2003 Asia-Europe High Level Education Forum: Search for the Future Direction
17 – 18 June / Jeju, Korea

This high-level education forum was co-organised by ASEF, the Korea Foundation, and the Korean Educational Development Institute (KEDI).

It was a sequel to the meeting held in Luxembourg in May 2000 (New Thinking for a New Millennium: Education for the knowledge-based Economy).

Mr Bum-Suk Suh (Vice Minister, Ministry of Education and Human Resources Development, Korea) and the organising partners, Ambassador Delfin Colomé, Ambassador In-Ho Lee (President, Korea Foundation) and Mr Chong Jae Lee (President, Korean Education Development Institute) opened the forum with their welcome speeches.

The participants, prominent opinion makers from Asia and Europe, discussed the current challenges faced by the education policy makers in Europe and Asia alike. They also discussed how to better equip students with the skills required in a knowledge-based society.

This two-day meeting gathered 90 participants from the academia and policy makers of education from Asia and Europe and covered the following issues:
1. Visions and Future Direction of Education
2. Current Status and Problems Concerning Education
3. Development of Educational System

More information can be found at http://jejuforum.kedi.re.kr/
This programme, co-organised by ASEF, Music Research Institute, Chinese Academy of Arts and Centre of Ethnic and Folk Literature and Arts Development (Ministry of Culture, China) was a follow-up of the Asia-Europe Seminar on Music Industry held in Lyon, France (October 2001).

The rationale behind the meeting was that traditional music – formulated along the history by peoples from different regions, nationalities and ethnic groups – represents not only the accumulation of unique collective cultural memory of mankind, but also the historical evidences of cultural creation.

The different historical backgrounds in Asian and European countries have resulted in diversity of traditional music. Policies, actions and means for their protection also differ, even though common points exist. Therefore, exchanges and training concerning the values, knowledge, laws and regulations, use of new technology for the protection of traditional music were considered important in order to reach an effective and practical protection plan.

Forty experts from 20 ASEM countries exchanged views, knowledge and experiences during the one week programme, which was enriched by cultural visits (Chinese Music Conservatory. Traditional Chinese Opera, music association in village Nan Gao Le).

As much as differences in approaches for the preservation of traditional music were noticed between Asia and Europe, many common issues, concerns and experiences were also highlighted.

The final brainstorming session identified six main areas related to preservation of traditional music: education; performances; archiving; intellectual property; media and research. Asia-European teams of 2 to 3 people have been formed to define each of these topics by the end of April.

A final publication is expected out by the end of 2003 and will serve as a concrete basis for future projects, networks, events and potential policy recommendations.
The International Course on Flexible Materials in Asian Collections was co-organised by The Asia-Europe Museum Network (ASEMUS) (through The Malaysian Department of Museums and Antiquities, and The Swedish National Museums of World Culture), ICCROM (International Centre for the Study of the Preservation and Restoration of Cultural Property), and ASEF (Japan Trust Fund).

The purpose of this course was to establish mechanisms for sharing knowledge, methods and approaches among those caring for Asian collections. The course focused on flexible materials, in particular basketry, fibres, textiles and leather. Flexibility depends upon the nature of the materials, the methods of fabrication and construction, modified by the condition of the object. It is also a key characteristic in evaluating the object and its need for support.

The course offered opportunities to review and exchange information also about craft-based traditions, and discuss its application in specific contexts.

A series of workshops co-organised with IIAS (International Institute for Asian Studies) and Strategic Alliance

A selection committee meeting was held in Leiden, the Netherlands and the first workshop will be expected in the 3rd quarter of 2003.

A two to three day meeting bringing together a group of about 20 participants, balancing senior and promising experts from both Asia and Europe.

Following the success of the 2002/2003 Asia-Europe Workshop series, the selection committee were again called upon to select six new workshop proposals for 2003/2004.

The criteria of proposals were focused on inter-regional and multilateral importance concerning both Asia and Europe in a comparative perspective, jointly organized by an Asian and European partner.

The Selection Committee consisted of Ambassador Delfin Colomé, Prof. Jean-Luc Domenach (Tsinghua University), Prof. Hahn Chaibong (Yonsei University), Prof. Shamsul A. B. (University Kebangsaan Malaysia), Prof. Lily Kong (National University of Singapore), Prof. Hanns Maull (University of Trier) and Prof. Wim Stokhof (European Alliance for Asian Studies).

