

**ASEAN REGIONAL FORUM  
INTER-SESSIONAL SUPPORT GROUP MEETING ON  
CONFIDENCE BUILDING MEASURES  
(ARF ISG on CBMs)**



**CO-CHAIRS' SUMMARY  
REPORT**

**26-28 OCTOBER 2004  
PHNOM PENH, CAMBODIA**



Phnom Penh, 04 November 2004

All ASEAN Regional Forum SOM Leaders  
Secretary-General of ASEAN

Dear Colleagues,

**Subject: Summary Report of the Meeting of the ARF ISG on CBMs, Phnom Penh, 26-28 October 2004**

I am pleased to refer to the above-mentioned subject.

I would like to inform you that due to the technical problem, the following paragraphs will be replaced with the previous ones in the Summary Record of the ARF ISG on CBMs.

**Para 16:**

Some participants expressed concern over the situation in the Middle East, particularly on the deteriorating security situation and relations between Israel and the Palestinian Authority. They stressed the need to carry out the Roadmap and the relevant UNSC Resolutions to achieve durable peace in that region with the realization of the vision of two states, Israel and Palestine living side by side, in peace within the secured and recognized borders.

**Para 23:**

The Meeting was briefed by Japan on its efforts to counter proliferation of WMD, such as the implementation of PSI and enforcement of domestic and export controls (Annex F), Japan's international cooperation to combat terrorism and the seminar to encourage accession to counter-terrorism convention (Annex G). The Meeting noted Japan's efforts in organizing Asian Export Control Seminars for 12 consecutive years and the on-going maritime interdiction exercise in relation to non-proliferation.

**Para 37:**

iv. **ARF CBMs: Workshop on Peace Arrangements Ensuring Stability and Security in the Region, including Civil-Military Cooperation, February 2005 (Japan)**

I thank you very much for your close cooperation.

With warmest regards.

Sincerely yours,

**Dr. Kao Kim Hourn**  
Secretary of State  
Cambodia SOM Leader

**CO-CHAIRS' SUMMARY REPORT OF THE MEETING OF THE  
ASEAN REGIONAL FORUM INTER-SESSIONAL SUPPORT GROUP  
ON CONFIDENCE BUILDING MEASURES**

**Phnom Penh, Cambodia**

**26-28 October 2004**

**INTRODUCTION**

1. Pursuant to the decision of the 11<sup>th</sup> Ministerial Meeting of the ASEAN Regional Forum (ARF) held in Indonesia on 2 July 2004, the first meeting of the ARF Inter-sessional Support Group on Confidence Building Measures (ISG on CBMs) for the 2004-2005 inter-sessional year was held in Phnom Penh from 26-28 October 2004. The Meeting was co-chaired by the Kingdom of Cambodia and the European Union.

2. Representatives from Australia, Brunei Darussalam, Kingdom of Cambodia, Canada, People's Republic of China, European Union, India, Indonesia, Japan, Lao PDR, Malaysia, Mongolia, Myanmar, New Zealand, Papua New Guinea, Pakistan, the Philippines, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Republic of Korea, Russian Federation, Singapore, Kingdom of Thailand, the United States of America, Viet Nam and the ARF Unit of the ASEAN Secretariat attended the Meeting. The Southeast Asia Regional Centre for Counter Terrorism (SEARCCT) was also invited to the Meeting. The Defence Officials' Dialogue was held on 26 October 2004. The Agenda of the ARF ISG on CBMs meeting is attached as **Annex A**, the Programme of Activities as **Annex B** and the list of Participants as **Annex C**.

**Exchange of Views on the Regional and International Situation**

3. The participants congratulated Cambodia on the ascending to the throne by His Majesty the King NORODOM SIHAMONI.

4. The Meeting exchanged views on the political and security issues and developments in the Asia Pacific region and beyond since the 11<sup>th</sup> ASEAN Regional Forum on 2 July 2004.

5. The Meeting noted that, in general, peace, security, development and cooperation are the mainstream trends in the region. The Meeting reaffirmed the valuable role of multilateral security dialogue and cooperation through the ASEAN Regional Forum in contributing to these trends.

