



ASIA
EUROPE
ENVIRONMENT
FORUM

Brussels, Belgium
30 November and 1 December 2006

4th Roundtable




COMBINE OR COMBUST!

**'Cooperating on Chemicals and
Hazardous Substances Management'**



Co-hosted and supported by DG Environment, European Commission
With the support from the Government of Japan and the Asia-Pacific Forum for Environment and Development



The **Asia-Europe Environment Forum** is a platform for dialogue and debate on sustainable development issues.

It is:

- The **only multi-stakeholder forum on environment** between the two regions
- A **recognised reference point for Asia and Europe consensus** on sustainable development;
- An interface between government and civil society for **policy recommendations**;
- An Asia-Europe network on sustainable development; and,
- A contributor to the agenda of the ASEM Environment Ministerial and other Asia-Europe Meeting (**ASEM**) fora.



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CONFERENCE PURPOSE

Chemicals and Hazardous Substances

Chemicals of various types are a pervasive presence in modern societies. Production of, trade in and use of chemicals have nothing less than exploded over the past decades. The chemical industry has become increasingly globalised and more countries, including developing ones, are becoming major producers for the world. The business is highly research-intensive, resulting in an ever-increasing number of new substances entering the market.

Certainly, this phenomenon has contributed to economic growth and better living standards the world over. Nevertheless, the gap between developed and developing countries is still widening with regard to sustainable chemicals management which of course undermines development, health and poverty alleviation investments. The increasing occurrence of allergies, cancer and other chronic toxic effects are examples of possible negative consequences of the use of chemicals. Furthermore, irresponsible production and use of chemicals may cause serious trans-boundary problems.

International Agreements

The cross-cutting impact of unsound chemicals and hazardous substances management and its potential to undermine the achievement of development goals suggest a need to ensure that the chemicals issue is integrated into sustainable development strategies on the part of both national governments and the international donor community. Chemical management and safety is already part of several complementary multilateral environment agreements (MEAs) and processes, among them:

- International Programme on Chemical Safety (established in 1980).
- Montreal Protocol on Substances That Deplete the Ozone Layer (adopted in 1987; entry into force in 1989).
- Basel Convention on the Control of Transboundary Movements of Hazardous Wastes and Their Disposal (adopted in 1989; entry into force in 1992).
- Rotterdam Convention on the Prior Informed Consent Procedure for Certain Hazardous Chemicals and Pesticides in International Trade (adopted in 1998, entry into force in 2005).

- Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants (adopted in 2001, entry into force in 2005).
- The Kiev Protocol on Pollutant Release and Transfer Registers (adopted in 2003; not yet entered into force).

However, the real starting point for a common global approach in chemicals management was the seven programme areas agreed in Chapter 19 of the **Agenda 21** on the environmentally sound management of toxic chemicals which resulted from the 1992 Earth Summit in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil. Following that was the **Johannesburg Plan of Implementation**, one of the goals being that, **by 2020, chemicals are produced and used in ways that minimise significant adverse impacts on human health and the environment**. The chemicals agenda is now coming the forefront with newly concluded agreement on a **Strategic Approach to International Chemicals Management (SAICM – adopted internationally since 6 February 2006)** that will provide a policy framework for the chemicals agenda. In this respect, implementing tools such as the Globally Harmonised System of Classification and Labelling of Chemicals (GHS) are very pertinent especially given that the Intergovernmental Forum on Chemical Safety has decided to have GHS operational by 2008, as also targeted in Johannesburg.

Asia and Europe in Context

The Asia-Europe Environment Forum is the main platform for multistakeholder policy dialogue on sustainable development issues between Asia and Europe that has steadily gained recognition among civil society (which is its primary constituency), the business community as well as among governments particularly through the Asia-Europe Meeting (ASEM) process.

ASEM is a political process of dialogue and co-operation between the European Union (EU) and East Asia¹, along three pillars: political (the inter-governmental, official dialogue); economic (trade, investment, involving the business sector) and socio cultural (which includes the Asia-Europe Foundation as the process's outreach to civil society).

The landmark conference “**1/3 of Our Planet: What Can Asia and Europe Do for Sustainable Development**” was held in Jakarta, Indonesia, on 23-25 November 2005, successfully concluding the first phase of the Asia-Europe Environment Forum. The event, which was attended by close to 350 high-level participants from throughout Asia and Europe, produced the “The Jakarta 12: Agendas for Sustainable Development”.

¹ ASEM member are: Austria, Belgium, Brunei, Cambodia, China, Cyprus, the Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Indonesia, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Korea, Laos, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malaysia, Malta, Myanmar, the Netherlands, the Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Thailand, the United Kingdom, Vietnam and the European Commission.

In this statement, **the issue of the management of hazardous chemicals was aptly identified as one of the most important environmental policy issues for the two regions.**

Building on this momentum, **the Asia-Europe Environment Forum 4th Roundtable will discuss the management of chemicals and toxic substances as a policy issue that may be meaningfully advanced through the ASEM framework as well as other relevant regional, cross-regional and international fora,** timely scheduled just before the regional consultation in Asia-Pacific by the SAICM Secretariat in December 2006. It is also significant that the meeting will be held in Brussels while the European Parliament enters into the second reading of the REACH agreement.

Objectives

The roundtable aims to contribute to the current global policy dialogue on chemicals management by promoting transparency, capacity building and knowledge transfer between Asia and Europe. **More specifically, the meeting expects to propose an overall practical framework for future stronger Asia Europe co-operation in chemicals management.**

It will bring together all key stakeholders from Asia and Europe with an interest in chemicals safety to discuss results and implications of various in chemicals management policies prior to SAICM and brainstorm on the possibility of developing more efficient and effective approaches, thus strengthening the multi-stakeholder consultative process. To this end, an elaboration of certain national and regional case studies which address strengths and weaknesses of different aspects of chemicals managements from the perspectives of the different stakeholders should be made.

The practical framework that the roundtable will be proposing should address the multiple co-operation dimensions to accelerate new policy design, facilitate policy application and enforcement, the exchange and dissemination of best practices, research and development, the exchange of experience and know-how, education, private sector participation in decision-making and services, good governance, and others.

