

ASEM OSH SYMPOSIUM ON DEVELOPING A PREVENTIVE OSH CULTURE SINGAPORE, 10-11 SEPTEMBER 2012

Background

The 1st ASEM OSH Project – ASEM OSH Workshop on National OSH Strategies, jointly organized by Indonesia and Singapore, was held from 12 to 13 October 2011. The 2nd ASEM OSH Project will be co-organised by Singapore, France, and the European Commission. This 2nd project was an outcome of the 3rd Asia-Europe Meeting (ASEM) Labour and Employment Minister's Conference (ASEM LEMC) that was held in Leiden, Netherlands from 12 to 14 December 2010 under the Leiden Declaration and "Leiden Framework of Action".

Rationale and Objectives

The ASEM OSH Workshop on **National OSH Strategies**, held in Yogyakarta, Indonesia from 12 to 13 October 2011, had identified that cross sharing of experiences have proven effective in addressing the current and future challenges in OSH and had recommended to establish and sustain platforms for productive sharing of information. The Workshop also recommended for continued promotion of the benefits of OSH.

Accordingly, Singapore and France, in co-operation with the European Commission, intend to organize a ASEM OSH Symposium 2012. The key area of sharing which France and Singapore had co-identified is on the development the above mentioned OSH Strategies through actions **within companies**, including a strong preventive OSH culture among the small and medium enterprises (SMEs). There is a strong need to promote awareness that a good OSH performance improves the well-being of workers and has a positive impact on productivity, employability and competitiveness including among the SMEs. For all companies, OSH is good for business.

The theme for the symposium will be implementing OSH within companies through the *development of a Preventive OSH Culture –including with a focus on Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs).*

The objectives are:

- a) To share OSH initiatives that helps to foster a preventive culture in Companies and SMEs; and
- b) To further develop partnerships of government bodies and companies to improve OSH at the company level.
- c) To provide an input to the 4th ASEM Labour and Employment Ministers Meeting in Hanoi in October 2012.

Symposium Format

Five plenary sessions will be held. Selected country and company representatives from ASEM Partners countries will be identified to give a presentation of up to a maximum of 10 minutes to share the initiatives implemented in developing a preventive OSH culture in each plenary. Other interested countries are also welcomed to submit presentations for the symposium. There will be a Q&A session hosted by a moderator at the end of each plenary to discuss the presentations.

The focus of the plenary sessions will be on the following:

- a. The regulator's role in developing OSH Culture in SMEs. The experiences of the various government representatives among ASEM partners can be invited to share their experience.
- b. Multi-national companies (MNCs) influence on the OSH culture in SMEs. MNC with operations in ASEM partner countries can be invited to share how good OSH performances among their contractors and supply chain can benefit them and how they influence better OSH outcomes in the SMEs.
- c. SMEs and their experience in engendering a strong OSH culture. SMEs operating in ASEM partner countries can be invited to share their experiences and challenges faced in improving the OSH culture. The role played by social partners in this regard can be analyzed.

Expected Participants and Language of Symposium

The symposium is expected to be attended by:

- a. Senior Officials of Labour and Employment Ministries of ASEM Partners, including those involved in managing OSH.
- b. Company and union representatives from ASEM partner countries involved in OSH
- c. Relevant specialists from international organizations such as ILO
- d. OSH professionals from ASEM partner countries

Language of the conference is English and French (passive consecutive interpretation from French to English will be provided)

Date, Venue and Tentative Program

It is proposed that the symposium be held on 10-11 September 2012 in Singapore. This symposium will be held back-to-back with the Singapore WSH Conference (an international conference held from 12 – 13 September 2012) to tap on the catchment of the conference to improve participation and reach.

The proposed tentative programme of the symposium is attached.

Outcomes of the Symposium

A report on the symposium proceedings will be compiled and submitted to the ASEM Labour and Employment Ministers.

The organizers can also explore concluding possible expression of interest to collaborate between regional OSH networks between Asia and Europe (e.g. between ASEAN OSHNET and EU-OSHA/SLIC) at sidelines of the symposium. This agreement could encourage cross invitations among the various networks to participate in respective conferences and technical projects.

Funding Arrangements

The symposium is organized on a co-funding basis between Singapore and the European Commission.

