



DRAFT

**Preparatory workshop to the
1st ASEM Social Partners Forum:
How to make globalisation a success for all?
Social partner contributions to the ASEM dialogue
Brussels, 29 June 2008**

Accommodation/Conference Venue:

**Hotel Bedford
Rue du Midi, 135-137
1000 Brussels
Tel. : 0032 2 50 70000**

Participants:

Trade Unionists from Asia and Europe

On 30 June and 1 July, the European Commission will organise the 1st ASEM Social Partners Forum. This event provides the excellent opportunity for the Asian and European social partners to establish a structured dialogue in the context of the ASEM process. The initiative of the European Commission is based on the commitment of ASEM members to expand the cooperation in areas of common interest such as employment and to address the social dimension of globalisation. The Social Partners Forum can be seen as a follow-up to the 1st ASEM Labour and Employment Ministers' Conference (Potsdam, September 2006) and, at the same time, as a preparation for the upcoming 2nd Labour and Employment Ministers' Conference (Bali, October 2008).

At this Ministerial Conference, three topics will be under discussion: training and employability; social protection and corporate social responsibility; and labour migration, with a focus on intra-regional migration and the labour market integration and protection of migrants.

The Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung (FES) welcomes the initiative of the European Commission, being much in favour of the trade unions' concern to strengthen their active role in the process of the ASEM dialogue. Therefore, the EU Office of the FES at Brussels is organising a preparatory workshop to give trade unionist from Asia as well as from Europe an opportunity to identify joint positions to be presented to the other social partners at the Social Partners Forum itself.

Workshop language will be English.

Programme

Saturday, 28th June: Arrival of participants

Sunday, 29th June:

9h30-10h00 Welcome / Introduction

10h00-12h00 Introduction to the ASEM Process

Input John Quigley: From Bangkok (1996) via Potsdam (2006) to Bali (2008) – The inclusion of the social dimension into the ASEM dialogue

Followed by discussion

- *To ensure a common level of information on the ASEM process this session will enable participants to discuss the current state of play and discuss the role of trade unions in the ASEM process*

12h00-14h00 Lunch Break

Lunch provided in the hotel

14h00-14h15 Introduction to Working Groups 1-4

- *The objective of the working groups is to reach common conclusions which will be presented to the plenum in the context of the social partners' group meeting the following day (see commission's programme)*
- *A moderator who will facilitate a target-oriented discussion will guide the working groups.*

14h15-17h00

Working Group 1: Qualification, training, and employ- ability	Working Group 2: Poverty reduction, social protection, and social inclusion
Introductory Note: Roland Schneider (TUAC)	Introductory Note: Claire Courteille (ITUC)
Moderator: Marcello Mereu Rapporteur: (to be appointed at the beginning of the session)	Moderator: Pascal Hildebert Rapporteur: (to be appointed at the beginning of the session)

Working Group 3: Employment creation and flexicurity	Working Group 4: Working conditions and quality of work
Introductory Note: N.N., European Trade Union Confederation	Introductory Note: Rudi Delarue, (ILO Brussels)
Moderator: Matthias Diederichs Rapporteur: (to be appointed at the beginning of the session)	Moderator: Eckhard Bollow Rapporteur: (to be appointed at the beginning of the session)

Organisation:

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