6. The Meeting welcomed the successful holding of democratic elections and peaceful transfer of power in several countries in the region.

7. The Meeting was briefed by Myanmar on recent developments in that country. Myanmar assured the Meeting that the recent change in leadership would not affect Myanmar's commitment to the implementation of the seven-step

Roadmap to Democracy adopted in August 2003. Several ARF participants urged the release of Daw Aung San Suu Kyi and other political prisoners. The Meeting encouraged all stakeholders in the country to work together to ensure a successful outcome of the ongoing national reconciliation process. The National Convention should be a forum for genuine open debate with the participation of all political groups in the country. In this context, the Meeting looked forward to the early lifting of restrictions placed on political parties. The Meeting also reaffirmed its support for the efforts of the UN Secretary General and his Special Envoy, Tan Sri Razali Ismail.

8. The Meeting noted the stable relations among the major powers in the region and their contribution to the maintenance of regional security. The Meeting welcomed recent exchanges of high-level visits among these countries.

9. The Meeting noted the important role being played by various regional mechanisms, such as the ARF, ASEAN Plus Three process, Shanghai Cooperation Organization, Asia Pacific Economic Cooperation, Asia Cooperation Dialogue and the Asia-Europe Meeting.

10. The Meeting welcomed the adoption of the Bali Concord II at the 9<sup>th</sup> ASEAN Summit, held in Bali, Indonesia on 5-6 October 2003, which provided a framework for the establishment of the ASEAN Community by 2020 resting on the three pillars of ASEAN Security Community, ASEAN Economic Community and ASEAN Socio-cultural Community.

11. The Meeting noted the accession to the Treaty of Amity and Cooperation in Southeast Asia (TAC) by China, India, Japan and Pakistan. The Meeting also noted that preparations are underway for the accession of the Russian Federation and the Republic of Korea in November 2004. ASEAN participants called on other countries to accede to the TAC as a way of demonstrating political support to the role of ASEAN in the promotion of regional peace and security.

12. The Meeting underlined the importance of the implementation of the Declaration on the Conduct of Parties in the South China Sea (DOC). Some participants stressed that the parties concerned to exercise self-restraint in the conduct of activities that would affect peace and stability in the region. They emphasized the importance of confidence building and the need to explore ways and means for cooperative activities among the parties concerned in accordance with the underlining spirit and principles of the DOC. In this connection, the Meeting looked forward to the convening of the ASEAN-China SOM on the Implementation of the Declaration on the Conduct of Parties in the South China Sea in Kuala Lumpur, on 7 December 2004.

13. The Meeting agreed that proliferation of weapons of mass destruction (WMD) continued to pose a serious threat to the security in the region. The Meeting agreed on the importance of multilateral security cooperation. The Meeting expressed particular concern on possibility of WMD getting into the hands of terrorist organizations.

14. The participants stressed the importance of the comprehensive denuclearization of the Korean Peninsula in maintaining peace and stability in the Asia-Pacific region. The participants also voiced support for the peaceful resolution of the issue. In this context, participants underlined the importance of early resumption of the Six-Party Talks to maintain the momentum and to make substantive progress in the process of the Talks. The participants also welcomed the recent progress of exchange and cooperation between the North and South Korea including Kaesong industrial complex project and also confirmed their continued support for further dialogue and cooperation between North and South Korea.

15. The Meeting reaffirmed its commitment to intensify national, regional and global efforts in combating various forms of transnational crime and international terrorism. The Meeting recall the need to implement the various ARF statements on counter-terrorism, such as the Statement on Strengthening Transport Security Against International Terrorism, Statement on Measures Against Terrorist Financing, Statement on Cooperative Counter-Terrorist Actions on Border Security, and Statement on Cooperation Against Piracy and Other Threats to Maritime Security.

16. Some participants expressed concern over the situation in the Middle East, particularly on the deteriorating security situation and relations between Israel and Palestine. They stressed the need to carry out the Roadmap and the relevant UNSC Resolutions to achieve durable peace in that region with the realization of the vision of two states, Israel and Palestine living side by side, in peace within the secured and recognized borders.

