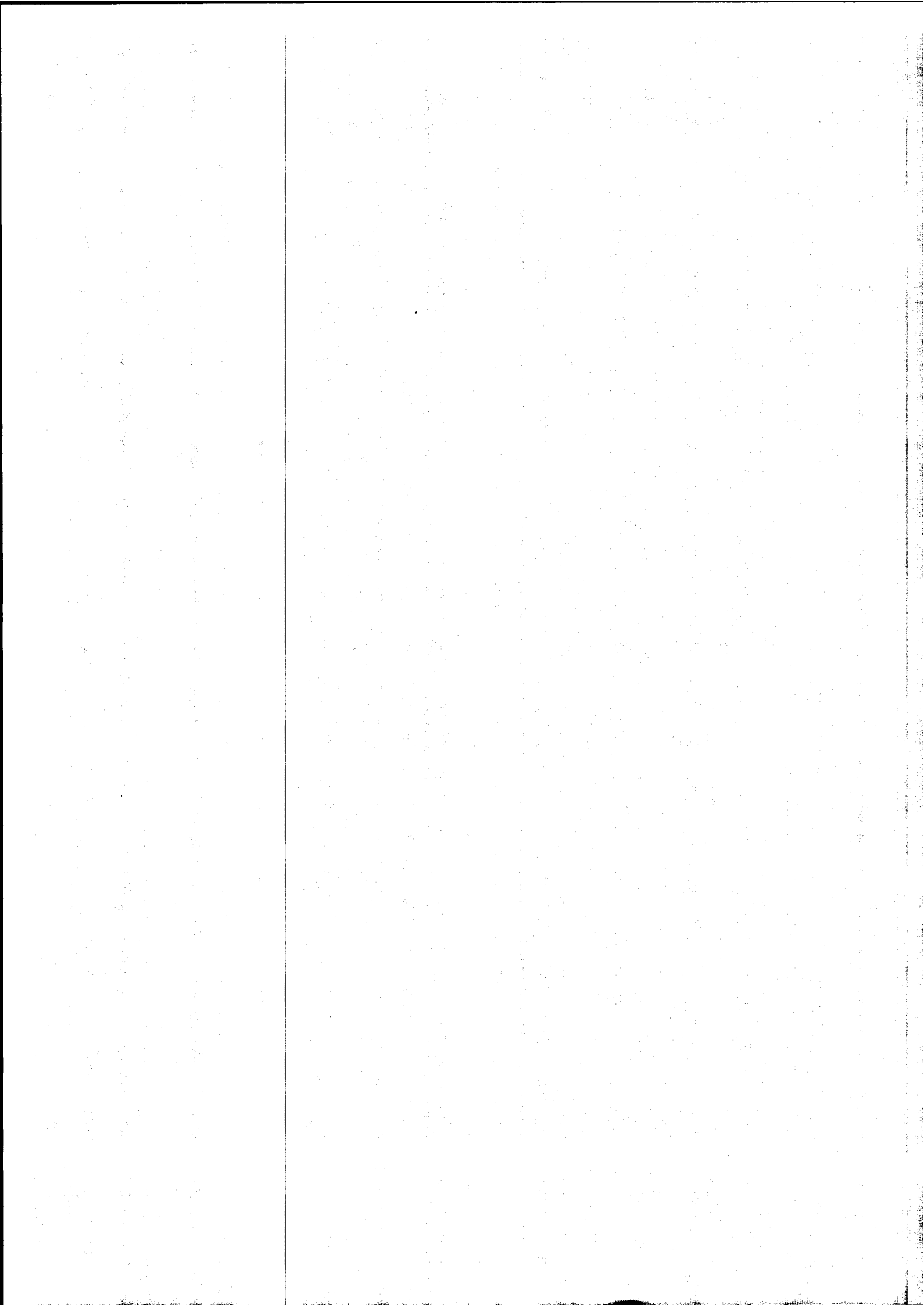


**CHAIRMAN'S SUMMARY REPORT**  
**3<sup>RD</sup> ARF SECURITY POLICY CONFERENCE**

**Karambunai, Sabah, Malaysia, 18 May 2006**



**CHAIRMAN'S SUMMARY REPORT  
OF THE THIRD ASEAN REGIONAL FORUM  
SECURITY POLICY CONFERENCE  
Karambunai, Sabah, Malaysia on 18 MAY 2006**

1. As endorsed by the 12th ASEAN Regional Forum (ARF) in Vientiane on 29 July 2005 and in pursuance of the recommendation of the Second ARF Security Policy Conference, held in Vientiane, 19 May 2005, the Third ARF Security Policy Conference (ASPC) was held in Karambunai, Sabah, Malaysia on 18 May 2006. The Conference was chaired by Dato' Ahmad Latffi bin Hashim, Acting Secretary General, Ministry of Defence, Malaysia.

2. The Conference was attended by representatives from Australia, Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, Canada, China, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, European Union, India, Indonesia, Japan, Lao PDR, Malaysia, New Zealand, the Philippines, Republic of Korea, Russian Federation, Singapore, Thailand, United States of America, Viet Nam and the ASEAN Secretariat. The List of Delegates appears as **ANNEX A**.

