



# BALI INTERFAITH DIALOGUE

21-22 JULY 2005

BUILDING INTERFAITH HARMONY WITHIN THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY  
UNITY IN DIVERSITY



## BALI DECLARATION ON BUILDING INTERFAITH HARMONY WITHIN THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY

**We, the representatives of ASEM members, reflecting various cultural, religious and faith heritages, who gathered here at the ASEM Interfaith Dialogue in Bali, Indonesia, on 21-22 July 2005;**

**Expressing sympathy to the victims of the attacks in London on 7 July 2005 and to the victims of earlier such attacks, notably that in Bali on 17 October 2002;**

**Bearing in mind our determination to fulfill our responsibility to contribute to global efforts in promoting culture of peace and a total rejection of using violence in the name of religion not only within our communities but also the peoples of the world;**

**Reaffirming the importance of all peoples to hold, develop and preserve their faiths and religions within safeguarded religious freedom in a national and international atmosphere of peace, of tolerance as well as of mutual understanding and respect;**

**Recognizing the wisdom of the various existing faiths and religions in the efforts of maintaining peace and stability within the international community and people;**

**Acknowledging the valuable contributions of various initiatives at the national, regional and international level, such as the United Nations initiatives on the Alliance of Civilization and Interfaith Dialogue and Cooperation to promote the culture of peace;**

**Having thoroughly examined and discussed the common values of the various faiths and religions as well as barriers to building interfaith harmony within the international community and people;**

**Declare our profound conviction that:**

- 1. The various faiths and religions existing in the ASEM member countries are advocating peace, compassion, and tolerance among mankind;**
- 2. The promotion and protection of human rights and fundamental freedom including the right of individual to choose religion or faith can contribute to upholding respect for the diversity of faiths and religions which is essential in combating ideologies based on extremism, intolerance, hatred, and the use of violence;**