

## ENGAGING BUSINESS AND INDUSTRY IN EDUCATION

### THE 3<sup>rd</sup> EXPERT MEETING ON ASEM WORKPLACEMENT PROGRAMME

In light of the continuity of the previous Expert Meeting of ASEM Workplacement Programme in Ghent, Belgium, on 27-28 May 2016, Indonesia through the Ministry of Research, Technology, and Higher Education hosted the Third Expert Meeting of ASEM Workplacement Programme in Nusa Dua, Bali. This meeting discussed several issues related to programme's implementation.

Representatives from four member countries, namely Belgium, Germany, Indonesia, and Thailand participated in the meeting.



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The meeting was preceded by remarks from Prof. Intan Ahmad, Director General of Learning and Student Affairs, Ministry of Research, Technology, and Higher Education. He emphasised the importance to ensure the preparation of the programme. The session was followed by reports from each University Business Network (UBN) of member countries. They presented progresses and obstacles encountered by each country as well as their schemes and companies involved in the programme.

The discussion was directed to craft the best action plans for the programme that cover the following:

- 1) Establish state-controlled information system database for applicants,
- 2) Provide a comprehensive information in each UBN,
- 3) Promote pilot programme of ASEM Workplacement in each country,
- 4) Call for students are expected to be opened in July 2016.



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On the following day, the meeting wrapped the discussion on the evaluation of administrative documents such as application forms, training agreement, evaluation aspects, and reports. It is agreed that students participated in the pilot programme are obliged to submit their report and evaluation form as part of the programme assessment. The upcoming meeting will be hosted by Germany in November 2016.

## BALANCED MOBILITY

### THE 3<sup>rd</sup> EXPERT MEETING ON ASEM JOINT CURRICULUM DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME IN TOURISM AND HOSPITALITY

The Ministry of Research, Technology, and Higher Education of the Republic of Indonesia

hosted the 3<sup>rd</sup> Expert Meeting on ASEM Joint Curriculum Development Programme in Tourism and Hospitality on 27-28 May 2016 in Bali, held back-to-back with the 3<sup>rd</sup> Expert Meeting on ASEM Workplacement Programme.



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The meeting was attended by representatives from Indonesia and Romania. This was the first meeting for Romania since they joined in this programme.

Dr. Intan Ahmad, Director General of Learning and Students Affairs, welcomed all participants and officially opened the meeting. He brought to mind the process of the establishment of AWP Programme as well as Joint Curriculum Programme and wished fruitful discussions for both meetings.

The session was followed by presentations from Bucharest University of Economic Studies and Ministry of National Education and Scientific Research) as well as from several Indonesia's higher institutions in tourism and hospitality (Udayana University, Trisakti School of Tourism, and Medan Academy of Tourism).

The meeting discussed the steps to design a new cooperation in joint curriculum in tourism and hospitality between Indonesia and Romania under ASEM education initiatives.

In conclusion, several points agreed are as follow:

1. The first draft of MoU of ASEM Joint Curriculum will be sent by Indonesia to Romania in July 2016.
2. MoU will be finalised during Indonesia's visit to Romania in October 2016
3. Exchange information on qualification framework between Indonesia and Romania.

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### **7<sup>th</sup> MODEL ASEM "20 YEARS OF ASEM: PARTNERSHIP FOR THE FUTURE THROUGH CONNECTIVITY"**

7<sup>th</sup> Model ASEM was held on 6-10 July 2016 in conjunction with the 11<sup>th</sup> Asia-Europe Meeting (ASEM 11). More than 130 student delegates from 51 ASEM Partner countries attended Model ASEM, a political simulation of ASEM Summit, under the theme "*20 Years of ASEM: Partnership for the Future through Connectivity*". The Model ASEM Leaders raised 10 major areas of concern on Asia-Europe relations and cooperation under the Summit's focus on connectivity across ASEM's political, economic and socio-cultural pillars from human rights' point of view.

*Political Pillar.* Participants of the Model ASEM addressed political related issues of connectivity such as connectivity across border and the importance of Asia-Europe cooperation on issues, including migration, refugees, and prevention of human trafficking while reducing barrier of knowledge exchange and youth mobility simultaneously. Another issue being raised was connectivity across communities that aimed at promoting inclusivity and preventing marginalisation by adopting socio-cultural approach that relies on

education, dialogue, and interaction to prevent youth violent extremism and radicalization leading to terrorism. The Participants also discussed how partnership and collaboration between Asia and Europe are required in addressing traditional and non-traditional security threats, such as cross-border crime and weapons of mass destruction.

