

THE SIXTH ASEM FOREIGN MINISTERS' MEETING

KILDARE, IRELAND, 17-18 APRIL 2004

CHAIRMAN'S STATEMENT

The Sixth ASEM Foreign Ministers' Meeting (ASEM FMM 6) was held in Kildare, Ireland from 17-18 April 2004. It was attended by Ministers from ten Asian and fifteen European states and the Commissioner for External Relations of the European Commission. The meeting was chaired by the Minister of Foreign Affairs of Ireland, Mr Brian Cowen TD.

The Ministers held comprehensive and fruitful discussions on a wide range of issues of common interest, guided by the principles of the ASEM Summits, as outlined in the Asia-Europe Cooperation Framework of 2000 (AECF 2000).

Under the overarching theme "how can we sustain an international order based on effective multilateralism?" the Ministers exchanged views on the following issues: Terrorism, Conflict Prevention, the Central Role of the United Nations, Korean Peninsula, Afghanistan, Iraq, the Middle East Peace Process and Non-Proliferation of Weapons of Mass Destruction. They also discussed the effects of globalisation in its different forms, the negotiations taking place in the framework of the World Trade Organization, the need to ensure sustainable global development, the Dialogue between Cultures and Civilisations, and international public health, and in particular agreed as follows:

Multilateralism

Ministers discussed how to maintain an international order based on enhanced multilateralism. Ministers agreed on the need for a strong United Nations system, in order to deal effectively with threats and challenges. Ministers agreed on a separate ASEM Declaration on Multilateralism (see annex).

Non-proliferation of Weapons of Mass Destruction

Ministers recalled the ASEM Political Declaration on Prevention of Weapons of Mass Destruction and Their Means of Delivery agreed at the last ASEM FMM 5 in Bali. Ministers reaffirmed that proliferation of WMD is a major international threat, which requires an appropriate and resolute response by the international community. Ministers agreed that multilateral instruments, export controls and international co-operation should be promoted. Ministers agreed that export control should not hamper cooperation and assistance in material, equipment and technologies for peaceful purposes. They expressed their support for an enhanced role of the United Nations in this field, and underlined the need to implement concrete measures aimed at preventing proliferation of WMD.

Terrorism

Ministers stressed that terrorism in all its forms remains a serious threat to global stability. They unanimously condemned the recent bombings and loss of life in Madrid, as well as recent terrorist attacks elsewhere. They discussed and took note of the European Union's recently adopted measures aimed at reinforcing its overall strategy to combat terrorism and increasing anti-terrorism cooperation. They welcomed the reaffirmation by the EU of its intention to ensure effective and practical cooperation with third countries in combating terrorism.

Ministers noted that terrorism will only be defeated by solidarity and collective action, and pledged to do everything within their means and capacity to combat terrorism in all its forms including in addressing urgently the root causes of terrorism. Ministers stressed the key role of the United Nations and agreed to work to ensure universal adherence to, and full implementation of, all UN Security Council Resolutions, UN Conventions on Terrorism and related protocols. Ministers acknowledged that all actions in combating terrorism must be undertaken in accordance with the provisions of the Charter of the United Nations and the obligations set out under United Nations Security Council Resolution 1373 (2001).

Ministers agreed on the need to pursue and intensify regional cooperation, in particular in the following key areas:

- Reducing the access of terrorists to financial and other economic resources;
- Protecting the security of international transport and ensure effective systems of border control;
- Addressing the factors which contribute to support for, and recruitment into, terrorism;
- Strengthening capacity building of law enforcement agencies.

Ministers welcomed and endorsed the results of the ASEM seminar on anti-terrorism held at Beijing in September 2003. Ministers look forward to the next such seminar to be held in Germany in October 2004.

Ministers agreed that strong action must continue to be taken on the sources of financing of terrorist organisations, while respecting the rule of law, and called for a continued dialogue within ASEM on this crucial issue in order to step up the fight against the financing of terrorism. Ministers welcomed the outcome of the ASEM seminar on the fight against money laundering held in Germany, from 30-31 October 2003. Ministers reaffirmed their support to the ASEM anti-money laundering project.

