

# Touhid for result-oriented BIMSTEC FTA

Foreign Affairs Adviser Md Touhid Hossain today stressed on the tangible, and result-oriented cooperation among BIMSTEC member states specially through effective implementation of the BIMSTEC Free Trade Area (FTA) enhancing intra-regional trade.

He made the remark while leading the Bangladesh delegation in the 20th BIMSTEC Ministerial Meeting held today in Bangkok, Thailand, said a foreign ministry's press release here.

Foreign ministers of all BIMSTEC seven member countries participated at the ministerial meeting one day ahead of the Sixth BIMSTEC summit.

Earlier in the morning, the Foreign Ministers signed the Agreement on BIMSTEC Maritime Transport Cooperation marking a significant step towards enhancing regional connectivity.

Bangladesh Foreign Affairs Adviser, in his statement, highlighted Bangladesh's commitment to ensuring collective peace, progress and prosperity through a shared BIMSTEC vision.

He raised the issue of 1.2 million Rohingyas sheltered in Bangladesh and stressed on creating a conducive atmosphere in Myanmar for the return of the Forcibly Displaced Myanmar Nationals (FDMN) to their land with

rights and  
security.

At the meeting, BIMSTEC Foreign Ministers also finalized the draft  
Provisional Agenda for the Sixth BIMSTEC Summit and the draft  
of the Summit  
Declaration, which will be considered at the upcoming summit  
scheduled to be  
held tomorrow.

The BIMSTEC Foreign Ministers agreed to hold the 21st BIMSTEC  
Ministerial  
Meeting in Dhaka.

The meeting concluded with the adoption of the report of 20th  
BIMSTEC  
Ministerial Meeting.

Chief Advisor Professor Muhammad Yunus is scheduled to attend  
the Sixth  
BIMSTEC Summit of Heads of State/Governments in Bangkok on  
Friday.