



ASEM High-Level Forum on Digital Connectivity

Unleashing Potential for Innovative Growth

19-20 June 2017

Shangri-La Hotel, Qingdao, China

Asia-Europe Meeting

Invitation to the ASEM High-Level Forum on Digital Connectivity

Dear Sir or Madam,

It is my great pleasure to inform you that the ASEM High-Level Forum on Digital Connectivity will be hosted by China in Qingdao tentatively on 19-20 June 2017. The forum is a follow-up event to the 11th Asia-Europe Meeting (ASEM) held in July 2016, and co-organized by China Council for the Promotion of International Trade (CCPIT), Ministry of Foreign Affairs of China, Ministry of Industry and Information Technology of China and Ministry of Commerce of China.

ASEM is an important cross-region forum to enhance relations and various cooperation among its 53 partners. Digital connectivity has recently emerged as a new area of interest and cooperation among ASEM members, as digital technologies are connecting and transforming the world, substantially contributing to growth and sustainable development, with potential yet to be fully tapped into. At the 11th ASEM Summit in 2016, our leaders expressed interest in examining ways of enhancing digital connectivity to fully realize its potential of driving growth, creating jobs and promoting innovation.

The Forum, endorsed by the 11th ASEM Summit and co-sponsored by Singapore, will focus on the theme “Unleashing Potential for Innovative Growth” and hold discussions on four topics, including “IT Industry Cooperation and Development”, “Digital Infrastructure”, “Cross-Border E-commerce” and “Big Data and Industry Upgrading”. It aims to bring together high-level government officials, business leaders and academics and provide a platform to look into the key aspects of digital connectivity, to exchange ideas, views and experiences, and to work together to create opportunities to strengthen cooperation among ASEM members.

It would be a privilege for us if you were to join us with this coming event and it would be highly appreciated if you could promote this forum among

your member enterprises and invite them to participate. The event will benefit greatly from the attendance of you and your members with the experience with digital connectivity and knowledge of the trend in which it is developing.

Thank you in advance for your assistance and your kind consideration of this invitation. I look forward to welcoming you and your companies in Qingdao.

Yours sincerely,

JIANG Zengwei

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be the Chinese characters '江增伟' (Jiang Zengwei).

Chairman

China Council for the Promotion of International Trade

Encl: Tentative Programme, Administrative Circular, Registration Form

Contact: Ms. Xie Biyao, Mr. Shi Xiaohang

Tel: +86-10-82217820, +86-10-82217863

Email: xiebiyao@ccoic.cn, shixiaohang@ccpit.org



ASEM High-Level Forum on Digital Connectivity Unleashing Potential for Innovative Growth

19-20 June 2017
Shangri-La Hotel, Qingdao, China

Tentative Programme

18 June 2017 (Sunday)

All day **Arrival of Delegates**
09:30 **Optional Field Trip***

19 June 2017 (Monday)

08:00 **Registration**
09:30-10:30 **Opening Ceremony** (*Conference Hall, 2nd Floor, Qingdao Shangri-La Hotel*)
MC: Yin Zonghua, Deputy Chairman of China Council for the Promotion of International Trade (CCPIT)
Speech: JIANG Zengwei, Chairman of CCPIT
Welcome Remarks: Governor of Shandong Province
Speeches: High-Level Representatives from Co-Sponsors
Keynote Speech: ... from the State Council of China (TBC)

10:30-11:00 **Coffee Break**

11:00-12:00 **Plenary Session: Digital Connectivity - Unleashing Potential for Innovative Growth**
Moderator: Yu Jianlong, Secretary-General of China Chamber of International Commerce (CCOIC)

Keynote Speeches by government officials (2) and entrepreneurs from ASEM partners (2) as well as international organization representative (1)

12:15 **Buffet Lunch** (*Ballroom, 3rd Floor, Qingdao Shangri-La Hotel*)

14:00-15:30 **Session I: IT Industry Cooperation and Development**

As the cost of data collection, storage, and processing continue to decline dramatically and computing power increases, social and economic activities are increasingly migrating to the internet. The rapid development and application of technologies such as big data, cloud computing and internet of things not only contributes to the national productivity, but also facilitates communication between nations and stimulates social and economic development. Meanwhile, adoptions and use of emerging information technologies and services vary among different countries in Asian and Europe. Barriers to the access and effective use of technologies that many ASEM members face typically include some combination of a lack of high-quality and affordable infrastructure; a lack of trust in digital technologies and activities; a shortage of the skills needed to succeed in the digital economies; incomplete credit system on internet; high costs and poor access to financing for smaller firms; barriers to the reallocation of resources across firms and sector and a lack of interoperability of standards. In addition, traditional manufacturing companies are looking for new models to integrate IT application into traditional production.