The roundtable could also act as a high profile platform for other networks, enabling them to disseminate their expertise, interest or results beyond their constituencies.

The findings of this meeting could then be tailored to feed into the proposed SAICM and other international or regional meetings on chemicals management in 2006-2007.

Approximately 38 high-level participants and speakers representing all 38 ASEM countries from the **research/academia, civil society, industries and**

governments involved in various aspects of the management of chemicals and hazardous substances will be invited, particularly those involved in the following activities:

a. Research/Academia

- Training programmes for updates on recent alternative technology on chemicals.
- Developing special capacities on environmentally-sound treatments/disposal of hazardous waste.
- Technology transfer on hazardous substances and chemicals.
- Developing guidelines on environmentally-sound treatment of chemicals.

b. Civil Society

- Undertaking independent research, monitoring and evaluation concerning environmental issues and safety especially in workplaces.
- Informing the industry and government of any issues of concern.
- Ensuring transparency and communities' right to know: working toward better disaster management.
- Supporting citizens who need assistance in dealing with problems arising from the use of chemicals.
- The protection and rights of the consumer.
- Increasing consumers' awareness, participation, advocacy and capacity building on hazardous and toxic chemicals to the public.

c. Industry

- Those responsible in ensuring that information known about the potential risk of chemicals is sufficient so that users are able to develop risk management strategies.
- Associations or units focusing on health, labour and other economic impacts, access to information, development of alternatives, manufacturing and trade.
- Companies that have demonstrated best available technologies/best environmental practices.
- Those developing guidelines or assisting in formulation of legislations on environmentally-sound treatment of chemicals.
- Those involved in "responsible care" and product stewardship initiatives.
- Those involved in the life-cycle approach in chemicals management.
- Those involved in partnership approaches to improve chemical safety globally.

d. Government

- Developing capacities for chemicals management.
- Drafting relevant policies and legislations (e.g. labelling requirements).
- Developing national strategies for sustainable development, MDG strategies, and other similar instruments.



AGENDA

DAY 0 – Wednesday, 29 November

- 14h00-17h00 Registration
Venue: Hotel Silken Berlaymont
- 18h00-19h30 Cocktail reception hosted by HSF
With address by MEP Anja Weisgerber
- Venue: Hanns Seidel Stiftung
Résidence Palace - International Press Center
155 Rue de la Loi
- 18h00-20h00 WELCOME DINNER
Venue: Hotel Silken Berlaymont

DAY 1 – Thursday, 30 November

Venue: Room AB-2C

Centre Albert Borschette

36 rue Froissart

Brussels 1040, Belgium

Introductory Session

- 09h00-09h45 **Chair:**
- Mr David Grant Lawrence**
Head, Chemicals Unit
DG Environment, European Commission
- Welcome Remarks from the Co-organisers (45”)**
- Mr Christian Hegemer**
Director
Hanns Seidel Foundation (HSF-Indonesia)

Mr Peter Ryan
Director for Intellectual Exchange
Asia-Europe Foundation (ASEF)

Mr Christer Holtsberg
Director
Swedish Environmental Secretariat in Asia (SENSA)

Mr Hideyuki Mori
Vice-President
Programme Managing Director
Kitakyushu Office Director
Institute for Global Environmental Strategies (IGES)

Mr Surendra Shrestha
Director, UNEP-ROAP
United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)

09h45-10h00

Overview of the Asia-Europe Environment Forum (15”)

Mr Bertrand Fort
Deputy Executive Director, ASEF
And
Coordinator, Asia-Europe Environment Forum

Session 1: Common Global Approaches in Chemicals and Hazardous Substances Management for Asia and Europe

There is an increasing recognition of the importance of an environmentally-sound management of chemicals in all sectors of society in line with Rio's Agenda 21, to meet the internationally agreed Johannesburg Plan of Implementation and Millennium Development Goals (MDGs). This session aims to provide a broad overview to participants, through a series of introductory presentations, addressing common global approaches in chemicals and hazardous substances management through the perspectives of key stakeholders in Asia and Europe.

- 10h00-10h20 *Keynotes on SAICM and Other Related Agreements (20”)*
- Question:
How has the Strategic Approach to International Chemicals Management (SAICM) and other international processes alike (e.g. Rotterdam, Stockholm, etc.) provided a framework for Asian and European governments to achieve the Johannesburg commitment of 2020?
- HE Viveka Bohn (20”)**
Former President
Preparatory Committee for Strategic Approach to International Chemicals Management (SAICM)
- 10h20-10h40 *Keynote from Environmentalists/Activists (20”)*
- Dr Nadia Haiama**
EU Policy Director, Chemicals
Greenpeace European Unit
- 10h40-10h55 Discussion (15”)
- 10h55-11h10 COFFEE BREAK
- 11h10-11h30 Moderator:
- Dr Surendra Shrestha**
Director, UNEP-ROAP
United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)
- Keynote from the Industry (20”)*
- Mr Terence Koh**
Executive Director
Singapore Chemicals Industry Council
- 11h30-11h50 *Keynote from the Research Community (20”)*
- Dr Yong Hwa Kim**
Vice President, Korea Institute of Toxicology
And
Past President, Society of Environmental Toxicology and Chemistry (SETAC) Asia Pacific, South Korea

11h50-12h20 Roundtable discussion

12h20-14h00 LUNCH

Group Photo

Session 2: Overarching Policy Regime Issues in Chemicals and Hazardous Substances Management in Asia and Europe

This session aims to better share information amongst the different chemicals stakeholders by highlighting the overarching policy regime issues in Asia and Europe. Examples of achievements made and challenges encountered will help identify better development and implementation of chemicals and hazardous substances management policies and encourage greater co-operation between in the two regions.

14h00-14h20

Moderator:

Mr Christer Holtsberg

Director

Swedish Environmental Secretariat in Southeast Asia

How the Montreal Protocol Provides Lessons for SAICM Implementation (20”),

Questions:

The Montreal Protocol can be said to be one of the more successful treaties involving chemical management. What were the key elements leading to the success of the Protocol and what can be learnt in order to effectively manage broader chemical issues?

