

Extracts from ASEM13 Outcome Statements referring to ASEF

ASEM13 Chair's Statement on "Strengthening Multilateralism for Shared Growth"

37. Leaders underlined the importance of promoting Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) and the Public-Private-Partnerships (PPPs) between Asia and Europe so that concrete initiatives and projects, particularly to support the development of creative economy and promoting and strengthening Science, Technology and Innovation (STI) capacity in MSMEs and PPPs, better access to digital infrastructure and further participation of MSMEs in value chains, and industrial cluster development can be further implemented through various multilateral platforms for shared growth, including **Asia-Europe Foundation (ASEF)**.

43. Leaders recognized that young people are effective agents of change propelling humanity's movement towards a new sustainable future. To this end, they were committed to ensuring young people's meaningful participation in all spheres and levels of public and political life. They also encouraged the expansion of educational exchange and cooperation among ASEM Partners through an ASEM strategy for sharing good practices of ways to tackle common global issues. In this connection, Leaders took note of the **ASEM Youth Declaration as a result of the 4th ASEF Young Leaders' Summit (ASEFYLS4)** organized by Cambodia on 22-26 November 2021 under the theme "Sustainable Development in a Post-COVID-19 World."

48. **Leaders welcomed and commended the work of the ASEF**, whose activities foster mutual understanding and people-to-people exchange, forge closer links between ASEM governments and civil societies, disseminate ASEM-related information and activities, and promote ASEM's relevance and visibility. **They encouraged ASEF to continue to align its activities and programmes closer to ASEM's priorities, and underlined the necessity for the ASEM Partners to continue to support ASEF through financial, personnel and project-related cooperation.** They also highlighted the significance of both the **7th ASEF Public Diplomacy training** in Siem Reap, Cambodia in 2019 and the virtual **8th ASEF Public Diplomacy Training** in 2020 for providing practical skills-oriented training to young diplomats of ASEM Partners.

50. Leaders welcomed the **Asia-Europe Virtual Forum on Substandard and Falsified Medicines (SFMs)** hosted by Cambodia in collaboration with ASEF on 29-30 September 2020. They underscored the importance of supporting the WHO in strengthening national regulatory systems, quality control capacity and surveillance system on both online and offline sales.

51. Leaders noted the outcome and recommendations of the 11th Asia-Europe Parliamentary Partnership Meeting (ASEP11), **10th Asia-Europe Editors' Roundtable (ASEFERT10)**, and Asia-Europe Economic and Business Forum, all organized by Cambodia in the run-up to the ASEM13 as a valuable input to ASEM activities. They also appreciated the organization of the **ASEM Cultural Festival (ASEMFest)** to showcase the richness of artistic creativity and diversity in Asia and Europe.

ASEM13 Phnom Penh Statement on the Post-COVID-19 Socio-Economic Recovery

23. Leaders welcomed the work of Asia-Europe Foundation (ASEF) to tackle the current pandemic by providing a platform for the exchange of public health priorities through webinars such as "**the Pandemic and the Economy**" as well as dispatching the Personal Protective Equipment to ASEM Partners via its **stockpile project**, which was financially reinforced in 2021.

ASEM13 The Way Forward on ASEM Connectivity

2. ASEM connectivity activities rely on existing national sectoral structures such as foreign affairs, economic, transport, digital, culture, finance, environment, energy, labour and employment, and education, and the use of thematic ASEM ministerial meetings, preparatory SOMs, Directors General (DG) meetings. Connectivity activities also include those undertaken under the umbrella of **Asia-Europe Foundation (ASEF)** whose projects should be closely linked with ASEM activities.

5. To this end, and in line with relevant ASEM documents, it is recommended that ASEM partners could do the following, bearing in mind that this would be on a voluntary basis, and taking into consideration partners' unique circumstances:

Updating of contact lists for sectoral events/activities

a) ASEM partners, in particular those planning to convene sectoral meetings, are encouraged to update proactively their Regional Coordinators and the SOM network on the contact details of their respective Asian and European coorganisers' contact points for a particular event/activity. This information would then be shared with **ASEF** for compilation and for regular circulation to all ASEM Partners.

ASEM Infoboard

i) Publicity for ASEM connectivity initiatives can be strengthened through ASEM Infoboard as outlined under Item 5 of "Recommendations for ASEM Working Methods" document¹. The relevant co-organisers can proactively inform **ASEF** to update the ASEM Infoboard accordingly.

¹ 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.