Ministers commended recent regional initiatives, in particular in the framework of the ASEAN Regional Forum (ARF) and ASEAN plus 3, as well as the outcome of the Regional Ministerial Meeting on Counter-Terrorism held in Bali in February 2004.

Ministers stressed the need for all counter-terrorist measures to be conducted in a framework based on the principles of the UN Charter and international law, including

respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms. Ministers welcomed all the cooperation among ASEM members in the field of counter-terrorism.

Korean Peninsula

Ministers welcomed the positive outcome of the second round of the Six-Party Talks, and supported the efforts of the Parties to hold the third round of the Six-Party Talks by the end of June, as well as setting up a working group in preparation for the plenary meeting, expressing their hope that the next round of talks would yield further substantive progress.

Ministers reaffirmed their support for the commitment made by the parties concerned to a nuclear-weapon-free Korean Peninsula, and to resolving the nuclear issue peacefully through dialogue, in a spirit of mutual respect and consultation on an equal basis, so as to maintain peace and stability on the Korean Peninsula and the region at large. They encouraged the parties to continue to take coordinated steps to address the nuclear issue and address all the related concerns. ASEM ministers reconfirmed their willingness to contribute to this process in an appropriate manner.

Ministers noted with satisfaction the progress in dialogue and cooperation between the ROK and the DPRK, and confirmed their support for further dialogue and cooperation between the ROK and the DPRK.

Iraq

ASEM Foreign Ministers expressed their support for the earliest possible return of sovereignty to the Iraqi people. They discussed the deteriorating security situation in Iraq and deplored the upsurge of violence. They noted that such violence was hindering the orderly transfer of sovereignty to inclusive Iraqi institutions. Ministers expressed their deep concern at the human suffering that is taking place, including through the loss of civilian life and the taking of hostages. Ministers called on those responsible to release all remaining hostages immediately, and without harm, and to desist from any further such activity. They called on all sides to make every effort to avoid civilian casualties and damage to property, particularly religious and cultural sites. They stressed the need for the full respect of international human rights and humanitarian law in Iraq.

Ministers underlined the importance of the political process for the restoration of the sovereignty in Iraq, involving all parties in an inclusive way. In this context, Ministers welcomed the visits of UNSG Special Envoy, Lakhdar Brahimi, to Iraq and strongly endorsed a more direct and central UN role in the political transition process, in particular in the handover of power to an Interim Government on June 30 and the holding of elections to a National Assembly before the end of January 2005.

Ministers also emphasised the importance of international co-operation to support the reconstruction and rehabilitation of Iraq.

Middle East Peace Process

Ministers considered developments in the Middle East Peace Process. They stressed their commitment to a negotiated two-State solution agreed between the parties which would result in a viable, contiguous, sovereign and independent Palestinian State existing side by side in peace with an Israel living within recognised and secure borders. They agreed that the Quartet Roadmap represents the only route to achieving such an outcome.

Ministers emphasised that final status issues including borders and the problem of refugees must be resolved through negotiations between the parties in accordance with Security Council Resolutions 242 and 338 and must not be prejudged.

Ministers called on both sides to resume negotiations on the peace process without further delay.

Ministers expressed concern at the ongoing cycle of retaliatory violence. They condemned yesterday's assassination of Hamas leader Abdel-Aziz al-Rantissi by Israeli forces and the suicide bombing earlier in the day. They called for an immediate end to such violence and reminded the Israeli government that extra judicial killings are contrary to international law. Ministers invited both parties to refrain from any further violent action.

Ministers pointed to the urgent and on-going need to address the humanitarian situation in the occupied Palestinian territories, and stressed the continuing readiness of ASEM partners to contribute in this regard.