Mr Rajendra Shende

Chief, OzonAction Programme

United Nations Environment Programme

14h20-14h40 *Evaluating what Asia needs for effective SAICM implementation (20”)*

Questions:

What are the existing regional and national institutional mechanisms dealing with chemicals management and how can we bridge what is currently available with future demands?

Ms Ella Antonio

President

Earth Council, Asia-Pacific

14h40-15h00 *Overview of the Registration, Evaluation and Authorisation of Chemicals (REACH) in the EU (20”)*

Questions:

Why is there a need for REACH? How does it complement other chemicals initiatives? What are the implications of this new initiative on EU and ASEAN+3 countries?

Mr Bjorn Hansen

Chemicals Unit

DG Environment

European Commission

15h00-15h10 Discussion (10”)

15h10-15h30 Moderator:

Mr Philippe Bergeron

Member of the Board, Regional Institute for Environmental Technology

Beyond Command and Control: Voluntary Action and Incentives for the Chemicals Industry (20”)

Questions:

Are there voluntary actions by the industry and is there recognition of this contribution by governments? What are the impacts of such actions and how can these be further encouraged?

Mr Daniel Verbist

Executive Director Build Trust & Communications
European Chemicals Industry Council (Cefic)

15h30-15h50

Taking the lead for policy change in the Asia Pacific: APFED's experiences (20")

Questions:

Dr Kim Myung Ja

Member of the National Assembly, Korea

And

Member, Asia Pacific Forum for Environment and Development (APFED)

15h50-16h00

Discussion (10")

16h00-16h15

COFFEE BREAK

16h15-17h05

Moderator:

Dr David Stanners

Head of International Cooperation

European Environment Agency

Discussion (50")

17h05-17h30

Wrap-up by Moderators (25")

19h30-21h00

DINNER

Venue: Restaurant L'Atelier

28 rue Franklin

DAY 2 – Friday, 1 December

Venue: Room AB-2C

Centre Albert Borschette

36 rue Froissart

Brussels 1040, Belgium

Session 3: Specific Areas for Practical Co-operation in Chemicals and Hazardous Substances Management

This session will identify specific areas for practical co-operation in between Asia and Europe in chemicals and hazardous substances management. Discussions within each topic will be guided by common questions such as (a) what specific multilateral agreements apply?; (b) what kind of training/capacity-building/education activities are involved?; (c) what roles do the different stakeholders (government, business, activists, research/academe) play?; (d) where does funding come from? There will be neither speakers nor prepared presentations, rather, one or two “lead discussants” to launch and moderate the discussion.

09h00-09h45

Moderator:

Mr Ismid Hadad

Director

The Indonesian Biodiversity Foundation - KEHATI

Movement of Chemicals and Curbing Illegal Trade (45”)

Questions:

How can we better monitor trade and movement of toxic chemicals?

What kind of procedures are in place and how do these procedures cope exist especially in less developed areas?

Are there sufficient monitoring in Asia and Europe?

Lead discussant:

Dr Ezra Clark

Senior Campaigner

Environmental Investigation Agency (EIA)

0945-10h30

Protecting Consumer Rights and Increasing Awareness and Participation in Preventing the use of Hazardous and Toxic Chemicals (45”)

Questions:

What existing information regarding chemicals is available to consumers?

Are there effective bodies to whom consumers can address their concerns and questions?

Is there sufficient awareness of the presence and use of chemicals in products?

How receptive are governments and industry to the consumers regarding chemical concerns?

Lead Discussant:

Mr Yukio Murata

Senior Officer, Toxics Programme

WWF Japan

10h30-10h45

COFFEE BREAK

10h45-11h30

Moderator:

Mr Martin Kastler

Former Member of the European Parliament

And

Head of Department development policy and co-ordinator for EU projects, Hanns-Seidel Foundation Munich

Chemicals Risk and Accident Management (45”)

Questions:

What are the steps taken to address better handling of chemicals?

Besides legislation, how can chemicals risk be better evaluated and made aware of?

Lead Discussant:

Prof Yu Gang

Professor,

Tsinghua University, China

11h30-12h15

Agriculture and Pesticides? (45”)

Questions:

What is the present situation concerning pesticides in their

application within the field of agriculture?

If future regulations are made concerning chemicals in pesticides, how can the various actors (including small to medium farmers) in agriculture be involved and aided in order to facilitate the implementations of such regulations?

Lead Discussant:

Mr Harry van der Wulp

Senior IPM Policy Officer

Global IPM Facility Plant Production and Protection Division

Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO)

12h15-12h45 Wrap-up by Moderators (30”)

12h45-14h00 LUNCH

Session 4: Synthesis and Conclusion

This session aims to frame Asia-Europe co-operation in chemicals and hazardous substances management. Discussions will be launched by keynote speakers in order to formulate concrete, practical recommendations.

14h00-14h20

Chair:

Mr Wolfgang Hehn

Deputy Head of Chemicals Unit

DG Enterprise and Industry, European Commission

Creating a Critical Mass to Influence International Policy Dialogue

Questions:

How do we start about having focal points within the various governments for chemical issues, particularly given present participation level by Asian countries?

Pending the creation of such focal points, where and how can civil society and industry engage governments?

How can the various actors improve the quality of research and recommendations in chemical management in order to present a credible front?

Ms Gabrielle Schöning

Project Manager 'Chemicals, Environment and Health'
European Environment Agency (EEA)

14h20-15h00 Open discussion (40”)

15h00-15h20 Integrating Chemicals Management into Co-operation Projects

Question:

What were the problems (institutional, mechanisms, etc) in mounting cooperation projects particularly across regions and how do we address them?

