Building on the success of the first ASEM Education Ministers’ Meeting in Berlin, May 2008, the second ASEM Education Ministers’ Meeting, held in Hanoi on 14-15 May 2009 focused on:

• strengthening cooperation in higher education by forging strategic partnerships for quality assurance, credit recognition and transfer in ASEM countries
• sustainable human resource development for ASEM’s future needs through the promotion of lifelong learning and vocational education and training to enhance mobility and employability.

Vietnam’s Prime Minister, HE. Nguyen Tan Dung welcomed delegations and delivered opening speech on 14 May 2009.

In preparation for the ASEM EMM2, at the Senior Officials’ Meetings (SOM) in Frankfurt, December 2008 and in Hanoi, January 2009, the Chairman of the Advisory Board of the ASEM LLL Hub, Mr Zoltan Loboda, Director General from the Hungarian Ministry of Education and Culture highlighted the role of lifelong learning in human resource development and regarded it as an effective response to the economic crisis. The Meeting endorsed the 3-year development and budget proposal of the ASEM LLL Hub presented by Chairman Loboda and called on voluntary contributions from ASEM countries.

At the Meeting, the Chairman of the ASEM LLL Hub, Mr. Arne Carlsen, was invited to deliver a presentation on the research cooperation between Asian and European universities and ministries in lifelong learning since 2005. The ASEM LLL Hub provides a platform for dialogue between researchers, practitioners and policy makers in order to create foundation for research-based educational policy making and research-informed practices for sustainable human resource development to meet ASEM’s future needs. The Education Ministers at the Meeting strongly supported the work of the ASEM LLL Hub.
The ASEM LLL Hub’s Participation at the 2nd ASEM Education Ministers’ Meeting, Hanoi, May 2009

“The Meeting acknowledged that LLL provides a solid framework for sustainable human resource development, which generates economic growth, social welfare and enables individuals to pursue stimulating learning opportunities at all stages of their lives. Therefore, it deserves specific attention for intensified cooperation among ASEM countries.

The Meeting also agreed to strengthen the role of the ASEM LLL Hub in order to deepen common understanding of LLL concepts, to make research-based policy recommendations and to expand the existing partnerships to all ASEM countries.”

(See the full ASEM EMM2 Chair’s Conclusion)

The Danish Minister of Education showed a film on Danish education and invited his counterparts to the 3rd ASEM Education Ministers’ Meeting in spring 2011, in Copenhagen, Denmark.

The ASEM LLL Hub committed itself to realise the Chair’s conclusion by cooperating with the Ministries of Education and Labour in Vietnam and Thailand to organise:

• ASEM Conference on “Lifelong Learning: e-Learning and Workplace Learning”, 20-21 July 09, Bangkok, Thailand

• ASEM Conference on “Increasing Opportunities and Removing Obstacles for Lifelong Learning”, 29-30 October 09, Nha Trang city, Vietnam.

The ASEM LLL Hub will also contribute to the preparation for the ASEM EMM3 hosted by the Danish Ministry of Education in 2011 in Copenhagen.

ASEM LLL Hub’s publications were exhibited and well received at the ASEM EMM2 14-15 May 2009, Hanoi, Vietnam.