

**CO-CHAIRS' SUMMARY REPORT**  
**ASEAN REGIONAL FORUM INTER-SESSIONAL SUPPORT GROUP ON**  
**CONFIDENCE BUILDING MEASURES AND PREVENTIVE DIPLOMACY**  
**YANGON, MYANMAR, 9-10 DECEMBER 2013**

## **Introduction**

1. Pursuant to the decision of the 20<sup>th</sup> Ministerial Meeting of the ASEAN Regional Forum (ARF), held in Bandar Seri Begawan on 2 July 2013, the meeting of the Inter-sessional Support Group on Confidence Building Measures and Preventive Diplomacy (ISG on CBMs and PD) was held in Yangon, Myanmar, on 10 December 2013. The Meeting was co-chaired by Myanmar and the European Union (EU).
2. Representatives from all ARF participants except Mongolia, Papua New Guinea and Sri Lanka attended the Meeting. The representatives of the ASEAN Secretariat were also present. The List of Delegates is attached as **ANNEX 1**.
3. In his Welcome Remarks, H. E. Aung Lynn, Director-General, Department of ASEAN Affairs of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Myanmar, welcomed all ARF participants. He recalled that the meeting was the first ARF ISG on CBMs and PD that Myanmar co-chaired with EU after its co-chairing of the ARF ISG on CBM and PD in 2004 in Yangon. He highlighted that Myanmar has been implementing reforms internally and in its foreign relations. Myanmar practices an independent and active foreign policy. He emphasized that peace and security in the region depends highly on trust and confidence among countries in the region and beyond. The key players in this respect are ASEAN and its dialogue partners. He recalled that the ARF was established to promote peace, stability and prosperity in the Asia Pacific. The ARF has emerged and developed to be a primary forum for dialogue and cooperation in political and security matters in the Asia Pacific region. He emphasized the importance of discussing sensitive security matters including the South China Sea issues. While the ARF has been moving forward in line with its objectives, it still needs to deepen cooperation in the non-traditional security issues and other existing areas of cooperation. He recalled the Ministers' mandate to the ARF to advance preventive diplomacy and implement the Hanoi Plan of Action, the ARF Vision Statement and other Work Plans. In this regards, he encouraged the ARF participants to explore all possible ways to move forward in accordance with the principles outlined in the ARF Work Plan on Preventive Diplomacy. He expressed his appreciation to the Track II and the defence officials for their contributions to the ARF process. He emphasised the Ministers' guidance to synergise efforts between the ARF and the ADMM-Plus. He also drew the attention of the ARF participants on the recommendations of the ARF Security Policy Conference (ASPC) and the Experts and Eminent Persons (EEPs). He concluded by expressing his gratitude to Brunei Darussalam for the leadership in ASEAN in 2013. He also expressed deep sympathy for the loss of lives and damages of property caused by the typhoon Haiyan in the Philippines and Viet Nam. His opening remarks appear as **ANNEX 2**.

4. Mr Ugo Astuto, Director of South and Southeast Asia of the European External Action Service (EEAS) of the EU, in his Welcome Remarks thanked Myanmar for the opportunity to co-chair the ARF ISG on CBMs and PD. He expressed condolence for the victims of Typhoon Haiyan in the Philippines. He underlined that the EU's co-chairmanship of the ARF ISG on CBMs and PD and the ARF DOD demonstrates the commitment of the EU to strengthen peace and security in the region as well as to support the work of the ARF and its future development including by complementing confidence building measures with greater efforts on preventive diplomacy and by fostering more practical and more concrete cooperation, as Ministers had instructed. He also stressed that the EU not only values regional cooperation but is also willing to share its experiences in regional integration. He highlighted the EU's comprehensive approach to conflict prevention and crisis management. He noted that the EU has been an active player in the ARF since its inception and is ready to do more. He introduced the Provisional Agenda of the ARF and encouraged interaction on the CBMs and PD, the ARF Work Plans and the other topical regional security issues. His welcome remarks appear as **ANNEX 3**.

#### **Agenda Item 1: Adoption of Agenda**

5. The Meeting considered and adopted the Agenda which appears as **ANNEX 4**.

#### **Agenda Item 2: Business Arrangements**

6. The Meeting noted the administrative arrangements made by Myanmar, details of which appear as **ANNEX5**.

#### **Agenda Item 3: Briefing by Track II**

7. Mr. Ralph Cossa, the President of the Pacific Forum Centre for Strategic and International Studies (CSIS) on behalf of the Council for Security Cooperation in the Asia Pacific (CSCAP) reported to the Meeting the outcomes of the CSCAP Study Group on Preventive Diplomacy, held in Yangon on 7-8 December 2013, co-chaired by Myanmar Institute for Strategic and International Studies (MISIS) and CSCAP-Vietnam, and the CSCAP United States. The Workshop applauded various episodes of Preventive Diplomacy in the region and encouraged greater involvement of the ARF in the various preventive diplomacy initiatives in the region, such as the Cambodia-Thailand management and the Six-Party Talks. The Workshop encouraged the ARF to step forward to implement preventive diplomacy. In this regard, the ARF might wish to consider identifying areas of common concerns and potential areas of conflict that lend themselves to greater preventive diplomacy efforts. The Workshop also encouraged ASEAN to move towards preventive diplomacy and move forward with an initiative for establishing an ASEAN risk reduction centre that could later be extended to the ARF. The Workshop also identified the need for trainings to develop preventive diplomacy, noting the ARF Roundtable Training Resources

