

CONCEPT PAPER - VI ASEM CT-CONFERENCE

1. BACKGROUND

The fight against terrorism is a priority for both Asia and Europe, since terrorism is a common threat to both regions, which have developed a wide experience countering this threat. The relevance of sharing experiences and patterns among ASEM State Members lies in its utility to find effective formulas and common strategies to face this threat.

Spain and Indonesia will co-host in Madrid, on the 3rd and 4th of April, the 6th ASEM Conference on Counter-Terrorism, which will also benefit from the co-sponsorship of Denmark, Italy, Philippines, Portugal, and Singapore. This conference will follow up previous ASEM Conferences on Counter-Terrorism held in Beijing (2003), Berlin (2004), Semarang (2005), Copenhagen (2006) and Tokyo (2007), implementing the 2002 ASEM Cooperation Programme. ASEM Conferences on Counter-Terrorism aim to promote an exchange of knowledge, experiences and techniques on countering challenges from terrorism. This 6th Conference will concentrate on strengthening mutual cooperation, on the follow-up and continuation on areas of discussion identified in previous meetings, and particularly, on the analysis of documents and proposals, at the national and regional level, in order to implement the United Nations Global Counter- Terrorism Strategy, formal review of which is scheduled for September 2008.

2. OBJECTIVE

This meeting aims to strengthen dialogue and mutual cooperation between Asia and Europe through the discussion and exchange of experiences about the following subject by engaging a dialogue among the relevant political authorities and experts on counter-terrorism on:

- Updating and assessing terrorist threats in both Asia and Europe,
- Sharing information and exchanging views on counter-terrorism measures at national and regional level,
- Regional organizations' counter-terrorism strategies (EU, Council of Europe, OSCE, ASEANAPOL, ASEAN –developments in the ASEAN CT Convention-),
- Exchanging experiences and proposals for implementing the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy, at a national and regional level.

3. DATE AND VENUE

Madrid
3rd-4th April 2008

4. PARTICIPANTS

The invitation will be addressed to relevant Government officials in charge of counter-terrorism from ASEM partners. The delegations may comprise representatives from the Ministries of Foreign Affairs, of Home Affairs, of Justice, the Attorney General's Office, and/or other relevant ministries/agencies. We also welcome delegates from the Jakarta Centre of Law Enforcement Cooperation (JCLEC), the South East Asia Regional Centre for Counter-Terrorism (SEARCCT), the International Law Enforcement Academy in Thailand (ILEA), the UNDOC, the European Commission, the OSCE, the Chairman of the Council of Europe, and the United Nations.

Due to space constraints, we should like to request each delegation to limit their number to a maximum of 4 participants.

5. LANGUAGE

English

6. EXPENSES

Participants are supposed to bear their own expenses for travelling and accommodations.