



**ASIAN-AFRICAN
STUDENTS CONFERENCE 2015**

FINAL COMMUNIQUÉ

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FINAL COMMUNIQUÉ

OF THE ASIAN AFRICAN STUDENTS CONFERENCE BANDUNG, MAY 1ST 2015

Inspired by the Asian-African Conference held in Bandung, 1955, and by the Asian-African Students Conference held in Bandung, 1956; and based on the consciousness that the Asian and African have to unite, synergize, and lead together to face the nowadays world's problems; the students of Asian and Africa held the Asian-African Students Conference in Bandung, Indonesia, from April 30th to May 1st 2015.

The conference divided into six committees, with six different topics.

1. Committee I : Formulating the strategy to foster the role of leadership to promote the Asian-African cultural values
2. Committee II : Formulating the strategy to foster the role of leadership to promote the inclusive education
3. Committee III : Formulating the strategy to foster the role of leadership to promote the sociopreneurship
4. Committee IV : Formulating the strategy to foster the role of leadership to promote the function of media as a pillar of democratization process
5. Committee V : Formulating the strategy to foster the role of leadership to promote the Open Source for the digital independence in Asia and Africa
6. Committee VI : Formulating the strategy to foster the role of leadership to promote student global network

The participants of following countries participated:

1. Afghanistan
2. Angola
3. Bangladesh
4. Benin
5. Burundi
6. Cambodia
7. Egypt
8. Ethiopia
9. Gambia
10. Ghana
11. Guinea
12. India
13. Indonesia
14. Japan
15. Kenya
16. Lao People's Democratic Republic

17. Lesotho
18. Liberia
19. Libya
20. Madagascar
21. Malaysia
22. Mali
23. Mozambique
24. Myanmar
25. Nepal
26. Nigeria
27. Pakistan
28. Papua New Guinea
29. China, People's Republic
30. Rwanda
31. Senegal
32. Sierra Leone
33. Somalia
34. South Africa
35. South Korea
36. Sudan
37. Tanzania
38. Thailand
39. Congo, Republic
40. Timor Leste
41. Tunisia
42. Uganda
43. Uzbekistan
44. Vietnam
45. Yemen
46. Zimbabwe

The Asian-African Students Conference considered common problems and interest of the students of Asia Africa. After the first students conference in 1956, this year this conference still will held in an atmosphere of mutual understanding, closer friendship, brotherhood, and cooperation to make a fruitful discussion in each committee and a friendly conferences.

The conference will bring importance of leadership values as the core topic of this conference. The conference considered global issues that facing by the students in the era of 21st. The conference was the second of its kind by Asian African Students and for Asian African Students. It is hoped that the outcome from this conference can give a comprehensive communiqué for the world and be implemented for facing the global issues.

Let us be the fire. Let us lead and unite together.

I. LEADERSHIP TO PROMOTE THE ASIAN-AFRICAN CULTURAL VALUES

Make the introduction here, according to the problems in the Terms of Reference. At the end of the introduction, you state that the following points are the solutions. Culture is the way we interact with our social and natural environment. It shows the identity or basic foundation of a nation in the forms of ideas, knowledge, experience, beliefs, norms, moral values, attitudes, material objects, possessions, and any other activities by people to be transmitted from one generation to the other and thus gives a balance between nature and humanity. It defines who we are as people in the sense that, it is the embodiment of our entire life activities and has been existed for centuries in both Asia and Africa in which local culture is unique.

Every country has different local cultures and vary in ethnicity, local cultures shows the dignity and identity of the people of that nation. Seemingly, nothing for each individual is keen and knows the local cultures in both Asia and Africa. In addition, the existence of modern colonialism from big powers, for instance, technologies, capitalism, individualism, etc. leads to the ignorance of each individual in Asia and Africa to preserve yet promote the local cultures which we believe are important, good, and fair for people and environment.

A. BUILD A REPOSITORY OF ASIAN AND AFRICAN LOCAL CULTURE VALUES

1. To collect all data about local cultural values from each Asia and Africa countries through research. Government can co-operate with sociologists and archeologists to conduct researches in the intention to acknowledge the local cultures in both Asia and Africa.
2. To save the data and keep it in a database that can be easily accessed by people from both continents, for example a global website containing the local cultures of both Asia and Africa with their values.
3. To publish the data that we have already researched and arranged in which the database can be the source to make another project to promote culture, for example, films, books, or website contents.

**B. REINVIGORATE THE ASIAN AND AFRICAN CULTURAL VALUES
IN THE SOCIETY**

1. Make a clean strategy plan on education, including four aspects of society: home, schools, communities, and universal interaction.
2. To give opportunities for people to travel and discover different cultures in Asia and Africa, for instance, giving the scholarship grants to students and hold cultural trips for the influential people (ambassadors, journalists, etc.).

C. DEVELOP LOCAL CULTURAL VALUES IN A GLOBAL CONTEXT

1. To spread information through different types of media as well as the social network, for example, visual, audio, and internet networks.
2. To promote international cultural festivals, competitions, as well as exhibitions, while spreading the variety of local cultures in a global context.