for Preventive Diplomacy that will be held in Wellington in 2014 and encouraged ARF members to facilitate PD training efforts. The Workshop urged the ARF to make available to the public the Joint Study on Best Practices and Lessons Learned in Preventive Diplomacy and to conduct a follow-on study on risk reduction. The briefing appears as **ANNEX 6**.

8. The Meeting commented on the recommendation to establish an ARF risk reduction centre. Some participants expressed interest in further studying this recommendation in the future. With the support and consent of all ARF participants, the procedure for requesting CSCAP to proceed with this undertaking would be further discussed.

9. The Meeting expressed support for CSCAP's recommendation on trainings on various fields taking into consideration the fact that capacity-building is key in the future implementation of preventive diplomacy in the ARF.

10. The Meeting welcomed the establishment of the CSCAP EU and the potential works that CSCAP could undertake together with the CSCAP EU in the future including in relation to the future ARF ISG and DOD to be held in Brussels in April 2014.

#### **Agenda Item 4: Briefing on the Outcomes of the ARF Defence Officials' Dialogue**

11. Col. Aung Myint Oo, Senior Instructor of National Defence College of the Ministry of Defence of Myanmar, on behalf of the Co-Chairs of ARF Defence Officials' Dialogue (ARF DOD), briefed the Meeting on the outcomes of the ARF DOD, which was convened in Yangon on 9 December 2013. The Dialogue was co-chaired by Major General Tin Maung Win, Deputy Chief of the Armed Forces Training, Office of the Chief of Armed Forces Training, the Republic of the Union of Myanmar and Brigadier General Walter Huhn, Senior Military Advisor, Crisis Management and Planning Directorate, European External Action Service of the EU and attended by 64 participants from all ARF participants, except for Bangladesh, Papua New Guinea, Philippines and Sri Lanka. The briefing highlighted that the DOD focused on the issues of defence diplomacy and comprehensive approach to conflict prevention and crisis management. The Co-Chairs' Summary Report of the ARF DOD appears as **ANNEX7**.

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

12. At the outset, the Meeting expressed condolences to the families of victims of Typhoon Haiyan in the Philippines and Viet Nam for the loss of lives and the damage caused by the typhoon. The Meeting looked forward to the early recovery and return to their normalcy. The Meeting noted the visits of the President of Myanmar, H. E. Thein Sein and the Secretary-General of ASEAN, H.E. Le Luong Minh to the disaster affected areas.

13. The Meeting addressed the evolving regional security architecture. The Meeting was of the view that the architecture should be based on consensus and ASEAN centrality. The Meeting recognised that the ARF remains the key avenue for dialogues and practical cooperation, while at the same time suggested that substantive discussion should be maintained in the ARF. In light of the emergence of new regional mechanisms such as the ADMM-Plus and EAS, the ARF is now at a critical juncture of addressing new security situation and challenges. In the past twenty years, the ARF has been playing an important role in promoting confidence-building among the participants. The Meeting expressed commitment to support the ongoing efforts for the advancement of preventive diplomacy. The Meeting welcomed the convening of the ARF Roundtable on Training Resources on Preventive Diplomacy in Wellington in 2014 and in this context, it welcomed the offer by the European Union to similarly develop training courses and workshops on peace building.

14. The Meeting exchanged views on the situation in the South China Sea. and expressed support for the peaceful resolution of disputes in the South China Sea in accordance with international law, including UNCLOS. The meeting noted the ongoing consultations between ASEAN and China on the implementation of the Declaration of Conduct of Parties in the South China Sea (DOC) and welcomed the outcome of the consultations in Suzhou, China on 14-15 September 2013, where ASEAN and China began official consultations on Code of Conduct (COC) in the South China Sea. Views were expressed that these consultations were a step in the right direction. The Meeting encouraged ASEAN and China to continue the positive momentum created in implementation of the DOC and in working for the COC.

15. Several participants expressed their views on the announcement on the East China Sea Air Defence Identification Zones (ADIZ). The meeting emphasized the importance of the international community honouring freedom of navigation and flight in the international airspace over the high seas and other related high seas uses under international law, and of avoiding abrupt actions that could increase regional tensions and the risk of unintended consequences. Several participants also expressed support for development of communication among relevant countries in order to build confidence and reduce the scope for misunderstandings.

