



**Inaugural Conference for Young Political Leaders
in Asia and Europe
(9th Asia-Europe Young Leaders' Symposium)**



**20-26 November 2005
Beijing & Tianjin, China**

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Young Political Leaders of Asia and Europe to gather in Beijing to form recommendations on the role of youth in strengthening bi-regional partnership

Ninety-five youth representatives from 34 countries and International Organisations will gather at the Young Political Leaders' Meeting to examine ways to promote the active involvement of youth in the official ASEM (Asia-Europe Meeting) process. Part of the Asia-Europe Young Leaders Symposia (AEYLS), the Conference serves as the major platform for interaction and dialogue among the next generation of leaders from Asia and Europe. These multi-sectoral and future-oriented meetings address the key issues, trends and challenges confronting the two regions and provide opportunities to brainstorm for possible solutions. Working Groups at the Conference in China will produce a Report and a Declaration for the consideration of the ASEM Leaders during the 6th Asia-Europe Summit, to be held in Helsinki in 2006.

The conference will undertake: a) Critical stock-taking of initiatives to expand Asia-Europe youth co-operation in priority areas; b) Brainstorming on new ways to strengthen youth co-operation under the ASEM framework; and c) Identifying new areas of co-operation that could be taken up at the next ASEM Summit, in Helsinki.

The programme involves a combination of plenary and working group sessions, and dialogue with key institutions in the host country. Participants will be divided into four **Working Groups** to hold in-depth discussions on areas to be identified as youth priorities:

Working Group I. Youth Involvement in ASEM: Towards an Asia-Europe Youth Forum

Working Group II. Youth Work and Development within the Context of Globalisation: Experiences from Asia and Europe

Working Group III. Common Challenges for Youth Participation and Mobility

Working Group IV. World Programme of Action for Youth from the Year 2000 and Beyond: Priorities for Asia-Europe Youth Co-operation

Please visit www.asef.org for more information or send us an e-mail to enquire about reporting on the event.

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