

## **IR Leader highlights D8 as model for Muslims - 2 /Mar/ 2010**

Islamic Revolution Leader Ayatollah Sayyed Ali Khamenei on Tuesday highlighted the huge cultural and Islamic commonalities of D8 member states and said cooperation between the 8 Muslim countries can be a model for the world of Islam.

Ayatollah Khamenei was addressing the participants of the first D8 Industrial Ministers Summit in Tehran.

The IR Leader in his remarks highlighted the cultural and Islamic commonalities of D8 member states including their important geo-politic position in Asia and Africa, and their one billion population and energy resources.

The IR Leader said cooperation between the member countries can be a model for all Muslim countries and the continuation of industrial cooperation would certainly have positive effects on the Islamic world, including the 8 countries.

Referring to Iran's support for cooperation between Islamic countries since the beginning of D8 establishment, Ayatollah Khamenei said Islamic Republic of Iran is ready to present its scientific and industrial achievements to Muslim countries.

Pointing to the application of science and industry by hegemonic countries in gaining dominance over other countries, the IR Leader said the Muslim world should promote Islamic countries to their deserving position by employing their great human and natural resources, outstanding talents and cooperation with each other.

Ayatollah Khamenei underlined the necessity of implementing agreements reached in Tehran Summit and urged D8 Group members to increase their cooperation and make impressive strides in industrial progress.

In the beginning of the meeting, IRI Minister of Industries and Mines Ali Akbar Mehrabian reported on the D8 Summit in Tehran and said the first D8 Industrial Ministers Summit was held in Tehran on the initiative of Iran.

D 8 is a group of 8 developing countries with large Muslim population that have formed an economic development alliance. It consists of Bangladesh, Indonesia, Malaysia, Iran, Pakistan, Egypt, Nigeria, and Turkey.