

**REPORT  
OF THE ASEAN REGIONAL FORUM  
SENIOR OFFICIALS' MEETING**

**Surabaya, Indonesia, 10 June 2011**

**Introduction**

1. The ASEAN Regional Forum Senior Officials' Meeting was held in Surabaya, Indonesia, on 10 June 2011. H. E. Djauhari Oratmangun, Director-General for ASEAN Cooperation, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Indonesia, ARF SOM Leader of Indonesia, chaired the Meeting.

2. The Meeting was attended by representatives of all ARF participants. The representatives of the ASEAN Secretariat were also present. The List of Delegates appears as **ANNEX 1**.

3. At the outset, Japan expressed gratitude to all ARF participants for the immense support and encouragements extended to the people and the Government of Japan in the aftermath of the earthquake and tsunami disaster last March. Japan informed the Meeting that business and activities in Japan have now returned to normal. Japan proposed four pillars of cooperation: promotion of information sharing, ensuring prompt and smooth communication in times of disaster, enhanced coordination mechanisms and efforts to provide training and capacity building including periodic holding of ARF Disaster Relief Exercises. On the nuclear leaks in the Fukushima power plant, Japan continues to work with the IAEA and will maintain transparency in sharing the information of the outcomes of the IAEA observation. Japan also reassured the Meeting that all products including food products exported from Japan are safe from any form of nuclear radiation and in due course trade and economic activities in Japan will return to normal.

**Agenda Item 1: Adoption of Agenda**

4. The Meeting adopted the Provisional Agenda which appears as **ANNEX 2**.

**Agenda Item 2: Business Arrangements**

5. The Meeting adopted the Tentative Program of Activities which appears as **ANNEX 3**.

**Agenda Item 3: Report of the ARF Defense Officials' Dialogue (DOD)**

6. BG Syaiful Anwar, official of the Ministry of Defense of the Republic of Indonesia, representing the Chair of the ARF DOD, briefed the Meeting on the outcomes of the ARF Defense Officials' Dialogue that was convened in Surabaya, Indonesia, on 7 June 2011. The Chair's Report appears as **ANNEX 4**.

**Agenda Item 4: Report of the ARF Security Policy Conference (ASPC)**

7. BG Syaiful Anwar, also representing the Chair of the ASPC, briefed the Meeting on the outcomes of the 8<sup>th</sup> ARF Security Policy Conference that was convened in Surabaya, Indonesia, on 8 June 2011. The Chair's Report appears as **ANNEX 5**.

**Agenda Item 5: Exchange of Views on Regional and International Issues**

8. The Meeting took note of the briefing by Indonesia on the outcomes of the 18<sup>th</sup> ASEAN Summit which was held in Jakarta on 7-8 May 2011. At the Summit, the ASEAN Leaders issued 3 (three) Leaders' Statements namely: the Joint Statement on the ASEAN Community in the Global Community of Nations, the Establishment of an ASEAN Institute for Peace and Reconciliation and on Enhancing Cooperation against Trafficking in Persons in Southeast Asia. In the Chair's Statement of the 18<sup>th</sup> ASEAN Summit, the Leaders also addressed priorities such as ASEAN Connectivity, Food and Energy Security, Conflict Resolution and Management, Regional Architecture, People-Oriented ASEAN, Disaster Management, East Asia Summit, and ASEAN Community in a Global Community of Nations.

9. The Meeting welcomed the accession to the Treaty of Amity and Cooperation (TAC) by Canada and Turkey in the margins of the ASEAN Ministerial Meeting in Ha Noi on 22 July 2010. The Meeting expressed support for the ongoing process of ratification of the Third Protocol Amending the TAC. The Third Protocol, upon its entry into force, would enable regional organizations, whose members are only sovereign States, such as the European Union, to accede to the Treaty.

10. The Meeting exchanged views on the regional security architecture. The Meeting was encouraged by the initial progress in the ARF evolution from the stage of confidence-building measures to preventive diplomacy. The ARF should provide a platform for countries in the region to meet challenges in the security environment while continuing to uphold the principles of peaceful settlement of dispute. The Meeting noted that multilateralism has flourished in East Asia in recent years. In this respect, the Meeting welcomed the establishment of the ADMM-Plus, the inaugural meeting of which was convened on 12 October 2010 and the expansion of the East Asia Summit to include Russia and the United States.