16. The Meeting exchanged views on the developments in the Korean Peninsula. The Meeting welcomed the efforts by the Republic of Korea and the Democratic People's Republic of Korea (DPRK) in resuming the cooperation in Gaeseong Industrial Complex. The meeting reaffirmed the importance of the verifiable denuclearization of the Korean Peninsula in a peaceful manner and in this aspect, called on all parties involved to abide by their obligations under the United Nations Security Council Resolutions and their commitments under the 2005 Joint Statement of the Six-Party Talks. The meeting reiterated call for creating a positive environment for the resumption of the Six-Party Talks.

17. The Meeting touched upon the recent developments in the Middle East. Some participants expressed concerns on the situation in Syria and called the Government of Syria to expedite the process of cease fire and settlement of the crisis and welcome the Geneva II Conference scheduled on 22<sup>nd</sup> January 2014 for that purpose. The Meeting expressed supports for the continued dialogue between Palestine and Israel. The meeting highlighted the importance for emergence of a stable post-2014 Afghanistan and expressed supports for an Afghan-led and Afghan-owned process of political reconciliation and reconstruction and welcomed the 4<sup>th</sup> Ministerial Conference of the Istanbul process on Afghanistan in China in 2014.

18. The Meeting discussed the issue of non-proliferation of nuclear weapons. The Meeting encouraged the implementation of the Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT) Action Plan and expressed support to the convening of the NPT Review Conference in 2015. The meeting welcomed the interim agreement achieved in Geneva in November and expressed the hope that the dialogue between E3 + 3 and Iran would continue efforts to reach a comprehensive agreement as soon as possible.

19. The Meeting exchanged views on non-traditional security issues, including natural disasters, terrorism, trafficking of illicit drugs, people smuggling and piracy. Taking into account the significance of these issues, the Meeting viewed that the ARF should concentrate future cooperation and exchange of views on practical and concrete activities. The meeting noted some views that ISG should focus more on discussing practical cooperation whereas they see values in exchanges of regional and international issues at the level of Senior Officials and Ministerial Meetings. The Meeting also noted the suggestion that the next Co-Chairs of the ARF Inter-Sessional Meeting on Disaster Relief (ISM on DR) to look at the issue of post-natural disaster recovery. In view of strengthening cooperation on counter-terrorism and transnational crime, the ARF Work Plan on Counter-Terrorism on Transnational Crime (CTTC) will be reviewed at the 12<sup>th</sup> ARF ISM on CTTC, to be co-chaired by Indonesia and New Zealand.

20. Against the backdrop of the occurrence of the Typhoon Haiyan and its severe impacts on the peoples of the Philippines, the Meeting identified the best practices and lessons learned from the disaster. The Meeting viewed that in order to cope with the impacts of the disasters, better coordination and cooperation between countries in the region is essential. References were made to ASEAN's efforts in line with the ASEAN Agreement on Disaster Emergency Response (AADMER) and the role of the ASEAN Centre for Humanitarian Assistance and disaster management (AHA Centre). Some participant suggested that ASEAN's efforts could be extended to the non-ASEAN ARF participants. A clearly defined role of the AHA Centre that would help coordination among the ASEAN Member States and between ASEAN and the Dialogue Partners, strengthening of the AHA Centre in response and relief activity, and improving the reporting mechanism and knowledge management of the AHA Centre were suggested.

21. The Meeting noted the update on ASEAN's efforts to establish the ASEAN Regional Mine Action Centre (ARMAC), which is being established in Cambodia. Supports from the ARF participants for the Centre are invited.

22. The Meeting shared views on the development of a comprehensive approach to security, which includes political, economic, and other aspects of security. The Meeting recognized ongoing efforts on comprehensive conflict prevention and crisis management in the region. Some ARF participants informed the Meeting of the recent developments in the Regional Assistance Mission to Solomon Islands (RAMSI).

23. The Meeting welcomed Myanmar's ASEAN chairmanship in 2014 and expressed full backing to Myanmar in this undertaking. The Meeting also commended the positive developments steps made in the fields of political, economic and social development as well as the process of democratic reforms in Myanmar. The Meeting noted the commitment expressed by Myanmar to deliver the progress in ASEAN's efforts towards community building in close consultation with all Member States.

## **Agenda Item 6: Review and Consideration of CBMs and PD**

### **6.1. Briefing on the outcomes 20<sup>th</sup> ARF**

24. The Meeting noted the briefing by Brunei Darussalam on the outcomes of the 20<sup>th</sup> ARF in Bandar Seri Begawan on 2 July 2013. Among the notable outcomes of the Meeting included the publication of the 20<sup>th</sup> ARF Anniversary publication. On the work of the ARF, the Ministers noted the implementation of the activities for the inter-sessional year 2012-2013 and adopted proposals for twenty four new activities for the inter-sessional year 2013-2014. The Ministers also adopted the paper on Best Practices for Preparedness and Response to a Biological Event and the Concept Paper on Moving Towards Preventive Diplomacy.