This session will discuss current status, experience and cooperative directions of IT industry, IT industry development and copyright protection, Internet of Things/Internet of Vehicles, internet and finance, next generation of Internet and electric power development, Smart City building, shared economy - integrated development of IT industry and traditional industries and etc.

15:30-16:00 **Coffee Break**

16:00-17:30 **Session II: Digital Infrastructure Construction**

As major economies have experienced an increasing level of digitalization, the development of digital economy has played an important role in driving global economic growth. According to a WEF report (2016), 1/5 of the global GDP was generated from skills, capitals, products and services that were linked to digital economy. Digital infrastructures provide the foundation for many new technologies, services, applications and business models. It is essential that Asian and European economies continually invest in digital infrastructure. Challenges to digital infrastructure investment include geographic differences, regulatory uncertainty, high

capital expenditure, and etc..

This session will discuss current development, characteristics and cooperative visions of the construction of digital infrastructure, case study on digital infrastructure investment, construction of telecommunication network (cross-border cables), market operation of digital infrastructure, digital infrastructure and 5G network, financing of digital infrastructure and etc.

18:00 **Reception and Dinner** (*Ballroom, 3rd Floor, Qingdao Shangri-La Hotel*)

20 June 2017 (Tuesday)

09:00-10:30 **Session III: Cross-Border E-commerce**

Cross border eTrade is proving to be a game changer for companies especially SMEs (Small and Medium Enterprises) to participate in global value chains. According to the Global Cross Border B2C Electronic Trade Market Report jointly published by Accenture and the Alibaba Group, the value of the global cross border B2C electronic trade market will grow from US\$ 230 billion in 2014 to US\$ 994 billion in 2020, accounting for 29.3% of the global B2C electronic trade market and 13.9% of global consumer goods trade. Compounded growth rate for cross border electronic trade is projected to be 27.3% during the period of 2014 – 2020, twice that of the national electronic trade market, and more than 3 times the growth of global consumer goods trade.

This session will discuss trends of cross-border e-commerce, internet upgrading and new opportunities for cross-border e-commerce, effective methods to simplify goods imports-exports and transit procedures such as “single window”, payment and clearing, rights and interests protection, business cooperation in cross-border e-commerce and etc.

10:30-10:45 **Coffee Break**

10:45-12:15 **Session IV: Big Data and Industry Upgrading**

Digitalization is redefining the boundaries of industries, so many countries are seeking for opportunities brought about by a new era of digitalization. Traditional industrialized economies as well as emerging economies all eye for the synergy between big data and manufacturing, embodied in German “Industry 4.0”, “Made in China 2025”, and “Europe 2020”, among others. It will lead to innovative production methods and productivity growth in the traditional industries by integrating mobile internet, big data, cloud computing and internet of things, promoting extensive application of information technologies and artificial intelligence technologies, and establishing an integrated internet-physical production system that enables

communication between intelligent production equipment.

This session will discuss intelligent manufacturing in Asia and Europe, big data for small and medium enterprises, Artificial Intelligence (AI) and service robot industry, security issues of big data, future of big data and cloud computing and etc.

12:15-12:45 **Closing Ceremony** (*Conference Hall, 2nd Floor, Qingdao Shangri-La Hotel*)

MC: (TBC)

Moderators of the four sessions report to the plenary on the discussion.

Adoption of the outcome document (TBC)

Closing Remarks by officials from Ministry of Foreign Affairs of China, CCPIT and Co-Sponsors

13:00 **Buffet Lunch** (*Ballroom, 3rd Floor, Qingdao Shangri-La Hotel*)

***Optional Field Trip:** Visits will be arranged to Qingdao Hi-tech Development Zone, West Coast New District, Blue Silicon Valley, Sino-German Ecological Park, Haier Group, Hisense Group, Red Collar Group and etc.

As of 25 April 2017



ASEM High-Level Forum on Digital Connectivity
Administrative Circular

1. Date

19-20 June 2017

2. Venue

Shangri-La Hotel, Qingdao

Address: 9 Hong Kong Middle Road, Qingdao, 266071, China

Tel: +86-532-8388 3838

Fax: +86-532-8388 6868

Website: <http://www.shangri-la.com/>

3. Registration

Participants are invited to register by sending a completed Registration Form to the following Contact Person by **24 May 2017**.