*Economic Pillar.* Delegates acknowledged the need to create equal and sustainable employment opportunities. They were introduced to universal digital connectivity and e-commerce through initiatives such as the Trans-Eurasia Information Network (TEIN) alongside transcontinental commerce such as Foreign Direct Investment as a way of achieving economic growth and development gap. The cross-continental transportation was also deemed essential to support connectivity and economic growth between the ASEM partners.

*Cultural Pillar.* The importance of promoting cultural diversity amongst ASEM partners through an annual culture festival showcasing various forms of arts was also recognised. The last issue being discussed in the ASEM Model was connectivity through education by providing equal and quality education for all through continuation of 4 priorities within the framework of ASEM Education Process, including quality assurance and credit recognition; engaging business and industry in education; balanced mobility and lifelong learning including technical and vocational education and training.

In the closing session, the Model ASEM Leaders congratulated the ASEM Partners for their cooperation and achievement in the past two decades of ASEM partnership.

The Chairs' Statement of the meeting could be downloaded by visiting the [ASEF website](#).

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### **ASEM DUO – THAILAND : CALL FOR APPLICATIONS**

2017 DUO –Thailand Fellowship Programme is calling for application for ASEM member countries in Europe.

The program aims at enhancing a balanced mobility of students between Thailand and ASEM member countries in Europe. The programme provides a pair of students to be exchanged in the framework of cooperative project/cooperation between higher education institutions in Thailand and ASEM member countries in Europe.

The registration of DUO - Thailand will be opened until 15 August 2016.

For more information please visit [ASEM DUO Website](#).

### **ASEM EVENTS**

#### **SENIOR OFFICIALS' MEETING (SOM) ASIA EUROPE MEETING (ASEM) 2016**

As a preparatory step for the upcoming 11<sup>th</sup> ASEM Summit in July 2016 that coincides with the 20 years of ASEM celebration, Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MoFA) of Mongolia hosted the

Senior Officials Meeting (SOM) of 11<sup>th</sup> ASEM on 12 - 13 May 2016 in Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia. Attended by over 170 representatives from 53 ASEM member countries, the meeting discussed the draft of Ulaanbaatar Declaration and Chairs' Statement to be endorsed at the 11<sup>th</sup> ASEM Summit that will be held on 15 - 16 July 2016 in Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia. Theme raised for this meeting is "*20 years of ASEM: Partnership for the Future through Connectivity*"

The meeting officially opened by Mr. D. Gankhuyang, State Secretary of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs Mongolia. He celebrated the 20 years of Asia-Europe Meeting as an important milestone of regional cooperation as well as a momentum to further review and determine the ASEM direction according to ASEM countries' visions, objectives, and priorities.

The senior officials discussed several points as follows:

1. Connectivity is one of the important issues in ASEM forum. The term connectivity in this regard is directed at soft connectivity which stresses on people-to-people exchange activities such as dialog and digital connectivity.
2. Mongolia's proposal to establish and manage the ASEM center during their time as a host of the ASEM Summit 2016. The center will link the ASEM 2016 result to the relevant stakeholders in order to encourage public awareness and connectivity.
3. Establishment of the Working Group on Press/Public Awareness Management Strategy in order to improve public awareness and participation in ASEM cooperation.

4. New ASEM membership proposals from Serbia, Turkey, and Ukraina.
5. The 12<sup>th</sup> ASEM Summit in 2018 will be organised by the European Commission in Brussel, Belgium.
6. New appointment of the Executive Director and Deputy Executive Director of ASEM for the next period (2016-2020). The candidates will be selected from Europe and Asia.

To conclude, SOM ASEM agreed on the draft of the Ulaanbaatar Declaration with more inputs on several common issues in the region such as migration, terrorism, human rights, maritime security and cooperation, digital connectivity, and water management.

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## THE 11<sup>TH</sup> ASEM SUMMIT

The 11<sup>th</sup> ASEM Summit was held on 15-16 July 2016 in Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia under the theme "*20 years of ASEM: Partnership for the Future through Connectivity*".



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The Summit was coincided with the 20 years of ASEM anniversary since the Asia-Europe Meeting dialogue process was inaugurated in 1996 in Bangkok, Thailand.