**D. DEVELOP LOCAL CULTURAL VALUES TO CREATE A
STRATEGIC PLAN ON THE ISSUE OF CLIMATE CHANGE**

1. To change individual's mindset through eco-friendly campaigns, for example, plastic diet and education in the forms of trips and parental control.
2. To socialize the value of respecting the ecology and environment as a whole, by laws and policies, punishments, trash classifications from the source, and annual reforestation.
3. To organize all eco-friendly organizations to maintain societies' beliefs to return to the basic local cultural values of both Asia and Africa.

II. LEADERSHIP TO PROMOTE THE INCLUSIVE EDUCATION

“No education system can remain static. The world is changing rapidly. Technology is transforming our lives. The needed skills in the future will be very different from those needed today.” – Lee HsienLoong, Prime Minister of Singapore. Inclusive education means that all people, regardless of their strengths or weaknesses in any area, become part of the learning community. UNESCO (2009) gives the following definition: ‘Inclusive education is a process of strengthening the capacity of the education system to reach out to all learners. As an overall principle, it should guide all education policies and practices, starting from the fact that education is a basic human right and the foundation for a more just and equal society.’

UNESCO’s actions follow the following framework: "... schools should accommodate all children regardless of their physical, intellectual, emotional, social, linguistic or other conditions." (Article 3, Salamanca Framework for Action). According to Alvin Toffler, our environment is constantly changing, and those changes will affect our daily life, how our neighborhood will be multicultural and multidimensional, and therefore, education system should be adapted. As a result of the second Asian African Students Conference 2015 in Bandung, the following strategies were compiled.

A. RAISE THE AWARENESS OF ASIAN AND AFRICAN PEOPLE TOWARD THE IMPORTANCE OF EDUCATION

1. Use media such as internet through social media, television, newspapers, radio and magazines to promote the importance of education.
2. Create an educational movement that focuses on education importance awareness.
3. National languages as well as international languages must be compulsory in the curriculum depending on the environment.
4. The budget for the education should be prioritized by governments.

B. BUILD THE INCLUSIVE EDUCATION FOR ASIAN AND AFRICAN PEOPLE

1. The quality of teachers' standard knowledge should be appropriate and continuously updated. There should be no discrimination at all.
2. Focusing on the social community based on education so that we can improve the informal and non-formal education. Society should also be informed and be aware of inclusive education. Parents, governments, religious leaders and community leaders should also participate in building inclusive education.
3. Long term sustainable policy and implementation using measures to promote, share and learn from each other.
4. Create vocational education to improve technical skills of the students.
5. The education policy makers should focus more on 10 factors:
 - a. local and global connection
 - b. perspective consciousness
 - c. multiple perspective
 - d. the world as a system
 - e. global issues
 - f. prejudice reduction
 - g. cross-cultural competence
 - h. research and thinking skills
 - i. participation in local and global communities, and
 - j. use of electronic technology.

C. BUILD THE EMANCIPATING AND LIBERATING EDUCATION

1. To teach basic knowledge about Liberal Studies, Economics, and Business. This is to let students to make informed decisions.
2. Schools must deliver education in both theoretical and practical way.
3. There should be more than one way to test students' abilities.
4. Encouraging critical thinking and student oriented system: we should teach how to think not what to think.
5. Bring seminars and workshops to parents at their communities to promote home education to cultivate morals.
6. Having a public organization regulated by the people themselves in a democratic way to filter the information that is brought across people through media and advertising.
7. Making peer group education.

D. BUILD THE EDUCATION BASED ON LOCAL WISDOM OF ASIA AND AFRICA

1. Curriculum should be based on the situation and culture of the country. We need to add cultural activities such as nationalism, religion, internship, traditional games, and informal education through extra-curricular activities that are supported by local community.
2. Making a social community, like Asia Africa Reading Club.
3. Promoting student exchange and scholarship programs between Asian and African countries so that there is a cultural exchange.

III. LEADERSHIP TO PROMOTE THE SOCIOPRENEURSHIP

There are lots of key points that determine the economic stability of a country, one of them is the entrepreneurs, this goes to how they are do not depend on subsidies, they are the one that pays the most taxes and open up employment for the other people. But amongst these entrepreneurs, there are also people who called themselves as 'sociopreneurs'. The define nature that differentiate both entrepreneurs is while most entrepreneurs aim to gain as much profits as possible, sociopreneurs create a business in order to solve social problems, while still upholding the good values of entrepreneurs. So in a way, sociopreneurship plays a huge role, not only in increasing the economic stability of a country, but also to decrease social problems in the society. Based on that analysis, we believe that government needs to give his extensive support to sociopreneurs.

A. GIVE BIRTH TO NEW GENERATION OF SOCIOPRENEURS FROM STUDENTS AND YOUNG PEOPLE FROM ASIA AND AFRICA

1. Education System
 - a. Changing the education system, by implementing 'sociopreneurship' subjects to make it more to how the students try to self-actualize themselves, creative, and also the implementation of their ideas in real life (which could be helped by making an annual competitions or exhibitions where students could showcase and actualize their ideas) rather than setting the parameters of one's intelligent based on things like science, math, or chemistry.
 - b. This hopefully will contribute in destroying lots of sexist stigmas in society that regards women as someone that couldn't work.