Ms Ethel Forsberg

Director General
Swedish Chemicals Inspectorate (KemI)

15h20-16h00 Open discussion (40”)

16h00-16h20 COFFEE BREAK (20”)

16h20-16h50 Chair: TBC

Conclusions and Wrap-up by the Rapporteurs (30”)

Asian Rapporteur: **Mr Taka Hiraishi** (IGES)

European Rapporteur: **Mr Paul Kaye** (ENDS Europe Daily)

16h50-17h00 Closing remarks by the Co-organisers

19h30-21h00 CLOSING DINNER
Venue: Restaurant La Rose Blanche
11 Grand Place



PRACTICAL INFORMATION

1. INTRODUCTION TO BRUSSELS

Brussels is the capital of Belgium and the administrative centre of the European Union. This has earned the city the title of the Capital of Europe. Brussels has been given its character by the coexistence of French and Flemish culture. This means that both French and Dutch are the official languages of the city. Street names and traffic signs are always in these two languages. Brussels is nowadays home to nationalities around the world, adding a cosmopolitan flavour to its atmosphere, where different languages can be heard on each street.

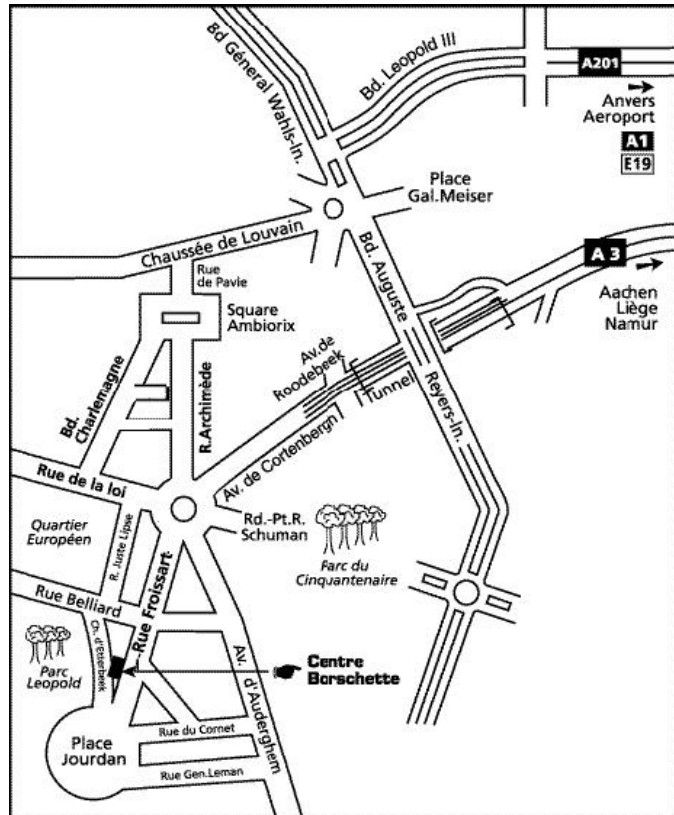
Two of the main institutions of the European Union, the European Commission and the Council of the EU, have their headquarters in Brussels: the Commission in the Berlaymont building and the Council in the Justus Lipsius building. The third institution, the European Parliament, also has a parliamentary chamber in Brussels in which its committee meet and some of its plenary sessions are held. Brussels is also the political seat of the North Atlantic Treaty Organisation (NATO). Due to this, some countries have three ambassadors present in Brussels: the normal bilateral ambassador, the EU-ambassador, and finally the NATO-ambassador.

Beyond the vibrant political scene, Brussels is also delightfully peppered with picturesque medieval streets, lively squares, beautiful boulevards, impressive monuments, spacious parks, cosy cafés, interesting restaurants and an active cultural life.

Situated in the lowlands, Brussels has a temperate climate with warm summers and mild winters. However, Brussels gets more than its share of rainfall, mostly in the late autumn through spring.

2. VENUE DETAILS

Room AB-2C
Centre Albert Borschette,
European Commission
36 rue Froissart
Brussels 1040, Belgium



3. HOTEL ACCOMMODATION

All sponsored participants will be staying at:

Hotel Silken Berlaymont
Boulevard Charlemagne 11-19
1000 Brussels
Tel: +32 2 231 09 09 Fax: +32 2 230 33 71
Website: <http://www.hoteles-silken.com>

Check-in Time: 14h00 Check-out: 12h00

At the hotel, all other incidentals (additional nights, costs for accompanying persons, overseas telephone calls, telegrams and faxes, room service, laundry and mini-bar charges) will be borne by the participants.

The co-organisers will provide 3 nights' hotel accommodations. Participants who would like to extend their stay beyond the meeting may do so at their own expense.

4. TRAVELING TO BRUSSELS

For your own convenience, **kindly make your own air-travel arrangements to arrive in Brussels in the afternoon of 29 November.**

5. VISA REQUIREMENTS

All participants must have passports, which will remain valid during the period of stay. Participants from the following ASEM member countries will need a visa to enter Belgium:

Cambodia, China, Indonesia, Laos, Myanmar, Philippines, Thailand and Vietnam

Please contact the nearest Belgian diplomatic mission to apply for a visa at least 4-6 weeks before the conference.

Further information on passport and visa requirements can also be found on <http://www.diplomatie.be/en/travel/visa/default.asp>

As the above information may not be completely accurate, participants should verify these details with the relevant missions in their countries of residence, at least **4 weeks before departure** in order to anticipate any delay in the visa application process.

6. TRANSPORTATION TO HOTEL

By train, the hotel is less than 20 minutes from Brussels Airport. From 05:30 till nearly midnight, the Airport City Express (train service) links the airport with the Brussels train stations of Midi, Central and North four times an hour. The train station is located in the basement of the airport terminal.

A one-way ticket to Brussels costs **€2.80** second class and **€4.30** first class. **Participants should alight at the Brussels Central train station.** The organisers will cover the taxi transfer expenses for participants from Brussels Central train station to the hotel.

7. TRANSPORTATION FROM HOTEL TO VENUE

The venue is not far from the hotel and is in walking distance. Please refer to the map above. If you are unsure, for the first day, we will be assembling at the lobby at 08h30.

8. MEALS

Hotel accommodation will be provided for 3 nights and includes breakfast.

Other receptions/meals will be covered by the organisers according to the agenda.

