

Co-Chairs' Summary Report
The Sixth ASEAN Regional Forum Inter-Sessional Meeting on Non-Proliferation
and Disarmament
Tokyo, Japan, 8-9 July 2014

Introduction

1. Pursuant to the decision of the 20th Ministerial Meeting of the ASEAN Regional Forum held in Bandar Seri Begawan, Brunei Darussalam on 2 July 2013, the Sixth ASEAN Regional Forum Inter-Sessional Meeting on Non-Proliferation and Disarmament (ARF ISM on NPD) was held in Tokyo, Japan on 8-9 July 2014. The Meeting was co-chaired by Mr. Yukinari Hirose, Deputy Director-General of Disarmament, Non-Proliferation and Science Department of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan, Mr. Peter Tesch, First Assistant Secretary, Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade of Australia, and Dr. Alumanda M. Dela Rosa, Director of the Philippine Nuclear Research Institute (PNRI).

2. ARF participants from Australia, Bangladesh, Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, Canada, China, the European Union, India, Indonesia, Japan, Lao PDR, Malaysia, Mongolia, Myanmar, New Zealand, Pakistan, the Philippines, Republic of Korea, Russian Federation, Singapore, Sri Lanka, Thailand, the United States and Viet Nam attended the Meeting. Representatives of the Provisional Technical Secretariat of the Preparatory Commission for the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty Organization (CTBTO), Council for Security Cooperation in the Asia-Pacific (CSCAP), and the ASEAN Secretariat were also present. The List of Participants appears as **ANNEX 1**.

ARF-ISM Opening Session – Welcome Remarks

3. Mr. Hirotaka Ishihara, Parliamentary Vice-Minister for Foreign Affairs of Japan, welcomed the participants of the 6th ARF ISM on NPD by expressing his belief of the importance of ARF in the Asian region. He stressed that the ISM on NPD was of crucial importance given that it covered the three pillars of nuclear disarmament, non-proliferation, and the peaceful use of nuclear energy. Continuing on, Mr. Ishihara stated that more than 16,000 nuclear weapons existed worldwide and that in Northeast Asia in particular, there exist elements of forces with nuclear weapon capabilities such as North Korea. Therefore, Mr. Ishihara explained, the realisation of a world free of nuclear

weapons through the promotion of awareness and cooperation among international community was vital. Mr. Ishihara stated that Japan's commitment was shown in its role as Co-Chair of the 6th ISM on NPD.

Opening Remarks by Co-Chairs

4. Mr. Yukinari Hirose, Deputy Director-General, Disarmament, Non-Proliferation and Science Department, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Japan, noted that 2015 would be the 70th anniversary since the atomic bombings in Hiroshima and Nagasaki, as well as the year when the 2015 Review Conference of the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons (NPT) would be held, which would be a significant step toward the common goal of "a world without nuclear weapons." Next, Mr. Hirose mentioned that Mr. Fumio Kishida, Minister for Foreign Affairs of Japan, had delivered a speech on nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation in Nagasaki, in which he called for "Three Reductions," namely: 1) Reduction of the number of nuclear weapons, 2) Reduction of the role of nuclear weapons, and 3) Reduction of incentives for possession of nuclear weapons. He pointed out that the activities of the ARF were significant particularly in relation to the third reduction, and expressed his strong belief of the necessity to demotivate and eliminate incentives for additional countries to obtain nuclear weapons. Mr. Hirose's opening remarks appear as ANNEX 2.

5. Mr. Peter Tesch, First Assistant Secretary, Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade, Australia, expressed his hope that the ARF could contribute to the positive outcome at the 2015 NPT Review Conference given that the Forum plays a significant role in the Asia-Pacific region for security dialogue and cooperation, and the region is one of increasing strategic and economic importance. He emphasised the need for all nuclear-weapon States to meet their obligations to achieve a world without nuclear weapons. He noted the continuing threat posed to international peace and security by the DPRK's nuclear weapons and ballistic missile program. Continuing on, Mr. Tesch encouraged ASEAN Member States and nuclear-weapon States to continue constructive dialogue on the Southeast Asian Nuclear Weapon-Free Zone Treaty (SEANWFZ). In conclusion of his statement, Mr. Tesch conceded that while progress on global nuclear disarmament had been slow and hard-fought, high-level political will to implement steps toward achieving nuclear disarmament in ways that promote international stability and security would be necessary, and that Australia would continue to work with ARF partners to build such an environment. Mr. Tesch's opening remarks appear as ANNEX

3.