11. The Meeting deliberated on non-traditional security issues, including terrorism, piracy, people smuggling/trafficking in persons, transnational organized crime, climate change, energy and food security, trafficking of illicit drugs, disaster relief and maritime security. The Meeting expressed support for the relentless efforts to promote de-radicalization and capacity-building on counter-terrorism. The Meeting commended the ARF Disaster Relief Exercise (DiREx) 2011 which was successfully conducted in Manado, Indonesia, from 15-19 March 2011. The Meeting also recognized the importance of maritime security in the context of global trade and transportation. The Meeting emphasized the importance of international cooperation on maritime security, including the freedom of navigation as well as the full implementation of international law.

12. The Meeting was united in calling on all concerned parties to make efforts to achieve denuclearization of the Korean Peninsula in a peaceful manner. The Meeting also reaffirmed that complete and verifiable denuclearization is essential not only for the enduring peace and stability of the region, but also the maintenance of the global nuclear non-proliferation regime. Many Participants expressed serious concern about the latest reports of nuclear enrichment by the DPRK. Some Participants condemned the DPRK's recently disclosed uranium enrichment program and activities, which they deemed for being in violation of UN Security Council Resolutions 1718 and 1874. On this issue, the DPRK responded that the uranium enrichment program is used for peaceful purposes. The Meeting called on the DPRK to comply fully with its international obligations and commitments, including with the 2005 Joint Statement of the Six-Party Talks and the relevant UNSC resolutions, by abandoning all nuclear programs including its uranium enrichment program and by immediately ceasing all related activities. In this context, some Participants underlined that sincere and constructive inter-Korean dialogue as an essential step along with concrete actions in creating an environment conducive toward the resumption of the Six-Party Talks. Furthermore, some Participants underscored the need for the DPRK to promptly address humanitarian and human rights concerns such as the issues of family reunion and abduction. On the abduction issue, the DPRK's claim that the issue had already been resolved was refuted by some opposing views.

13. The Meeting welcomed the commitment as reaffirmed at the 13<sup>th</sup> ASEAN – China Summit to the full and effective implementation of the DOC, as well as the ongoing process toward the finalization of the Guidelines on the Implementation of the Declaration on the Conduct of Parties in the South China Sea (DOC) between ASEAN Member States and China, including the reconvening of the ASEAN-China SOM on the DOC. In this regard, the Meeting hopes that ASEAN Member States and China could take advantage of the momentum of the 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the ASEAN-China Dialogue Relations in 2011 and the 10-year anniversary of the adoption of the DOC in 2012. The meeting welcomed that ASEAN Member States and China were in the same

spirit on working, on the basis of consensus, toward the eventual realization of a regional Code of Conduct in the South China Sea (COC). The Meeting noted the expressed concerns of many participants about recent incidents which have disturbed the situation in the South China Sea. In this context, the Meeting particularly stressed the importance of exercising self-restraint in the conduct of activities that would complicate or escalate disputes and affect peace and stability in the South China Sea. The Meeting also reaffirmed the importance of maritime security and safety, as well as freedom of navigation in the South China Sea. The Meeting further reiterated that all parties must uphold the commitment to the promotion of peace, stability, and mutual trust in the South China Sea and to ensure the peaceful resolution of disputes in the area in accordance with relevant universally recognized principles of international law, including the 1982 United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS) and the terms contained in the DOC.

14. The Meeting took note of the recent developments in Myanmar. The Meeting welcomed the release of Aung San Suu Kyi, expressed support for continued efforts and encouraged the new Government and Parliament of Myanmar to transition to democracy in the country. Many Participants also urged the Myanmar Government to release all political prisoners. The Meeting encouraged Myanmar to begin a genuine process of national reconciliation as a means of contributing to efforts towards a more inclusive approach to political change. Myanmar informed the Meeting on domestic political developments since the General Elections on 7 November 2010. In this matter, ARF Participants encouraged Myanmar to work closely with ASEAN and the international community.

