

Chair's Summary of the Asian Partners for Co-operation Meeting

- 4 December 2005, Ljubljana -

1. The Asian Partners for Co-operation Meeting was held in Ljubljana on 4 December 2005 to review current activities and exchange views on a future direction to promote cooperation between the Asian Partners for Co-operation and the OSCE. Heads of delegations from the Asian Partners for Co-operation countries - Afghanistan, Japan, Mongolia, Republic of Korea and Thailand - attended the meeting. H.E. Mr. BAN Ki-moon, Minister of Foreign Affairs and Trade of the Republic of Korea, chaired the meeting.
2. The Asian Partners for Co-operation reviewed the issues of common interest based on the agenda of the OSCE Troika-Asian Partners for Co-operation Meeting and agreed on the following as common elements for recommendations to promote their co-operation with the OSCE:
 - A. Strengthening interaction between the OSCE and Asian Partners;
 - Implementing of the Outreach Report
 - Enhancing exchange of personnel between the OSCE and Asian Partners, including secondment to the OSCE institutions and the Field Missions
 - Strengthening assistance from the OSCE to Asian Partners to undertake joint activities, where appropriate, such as in the field of election monitoring, border control and police capacity building, etc
 - Encouraging the OSCE to participate in important meetings and conferences held in Asian Partner for Co-operation countries dealing with security and democratic process
 - B. Enhancing participation status of Partners for Co-operation;
 - Enhancing participation status of Partners for Co-operation in PC/FSC meetings from current "on an ad-hoc basis" to "on a permanent basis"
 - Enhancing access of Partners for Co-operation to informal meetings such as preparatory committee meetings and informal group of friends of chair meetings
 - C. Strengthening the role of Asian Contact Group;
 - Encouraging more participation from the OSCE participating States
 - Focusing on the thematic issues such as human security

D. Exploring the possibility of strengthening interaction between the OSCE and ARF;

- Examining possible modalities of interaction such as organizing programs and activities, exchanging visits, and convening dialogue between the OSCE and ARF, to be agreed to by both sides.

3. The Asian Partners for Co-operation expressed their appreciation to the Bulgarian chairmanship of the Asian Contact Group for its contribution to enhancing cooperation between Asian Partners for Co-operation and the OSCE, and hope that the incoming Slovenian chairmanship of the Asian Contact Group will further develop cooperative relations. The Asian Partners for Co-operation also expressed their gratitude to the OSCE Secretariat for its dedicated work in this area.