6. Dr. Alumanda M. Dela Rosa, Director, Philippine Nuclear Research Institute, began by noting that the NPT entered into force roughly 40 years ago. She explained that the ARF ISM on NPD had been alternating its focus on the three pillars of non-proliferation, disarmament, and the right to the peaceful use of nuclear technology since 2009, with the 2014 meeting mainly tackling the issue of disarmament. Dr. Dela Rosa expressed her belief that the humanitarian consequences of the use of nuclear weapons were an essential topic to any debate on disarmament and non-proliferation, and that various international conferences had concluded that no adequate humanitarian response would be possible during a possible nuclear detonation. In conclusion of her opening remarks, Dr. Dela Rosa remarked that it was fitting that the 6th ARF ISM on NPD included an agenda to discuss a world without nuclear weapons, given that the hosting country was the only nation to suffer the devastating effect of an atomic bomb explosion. Dr. Dela Rosa's opening remarks appear as **ANNEX 4**.

Adoption of Agenda

7. The Meeting considered and adopted the provisional agenda, which appears as **ANNEX 5**.

Agenda 1. “A World Without Nuclear Weapons” –Approaches and Future Prospects

8. Australia, in briefly speaking about the recent NPT Preparatory Committee in New York and noted that one of the most anticipated outcomes of the recent NPT Preparatory Committee was the reporting of the nuclear-weapon States on their progress towards nuclear disarmament under the Action Plan of the 2010 NPT Review Conference. However, Australia pointed out that the detail in their reporting varied considerably across the nuclear-weapon States. Australia thus urged for greater transparency from the nuclear-weapon States to the NPT. In addition to this provision of greater detail, Australia called for the submission of regular reports to the UN, consistent with the outcomes from the 2000 and 2010 Review Conferences. Moving on, Australia stated its belief that a key measure of the success of the 2015 NPT Review Conference would be a consensus document with stronger language than the 2010 Action Plan, pushing for progress on the key building blocks toward nuclear disarmament. Australia added that in order to ensure the credibility and health of the NPT, it would be important for all non-nuclear-weapon

States to submit national reports on their progress in implementing their obligations under the Action Plan adopted at 2010 Review Conference. Australia also encouraged non-NPT states which possess nuclear weapons to also submit reports on steps they have taken to reduce nuclear weapons. Australia's intervention appears as **ANNEX 6**.

9. The United States emphasised that it was and would continue to be ready to work towards a world without nuclear weapons in a step-by-step manner. The United States emphasised that it was fully committed to the three pillars of the NPT and had been working hard to meet the Treaty's disarmament objectives. The United States pointed out that this commitment was reflected by the newly declassified number of its active nuclear arsenal, 4,804 warheads, which represents an 85% reduction in its nuclear stockpile since 1967. Next, the United States introduced other efforts made by the United States such as the New Strategic Arms Reduction Treaty – New START – with the Russian Federation. In terms of nuclear-weapon-free zones, the United States stated that it had signed the protocol to the Treaty on a Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone in Central Asia (CANWFZ), and was continuing to work with ASEAN and others in the P5 regarding the protocol to the Treaty on the Southeast Asia Nuclear Weapon-Free Zone (SEANWFZ). Then, the United States reminded participants that despite the numerous successes, there were examples of non-compliance by several States which presented a direct challenge both to regional security and the global nuclear non-proliferation regime. In conclusion of its statement, the United States acknowledged that there was still substantial work to be done, and that a step-by-step approach of working across multiple fora would be required to achieve success. The United States' intervention appears as **ANNEX 7**.

10. New Zealand expressed its unconditional support for nuclear disarmament, which was long-standing and well established. Whilst the slow progress towards nuclear disarmament was disappointing, New Zealand was encouraged by the renewed international focus on the humanitarian consequences of nuclear weapons. New Zealand referred to the two international conferences that have been held to date on the subject, and urged all ARF members to attend the third conference to be held in Austria in December 2014. As a member of the New Agenda Coalition (NAC), New Zealand supported concrete action towards achieving the goal of the complete elimination of nuclear weapons. The NAC called for the elaboration of a clear, clear binding, multilateral commitment to achieve nuclear disarmament, which would include a range of measures including a prohibition against the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons, among others. The NAC had put forward a number of options for the framing of these measures, which

New Zealand believed that States needed to discuss now. New Zealand reinforced the importance of States making concrete progress now towards the shared objective of a world without nuclear weapons, particularly if the NPT Review Conference in 2015 is to succeed. New Zealand's intervention appears as **ANNEX 8**.