This works as a way to introduce the idea of sociopreneurs to young generations.

2. Media to Promote Sociopreneurship Awareness

a. Create an effective media to raise the awareness, such as website (as a media for the sociopreneurs) in a form of a Non-Profit Organization that helps in doing things as follows:

1) Recruiting people (volunteers) that are responsible to raise the awareness of sociopreneurs, like posting articles regarding to sociopreneurship (to the website), creating seminars for youths about sociopreneurs to raise their awareness; mentality; nationalism spirit, and as a community for the to-be sociopreneurs and sociopreneurs to self-actualize and consult their ideas, this could act as the butterfly effect in spreading sociopreneurship awareness.

2) Members could also donate their money, which is going to be used to fund sociopreneurship related events (seminars, internet socialization to impoverished areas) and to lend moneys for the people who are planning on setting up a new business with a low interest. As for this, we will try to be as transparent as possible regarding to the fund movements to prevent misunderstanding. And also through other electronic and print media, such as TV, books, radio, etc.

3. Government Policy

a. Government should also create policies to help the sociopreneurs, such as decreasing their taxes, giving subsidies or increasing the access to open business.

b. To the NGOs that helped in promoting and helping the sociopreneurs, the government may decrease their taxes as well.

B. ENCOURAGE SOCIOPRENEURS TO OPTIMIZE ASIA AND AFRICA ECONOMIC STATE BASED ON LOCAL WISDOM

1. Society Involvements

Organize training and competitions for the local sociopreneurship and holding exhibition, so locals can display their goods and services and also as a way for the locals to come up with solutions in their localities with mutual cooperation principle.

2. Government Policy

Developing policies that will encourage local sociopreneurs and discourage international ones such as creating a conducive environment by government authority in the area of tax reduction, sound infrastructure such as good roads, better power supply and communication, subsidies for sociopreneurs in the area of research and planning in the long run, creating fund for sociopreneurs and provide technical assistance in order to help them to establish new projects and realize their ideas through networking.

3. Media as a Source for the Sociopreneurs

Creating awareness to campaign and promotion of the local wisdom through Intensive communication such as radio, television, books, merchandise, newspaper for locals so that's they always remain conscious about their own culture and local wisdoms.

C. BUILD THE SCHEME OF SOCIETY-BASED CAPITAL FOR SOCIOPRENEURS

1. Government Policy

- a. Social pool funds, this refers to the resources socialite from various quarters for instance from friends, family or society to finance the implementation of propose projects.
- b. Establishing bylaws to fining/giving sanctions individual or organizations that involved on issues pertaining environmentally degradation, for instance inappropriate garbage disposal, deforestation etc.
- c. Community resource capitalization, for example Selling/lending land to finance sociopreneurship activities.
- d. Exhibition or talent platforms for sociopreneurship by this will give them an arena to exhibit their talents thereby getting the opportunity to be added by the investors and other financial donors.
- e. Cooperatives, these are financial society which offer aid to entrepreneurs in order to implement their project, such governmental organizations *i.e.* agricultural credit societies, youth development funds, etc.
- f. Financial framework, which can be defined as a legislative structure which abides and allows communities to raise funds to implement emerging sociopreneur skills.

IV. LEADERSHIP TO PROMOTE THE FUNCTION OF MEDIA AS A PILLAR OF DEMOCRATIZATION PROCESS

We, the youth of Asia and Africa, are well aware of the fact that media is a very important element to advance democracy. Moreover, in this globalization era where access to information has been much easier than ever, media is an important factor in determining the success and health of democracy. We believe that in order to encourage leadership to promote the function of media as a pillar of democracy; we need to pursue these following actions.

A. DEVELOP THE MEDIA LITERACY OF ASIAN AND AFRICAN PEOPLE

Long Term Solution

1. Urge governments of Asian and African Countries, as well as their stakeholders to establish adequate infrastructures for Information Communication Technology (ICT) in order to evenly distribute access of information to the society.
2. Recommend the government to incorporate media-literacy skills and the value of democracy into the education system from a very early age as parts of grassroots solutions, namely primary-education by creating:
 - a. suitable curriculum, and
 - b. providing adequate human resources as educators.

Short Term Solution

3. Advocate the urgent needs of people who still do not have access to primary-education by pursuing these following actions, but not limited to:
 - a. creating training projects and programs as part of an informal education that can increase people's media literacy, for example: creating media-literacy cafe, library, etc.
4. Encourage both Asian and African governments and its stakeholders to empower youth in the process of creating trainings and programs that can increase the media literacy of the society.
5. Encourage the collaboration among universities as research centers, private sectors as the capital owners, government as the coordinator that will ease the process of bureaucracy through adequate policy and law enforcement, and independent journalists as the counselor of the ongoing collaboration.

