ASEM Culture Ministers commend ASEF’s continued role in facilitating Asia-Europe cooperation in arts and culture

The significant role of the Asia-Europe Foundation (ASEF) in reinforcing the Asia-Europe Meeting (ASEM) process by engaging civil societies of both regions was acknowledged at the 7th ASEM Culture Ministers’ Meeting (ASEM CMM 7), which concluded on Friday, 24 June 2016, in Gwangju, Korea.

ASEM CMM7, which took place as ASEM commemorates its 20th anniversary, highlighted Asia-Europe cultural collaboration, with a focus on the creative economies. Ministers commended ASEF’s efforts in facilitating bi-regional cooperation in arts and culture by promoting exchange, dialogue and collaboration amongst the 53 ASEM partners.

The 2nd ASEC Policy Panel titled “Culture & the Creative Economy: What Opportunities for Asia-Europe Exchange & Collaboration?” was held alongside the ministerial meeting. At the panel, cultural experts strongly advocated for public support to regular networking platforms among creative professionals from both regions. They also emphasised the continued importance of enabling equal partnerships between Asia and Europe in the field of culture.

ASEM Ministers also highlighted the value of ASEF’s arts and culture portal, www.culture360.asef.org and its online platform for museum professionals, www.asemus.culture360.asef.org, which is also the official website of the Asia-Europe Museum Network (ASEMUS).

For more information, please visit http://tinyurl.com/asefpanel

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1 The Asia-Europe Meeting (ASEM) is an intergovernmental forum for dialogue and cooperation established in 1996 to deepen relations between Asia and Europe, which addresses political, economic and socio-cultural issues of common concern. ASEM brings together 53 members (21 Asian and 30 European countries, the ASEAN Secretariat, and the European Union). www.aseminfo.org
About the Organiser

The *Asia-Europe Foundation (ASEF)* promotes understanding, strengthens relationships and facilitates cooperation among the people, institutions and organisations of Asia and Europe. ASEF enhances dialogue, enables exchanges and encourages collaboration across the thematic areas of culture, economy, education, governance, public health and sustainable development.

ASEF is an intergovernmental not-for-profit organisation located in Singapore. Founded in 1997, it is the only institution of the Asia-Europe Meeting (ASEM).

Together with about 750 partner organisations ASEF has run more than 700 projects, mainly conferences, seminars and workshops. Over 20,000 Asians and Europeans have actively participated in its activities and it has reached much wider audiences through its networks, web-ports, publications, exhibitions and lectures.

For more information, please visit [www.asef.org](http://www.asef.org)