11. Thailand noted that Southeast Asia was actively contributing to the goal of eliminating nuclear weapons such as through the SEANWFZ Treaty or the Bangkok Treaty. However, despite the positive signs, Thailand pointed out that there remained a need to collectively move towards this goal, firstly through the continuing engagement of the nuclear-weapon States to actively contribute toward the elimination of their nuclear weapon stockpiles. Thailand also mentioned ensuring the continued effectiveness of the NPT regime through the protection of its integrity by States; the need for both nuclear-weapon States and non-nuclear-weapon States to work together in various multilateral fora; the need for the international community to give greater emphasis on nuclear issues from the perspective of the humanitarian consequences of nuclear weapon detonation; the examination of practical methods to develop clear, legally-binding commitments to achieve nuclear disarmament; and the importance of nuclear-weapon-free zones as important building blocks to continue the effort to creating a world free of nuclear weapons. In particular, Thailand highlighted the Southeast Asia Nuclear Weapon-Free Zone Treaty, or the Bangkok Treaty, and expressed hope that it would be endorsed by nuclear-weapon States through the Treaty's Protocol. In conclusion of its statement, Thailand stated that growing regional and global connectivity would require the international community to work together to also protect the world from those wishing to engage in illicit trafficking in weapons of mass destruction-related materials and technologies. Thailand's intervention appears as **ANNEX 9**.

12. Mongolia began by stating that it subscribed fully to the idea and goal of a world without nuclear weapons, which was reflected by the fact that President of Mongolia, Ts. Elbegdorj had underlined Mongolia's policy in favor a nuclear weapons free world and other non-proliferation and disarmament issues when addressing the United Nations General Assembly High-Level Meeting in September 2013. Continuing on, Mongolia reminded participants that it had declared itself a single-state nuclear-weapon-free zone 22 years ago, and that the ARF had continued to be supportive of Mongolia and its efforts. Moving on, Mongolia stated that multilateralism was becoming an increasingly important part of the world, and that ARF was a reflection of, and response to that interdependence. Mongolia called for the possible development of an international regime based on

Mongolia's legislation regarding its nuclear-weapon-free status and the United Nations General Assembly resolutions on the nuclear-weapon-free zones that could be fit into East Asian security architecture. In conclusion, Mongolia proposed to organise a brainstorming meeting at the next ISM on NPD meeting or host a meeting in Mongolia. Mongolia's intervention appears as ANNEX 10.

13. India gave an overview of its unwavering commitment to global and non-discriminatory nuclear disarmament, as reflected in its various constructive efforts and initiatives in the past as well as at present. India is convinced that the goal of nuclear disarmament can be achieved by a step-by-step process underwritten by a universal commitment and an agreed multilateral framework that is global and non-discriminatory. India is also clear that in terms of existing global structure and frameworks, the states should fully and effectively implement the obligations arising from the agreements or treaties to which they are parties. India also believes that nuclear disarmament concerns everyone and global measures must remain the focus of our efforts while we consider voluntary confidence-building measures (CBMs) in the regional context. In conclusion, India reiterated its readiness to contribute constructively and positively to this ISM as well as to the ARF process in general.

14. Singapore stated that while complete nuclear disarmament remained a long term aspiration, it was an achievable goal as long as there was political will, and states should take practical steps towards this goal. Nuclear-weapon States should first recognize that relying on nuclear deterrence would not serve their long-term national security interests. They need to do more to reassure non-nuclear-weapon States of their commitment to their obligations under the NPT. In this respect, the United States and Russia had a special responsibility to lead by example. At the same time, the other nuclear-weapon States should also reduce their nuclear stockpiles or commit themselves not to expand or modernize them. Nuclear-weapon-free zones were concrete building blocks toward a world without nuclear weapons. The continued viability of these zones depends on the nuclear-weapon States fulfilling their obligations to achieve the objectives of the NPT and the Treaties establishing nuclear-weapon-free zones without reservations or unilateral interpretative declarations. Singapore highlighted the importance of the ongoing discourse on the humanitarian impact of nuclear weapons on human health, environment, economy and other areas. Singapore concluded its statement by stating that Singapore remained firmly committed to all efforts related to global disarmament, non-proliferation, and the rights of countries to the peaceful uses of nuclear science and

technology, including energy, in a safe, secure and safeguarded manner.

15. Indonesia emphasised that the NPT continued to be the cornerstone of nuclear non-proliferation and disarmament, and that Indonesia considered the results from the 2010 Review Conference to be an important step towards the goals of the Treaty. Indonesia also mentioned that the UN resolution A/RES/68/32 on the Follow-up to the 2013 high-level meeting of the General Assembly on nuclear disarmament, calling for the early and comprehensive disarmament of nuclear weapons should be maintained to ensure concrete progress toward a nuclear weapons free world. In conclusion of its statement, Indonesia emphasised that the peaceful uses of nuclear energy was important for those countries that were capable of handling the responsibility.