### **6.2. Review of CBMs and PD Activities**

#### **6.2.1. Outcomes of the 2<sup>nd</sup> ARF Workshop on Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Forensics, Bangkok, 11-12 September 2013**

25. Thailand and the United States briefed the Meeting on the outcomes of the 2<sup>nd</sup> ARF Workshop on Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Forensics, which was held in Bangkok on 11-12 September 2013. The workshop highlighted the importance of enhancing core and advanced nuclear forensic capabilities in participating countries. The suggestions from the Workshop will be included in the ARF's future work on non-proliferation and nuclear forensic, to include consideration for the 3<sup>rd</sup> ARF Workshop on Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Forensic. The Co-Chairs' Summary Report of the Workshop appears as **ANNEX 8**.

### **6.2.2. Outcomes of the ARF Workshop on Measures to Enhance Cyber Security - Legal and Cultural Aspects, Beijing, 11-12 September 2013 (Malaysia and China to brief)**

26. Malaysia briefed the Meeting on the ARF Workshop on Measures to Enhance Cyber Security – Legal and Cultural Aspects, which was held in Beijing in 11-12 September 2013. The Workshop focused on the cultural dimension in cyber security. Several key points highlighted in the Workshop were as follows: 1) cyber security is trans-boundary in nature and hence should be dealt with in a comprehensive manner; 2) cyber security capacity-building in developing countries should be enhanced; 3) cyber space facilitates the free-flow of information; 4) internet freedom should be safeguarded in line with UN agreed standards. The Meeting noted that Malaysia and Australia would co-chair the Cyber Confidence-Building Measures in March 2014. The Co-Chairs' Summary Report of the Workshop appears as **ANNEX 9**.

### **6.2.3. Outcomes of the 6th ARF Peacekeeping Experts' Meeting, Beijing, 15-17 October 2013 (Cambodia and China to brief)**

27. Cambodia and China briefed the Meeting on the outcomes of the 6<sup>th</sup> ARF Peacekeeping Experts' Meeting, which was held in Beijing on 15-17 October 2013. The meeting has reached consensus on the need for better coordination between military and civilian components as well as between military and police units. Coordination between ARF and the ADMM-Plus was also highlighted. The Co-Chairs' Summary Report of the Meeting appears as **ANNEX 10**.

### **6.2.4. Outcomes of the 17<sup>th</sup> ARF Heads of Defence Universities/Colleges/Institutions Meeting (HDUCIM), Bandar Seri Begawan, 11-14 November 2013 (Brunei and Republic of Korea to brief)**

28. Brunei Darussalam briefed the Meeting on the outcomes of the 17<sup>th</sup> ARF HDUCIM, which was held in Bandar Seri Begawan on 11-14 November 2013, co-chaired by Brunei Darussalam and the Republic of Korea. The theme of the meeting was cooperation in research and academic curricula on the contemporary operating environment (COE). Three topics were highlighted, namely, 1) Academic Research and Curriculum Relating to COE; 2) Physical and Other Training Modules Relevant to the COE, and 3) Other Tools and Collaboration Efforts in Addressing the COE. The Republic of Korea will host the 18<sup>th</sup> ARF HDUCIM. The Chairman's Report of the meeting appears as **ANNEX 11**.

### **6.2.5. Outcomes of the ARF Workshop on Countering Illicit Trafficking of CBRN Materials, Manila, 20-21 November 2013 (*Philippines and Canada to brief*)**

29. Philippines briefed the Meeting on the outcomes of the ARF Workshop on Countering Illicit Trafficking of CBRN Materials, which was held in Manila on 20-21 November 2013. The Workshop exchanged views on the implementation of Continued Control Programme (CCP) and proposed the compilation of the list of experts in the identification of CBRN-related issues to be shared to the ARF participants. The Co-Chairs' Summary Report of the Workshop appears as **ANNEX 12**.

## **6. 3. Consideration of ARF CBMs and PD Initiatives**

### **6.3.1. Draft ARF Work Plan on Cyber Security and its future implementation (*Malaysia, Australia and Russia to brief*)**

30. Australia updated the Meeting on the development of the draft ARF Work Plan on Cyber Security, initiated by Malaysia, Australia and Russia. The draft of the Work Plan would be circulated to the ARF participants through the ARF Unit in January 2014. The draft will be tabled at the upcoming ARF Workshop on Cyber Confidence-Building Measures in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia on 24-26 March 2014. Malaysia, Australia and Russia intend to submit the draft to the 21<sup>st</sup> ARF in 2014.

31. The Meeting expressed appreciation to Malaysia, Australia and Russia for the efforts in developing the Work Plan. Some participant suggested that the Work Plan should consider the capacity and capability of all ARF participants, particularly the developing countries to address security threats in cyber space.

### **6.3.2. Concept Paper of ARF Workshop on Cyber Security Capacity Building (*China to brief*)**

32. The Meeting noted the briefing on the ARF Workshop on Cyber Security Capacity-Building, proposed by China. The Workshop would focus on capacity-building, sharing information on national policies relevant to cyber security capacity-building, sharing best practices in managing the information communication technology incidents in combating cybercrime, protection of critical infrastructure, understanding the government's responsibilities particularly in working with the private sector. The Concept Paper appears as **ANNEX 13**.

33. The Meeting welcomed the proposal and encouraged China to use recommendations and outcomes of the previous ARF activities on cyber security capacity-building.