B. ENCOURAGE MEDIA IN ASIA AND AFRICA TO SERVE PUBLIC AS WELL SO THAT THEY CAN ACT AS THE FOURTH PILLAR TO DEMOCRACY

1. Urge government institutions to respect the freedom and the independence of media to serve the interests of the people in the democratization process.
2. Call upon all categories of media ownership, including government owned media, private owned media, individuals as owners of personal social media to be responsible of their essential role as the fourth pillar of democracy, by taking these following actions:
 - a. abide by their moral obligation to serve the public by delivering truthful information,
 - b. follow the international ethical conduct of journalism,
 - c. encourage Asian and African journalists to incorporate local wisdoms and cultural values into journalism, which means journalism, should be conducted with good faith to create peace, unity, and positive change in the process of disseminating information to the society.
3. Call upon the society in the production of information by becoming journalists, writers, contributors, speakers, publishers, and the owners of the news organizations.
4. Call upon the society to control the information providers, by providing their own versions of information.

C. EMPOWER TECHNOLOGY TO INCREASE THE AWARENESS OF ASIAN AND AFRICAN PEOPLE TOWARD POLITIC, SOCIAL, CULTURAL, AND ECONOMIC ISSUE

1. Recommend government institutions and officials of Asian and African countries to use and develop various kinds of technology as ways to communicate with their citizens to increase transparency, including but not limited to the use of:
 - a. printed media,
 - b. digital and social media.
2. Encourage Asian and African Youth to create and innovate ways to empower technology as a way to increase the society's awareness towards political, social, cultural and economic issue.
3. Urge Asian and African Youth to be active participants in creating accurate and balanced information by encouraging them to become the producers, and not only consumers of information.

4. Encourage the creation of a platform for Asian and African Youth to share projects and ideas to empower the community in the effort of increasing Asian-African Youth cooperation in media-literacy. The platform can include, but not limited to:
 - a. online application, and
 - b. digital application.

V. LEADERSHIP TO PROMOTE THE OPEN SOURCE FOR THE DIGITAL INDEPENDENCE IN ASIA AND AFRICA

Today is becoming more and more interconnected. Asia-Africa today is living in global age. Technological Independence becomes crucial to the survival of Asia and Africa. One of the ways we can achieve technological independence is Open Source Software. Open Source Software (OSS) is a program which we can edit in public without any limitations of which all can learn, share, edit and take it for their own purposes. It is fittingly described as a ‘great babbling bazaar of differing agendas and approaches’ by Erik.S.Raymond in his essay ‘*The Cathedral and The Bazaar*’. We have come up for the solutions to promote Open Source Software for technological independence in Asia Africa. The points that we are discussing contain four major points which are the following:

A. RAISE THE AWARENESS OF PEOPLE OF ASIA AND AFRICA TO USE OPEN-SOURCE-BASED SOFTWARE

Awareness is very important. If the public isn’t aware of the system of OSS, we won’t be able to promote OSS as a way to make Asia Africa independent technologically. Some ways may be able to be implemented to make people become aware with related to the status quo of Asia Africa. However, we are mostly talking about the problem with solution points of these which are the following:

1. Persuading the governments of Asia and Africa to support OSS development in their countries by promoting it to their societies.
2. Restructure of educational system so that it more training-based and more emphasis on turning theories to practice.
3. Encourage pupils from middle school to learn programming languages that would greatly help OSS creation and modification.
4. Improve IT infrastructure. In order to make the people aware about OSS and the importance of IT. They have to first get good infrastructure.
5. Encourage a national or even an international competition to create OSS. By doing this, the people of Asia and Africa are not only

encouraging but also become more aware of the existence of OSS. However, we also need to give incentives such as scholarships to the winners of these competitions to make sure there is enough interest.

B. INCREASE THE SKILL OF PEOPLE OF ASIA AND AFRICA IN OPERATING OPEN-SOURCE-BASED SOFTWARE

Since the technology was invented, it has become people's job to keep up-to-date because it is even more advance these days. If people can't even get up-to-date, then people will be left behind and they will be too late to keep balance with the technology's growth. Therefore, the next step after the people are aware is to make their skills increased. The committee's opinion is that this can be achieved by doing the following steps:

1. Organize free training camps specializing in OSS and programming languages. We also need to establish vocational schools specifically for the study of IT.
2. Establish learning and sharing platform and forum in logical mathematics. In this forum, everyone can share their experiences and also increase their skills through collective learning.
3. Mastering specific programming language. There are lots of programming languages with different difficulties and usage. We need to encourage people to learn and specialize in one language to make them more efficient for efficient programmers. We will also need to start developing a common programming language for Asia and Africa.

C. ENCOURAGE PRODUCTION AND DEVELOPMENT OF OPEN-SOURCE-BASED SOFTWARE IN ASIA AND AFRICA

After making Asian and African be aware and develop their skills, the next logical step will be to encourage production and development. We have to be sure the product we put on the market are suitable to the demands of our people and more importantly, we have to encourage more than one developer to avoid monopoly. This initiative must be a concerted effort by programmers all over Asia and Africa and even the world. The committee would like to present these following solutions to increase production.

1. Develop the human resources needed to produce OSS. After providing them with skills, we would need continuous support for them.
2. Create, build and improve developers' network. The developers' network would provide support for young and brave programmers to start making OSS.
3. Attract investors from the private sector and raise funds. Financial funding is needed to support the programmers and their software after it is developed. Without the guarantee of financial security, there won't be enough will to produce OSS.
4. Management collaboration by country- based OSS Community. This community would follow the Open Source Initiative by Erik Raymond's model.
5. Government subsidies for OSS developers. Funds from the private sectors cannot be the sole source of financial aid .There must be also aid from the government that is much more stable. This also makes the production more independent.

