

MEDIA RELEASE

ASEM Parliamentarians to meet for the first time

**ASEF Young Parliamentarians Meeting
13 – 16 November 1998
Shangri-La's Mactan Island Resort, Cebu, Philippines**

From 13 – 16 November, some 50 parliamentarians from the 25 ASEM member countries will gather in the Philippines for the inaugural ASEF Young Parliamentarians Meeting.

The meeting, the first of its kind, will be organised around three sessions, focussing on:

- Good Governance: Challenges and Responsibilities in a Globalizing World
- Options and Concepts for a Closer Co-operation in Political and Economic Crisis Management
- Confrontation or Constructive Engagement: The Case of Myanmar

Professor Tommy Koh, Executive Director of ASEF will chair the first session on Governance. Other speakers include:

- HE Uffe Ellemann-Jensen, Former Minister for Foreign Affairs of Denmark
- HE Emil Salim, Former Minister of State for Population and Environment of Indonesia
- Professor Carolina Hernandez, Professor of Political Science, University of the Philippines, Manila
- Professor Il Sakong, Chairman of ASEM Vision Group

Hon. Manuel Villar, Speaker of the Philippines House of Representatives will open the Meeting on 13 November. The Senate and the House of Representatives of the Philippines will also host two informal functions for the participants.

The ASEF event aims to foster deeper personal relations between these young parliamentarians from Asia and Europe. The meeting will give the participants the opportunity to extend personal networks, discuss relevant issues with their counterparts, and provide new channels for high-level exchange. The informal Cebu resort setting is especially chosen to encourage open interaction. Jointly organised by the Asia-Europe Foundation (ASEF) and the Friedrich Naumann Foundation (FNF), the Meeting theme "Tomorrow's Leaders: Bridging Asia and Europe" succinctly summarises the hopes the organisers have for this inaugural meeting of young parliamentarians.

For more information, please contact the following:

ASEF

Mr Ulrich Niemann
Director, People-to-People Exchange
Tel: (65) 838 4711
Fax: (65) 732 4371
E-mail: uniemann@asef.org

FNF

Mr Andreas Sieren
Programme Officer
Tel: (65) 732 6927
Fax: (65) 235 2142
E-mail: fnstsing@singnet.com.sg