WTO – Doha Development Agenda

Ministers noted with satisfaction that progress is being achieved in the Doha negotiations now ongoing in Geneva. They stressed the need for WTO members to approach the negotiations in a positive spirit with a view to achieving a fair and balanced outcome.

Sustainable Development

Ministers agreed that achieving sustainable development for the benefit of the global community as a whole is an area where there is considerable scope for dialogue and cooperation between the EU and Asia. The role of members of ASEM as major donors of development assistance, coupled with their experience in harnessing the benefits of regional integration in order to promote trade and economic cooperation, should be used to support the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals, in particular for the benefit of the poorest and least developed countries.

Dialogue of Cultures and Civilisations

Ministers agreed that the Dialogue on Cultures and Civilisations is an essential part of international peace and stability. Ministers welcomed the Beijing Conference on Cultures and Civilisations held in December 2003, and reaffirmed the guidelines adopted at the conference. Ministers also welcomed the offer by France to host the next ASEM Conference on Cultures and Civilisations in 2005 and a preparatory meeting to be organised by Malaysia in 2004. Ministers welcomed the progress at UNESCO in preparing the first draft of the International Convention on Cultural Diversity.

Ministers noted the successful initiatives undertaken by ASEM members in pursuit of the Dialogue, and agreed also that more action is needed to foster greater inter-cultural understanding. Inter-cultural dialogue, including that organised within the framework of the Asia-Europe Foundation (ASEF), could contribute to a climate of dialogue and increased mutual understanding. Initiatives should be considered, targeting, for example, selected academic multipliers, think-tanks, and religious leaders who are deemed to be able to influence public opinion in ASEM countries. Ministers also agreed to encourage all partners to contribute to a climate of inter-faith interaction.

Ministers agreed in particular on the need to reinforce Asia-Europe higher education cooperation and exchanges and welcomed the results and follow-up actions of the ASEM Symposium on Educational Exchange held in Tsukuba, Japan in November, 2003. Ministers expressed their satisfaction with the achievements of the ASEM DUO Fellowship Programme and called upon more ASEM partners to contribute to this Programme.

Asia-Europe Foundation (ASEF)

Ministers took note of the ongoing consultant study (funded by the European Commission) being provided to the Board of Governors of ASEF and to ASEM Senior Officials to suggest more options and scenarios for ASEF's future strategy and long term financial sustainability. In the light of all the available data, including this study, Ministers requested the Board of Governors of ASEF to submit proposals on the future of ASEF to ASEM Senior Officials for consideration and approval prior to submission to the Hanoi Summit.

International Public Health

Ministers reaffirmed their resolve to continue their efforts to combat infectious diseases like HIV/Aids, SARS and avian influenza. Ministers recognized the importance of closer cooperation among governments, communities and businesses in order to effectively contain the outbreak of diseases and future similar threats.

Ministers acknowledged the threat posed by international epidemics to public health, economics and national security. Ministers welcomed cooperation aimed at controlling international epidemics, especially ASEM Seminar on the Management of Public Health Emergencies, and tasked ASEM SOM and coordinators to define

concrete initiatives in this regard, including an expert meeting on controlling international epidemics. In particular, Ministers reaffirmed their commitment to the implementation of the Declaration of Commitment issue at the United Nations General Assembly Special Session on HIV/Aids.

Migration

Ministers acknowledged the need to strengthen cooperation on issues concerning migration, to deal with the threats posed to human life and human dignity through trafficking in persons and other forms of illegal migration, the need to examine the root causes of such migration and to ensure the successful integration of legal migrants into their host societies.

Enlargement of ASEM

Ministers had an in-depth discussion on the issue of ASEM enlargement and concluded that progress was achieved. They tasked the SOM to monitor developments and report back in due course.

Myanmar

Ministers welcomed the Government of Myanmar's decision to hold the National Convention on 17 May as a positive development for the national reconciliation process. They pledged continued support for efforts to assist in the process of democratisation and national reconciliation by the UNSG' Special Envoy, Mr Razali Ismail. Ministers took note of the report on 26 March 2004 of Mr Paulo Sergio Pinheiro, the UN Special Rapporteur on the human rights situation in Myanmar, to the UN Commission on Human Rights, and welcomed his confirmation that the authorities have now agreed in principle to his next visit.