Attended by Head of States and Governments from 51 ASEM member countries, as well as the President of the European Council, the President of the European Commission, and the Secretary General of the ASEAN, the meeting discussed two important agenda: first, reviewed the ASEM achievements progress which resulted during the 20 years of cooperation and second, set the course for further enhancement and evolution of the inter-regional process for the next decade. The leaders also approved the draft of the Ulaanbaatar Declaration and Chair's Statement as the results of the ASEM Summit.

Several salient issues such as migration, terrorism, human rights, maritime security and cooperation, digital connectivity, and water management were also highlighted as discussion topics.

Connectivity, the Summit concluded, should be enhanced by people-to-people connectivity through cultural, educational, academic, tourism and youth exchanges between ASEM members. In term of education cooperation, the leaders recognised and supported the exchanges program such as ASEM-DUO Fellowship Programme which produces practical and tangible results, and ASEF's capacity-building programme for the youth. Higher education, lifelong learning and vocational education and training for human resource development were also acknowledged by the leaders as the important role of education.

As stated in the Ulaanbaatar Declaration, the leaders committed to lead ASEM successfully by reinforcing the ASEM partnership, focusing cooperation for tangible benefits, fostering

connectivity in all dimensions, promoting informality, networking and flexibility.

To download the results of the 11<sup>th</sup> ASEM Summit please visit [ASEM Info Board](#) website

## PUBLICATIONS

### 20 YEARS OF ASIA-EUROPE RELATIONS ASEM 20TH ANNIVERSARY BOOK



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Coinciding with the 11<sup>th</sup> ASEM Summit in Mongolia, Asia-Europe Foundation (ASEF) launched the publication of the 20 Years of Asia-Europe Relations ASEM 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Book which is dedicated to the 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of ASEM.

The Book contains of various insightful articles by the leaders and governments from ASEM member countries (France, Germany, Greece, Indonesia, Japan, Republic of Korea, Luxembourg, Mongolia, The Netherlands, Sweden, and Viet Nam) related to the ASEM cooperation that has been going on for 20 years and beyond. ASEM partners such as European Commission, ASEF, and China Center for International Economic Exchanges also contribute articles for the book.

The published articles of the 20 Years of Asia-Europe Relations ASEM 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Book could be read on [ASEF website](#).

## ASEM ACTIVITIES TO COME - SAVE THE DATE

### **ASEM FORUM ON LIFELONG LEARNING 2016: 21<sup>ST</sup> CENTURY SKILLS, COPENHAGEN, DENMARK**

Organised by the Danish School of Education, Aarhus University (ASEM LLL Hub) in cooperation with the Danish Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Ministry for Children, Education and Gender Quality and the Asia-Europe Foundation (ASEF), the ASEM Forum on Lifelong Learning 2016: 21<sup>st</sup> Century Skills will be conducted on 3- 5 October 2016 at Danish School of Education, Copenhagen Denmark.

Under the theme *21<sup>st</sup> Century Skills*, the forum will explore new visions and effective models of lifelong learning which are immensely needed to facing the contemporary economic crisis issue. Furthermore, the representatives from 51 ASEM member countries are expected to engage in this forum and generate a key concepts for policies and practices of the 21<sup>st</sup> Century Skills in Asia and Europe.

For more information about the forum please visit [ASEM LLL Hub](#) website.

### **ASEM LLL HUB CONFERENCE 2016 LIFELONG LEARNING AND RESILIENCE IN DISASTER MANAGEMENT: ASIAN AND EUROPEAN PERSPECTIVES, HO CHI MINH, VIET NAM.**

Taking place in Ho Chi Minh City, Viet Nam, the ASEM LLL Hub Conference 2016 Lifelong Learning and Resilience in Disaster

Management: Asian and European Perspective will be held on 8-10 November 2016. The conference organised by the Danish School of Education, Aarhus University (ASEM LLL Hub) in cooperation with the Danish Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Ministry for Children, Education and Gender Quality and the Asia-Europe Foundation (ASEF), and the South East Asian Ministers of Education Organization Regional Centre for Lifelong Learning (SEAMEO LLL).

The meeting invites representatives of the ASEM member countries from various sectors which include researchers, policy makers, and practitioners to deliberate about contemporary possibilities which address issues of lifelong learning and resilience in disaster management through the key concepts for policies and practices in Asia and Europe.

For more information about the conference, please visit [ASEM LLL Hub](#) website.