15. The Meeting expressed support for international efforts in non-proliferation, disarmament and peaceful use of nuclear energy. The Meeting also supported global efforts and initiatives on the non-proliferation of weapons and mass destruction (WMD) and on maintaining the global nuclear non-proliferation regime. Many participants also expressed the hope that all ARF participants could sign the Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty (CTBT) and to advance negotiations on a Fissile Material Cut-Off Treaty (FMCT). The Meeting noted that Nuclear Weapons Free Zones would promote greater trust and confidence on nuclear related issues. Some Participants also expressed deep concerns about Iran's nuclear program and called for Iran to comply with its international obligations.

16. The Meeting touched on recent developments in Afghanistan. The Meeting expressed support for reconstruction efforts and peaceful transition in Afghanistan. The Meeting also recognized international joint efforts in promoting peace and stability in Afghanistan. The Meeting noted New Zealand's initiative to work closely with Singapore and Malaysia to provide a model for such transition. In connection to this, the Meeting encouraged the international community to assist Pakistan, which has been directly affected by the exacerbation of the

security situation in Afghanistan, in its efforts to achieve security and prosperity in the country.

17. The Meeting noted concerns expressed regarding the deteriorating situation in Fiji. The Meeting supported calls by the Pacific Islands Forum and the Commonwealth for a return to a constitutional democracy and the rule of law in Fiji.

18. The Meeting also expressed its continued support towards the efforts in ensuring a significant development in the Middle East peace process leading to the establishment of an independent Palestinian state which co-exist peacefully with all of its neighbors, including Israel and considered that the inter-Palestinian dialogue and reconciliation as an important part of the process.

19. The Meeting recalled the statement of the ASEAN Leaders which welcomed Cambodia's and Thailand's commitment to peacefully resolve their differences through political dialogue and negotiations with a view to achieving a mutually acceptable solution through the fullest utilization of their existing bilateral mechanisms, with appropriate engagement of Indonesia, current Chair of ASEAN, whose active role in facilitating dialogue between the two countries was commended.

20. The Meeting welcomed the outcomes of the Asia-Europe Meeting Foreign Ministers Meeting (ASEM FMM) which was recently completed in Budapest from 6-7 June 2011. The ASEM FMM discussed, among others, non-traditional security issues such as climate change, food and water security, energy security, piracy, terrorism and transnational organized crime, disaster preparedness and mitigation and nuclear safety.

#### **Agenda Item 6: Preparations for the 18<sup>th</sup> ASEAN Regional Forum**

21. Indonesia briefed the Meeting on preparations for the 18<sup>th</sup> ARF to be held in Bali, Indonesia, on 23 July 2011. The Tentative Program of Activities appears as **ANNEX 6**. Indonesia will circulate the Provisional Agenda for the 18<sup>th</sup> ARF to the ARF participants in due course for further comments and inputs.

#### **Agenda Item 7: Consideration of CBMs and PD**

##### **7. 1. Reports of the Co-Chairs of the ARF Inter-Sessional Support Group on Confidence Building Measures and Preventive Diplomacy (ISG on CBMs and PD)**

22. Australia, on behalf of the Co-Chairs, briefed the Meeting on the outcomes of the ARF ISG on CBMs and PD that were convened in Bali from 1-2 December 2010 and Sydney from 7-8 April 2011. The Co-Chairs' Summary Reports appear as **ANNEX 7** and **ANNEX 8**.

23. The DPRK expressed reservation on the Co-Chairs' Summary Reports of the ARF ISG on CBMs and PD. The DPRK maintained that the Co-Chairs' Summary Reports did not correctly reflect the position of the DPRK and therefore should be revised accordingly. In response, the Meeting concurred that the Co-Chairs' Summary Reports were the results of consensus reached by ARF Participants attending the ARF ISG on CBMs and PD.

### **7. 2. Report of the Co-Chairs of the ARF Inter-Sessional Meeting on Disaster Relief (ISM on DR)**

24. Thailand and the United States briefed the Meeting on the outcomes of the 10<sup>th</sup> ARF ISM on DR that was held in Bangkok from 2-3 September 2010. The Co-Chairs' Summary Report appears as **ANNEX 9**.