Ministers noted the participation of the Government of Myanmar in the Bangkok Process. Ministers looked forward to the early lifting of remaining restrictions placed on Daw Aung San Suu Kyi and the National League for Democracy. Ministers noted that the members of ASEM stand ready to assist the government, in its efforts to bring about national reconciliation, including through humanitarian assistance, and also to do their part to respond to specific advances made under the Roadmap to democracy and national reconciliation.

Future of ASEM

Ministers reaffirmed their commitment to the ASEM Process as a unique vehicle for dialogue and cooperation between Europe and Asia. Partners agreed that the high level of participants is a key characteristic of the dialogue and cooperation taking place within ASEM. In this respect, agendas focused on a few key international and global issues of mutual interests are essential in order to ensure a better coordination among partners.

Ministers took note of the deliberations of the informal brainstorming SOM that took place in Rome from 13-14 November 2003 and the conclusions of the SOM of 16 April and reached an agreement on the SOM's proposals for reform of the management of ASEM. The aim of the reform is to ensure that the process remains focused and is supported by improved information flows. Ministers endorsed the SOM's proposals as regards: ASEM Working Methods, the Concept Paper on the ASEM Info board, and the Guidelines for the Use of the ASEM Logo (attached annexes). Ministers tasked Senior Officials to start practical implementation of these proposals.

Task Force for Closer Economic Partnership between Asia and Europe

Ministers took note with interest of the ongoing work of the Task Force for Closer Economic Partnership between Asia and Europe. Ministers looked forward to receiving the Task Force's proposals, including on how Europe could cooperate on the deepening and reinforcing of the Asian bond markets. Ministers requested the task force to provide briefings on the status of their work for consideration by the ASEM Finance Ministers' Meeting (Brussels, 6 July 2004) and the ASEM Economic Ministers' Meeting (Rotterdam, 16-17 September), so that ASEM partners might study possible measures and proposals, as appropriate, to follow up on the final report to be presented to the ASEM 5 Summit.

Recommendations of ASEM Senior Officials' Meeting, 16-17 April 2004

The Ministers endorsed the following recommendations submitted by the Senior Officials Meeting in Kildare on 16 April 2004:

- ASEM Symposium on an Iron-Silk Road, Seoul, South Korea, 17-18 June 2004; and,
- ASEM Workshop on Urban Forestry, Suzhou, China, October 2004.

As regards the new initiatives still in the pipeline, Ministers took note of the updated information on:

- ASEM Ocean Initiative of the Philippines; and,
- ASEM Workshop on EU/Asia S&T Co-operation on Clean Technologies, Hanoi, Vietnam, 22-24 September 2004.

Ministers took note of the Chair Statements of the Ministerial Meetings held since the last Foreign Ministers' Meeting (FMM 5) in Bali, Indonesia, (22-24 July 2003), namely the Environment Ministers Meeting (Lecce, Italy, 12-13 October 2003) and the ASEM Conference on Cultures and Civilisations (Beijing, 3-4 December 2003). Ministers also took note of the Chairman's statement issued following the ASEM High Level Conference on Agricultural Cooperation, (Beijing, 12 November 2003). Ministers agreed that these meetings show the value of ASEM in addressing global

challenges at a multilateral level in appropriate sectors, in the present case, in the areas of environmental, agricultural and cultural cooperation.

