

FOREWORD

Dear Participants,

The ASEM Education Secretariat, Jakarta warmly welcomes all of you to the Pilot Project Asia-Europe Institute ASEM Summer Camp (AEI-ASC) under the theme 'Biodiversity and Cultural Heritage' from 2 to 16 August 2015 in Malaysia. Organized by the Asia-Europe Institute (AEI) part of the University of Malaya, in collaboration with the Ministry of Higher Education Malaysia, the AEI-ASC 2015 is an outcome of the Fourth Asia-Europe Meeting of the Ministers for Education (ASEMME4) held in Kuala Lumpur on 13 and 14 May 2013. During the meeting, Ministers welcomed the willingness of AEI to develop a strategy on better balancing mobility between Asia and Europe in cooperation with other interested ASEM members including proposals on drawing more students and academics to Asia. In addition, the Ministers also supported the AEI-ASC during the Fifth Asia-Europe Meeting for Ministers for Education (ASEMME5) held in Riga, Latvia on 28 and 29 April 2015.

The Secretariat is confident that through this pilot project the flow of European students to Asia will increase and will promote more balanced mobility between Asia and Europe. The summer camp activities consists of lectures, study tours and soft skills development as well as the opportunity to feature the equatorial biodiversity of the region which will encourage and inspire European students to study in Asia. Besides that, the participants will also have a great opportunity to learn about the richness and diversity of Asian cultures. The Secretariat also believes that the benefits and outcomes from the AEI-ASC will become stepping stones for further cooperation and collaboration among ASEM members in the field of higher education, with regards to promoting the balanced mobility between Asia and Europe further enriching the ASEM Education Process.

Finally, on behalf of the ASEM Education Secretariat, I would like to extend my sincere appreciation and congratulations to the Asia-Europe Institute, University of Malaya, Ministry of Higher Education Malaysia and all the individuals involved for their hard work in making the AEI-ASC a successful project.

I wish you all good luck and I hope you have a meaningful summer camp in Malaysia.

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