



## ASEM FORUM



### Concept Paper

**Event** : ASEM Forum on Strengthening Cooperation in ICT Research & Development  
**Date** : July 20-21, 2010  
**Location** : Bandung, West Java, Indonesia  
**Venue** : Golden Flower Hotel Bandung

### The Event

As endorsed by the ASEM SOM held in Prague, February 2010, the ASEM Forum on Strengthening Cooperation in ICT Research & Development will be held in July 2010, in Bandung, Indonesia. The Forum is organized by the Ministry of Communication and Information Technology Republic of Indonesia and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Indonesia.

### Rationale

In the 5th ASEM Summit held in Viet Nam (2004) and the 6th ASEM Summit held in Helsinki (2006), ASEM Leaders underlined the need to enhance cooperation on Information Communication Technology. ICT holds a crucial role and is a revolutionary vehicle in both developing and developed countries. Technological innovations are indispensable in expanding and managing information, in fulfilling the need of local communities and in adapting to the world's developments.

Furthermore, there is widespread agreement that ICT offers transformational opportunities for a country's economy. Experience has shown that access to ICTs is optimized in countries with effective, competition-centered, market-friendly regulatory frameworks that support and sustain both ICT investment and diffusion.

However, implementing such a framework has in recent years become more challenging than ever as the ICT sector continues to undergo major structural changes, particularly for those who are not ready to face such advance. Regulators need to manage the transition from old to new ICT environments, which raises a wide range of questions including: the scope of authority of ICT regulatory institutions, approaches to licensing, competition policy and level playing field in the new environment, the question of legacy subsidy arrangements, best practices in technology, issues in market research and approaches to universal access in order to successfully realize the potential of alternative network infrastructures.

In addressing such issues, ICT research and development cooperation should to be intensified among ASEM Partners so as to promote strategic and reliable role of ICT in the region. In this regard, the ASEM FORUM of ICT Research and Development Cooperation should be seen as an opportunity to enhance collaboration among research institutions in examining current situation, to promote networking among them, and to make feasible recommendations for various programs of ICT research and development.

### Objectives

The ASEM Forum on Strengthening Cooperation in ICT Research & Development will provide opportunity for ASEM Partners officials and practitioners to discuss current issues regarding the development of ICT. Moreover, the Forum also has the objectives to:

- a. Encourage exchange of experiences in ICT research and development

- b. Enhance ASEM Partners ICT institutions networks
- c. Identify possible areas of cooperation
- d. Establish strategies and plan of actions for the strengthening of ASEM ICT research and development cooperation

### **Topics**

Several issues to be discussed within the Forum are as follows:

- Best Practices of Regulatory Research, Technology Research, and Market Research in the Era of Convergence
- Current problems, issues and solutions in the Era of Convergence
- Challenges and Opportunities for Strengthening ASEM Cooperation in ICT Research & Development

Indonesia welcomes any suggestion or comments ASEM Partners may have towards the proposed issues.

### **The Format and Language of the Forum**

The ASEM Forum on Strengthening Cooperation in ICT Research & Development will be a two day seminar which focuses on specific topics under the objectives of increasing ASEM ICT Research and Development Cooperation.

The working language will be English.

### **Participants**

The delegates will be government officials, (ICT experts and ICT practitioners) from ASEM Partner countries. The meeting will also be attended by a few private or non-profit organizations as guest of the host.

### **Organizational Expenses**

Organizational costs will mainly be covered by Indonesia as the host country. Indonesia will also provide 2 (two) night accommodation for Head of Delegations. The accommodation of other delegates or any additional charges will not be covered by Indonesia.

Participants are expected to bear their own international travel.

### **Co-Sponsorship**

Indonesia would like to encourage all ASEM Partners to be co-sponsors of this initiative in the form of dispatching their expert as speakers or resource persons (this includes reimbursing their international airfares).

### **Contact Person**

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