**AGENDA ITEM 1: OPENING REMARKS**

3. In his Opening Remarks, the Chairman welcomed the participants to the Conference and outlined the objectives and agenda of the Conference. He emphasised the importance of the ASPC and reviewed its development since its first meeting in Beijing in November 2004. He invited participants' attention to the twin themes of the agenda of the Conference, i.e. maritime security and peacekeeping operations. Along the lines, he took stock of the activities of the defunct ARF Intersessional Support Meeting on Peacekeeping Operations (ISM on PKO) and Malaysia's activities and contribution to UN peacekeeping operations.

**AGENDA ITEM 2: ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA**

4. The Conference considered and adopted the Agenda, which appears as **ANNEX B**.

**AGENDA ITEM 3: MARITIME SECURITY**

5. The Conference exchanged views on the challenges and need for maritime security cooperation at the bilateral, sub-regional and multilateral basis.

6. The Conference welcomed the willingness of some countries in offering technical and financial assistance on maritime security to the littoral states of the Straits of Malacca in terms of capacity building.

7. The Meeting also discussed the following aspects of maritime security:

- The importance of promoting safety and security of navigation at sea for international trade and commerce;
- The continued threat of piracy and other forms of transnational crime at sea;

- The primary role of the littoral states in the maintenance of maritime security;
- The increasing bilateral and multilateral cooperation in promoting maritime security, including joint/coordinated maritime patrols/exercises, exchange of information and intelligence, counter terrorism, environmental protection, search and rescue, and hydrographic surveys;
- The important role and contribution of user states, the industry, as well as international organizations such as the International Maritime Organization (IMO) in promoting maritime security;
- The importance of integrated government approach to maritime security promotion; and
- The success of cooperation in the Malacca Straits, such as through the Malacca Straits Sea Patrol and the "Eyes in the Sky" combined maritime air patrols involving the littoral states of Malaysia, Indonesia and Singapore.

8. The Conference agreed on the following:

- Explore the possibility of building on the existing sub-regional maritime security cooperation as a model for multilateral maritime security arrangements in the Asia-Pacific region in the future;
- Establish a higher level of trust between all stakeholders as well as increase familiarity with international legal frameworks and other resources for promoting cooperation on maritime security;
- Continuation of multilateral dialogue on maritime security in the context of the ARF;
- The need for a holistic approach towards addressing maritime security issues, including the need to identify and understand the causes of crimes at sea and on the shore;
- Strengthen regional maritime security cooperation through technical assistance, capacity building, and training. In this regard, the Conference agreed to continue to build database on maritime security capability and resources available for international cooperation.
- Enhance cooperation with a view to reducing social and insurance costs incurred by the industry related to maritime security to facilitate regional maritime trade and commerce.

9. Participants briefed and updated the Conference on efforts and activities taken by their respective countries in the maritime security cooperation domain. Presentations made by participants under this Agenda Item appear in **ANNEX C, D, E, F, G, H and I.**

#### **AGENDA ITEM 4: PEACEKEEPING**

10. The Conference exchanged views on the state of United Nations peacekeeping operations and reaffirmed the central role of the United Nations in this task. Some members highlighted their efforts in the area of peace support operations other than under the UN auspices.

11. The Conference noted with satisfaction the commitment and the active participation of ARF participants to the UN peacekeeping operations.

12. The Conference was of the view that peacekeeping operations contribute towards resolving conflicts, maintaining negotiated cease-fire agreements, promoting humanitarian operations and creating environment for post-conflict peace-building.

13. The Conference noted that many of the ARF participating countries either have established peacekeeping training centers or in the process of establishing such bodies.

14. The Conference welcomed the participation of many ARF countries in the UN stand-by arrangements.

15. In this regard, the Conference agreed on the following:

- Modern peacekeeping operations were becoming more complex involving military, civilian personnel, international aid agencies and non-governmental organizations;
- The UN should continue to play a leading role in peacekeeping operations and that every peacekeeping mission should fully respect the territorial integrity and national sovereignty of the country concerned;
- Continue to contribute to UN peacekeeping operations, both in terms of sending military and civilian personnel and financing and logistical support;
- Continue international cooperation in clearing anti-personnel landmines;
- The Conference agreed to work on establishing a regional network of peacekeeping experts for the purpose of exchanging best practices and lessons learnt, harmonization of doctrine and promotion of peace operations training and regional capability building. In this regard, the Conference endorsed the proposal by Australia to co-host with Malaysia the first annual meeting in the first half of 2007 at the Peacekeeping Training Centre in Port Dickson. The proposal is in **ANNEX K**.
- ARF should continue to promote awareness of peacekeeping demands and challenges.

16. The Conference welcomed India's proposal to host an ARF seminar on "United Nations Peacekeeping: Challenges and Prospects" under the aegis of the

Centre for United Nations Peacekeeping, New Delhi.

17. Several countries made presentations on their national policies and activities in the field of peacekeeping. The presentations of Malaysia, Cambodia, China, European Union and Viet Nam are in ANNEX J, L, M, N and O.

#### **AGENDA ITEM 5: OTHER MATTERS**

18. The Conference was informed that the Fourth ASPC would be held in the Philippines in 2007.

#### **AGENDA ITEM 6: CLOSING REMARKS**

19. The Chairman thanked all the participants and the ASEAN Secretariat for their active participation and contribution in making the Conference a success.

#### **ACKNOWLEDGEMENT**

20. The Conference expressed its gratitude and appreciation to the people and Government of Malaysia for the excellent arrangements made for the Conference and for the hospitality extended to the participants.

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