The background of the slide is a light blue, semi-transparent image of the Great Wall of China, winding across a misty, mountainous landscape. The wall's crenellations and towers are visible, creating a sense of depth and historical significance.

Quality Assurance and Recognition in China, and Three Action Plans for Implementing ASEM Bridging Declaration

Wang Lisheng, Deputy Director-General (CDGDC)

**ASEM Dialogue on Quality Assurance and Recognition
August 26, 2014**

The Chinese Context

◆ China's Reform and Opening-up: since 1978

President Xi Jinping reiterates:

“Reform and Opening-up are the driving forces for China's social progress, and play a key role in determining the destiny of contemporary China.”



The Chinese Context

◆ Int'l Cooperation and Exchanges of China's Education

- ✓ full-scale, multi-layered, and wide-range

◆ National Education Conference 2013

Education Minister Yuan Guiren pledges:

“to advance educational reform through raising the level of openness to the outside world.”



The Chinese Context

◆ *China's Report on Outbound Study (2013)*

- ✓ Outbound-study students:
1978-2013: 3,058,600
2013 alone: 413,900
- ✓ Increase Rate (2007~2012): nearly 20% annually

China: the largest number of outbound-study students



The Chinese Context

Issues accompanying education mobility:

- ✓ **Qualification Recognition**
- ✓ **Quality Assurance for Cross-border Education**

The Chinese Context

◆ Recognition in China:

- ✓ recognition when applying for overseas universities
- ✓ recognition when coming back to China with overseas qualifications

The Chinese Context

- ◆ **Recognition when applying for overseas universities:**
 - ✓ Vast education system;
 - ✓ Complex education types and levels;
 - ✓ Diversified qualifications
 - ✓ Fraudulent transcripts and certificates

The Chinese Context

◆ **Fraudulent qualifications:**

Agents—profit-driving

◆ **Fundamental factors:**

- ✓ Lack of transparency in educational information;
- ✓ Inadequate communication between competent bodies;

The Chinese Context

- ◆ **China: to verify Chinese education qualifications since 2000 (CDGDC)**
Credential Report \approx Diploma Supplement
 - ✓ to strengthen qualification administration;
 - ✓ to combat counterfeit qualifications;
 - ✓ to protect China's education reputation;
 - ✓ to safeguard quality of students going-aboard
- ◆ **In 2013: 150,000 out of 410,000 verified more than 1/3**

The Chinese Context

- ◆ **Recognition when coming back to China with overseas qualifications**
- ✓ **China Service Center for Scholarly Exchange (CSCSE)**

The Chinese Context

◆ Cross-border Education in China (Typical)

Sino-Foreign Jointly Run Schools and Programs



The Chinese Context

- ◆ **Scale of joint schools and programs: 1800**
- ◆ **Offering courses leading to Bachelor degree and above:**
 - ✓ around 40 joint schools
 - ✓ around 800 joint programs
 - ✓ educational partners from more than 20 countries



The Chinese Context

◆ Problems in Joint Schools and Programs:

- ✓ without government accreditation;
- ✓ low-level duplication;
- ✓ too profit-oriented;
- ✓ inadequate management;
- ✓ unsatisfactory overall quality



The Chinese Context

◆ Comprehensive Quality Evaluation (CDGDC)

- ✓ Target: government-approved schools and programs offering courses leading to bachelor degrees and above
- ✓ correction within a fixed time period;
or cancellation of the schools or programs



The Three Action Plans

◆ *ASEM Recognition Bridging Declaration*

- ✓ Drafted at the 2nd Working Group Meeting in Beijing
- ✓ Endorsed in the ASEMME4



The Three Action Plans

◆ *ASEM Recognition Bridging Declaration*

- ✓ to apply the same recognition principles to holders of qualifications;
- ✓ to strengthen cooperation between national information centers, as well as between networks of NICs.



The Three Action Plans

◆ CDGDC-ASEAN Day: July, 2013

(in cooperation with China-ASEAN Center)

◆ Seminar on China-ASEAN Education
Integration, Quality Assurance and Recognition:
September, 2013

(the 6th China-ASEAN Education Cooperation
Week)



The First Working Group Meeting

◆ Working Group (12) established:

- ✓ Asia (5): Brunei Darussalam, Indonesia, Malaysia, China, and Republic of Korea
- ✓ Europe (7): Austria, Belgium, Estonia, Germany, Latvia, Lithuania, and United Kingdom



Three Action Plans

◆ Action Plan 1:

To build a **Website** for the Asian NICs;

◆ Action Plan 2:

To establish a Cross-border Quality Assurance **Network** (CBQAN)

◆ Action Plan 3:

To draft a **Handbook** of Guidelines, Principles and Good Practices on Recognition;



Action Plan 1: To build a Website

◆ Europe:

European Higher Education Area

✓ Education Integration:

Degree system, Study length, Credit system

Cooperation among QA bodies

Collaboration among QR bodies



Action Plan 1: To build a website

◆ **Europe: Recognition**

- ✓ National Academic Recognition Information Centres
- ✓ National Information Centres
- ✓ Network of ENIC-NARICs

◆ **Asia: in the process of establishing NICs**



Action Plan 1: To build a website

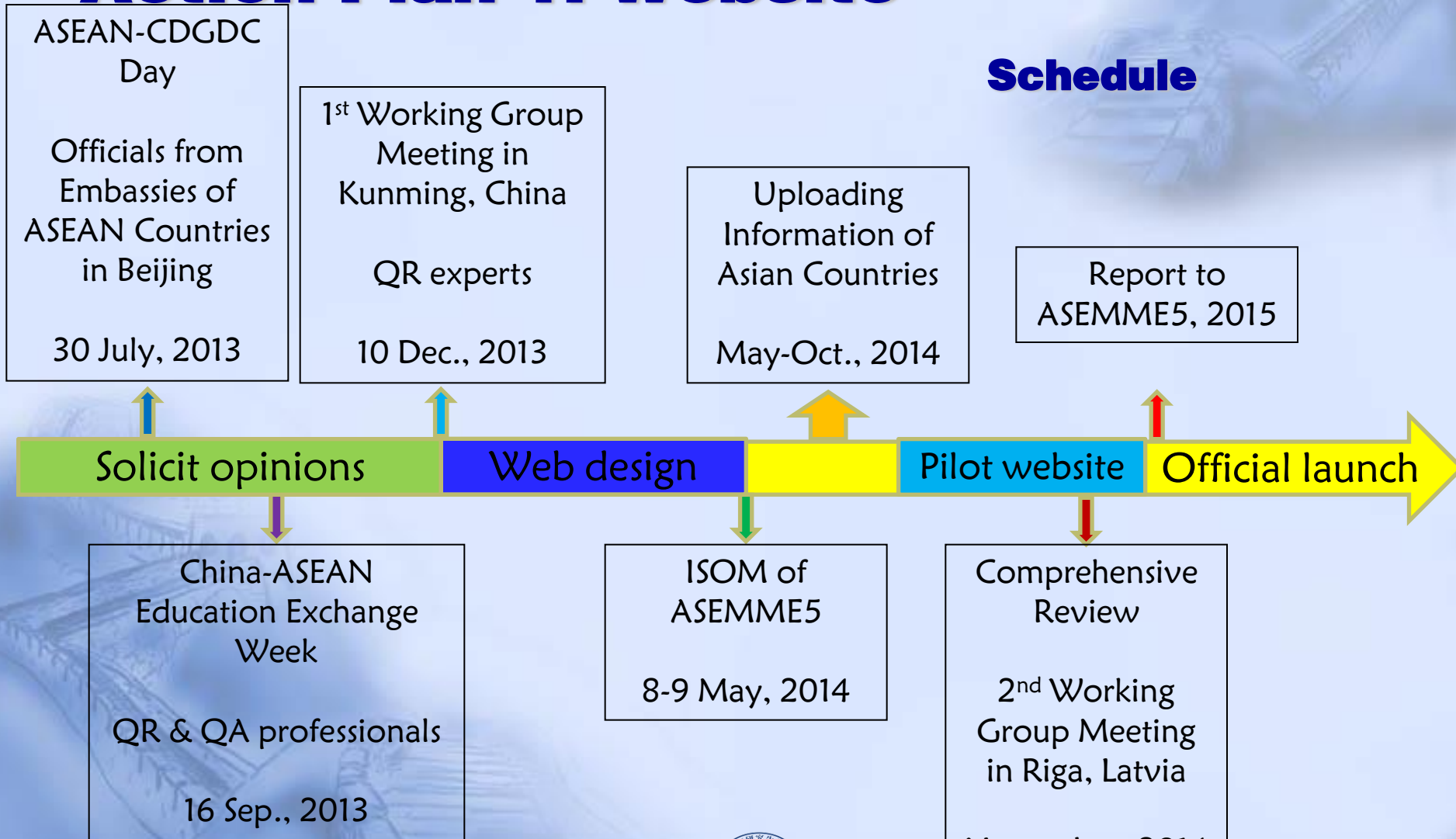
◆ Objectives of website:

- ✓ Enhancing transparency of Asian Education
- ✓ Urging Asian countries to establish NICs
- ✓ Laying foundation for Network of Asian NICs
- ✓ Effective communication platform



Action Plan 1: Website

Schedule



Action Plan 2: To establish CBQAN

- ◆ **China: Lack of high-quality education resources**
- ◆ **ASEM region: imbalanced mobility**
 - ✓ More Asian students to Europe;
 - ✓ More European Education providers to Asia



Action Plan 2: To establish CBQAN

◆ **Balanced mobility in ASEM region**

- ✓ **Balanced scale;**
- ✓ **Equally-matched quality**

Important: methods and approaches of QA for cross-border education



Action Plan 2: To establish CBQAN

- ◆ Specific concern on cross-border education
- ◆ Raise the awareness of quality for providing and receiving countries



