



**CHAIRMAN'S REPORT**  
**FOR THE 12<sup>th</sup> ASEAN REGIONAL FORUM**  
**HEADS OF DEFENCE**  
**UNIVERSITIES / COLLEGES / INSTITUTIONS MEETING**  
**12<sup>th</sup> ARF-HDUCIM**

**ISLAMABAD, PAKISTAN** **21-23 OCTOBER 2008**

**INTRODUCTION**

1. The 12<sup>th</sup> ASEAN Regional Forum for Heads of Defence Universities / Colleges / Institutions Meeting (HDUCIM) was held in Islamabad, Pakistan from 21<sup>st</sup> to 23<sup>rd</sup> October 2008.
  
2. The National Defence University (NDU) of Pakistan hosted the Meeting at their premises. The University President Lieutenant General Mohammad Hamid Khan was in chair.

**THE FRAMEWORK OF MEETING**

3. The Meeting primarily focused on the overarching theme "Military Operations Other Than War" (MOOTW), covering topical questions as crystallized in various presentations. The program included a keynote speech by the Chairman Joint Chiefs of Staff Committee (CJCSC) of the host country and paper presentations by participating countries, as well as question and answer sessions. The Heads of Delegations while meeting the Foreign Minister, received briefing on Pakistan's Foreign Policy perspective, especially on the regional situation. The

program also covered visits to landmark venues and cultural sites of the host country to foster stronger ties and co-operation between participating countries.

4. Proceedings of thematic sessions were moderated by Maj General Azhar Ali Shah, Director General ISSRA at the NDU. Annexed with this Report are the **Meeting Agenda** (Annex A), the detailed **Program of the Meeting** (Annex B) and list of **Cultural Sites** (Annex C) visited by the delegates.

### **ATTENDANCE**

5. A total of 15 out of 27 ARF participants (ASEAN Member Countries, Dialogue Partners, and ASEAN Secretariat) attended this Meeting. In addition, observers from UK Defence Academy and the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) were also present. A total of 39 delegates (excluding representatives from the host's side) were in attendance. The full list of participants is attached at **Annex D**.

### **WELCOME REMARKS**

6. At the outset of the Meeting, President NDU delivered welcome address in his capacity as the host. Key points were as follows:

- a. The HDUCIM provides a significant platform for Track One activity within the wider ARF framework towards evolving a sense of strategic community, sharing experiences and enlarging understanding of each other's perspective.
- b. The dedication of the 12th session to MOOTW directly relates to the study and understanding of the prevalent geo-strategic environment, where the space for traditional application of military instrument is getting narrower.

- c. The fundamental shift in security paradigm in the post 9/11 scenario and disasters, whether natural or man-made, are enormous in scope and magnitude, necessitating trans-national coordination and response.

### **KEYNOTE ADDRESS**

7. Chairman Joint Chiefs of Staff Committee (CJCSC) General Tariq Majid shared his thoughts on the conceptual aspects of “Military Operations Other Than War” (MOOTW) and Pakistani perspective in this regard.

8. Salient points of the keynote speech were as follows:

- a. Transition of threat spectrum from total war to sub-conventional conflicts and non-traditional security issues in the contemporary phase is primarily an outcome of five factors: Re-conceptualization of security in the post Cold War era, effects of globalization, impact of 9/11, prohibitive costs of a major interstate conflict and finally breakdown of ecological systems as well as environmental degradation caused by global warming and geological changes.
- b. Fundamental changes in the security paradigm and the altered spectrum of perceived threats have raised multidimensional challenges for the armed forces to tackle with. Defence institutions, therefore need to prepare the security practitioners at all tiers to face these new challenges and paradigms of future military employment.
- c. MOOTW and conventional war fighting tend to show conceptual variation at various levels. Few of the differences are summed up as follows;

- i. MOOTW have to be characterized by moral and political legitimacy rather than a mere emphasis on legality.
  - ii. These operations are conducted against relatively less distinguishable adversary in multiple directions, making the Command and Control issues highly intricate.
  - iii. Option of use of force in MOOTW has to be extremely flexible.
  - iv. In MOOTW, civil military interface and inter-agency coordination requirements are far more extensive and complex than in conventional operations.
- d. Pakistan has been facing multi-dimensional challenges that demand the Armed Forces involvement in MOOTW.
- e. Armed Forces of Pakistan have gained unique experience of at least three major types of prevalent MOOTW. These include engagement in War against Terrorism and Insurgency, Disaster Management in Post Earthquake 2005 period and tasks undertaken in the UN Peacekeeping Missions.