TENTATIVE PROGRAMME

ASEM-OSH SYMPOSIUM ON DEVELOPING A PREVENTIVE OSH CULTURE SINGAPORE, 10-11 SEPTEMBER 2012

Day 0, 09 September 2012

Arrival of delegates in Singapore

16.00-18.00

Coordination meeting between Asian and EU coordinators on the preparations to the 4th ASEM Labour and Employment Ministers Meeting in Hanoi, Vietnam on 24-26 October 2012.

19.00 – 22.00

Pre conference dinner (KIV)

Day 1, 10 September 2012

08.30 – 09.00

Registration

09.00 – 09.45

Opening Session

1. Welcome Remarks by co-leader project country **(France)**
2. Speech Address by Asia ASEM coordinator representative **(Laos)**
3. Speech Address by the EU ASEM coordinator Representative **(European Commission)**
4. Speech Address by Asia Asem Partner **(Pakistan)**
5. Speech Address by ASEM European Union Country **(EU Presidency – Cyprus)** (TBC)
6. Keynote Speech by Guest of Honour **(Mr Tan Chuan-Jin, Minister of State for Manpower)**

Photo taking session

09.45 – 10.15

Tea/coffee break

10.15 – 10.45

Introductory Remarks

1. Keynote Speech by ILO Representative
2. Keynote Speech by ASEAN OSHNET Secretariat

10.45 – 12.15

Plenary Session 1 – Development of OSH Culture in companies, including SME (Europe Government Perspective)

This session will share the experiences among the various European members in developing the OSH culture in companies, including especially SMEs. Each presentation would be about 10 minutes, followed by a Q&A session after all the presentations.

Chairman **Malaysia** (TBC)

Presentation by **UK** (TBC), **Germany**, **France**(TBC), **The Netherlands**, **Spain** (TBC), **Denmark**, **Slovak Republic** (TBC), **European Commission**

12.15 – 13.45

Lunch

13.45 – 15.15

Plenary Session 2 – Development of OSH Culture in SME(Asia Government Perspective)

This session will share the experiences among the various Asian members in developing the OSH culture in companies, including especially SMEs. Each presentation would be about 10 minutes, followed by a Q&A session after all the presentations.

Chairman **(Europe)** (TBC)

Presentation by **India** (TBC), **Korea** (TBC), **Thailand** (TBC), **Indonesia** (TBC), **China** (TBC)

15.15 – 15.45

Tea/coffee break

15.45 – 17.15

Plenary Session 3 – A Successful Partnership to influence OSH culture in SMEs (Tripartite perspective)

This session will share the experiences among the various social partners in successful partnership to influence OSH culture in SMEs. Each presentation would be about 10 minutes, followed by a Q&A session after all the presentations.

Chairman **(Europe)** (TBC)

Presentation by **1 Asian and 1 European Employers Representative ; 1 Asian and 1 European Employees Representative.** (TBC)

19.00 – 22.00

Welcome Dinner

Day 2, 11 September 2012

08.30 – 09.00

Registration

09.00 – 10.30

Plenary Session 4 – Inculcating OSH culture in SMEs (Companies perspective)

This session will share the experiences among the various companies in successful partnership to influence OSH culture in SMEs. Each presentation would be about 10 minutes, followed by a Q&A session after all the presentations.

Chairman **Japan** (TBC)

Presentation by **2 MNC[Europe], 2 SME (ASEAN – Indonesia, Malaysia)** (TBC)

10.30 – 11.00

Tea Break

11.00 – 13.00

Plenary Session 5 – International and regional collaboration on developing a preventive OSH culture in SMEs

This session will share the experiences among the international and regional organizations and partners in

developing a preventive OSH culture in SMEs. Each presentation would be about 10 minutes, followed by a Q&A session after all the presentations.

Chairman **Dr Jukka Takala**

Presentation by

ISSA (TBC)

SLIC representative (TBC)

ILO representative(TBC)

ASEAN OSHNET Secretariat (TBC)

IALI (TBC)

13.00 – 13.30

Preliminary Closing remarks by

- Netherlands and Vietnam : From Leiden to Hanoi

(conclusions of the workshop will contribute to the 4th

**ASEM Labour and Employment Ministers Meeting on 24-26
October 2012 in Hanoi, Vietnam)**

- EC as an EU ASEM coordinator

Closing ceremony and closing Remarks

France

Singapore

13.30 – 14.30

Lunch

14.30 – 17.30

Social Programme