

Timor-Leste Representative  
Marciano da Silva, ARF SOM Leader

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First allow me join other distinguished representatives in congratulating the government of the Philippines for hosting the ARF ISM on Non Proliferation and Disarmament in this vibrant city of Manila. I also wish to say thank you to co-chairs for their able chairmanship that can guide us all to a fruitful discussions during this meeting.

Co-chairs, Ladies and Gentlemen,

To secure and ensure Timor-Leste's responsibility and obligations as a member of international community, the national parliament ratified seven out of nine core of human rights treaties not long after its independence, that included pthe non-proliferation and disarmament.

As a small country, Timor-Leste did not take long to decide, in May 5 2003, Timor-Leste acceded to the treaty on Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons. Following its accession, Timor-Leste has done its utmost to comply with rules and regulations governing the treaty. Timor-Leste strongly embraces the ideals enshrined in the treaty and joins with many other peace loving countries in promoting a peacefull use of nuclear energy.

Timor-Leste endorses and associates with views of many ARF member states around the table who appealed for a peaceful use of nuclear energy for economic development and prosperity of people and to avoid using it in a destructive way.

Co-chairs,

We are all aware that nuclear weapons are hazardous tools that could harm and destroy our inhabitant, environmental and species when it is not used in a proper manner. We recognize the fact that there have been remarkable results achieved towards managing and controlling the

nuclear energy, however we need to work harder to persuade countries that have not yet acceded to the treaty to do so under IAEA procedures. By doing so, IAEA could prevent further increasing of a nuclear energy for wrong purposes.

Timor-Leste would like to recommend to the International Atomic Energy Agency to strengthen the rules and regulations or procedures of non-proliferation of nuclear energy and force all countries to comply with the rules and regulations in force.

As a small country, Timor-Leste has been struggling and efforting to understand the nature of global issues including the non-Proliferation and Disarmament. It has wanted to learn from experiences and knowledges shared by the ARF member states on how to comply with and implement the treaty accordingly. Timor-Leste has gradually built its capacity and got experiences through participating at workshops and seminar organized by the ARF member states.

I wish to include by saying that Timor-Leste is strongly committed to complying with rules and regulations stipulated in the treaty and looks forward to working closely with all countries party to the treaty to prevent the world from dangerous use of nuclear materials and its proliferation.

Thank you.