### **6.3.3. Space Security (*EU to brief*)**

34. The Meeting noted the ongoing international initiative by the EU to develop, in the framework of the United Nations General Assembly, a code of conduct for outer space activities. The code of conduct aims to increase space safety, security and sustainability. The EU and Japan called for support from ARF members for such efforts and underlined its readiness to contribute to a follow-up to the ARF Workshop on Space Security which was held in 2012.

35. The Meeting welcomed the proposed second ARF Space Security Workshop for which Japan stated it was currently working on a concept paper with interested countries and suggested that consultations would continue to find an appropriate agenda for the Workshop.

### **6.3.4. Concept paper of ARF Training Course on Preventive Diplomacy (*China to brief*)**

36. The Meeting welcomed the proposal for an ARF Training Course on Preventive Diplomacy, submitted by China. The objective of the training is to build capacity among the government officials from Foreign Ministry and Defence Ministry. The Training will be conducted in the forms of lectures, field trips and case studies. The Concept Paper appears as **ANNEX 14**.

37. The Meeting considered that the Training could provide follow up to the ARF Roundtable on Training Resources for Preventive Diplomacy, initiated by Brunei Darussalam, China, New Zealand and the United States. The Meeting suggested that China may wish to consider coordinating with the Co-Chairs of the Roundtable to ensure complementarity between the similar initiatives.

38. The Meeting welcomed the contribution of China to the ARF Fund with an amount of USD 50,000, which is meant to fund a study on regional security architecture to be undertaken by the ARF EEPs. China informed the Meeting that several ARF participants have indicated their interests to jointly develop this project. The proposal for the project will be submitted at a later stage for consideration by all ARF members.

39. The Meeting was also informed by China on the development of potential proposals for future consideration in the areas of urban search and rescue training course, maritime search and rescue exercise and seminar on security of sea lanes of communication in the region. China would develop concept papers and submit them to the ARF process in due course.

## **6.4. Updates on the ARF Work Plan**

### **6.4.1. ARF Work Plan on Preventive Diplomacy (*Myanmar and EU to update*)**

40. Myanmar briefed the Meeting on the implementation of the ARF Work Plan on Preventive Diplomacy. The Meeting recalled the mandates of the ARF in pursuing the development and implementation of the ARF Work Plan on Preventive Diplomacy. The Meeting assessed that action lines that have been implemented and those that are still outstanding. The Meeting recognised the development of the ASEAN Institute of Peace and Reconciliation (AIPR), which could be utilised in context of the ARF to study potential source of conflict in the region. ARF Chair can play an effective role to prevent these conflicts.

41. The Meeting welcomed the proposals by the EU to contribute to the implementation of the ARF PD Work Plan especially Action Line 5 calling for training activities with a 3-day mediation training for ARF participants in 2014, a regional workshop to capture best practices and lessons learned in mediation with third parties, and an invitation to the ASEAN Secretariat to participate in an international seminar on third party mediation in Brussels. The EU will develop concept papers for these proposed initiatives and circulate through the ARF Unit.

42. The Meeting viewed that the ARF has been working on the follow-up of the ARF Work Plan on Preventive Diplomacy. As the ARF moves to the preventive diplomacy phase, there should be more clarity on the scope of implementation of preventive diplomacy.

#### **6.4.1.1. Concept Paper on Moving towards Preventive Diplomacy (*Brunei Darussalam to update*)**

43. The Meeting noted the update by Brunei Darussalam on the follow-up to the Concept Paper on Moving towards Preventive Diplomacy that was adopted by the 20<sup>th</sup> ARF on 2 July 2013. The Meeting encouraged CSCAP to continue efforts to assist the ARF process by exploring measures on preventive diplomacy implementation. The Concept Paper should serve as reference for the ARF participants to initiate future preventive diplomacy activities.

### **6.4.2. ARF Work Plan on Non-Proliferation and Disarmament (*Philippines, Australia and Japan to update*)**

44. The Meeting was briefed by the Philippines on the latest status of the implementation of the ARF Work Plan on Non-Proliferation and Disarmament. The Meeting noted that the latest activity, namely, the ARF Workshop on the Trafficking of CBRN Illicit Material has been implemented and as of now there is no new proposal as far as the Work Plan is concerned.

#### **6.4.3. ARF Work Plan on Maritime Security (*Indonesia, Republic of Korea and United States to update*)**

45. The Meeting was briefed by the United States on the latest status of implementation of the ARF Work Plan on Maritime Security. The Meeting noted that as of now, Malaysia and Japan co-lead in the Priority Area No.2 on confidence-building measures based on international and regional legal frameworks, arrangements and cooperation, and Malaysia and China co-lead the Priority Area No. 3 on capacity-building of maritime law enforcement agencies, however, volunteers to co-lead Priority Area No.1 on information and intelligence sharing remain to be identified.

#### **6.4.4. ARF Work Plan on Disaster Relief (*Myanmar, China and Japan to update*)**

46. The Meeting was briefed by Myanmar on the progress of the implementation of the ARF Work Plan on Disaster Relief. The Meeting called for the co-lead countries of the priority areas to start initiating projects under their respective priority areas.