16. Japan stated that it was prepared to promote realistic and practical measures to achieve the goal of a world free of nuclear weapons, and stressed the importance of a successful NPT Review Conference in 2015. Japan also expressed that it remained committed to enhancing its efforts together with other Non-Proliferation and Disarmament Initiative (NPDI) members and countries concerned. Japan attached the importance to convening an international conference on the establishment of a Middle East zone free of nuclear weapons and all other weapons of mass destruction as early as possible in order to have successful Review Conference. Japan remarked that the humanitarian consequences of nuclear weapons is also an important issue and its recognition should be catalyst to unite the international community and the driving force for taking realistic steps toward a nuclear weapons free world. Japan also pointed out that it would be important to spread its recognition beyond generations and borders, as well as deepen its scientific knowledge. In conclusion, Japan stated its belief that an inclusive international conference on humanitarian consequences of nuclear weapons in Vienna in December 2014 would be an important step towards accomplishing these goals.

17. Malaysia stressed on the central role of the NPT and the importance of implementing the three pillars in a balanced manner Malaysia noted that due, to the lack of progress in the implementation of some pillars of the NPT, other initiatives outside the NPT have flourished, such as the Nuclear Security Summit on Non-Proliferation issues and the Humanitarian Consequences Initiative on disarmament issues. Malaysia stated that without a successful 2015 NPT Review Conference, the relevance of the NPT would be further questioned. Malaysia called for dialogue within the ARF to look into reaffirming and strengthening the three pillars of the NPT. Malaysia suggested that ARF

ISM on NPD could look into issues of concerns to the NPT and ways to bridge the diverging position, as well as the issue of universality of the NPT. In conclusion, Malaysia noted that there was still substantial work to be done and that 2015 would likely prove to be a pivotal year for the NPT regime.

18. China stated that it was and would continue to promote the three pillars of the NPT in a comprehensive and balanced matter. China expressed its belief that while all States shared a common understanding, belief, and longing for a nuclear weapons free world, non-nuclear-weapon States and nuclear-weapon States, which need to follow different policies and perform different roles, should follow the guiding principle of universal security and the fundamental means of a step-by-step approach. China said that nuclear-weapon States should make commitments including abandoning the nuclear deterrence policy based on first use of nuclear weapons, not targeting nuclear weapons against any country, and not using or threatening to use nuclear weapons against non-nuclear-weapon States, etc. Continuing on, China exclaimed that China is a strong advocate of the thorough destruction of nuclear weapons, and would promote actions to this degree. China then added that it had hosted the Beijing P5 Conference this April and provided some brief details regarding this event and its outcomes. Then, in conclusion, China expressed the fundamental belief held by it of the importance of regional security, and its wish to see steady progress between ARF members and other nuclear-weapon States in achieving the final goal of total and complete disarmament.

Agenda 2. “Regional TCBMs in the Field of Nuclear Disarmament”

19. Japan began the presentation by emphasizing the significance of the ARF as a mechanism to build regional confidence and improve the security environment in the Asia Pacific region. Japan explained that in the field of nuclear disarmament, the framework of confidence building could contribute to reducing the risks that nuclear weapons would cause, and then brought up the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe (OSCE) as one preceding example. Japan proposed several examples of potential measures the ISM on NPD could contribute toward the improvement of security environment in the Asia Pacific region. First, Japan emphasised the importance of dialogue. Japan then suggested the possibility of holding a closed door session or Chatham House Rule session, which would help promote more frank and flexible discussion on nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation. Another example of potential measures to be taken was the holding of a session at the ISM on NPD where ARF

participants would share efforts on nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation as ‘Suggested Lead Discussants’. As a final example before concluding its statement, Japan proposed having more frequent meetings to increase opportunities for dialogue and sharing of information. Japan’s speech appears as **ANNEX 11**.