9. REIMBURSEMENTS (APPLICABLE FOR SPONSORED PARTICIPANTS ONLY)

The reimbursements can be made via bank-to-bank transfers and cheques. Please note that we will require the following information with regards to bank transfers (see also the registration form)

- Name of bank account holder
- Bank name
- Branch name/code
- Bank address
- Account number
- Swift code/IBAN code
- Currency

IMPORTANT: Please submit the following documents during registration:

- Original Travel agent invoice / receipt for airfare
- Boarding passes
- Photocopy of Ticket
- Airport Tax receipts
- Original Taxi/Shuttle Receipt(s)

Registration will be held in the hotel lobby on Wednesday 29 November from 14h00-17h00.

The co-organisers will only reimburse each sponsored participant upon submission of **complete reimbursement documents**. Sponsored participants unable to submit complete reimbursement documents during the registration period may submit them at their convenience to ASEF via post or courier service anytime **before 10 December 2006. Due to the closing of accounts by 31st December, we will unfortunately be unable to reimburse participants who fail to submit their documents by the deadline.**

The co-organisers will require at least **10-14 working days** for transfer of funds to the stipulated bank account after receiving all the documents.

Costs of any accompanying guests or family members will not be covered by the co-organisers.

10. CURRENCY AND MONEY

The local currency is EURO (EUR). All major credit cards are accepted. Banks are open Mon-Friday 9h15-16h15. You can change currency at the airport every day between 6h00 and 23h00. There are numerous moneychangers in the city centre.

11. WEBSITE

Please visit <http://ww.env.asef.org>

The website is a unique source of information on the project and links to resources critical for anyone working on Asia-Europe cooperation in the environment field. Papers and presentations from the completed roundtables are downloadable in PDF (portable document format).

12. CONTACT POINT

Should you require further clarifications, please do not hesitate to contact:

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KEYNOTE SPEAKERS' PROFILES

Viveka Bohn

Viveka Bohn was Environmental Ambassador for the Swedish Government. She has worked in the Ministry for Foreign Affairs since 1965 and on international environmental issues since 1988, both at the Ministry for Foreign Affairs, the Ministry of the Environment and presently at the Ministry for Sustainable Development.

The tasks of the Environmental Ambassador involve a number of negotiation missions, particularly with regard to several global environmental conventions, such as: The Convention on Biological Diversity and the Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants (POPs) and other chemicals related conventions.

Ms Bohn served as president for the preparatory committee to develop a Strategic Approach to International Chemicals Management (SAICM) and was instrumental in the final negotiations at the International Conference on Chemicals Management (ICCM) in February 2006. Prior to her appointment as Environmental Ambassador for the Swedish Government in 2003, she was as head of the Swedish project secretariat for the World Summit on Sustainable Development in Johannesburg. During this period she worked particularly on issues related to sustainable consumption and production. Since Johannesburg she is the co-chair of the so- called Marrakech process on sustainable consumption and production.

She also represented Sweden at the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) Governing Council and at the UN Commission for Sustainable Development (CSD), and other international ministerial meetings related to environment and sustainable development.

Nadia Haiama

Dr. Nadia Haiama graduated in Biological Sciences from the University of Sao Paulo, Brazil in 1994. She has a Masters and a Doctoral degree in Cleaner Production and Pollution Prevention from the University of Massachusetts Lowell, USA.

Dr. Haiama is currently the EU Policy Director on chemicals at Greenpeace European Unit, where she is responsible for advocating the substitution principle with EU decision-makers and progressive industry. Greenpeace has published a series of reports exposing the widespread chemical contamination in consumer goods, food, the human body and the environment (<http://www.greenpeace.eu/issues/chem.html>).

Dr. Haiama promotes activities to influence EU decision-making, prepares Greenpeace's positions, contacts relevant entities within the EU institutions, industry players, networks with public interest groups among other tasks.

Terence Koh

Mr Terence Koh is the Executive Director of the Singapore Chemical Industry Council (SCIC). He has more than 16 years of experience in the chemical industry and has been involved in SCIC since 2000. He was a Member of the SCIC Board and Chairman of the SCIC Logistics and Distribution Sub-committee from 2001 to 2004.

Terence is a member of the SPRING Singapore's Chemical Standard Committee, which looks into the formulation of Singapore Standards and Codes of Practices. He participates in the various Working Groups of the Technical Committee for Chemistry under SPRING Singapore. This Committee reviews the Singapore Standards to come in line with the Globally Harmonised System for labelling and classification of chemicals (GHS).

He represents the Singapore Chemical Industry in the ASEAN Ministerial Groupings' meetings (AMEICC), the APEC Chemical Dialogues (APEC CD) and the United Nations Environmental Program (UNEP) meetings.

Terence is a member of the National Taskforce for the implementation of the Globally Harmonised System which is co-chaired by the Ministry of Trade & Industry and SCIC. He also sits in the Singapore Manufacturers' Federation (SMA) Environment, Health, Safety and Security Committee.

Yong-Hwa Kim

Dr Kim is currently Vice President of the Korea Institute of Toxicology. Previously, he was Managing Director of the Institute.

Dr Kim has had extensive experience in the field of Toxicology. From March 2003-February 2004, he was a Visiting Scholar at the US EPA. Prior to that, he was Director of the Environmental Toxicology Department at the Korean Institute of Toxicology. From 2003-2004, he was President of the Society of Environmental Toxicology and Chemistry (SETAC) Asia-Pacific Chapter.

He has also taught at various institutions such as the College of Pharmacology, SungKyunKwan University (2001 – 2003); College of Nutrition, University of Vienna, Austria (1996 – 1997); College of Agriculture, ChungNam National University (1990 – 1994, 1998 – 2000); College of Pharmacology, ChungBook National University (1992 – 1994).

Dr Kim obtained his PhD. from University of California, Davis in 1985 and his Bachelors and Masters from Seoul National University.



SPEAKERS' PROFILES

Ella Antonio

Ella S. Antonio is President of The Earth Council for Asia-Pacific. She actively promotes multi-stakeholder partnership in sustainable development planning, decision-making, programming and project implementation and monitoring. She undertakes initiatives that help countries in the region pursue these initiatives in an integrated and coherent manner. She also promotes the establishment of multi-stakeholder mechanisms that would facilitate and make effective the development and implementation of above-mentioned initiatives. At the national level, she serves as Trustee of pagbabago@pilipinas, a non-profit organization promoting ethical governance and sustainable development through advocacy, developmental activities, research and training. In these capacities, she continues to provide assistance and advice in project development and implementation including funds generation.