47. The Meeting was informed that the ARF Geospatial Mapping Service on Disaster Relief, initiated by Australia, remains active and available through the ARF website for the use of ARF participants.

48. The Meeting noted the proposal for a workshop related to priority area no.3 on promoting interoperability and coordination in HADR operation, initiated by Malaysia and the United States as co-leads for this priority area. The workshop will look into, among others, developing a roster for disaster relief exercises under different ASEAN mechanisms.

49. The Meeting encouraged ASEAN Member States to co-lead with Australia priority area no. 1 on promotion of networking and information sharing to enhance the capacity of ARF participants particularly in the areas of risk assessment, monitoring and early warning. The Meeting also called on non-ASEAN ARF participants to co-lead priority area no. 2 on promotion of international cooperation and assistance in HADR operations with Singapore.

#### **6.4.5. ARF Work Plan on Counter-Terrorism and Transnational Crime (*Indonesia and New Zealand to update*)**

50. The Meeting was briefed by Indonesia on the review of the ARF Work Plan on CTTC, led by Indonesia and New Zealand. A revised Work Plan would be circulated at the 12<sup>th</sup> ARF ISM on CTTC prior to submission to the ARF SOM in 2014. Indonesia and New Zealand invited all ARF participants to provide inputs to the draft Work Plan.

51. The Meeting noted the proposals by the United States for an ARF Workshop on Cyber Security to be co-chaired with Singapore and an ARF Workshop on Security Stability and International Migration to be co-chaired with an ASEAN Member States. The United States will submit concept papers for these initiatives to the ARF ISG on CBMs and PD in Brussels in 2014.

## **6.5. Update on Preparations for ARF Activities in the Inter-Sessional Year 2013-2014**

### **6.5.1. 13<sup>th</sup> ARF Inter-Sessional Meeting on Disaster Relief (*Myanmar, China and Japan to brief*)**

52. The Meeting noted that the 13<sup>th</sup> ARF ISM on DR will be held on 26-28 February 2014 in Chengdu, Sichuan Province in China to be co-chaired by China, Myanmar and Japan. The ISM on DR will look into the issues of early warning, risk assessment, application of space technology in disaster relief, civil-military coordination in disaster relief, restoration and reconstruction in disaster affected areas and update of the ARF Work Plan on Disaster for the period beyond 2014.

53. The Meeting welcomed Malaysia and China to co-chair the ARF Disaster Relief Exercise (DiREx) 2015.

54. The Meeting emphasised the importance of involving the defence officials in the preparation and deliberation of the ARF ISM on DR.

### **6.5.2. 12<sup>th</sup> ARF Inter-Sessional Meeting on Counter-Terrorism and Transnational Crime (*Indonesia and New Zealand to brief*)**

55. The Meeting noted that the 12<sup>th</sup> ARF ISM on CTTC will be held in April 2014, to be co-chaired by Indonesia, and New Zealand. The ISM on CTTC will focus on reviewing the ARF Work Plan on CTTC and exploring the issues of trafficking of illicit drugs and cyber security. The Indonesia and New Zealand Co-Chairs will also invite the Co-Chairs of the ADMM-Plus Experts' Working Group on Counter-Terrorism to the meeting.

### **6.5.3. 6<sup>th</sup> ARF Inter-Sessional Meeting on Non-Proliferation and Disarmament (*Philippines, Australia and Japan to brief*)**

56. The Meeting noted that the 6<sup>th</sup> ARF ISM on NPD will be held in Japan in May or June 2014, to be co-chaired by the Philippines, Australia and Japan under the theme of disarmament. The theme is selected to support the international efforts towards NPT Review Conference in 2015.

**6.5.4. 6<sup>th</sup> ARF Inter-Sessional Meeting on Maritime Security (*Indonesia, Republic of Korea and United States to brief*)**

57. The Meeting noted that the 6<sup>th</sup> ARF ISM on MS will likely be held during the first quarter of 2014, to be co-chaired by Indonesia, the Republic of Korea and the United States. The 6<sup>th</sup> ARF ISM on MS will focus on reviewing and updating the ARF Work Plan on Maritime Security, promoting synergies between the ARF and other mechanisms for maritime cooperation and assessment on common concerns and interests in maritime security cooperation.

**6.5.5. 8<sup>th</sup> ARF Experts and Eminent Persons Meeting (*Malaysia and the EU to brief*)**

58. The Meeting noted that the 8<sup>th</sup> ARF EEPs will be held in Kuala Lumpur on 17-18 February 2014, to be co-chaired by Malaysia and the European Union. The invitation package will be circulated to all ARF participants through the ARF Unit. The 8<sup>th</sup> ARF EEPs will take stock of the ARF Work Plan on preventive diplomacy, discuss the prospect of implementing preventive diplomacy in the ARF, identify opportunities and challenges of implementation in the Asia Pacific region, simulate potential tensions and conflicts in which preventive diplomacy could be applied and review the Terms of References of the ARF EEPs. The 8<sup>th</sup> EEPs will produce a statement of recommendations for submission to the 21<sup>st</sup> ARF. The 9<sup>th</sup> meeting of EEPs will be hosted in Finland by the EU co-chairing with a new ASEAN Member State.