ASEM 5 Summit in Hanoi

Ministers took note with satisfaction of the preparations for the ASEM 5 Summit in Hanoi on 8-9 October 2004, including a proposed indicative list of topics and their proposed declaration on a 'Closer ASEM Economic Partnership'. The Ministers had an exchange of views and fully agreed on 'Further Revitalising and Substantiating the Asia-Europe Partnership' as the overarching theme for the ASEM 5 Summit. They strongly believed that the Summit would provide further dynamism for ASEM's endeavours to effectively contribute to multilateral efforts in developing international relations based on equality, equity and mutual interest, to elevate ASEM economic synergy to a higher level commensurate with the two regions' potential and to consolidate unity in cultural diversity. Ministers underlined the importance of the full attendance of Leaders to the Summit as it reflects high commitment of the partners to ASEM cooperation. Ministers agreed an ASEM SOM be convened in Hanoi in September to prepare for the Summit.

The Seventh Foreign Ministers' Meeting

Ministers welcomed the offer of Japan to host the Seventh ASEM Foreign Ministers' Meeting in Kyoto, Japan in May 2005.

Kildare, Ireland,
18 April 2004.

Annexes:

- ASEM Declaration on Multilateralism
- ASEM Working Methods.
- Concept Paper on the ASEM Info board.
- Guidelines for the Use of the ASEM Logo.

ASEM Declaration on Multilateralism

The present international situation is undergoing complex and profound changes. Challenges have emerged which are multi-faceted and global in scope. Countries share greater common interests and are becoming increasingly interdependent.

ASEM Ministers reaffirmed their commitment to multilateralism and to a fair and just rules-based international order, with a strong United Nations at its heart, to resolve international disputes, to promote positive aspects of globalization, and to advance democratization of international relations.

ASEM Ministers acknowledged the need for strong and effective international institutions to bring the objectives of the global agenda forward, including the implementation of the Millennium Development Goals, the fight against poverty and hunger, the protection of culture diversity, fostering respect for human rights and for fundamental freedoms, combating terrorism and the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction, and implementing the outcomes of major conferences, in particular the World Summit on Sustainable Development and World Summit on the Information Society. Ministers also pointed to the benefits which accrue from an effective rules-based multilateral trading system under the aegis of the WTO and urged all parties to work towards a successful outcome of the Doha negotiations and the implementation of the Monterey Consensus

ASEM Ministers expressed their willingness to intensify their cooperation in supporting the relevant activities of specialised programmes, funds and agencies of the United Nations as well as of the Bretton Woods Institutions. To this end, joint initiatives aimed at the improved implementation of multilateral instruments and regimes as well as of UNGA commitments will be considered.

Ministers emphasized that dialogue and cooperation among cultures and civilizations is one of the effective means to enhance knowledge, understanding and tolerance and to avoid misunderstanding and conflicts among different nations and countries. In this context, they called for respect for and promotion of cultural diversity to secure an all-round development of international relations.

Ministers stressed their support for the multilateral system of collective security, based on the United Nations, and reiterated that the primary responsibility for the maintenance of international peace and security rests with the United Nations Security Council, in accordance with the UN Charter. Ministers underlined that ASEM countries are committed to the process of reform of the United Nations system. Ministers also underlined their support for the work of the UN Secretary-General's High-Level Panel on Threats, Challenges and Change.

Ministers underlined the importance of mutual trust and cooperation to promote peace and security both at regional and international level. Ministers noted the European Security Strategy adopted by the European Council in December 2003, as well as recent developments in ARF and ASEAN, which has agreed to an ASEAN Security Community component in its Bali Concord II to promote peace and stability. Ministers also stressed the role regional organisations and dialogue mechanisms such as ASEM can play in enhancing multilateralism. Ministers agreed that the ASEM

coordination among ASEM Permanent Representations to the UN in New York could be reinforced.

