# PRESS RELEASE

4th Networking Conference for Asian and European Young Volunteers
“From Cooperation to recognition: Creating long-term strategies”
6-11 February 2011; Semarang, Indonesia

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Press release no: 110207_PR1101
07 February 2011

**Asia-Europe Networking Conference on the impact of international volunteering**

The Asia-Europe Foundation (ASEF) is organising the 4th Networking Conference for Asian and European Young Volunteers (NAEYV), in partnership with the Coordinating Committee for International Voluntary Service (CCIVS) and in cooperation with the Indonesia International Work Camp (IIWC). The Conference will take place in Semarang, Indonesia from 6 to 11 February 2011 and will focus on the impact and recognition of International Voluntary Service (IVS). It will also encourage cross-sectoral cooperation between IVS-organisations and stakeholders.

The Conference aims to promote the visibility and values of voluntary service as one of the main non-formal education tools in Asia and Europe. It will gather about 40 participants from Asian and European IVS-organisations and other stakeholders, such as universities and government agencies from Europe and Asia. During the conference, participants will explore the establishment and promotion of an Asian Voluntary Service and possible spin-off initiatives towards this end.

Since 2001, ASEF and CCIVS have been active partners in the field of IVS under ASEF’s Asia-Europe Cooperation in Voluntary Service (VolunAEt) programme, which is composed of the Asia-Europe Young Volunteers Exchange (AEYVE) and the NAEYV. The AEYVE aims to foster cooperation and exchange between voluntary service organisations in Asia and Europe. The NAEYV, meanwhile, emphasises the aspect of networking between organisations to allow knowledge transfer between the two regions and to achieve common quality standards.

In 2011, ASEF and CCIVS celebrate its 10th year of active partnership in the field of volunteering. The year 2011 also marks the 10th Anniversary of the UN International Year of Volunteers¹ and the European Year of Volunteering².

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¹ 2011 was proclaimed the International Year of Volunteers through the UN General Assembly’s A/Res/63/153 Resolution of 18 December 2008
² European Commission Press Release IP/ 09/ 862, dated on 3 June 2009, states that 2011 will be the European Year of Volunteering
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Organised by:  
The Asia-Europe Foundation (ASEF) promotes greater mutual understanding between Asia and Europe through intellectual, cultural and people-to-people exchanges. Through ASEF, civil society concerns are included as a vital component of deliberations of the Asia-Europe Meeting (ASEM*). ASEF was established in February 1997 by the participating governments of ASEM and has since implemented over 450 projects, engaging over 15,000 direct participants as well as reaching out to a much wider audience in Asia and Europe. www.asef.org

* ASEM now brings together 46 member states (Australia, Austria, Belgium, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Cambodia, China, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Indonesia, India, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Korea, Laos, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malaysia, Malta, Mongolia, Myanmar, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Pakistan, the Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Russia, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Thailand, United Kingdom, Vietnam) plus the European Commission and the ASEAN Secretariat. www.aseminboard.org

The Co-ordinating Committee for International Voluntary Service (CCIVS) was founded in 1948. CCIVS is a co-ordinating body for international voluntary service organisations and it counts more than 250 member associations in 96 countries, including 5 international networks and several regional structures and platforms. It acts as a link to establish relations between the members and international institutions such as the EU, different UN agencies or foundations. CCIVS fosters the development of regional networks through the organisation of international projects and seminars and the production of publications and training tools. www.ccivs.org

In cooperation with:  
Indonesian International Work Camp (IIWC) of Indonesia Planned Parenthood Association is an NGO entity with main concerns of promoting and organising international voluntary service projects in Indonesia. Informally, it was formed in 1999, when IPPA Central Java chapter organised the first international work camp in Indonesia in a strong co-operation with Never Ending International Workcamp Exchange Japan. The name of IIWC itself was introduced for the first time on 10th January 2000 that marks the anniversary of IIWC. The vision is to strengthen global friendship and its objectives are to achieve global friendship through International Voluntary Service activities; to encourage local community to be self-initiative, independent in developing their potential and more concern to the global issues; to strengthen the values of non-discriminative and mutual respect to each other and to provide the opportunity of non-formal education for all. www.iiwcindonesia.wordpress.com

CCIVS' contribution is with the financial support of the Youth in Action Programme

ASEF’s contribution is with the financial support of the European Commission