25. The Meeting welcomed the interest of the ARF participants to follow up on existing ARF initiatives on disaster relief, namely the ARF Voluntary Model Arrangement for the Use of Foreign Military and Civil Defense Assets (MCDA) in Disaster Relief and the regular convening of the ARF DiREx every two years for field training exercises (FTX) and every year for table top exercises (TTX). The meeting suggested enhancing cooperation between existing natural disaster center such as the AHA Center in Jakarta, the WFP Humanitarian Response Depot in Subang and the Utapao airport facilities in Thailand, strengthening coordination between the ARF and the ADMM Plus through information sharing and communication and undertaking a regional stocktake of humanitarian assistance and disaster relief assets and capabilities in the region by the Asian Disaster Preparedness Center (ADPC) and other centers.

26. The Meeting welcomed the offer by Indonesia to co-chair the next cycle of the ARF ISM on DR. In this regard the Meeting encouraged the Non-ASEAN ARF Participants to co-chair the said Meeting with Indonesia.

### **7.3. Report of the Co-Chairs of the ARF Inter-Sessional Meeting on Maritime Security (ISM on MS)**

27. Japan and New Zealand, on behalf of the 3 Co-Chairs, briefed the Meeting on the outcomes of the 3<sup>rd</sup> ARF ISM on MS that was held in Tokyo from 14-15 February 2011. The Co-Chairs' Summary Report appears as **ANNEX 10**.

28. The Meeting welcomed the offer by Indonesia, Republic of Korea and the United States to co-chair the next cycle of the ARF ISM on MS.

#### **7.4. Report of the Co-Chairs of the ARF Inter-Sessional Meeting on Non-Proliferation and Disarmament (ISM on NPD)**

29. The United States, on behalf of the 3 Co-Chairs, briefed the Meeting on the outcomes of the 3<sup>rd</sup> ISM on NPD that was held in Las Vegas from 23-25 February 2011. The Co-Chairs' Summary Report appears as **ANNEX 11**.

30. The Meeting welcomed the offer by the Philippines, Japan and Australia to co-chair the next cycle of the ARF ISM on NPD.

#### **7.5. Report of the Co-Chairs of the ARF Inter-Sessional Meeting on Counter-Terrorism and Transnational Crime (ISM on CTTC)**

31. Malaysia and Japan briefed the Meeting on the outcomes of the 9<sup>th</sup> ARF ISM on CTTC that was held in Kuala Lumpur from 29-31 May 2011. The Co-Chairs' Summary Report appears as **ANNEX 12**.

32. The Meeting noted Malaysia's readiness to co-lead in the cyber-security priority area in the ARF Work Plan on CTTC.

33. Malaysia updated the Meeting on the development of the new ARF Work Plan on CTTC. The Meeting noted five new priority areas proposed for inclusion in the new Work Plan, namely, counter radicalization, terrorism financing, trafficking in persons, transportation security and border security and the expansion of the scope of bioterrorism to include the chemical, biological, radioactive and nuclear (CBRN) aspect. The five priority areas should be reflected in the new Work Plan after the nomination of ASEAN and non-ASEAN lead countries are completed. The Meeting noted that the new Work Plan will be adopted ad-referendum before submission to the 18<sup>th</sup> ARF in July 2011.

34. The Meeting discussed the draft Statement by the Ministers of Foreign Affairs of the ARF Participating States on Cooperation in Ensuring International Information Security prepared by Russia (**ANNEX 13**). The Meeting noted ARF participants' reservation to pursue this draft Statement. Some participants expressed difficulties for the state to control the transfer of information, and the unclear definition of information security. Mindful of the implications of this draft Statement at the national level, some participants needed more time to conduct internal consultation with their relevant agencies. The Meeting decided that comments and inputs to the draft Statement should be submitted to Russia by the first week of July 2011. The Meeting agreed that ARF Senior Officials should first reach consensus on the draft before its submission to the 18<sup>th</sup> ARF.

