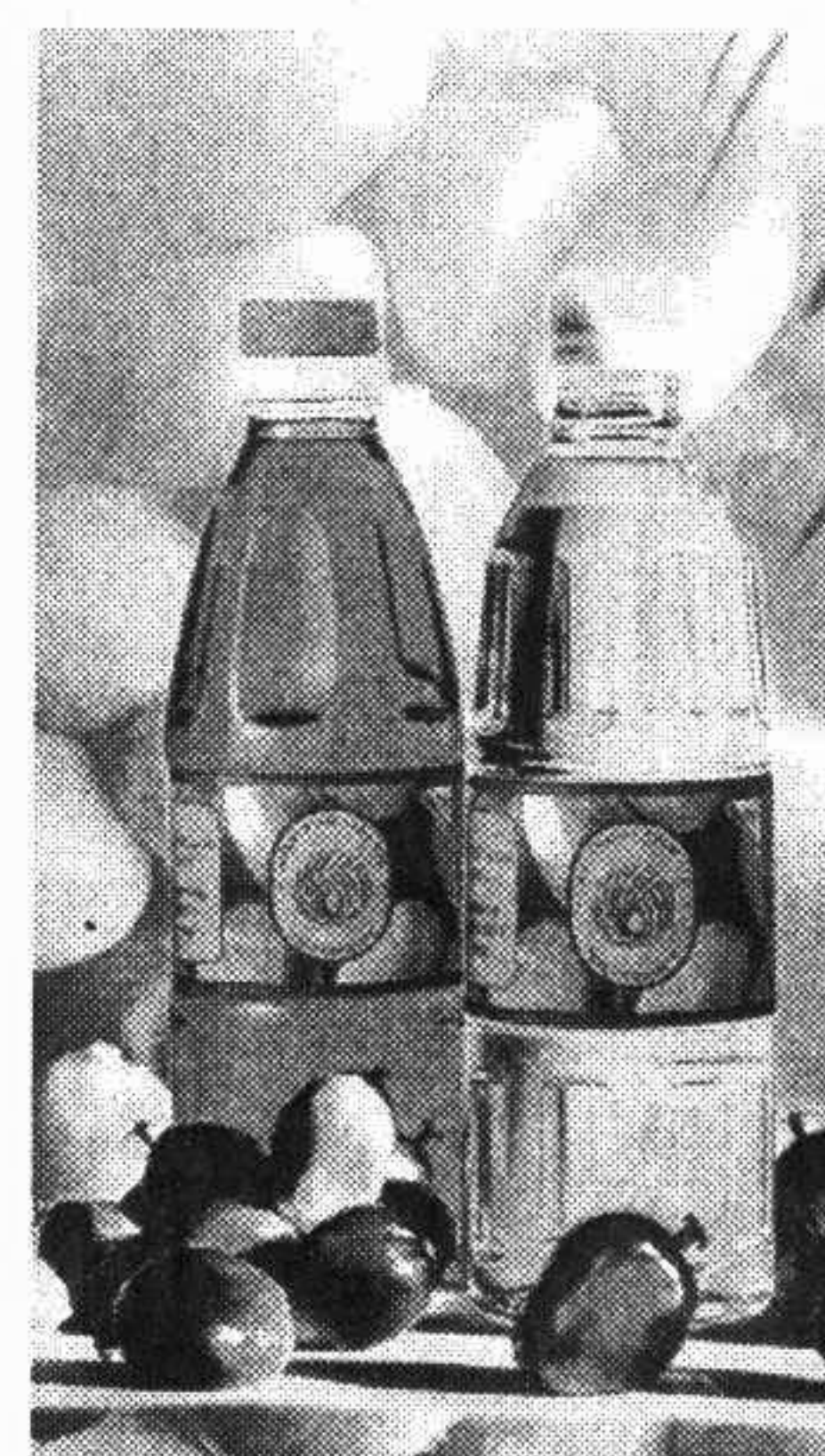
Aquaculture: In each country, a national aquaculture monitoring center would be designated to act as focal points for exchange and dissemination of knowledge and information.

Pakistan, the coordinating country, is in the process of preparing a directory containing the list of scientists, experts, institutions and private firms in this field. This directory will be invaluable to both the public and private sectors for enhancing cooperation among the member states. A workshop on co-operation in this field was held in Islamabad, and further activities are planned during the course of this year.

Agricultural Aircraft: In this area the coordinating country is Turkey. The design of the aircraft is now being finalized, taking into account the needs of the member states. It is envisaged that member states may participate in the manufacture of the components of this aircraft. The production and sale of this aircraft will be based on sound financial considerations.

Poverty Alleviation: The Government of Indonesia, as coordinating country, on 16-19th June, 1998 held the workshop on Poverty Alleviation. At this workshop, recommendations on poverty alleviation policies, strategies, organiza-

Heartiest Welcome to the Heads of States and other Participants of the 2nd D-8 Summit



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