17. The participants expressed their condolence and sympathy to Japan for the taking of a Japanese national as hostages in Iraq.

18. Some participants welcomed the transfer of authority in Iraq and expressed support for the holding of elections in Iraq in January 2005. The Meeting expressed support for the upholding of territorial integrity and independence of Iraq.

19. The Meeting welcomed the holding of elections in Afghanistan and agreed to remain committed to international efforts in the reconstruction of Afghanistan.

### **Voluntary Background Briefings**

20. The Meeting was briefed by Thailand on its participation in UN peacekeeping operations and observer missions in various continents, particularly its contributions to the United Nations peacekeeping forces in Cambodia and East Timor. The briefing noted the importance of certain critical elements, such as, the need for countries to give consent to a U.N. role, to commit resources, and to recognize the multifaceted nature of peacekeeping operations, including maintaining law and order and reconstruction (Annex D) Thailand also briefed the Meeting on its contribution to mine action (Annex E).

21. The Meeting was briefed by Indonesia on the adoption by the ASEAN Leaders in October 2003 of the Bali Concord II and noted that the Plans of Action for the ASEAN Security Community and ASEAN Socio-Cultural Community would be adopted at the next ASEAN Summit in November 2004.

22. The Meeting was briefed by New Zealand on the achievement of the Regional Assistance Mission to the Solomon Islands under the auspices of the Pacific Island Forum, particularly on return of normal life in the Solomon Islands.

23. The Meeting was briefed by Japan on its efforts to counter proliferation of WMD, such as the implementation of PSI and enforcement of domestic and export controls (**Annex F**), Japan's international counter terrorism (**Annex G**), which appears as. The Meeting noted Japan's efforts in organizing Asian Export Control Seminars for 12 consecutive years and the on-going maritime interdiction exercise in relation to non-proliferation.

24. The Meeting noted the EU's non-paper on an international instrument to identify and trace in a timely and reliable manner illicit small arms and light weapons (SALW) (**Annex H**). The Meeting was also briefed by the EU on the "ASEM Conference on Counter Terrorism," in Berlin, on 18-20 October 2004 (**Annex I**).

25. The Meeting was briefed by Malaysia on Malaysian International Monitoring Team in the Mindanao Peace Process (**Annex J**).

26. The Meeting noted the publication of Australia's Defense White Paper on Transnational Terrorism (**Annex K**).

27. The Meeting was briefed by Canada on Canada's National Security Policy: Securing an Open Society (**Annex L**).

28. The Meeting was briefed by the representative of the Southeast Asia Regional Centre for Counter Terrorism (SEARCCT), which was established by Malaysia in July 2003, on the activities of the Centre. SEARCCT undertakes three activities, training and capability building, enhancement of public awareness and upgrading of institutional capability in preventing terrorism and managing consequences of terrorist attacks (**Annex M**). SEARCCT welcomes support by other countries by sending lecturers and funding of participants.

### **Non-Traditional Security Issues**

29. The Meeting discussed strengthening cooperation in addressing non-traditional security issues, including terrorism, drug trafficking, people's smuggling, money laundering, cyber crime, piracy and arm smuggling, which continue to pose threats to the peace and security in the region. Participants were of the view that these issues should remain one of the priorities on the ARF agenda. They welcomed the results of the Bali Process Senior Officials Meeting held in Brisbane, in June 2004, which provided practical measures to combat people's smuggling and trafficking in persons.

30. The Meeting welcomed the inauguration of the Jakarta Center for Law Enforcement Cooperation (JCLEC) in Semarang, on 3 July 2004, to build regional operational law enforcement capacity needed to fight transnational crimes with a main focus on terrorism. The Meeting welcomed Indonesia in collaboration with Australia to conduct the Training Program on Counter Terrorism Post Blast, organised by JCLEC, in Jakarta, on 3-17 July 2004.