20. Thailand spoke on the topic of the Treaty of the SEANWFZ, or the Bangkok Treaty, which it stated would continue to be the most important regional legal instrument to promote nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation. Thailand explained that the importance of the Bangkok Treaty was reflected in the fact that it was a legal instrument that formed the basis of the ASEAN-driven regional security architecture underpinning peace and security in Southeast Asia, and played a crucial role in ensuring regional nuclear transparency. Thailand concluded by noting that given the document’s importance, the signing of the protocol to the Treaty by nuclear-weapon States remains a top priority for ASEAN. Moving on, Thailand introduced the ASEAN Network of Regulatory Bodies on Atomic Energy (ASEANTOM), as an initiative by ASEAN to further promote confidence and trust at the regional level on nuclear issues. Thailand explained that given that increasing numbers of Southeast Asian countries were exploring the introduction of nuclear energy, ASEANTOM aimed to promote regional cooperation in nuclear safety, security, and safeguards through increased cooperation in exchanging best practices and capacity building, thereby supporting the implementation of safeguards aspects of Non-Proliferation and Disarmament, the SEANWFZ Treaty, and the IAEA safeguards system. In conclusion of its statement, Thailand expressed the hope that the ARF ISM on NPD, through its activities, would continue to encourage important capacity-building and other efforts to reinforce nuclear disarmament TCBMs in the region. Thailand’s speech appears as **ANNEX 12**.

21. The United States made a brief comment expressing its stance in encouraging and wanting to see increased efforts toward dialogue and activities in the area of non-proliferation and disarmament. The United States concluded the statement by adding that it also encouraged the engagement of participants in workshops related to non-proliferation and disarmament.

22. Malaysia stated that TCBMs were important in building trust and relationships among countries. TCBMs help de-escalate or lower levels of tensions. However, despite having TCBMs, there are no guarantees that tensions would remain under control. Malaysia highlighted that the basis and key ingredient of TCBMs is trust the country

would support increased dialogue, discussions, and regional TCBMs in order to build trust. While acknowledging the importance of TCBMs and its ability to generate credibility, Malaysia acknowledged that there was more to be done in further developing TCBMs. Malaysia proposed that the Forum look into ways and means to further develop such trust to strengthen TCBMs, and in this regard supported the proposal made by Japan for increased informal dialogues. Malaysia also took note of the US suggestion, but highlighted that there should be a mechanism whereby the outcomes of the workshops related to Non-Proliferation and Disarmament would be reported or channeled back to the ARF ISM for further discussion, review or analyses.

23. China reflected its role as Co-Chair of the first round of the ISM on NPD, and expressed its strong belief that although regional TCBMs were valuable channels and platforms for dialogue, the ISM on NPD should be more prudent to change rules or functions of the meeting. China concluded that it would be better using other frameworks such as symposiums to discuss such issues.

24. Recalling the Ha Noi Plan of Action to implement the ARF Vision Statement, Viet Nam viewed that more efforts should be made in the field of non-proliferation and disarmament. Given increasing challenges in the region, effective implementation of international treaties and regional mechanisms on NPD is very important. Viet Nam shared the view that the three pillars of NPT should be implemented in a more balanced and comprehensive way, with legitimate interests of all states taken into account, including the right to peaceful use of nuclear energy. Particularly, nuclear-weapon States must take further steps in nuclear disarmament and negotiation of internationally binding arrangements on assuring security for non-nuclear-weapon States. Viet Nam highlighted the important role of the ARF in facilitating dialogue and information exchange on NPD, and joined other ASEAN members to call for nuclear-weapon States' signing of the Protocol to the SEANFWZ Treaty. Finally, Viet Nam mentioned its recent efforts to strengthen various internal frameworks relating to nuclear safety and security as well as enhance international cooperation, i.e. as the Chair of the IAEA Board of Governors (2013-2014).

Agenda 3. Report of the Council for Security Cooperation in the Asia Pacific (CSCAP) WMD Study Group