**6.5.6. Workshop on Concept Development of the ARF Transnational Threat Information-sharing Centre (ATTIC) (*Thailand and United States to brief*)**

59. The Meeting noted that the Workshop on Concept Development of ATTIC to be held in 2014 and to be co-chaired by Thailand and the United States. Thailand and the United States are currently finalising the date and venue for this Workshop. The Co-Chairs invited inputs from the ARF participants on the establishment of the Centre, its purposes and the ARF participants' contributions to the Centre.

**6.5.7. ARF Roundtable on Training Resources for Preventive Diplomacy (*Brunei Darussalam, China, New Zealand, and United States to brief*)**

60. The Meeting noted that the ARF Roundtable on Training Resources for Preventive Diplomacy will be held in Wellington, tentatively on 20-21 March 2014, to be co-chaired by Brunei Darussalam, China, New Zealand and the United States.

61. With regard to response to questionnaires on preventive diplomacy training resources, New Zealand informed the Meeting that seventeen ARF participants have submitted their responses. The remaining ARF participants were encouraged to submit their responses.

**6.5.8. ARF Cross-Sectoral Security Cooperation on Bio-Preparedness and Disaster Response (*Philippines and United States to brief*)**

62. The Meeting noted that the ARF Cross-Sectoral Security Cooperation on Bio-Preparedness and Disaster Response will be held in the Manila in June 2014, to be co-chaired by the Philippines and the United States. The Workshop aims to develop a template for national guidelines for bio-preparedness which the ARF participants could consider it tailored according to their national needs.

**6.5.9. ARF Workshop on Consular Contingency Planning (*Indonesia and Australia to brief*)**

63. The Meeting noted that the ARF Workshop on Consular Contingency Planning will be held in Indonesia in the first quarter of 2014, to be co-chaired by Indonesia and Australia.

**6.5.10. 2<sup>nd</sup> ARF Seminar on UNCLOS (*Philippines and Australia to brief*)**

64. The Meeting noted that the 2<sup>nd</sup> ARF Seminar on UNCLOS will be held in the Manila in the second half of May 2014, to be co-chaired by the Philippines and Australia. The invitation package will be circulated to all ARF participants in due course.

**6.5.11. ARF Workshop on Marine Oil Spill (*Brunei Darussalam, Singapore, China and United States to brief*)**

65. The Meeting noted that the ARF Workshop on Marine Oil Spill will be held in Qingdao, China, on 27-28 March 2014, to be co-chaired by Brunei Darussalam, Singapore, China and the United States. The Workshop will address monitoring, early warning and forecasting of offshore oil spill, identification, assessment and ecological ramification of oil spills, the emergency response to the regional offshore oil spill and the possibility of establishing a network of experts in this area.

**6.5.12. ARF Environmental Security: Preparedness, Response and Cooperation to Pollution Incidents Involving Hazardous and Noxious Substances in Maritime Environments (*Brunei Darussalam, China, Japan and United States to brief*)**

66. The Meeting noted that the ARF Workshop on Environmental Security: Preparedness, Response and Cooperation to Pollution Incidents Involving Hazardous and Noxious Substances in Marine Environment will be held on 4-5 March 2014, to be co-chaired by Brunei Darussalam, China, Japan and the United States. The goal of the Workshop is to share best practices and lessons learned in responding to major disasters involving hazardous and noxious

substances that require coordinated international response. A list of Notional appears as Annex 14.

**6.5.13. ARF Workshop/Conference on Maritime Security (*Malaysia and Japan to brief*)**

67. The Meeting noted that the ARF Workshop on Maritime Security will be held tentatively in February/March 2014 to be co-chaired by Malaysia and Japan. In view of maritime security cooperation in the ARF, the Workshop will share experiences in, among others, anti-piracy legal scheme. Japan will organise a follow-up workshop with interested ARF participants in the next inter-sessional year.

**6.5.14. ARF Workshop on Cyber Confidence Building Measures (*Malaysia and Australia to brief*)**

68. The Meeting noted that the Workshop on Cyber Confidence-Building Measures will be held in Kuala Lumpur on 24-26 March 2014, to be co-chaired by Malaysia and Australia. The information paper for the Workshop appears as **ANNEX 15**. The Co-Chairs encouraged all ARF participants to send representatives from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, national security agencies, and national computer emergency response team officials (CERT).

**6.5.15. ARF Workshop on Climate Change Adaptation and Disaster Management (*Brunei Darussalam and United States to brief*)**

69. The Meeting noted that the ARF Workshop on Climate Change Adaptation and Disaster Management will be held in 4-6 November 2014, to be co-chaired by Brunei Darussalam and the United States.

