

**CO-CHAIRS' SUMMARY REPORT  
ARF INTER-SESSIONAL SUPPORT GROUP MEETING ON CONFIDENCE-  
BUILDING MEASURES AND PREVENTIVE DIPLOMACY  
TOKYO, JAPAN, 8 MAY 2015**

1. Pursuant to the decision of the 21<sup>st</sup> Ministerial Meeting of the ASEAN Regional Forum (ARF) held in Nay Pyi Taw on 10 August 2014, the Meeting of the ARF Inter-Sessional Group on Confidence-Building Measures and Preventive Diplomacy was convened in Tokyo, Japan on 8 May 2015. The Meeting was co-chaired by Dato' Muhammad Shahrul Ikram Yaakob, Director-General, ASEAN-Malaysia National Secretariat, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Malaysia and Mr. Katsuro Kitagawa, Director, National Security Policy Division, Foreign Policy Bureau, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan.
2. Representatives from all ARF participants except the Democratic People's Republic of Korea (DPRK), Papua New Guinea and Pakistan attended the Meeting. Representatives from the ASEAN Secretariat, the ARF Experts and Eminent Persons (ARF EEPs) and the Council for Security Cooperation in the Asia Pacific (CSCAP) were also present. The List of Participants appears as **ANNEX 1**.

**AGENDA ITEM 1: OPENING REMARKS**

3. In his opening remarks, Mr. Katsuro Kitagawa recalled that cooperative activities conducted under the ARF framework have contributed to confidence building and regional peace and stability over the years. The ARF has enabled candid discussions of regional and international security issues. He emphasised that the ARF should focus on ways to becoming more action-oriented forum and promote preventive diplomacy in the region. He reminded the Meeting that the ARF ISG on CBMs and PD is more than a routine meeting to hear updates on ARF initiatives but also an avenue to discuss future directions. He hoped that the Meeting will be a cornerstone for stronger mutual confidence and lead to even more robust cooperation between ARF participants..
4. In his opening remarks, Dato' Muhammad Shahrul noted that the Meeting will continue discussions from the previous ARF ISG on CBMs and PD held in Melaka. As Chairman of ASEAN and ARF, Malaysia intends to highlight the ARF as a vehicle to promote trust and confidence as well as build the capacity and expertise of its participants in maintaining peace and security in the region. He encouraged participants to continue their support for the implementation of the Hanoi Plan of Action and the current ARF work plans. The ARF process must continue to be relevant and in this regard, he encouraged ARF participants to make the Forum more efficient and effective in order to address the increasingly complex regional security challenges. He highlighted Malaysia's commitment to

the ARF process as manifested by its co-chairmanship of 15 of the 35 ARF activities in the inter-sessional year 2014-2015.

## **AGENDA ITEM 2: ADOPTION OF AGENDA**

5. The Meeting adopted the Provisional Agenda which appears as **ANNEX 2**.

## **AGENDA ITEM 3: BUSINESS ARRANGEMENTS**

6. The Meeting adopted the Administrative Arrangements which appears as **ANNEX 3**.

## **AGENDA ITEM 4: BRIEFING ON THE OUTCOME OF ASEAN SUMMIT/MINISTERIAL MEETINGS**

### **4.1. 26<sup>th</sup> ASEAN Summit**

7. Malaysia briefed the Meeting on the key outcomes of the 26<sup>th</sup> ASEAN Summit convened in Kuala Lumpur and Langkawi on 26-27 April 2015. Highlights of the Summit include the significant progress in the implementation of the Roadmap for the ASEAN Community 2009-2015 as well as in developing the ASEAN Community Vision and the Attendant Documents for 2016-2025; the institutionalisation of the ASEAN Ministerial Meeting on Drug Matters; addressing the growing threat of violent extremism and recognising the urgent need for ASEAN Member States to collectively address this challenge; encouraging the promotion of a green economy to mitigate the impacts of climate change and promote sustainable development; and strengthening the ASEAN Coordinating Centre for Humanitarian Assistance on disaster management (AHA Centre) including the ASEAN Secretary-General's role as the ASEAN Humanitarian Assistance Coordinator (SG-AHAC). The 26<sup>th</sup> ASEAN Summit adopted three documents, namely the Kuala Lumpur Declaration on a People-Oriented, People-Centred ASEAN; the Langkawi Declaration on the Global Movement of Moderates; and the Declaration on Institutionalising the Resilience of ASEAN and its Communities and Peoples to Disasters and Climate Change. The Chairman's Statement of the 26<sup>th</sup> ASEAN Summit is attached as **ANNEX 4**.