The six selected proposals are:

**Social and Cultural Effects of Computermiated Interactive Communications Technology in Europe and Asia**
20-22 October 2003
Manila, the Philippines
Dr R. Perttierra
*(University of the Philippines)*
Prof. Daniel Miller
*(University of London, UK)*

**Social Science and AIDS in Southeast Asia**
10-11 November 2003
Chiang Mai, Thailand
Dr Sophie Le Coeur
*(Chiang Mai University, Thailand)*
Dr Evelyne Micollier
*(Université de Provence, France)*
The 13th BOG Meeting
8 – 9 May
Berlin, Germany

Representatives of German NGOs dealing with Asia discuss with BOG members in Berlin

The 5th ASEM Informal Seminar on Human Rights Series
“Human Rights and Economic Relations”
15 – 16 May
Lund, Sweden

Participants at the Seminar

The Internet and Elections in Asia and Europe
13-15 November 2003
Singapore
Dr R. Kuver
(Nanyang Technological University, Singapore)
Dr Nicholas Jankowski
(University of Nijmegen, the Netherlands)

Enabling Role of the Public Sector in Urban Housing Development
July 2004
Beijing, China
Prof. Anne Power
(London School Economics and Political Science, UK)
Prof. Tuan Yang
(Chinese Academy Social Sciences, China)

The Security Paradox of Open Borders: Surveillance and Control of Migrants
15-17 December 2003
Chiang Mai, Thailand
Dr Carl Grundy-Warr
(National University of Singapore)
Prof. Didier Bigo
(Sciences-Po, France)

Old-age Vulnerabilities: Asia and European Perspectives
5-7 July 2004
Malang, Indonesia
Mr Warkum Sumitro
(Universitas Brawijaya, Indonesia)
Dr Ruly Marianti
(Belle van Zuylen Institute, the Netherlands)

The 13th Board of Governors Meeting took place in Berlin.

Ambassador Vithya Vejjajiva of Thailand, handed the reins of ASEF chairmanship to Dr Horst Krenzler, ASEF Governor for the European Commission. Dr Krenzler was formerly a Director General at the European Commission and is currently its Special Advisor. He is also a Professor at the Robert Schuman Center of the European University Institute in Florence, Italy. The new Vice-Chairman of ASEF BOG is Mr Wang Min of China.

The meeting full-heartedly endorsed a major policy paper ensuring ASEF’s financial sustainability.

The project was sponsored by French Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Raoul Wallenberg Institute (Sweden) and the Asia-Europe Foundation.

The first working group meeting entitled, “Human Rights and Multi-National Companies” was organised in Osaka, September 21-22, 2002.

The first working group meeting addressed the Movement of Corporate Social Responsibility, its Normative Framework and Good Practices, Codes of Conduct, Stakeholder Participation and Issues of Accountability.

The next working group meeting took place in Bangkok and was hosted by Chulalongkorn University, February 22-23, 2003. Prof Vittit Muntarbhorn, also from Chulalongkorn, was the main rapporteur for this meeting entitled: “Foreign Direct Investment”.
This meeting addressed the following agenda: Human Rights and Foreign Direct Investment, the Normative Framework and Good Practices, Foreign Direct Investment and Technology: Implications for Human Rights, Stakeholder Participation and Bridging the Development Divide.

These two working group meetings formed the main conference in Sweden. The working group papers and ideas were presented and gave conference participants the opportunity to debate and discuss the issues raised in these papers.

About twenty journalists from Asia and Europe were invited to Brussels to be briefed on and to discuss the philosophy, the methods and the current challenges in European integration.

The experience was aimed to enhance the knowledge and familiarity of the participants, enabling more accurate and more frequent reporting of Europe by Asians and vice versa.

With support from Konrad Adenauer Foundation, Brussels, the five-day seminar consisted of lectures and discussions with senior staff and office holders of all relevant Union institutions (Commission, Council, Parliament) and NATO, as well as a visit to the International Federation of Journalists.

Amb. Guan Cheng Yuan of China hosted a dinner at the Embassy of China, Brussels where lively discussions took place.

The seminar concluded with a one-day study visit to sites of historical interest in Flanders.

This workshop is part of the series that ASEF has been organising with Asia-Pacific Institute for Broadcasting Development since August 2001.

Apart from documentary, other types of TV programmes were studied such as Children TV programmes, youth magazines and Internet Broadcasting.

The 2-week workshop was led by Ms Nezha Cohen, Producer, Television Audiovisuel Cinema pour Tous, TACT Production (France). This workshop is open to TV producers from Thailand. The workshop aimed to cover the making of a documentary from the script and production analysis to the shooting, editing and marketing.
The Asia-Europe Meeting on Asymmetry of Museums Collections was co-organised by Etnografisch Museum (City Museums of Antwerp) and the Asia-Europe Foundation (Japan Trust Fund), with the professional help of the Office of Thai National Museum.

