

Learning From Each Other And Moving Forward Asia And Europe Together In The Fight Against HIV/AIDS

ASEM meeting on HIV/AIDS in Ho Chi Minh City 22-23 November 2005

Background

ASEM (Asia Europe Meeting), is an informal process of dialogue and cooperation bringing together the 25 EU member states, the European Commission and 13 Asian countries. The meetings are at high levels discussing political, economic and cultural issues.

At the 5th ASEM meeting in Hanoi on October 8th-9th 2004 there was a HIV/AIDS cooperation initiative from the Netherlands, the Philippines, Sweden, and Vietnam. The first step in this initiative is the organisation of an ASEM workshop on HIV/AIDS in Viet Nam. The workshop will be organised by the MOH Viet Nam in cooperation with the Netherlands, the Philippines and Sweden.

The workshop will bring together 4 participants from each of the ASEM members.

The workshop has four main areas of focus:

- To discuss and exchange 'best practices' examples from Europe and Asia to control the global spread of the epidemic.
- To advocate for broad-based national responses to HIV/AIDS prevention, care and support programmes, including: harm reduction; effective national strategy; mobilizing societies; cooperation, sustainability and resources.
- To promote the active involvement of PWHAs in national responses to HIV/AIDS, and in tackling stigma and discrimination against people living with and affected by HIV/AIDS
- To underline the leading role of participating countries in implementing the "Three Ones Principles"¹.

¹ One agreed national action framework; One national AIDS coordinating body; and One agreed national monitoring and evaluation system