She also undertakes consulting work for development institutions (e.g., ADB) government and private sector in various aspects of development. She conducts studies and prepares papers, usually for presentations in local and international fora. In partnership with spouse, Gil Antonio, she also manages the family's business activities, responsible mainly for the operational, financial and marketing aspects.

Prior to this, she had an extensive career in the public service at the National Economic and Development Authority (NEDA), the development planning agency of the Philippines. She rose through the ranks starting as Research Engineer until she became Chief of the Industry Division in 1989. From 1992-1998, she was appointed by the President as Head Executive Assistant and served as Chief of Staff at the Office of the Secretary for Socioeconomic Planning. She received a number of awards and commendations for distinguished performance from NEDA and other institutions.

Bertrand Fort

Bertrand Fort, Deputy Executive Director, Asia-Europe Foundation. He attained his bachelor degree in economics from Paris I Pantheon-Sorbonne University and in communications and information (Paris II Assas) in 1985. He also received a diploma

and a postgraduate diploma in sociology of organisations at the Institute of Political Sciences (IEP-Paris) in 1988.

Bertrand Fort became Deputy-Counsellor for Press Relations for the French Defence Minister from 1989-1990 and was Communications Chief in the French Parliament from 1991-1996.

In 1996, he went on a year-long sabbatical as a journalist travelling through countries such as India, Nepal, Burma, Laos, Vietnam, Malaysia and Indonesia for several newspapers and radios and was one of the founders of L'Asie Magazine.

He joined the staff of the French Foreign Affairs Minister, Hubert Vedrine, as Counsellor for Political Affairs, in charge of relationships with parliamentarians (French and European), think-tanks, foundations and civil society organisations from 1998-2002 – a post he held while concurrently a postgraduate lecturer on international affairs at the Institut d'Etudes Politiques in Paris and Lille for three years.

He has co-edited the books "Paths to Regionalisation: Comparing Experiences in East Asia and Europe" (2005) and "Overcoming Vulnerability: Managing New Security Challenges in Asia and Europe" (2005) published by Marshall Cavendish. He also co-edited "Regional Integration in Europe and East Asia: Convergence or Divergence?" (2006) published by Routledge. Forthcoming later this year "Democracy in Asia, Europe and the World: Toward a Universal Definition?" (co-editor) published by Marshall-Cavendish.

Ethel Forsberg

Ethel Forsberg has been the Director General of the Swedish Chemicals Inspectorate (KemI) since 2001. KemI is an agency under the Ministry of Sustainable Development (previously the Ministry of the Environment). Swedish ministries are comparatively small and national agencies therefore also have a policy-developing function. KemI has 165 employees (e.g. toxicologists, ecotoxicologists, legal advisors, inspectors). KemI works in Sweden, in the EU and internationally to promote rules and legislation which contribute to achieving 'A Non-Toxic Environment', one of Sweden's fifteen environmental objectives. All stakeholders such as companies, users, consumers and local, regional and central agencies are needed in the work to achieve the objectives. The Swedish Chemicals Inspectorate is the driving force in efforts to coordinate and stimulate attaining a non-toxic environment. Additional information can be found on KemI's website: www.kemi.se

Ethel Forsberg has a Master of Science Degree in Landscaping Architecture. Before joining KemI she held positions at several sectors within the Swedish society: as

environmental manager in the Federation of Swedish Farmers, senior administrative Officer at the Ministry of the Environment, Manager of Food Safety, Environment and Consumer Affairs at COOP (Head office of Cooperative Retailers in Sweden) and as Director of Administration of Health, Food and Environment in the City of Stockholm. At present she is on the board of the Swedish Energy Agency and the Stockholm University.

Bjorn Hansen

Mr Bjorn Hansen is Head of Chemicals Unit at DG Environment of the European Commission.

Kim Myung Ja

Dr Kim Myung Ja is a National Assembly Member of the Republic of Korea. Dr. Kim currently serves on the National Defense Committee & Special Committee on Future Strategy, and is also an advisor and planning consultant to the ruling Uri Party. Since 2004, Dr Kim has served as Head of the Uri Party's Science and Technology Advancement Team, and the Head of the Task Force on Low Birthrate and Aging Population .

From 1999 to 2003, Dr Kim served as Minister of Environment and prior to her work in government, she was a Distinguished Professor at Myongji University.

Dr Kim received her BS in Chemistry from Seoul National University and her PhD in Chemistry from the University of Virginia, USA.

Gabrielle Schöning

Dr Gabrielle Schöning is Project Manager for Chemicals, Environment & Health with the European Environment Agency.

Rajendra Shende

Mr Rajendra M. Shende is United Nations expert on the environmental issues, particularly related to transfer of environmentally sound technologies and the implementation of the Multilateral Environmental Agreements (MEAs) in the developing countries and countries with economies in transition. His current activities

span almost all of the world and include the specific capacity building and technology support projects in 145 countries that are engaged in implementation of the Montreal Protocol to protect the Ozone Layer. He has helped more than 100 national governments in developing their strategies and action plan to comply with the Montreal Protocol.

He joined UNEP's Division of Technology, Industry and Economics in Paris in 1992. He later initiated policy advice to the governments on the energy efficiency, renewable energy and climate change activities for the benefit of the developing countries. He has organized workshops on Clean Development Mechanism in more than 20 countries under the Kyoto Protocol. He has been coordinating lead author on special report on Safeguarding the Ozone Layer and global climate system being developed by Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC). He was Review Editor for IPCC's Special Report on Technology Transfer.

Mr Shende's current work focuses on the Coherent and coordinated implementation of Multilateral Environmental Agreements (MEAs) in Chemicals and Atmospheric Clusters. Developing the partnerships with the industries, international organizations, academia and NGOs has been his forte. Such approach has set up new directions to enable countries to meet the compliance with the MEAs. As a part of strategy to build the capacity of the countries to comply with the global environmental agreements his programme launched 'Green Customs Initiative' which is partnership of seven convention secretariats and three international organizations that included WCO, INTERPOL and UNEP.