D. OPTIMIZE OPEN-SOURCE-BASED SOFTWARE TO FULFILL THE NEEDS OF PEOPLE OF ASIA AND AFRICA

The final step of this after the previous steps above is to optimize the Open-Source Software. Optimizing open-source software can be a great benefit for people in Asia Africa because it would mean that once a product can be optimized and it is popular worldwide. It is the first step in achieving full technological independence. This would be followed by efforts that to make Asia and Africa independent in information as well. The solutions in optimizing open-source software which the committee proposes are:

1. Reconfiguration and analysis of OSS. What people actually hope for OSS is that they are hoping that OSS program can make their life easier

and the cost of the OSS if it is not free is much cheaper and give more benefit to them.

2. Continuity of program development means that whether the program is going to be continuously used for society's need. There are some points that need to be thought carefully for the benefit of the society which are:
 - a. continue or discrete (whether it is an ongoing usage or one time usage),
 - b. narrow /wide purpose (whether it is for specific group of people or all society),
 - c. powerful or same (whether the program has the same functions to the other programs or can be more powerful or more weaker than what we create).
3. Produce less time cost and increase result expectations are what people hope for it because any kinds of programs created must have the best case scenario or benefits to society. The solutions which we can do to reduce time cost and get best match is to use best algorithm and to shorten the code).
4. Build data repositories in the various countries of Asia and Africa; this will act as a source of information and the important asset in troubleshooting issue. For example: If a problem is detected in India, the data repositories will immediately record so that the problem will not arise in Nigeria.
5. Establish an institute for aspiring and current programmers to get expert consultation.
6. Improve quality management. A product needs to be good to be popular which is why we need to control the kind of product we put on the market.
7. Establish body that will provide SWOT (Strength, Weaknesses, Opportunities, Threat) analysis. This body will be intercontinental and would have the same responsibility to every citizen of Asia and Africa. This body, should it prove to be effective, it could be expended to be responsible for technological and information development as a whole.

8.

VI. LEADERSHIP TO PROMOTE STUDENT GLOBAL NETWORK

Asian-African students' cooperation in global network has been agreed in Asian-African Students Conference in 1956. The Asian-African Students Conference 2015 believes that student global network is necessary and still relevant with current situation. In this draft we will take an in depth looks at several issues. We will questions where necessary. We will attempt to take on the challenges that emerge through strategic methods.

A. BUILD THE COOPERATION AND CONTRIBUTION OF ASIA- AFRICA STUDENTS IN GLOBAL AND TODAY'S CONTEXT BASED ON BANDUNG SPIRIT

1. To promote exchange and scholarship program between Asian and African countries.
2. To create an Asian-African Students Forum through network communities and student organizations.
3. To implement Asian-African collaboration with Asian-African embassies, local governments, and institutions.
4. To hold a periodic Asian-African event to sustain Bandung Spirit (e.g. cultural festivals).
5. To use media for promoting information and current issues in Asian African countries.
6. To use Paradiplomacy to strengthen Asian African relations.
7. To become torchbearers and ambassadors of the Bandung Spirit all over the world.
8. To change mentality of Asian-African people towards a positive perspective of how we see each other.
9. To hold Asian-African Students Conference periodically in different countries from both continents (e.g. doing one major conference per year in a different country).
10. For students to promote the idea of the creation of an Asian-African Union for promoting the economic sector.

B. BUILD RESEARCH-AND-STUDY COOPERATION IN VARIOUS SUBJECTS IN ASIA-AFRICA CONTEXT BY USING NEO-COLONIALISM, POST-COLONIALISM, AND EQUALITY FOR GROWTH AS THE FOCUS

1. To recommend the creation of an independent and economically sovereign Asian African in order to promote research and education within the two continents.
2. To recommend Asian studies be available at African Universities and African studies be made available at Asian Universities.
3. To recommend implementation of Bandung Spirit in Asian and African National Education Curriculums.
4. To build Asian African Training Centers to develop knowledge and youth skills.

C. DEVELOP GLOBAL NETWORKING TO COMPILE STRATEGIC PLAN IN CONTEXT OF ILLEGAL DRUGS

1. To recommend that African Nations adopt tougher punishments for drug offences.
2. To create interactive social mobilization about the risk of illegal drugs among children and young adults.
3. To promote education which warns about the dangers of using and selling illegal drugs.
4. To suggest a closer cooperation to fight against drug cartel structures as a whole.
5. To be able to access mass media to raise awareness against the dangers of drugs.

**FINAL COMMUNIQUÈ
SIGNING PAGE**

OF THE ASIAN AFRICAN STUDENTS CONFERENCE
BANDUNG, MAY 1ST 2015

ASIAN REPRESENTATIVE

AFRICAN REPRESENTATIVE

signed

signed

SINA MAO

NSIKAN EKWERE

PRESIDENT OF THE CONFERENCE

signed

YASMIN N. CHAERUNISSA



**ASIAN-AFRICAN
STUDENTS CONFERENCE 2015**

ANNEXE

Yovita Omega Supratman

*Delivered in the opening speech of the Asian-African Students Conference 2015
as the Executive-Coordinator for Friends of Museum of the Asian-African Conference
Bandung, April 30th, 2015*

Good morning.
Selamat pagi.

