

## **PRESS RELEASE**

### **The ASEF First Anniversary Asia-Europe Lecture**

**“Economic Management and Good Governance”**

**by**

**H.E. Mr Anand Panyarachun,  
Former Prime Minister of Thailand**

One year ago, on 15 February 1997, the Asia-Europe Foundation (ASEF) was officially launched by the 25 ASEM Foreign Ministers and one of the Vice-Presidents of the European Commission, at a ceremony which coincided with the first meeting of the ASEM Foreign Ministers, in Singapore. This year, ASEF will celebrate its first anniversary in Bangkok.

On 17 February 1998, H.E. Mr Anand Panyarachun will deliver the ASEF First Anniversary Asia-Europe Lecture at the Chulalongkorn University in Bangkok. It is fitting that ASEF should commemorate its first birthday in Bangkok because it was also here that the ASEM process first began with the historic summit in March 1996.

#### **H.E. Mr Anand Panyarachun**

Educated both in Asia and Europe, Mr Anand Panyarachun has had a long and distinguished career in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. He served in many overseas missions including stints as Thailand’s Ambassador to the United Nations, the United States of America and Germany. Mr Panyarachun also chaired the ASEAN Task Force on ASEAN Cooperation from 1982 – 1983. Twice when his country was plunged into crisis, Anand Panyarachun was appointed by His Majesty the King of Thailand to serve as interim Prime Minister. He has held the post of Chairman of Saha-Union Public Co. Ltd since 1991. He recently chaired the commission which drafted a new constitution for Thailand. Anand Panyarachun is respected, at home and abroad, as one of Thailand’s most distinguished statesmen.

#### **The Asia-Europe Lecture**

The Asia-Europe Lecture is designed to provide leading statesmen, scholars, scientists and other leaders of civil society with a platform to address an informed audience on trends and issues pertaining to Asia-Europe relations. The inaugural lecture was delivered by H.E. Jacques Santer, President of the European Commission on 13 January 1998 in Singapore.

#### **The Asia-Europe Foundation**

ASEF seeks to promote better mutual understanding between Asia and Europe through greater intellectual, cultural and people-to-people exchange.

For more information about ASEF or the Lecture, please check out <http://www.asef.org> or contact the Director for Public Affairs, Peggy Kek at tel. (65) 838 4700, or fax (65) 732 4371.