

**DRAFT CONCEPT PAPER
ON THE FIRST PREPARATORY MEETING OF THE FOURTH ASEM
CULTURE MINISTERS MEETING**

1. BACKGROUND

At the ASEM Culture Ministers Meeting in Paris, 2005, Poland claimed the readiness to host the 4th CMM. The proposal was approved and the Meeting in Poland was re-scheduled to 2010, after the previous CMM in Kuala Lumpur was moved from 2007 to 2008.

Poland reconfirmed the willingness of hosting the 4th CMM during the plenary session of Ministers in Kuala Lumpur, April 2008 (see 3rd CMM Chairman's Statement).

Lately it has been decided, that the venue of the 4th CMM will be the City of Poznań, which successfully hosted the United Nations Climate Change Conference last year, and which is at the same time a boosting cultural and academic centre.

2. OBJECTIVES

As it has been practiced previously, Poland, being the hosting country of the 4th CMM, will organize the first Preparatory Meeting in Cracow with the intention of carrying out a presentation of the plans, agenda and details of the 4th Culture Ministers Meeting in Poznań, 2010, as well as of coordinating them with ASEM Partners.

Poland, since the Preparatory Meeting held in Wrocław in March 2007, has been exposing its particular interest in the topics related to the protection of Cultural Heritage. The Polish delegation to the 3rd ASEM Culture Ministers Meeting in Kuala Lumpur co-chaired with Indonesia the Workshop 4 "Conservation, Protection and Promotion of Cultural Heritage".

With the upcoming ASEM Culture Ministers Meeting in 2010 our country would like to highlight the extremely vast topic of cultural heritage by setting it in the centre of Culture Ministers' debate with the goal of approaching it in possibly various aspects, aiming to elaboration of common steps in the future. The Meeting shall deliver more results-orientated discussions, as recommended by the Heads of States and Governments at the 7th ASEM Summit in Beijing, October 2008 (see 7th ASEM Chair's Statement).

During the 1st Preparatory Meeting the attendees will carry out a discussion on such issues as: the 4th CMM's agenda, conclusive papers, topics of workshops, as well as on the technical details of the Summit in 2010 in Poznań.

Since the topic of the 4th CMM is going to deal with the issues of cultural heritage facing the challenges of contemporary times, the hosts of the Preparatory SOM in Cracow will propose following themes of Workshops to be discussed:

- Heritage Education
- Intercultural Dialogue and the Contemporary Times
- Conservation of Monuments, Including Paper and Wood
- Heritage and Development. Managing Historic Cities
- Cultural Heritage and Contemporary Threats
- Heritage Landscape.

According to ASEM CMM format there will be four workshops during the ministers' meeting. The attendees are welcome to claim their suggestions and remarks on above-mentioned topics.

The conclusions and recommendations of the 1st Preparatory Meeting can be subjected to further discussion and evaluation during the 2nd preparatory meeting, hosted by an Asian ASEM country, which is supposed to claim its availability during the debate in Cracow.

3. DATE

8 - 9 - 10 October 2009

8th October: arrivals and welcoming dinner

9th October: Preparatory Meeting

10th October: facultative cultural tour and departures

4. VENUE

Cracow, International Cultural Centre

5. HOSTS

The Ministry of Culture and National Heritage of the Republic of Poland
www.mkidn.gov.pl

International Cultural Centre
www.mck.krakow.pl

6. PARTICIPANTS

Representatives of all ASEM Countries and institutions are welcome to attend the Meeting. The City of Poznań, hosting the 4th CMM, will also attend the Preparatory Meeting in Cracow, giving the attendees a chance to get acquainted to the venue of the main event in 2010.

The Ministry of Culture and National Heritage of the Republic of Poland will issue the personal invitations upon request.

7. LANGUAGE

The working language of the Preparatory Meeting is English.

8. EXPENSES

Participants are supposed to bear their own expenses. The hosting institution will provide a block reservation of approx. 60 rooms in hotels located in the vicinity of the Preparatory Meeting's venue. The attendees will be offered welcoming dinner, meal and conference facilities during the Preparatory Meeting as well as cultural tour on the 10th of October.

9. ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

All interested persons and institutions are welcome to submit their enquiries to ASEM coordinator at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Poland or contact the Ministry of Culture and National Heritage by e-mail: asem@mkidn.gov.pl