31. The Meeting agreed that there was an urgent need to enhance practical and pragmatic cooperative measures among the ARF participants to address the non-traditional security issues. In this regard, participants stressed on the importance of capacity building, information sharing and intelligence exchanges among the ARF participants. Participants have expressed their hope that the ARF would work closely with the SEARCCT in Kuala Lumpur as well as JCLEC, International Law Enforcement Academy (ILEA) in Bangkok. Participants welcomed the signing of the ASEAN-Australia Joint Declaration on Cooperation on Counter-Terrorism and ASEAN-Russia Joint Declaration for Cooperation to Combat International Terrorism during the 11th ARF. The Meeting also welcomed the ARF Statement on Strengthening Transport Security against International Terrorism which lent further weight on the existing measures already implemented by the ARF.

32. The Meeting welcomed Thailand and Canada for co-chairing the 3<sup>rd</sup> Inter-sessional Meeting on Counter-Terrorism and Transnational Crime in Bangkok, preferably in the first week of April 2005.

33. The Meeting welcomed Indonesia for successfully convening the Ad Hoc Working Group on Law Enforcement Practitioners in Bali on 12-13 August 2004. The participants also welcomed China for organizing the Workshop on ARF Alternative Development with the aim to promote cooperation among concerned agencies among the ARF participants on fighting drug trafficking.

34. The participants were encouraged to submit their points of contact for "Register of Points of Contact for Consequence Management of Chemical, Biological, Radiological and Nuclear Terrorism" to Singapore.

#### Consideration of CBMs

35. The Meeting agreed that the implementation of various CBMs has significantly contributed to an improvement in the level of confidence and trust among the ARF participants. The Meeting also acknowledged the need to consider the required follow-up of CBMs activities.

36. The Meeting took note of the implementation of agreed CBMs and reports, as follows:

- 8<sup>th</sup> ARF Meeting of the **Head of Defence Colleges/ Institutions**, Singapore, 1-3 September 2004
- ARF Workshop on Alternative Development, Kunming, China, 7-8 September 2004 (Annex N)

- ARF Workshop on Maritime Security, Kuala Lumpur, 22-24 September 2004 (Annex O)
- ARF Seminar on Cyber Terrorism, Jeju Island, 13-15 October 2004 (Annex P)

37. The Meeting noted the following new CBMs that will be implemented in this inter-sessional year:

- i. ARF CBM on "Regional Cooperation in Maritime Security, 2-4 March 2005. (Singapore and the United States) (Annex Q)
- ii. ARF seminar on Enhancing Cooperation in the Field of Non-Traditional Security Issues, 2-5 March 2005 (China)
- iii. Concept Paper on ARF Export Licensing Experts' Meeting in late 2005 (Canada and Singapore) (Annex R)
- iv. ARF CBMs: Workshop on Peace Arrangement Ensuring Stability and Security in the Region including Civil-Military Operation, Fall 2004 (Japan)
- v. 9<sup>th</sup> ARF Meeting of the Heads of Defense Colleges/Institutions in first half of 2005 (Viet Nam)
- vi. ARF Workshop on Changes in the Security Perceptions and Military Doctrines of ARF Members, first half of 2005 (Viet Nam and Mongolia)

39. The Meeting received draft Concept Papers and noted the following proposed CBMs:

- i. ARF Seminar on Small Arms and Light Weapons, 2005. The Concept Paper will be circulating in due course. (Cambodia and EU).
- ii. Concept Paper: ARF CBMs Seminar on Nonproliferation of WMD, Spring 2006 (USA) (Annex S)
- iii. ARF Seminar on Non-Proliferation to be hosted by China for inter-sessional year 2005-2006. The Concept Paper will be circulated at the next ARF ISG on CBMs meeting (China)
- iv. ARF Seminar on Countering Cyber-Terrorism, 2005. The Concept Paper will be circulated in due course (the Philippines and ROK).

39. The United States informed the Meeting that it was developing a proposal for a seminar on missile defense to promote transparency and further mutual understanding for consideration.

40. The Meeting noted the outcome of the 9<sup>th</sup> Tokyo Defense Forum held on 19-20 October 2004 (Annex T). The Meeting was also briefed by Japan on the upcoming 4<sup>th</sup> Tokyo Defense Forum Sub-Committee Meeting in late January 2005 (Annex U)



## **Future Direction of the ARF**

41. The Meeting agreed on the need to further strengthen the ARF, particularly by moving towards preventive diplomacy while continuing with confidence-building activities.