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## Regional

### Europe

#### **EU Should Ease Work Permit Terms for Foreign Graduates: June 11, 2016**

The EU is the most destinations for international students. Nevertheless, most of them do not stay after they graduate. In order to attract employees, the EU has to make processes to gain a work permit for foreign students easier. Currently many labour migrants are not coming to the EU under programmes for skilled workers. Amongst those who do so, most come under national schemes, since the EU permit for highly qualified migrants. The “Blue Card” is hard to obtain.

Employers already report more difficulty in attracting and retaining talents. The long-term competitiveness of the EU and its ability to move to a strong and sustainable growth path is at stake. The EU could do a better job in branding itself as a single destination and in advertising options for the highly qualified developing countries talents.

The EU needs to address demographic decline and shortages of specific skills. It should reform its legal labour migration policies which is much simpler procedures and processes to remove obstacles to attracting and recruiting talent. Skilled migrants can play an important role in addressing labour market shortages, drive innovation, and promote productivity growth.

The European Commission President, Jean-Claude Juncker announced his intention to promote a new European policy on legal migration to address skills shortages and attract talent to better cope with the demographic challenges of the EU, including through a review of the EU Blue Card. Talent from outside can help the EU deal with these challenges.

Under the new scheme, Blue Card holders will be given immediate and more flexible labour market access. The revised salary system will make it easier for recent graduates and workers in shortage occupations from developing countries to work in the EU, thus increasing the retention of foreign talent educated in the EU and easing their entry from abroad. However, the United Kingdom, Ireland and Denmark are not taking part in the adoption of this directive and will not be bound by it.

The European Parliament passed a new visa directive on EU entry and residence that makes it easier and more attractive for people from developing countries to study or do research at EU universities. Students and researchers may stay at least nine months after finishing their studies or research in order to look for a job or to set up a business.

Read more at:

<http://www.universityworldnews.com/article.php?story=20160611010529620>

## Australia

#### **Fourfold increase in Students Studying Abroad – Survey: June 10, 2016**

A national student survey and three new reports published by universities in Australia show that the number of students studying abroad has grown quadrupled. In 2014, more than 30,000 students studied, worked or volunteered in another country. This number increased from 7,000 in 2005.

More than 8,000 students have taken the survey which explained the reasons why students studied overseas are the following: first, looking an opportunity to challenge themselves; second, enhancing their future job prospects; third, building new networks, and fourth, gaining independence. Other push factors in studying abroad are the experience of other students, access to different subjects and units, looks good on resume, and scholarship or financial support. The survey reveals a strong correlation between the intent to work in another country after graduating from university and participating in a mobility program.

Read more at:

<http://www.universityworldnews.com/article.php?story=2016060914173568>

## Finland

#### **90% Vocational Admission Seekers Accepted: June 17, 2016**

About 90% from more than 43,000 students who applied for vocational training have been accepted for study places. The number of accepted students increased about 5% compared to the previous session with only 85% of the applicants were accepted. Most of the students applied for upper secondary school



placements and New students must agree to their placements by the end of June. For students who were rejected can still apply for the placement using the schools' own application.

Read more at:

<http://www.finlandtimes.fi/education/2016/06/17/27907/90%-vocational-admission-seekers-accepted>

## Greece

### **Greece and Cyprus to Forge Joint Education Policy: July 22, 2016**

Greece and Cyprus have decided to establish a joint committee to deal with problems in education and culture sectors, following a decision by the parliamentary education committees of both countries. The decision to jointly formulate policy was taken at a meeting of the two committees at the Greek Parliament during a visit of Cypriot government members.

Read more at:

<http://greece.greekreporter.com/2016/07/22/greece-and-cyprus-to-forge-joint-education-policy/#sthash.cX2yOAXp.dpuf>

## India

### **Open Up to Foreign Providers, Recommends Think Tank: June 20, 2016**

Prime Minister of India, Narendra Modi is setting the country as a global study destination. He is doing so by enabling foreign Higher Education institutions to operate in India. He believes that foreign universities could provide a solution to the high demand for higher education level in India. It will also bring much-needed foreign investment and drive up quality in higher education system.

After decades-long of discussions about the issue, this new national education policy will be implemented by this year. It has already backed by ten state governments with condition only open to high-quality foreign providers that have something to offer to domestic students.

Read more at:

<http://thepienews.com/news/india-open-up-to-foreign-providers-recommends-think-tank/>

## Indonesia

### **Education ministry gender program gets UNESCO thumbs-up: June 11, 2016**

The Culture and Education Ministry has received an award from UNESCO for introducing a gender equality program as part of early childhood education (PAUD).

