Call to Participate in the 11th Asia-Europe Peoples’ Forum (AEPF11)
Ulaan Baatar, Mongolia, 4-6 July 2016

Building New Solidarities:
Working for Inclusive, Just, and Equal Alternatives in Asia and Europe

On 15-16 July 2016, the 11th Asia Europe Meeting (ASEM11) will take place in Ulaan Baatar hosted by Mongolia. Heads of State and Government from across Asia and Europe will meet to discuss their future priorities and plans.

Prior to ASEM11, the Asia-Europe People’s Forum (AEPF) will hold its 11th biennial People’s Forum on 4-6 July 2016 under the title Building New Solidarities: Working for Inclusive, Just, and Equal Alternatives in Asia and Europe. AEPF11 will tackle strategies on major themes or People’s Visions, representing the hopes of citizens of the two regions. These are:

• Resource Justice, Land Rights, Equal Access to Water, and Participation - Going Beyond Extractivism
• Food Sovereignty/Food Security – beyond Zero Hunger
• Climate Justice - Towards Sustainable Energy Production and Use
• Socially Just Trade Production and Investment
• Social Justice - Alternatives to Debt and Austerity: Social Protection, Decent Work and Sustainable Livelihoods
• Peace Building and Human Security - Responses to Migration and Fundamentalism and Terrorism.
• Participatory Democracy, Gender Equality and Minority Rights

Progress towards realising these People’s Visions is key to solving the multiple crises facing people, states, and institutions. The security, ecological, debt, financial, energy, and food crises are caused and compounded by policies and practices of many governments in both rich and poor countries, particularly in their approaches to regulating business. These interlocking crises have caused increasing social polarisation between peoples and states. In Asia, they are exacerbating poverty and inequality, already widespread before the present crises. In Europe, they are creating indebtedness, joblessness, and insecurity. We are increasingly experiencing “corporate capture”, whereby multinational and national corporations structure and determine our lives and livelihoods. We are facing violent responses and break down of inter-community relations and a decline in the public culture of debate and discussion. Citizens’ responses are often confined at local and national levels; to complement these, AEPF seeks to encourage and strengthen cooperation and solidarity of people’s networks regionally, inter-regionally, and globally.

This is a Call to Participate in AEPF11, to come and be part of AEPF11, which is open, dynamic, and inclusive and focuses on meaningful and practical discussions and linkages for change. AEPF11 will be an exciting, fruitful series of interlinked dialogues, workshops, actions, policy debates, and open spaces. You can actively participate in building People’s Visions, co-organise an event, and/or contribute human and financial resources.

If you wish to be part of AEPF11 you can now register to attend. Please go to REGISTRATION LINK

Please note that the AEPF has only very limited funds to support the travel and accommodation of resource persons. The majority of participants will be self-financing or have independently secured support for their travel and accommodation from sources separate to the AEPF.

For further information, you may contact: for MONGOLIA - Urantsooj Gombosuren (urantsooj@rocketmail.com), for EUROPE - Conny van Heemstra (conny.van_heemstra@asienhaus.de), or for ASIA - Maris Dela Cruz (aepf.secretariat@gmail.com)