35. The Meeting discussed the Concept Paper on Best Practices for Implementation of a Biorisk Management System (**ANNEX 14**). The Meeting agreed that written comments on the concept paper should be submitted to the United States by the first week of July 2011. The Meeting agreed that ARF

Senior Officials should first reach consensus before its submission to the 18<sup>th</sup> ARF.

36. The Meeting noted the briefing on the Establishment of ARF Transnational Threat Information-sharing Center (ATTIC) by the United States (**ANNEX 15**). Some participants viewed that this concept paper should be further studied before it is submitted to the ARF Ministers. A trial period in the implementation of this proposal should also be considered. The Meeting decided that comments and inputs should be submitted to the United States by the first week of July 2011. The Meeting agreed that ARF Senior Officials should first reach consensus before its submission to the 18<sup>th</sup> ARF.

37. The Meeting welcomed the offer by Viet Nam and Canada to co-chair the 10<sup>th</sup> ARF ISM on CTTC in the inter-sessional year 2011-2012.

## **7.6. Other Track I Activities**

### **7.6.1. ARF Disaster Relief Exercise (DiREx) 2011**

38. Indonesia and Japan briefed the Meeting on the outcomes of the ARF DiREx that was held in Manado from 15-19 March 2011. The Co-Chairs' Summary Report and the Executive Summary of the After Action Review appear as **ANNEX 16**. In this context, the Republic of Korea mentioned it is exploring the possibility of hosting the next ARF DiREx.

39. The Meeting also took note of the outcomes of the following ARF Track I activities which were held during the inter-sessional year 2010-2011:

- a. 2nd ARF Seminar on Laws and Regulations in International Disaster Relief by the Armed Forces, Beijing, 29 August – 1 September 2010 (**ANNEX 17**)
- b. ARF Workshop on Biorisk Management, Manila, 28-30 September 2010 (**ANNEX 18**)
- c. 14<sup>th</sup> ARF Heads of Defense Universities/Colleges/Institutions Meeting (HDUCIM), Washington DC, 6-10 November 2010 (**ANNEX 19**)
- d. ARF Seminar on the Security Implications of Climate Change, Brussels, 18-19 November 2010 (**ANNEX 20**)
- e. ARF Training on Developing a Common Framework for Post-Disaster Needs Assessment, Recovery and Reconstruction, Bangkok, 25-26 November 2010 (**ANNEX 21**)
- f. 5<sup>th</sup> ARF Experts and Eminent Persons (ARF EEP) Meeting, Dili, 27-28 January 2011 (**ANNEX 22**)
- g. ARF Seminar on UN Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS), Manila 8-9 March 2011 (**ANNEX 23**)

## 7.7. List of Activities for the Inter-Sessional Year 2011/2012

40. The Meeting endorsed the following proposals for the inter-sessional year 2011-2012:

- a. ARF Workshop on Disease Detection and Surveillance: Enhancing Public and Veterinary Health Networks to Combat Infectious Disease and Bioterrorism, proposed by the United States, Australia and the Philippines, to be held in Manila on 13-15 September 2011 (**ANNEX 24**).
- b. ARF High-Level Workshop on Confidence-Building Measures and Preventive Diplomacy in Asia and Europe, proposed by Indonesia and the European Union, to be held in Berlin on 28-29 November 2011 (**ANNEX 25**).
- c. ARF Workshop on Non-Proliferation Nuclear Forensics, proposed by Thailand and the United States, to be held in Thailand in November/December 2011 (**ANNEX 26**).
- d. 15<sup>th</sup> ARF Heads of Defense Universities/Colleges/Institutions Meeting to be chaired and hosted by Indonesia in November 2011 (**ANNEX 27**).
- e. 3<sup>rd</sup> ARF Seminar on Laws and Regulations in International Disaster Relief by the Armed Forces, proposed by China, to be held in the last quarter of 2011. The ASEAN co-chair and the concept paper of the seminar will be confirmed and circulated in due course.
- f. ARF Workshop on Cyber Security Incident Response, proposed by Australia, to be held in 2012 (**ANNEX 28**). Australia is in the final stage of discussion with an ASEAN partner to co-chair this Workshop.
- g. 2<sup>nd</sup> ARF CBM Seminar on Implementation of UNSCR 1540, proposed by the United States, to be held in Fall 2011 or Spring 2012 (**ANNEX 29**). The United States invited an ASEAN Member State to co-chair this Seminar.
- h. 5<sup>th</sup> ARF Peacekeeping Experts' Meeting, to be co-chaired by Indonesia and Mongolia in Mongolia in the second half/quarter 2012 (**ANNEX 30**).
- i. 6<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the ARF Experts and Eminent Persons (EEPs), to be co-chaired by Thailand and the United States in January 2012.