## **THEMATIC FOCUS**

9. The enduring theme of the Meeting: ***“In contemporary environment, Military’s growing involvement in combat and noncombat Military Operations Other Than War (MOOTW) necessitates reassessment of challenges in order to formulate an effective response strategy”***, was well covered by 13 presentations including the key note address. The three topics developed to support the theme were as follows:

- a. **Topic 1:** ***“Is conventional military structure capable of effectively handling operations other than war with present***

***organization and equipment?”*** Paper was presented by a participant from the host country.

- b. **Topic 2:** ***“Human resource will always play the lead role in any such operation. Does MOOTW necessitate changes in existing doctrine and training curricula of our defence institutions”.*** Six papers were presented.
  
- c. **Topic 3:** ***“Sharing of operational, training and administrative experiences of member countries with reference to operations other than war”.*** Four papers were presented on this topic including two by the participants from the host country.

10. For time-management purposes, the presentations on topic 3 preceded the presentations on topic 2. . In addition, the **delegate from the ASEAN Secretariat** gave a special briefing on the **ASEAN role in training and development of curricula in the context of Peacekeeping Operations.**

## **PRESENTATIONS**

11. Topic 1: ***“Is conventional military structure capable of effectively handling operations other than war with present organization and equipment?”***

- a. The sole presentation on topic 1 was sponsored by **Pakistan.**

12. As for the sub-theme on Topic 2: ***“Human resource will always play the lead role in any such operation. Does MOOTW necessitate changes in existing doctrine and training curricula of our defence institutions”***, the titles of various papers presented were as follows:

- a. **Paper 1.** “Human Resources will always play the lead role in any such Operation (Military Operations other than War). Do MOOTW necessitate changes in existing doctrine and training curricula of our defence institutions?” sponsored by **Australia.**
- b. **Paper 2.** “Solutions of the RCAF Education and Training” sponsored by **Cambodia.**
- c. **Paper 3.** “Does MOOTW Necessitate Changes to Curricula?” sponsored by **Canada.**
- d. **Paper 4.** “Necessity for Change: MOOTW and its Effects on Military Education” sponsored by **China.**
- e. **Paper 5.** “Educating and Preparing Officers for MOOTW: A Singapore Armed Forces (SAF) Perspective” sponsored by **Singapore.**

13. For the sub-theme on Topic 3: “***Sharing of operational, training and administrative experiences of member countries with reference to operations other than war***” the title of the papers presented by delegations were as follows:

- a. **Paper 1.** “The Operational, Training and Administrative Experiences of the JSDF with Reference to MOOTW” sponsored by **Japan.**
- b. **Paper 2.** “Sharing Experiences of Pakistan’s Federally Administered Tribal Area (FATA)” sponsored by **Pakistan.**

- c. **Paper 3.** “The Armed Forces of Philippines and Operations Other Than War” sponsored by **Philippines**.
- d. **Paper 4.** “Role of Pakistan Army during the 8 October 2005 Earthquake Relief Operation” sponsored by **Pakistan**.
- e. **Paper 5.** “Military Operations Other Than War: Royal Thai Armed Forces” sponsored by **Thailand**.

14. Abstracts of all the papers filed have been released. The full texts are being compiled to be issued separately. This would also include additional papers, submitted by India and Vietnam which could not be presented due to paucity of time.

### **KEY OUTCOMES**

15. The key outcomes of these presentations and general consensus are summarized as follows:

- a. There was an agreement in the Meeting that the interchangeable nature of state and non-state actors along with the blurring of distinction between strategic, operational and tactical actions has squeezed the space for traditional application of military instrument. As a result of this rapid transformation of threat spectrum, Military Operations other than War (MOOTW) have gained greater significance in the contemporary geo-strategic environment.
- b. The new reality of MOOTW necessitates a wholesome response at national level assuring popular support and a blending of political role with the military operations. The role of military is to create conditions preparatory to a political solution. The process must

involve common populace as stake holders in achieving the desired end.