His excellency Vice Foreign Minister of Republic of Indonesia, Bapak A.M. Fachire.
Head of Social Development Bureau of West Java Province, Bapak Riyadi.
and all attendees, participants, and my fellow committee members I am so proud of.

It a great honor for me to welcome you in this very special occasion, the Asian African Students Conference 2015 in Bandung.

It was two days ago that I had the chance to visit a photo exhibition where I saw a photo of a group of young men. The picture depicted a situation before Indonesia declared its independence where a group of students standing proudly while holding a banner with "Mahasiswa Bandung Anti Asing", anti-colonialism written on it. Having the picture in my mind on my way back home, I realized that long ago, men of my age were fighting against colonialism. And what about today? As mentioned by our former president Soekarno, colonialism doesn't end by declaring independence. Colonialism exist somehow in a new form and shapes. Being politically independent does not always mean that we are free from colonialism. New forms of colonialism may come in culture, economy, social, and education systems.

So, what can the students, us, contribute to fight this new colonialism? The story of Malala, a student of Pakistan who was not able to receive proper education caught the attention of the world through her story. The story gave me a shock. Before reading it I did not know that some people are willing to put their lives in danger for education. She has given us a great example that education can be used as a means of oppression.

Today, through this conference, I hope that we can exchange ideas and views on how we as students should contribute to our fight against these new forms of colonialism and bring inspiration for others, just like Malala inspired others.

By upholding the theme of **Youth Leadership** I hope we can gain something from remarkable leadership stories that will be shared by the speakers and other delegates and makes difference for others. Finally, for the next two days I would like to encourage you to think about the future of Asia and Africa in this era of new colonialism. I wish you all the very best as you embark on your to lead our generation.

Once again, to all my Asian and African fellows,

Let's unite and lead together!

Mao Sina

*Delivered in the opening speech of the Asian-African Students Conference 2015
as the Representative of Asian Students
Bandung, April 30th, 2015*

- His Excellency Ambassador, A.M Fachir, Vice- Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Indonesia
- Mr. Emil Salim, Head of Indonesian Delegates at the 1956 Asian-African Student conference
- Friends of Asia-Africa Museum
- Young African Ambassadors in Asia
- Distinguished Asian and African Delegates in your respective ranks and titles
- Ladies and Gentlemen

On behalf of **Head of Asian Delegates** at this conference, **I, Mao-Sina** from Cambodia cannot start my speech without saying good morning to you and welcoming you in this magnificent and historic building. We have the honour and privilege to receive you this morning, **His Excellency Ambassador**. Despite your very tight schedule, you have decided to be present here. We are appreciative of your **solicitude and availability**. We thank you very much and warmly congratulate you.

I am also pleased to welcome your presence, **His excellency**.. I cannot also forget the steering **committee, the president, chairmen and co-chairmen** of the six committees of the 2015 Asian-African student conference who worked hard to achieve this great event and bring us together here. Thank you very much!

This wonderful event gathers 48 countries from Asia and Africa. I am delighted to welcome Asian delegates coming from 20 countries: Afghanistan, Azerbaijan, Bangladesh, Brunei, Cambodia, China, Indonesia, Iran, Japan, Laos, Malaysia, Myanmar, Pakistan, Papua New Guinea, South Korea, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Uzbekistan, Vietnam, and Yemen. To express the common feeling, we are particularly happy to have you all in our midst.

Excellences, Asian and African delegates, ladies and gentlemen

You are at home. This building is our history, this building is our future. It is in this building that was decided the Asian-African cooperation, it is in this building that the future of a very successful Asian-African cooperation will find its way.

This building symbolizes the official Asian-African marriage of 1955. It also symbolizes the Asian-African youth commitment of 1956. In this building **reside the spirits of our ancestors**, those who struggled for a real Asian-African.

May their good ideas continue to shine from generations to generations for a good future of Asian-African relations!

Excellences, ladies and gentlemen

The fathers of the Asian-African cooperation are no longer in our world. They have gone. **What have we done of their dreams? Does an effective or full Asian-African cooperation exist? What did Asian and African students do of the recommendations of the 1956 Asian-African student conference?**

Basically, nobody will ignore that the Asian-African cooperation is not really effective. It is in this context that we gather here today to reinvigorate the Bandung spirit and build strategies that will reinforce the Asian-African cooperation in a century of many challenges.

Excellences, Asian students, ladies and gentlemen

Times and historical contexts have changed. We are no longer in 1955 and 1956. Colonization has officially disappeared; the cold war has ended and the non-aligned movement has almost lost its *raison d'être*.

However, one should not forget that systems of domination by the powerful in the world or within many countries still persist. Wars continue to threaten humanity and dictatorships keep troubling people. Mass hunger, diseases and poverty still characterize many parts of the world in general and Africa and Asia in particular.

Injustice and corruption have appeared in more sophisticated forms and larger dimensions. The Asian-African cooperation is not dead, but it suffers and needs to be reinforced. In its reinforcement, **Asian and African students have a great role to play**. We need to know each other, encourage each other and work together.