In particular, Ministers also agreed to:

- Coordinate efforts to strengthen the role of the United Nations in conflict prevention and crisis management;
- Promote with regard to non-proliferation efforts towards universal adherence, full implementation and, where necessary, strengthening of international treaties and agreements to support their effective and global implementation, as well as the role of international organisations such as the IAEA and OPCW;
- With regard to combating terrorism and transnational organised crime, strongly support the co-ordinating role of the UN both in ensuring and assisting full implementation of the UNSCR 1373 and in strengthening further the international legal framework;
- Promote respect for human rights and improve the functioning of multilateral institutions, such as the UN Commission on Human Rights;
- Strengthen the role of the WTO and to ensure a successful outcome, acceptable to all, of the negotiations launched in Doha;
- Work together to achieve the Millennium Development Goals, especially through coordination and cooperation through the multilateral institutions;

Ministers touched upon the Rome Statute establishing the International Criminal Court, and noted that dialogue within ASEM should continue on this issue.

Ministers underlined the need to ensure increased coordination on multilateral issues to be pursued across all ASEM pillars, building in particular on work undertaken by trade, environment, health and culture Ministers. Ministers requested ASEM SOM to review existing ASEM procedures regarding coordination on multilateral issues, in particular with regard to UN affairs, and to make proposals to strengthen ASEM coordination where appropriate in the multilateral framework.

Recommendations for ASEM working methods – Draft Proposals for FMM 6

Following the mandate from the Chair Statement from FMM5, the ASEM SOM in Rome 13-14 November 2003 agreed that more substance, efficiency and vitality should be reintroduced into the ASEM process and had a broadly convergent and constructive exchange of views on how to enable this.

SOM mandated the Coordinators to work constructively together to produce for FMM 6 a detailed set of practical proposals for improving ASEM working methods.

Taking into account the ASEM SOM discussions in Rome 13-14 November 2003 and in Kildare 16 April 2004, the following recommendations are made for the Foreign Ministers' approval.

1. FMM

Foreign Ministers' meeting is to be convened every second year (i.e. between the Summit years) which should improve participation of foreign ministers and provide better articulation with Summits. It is proposed to apply this approach from 2006. This could be complemented by *ad hoc* FM meetings which take place in ASEM Summit years if deemed by consensus to be necessary.

Best efforts should be made to realize full participation by Foreign Ministers, given open dialogue nature of ASEM. To facilitate ministerial travel schedules and participation levels, all possibilities to arrange for ASEM FMM should be investigated, including in relation to other major EU-Asian meetings.

The benefits of an informal, retreat, open dialogue FMM meeting style are agreed. Officials are to further encourage this style for future FMM.

General agreement was reached that FMM agendas should be focused on major strategic issues within one overarching theme of mutual interest, including the one chosen by leaders at the preceding Summit Meeting, such as the multilateral approach to major international challenges. (This would be encouraged by reinforced ASEM coordination in the margins of UN meetings.)

2. SOMs

The role of the SOMs should be strengthened.

SOMs should be held at least twice a year.

SOMs should be a place for substantial policy discussion as well as for preparation of FMMs and Summits.

It should be clearly stated in a revised AECF 2000 that regional coordination should take place before the plenary SOM.

SOMs should be empowered to approve and/or filter individual initiatives. If SOMs agree an initiative its implementation can begin even before being formally endorsed by the ASEM Leaders/Ministers.

SOMs should better monitor the follow-up of initiatives in all three pillars.

3. Coordinators

The duties and responsibilities of the Coordinators should be further specified so that their role could be strengthened as follows:

- As is already the practice, the Coordinators can hold *ad hoc* meetings as and when needed.
- The Coordinators' role in follow-up and reporting on initiatives should be strengthened. Information sharing would be enhanced by using the ASEM Contact Points and other methods of communication.

4. Management issues

With regard to the coordination within each respective region, the European side will use the existing EU mechanisms, while the Asian partners may wish to investigate specific arrangement in this regard.

The visibility of ASEM should be increased. The generalised use of the ASEM Logo would assist somewhat in this regard.

The ASEM Infoboard should be set up as a pilot project under ASEF.

5. Handling of ASEM initiatives

As long as an initiative is compatible with AECF 2000, and as long as the initiative has been endorsed at ASEM SOM by consensus, the initiative can be implemented even before the formal approval by ASEM Leaders/ Foreign Ministers.