**Agenda Item 7: Future Direction of the ARF**

**7.1. Update on the implementation of the Hanoi Plan of Action to Implement the ARF Vision Statement (*ARF Unit to brief*)**

70. The Meeting was briefed by the ARF Unit on the implementation of the Hanoi Plan of Action to Implement the ARF Vision Statement. The briefing highlighted the notable progress in the implementation of the Plans of Action in all priority areas. The report also suggested that more attention should be given to the action lines on defence cooperation and preventive diplomacy. More practical activities could be considered under the priority area of maritime security in line with the action lines in the Plan of Action.

71. The Meeting recalled the discussion of the ARF ISG on CBMs and PD that suggested an overlapping co-chairmanship in ARF ISMs to sustain the work.

**7.2. Strengthening ties between the Track I and II**

72. The Meeting reiterated support for greater interaction between Track I and Track II. In this context, the Meeting noted the recommendation for the Ministers to request specific and continued cooperation from CSCAP to support the ARF's work in the future.

73. Some participants proposed that EEPs become a Track II entity and that their proposals from their EEP meetings reiterated support for the participation of the ARF EEPs in the ARF ISG on CBMs and PD and relevant ARF ISMs.

### **7.3. Cooperation between ARF and other Regional and International Security Cooperation**

74. The Meeting recognised the suggestion that the ARF may wish to look at the experiences of other organisations within and beyond the region on conflict and crisis management. In this context, the Meeting took note of the invitation by the EU for all ARF members to take part in a dedicated Common Security and Defence Policy Orientation Seminar for ASEAN Member States on 11-14 March 2014.

### **7.4. Consideration on the Recommendations of ASPC**

75. No issue was raised under this agenda item.

### **7.5. Consideration on the Recommendations of ARF Experts and Eminent Persons**

76. The Meeting recalled the recurrent theme of the previous ARF EEPs that emphasis on the review of the role of the ARF EEPs and observed the limited interactions between the EEPs and the ARF Track I. Among the recommendations of the EEPs in the past seven years that have been submitted to the ARF include, prospect of ARF cooperation including the disaster management, preliminary reviews of the ARF activities and roles, inputs on the future direction of the ARF. The ARF EEPs have observed that their recommendations have yet to be given due consideration and feedback by the Track I.

77. The Meeting suggested that the ARF EEPs could be tasked to undertake a study on regional security architecture utilising the ARF Fund.

78. The Meeting was informed that China has appointed five new ARF EEPs. China will submit the names of the newly appointed EEPs to Myanmar as the ARF Chair.

79. The Meeting noted the suggestion that the ARF SOM could allocate a one-on-one session for an interaction with the EEPs.

## **Agenda Item 8: Other Matters**

### **8.1. ARF Annual Security Outlook (*Myanmar to brief*)**

80. The Meeting called the attention of the ARF participants for a timely submission of the ARF ASO 2014 to Myanmar no later than the first week of April 2014 to ensure sufficient time to prepare for the publication.

81. The Meeting exchanged views on whether the Track 1.5 and the EEPs could make analysis of the ARF ASO. The Meeting viewed that this matter would be further discussed at the next ARF ISG on CBMs and PD in Brussels in 2014.

### **8.2. Joint Calendar of ARF and ADMM/ADMM-Plus**

82. The Meeting welcomed the Joint Calendar of the ARF and the ADMM/ADMM-Plus prepared by the ARF Unit. The Joint Calendar appears as **ANNEX 16**. The Joint Calendar will be updated and circulated at every ARF ISG on CBMs and PD and made available on the ADMM website and the ARFNet. The Meeting invited Co-Chairs of all ARF activities to inform the ARF Unit of the dates and venues of their respective activities.

83. The Meeting took note of the request from Timor Leste on the possibility for officials from Timor Leste to come to the ASEAN Secretariat to learn about the work of the ARF.

### **8.3. Dates and Venue of the next ARF ISG on CBMs and PD (*EU to brief*)**

84. The Meeting was informed by the EU that the next ARF ISG on CBMs and PD will be held in Brussels, Belgium, tentatively on 8-9 April 2014 preceded as usual by the ARF DOD on 7-8 April 2014

### **8.4. Co-Chairs for ISM on Maritime Security**

85. The Meeting noted that the Philippines and the United States will co-chair the next cycle of the ARF ISM on Maritime Security. The meeting also noted that Japan expressed its interest to co-chair the ISM in the next Cycle.

### **8.5. Co-Chairs for ISM on Non Proliferation and Disarmament**

86. The Meeting continued to encourage the ARF participants to volunteer to co-chair the new cycle of the ARF ISM on NPD.

### **8.6. Co-Chairs for ISM on Counter Terrorism and Transnational Crime**

87. The Meeting continued to encourage the ARF participants to volunteer to co-chair the 13<sup>th</sup> ARF ISM on CTTC in the inter-sessional year 2014-2015.

## **Acknowledgement**

88. The Meeting expressed appreciation to the Government of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar for the warm hospitality and excellent arrangements extended to the ARF participants. The meeting also commended the Co-Chairs for their effective leadership and for the cordial and fruitful discussion.

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