A member of the jury for the UNESCO Prize for Girls' and Women's Education, Aicha Bah Diallo, said few countries in the world introduced gender concepts from early childhood. "That is why Indonesia's PAUD programme really attracted the jury's attention," Diallo said as quoted by kompas.com.

Read more at:

<http://www.thejakartapost.com/youth/2016/06/11/education-ministry-gender-program-gets-unesco-thumbs-up.html>

## Myanmar

### **MPs push for international university in Nay Pyi Taw: June 20, 2016**

Several parliamentarians are hoping to establish a new university in the nation's capital, which now only has one agricultural institution of higher learning.

Students who pass their matriculation exams in Nay Pyi Taw, and who do not wish to take agriculture courses, now mostly attend university in Mandalay. Because there are no local options in the council area, the students face higher living and travel expenses.

Read more at:

<http://www.mmtimes.com/index.php/national-news/nay-pyi-taw/20932-mps-push-for-international-university-in-nay-pyi-taw.html>

## New Zealand

### **Brian Gaynor: University Numbers Mean Big Business: June 4, 2016**

What strategies are universities adopting to attract students in a competitive global environment?

New Zealand's tertiary education sector provides a wide range of learning opportunities, from foundation skills



to doctoral studies. The Ministry of Education places a strong emphasis on tertiary education because it estimates that an individual with a university degree earns 67 per cent more than one without a qualification. One of the first points to note about the university sector is the QS World Ranking, in which the six New Zealand universities in the accompanying table are listed from left to right according to their QS Ranking.

Read more at:  
[http://www.nzherald.co.nz/education/news/article.cfm?c\\_id=35&objectid=11650254](http://www.nzherald.co.nz/education/news/article.cfm?c_id=35&objectid=11650254)

### Norway

#### **New Verdict from Norwegian Students on the Quality in Higher Education: July 3, 2016**

NOKUT just released new results from the national student survey for higher education in Norway, Studiebarometeret. The results show that Norwegian students, at large, are most satisfied with their study programs ability to be career relevant.

NOKUT is responsible for conducting the annual national student survey, asking Norwegian students for their perception on different dimensions of quality at the study program they attend. This year NOKUT presented the results at The Oslo School of Architecture and Design.

Read more at:  
<http://www.nokut.no/en/News/News-2016/New-verdict-from-Norwegian-students-on-the-quality-in-higher-education/#.V5WIUldYmRs>

### Poland

#### **Outgoing President of the European University Institute in Florence Visited Ministry of Science and Higher Education: 15 July, 2016**

Professor Joseph H.H. Weiler, President of the European University Institute in Florence (EUI) was hosted by Professor Aleksander Bobko, Secretary of State at MSHE.

Prof. Weiler expressed his high appreciation for excellent scientific accomplishments of Polish EUI PhD students and alumni who form a quite unique, well-organised and closely cooperating association, not only active in research, but contributing vastly to the entire Florentine university community.

Read more at:  
<http://www.nauka.gov.pl/en/polish-science-news/outgoing-president-of-the-european-university-institute-in-florence-visited-ministry-of-science-and-higher-education.html>

### Romania

#### **Romania's Education Minister Asks Local University to Take Clear Stance on Plagiarism Cases: July 21, 2016**

Romania's Education Minister Mircea Dumitru said he expected the "Mihai Viteazul" National Intelligence Academy to take on a clear stand on the plagiarism cases haunting the academy.

The institution should either ask for the withdrawal of the PhD titles or should take responsibility for plagiarism, the Minister said.

Read more at:  
<http://www.romania-insider.com/education-minister-clear-stance-plagiarism-cases/>

### Singapore

#### **Universities Get Creative: July 25, 2016**

Universities are offering a wider range of courses, in increasingly unconventional areas of study, as market demands evolve. Calvin Yang explores some of the offerings. From game design to translation and interpretation, universities are giving one another a run for their money by offering unconventional degree courses to cater to students' varying interests.

The wider range of courses allows students to pursue their various passions, as well as prepares them for the manpower demands of emerging fields. Professor Tan Eng Chye, National University of Singapore (NUS) provost and deputy president of academic affairs, said that the diversification of offerings here is a positive development.

Read more at:  
<http://www.straitstimes.com/singapore/education/universities-get-creative>