Ms. Xie Biyao (Preferred)

Email: xiebiyao@ccoic.cn

Fax: +86 -10-8221 7865

Tel: +86-10-8221 7820

Or

Mr. Shi Xiaohang

Email: shixiaohang@ccpit.org

Fax: +86-10-8221 7865

Tel: +86-10-8221 7863

4. Cost

The organizers bear the costs of the venue, facilities and conference meals, and the arrangements for the field trip as scheduled in the programme.

Participants are responsible for their own travel and accommodation costs and any other expenses incurred during their stay.

5. Accommodation

Please book your hotel by email or by telephone. When booking, please mention ASEM GUEST to get special room rates.

1. Shangri-La Hotel, Qingdao

Address: 9 Hong Kong Middle Road, Qingdao, 266071, China

Tel: +86-532-8388 3838

Fax: +86-532-8388 6868

Website: <http://www.shangri-la.com/>

Reservation Email: reservations.slq@shangri-la.com

Room Type	Price
City Wing Deluxe Room	CNY850
City Wing Deluxe Grand Room	CNY950
City Wing Executive Suite	CNY2,000

Valley Wing Executive Room	CNY1,100
Valley Wing Premier Room	CNY1,400
Valley Wing Executive Suite	CNY3,000

- The above room rates are based on CNY and quoted on per room per night, inclusive of 10% service charge and 6% value-added tax, on-commissionable.

- An Buffet Breakfast included.

- Additional breakfast will be charged at CNY120 per meal.

- Free broadband Internet access and WIFI in the guest room.

- Guests who stay at Valley Wing Premier Room enjoy complimentary benefits at the Valley Wing Lounge, including:

- Personalized check-in and check-out
- Pressing of one suit and shoe shine on arrival
- Sumptuous breakfast, all-day refreshment and cocktail including wine and canapés
- Use of meeting room for 2 hours daily
- Use of computer inclusive of internet access
- Daily international fresh fruits
- Butler service on request

2. The Westin Qingdao

Address: 8 Hong Kong Middle Road, Qingdao, 266071, China

Tel: +86-532-6777 1888 ext. 1236

Fax: +86-532-6777 1236

Website: westin.com/qingdao

Reservation Email: henry.han@westin.com

Room Type	Price
Westin Room	CNY 698
Westin Deluxe Room	CNY 750

-An American Buffet Breakfast included.

-Free newspapers each day.

-Free WIFI access in the whole hotel.

-Free access to facilities of the hotel's gymnastic center (swimming pool).

6. Language at the Forum

The working languages are English and Chinese.

7. Dress Code

Business attire is appropriate for meetings and other social functions. Smart casual attire is recommended for the field trip.

8. Liability

The organizers shall not be liable for personal accidents, losses, or damages to personal property of the registrants participants/delegates.

Delegates/participants should make arrangements for their own travel insurance.

9. Useful Information

Visa applications

Participants are required to ensure their passport has at least 6 months' validity on the day they are departing for China (if applicable). Participants who require a visa to enter China need to apply for the visa from the nearest Chinese Diplomatic Mission before they depart for China. It is advisable to enclose the invitation letter of the event, the tentative programme and your registration form as part of your visa application documents.

Climate

Average temperature: 18-24 degrees Celsius (64.4-75.2 ° F).

Time

The time in China is 8 hours ahead of Greenwich Mean Time (GMT + 8).

Electricity

Residential Voltage: 220 V

Frequency: 50 Hz, AC

Please bring a proper voltage converter and adapter in order to operate your electrical appliances.

Currency

Chinese RMB Yuan (¥) is the official currency of China and the following bank notes are currently in circulation: 1, 5, 10, 20, 50 and 100 Yuan.

Exchange rate: 1 CNY \approx 0.1448 USD \approx 0.1356EUR (subject to change).

Credit Cards

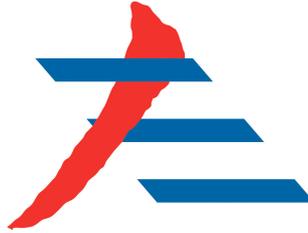
Visa, Master Card and American Express are accepted at most banks, shopping malls, hotels and restaurants in Qingdao.