- c. The Meeting also agreed that professional militaries must be prepared and equipped to conduct a range of operations different in their intensity, scale and scope across and also beyond the spectrum of conflict.
- d. Officers must be adequately trained to operate in diverse threat environments; they must be operationally-skillful and strategically-aware.
- e. Focus of the Armed Forces must remain on the core of the profession of arms i.e. war fighting, but training must be sufficient enough to cater the needs of operations other than war.
- f. Conventional military structures need to be kept flexible enough to accommodate the organizational changes required during contingencies.
- g. For successful conduct of any MOOTW, both political and military objectives should be clear. Also it needs to be understood that employment patterns matter more than deployment in terms of determining the outcomes of a military operation.
- h. Need for pragmatic measures to institutionalize the disaster management process is indeed a time-tested lesson. The apex should provide conducive environment for the blending of military and civilian infrastructure and optimal utilization of the Armed Forces organizational potential. Adequate steps ought to be taken to embark training and hold joint mock disaster relief exercises.

- i. Curricula should be adjusted by increasing courses focusing on non-traditional security and military operations other than war, such as training courses on counter-terrorism, peace-keeping, disaster management etc.
- j. Joint-education must be encouraged and enhanced by enrolling more civilian officials in relevant training process and adding more courses consisting of both military and civilian officials.

## **OTHER MATTERS**

16. In keeping with inputs from delegates, the Chair proposed a 4–point program of action from the standpoint of upcoming activities:

17. **Defence College Network.**

- a. First: The delegation of the Philippines gave an exclusive presentation on the proposed Defence College Network, in the backdrop of survey regarding ARFDUCI Information Exchange Program. They proposed and the Meeting agreed that in order to carry forward the process, a country secretariat in each DUCI member should be established, designating a point of contact. Also the members should consider establishing a standing committee of at least three member countries to draft the Terms of Reference for the DUCI IEP.
- b. The Chair proposed and the Meeting agreed that the committee for drafting exercise may consist of the current Chair (Pakistan), the upcoming Chair (Thailand) and the sponsor (The Philippines).

18. **Student-Faculty Research Exchange Program.**

- a. Second: The host side suggested that the members examine the possibility of student-faculty research exchange program amongst defence universities and institutions.

- b. The Chair proposed and the Meeting agreed that the members file their specific proposals upon return for further processing.

19. **Duration and Organization of Meetings**

- a. The two-day duration of the Meeting was seen inadequate to cater for all the desired presentations and discussion on questions of interest.
- b. The Chair proposed and the Meeting agreed that the Annual Meetings may henceforth be extended for four days. Moreover for time management purposes, the Q&A sessions may be slotted following presentations on each sub-theme rather than following each paper.

20. **13<sup>th</sup> Meeting Host**

- a. The delegation from Thailand reiterated their readiness to host the 13<sup>th</sup> ARF HDUCIM in Thailand in 2009. They indicated that the second week of November would be the most convenient time for the event. They also refreshed the participants regarding the proposed theme for the upcoming Meeting, which is broadly slotted as: Roles of Armed Forces in Maintaining Internal Security.
- b. The Meeting expressed its appreciation to Thailand for agreeing to host the 2009 Session.
- c. Suggestions to host the annual meeting in the year 2010 are awaited.

## **ACKNOWLEDGEMENT**

21. The Head of Thai Delegation Lt.General Eanumat Srivara while briefing the Meeting on the upcoming 13<sup>th</sup> ARF-HDUCIM, led the participants in their vote of thanks to Pakistan as the host of current Meeting.

22. The Meeting expressed its gratitude and appreciation to the Government of Pakistan and National Defence University, Islamabad in particular for the excellent arrangements made for the Meeting and for the warm hospitality extended to the participants.

## **CONCLUSION**

23. To conclude, the Chair expressed his sincere appreciation and thanked all delegates for making this Meeting a great success. The meeting signified continuing commitment of members as well as observers to the vision represented by the ARF. Moreover, the quality of presentations and discussion generated on the occasion were indicative of the delegates' resolve to maintain high standards of this Forum. The Chair reiterated the need for all concerned to follow up on relevant matters which could enhance the image of universities, colleges and institutions represented; and upgrade cooperation amongst them. In this context, he made particular reference to utilizing the video-conferencing facility as and where possible.

24. The Chairman wished everyone a safe journey back to their respective countries and to convey the outcomes of this Meeting to their appropriate authorities. The Chairman adjourned the Meeting at 1500 hrs on 23<sup>rd</sup> Oct 2008.

**ANNEXES:**

- A. Annex A: Agenda of the 12<sup>th</sup> ARF HDUCIM.
- B. Annex B: Programme for 12<sup>th</sup> ARF HDUCIM.
- C. Annex C: List of Cultural Sites Visited.
- D. Annex D: List of Participants for 12<sup>th</sup> ARF HDUCIM.