This meeting was part of the ASEMUS programme (www.asemus.org).

Following the Asia-Europe Marketplace of Museums (Leiden, The Netherlands, 10-13 April 2002), the above meeting included concrete discussions on two workshops, namely Workshop 1 on Scattered Collections of Asian Minorities and Workshop 2 on Documentation and Photo Collections on Lost Cultural Heritage, Monuments and Sites.

The Antwerp meeting came up with concrete proposals, which will be finally submitted by 1 September 2003 to the ASEMUS secretariat. Most of the proposed projects share the same aim: to share collections between Asia and Europe with also the ambition to go back to local communities, where this heritage is from and to enrich the documentation and presentation of the heritage through researches and exhibitions.

The Asia-Europe Meeting on Asymmetry in Museums Collections received the generous financial support of Maertens International Transport/Lotus Fine Arts Logistics.

From the meeting came up concrete pilot projects, which are expected to give strength to the whole ASEMUS process.

ASEF, in partnership with 50th International Art Exhibition – La Biennale di Venezia, has offered ASEF Cultural Grants to Asian young artists for their participation in the project UTOPIA STATION, part of the 50th International Art Exhibition.

The exhibition UTOPIA STATION is an official project of 50th International Art Exhibition – La Biennale di Venezia. This project is curated by Molly Nesbit (art historian), Hans Ulrich Obrist (curator) and Rirkrit Tiravanija (artist).

The exhibition is held at the Arsenale Area of the Venice Biennale. The concept of this event centres on the project The Land that was initiated two years ago from Rirkrit Tiravanija and other Thai artists of Chiangmai vicinity. Since then, The Land has been a place where artists from all over the world have travelled to exchange ideas and realise projects. The UTOPIA STATION in Venice presents architectural and other “utopian” projects that have been realised at The Land. The projects realised at UTOPIA STATION will travel throughout Asia in the near future.
Invited artists under the ASEF Cultural Grants Programme are Shimabuku, Japan; Yang Fudong, China; Ma Qingyun, China; Kamin Lertchaiprasert, Thailand; Wong Hoy Cheong, Malaysia and the Indonesian Collective TUK.

A panel discussion with the granted artists from Asia has been organised at the Arsenale on 14 June during the opening of the Venice Biennale.

Another panel will take place in autumn 2003 with Ma Qingyun and TUK (Teater Utan Kayu, Indonesia).

**Greater collaboration between Asia and Europe Civil Society was kicked off by the 1st Steering Committee Meeting of the Asia-Europe Environment Forum Series, co-organised by ASEF, Hanns Seidel Foundation (HSF) and the United Nations Environment Program (UNEP) in Bangkok on 20 to 21 June 2003, hosted by the UNEP Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific.**

The co-organisers met with representatives from the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) Secretariat, Asian Development Bank (ADB), Swedish Environmental Secretariat in Asia, and the Delegation of the European Commission to Thailand. They set the framework for the Series and discussed the organisation of its 1st Roundtable “Finding the Path from Johannesburg”, to be held in Bangkok on 29 to 30 Sept 2003.

For more information, please contact sol.iglesias@asef.org

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**ASEF is Relocating!**

After more than six years since ASEF was established in 1997, ASEF is moving its office premises from the colonial house on Nassim Hill to a modern think-tank belt in the western part of Singapore. For new address, refer to the last page.

Built with a budget of €2.5 million from the Singapore government, the new location will allow for more interaction and sharing of common facilities with other international organisations such as APEC and Institute of Southeast Asian Studies.
Asia Europe Journal

The 3rd issue of Asia Europe Journal, a quarterly academic journal published by ASEF, is expected to be out by end of August 2003. The journal is devoted to the interdisciplinary and intercultural studies and research between Asia and Europe in the social sciences and humanities. The various aspects of bilateral relationships, comparative studies, Asian studies from a European perspective, or European studies from an Asian viewpoint will be covered. Each volume is intended to follow one major subject such as security, historical experiences, cultural perceptions, civic rights, gender issues, regional integration, development, ethnic minorities or other areas of bi-regional interest.