We are the future of the Asian-African cooperation. If we really want to have a very good future, we need to stay **close and united**. The day when many young Asians will know what is really Africa and Africans what is really Asia, we will contribute to the success of Asian-African relations.

Excellences, dear Asian and African delegates, ladies and gentlemen

You are without ignoring that the strengthening and effectiveness of Asian-African cooperation is first of all cultural. This means that we need to encourage cultural exchanges. Most Asians think that Africa is a country and most Africans think that all Asians are Chinese.

As Asian and African students, we need to help our sisters and brothers who do not know to know. Ignorance is not only a danger, but also a time bomb that can explode at any moment. When it explodes, it brings hatred, racism, conflicts and other forms of barbarism.

As young leaders, let us be united to guide our Asian and African fellows to be in a good direction. Our responsibility is not small. Let us continue to multiply such events in the two continents or our respective countries to reach a good cooperation. Let us build a real Asian-African student global network. This means that we have to create Asian-African associations

through which joint actions should be carried out for the well-being of the populations of the two continents.

Dear Asian and African delegates, dear students

Time has come to be responsible, more serious and very determined to demonstrate our role of leadership to promote the Asian-African cooperation. For this, on behalf of Asian students, cooperation agreements or partnerships between Asian and African universities, African-Asian associations, annual conferences, seminars, workshops, forums, joint academic researches, the reception and visualization of Asian and African movies should be taken into account.

The inter-exchange programs should be encouraged. Trainings, internships and cultural stays between the two continents should be authorized. Asian-African studies should be taught and the political willingness of the Asian and African governments should not be excluded.

I do not also forget the positive impact of inter-cultural marriage or simply Asian-African marriage that will contribute without any doubt to the strengthening of Asian-African cooperation. We need to encourage such marriages as I encouraged and really appreciated an Indo-Senegalese marriage last year.

Dear young Asian and African leaders gathered here,

Know that we are having a rendezvous with history from now. Let us work together so that history does not condemn us in the future. If history comes to condemn us, it means we have failed. This should not happen. Let us write a new Asian-African history as students and young leaders!

May God bless Asia and Africa!

Thank you very much!

Mao Sina, Cambodian

Nsikan Ekwere

*Delivered in the opening speech of the Asian-African Students Conference 2015
as the Representative of African Students*

Bandung, April 30th, 2015

Your Excellences,
Distinguished guests,
Fellow delegates,
Members of the press,
Ladies and gentlemen,

It is my profound privilege and honor to address this historic event today as the head of African delegation to the 2015 Asian African students' conference.

Asian African students' conference 2015 is historic because seated in this room today are people who are beneficiaries in one way or the other of the cooperation and solidarity that started between the two continents way back in 1955 during the inaugural Asian African conference that was held in this same auditorium with these same seats and tables.

The outcome of that conference, whose focus was on freedom and peace, inspired and propagated independence, mutual respect among countries and economic cooperation in the areas of trade, politics and education in the two continents. As a result of this conference;

Today, several countries in Asia and Africa are enjoying relative peace and political freedom.

Today you and I are enjoying one form of educational cooperation or the other in areas of scholarships, grants and study exchange programs.

Today there are large volumes of intercontinental trade and business relations between Asia and Africa.

Today there is integration in many forms from culture, to religion, social interactions and even inter marriages.

We are gathered here today as a direct consequence of that seed conference and it is a strong indication that the spirit, the dreams and the vision behind the 1955 Bandung conference is still alive and it is my belief that they will never die.

My dear brothers and sisters from Asia and Africa, welcome home, welcome to Bandung the capital of Asia Africa.

Welcome to the main hall where decisions that shaped the independence of several Asian and African countries were taken.

Welcome home my friends.

Welcome home my brothers and sisters

Welcome home.

Today we are students; we are obtaining what Dr. Nelson Mandela tagged “the most powerful weapon which we can use to change the world”.

We are the hope of our countries; we are the hope of our continents. The future is ours to save. And in the words of Dr. Mandela, “I think the time has come for us to consider in the light of our experiences at this day at home, whether the methods which we have applied so far is adequate”.

We are gathered here to review the problems of leadership in our continents. What methods have we been using? Are they adequate? If not, what should be done? These are the common questions we need to ask ourselves and proffer answers to.

Your participation and my participation in these two days of brainstorming will guarantee our true democracy and freedom. Let’s not forget the words of President Sukarno during the 1955 conference that “colonialism has also its modern dress, in the form of economic control, intellectual control and actual physical control by a small but alien community within a nation”. So the question is, "Are we truly our leaders?"

It is disheartening to note till date what Dr. Nelson Mandela observed years ago “If United States of America or Britain is having an election, they don’t ask for observers from Africa or Asia. But when we have elections they want to be observers”, so that leaves me with the question if we are really the ones leading ourselves?

Until we take the mantle of leadership, until we begin to make decisions for ourselves, until we choose freely who we want to represent us; Until then, we are still under what President Sukarno referred to as “Colonialism in modern dress”.

Fellow young Asians and Africans, it is time to speak up, because if we don’t speak up people will speak on our behalf.