42. The Meeting was of the view that the ARF had made remarkable progress during the past recent years, and that the contribution of the ARF as a forum for political and security dialogue in the region, with ASEAN as the driving force, should be maintained. In the same vein, the ARF should continue to observe the basic principles featuring decision-making by consensus and non-interference. At the same time, participants also stressed that the ARF should keep abreast with the times, and move forward at a pace comfortable to all. In this regard, the Meeting was of the view that progress should continue to be made towards the implementation of the adopted Nine Recommendations of the Stocktaking of the ARF process.

43. The Meeting agreed on the need to maintain informal contacts between ARF and other regional and international organizations such as the UN, APEC, SCO, OSCE and the OAS. The Meeting also agreed to strengthen linkage between Track I and Track II in the ARF process and noted that the 22<sup>nd</sup> CSCAP Steering Committee will be convened in Hainan, PRC, in December 2004.

### **(i). Preventive Diplomacy (PD)**

44. Some participants suggested that the ARF requests the ARF EEPs to conduct a study on measures to carry out preventive diplomacy by the ARF Chair or the ARF. Some stressed that some activities implemented under the ARF framework such as workshops/seminars on counterterrorism, non-proliferation and other transnational crimes related issues have gone beyond building confidence and are themselves cooperative activities in the nature of preventive diplomacy.

### **(ii). Enhanced Role of the ARF Chair**

45. The Meeting commended the ARF Chair for the efforts made in enhancing the role of the Chair. Participants agreed to extend further cooperation and support for the ARF Chair in carrying out the mandates outlined in the paper on the Enhanced Role of the ARF Chair.

### **(iii). ARF Register of Experts/Eminent Persons**

46. The Meeting noted the adoption of the Guidelines for the Operation of ARF EEPs and agreed to use the EEPs as appropriate. The Meeting was briefed by the Republic of Korea on Questionnaire on the Operation of the EEP system

(Annex V). The Meeting also agreed that the Trial Meeting of the EEPs should be convened as soon as possible.

**(iv). ARF Unit and the Proposed ARF Fund**

47. The Meeting welcomed the establishment of the ARF Unit in the ASEAN Secretariat since June 2004 and expressed appreciation for its role in supporting the enhance role of the ARF Chair. The Meeting noted the proposal by ASEAN to establish an ARF Fund based on voluntary contributions from ARF participants for the purpose of implementing projects, activities, and decisions of the ARF Ministers. The Meeting agreed to submit their comments on the draft Terms of Reference for the ARF Fund as soon as possible. The draft TOR appears in Annex W.

48. The United States informed the Meeting that it has funds available for, and is working with the ARF Unit to develop, a proposal for an ARF website and invited inputs from other ARF participants. Some participants requested further discussion on the proposal.

**(v) Annual Security Outlook**

49. The Meeting observed that the continued publication of the ARF Annual Security outlook was an important contribution to promoting transparency and enhancing confidence-building among the ARF participants. The Meeting requested ARF participants to submit their respective Annual Security Outlook to the ARF Chair for compilation before the next ISG on CBMs in the first half of 2005.

**Arrangements of the next ISG Meeting**

50. The Meeting agreed that the next ARF ISG on CBMs, to be co-chaired by the EU and Cambodia, would be hosted by Germany on behalf of the EU and would be held in Berlin on 21-23 February, 2005.

**Other Matters**

51. The Meeting took note of the Co-Chairs Report of the ARF-ISG on CBMs Defense Officials Dialogue, which was held on 26 October 2004, which appears as **Annex X**.

52. The Meeting was briefed by Indonesia and China on the arrangements of the upcoming ARF Security Policy Conference, which will take place in Beijing, 4-6 November 2004.

53. The participants expressed their appreciation to Cambodia for its excellent arrangements in hosting the Meeting and thanks the EU as the Co-Chair for its valuable contribution.

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