25. Dr. Ralph Cossa, President of the Pacific Forum Center for Strategic and

International Studies (CSIS), briefed the Meeting on discussions held during the 18th Meeting of CSCAP WMD Study Group which was convened back-to-back with the 6th ISM on NPD. Dr. Cossa explained that while the outlook for the upcoming 2015 NPT Review Conference was negative given tensions between the West and Russia over the Ukraine crisis and the continued frustration by non-nuclear-weapon States regarding the lack of progress toward nuclear disarmament, there had been positive developments such as the substantial achievements made in the interim NPT review process, the universalisation of the Additional Protocol (AP), strategic trade controls, nuclear safety and security cooperation, and increased endorsement of the Proliferation Security Initiative (PSI) principles and objectives. Moving on, Dr. Cossa noted that leadership was a key issue, and encouraged the selection of a strong leader for the Review Conference Chair position. Regarding the denuclearization of the Korean Peninsula, Dr. Cossa stressed that the DPRK's return to the NPT as a non-nuclear weapon State should remain as a primary objective of the Six-Party Talks. On a similar topic, he noted that the threat of nuclear terrorism and the need for enhanced nuclear security remained, and encouraged the development of a comprehensive systematic approach to nuclear governance as an absolute necessity. On the topic of education, Dr. Cossa stated that the ARF should continue to promote United Nations Security Council Resolution (UNSCR) 1540 information-sharing, the identification of best practices, the promotion of National Action Plans, and the designation of points of contact. He then expressed the need for greater effort at the national and regional levels to implement the Resolution. Next, Dr. Cossa encouraged greater awareness of the efforts of individual ARF participants in complying with various international NPD protocols. Finally, in conclusion of his presentation, Dr. Cossa called attention to CSCAP Memorandum No 19, "Reduction and Elimination of Nuclear Weapons," which laid out a set of principles to guide the process of moving toward a nuclear weapons free world. He explained that the memorandum provided a series of recommendations for consideration by the ARF ISM on NPD, and encouraged interested parties to learn more via the CSCAP website. Several ARF participants praised CSCAP's contributions to the ARF and urged continued close cooperation between the ARF and CSCAP. The key findings of the 18th Meeting of the CSCAP WMD Study Group appear as ANNEX 13.

Agenda 4. Promotion of the CTBT in the Region and Its Early Entry into Force

26. Ms. Takemi Chiku, Preparatory Commission for the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty Organization (CTBTO) noted that the CTBT, an international treaty

banning all nuclear test explosions by anyone anywhere, had been ratified by all but two ASEAN Member States. More efforts should be made to promote the universalisation of the Treaty and its early entry into force. It would be also essential to promote closer cooperation between the CTBTO and Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zones, including the Bangkok Treaty, given their complimentary objectives. The International Monitoring System was practically fully functioning, yielding also civil and scientific benefits for the region. She thanked those countries and the organisation that had made contributions to maintain the system. To promote the universalisation of the Treaty and its early entry-into-force, biennial high-level conferences were being held per Article XIV of the Treaty, as well as CTBT Friends Ministerial Meetings, initiated by some States Signatories. Some other initiatives include the activities by the Group of Eminent Persons and the convening of regional conferences, such as SEAPFE Conference in May 2014. Efforts were also being made to build capacity for the operation and sustainment of the verification system, by providing technical training among other things. She noted that it was the responsibility of each and all States, especially the remaining eight Annex 2 States, to achieve an early entry into force of the Treaty. Ms. Chiku's presentation appears as **ANNEX 14**.

27. Mr. Jacek Bylica, Principal Adviser and Special Envoy for Non-proliferation and Disarmament, European External Action Service, European Union, in his remarks, declared that EU support for the CTBT is an important element of EU policy of effective multilateralism in the field of non-proliferation and disarmament. Mr. Bylica reminded participants that all 28 EU Member States had signed and ratified the Treaty. Mr. Bylica explained that the EU would remain ready to provide further assistance regarding the implementation of the Action Plan put forward by the Article XIV Coordinators to those States and regions that had yet to ratify the Treaty. Continuing on, Mr. Bylica noted that the EU would continue to keep the topic of CTBT high on the agenda of their dialogue with Annex 2 States that still need to ratify the Treaty, and expressed its delight when China indicated their willingness to share data with the CTBTO International Data Centre. Mr. Bylica explained that in addition to the Annex 2 States, the EU would continue to approach other countries and regions that had yet to sign or ratify the Treaty, noting that the 2015 CTBT Article XIV Conference was targeting 170 ratifications. Mr. Bylica explained that the EU was continuing to strengthen countries' national capacities in order to help them implement provisions of the Treaty, and had since 2006 contributed more than EUR 15.5 million to strengthen the CTBT verification regime. Next, after briefly reminding participants of the importance of CTBT following the nuclear test carried out

by North Korea in February 2013, Mr. Bylica concluded his remarks. His remarks appear as ANNEX 15.