Action Plan 2: To establish CBQAN

- ◆ CBQAN in the work domain of the working group
- ✓ QA: pre-condition
- ✓ Third-party qualifications
- ✓ QA and QR: separated



Action Plan 2: To establish CBQAN

◆ **Missions of CBQAN**

- ✓ Information sharing and experience exchange
- ✓ Raise the quality awareness
- ✓ Facilitate recognition of qualification awarded in cross-border education



Action Plan 3: To draft a **handbook**

◆ Objectives:

- ✓ To give references on recognition principles, criteria, procedure
- ✓ To recommend good practices on qualification assessment
- ✓ To provide practical information for qualification holders



Action Plan 3: To draft a **handbook**

◆ Fundamental Guiding Documents (Conventions):

- ✓ Convention on the Recognition of Qualifications concerning Higher Education in the European Region” (Lisbon, 1997),
- ✓ Asia-Pacific Regional Convention on the Recognition of Qualifications in Higher Education (Bangkok, 1983)
- ✓ Asia-Pacific Regional Convention on the Recognition of Qualifications in Higher Education (Tokyo, 2011)



Action Plan 3: To draft a **handbook**

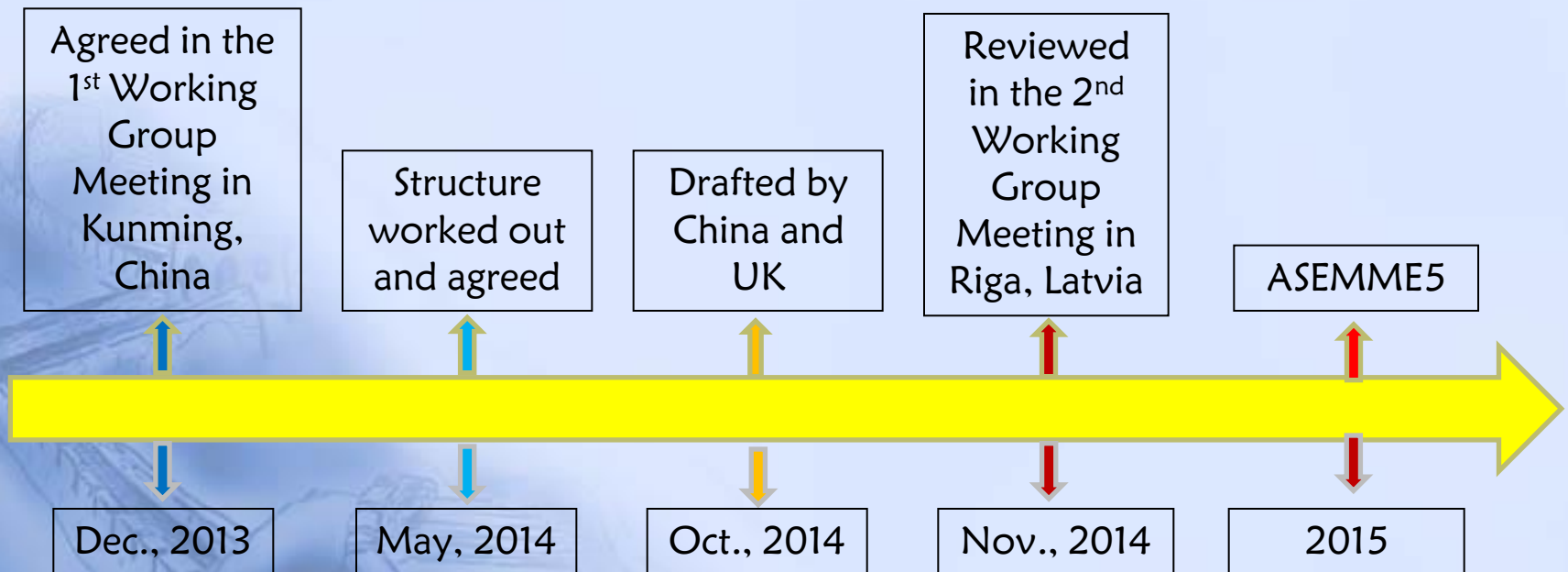
◆ Tools:

- ✓ Recommendation on the Recognition of Studies and Qualifications in Higher Education (Paris, 1993),
- ✓ Revised Recommendation on Criteria and Procedures for the Assessment of Foreign Qualifications (Sèvres, 2010)
- ✓ Toolkit for the Recognition of Foreign Qualifications: A Reference for Asia-Pacific Practitioners (Bangkok, 2013)



Action Plan 3: To draft a **handbook**

◆ Proposed Schedule:



All the 3 Action Plans

- ◆ Proceed smoothly at each agreed speed;
- ◆ Considerable efforts and significant inputs from members of the Working Group;
- ◆ Comprehensively reviewed in the Second Meeting in Riga, Latvia, in December, 2014



THANK YOU!



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