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2. Hans Koechler The Dialogue of Civilizations: Philosophical Basis and Current State
3. Cheryl Lim and Chua Sin Lay Confucianism and the Protestant Work Ethic
4. Romain Bertrand Islam and Politics in Europe and in Asia
5. Vincent Houwen e.a. Cultural Dynamics of German Business Cooperation with Indonesia and Singapore
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ASEF IN THE NEWS

Die Tageszeitung, 2 July 2003

Diplomacia (Spain), July 2003

Nichi-ma Press, May 2003

Korean Press, 1 May 2003

Bangkok Post, 25 June 2003
7 – 8 July
Singapore
Regional Integration in Europe and Asia: Past, Presents and Futures
Co-organised with INSEAD-Singapore

11 – 12 July
Bonn, Germany
Asia-Europe Workshop Series
“The Restructuring of Old Industrial Areas in Europe and Asia”
Convenors: University of Bonn & Hannam University, South Korea

13 – 15 July
Neumarkt, (Styria) Austria
European Federalists Seminar on
“Asian Views on European Integration”
Co-organised with Europahaus Neumarkt

25 July
Bali, Indonesia
Asia-Europe Journalists Seminar
With support from European Commission
Delegation, Jakarta on the occasion of
5th ASEAN Foreign Ministers’ Meeting

18 – 19 August
Bangkok, Thailand
AIBD/ASEF Seminar on Developing Strategies for Networking, Programme Exchange and Co-production
Co-organised with Asia-Pacific Institute for Broadcasting Development (AIBD)

22 – 24 August
Manila, Philippines
Asia-Europe Scriptlab
(ASEF Cultural Grants)
Co-organised with Cinemanila International Film Festival

24 – 29 August
Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam
7th Asia-Europe Young Leaders’ Symposium
Co-organised with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Vietnam

28 – 31 August
Limerick, Ireland
2nd Annual General Meeting of the ASEF University Alumni Network (ASEFUAN)
Organised by ASEFUAN

1 – 7 September
Paris, France
Asia-Europe Creative Camp
Co-organised with the Ecole nationale superieure des beaux arts de Paris. Sponsored by Lee Foundation and Asia-Pacific Breweries

4 – 7 September
Cebu, Philippines
ASEM Youth Dialogue on the New Security Challenges
Co-organised with Ayala Foundation (AF), with the support of the Philippine National Youth Commission

7 – 21 September
Coventry, United Kingdom
8th ASEF University
Co-organised with the Centre for the Study of Globalisation and Regionalisation, University of Warwick

11 – 13 September
Cambridge, United Kingdom
Asia-Europe Workshop Series
“Interweaving Medical Traditions: Europe and Asia, 1600-2000”

Convenors: Welcome Trust Centre for the History of Medicine, United Kingdom and National University of Singapore

21 – 23 September
Windsor House, United Kingdom
Asia-Europe Cultures and Civilisations Dialogue/Conference Series
A cultural divide? Appreciating one another better
Co-organised with the New World Order Forum, United Kingdom

24 – 27 September
Shanghai, China
Asia-Europe Meeting: Presenting the Shared Cultural Heritage
Co-organised with Shanghai National Museum and Museum Quai Branly, France – ASEMUS programme (Japan Trust Fund)

26 – 27 September
Bangkok, Thailand
Asia-Europe Environment Forum Series/ 1st Roundtable Discussion “Finding the Path from Johannesburg”
Co-organised with the Hanns Seidel Foundation, Germany-Singapore Office and the United Nations Environment Programme

28 September – 2 October
Bogor, Indonesia
3rd AEC International Teachers’ Conference
Co-organised with the Department of National Education and Madania School with support of the municipal authorities of the City and Province of Bogor, Indonesia

July – Sept 2003

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ASEM

5 – 6 July 2003
Bali, Indonesia
ASEM Finance Ministers’ Meeting

7 – 8 July 2003
Tokyo, Japan
ASEM Coordinators’ Meeting

21 – 22 July 2003
Bali, Indonesia
ASEM SOM Meeting

22 – 24 July 2003
Dalian, China
5th ASEM Economic Ministers’ Meeting

23 – 24 July 2003
Bali, Indonesia
5th ASEM Foreign Ministers’ Meeting

1 – 3 September 2003
Bangkok, Thailand
Seminar on Enhancing Support and Cooperation for Strengthening Social Policies to Assist Trafficked Women and Children

8 – 9 September 2003
Tokyo, Japan
2nd Meeting of the Task Force for Closer Economic Partnership

11 – 12 September 2003
Dalian, China
Preparatory Meeting for ASEH High Level Conference on Agricultural Cooperation

22 – 23 September 2003
China
ASEM Seminar on Anti-Terrorism

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