28. The Philippines began its presentation by reviewing the CTBT and its current status, explaining that 183 countries had signed the Treaty, of which 162 have ratified it and 13 were non-signatory states. The Philippines noted that 24 out of 27 ARF participants had signed the Treaty, of which 18 have ratified the Treaty reflecting the active commitment of ARF participants in the universalisation and entry into force of the Treaty. The ARF members are also hosting a sizable number of stations that comprise the International Monitoring System of the CTBTO. Moving on, the Philippines explained that there are many civil and scientific applications of the IDC data including for natural disaster warning, research on the earth's core, climate change, meteorology, baseline radiation, and radiation dispersal during nuclear accidents. However, the Philippines noted that overall the data had not been utilised to the fullest yet. The Philippines explained that the CTBTO had organised three or more science and technology conferences that gave scientists the opportunity to exchange information on the utilisation of CTBT data. The Philippines shared the important role of the CTBTO Radionuclide Monitoring Station, RN52, in Tanay, Philippines, which conducted daily monitoring of radionuclide activity in air particulate following the Fukushima Daiichi nuclear power plant accident. Regarding activities to promote the CTBT in the region, the Philippines cited the conduct of the CTBT Regional Conference for States in Southeast Asia, the Pacific and the Far East (SEAPFE) in Jakarta, Indonesia in May 2014. The Philippines explained that the objective of the conference was to provide a forum to exchange views on how to advance the goal of universalization and the early entry into force of the CTBT. The Philippines' presentation appears as ANNEX 16.

29. The Republic of Korea (ROK) stated that one of serious security challenges in the Asia-Pacific region is the DPRK's persistent pursuit of its nuclear programs; and stressed that the DPRK's nuclear test explosions have not only posed serious threats to the regional peace and security, but also undermined the very foundation of the nuclear non-proliferation regime. In this regard, the ROK emphasised that all ARF Participants must continue to urge, in unison, the DPRK not to conduct any further nuclear tests and to fully comply with its obligations under relevant UN Security Council resolutions and the 19 September Joint Statement, including the abandonment of all its nuclear weapons and existing nuclear programmes in a complete, verifiable, and irreversible manner. Furthermore, the ROK underscored that since the CTBT verification regime proves its

effectiveness, inter alia, by promptly detecting the DPRK's third nuclear test on 12 February 2013, all ARF participants must commit themselves to the early entry into force and universalisation of the CTBT. The ROK's intervention appears as ANNEX 17.

30. Indonesia stated that it had never wavered in its support of CTBT, and would continue to take an active role in ensuring that all countries would ratify and accept the Treaty. Indonesia and Hungary is currently the Co-President of the Article Conference of CTBT and in this regard, Indonesia stressed that it would need to continue to cooperate with other member States to continue its engagement in enforcing the universalisation and the entry into force of the CTBT, promoting the utilisation of nuclear-weapon-free zones, and cooperating with relevant stakeholders.

31. Japan explained that it had been continuing to make efforts in the universalisation and early entry into force of CTBT. As an example, Japan underscored that its Global Seismological Observation Training Course for human resources development required for IMS has continued for about 20 years. Japan also mentioned an active participation of Parliamentary Senior Vice-Minister for Foreign Affairs of Japan, Mr. Nobuo Kishi to attend a high level meeting of the CTBT regional conference held in May in Indonesia. Finally, Japan requested those states which have not signed or ratified CTBT to do so without delay. Japan also encouraged ARF participants to take part in CTBT ministerial meeting in New York in September.

32. The United States noted that they would hope to see promotion of the CTBT develop further in ARF, adding that ratification of the CTBT remained a high priority for the United States as they continued to engage the Senate and public in preparation for eventual ratification.

33. The Lao PDR reiterated its full support for and its active engagement in the international efforts towards a world free from nuclear weapons as reflected by the Lao PDR being a member of Southeast Asian Nuclear Weapon-Free Zone (SEANWFZ) and a party to the Non-Proliferation Treaty and the CTBT, among others. The Lao PDR added that the CTBT was an important initiative and that its adoption by all nations was essential. The Lao PDR also viewed that a creation of nuclear-weapon-free zones is another important aspect that strengthens the international efforts in nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation. Commending the ongoing efforts by ASEAN and the nuclear-weapon States, the Lao PDR expressed the hope for early signing of the Protocol to the

SEANWFZ Treaty by the nuclear-weapon States.

Agenda 5. Security Issues Related to Disarmament in the Asia Pacific Region

34. China, particularly following the incident in the Syrian Crisis, made a statement outlining the importance of chemical disarmament. China emphasised the importance of the universality of the Chemical Weapons Convention (CWC). China also noted its cooperation with Japan regarding the abandoned chemical weapons in China to tackle current challenges and expressed its determination to further cooperative efforts under the CWC. China also touched upon the issue of the prevention of arms race in outer space (PAROS) and explained new elements of a revised version of its draft treaty on prevention of placement of weapons in outer space (PPWT), which was submitted to the Conference on Disarmament (CD) in June 2014. China committed to boosting cooperation with regional states on the capacity-building of CWC implementation, the humanitarian demining cooperation, the peaceful uses of outer space and combating the illicit trade in small arms and light weapons. China also explained its ongoing internal review process of signing the Arms Trade Treaty (ATT) and welcomed successful Review Conference of the Anti-Personnel Landmine Ban Convention (Ottawa Convention) in Mozambique.

