FOCUS

Asia-Europe relations take centre-stage on Singapore TV

From January - February 2000, TV will help bring issues concerning Asia-Europe relations to the homes of Singaporeans.

A television documentary series, "Building Bridges - The New Europe and The New Asia", reflects on historic links between the two regions and examines how modern-day ties are being forged by the ASEM (Asia-Europe Meeting) process in the areas of politics, culture, education and business. The series will also showcase recent ASEF events in Berlin and Copenhagen.

To discuss the issues that unite and divide Asia and Europe, host Tommy Koh, ASEF Executive Director, engages many personalities ranging from royalty to academics, from politicians to international civil servants. Among them: Prince Henri, Crown Prince of Luxembourg and Christopher Patten, the new EC Commissioner for External Relations. Through the programme, Tommy Koh also shares his personal vision of the future of Asia-Europe relations.

Produced by Singapore's Channel News Asia, the four-part series debuts on 31 January 2000. For more information, please visit http://www.channelnewsasia.com
Over two days, the Forum brought together 40 young entrepreneurs from Asia and Europe for an exchange of business ideas.

They had the opportunity to learn more about business cultures different from their own and discuss ways to improve business cooperation and build a sustainable network between the two regions. The entrepreneurs came from the high-tech industries of telecommunications, multi-media, building automation and intelligent building.

The Forum organisers also honoured outstanding participants with the AYEYF Award for their contribution to business cooperation between Asia and Europe. Three awards were given out to:

- **Mr Eddie Chng from Singapore, 37 years old, CEO and President of Serial Systems Ltd.** His company intends to establish offices throughout Europe to market a new high tech disc recorder.

- **Dr Carsten Müller from Germany, 35 years old, CEO and President of Lingk & Sturzebecher Leichtbau GmbH.** He is the designer of a new hydraulic technology used in the shipping of heavy goods between Europe and South Korea.

- **Mr Jukka Mansikka from Finland, 34 years old, Managing Director of Netpoint International Ltd.** His company offers new service concepts for companies that wish to enter the Asian market.

ASEF organised the first Asia-Europe Young Entrepreneurs Forum with the Japanese-German Center Berlin (JGCB) and the Delegate of German Industry and Commerce (DIHT) in Singapore.

For more information please refer to the official website of the forum at http://www.ayeyfberlin.com or contact Mr Ulrich Niemann at uniemann@asef.org.

The Symposium was held on the premises of the prestigious Louisiana Museum of Modern Arts in Copenhagen.

Under the theme "Images of Asia in Europe & Images of Europe in Asia", distinguished speakers spoke on topics such as Tradition and Modernity in Visual Arts: Asian and European Exchanges; and Different Models of Asia-Europe Cooperation in the Field of Arts and Culture.

More than fifty participants coming from various countries in the ASEM family attended the Symposium. These ranged from arts festival organisers, cultural policy makers and journalists.

ASEF organised the Symposium with the Danish Centre for Culture and Development (DCCD). For more information on the Symposium, please contact Mr Cai Rongsheng at rscai@asef.org.
Cities on the Move is a series of multi-media exhibitions designed to stimulate discussion of social changes and universal issues in visual and architectural cultures.

The Bangkok exhibition was the Asia debut of Cities on the Move, which had already been on the road in Europe for two years. This 6th version of the exhibition focused on the difficulties faced by Asian cities, such as inadequate institutional support for contemporary art and the economic crisis of 1997-1998.

Represented at Cities on the Move 6 were Asian and European artists, architects, and city planners. ASEG's support of the project made it possible for 35 outstanding artists from eight Asian countries - China, Indonesia, Malaysia, Philippines, Japan, Korea, Singapore and Thailand to participate in the exhibition.

For more information, please contact Mr Cai Rongsheng at rscailasef.org.

ASEF brought together potential Academic Centres of Excellence from ASEM member countries to create a network to enhance the flow of students between Asia and Europe.

The formation of the network was proposed at the ASEM 2 Summit and endorsed by Senior Officials in October 1998.

This inaugural meeting, hosted by INSEAD, was attended by 74 participants from ASEM countries, including several presidents of universities and eminent scholars. It resulted in 58 universities offering more than 180 scholarships in different centres of excellence.

Participants also renamed the network the Europe-Asia Education and Research Network (EARN), which will be launched in the next academic year in 2000.

ASEF is proud to have acted as a catalyst in this initiative and will continue to play a role in disseminating information about the programme.

For more information, please contact Mr Ulrich Niemann at uniemann@asef.org.
Jan-Oct

Asia-Europe Young Artists’ Painting Competition
“The New Millennium in My Dreams”

29 – 31 March
Beijing, China
Asia-Europe Workshop on Copyright Trading for Book Publishers

31 March - 3 April
Lisbon, Portugal
Second ASEF Young Parliamentarians meeting
Co-organised by ASEF and Fundacao Oriente

Mar-May

14 – 15 April
Singapore
Third Europe Asia Forum
Co-sponsored by the Herbert Quandt Foundation (HQF), Institute of Policy Studies (IPS) and ASEF

2 – 3 May
Luxembourg
Education for the 21st Century
Co-organised with the Luxembourg Ministry of Education

More on Upcoming Events

Following the success of the First ASEF Young Parliamentarians’ Meeting (YPM), ASEF will co-organise with the Orient Foundation, a second YPM to be held in Portugal at the end of March this year.

Participants at the Second YPM will be organised into three working groups to discuss topics such as The Welfare State and Globalisation; Cross-border Crime Prevention and The Implementation of Environmental Law. Unlike the format of the previous YPM, participants will chair these working groups themselves.

Through the YPM, ASEF aims to provide participants with an unofficial forum to discuss potentially controversial topics. The Lisbon YPM is the second in a series launched in Manila in November 1998. A report of the First YPM can be found at http://www.asef.org. For more information, please contact andisieren@asef.org.

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