If we don’t decide, they will decide for us and I bet you, nobody will decide for us better than we would decide for ourselves.

And if we don’t aspire to lead we will not be given the chance to. I have learnt over the years that opportunity to create changes are not given but taken. If we don’t take it, we will never have it.

It is often said that the youths are the leaders of tomorrow. My question is ‘What will become of a leader tomorrow if he is not involved in the planning of today?’

The major problem of development in Asia and Africa is lack of continuity. Without continuity, there is no sustainable development, so if we wait till tomorrow we will not know what we have today which we need to continue with tomorrow.

We have what it takes, fellow delegates.

We have education (the most powerful weapon) and we have the strength.

So let’s build a mindset that we can contribute positively today for continuity tomorrow.

Look up; it is only you that can change your mindset from what it is. Robert Nesta Marley in the 70’s did a song, “emancipate yourselves from mental slavery...” No-one but ourselves can free our own minds”.

Let's develop a 'can do' mindset. Yes we can. President Barak Obama, an African man, trained in Asia (Indonesia) exercised a can do mindset. Today, he is managing the world's largest economy. We can do more.

Let's have a mindset that 'it is possible'. Let's have a mindset that we are able to create the needed change.

Indonesia has been very instrumental in fostering the bond between Asia and Africa. Let me particularly express our gratitude as students of Asia and Africa to the government and people of Indonesia for your hospitality and friendliness.

I would like to appreciate our fathers and mothers in Indonesia, the African Ambassadors; for believing in us, for standing by us and for always being there to assist and support us.

We are very grateful to you Your Excellences. As we keep saying, we will never let Africa down. We will always do our best to make Mama Africa proud.

To the Director and members of staff of the Museum Asia Africa, we are very grateful for accepting us and believing in us. We pledge our unalloyed support and commitment to the promotion of the museum KAA.

Ladies and gentlemen, in this room today are seated 88 change-minded and leadership conscious delegates from 28 African countries. Young Africans who are prepared and ready to take their destiny in their own hands. People who are committed to their beliefs and moral values, people who know that there is no tomorrow without today and are making positive preparations and contributions today while on their way to tomorrow. Looking on their faces, you see zeal; you see determination, and commitment.

It is my utmost belief that this conference will synergize our individual zeal, determination and commitment for the greater benefit and development of our continents.

Let me end this epistle with the words of Dr. Nelson Mandela, (Please pardon my mention of him too many times, I see him everywhere I go. To some of us he is still alive.)

He said in his last days "since my release I have become more convinced than ever that the real makers of history are the ordinary men and women of our country. Their participation in every decision about the future is the only guarantee of true democracy and freedom".

We need to effect changes for the future by contributing to the planning, decisions and leadership of today.

Let's rise in Unity

Let's rise in love

Let's rise in peace

Let's rise to inclusive leadership

God bless Asia and God Bless Africa.

ASIAN AFRICAN STUDENTS CONFERENCE 2015 – UNITE LET'S LEAD TOGETHER.

Yasmin Nindya Chaerunissa

BE THE FIRE

*Delivered in the opening speech of the Asian-African Students Conference 2015
as the President of the Conference
Bandung, April 30th, 2015*

Ladies and gentlemen, 60 years ago, a strongman from India, Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru, said Bandung is the capital city of Asia-Africa. That is why today I am so glad to be with you, together, in this city, to attend this Asian-African Student Conference 2015. And please let me say to all my brothers and sisters: welcome home. This city will always be yours.

Ladies and gentlemen, 60 years ago, from this building, born what we call as the Bandung Spirit. The Bandung Spirit is the spirit which makes us unite; the spirit which makes us stronger than before, the spirit which makes our nations stand and struggle together against the colonialism that had chained us before! We are the witnesses of how strong we are if we are together. This solidarity is our bond that can never be broken!

My beloved brothers and sisters, today we are here not for just a nostalgic reason. More than that, we are here to reinvigorate the Bandung Spirit. Maybe some people ask, 'what is the relevancy of Bandung Spirit in our nowadays life, while our countries are already got the independence? How relevant is Bandung Spirit?' — from this podium, I firmly believe and I will say: yes, it is still relevant!

What we faced 60 years ago was the physical colonialism. However, now it changes to neo-colonialism that infiltrates into our system. The neocolonialism influences our culture, makes us further from our cultural values. The neocolonialism is in our education system, it much more makes us only to be the worker class, not the leader. It is in our economic system that makes us as a dependent society. NO! Not this kind of independence that our ancestors were

fighting for! We must stand on our own feet! And we show to the world: WE-CAN-DO-THAT!

Brothers and sisters!

We are standing here together as the young generations of Asian African nations! We are our nations' future leaders! There will not be any bright tomorrow, if we do not do anything today. Through this Asian-African Students Conference, we will make sure that the bright future is exist. Through this Asian-African Students Conference, let's unite, lead together! Most of all, brothers and sisters, we must believe that the fire of Bandung Spirit is still smoldering! Don't just feel the fire, be the fire! And by God's grace, brothers and sisters, the fire of Bandung Spirit will be the fire that can never be dim!

At last, I really wish you a very joyful and friendly conference. Have a nice day, and let this conference be a great success! Thank you very much!