35. Myanmar stated that the subject of non-proliferation and disarmament was an important topic, with information sharing an important aspect of achieving the stated objectives. Myanmar reiterated its cooperation for security in Asia, and expressed its hope that the forum would remain an important venue for all disarmament related issues.

36. Japan reiterated its continued cooperation with China on the abandoned chemical weapons as a symbolic cooperation between China and Japan. Japan also noted that not many countries within the ARF had signed the ATT, and encouraged those States which had not yet done so to sign and ratify it as soon as possible.

Agenda 6. Updates on the Implementation of ARF NPD Work Plan Co-Chairs Report

37. Mongolia proposed a brainstorming meeting at the regional level promoting Mongolia's status, providing necessary provisions to understand the issue, to exchange views on how to promote the issue at the regional level at some stage of the ARF process. Mongolia was asked whether it would envision the proposal to be considered at one of

the future regular meetings of ISM on NPD or would envision a separate meeting. Mongolia replied that it was open minded though it would prefer to have a separate awareness-raising and brainstorming meeting.

38. The Meeting noted the similarities between New Zealand's proposed ARF workshop on radiological terrorism and the GICNT Tiger Reef exercise that had been held in January 2014. Whilst recognizing the need for the ARF to avoid duplicating past initiatives, the Meeting agreed that, given the importance of the issue of radiological/nuclear terrorism, the project should be retained in the Work Plan for possible implementation at some point in the future.

39. The Meeting also noted the queries on the procedure for approval of activities under the ARF ISM on NPD. The ASEAN Secretariat informed the meeting that under the ARF framework the procedure begins with submission of concept papers to the Inter-Sessional Group (ISG), to be followed with submission to the Senior Officials' Meeting (SOM) for endorsement, and subsequently to the Ministers for approval. The Meeting also discussed the issue of flexibility in conducting follow-up activities for topics/issues that have been approved by the Ministers in the past. Some ARF participants viewed that some flexibility would enable them to pursue activities of interests while remaining cognisant that the ARF has to move in a pace comfortable to all. It was suggested that the discussion on flexibility in the approval process of ARF activities could be brought to the attention of the ISG. The Meeting also noted that the current procedure has allowed the ARF participants to better prepare for upcoming activities in view of national budgeting process.

40. The suggestion was made for the ARF to consider allowing projects that are already captured in the Work Plan and for which past work has already been approved to continue, without a requirement to seek reapproval for ministers. The recommendation was made to continue the discussion at future ISG meetings.

41. The ARF NPD Work Plan, updated with events and project proposals based on the views and information shared during the Meeting, appears as **ANNEX 18**.

Agenda 7. AOB

42. The Meeting welcomed Malaysia, Canada and New Zealand as the new Co-

Chairs of the ISM on NPD for the period of 2014-2017. The Meeting took note that Canada, Malaysia and New Zealand would be hosting the 7th ARF ISM on NPD (non-proliferation), the 8th ARF ISM on NPD (peaceful uses of nuclear energy), and the 9th ARF ISM on NPD (disarmament), respectively. Regarding the 7th ARF ISM on NPD, Canada stated that it was hoping to schedule the meeting in the region before the 2015 NPT Review Conference with the view to positioning the discussions to inform the Review Conference itself.

43. In terms of non-proliferation priorities, Canada explained that in the first order the ARF ISM could continue to consider topics related to counter-proliferation of WMD in the region in the context of UNSCR 1540 and the PSI. It added that the second priority would be preparation for 2015 NPT Review Conference, as well as a fissile material cut-off treaty, and strengthening regional responses to cases of non-compliance with NPT obligations. Finally, the ISM could explore increased engagement in nuclear, biological, and chemical security in the region through already existing initiatives such as the Nuclear Security Summit and Global Partnership.

Closing Session – Closing Remarks

44. In his closing remarks, Mr. Hirose noted that it had been an honour to host the 6th ARF ISM on NPD and expressed his appreciation to fellow Co-Chairs Australia and the Philippines. He pointed out that the discussions had affirmed the importance of the issues of nuclear non-proliferation and disarmament, and expressed his confidence that Malaysia, Canada, and New Zealand would take over the co-chairmanship of the ISM on NPD in a favorable and productive manner.

45. The Meeting thanked Japan, Australia and the Philippines for their effective co-chairmanship. The Meeting also expressed gratitude to the Government of Japan for the hospitality and arrangements in hosting the 6th ARF ISM on NPD.