Individual initiatives should be more substantial. To this end, the host country should collect comments on its initiative from other members. The comments may be examined and adopted in some case, or those who send the public comments will receive explanation from the host country, if needed. SOM should monitor and assess ASEM initiatives in all three pillars by using for example a template model for evaluation for the purpose of technical reference along the lines of attached annex. (Note: see annex)

Publicity for endorsed initiatives should be strengthened through ASEM Infoboard, i.e. publicizing the initiative on the ASEM website before its implementation. Information of initiatives held in the past should be gathered, organized and compiled so that it can be widely shared. This process should be carried out by the ASEM Infoboard. (Note: For the ASEM Infoboard see Concept Paper on ASEM Infoboard.)

It is encouraged that as much information as possible about each initiative, including both pre-event explanation and post-event assessment of results, will be shared among ASEM partners through the ASEM Infoboard.

The ASEM logo (endorsed at FMM 5) should be widely used at individual ASEM initiatives in accordance with its guidelines.

Template for the evaluation of initiatives

1. Did the initiatives succeed in carrying out the intended concept (e.g. objectives) as it was endorsed?
2. Did the initiative have the participation of a large number of ASEM partners?
3. What are the benefits of the initiative for the ASEM partners?
4. What is the contribution of the initiative to the future ASEM process?
5. Is it necessary to continue this initiative?

* As for the question 1, 3 and 4 each ASEM partners should give a numerical evaluation (on the scale of 1 to 10) as well as specific written answer to each question. The average point for each question can be calculated and informed to ASEM partners.

For the question 2, the number of ASEM partners who participated can be mentioned.

The answer to question 5 will be taken into consideration when considering the need to follow-up an initiative.

Concept Paper on ASEM Infoboard

1. All ASEM partners agree that the day-to-day management and information systems for ASEM should be reinforced. At the SOM in Rome in November 2003 several ASEM partners have proposed a full secretariat, others have suggested a smaller secretariat, and some proposed just an ASEM Infoboard (the latter idea developing upon the initiative proposed by the Philippines). Various ASEM partners have expressed doubts as to the over-institutionalization of the ASEM process and its possible costs.

2. ASEM partners agree to develop upon the idea of “Information Board”, and propose to establish an ASEM Infoboard.

3. The ASEM Infoboard should have the following functions:

(a) Archive Function

To compile information related to ASEM activities, so that anyone (not only government officials but also the public) can have an access to it. Some specific details are:

- Outline of ASEM
- Calendar of ASEM events
- Documents issued after leaders’ meetings, Ministerial meetings, initiatives, etc.
- Information of ASEM initiatives:
 - a) pre-implementation: draft programme, outlines, etc.
 - b) post-implementation: related documents such as a summary, Chair’s Statement, etc.
- Contact detail(s) for each ASEM member and ASEM events

(b) Recipient Function

To establish an “information reception desk” to;

- receive information to be updated (by the request of Governments)
- receive the inquiries on individual events and forwarding them to host country

(c) Dissemination Function

To disseminate updated information through the website, and/or periodically (ex. once a week) send information in a format of a mail magazine. Registration for the mail magazine will be possible at all times through the ASEM Infoboard. Possible recipients are:

- Government officials (ASEM members and candidates for future ASEM Enlargement)
- Participants to ASEM initiatives
- Others (Academics, media, interested civil societies (business, NGOs, etc.))

4. The ASEM Infoboard should be set up and managed for the time being as a pilot project by ASEF. ASEF has been set up to promote exchanges between think-tanks, peoples and cultural groups between Asia and Europe. While ASEF has successfully conducted various activities to promote exchanges between Asia and Europe, it seems that there is not sufficient understanding of ASEM or the activities under the ASEM framework, even among the participants of ASEF activities. The exchanges under ASEF can be enhanced by knowing the activities under ASEM as well as views of ASEM partners. The pilot project of ASEM infoboard should be financed by voluntary contributions to and through ASEF and should be managed by ASEF in close coordination with ASEM partners. Any longer financing will remain on a voluntary basis.

