

# E-9 ministerial conference begins tomorrow

## Staff correspondent

THE ministerial level Dhaka conference of E-9, a forum of nine high-population countries, to review the measures taken by each of the member countries to align national education development policies with the aspirations and commitments of the Sustainable Development Goal 4 is scheduled to begin on Sunday.

The E-9 forum representing Bangladesh, Brazil, China, Egypt, India, Indonesia, Mexico, Nigeria and Pakistan was formed in 1993 to achieve the goals of UNESCO's Education for All initiative.

Prime minister Sheikh Hasina is expected to inaugurate the three-day conference on Sunday morning at the Radisson Blu Dhaka Water Garden hotel, said education minister

Nurul Islam Nahid at a press conference on Friday in the capital.

Pakistan will hand the E-9 chairmanship over to Bangladesh at the opening ceremony which will be addressed by UNESCO director-general Irina Bokova.

The conference will adopt a Dhaka declaration on the concluding day.

SDG 4 aims to ensure that all girls and boys complete free, equitable and quality primary and secondary education by 2030. It also aims to provide equal access for all women and men to affordable and quality technical, vocational and tertiary education, including university.

E-9 countries represent over half of the world's population and 70 per cent of the world's illiterate adults.