41. The Meeting discussed the Australian proposal on the streamlining of the ARF ISG on CBMs and PD to be convened once a year. The ARF ISG on CBMs and PD had succeeded in establishing a core work plan for the ARF comprising four dedicated ISMs, expedited processes for adopting activities, a strengthened ARF Unit, a Vision Statement and the Hanoi Plan of Action to guide activity to 2020. Given this, and noting repetition within the two ISG agendas, Australia proposed that the ISG process could now be streamlined to a single annual meeting focused on preparation for the ARF SOM and the Ministerial Meeting of the ARF. Accordingly, the ARF DOD connected to the discontinued ARF ISG on CBMs and PD would also be ceased. The ISG would continue to be co-chaired by an ASEAN and non-ASEAN. The Meeting agreed that written comments and inputs on the proposal should be submitted to Australia by the end of the first

week of July 2011. The Meeting agreed that ARF Senior Officials should first reach consensus before its submission to the 18<sup>th</sup> ARF.

42. The Meeting discussed Indonesia's proposal to reduce the frequency of the convening of the ARF Defence Officials' Dialogue (DOD). Indonesia outlined that the ARF DOD Meetings would be more efficient by convening 3 (three) meetings every inter-sessional year. This included two meetings to be convened in parallel with the ARF ISG on CBMs and PD and one to be held prior to the ARF SOM. Indonesia also suggested that this mechanism would enable each meeting to be reported to either the ARF ISG or the ARF SOM. Indonesia also proposed to maintain the ARF ISG on CBMs and PD to be convened twice in an inter-sessional year with a streamlined agenda which excludes the item of 'Exchange of Views on Regional and International Issues'.

### **7.8. Next Co-Chairs of the ARF ISG on CBMs an PD**

43. Subject to further consultation with its capital and due to its ASEAN Chairmanship in 2012, Cambodia informed the Meeting that it would have difficulties to co-chair and co-host the ARF ISG on CBMs and PD in the inter-sessional year 2011-2012. The Meeting welcomed the offer by New Zealand to co-chair the ARF ISG on CBMs and PD with an ASEAN Member State.

## **Agenda Item 8: ARF On-going Initiatives**

### **8.1. ARF Work Plan on Maritime Security**

44. Indonesia, Japan and New Zealand updated the Meeting on the development of the ARF Work Plan on Maritime Security, which appears as **ANNEX 31**.

45. The Meeting agreed to submit the ARF Work Plan on Maritime Security for adoption by the Ministers at the 18<sup>th</sup> ARF in July 2011.

### **8. 2. ARF Work Plan on Non-Proliferation and Disarmament**

46. The United States briefed the Meeting on the development of the ARF Work Plan on Non-Proliferation and Disarmament, which appears as **ANNEX 32**.

47. The Meeting agreed that further comments on the draft Work Plan should be submitted to the United States by the 1<sup>st</sup> week of July 2011 for further consideration and before its submission to the 18<sup>th</sup> ARF in July 2011.

### **8.3. ARF Conference of National Security Policymakers on Proxy Actors in Cyber Space**

48. The United States briefed the Meeting on the proposal to convene the ARF Conference of National Security Policymakers on Proxy Actors in Cyber Space. The United States informed the Meeting that Viet Nam will Co-Chair and host the Conference in 2012. The proposal appears as **ANNEX 33**.