In May 2005 his Programme became first programme in the UN system to win the award from USEPA for its work on the protection of the Ozone Layer. His programme received in December 2005 a Certificate of Appreciation from the President of Senegal on behalf of all the African countries for assisting the countries in African continent. The Partnerships that his programme partnered with, i.e "Refrigerants Naturally" and "SolarChill" won the awards from USEPA and UK industries respectively.

Daniel Verbist

Mr Daniel Verbist is Executive Director, Build Trust & Communications at Cefic.



LEAD DISCUSSANTS' PROFILES

Ezra Clark

Dr Clark joined the Environmental Investigation Agency's UK office in June 2000 to work on global environmental threats. He produced various scientific papers and reports on the effects of ozone depletion and other environmental threats to marine ecosystems. Ezra then began working on EIA's Ozone Depleting Substances (ODS) campaign, focusing on investigating and exposing illegal trade. He has attended Montreal Protocol and related meetings since 2000. In 2005 Ezra became Head of the ODS Campaign.

Ezra has almost six experience in the field of the illegal trade in ODS. In this time he has carried out a number of major undercover investigations in both developing and developed countries. Ezra's other duties include tracking illegal trade, gathering and analysis of information, writing of reports and briefings, and design and production of publications and videos.

Ezra has produced training materials for and attended as a resource person and expert, many United Nations Environment Programme customs officers and ozone officers training workshops, as well as Green Customs Training initiatives around the world.

Yukio Murata

Mr Murata is Senior Programme Officer of WWF Japan's Toxic Programme which works to raise public awareness about PRTR, POPs and EDCs, as well as the need for chemical reform in Japan.

He is a founding member of The Toxic Watch Network which was established in 2002 to provide public a searchable PRTR database on her internet site. He is also a core member of a campaign on "The Tokyo Declaration on Toxics Free Earth" organized by a coalition of NGOs in 2004.

Gang Yu

Professor Gang Yu is the Chair of Department of Environmental Science and Engineering and Director of POPs Research Center, Tsinghua University. His researches focus on Persistent Organic Pollutants (POPs), including environmental chemistry of POPs, disposal technologies of POPs wastes, BAT/BEP for eliminating dioxin, policy supporting the implementation of POPs Convention. As a key national expert, he involved in many activities of chemical management in China.

He was/is responsible for developing the strategy and action plan to reduce and control release of unintentionally produced POPs in China, the methodology for identification and inventory investigation of China's POPs wastes and contaminated sites, PCB inventory methodology and a draft strategy on PCB reduction and disposal in China. He established the China POPs Network (<http://www.china-pops.net>) in 2000 and POPs Research Center in Tsinghua University in September 2001.

He was the author or co-author of about 10 books and 150 scientific papers. He received the National Science and Technology Improvement Award in China twice. In May 2005, Professor Yu was elected as the Co-Chair of the BAT/BEP expert group in the first Conference of Parties of POPs Convention.

Harry van der Wulp

Harry van der Wulp is senior Integrated Pest Management (IPM) Policy Officer at the Global IPM Facility, Plant Protection Service, Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations. He is involved in several activities related to pest and pesticide management policy development in Asia.

Previously, he served as pest management specialist at the Quality Assurance and Compliance Unit of the World Bank; worked as pest and pesticide management consultant for FAO, OECD and others, as pesticide officer at FAO, and as environmental and development policy analyst at the European Parliament.



RAPPORTEURS' PROFILES

Taka Hiraishi

- Born in Tokyo on 3rd December 1944.
- B.Sc. (1966) and M.Sc. for Industrial Chemistry (1968) from Tokyo University.
- Joined Ministry of Labour (Occupational Health and Safety Department) in April 1968.
- Moved to the newly-established Environment Agency in 1971, and worked in the fields of offensive odour, acid rain, ozone layer, hazardous wastes, hazardous chemicals and water pollution, till 1996, except the overseas posting shown below:
- Environment Attache (liaison with UNEP) and Second Secretary for technical co-operation at the Embassy of Japan in Kenya (1975 – 78).
- Principal Administrator (information exchange on chemicals control), Chemicals Division, Environment Directorate, OECD Secretariat (1980 –82).
- Director, Water Pollution Control Division, Environment Agency (1987-89)
- Worked for UNEP in 1989 - 98 as (consecutively);
 - Co-ordinator of Support Measures, Programme Bureau,
 - Officer-in-Charge, Environmental Law and Institutions Centre,
 - Deputy Director of Policy Division,
 - Deputy Director of Environment Programme Division,
 - Assistant Executive Director for Environmental Information and Assessment.
 - (President,. UNEP Staff Association (in 1996))
- Special Advisor to the Minister of the Environment, Japan. (Part-time)
- Member, Operations Committee, Center for Global Environmental Research, National Institute for Environmental Studies, Ministry of the Environment, Japan (Part-time),
- **Senior Consultant and Member, Board of Directors, Institute for Global Environmental Strategies (IGES), Japan** (Part-time),
- **Co-chair, IPCC Inventories Task Force Bureau, and Member, IPCC University, Japan** (Part-time)

Paul Kaye

Mr Paul Kaye is the Brussels editor with the European News Daily (ENDS).