The role of ASEF in conducting the function of ASEM infoboard in the longer term shall be reviewed. ASEF can either undertake the task by itself, or contract out to a private company or a think-tank, or in a joint venture co-management mode.

5. While the “public information and transparency function” can be implemented by the ASEM Infoboard, the official or confidential coordination among ASEM members should be continued through the Contact Points using E-mails and fax, as before.

Use of the ASEM Logo (Guidelines)

ASEM Logo: its significance

The ASEM logo expresses the idea of interaction between Europe and Asia through the intertwined forms of an Asian brush-stroke and a simplified roman E. These also combine to form the letters A and E, symbolizing Asia and Europe. The logo represents two different yet intertwined cultures of East and West seeking ways to come together and interact. The colors of the logo -- blue and red -- represent Europe and Asia respectively.

Color specification

See attachment A.

REGULATIONS AND GUIDELINES ON THE USE OF THE ASEM LOGO

ASEF is entrusted by ASEM partners with the copyright of the ASEM logo and it is required to ensure the legal copyright registration. The governments of ASEM partners have the right to use the logo at no cost in perpetuity. The governments of ASEM partners are given the responsibility under the authority of these Regulations and Guidelines to provide necessary control on the use and display of the logo.

1. Design of the logo:

The ASEM logo shall be the official emblem of the ASEM. The design of the logo and the colors and other specifications used in the logo are prescribed above. The logo shall appear either in the specified colors or in black and white. It can be in proportionate size as appropriate for its use and place of display.

2. Dignity of the logo

As a general principle, the logo shall be used in proper manner as not to be subjected to any indignity. It is prohibited to use the logo as an advertisement or trademark for political propaganda in whatever form.

3. The use and display of the logo at the ASEM Meetings

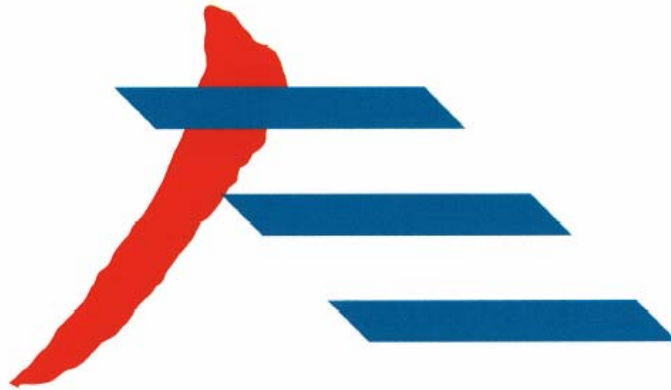
The logo may be displayed and used at ASEM Meetings, subject to proper supervision and control by the governments of ASEM partner countries hosting such meetings, based on the understanding of this Regulation. It should be stressed, however, that, only at meetings which are commonly recognized by all of ASEM partners, the logo can be used in the manner as to display in the conference hall and entrance, as markings on conference papers, folders, identification tags of delegates and officials etc.

4. Use and display of the logo by governments of ASEM partners

The governments of ASEM partners are also authorized to use and display the logo but only on ceremonies, meetings and other functions of ASEM as well as on public relations activities for ASEM. The governments of ASEM partners may apply discretions on the manner the logo should be used, bearing in mind the desirability in the protection of its dignity.

5. Use by Asia-Europe Foundation (ASEF)

ASEF should use and display the ASEM logo, as appropriate, on their activities to promote the identity of ASEM.



ASIA-EUROPE MEETING



ASIA-EUROPE MEETING

4 Color Version

red: 100%M, 100%Y
blue: 100%C, 50%M, 20%K
black: 100%K
gray: 60%K



ASIA-EUROPE MEETING

2 Color Version

red: PANTONE 185 CV 2X
blue: PANTONE 541 CV
black: 100%K



ASIA-EUROPE MEETING

1 Color Version

black: 100%K
gray: 40%K