Emergency Free Telephone Numbers

Police: 110

Medical Care: 120

Fire Service: 119



Asia-Europe Meeting

ASEM High-level Forum on Digital Connectivity

Unleashing Potential for Innovative Growth

Concept Paper

(Proposed by China)

Background

Digital technologies have spread rapidly in much of the world, connected people, firms, and societies to an unprecedented level and deeply transformed the lives we lead, the way we work. The internet and information and communication technologies (ICTs) is no longer a specific sector but the foundation of a new global economy and a networked society. As digital connectivity makes its headway, there are indeed many success stories of how digital technologies boosted innovation, growth and jobs by creating new commercial opportunities, and significantly reducing the costs of economic and social transactions.

However, digital divide still exists. The benefits of digital connectivity are yet to be fully tapped. While some in the world are reaping the benefits of an interconnected world, many are lagging behind. Making the internet universally accessible and affordable remains an urgent priority. And there are various barriers to be overcome, many not in pure technology nature. While many countries witnessed the fast-growing of digital economy, there lacks a coherence and synergy among different regulations, leaving a level playing field for all far from reach. To get the most out of the digital revolution, much needs to be done.

With Asia and Europe seeing the fast-growing of digital economy, digital connectivity has recently emerged as a new area of interest and cooperation among ASEM members. At the 10th ASEM Summit Milan in 2014, leaders underlined that digital connectivity is a key element of modern society's infrastructures, and expressed interest to examine ways of enhancing digital connectivity between Europe and Asia. At the 12th ASEM Foreign Ministers' Meeting in Luxembourg in 2015, Ministers agreed to mainstream connectivity into all relevant ASEM cooperation frameworks and highlighted digital connectivity as a key element of connecting the two regions. Ministers also emphasized that greater

collaboration among ASEM partners in the area of capacity building and exchange of expertise is essential. At the 11th ASEM Summit Ulaanbaatar in 2016, leaders expressed interest in examining ways of enhancing digital connectivity to fully realize its potential of driving growth, creating jobs and promoting innovation and stressed the importance of security of and in the use of ICTs.

Objectives

The initiative aims are to provide a chance for policy exchanges, best practices sharing and case studies among ASEM members. Participants are expected to build on the previous efforts, to look into the key aspects of digital connectivity, to exchange ideas, views and experiences, and to work together to identify possible policy suggestions and potential cooperation among ASEM members.

Tentative Topics

1. Digital infrastructure
2. IT/Internet industry cooperation and development
3. Big Data and industrial upgrading
4. Cross-border e-Commerce

Programme, Date & Venue

The forum will take place in Qingdao, Shandong Province of China on June 19-20, 2017. It will be organized by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MOFA) of China, Ministry of Industry and Information Technology, the Ministry of Commerce (MOFCOM) of China, and China Council for the Promotion for the International Trade (CCPIT).

Participation

The Seminar aims to gather a wide range of participants, including government officials, business representatives, researchers and experts, as well as from related regional and international organizations. The aim is to bring together policy-making and professional practice/expertise.

Co-sponsors

All ASEM members, particularly those who place a particular importance on digital connectivity are welcomed to co-sponsor this initiative. Co-sponsors could send representatives to speak at the forum, make contributions to the concept paper, forum schedule and topics, and work together with the hosts of forum on inviting keynote speakers. Co-sponsors may provide financial support to the forum on voluntary basis.

Expenses

The venue and organization will be handled by the host country. Travel and accommodation costs shall be covered by the participants.

ASEM High-Level Forum on Digital Connectivity

19-20 June 2017

Qingdao, China



Registration Form

Name (Given) (Middle) (Family)		
Country	Sex (f/m)	Date of Birth (dd/mm/yyyy)
Title (Mr./Ms./Dr./Prof./Other)		
Institution/Organization		
Position		
Office Address		
Tel		Mobile Phone
E-mail		Fax
Passport	Number	Place of Issue
	Date of Issue(dd/mm/yyyy)	Date of Expiry(dd/mm/yyyy)
Flight Info.	Arrival Date	Flight Number
	Departure Date	Flight Number
I will have <input type="checkbox"/> Shangri-La Hotel <input type="checkbox"/> the Westin Qingdao for accommodation. (Please refer to the Administrative Circular for more information)		
Dietary Restrictions		
I'm interested in particular in the topics of session _____ and/or session _____. (Please refer to the Tentative Programme for more information and indicate your topics of interest)		
Field Trip <input type="checkbox"/> I will participate. <input type="checkbox"/> I will not participate.		

*Please fill this form in English and send it to Ms. Xie Biyao by email xiebiyao@ccoic.cn or fax +86 -10-8221 7865 no later than 24 May 2017.