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Mr Wolfgang Hehn Deputy Head of Chemicals Unit	DG Enterprise and Industry	EC
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Mr Martin Kastler Head of Department development policy and co-ordinator for EU projects	Hanns-Seidel Foundation Munich	Germany
Mr Paul Kaye Brussels editor	ENDS Europe Daily	UK
Honorary Kim Myung-ja Member	National Assembly	Korea
Dr Yong-Hwa Kim Vice President	Korea Institute of Toxicology	Korea
Mr Ioannis Kinnas former Ambassador for Environment	Ministry of Foreign Affairs	Greece
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Prof Mazlin Mokhtar Director	Director of Institute for Environment and Development	Malaysia

Mr Yukio Murata Senior Programme Officer	WWF Japan	Japan
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Mr Rajendra Shende Head	OzonAction Unit	UNEP
Dr Jane Stratford Head, International Chemicals Branch	Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs	UK
Mr Daniel Verbist Executive Director, Build Trust & Communications	Cefic	Belgium
Ms Claire Weill Program Manager, Risks, Precaution & Chemicals	Institute for Sustainable Development and International Relations	France
Mr Harry van der Wulp Senior IPM Policy Officer	Global IPM Facility	FAO
Prof Gang Yu	Tsinghua University	China



JOURNALISTS

Name	Media	Country
Mrs Diah Ayu Candraningrum	Tempo Inti Media	Indonesia
Mr Jussi Laitinen	Vihreä Lanka –weekly	Finland



OBSERVERS

Name	Organisation	Country
Mr Park Daeyoung	Korea Environmental Council in Europe	Korea
Dr Johanna Leissner Scientific Representative	Fraunhofer Gesellschaft	Germany
Ms Sylvie Motard Head	Liaison Office to the EU	UNEP
Mr Dominique Perreau Diplomatic Counsellor to the Government	Ministry of Foreign Affairs	France
Dr Eddy Roelants Vice President Technology & Environmental Policy	Siemens	Belgium



CONFERENCE ORGANISERS



The Asia-Europe Foundation was created by the Asia Europe Meeting (ASEM) between Heads of States in 1997. ASEF works for intellectual, cultural, and people-to-people exchange among our member-countries in Asia and Europe. In particular, the Intellectual Exchange Department aims to contribute to policy debate and strategic thinking on themes of current and future inter-regional importance between Asia and Europe. For more information on ASEF programmes, please visit <http://www.asef.org>.



Based in Munich, Germany, the Hanns Seidel Foundation (HSF) is a German political foundation with 35 years of experience in civic education in Germany and international co-operation around the world.

Its office in Indonesia was founded in 1993 with programs developed and implemented jointly with local, national and international partners, focusing on promotion of environmental education, training (capacity building) and public awareness for the entire society in Indonesia and ASEAN region. Numerous teachers' training on the use of water, air, biodiversity, land & soil and environmental ethic modules in national level have been a landmark program of HSF in partnership with universities and Indonesian Ministries of Environment and Education. ASEAN Environmental Education Action Plan, Environmentally Sustainable Cities and Leadership Programme on Environment are among other growing programmes which HSF has been actively involved in partnership with ASEAN Secretariat and UNEP/ROAP. For more information on HSF-Indonesia, please visit <http://www.hsfindo.org>



Established in 1998, the Institute for Global Environmental Strategies (IGES) is an independent, not for profit think tank, based in Japan. It goes beyond research to provide practical ways to protect the earth's environment and to realize greater sustainability and equity in the global community. While the outlook of IGES is global, the principal geographical scope of its activities is Asia and the Pacific region, an area which is experiencing rapid economic development and which will affect the global environment through its population growth, urban environmental problems and other environmental issues. For more information on IGES, please visit <http://www.iges.or.jp>.

The participation of the IGES in this endeavour is made possible with the support of the government of Japan.



The United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) mission is to provide leadership and encourage partnership in caring for the environment by inspiring, informing, and enabling nations and peoples to improve their quality of life without compromising that of future generations. For more information on UNEP, please visit <http://www.unep.org>.



The Swedish Environmental Secretariat in Asia (SENSA) is the arm of the Swedish International Development Agency (SIDA). It provides enhanced opportunities for a dialogue with regional partners with an environment focus, thereby strengthening Swedish co-operation in the area of environmental action. For more information on SIDA, please visit <http://www.sida.se>



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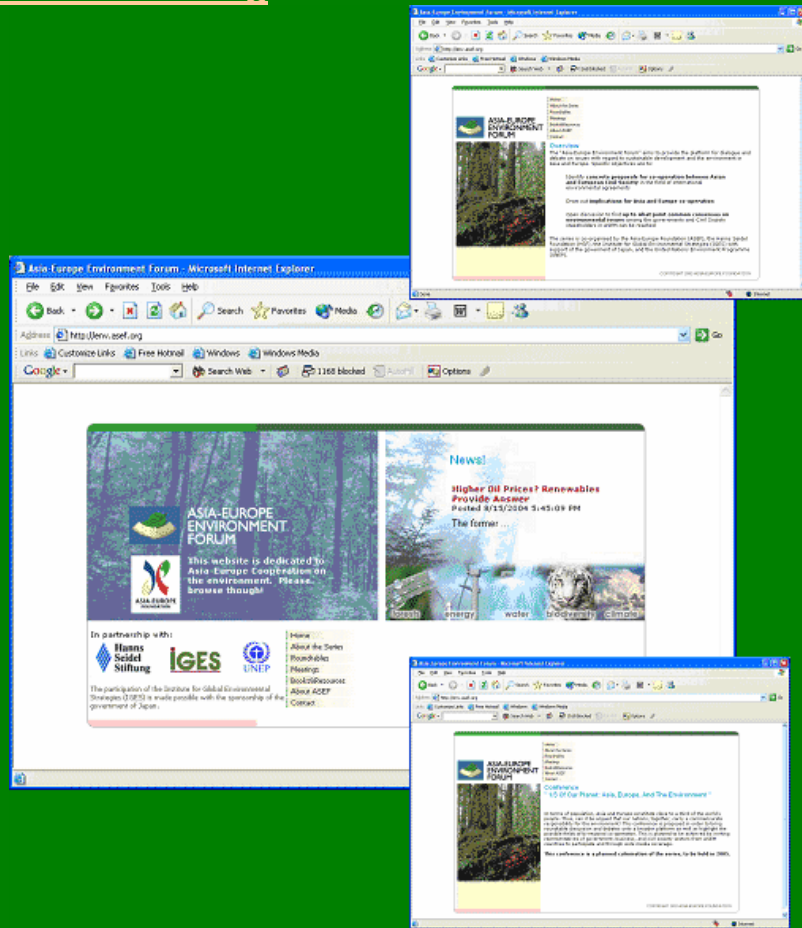


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Please visit <http://env.asef.org>



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