



**YOGYAKARTA STATEMENT  
OF THE  
ASEM DEVELOPMENT CONFERENCE II – TOWARDS AN ASIA-EUROPE  
PARTNERSHIP FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT  
Yogyakarta, 26-27 May 2010**

The Government of the Republic of Indonesia and the European Commission organised a conference under the title "ASEM Development Conference II – Towards an Asia-Europe Partnership for Sustainable Development" in Yogyakarta, 26-27 May 2010. This conference was a follow-up to the ASEM 7 Beijing Summit Declaration on Sustainable Development and the first ASEM Development Conference held in Manila, 20-21 April 2009. It is also an input to the forthcoming ASEM 8 Brussels Summit 4-5<sup>th</sup> October 2010, the theme of which is "Quality of life, achieving greater well-being and more dignity for all citizens".

The conference brought together more than 200 high-level officials and experts from Asia and Europe as well as representatives of international organisations and civil society organisations for a debate on the future of Asia-Europe cooperation for sustainable development focusing on three themes - climate change and low-carbon development, social cohesion, and policy coherence for development.

Recognising that sustainable development is based on three mutually reinforcing elements - economic, social, and environmental, and that Asia-Europe cooperation should continue to be based on respect for, and recognition of the rich variety of different cultures and values in the two continents, the participants in the conference, agreed the following:

***The future of Asia-Europe Cooperation for Sustainable Development***

- Whilst reaffirming the ODA commitments, Asia and Europe should move towards a more comprehensive, equal and mutually beneficial strategic partnership for sustainable development.
- In view of the different socio-economic situations of different countries in Asia, participants suggest to adjust and design cooperation in a way that responds to the needs of least developed and middle-income countries.
- South-south cooperation has gained in importance and participants are engaged to explore purposes, ways, and means of triangular cooperation.
- Participants remain committed to pursue the goal of poverty eradication, and the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs), based on the policies and strategies of developing countries.
- Participants agreed to build upon the principle of comprehensive, equal and mutually beneficial cooperation by improving their working methods, in particular:
  - enhancing peer learning and the exchange of different practices;
  - encouraging greater exchange at people-to-people, institution-to-institution and country-to-country levels;
  - encouraging the continued active involvement of civil society organisations;
  - enhancing "partnership" programmes for development which bring together state and stakeholders to address key problems that have been identified by them and local-level actors;

- enhancing effectiveness and efficiency of ODA by applying the principles of the Paris Declaration and the Accra Agenda for Action, managing for results and mutual accountability for the quality and results of their cooperation; and
- achieving greater leverage through blending grants and loans.

### **Climate Change and Low-Carbon Development**

- Participants agreed that the development and implementation of low-carbon growth strategies on all levels of government and all sectors is necessary. In this respect all countries face similar challenges.
- Specific challenges manifest themselves in urbanisation, low-carbon growth with positive effects on job creation, forest protection, awareness raising, investment in R&D on low-carbon technology, as well as training of experts on low-carbon matters.
- Participants underlined the importance of coordination amongst States on common activities in order to enhance information and technology sharing in this respect.

### **Social Cohesion and its role in promoting sustainable development**

- Participants agreed that greater equality and income security as well as equal access to quality education and health services, and food are the foundation of social cohesion and that these could best be obtained by full and productive employment and the wide participation of citizens in wealth creation. This approach should be combined with different forms of social protection systems, including for migrant workers.
- In addition a learning society, emphasising the availability of all forms of education and vocational training of high quality, can enhance social cohesion by improving the employment and income prospects of men and women. Civil society organisations also have their role in fostering social cohesion.
- Participants agreed that there is scope for enhancing mutual learning and information exchange as well as peer-to-peer cooperation among Governments and the empowerment of stakeholders.

### **Policy Coherence and sustainable development**

- Europe and Asia are already engaged in a multi-dimensional partnership that goes beyond aid. In order to make all dimensions contribute to sustainable development, policy coherence for development is important, in particular in the areas of trade, finance and investment, climate change, food security, migration, and security.
- Participants agreed that the concept of policy coherence for development should be further elaborated.
- Participants agreed that pursuing policy coherence in both developed and developing countries in the light of their specific conditions is indispensable for sustainable development.

This conference recommends that the ASEM partners take into account this Yogyakarta Statement in the course of their preparations for the ASEM 8 Summit.