### **8. 4. ARF Annual Security Outlook 2011**

49. Indonesia informed the Meeting that as of 10 June 2011, Indonesia had received draft submissions on the ARF Annual Security Outlook (ASO) from 9 ARF participants, namely, Australia, Canada, China, DPRK, the European Union, Indonesia, Japan, Myanmar, and ROK. Indonesia encouraged other ARF participants to submit their ARF ASO. Indonesia informed the Meeting that the deadline for final submissions to the ARF ASO had been extended to 20 June 2011. The ARF ASO 2011 will be published at the 18<sup>th</sup> ARF in July 2011.

## **9. Future Direction of the ARF**

### **9. 1. Advancing the Hanoi Plan of Action to Implement the ARF Vision Statement**

#### **9.1.1. Strengthening the ARF Unit**

50. The Meeting concurred that the ARF Unit should be reinforced and its capacity should be expanded to meet the future assignments to assist the ARF Chair and provide consultation for the ARF participants. In this regard, the Meeting welcomed the proposal by the United States to provide technical assistant on disaster relief to work with the ARF Unit.

51. The ASEAN Secretariat informed the Meeting on the increase in number of staff of the ARF Unit in the ASEAN Secretariat. The ASEAN Secretariat also informed the Meeting that the ARF Unit has prepared a Matrix of Implementation of the Hanoi Plan of Action to Implement the ARF Vision Statement, which will be accessible from ARFNet for ARF participants' reference.

52. The Meeting noted the briefing by Pakistan on the creation of the National ARF Unit, co-opting the Department of Strategic Studies, Quaid-i-Azam University with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Pakistan.

#### **9.1.2. The Future Role of the ARF in the Evolving Regional Architecture**

53. The Meeting was of the view that the ARF is a mature and valuable regional security forum. As a result, the ARF has a special responsibility to contribute to promoting regional peace and security. The experiences derived

from the ARF's eighteen years of cooperation could usefully be applied in other existing fora.

54. The Meeting noted the origins of the evolving regional architecture with the formation of ASEAN in 1967 and acknowledged ASEAN's continued centrality into the future. The Meeting agreed that the establishment of ADMM-Plus and the expansion of the East Asia Summit (EAS) should not obstruct substantive discussion in the ARF. The Meeting emphasized the need to promote the complementarity and avoidance of duplication and encouraged synergies between the ARF and the ADMM-Plus. The Meeting identified the need for coordination between the ARF and these aforementioned fora. The linkages and communication between the ARF, the EAS and the ADMM-Plus should be improved and it was essential for the ARF to maintain its relevance in the regional security architecture. The Meeting noted the suggestion to submit the report of the annual Ministerial Meeting of the ARF for the information of the EAS.

55. On the future role of the ARF the Meeting was of the view that the ARF should continue its confidence-building measures to facilitate dialogue on security issues of shared interest while developing a preventive diplomacy capacity as mandated by Ministers. As far as areas of cooperation are concerned, the ARF also should deepen its cooperation on non-traditional security issues, particularly counter-terrorism, disaster relief, maritime security and non-proliferation and disarmament.

### **9.1.3. Enhancing Linkages between Track I and Track II and between ARF and other Organizations**

56. The Meeting recalled the recommendation of the Hanoi Plan of Action that there is a need to enhance linkages between Track I and Track II as well as between the ARF and other organizations. On this note, it is suggested that the ARF shall continue its current practice of involving the Track II representatives in the relevant ARF activities and institutional engagement.

## **9.2. ARF Preventive Diplomacy Work Plan**

57. The Meeting endorsed the ARF Work Plan on Preventive Diplomacy which appears as **ANNEX 34** to be submitted to the 18<sup>th</sup> ARF in July 2011.

### **Agenda Item 10: Other Matters**

58. Timor Leste updated the Meeting on the proposal for the ARF Electoral Capacity-Building Program for Timor Leste (**ANNEX 35**). The Meeting supported the proposal and noted the need to ensure complementarity between the activities to be undertaken in this Program and those implemented by the United Nations.

## **Acknowledgement**

59. All ARF participants expressed appreciation to the Government of the Republic of Indonesia for the warm hospitality and excellent arrangements extended to them. The Meeting also commended Indonesia for its effective leadership and for the cordial and fruitful discussion.

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