



ROYAUME DE BELGIQUE

Service public fédéral

Affaires étrangères,

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B1.5/ASEM/TVDK/2010/

The Federal Public Service Foreign Affairs, Foreign Trade and Development Cooperation presents its compliments to the ASEM partners and the Russian Federation, Australia and New Zealand and has the honour to invite the ASEM partners and the Russian Federation, Australia and New Zealand as guests of the chair to the ASEM Negotiation Session on Sustainable Development in Brussels on 23-24 June 2010. Participants mandated to represent the positions of their government are expected to attend this event.

The Rio Declaration on Environment and Development (1992) has laid the basis for the world's striving for a development model that is sustainable in the long term. ASEM partners expressed their commitment to pursue efforts in this domain at the ASEM 7 Summit in Beijing in October 2008. In the course of consultations, ASEM partners have again underlined issues related to sustainable development. In response to this, the European Commission and Indonesia are organising a Conference on Sustainable Development in Yogyakarta on 26-27 May 2010.

As announced in the draft Annotated Agenda, Belgium wishes to welcome the ASEM partners and the Russian Federation, Australia and New Zealand as guests of the chair to the follow-up Preparatory event on 23-24 June 2010 in Brussels. This event is an integral part of the preparatory process for the ASEM 8 Summit. It involves a negotiation session with a view to thoroughly prepare the Summit message relating to sustainable development, either as a stand-alone message or as part of the Chair Statement. In preparation of this negotiation session, Belgium will put forward a draft text which will be circulated on or around 7 June 2010.

To facilitate travel arrangements, a preliminary version of the event program as well as the administrative circular with further practical information are attached to this note. Delegations are requested to register online for this event through <http://www.asem8.be/registration-preparatory-events> and this by Friday 18 June 2010 at the latest.

The Federal Public Service Foreign Affairs, Foreign Trade and Development Cooperation avails itself of this opportunity to renew to the ASEM partners and the Russian Federation, Australia and New Zealand the assurances of its highest consideration.

Brussels, 20 May 2010

To the ASEM partners and the Russian Federation, Australia and New Zealand

Attachments : Preliminary version of the event program; Administrative Circular