### **4.2. ASEAN Defence Ministers' Meeting (ADMM)**

8. Malaysia briefed the Meeting on the outcomes of the 9<sup>th</sup> ADMM held in Langkawi on 16 March 2015. The Defence Ministers adopted Concept Papers on (a) the ASEAN Militaries Ready Group on Humanitarian Assistance and Disaster Relief; the Guidelines to Respond to the Request for Informal Engagement or Meetings by the ADMM-Plus Countries', and (b) the Establishment of the ASEAN Centre for Military Medicine (ACMM), and issued a Joint Declaration on Maintaining Regional Security and Stability For and By the People. The Defence Ministers had discussed issues covering among others maritime security, military

assistance in disaster relief and terrorism. They acknowledged the threat of the Islamic State (IS) and its growing influence and agreed that the root causes should be identified and the public educated in order to create awareness of this security threat. The Meeting acknowledged the ADMM as ASEAN's highest defence consultative and cooperative mechanism and its aim to promote transparency across ASEAN Member States through greater understanding of defence and security challenges.

### **4.3. ASEAN Ministerial Meeting on Disaster Management (AMMDM)**

9. The Meeting noted the briefing by Brunei Darussalam on the outcomes of the 2<sup>nd</sup> ASEAN Ministerial Meeting on Disaster Management (AMMDM) convened in Bandar Seri Begawan on 16 October 2014 which had adopted the initial strategy of "One ASEAN, One Response 2020 and Beyond: ASEAN Responding to Disasters as One" to ensure effective and efficient collective response to disasters in the region. The aim is to launch this strategy at the 27<sup>th</sup> ASEAN Summit in November 2015. The 2<sup>nd</sup> AMMDM tasked the ASEAN Committee on Disaster Management (ACDM) to prepare guidelines on displaying the national and ASEAN flag or logo by the first responders on humanitarian missions; develop strategies to better communicate ASEAN's collective response to disasters; and continue the implementation of the current ASEAN Agreement on Disaster Management and Emergency Response (AADMER) Work Programme 2010-2015.

### **AGENDA ITEM 5: REPORT OF THE ARF DEFENCE OFFICIALS' DIALOGUE**

10. Malaysia and Japan briefed the Meeting on the outcomes of the ARF DOD which was held in Tokyo on 7 May 2015 and co-chaired by Mr. Ahmad Nadzri bin Mohd Hassan, Undersecretary, Policy and Strategic Planning Division, Ministry of Defence of Malaysia and Mr. Kengo Sato, Director, Office of International Security Policy, Bureau of Defence Policy, Ministry of Defense of Japan. The ARF DOD discussed three topics, namely the streamlining of the ARF DOD, global terrorism and voluntary briefings. On streamlining the ARF DOD, the Dialogue agreed to reduce the frequency of the ARF DOD from three to two annual meetings, but deferred decision on the meeting arrangements for the two Dialogues until the ARF ISG on CBMs and PD had decided on the frequency of the ISG meetings. On global terrorism, the Dialogue discussed the growing influence of the Islamic State in Iraq and Syria (ISIS) in the region and noted the value of utilising soft (civilian) approaches to counter-terrorism efforts on top of hard (military) responses. The Co-Chairs' Summary Report of the ARF DOD appears as **ANNEX 5**.

### **AGENDA ITEM 6: BRIEFING BY TRACK 2: THE COUNCIL FOR SECURITY COOPERATION IN THE ASIA PACIFIC**

11. Dr. Yasuyuki Ishida from CSCAP Japan updated the Meeting on the recent activities of CSCAP. He highlighted the outcomes of the various CSCAP study groups that focused on the following subjects: Non-Proliferation and Disarmament; Harmonizing Air and Sea Search and Rescue; Preventive Diplomacy; and Energy Security. He shared the outcomes of the USCSCAP Workshop on Maritime Security and Marine Environment held in Honolulu on 30 March 2015 and informed the Meeting that CSCAP has now produced 26 memoranda which are posted in CSCAP's website. His briefing papers are attached as **ANNEXES 6 to 10**.

#### **AGENDA ITEM 7: EXCHANGE OF VIEWS ON REGIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL ISSUES**

12. The Meeting expressed concern over the growing threat of terrorism and extremism posed by the Islamic State in Iraq and Syria (ISIS) and condemned the group's atrocities and violent acts. The Meeting noted with concern the group's use of technology and social media to recruit supporters which has led to an increase in the number of foreign fighters joining its ranks. Support was expressed for the implementation of UN Security Council Resolutions 2170, 2178 and 2199 and the Langkawi Declaration on the Global Movement of Moderates. The Meeting considered the institutionalisation of the ASEAN Institute for Peace and Reconciliation (AIPR) as an important platform to promote a culture of peace, and also welcomed the White House Summit on Countering Violent Extremism held in February 2015.

13. The Meeting expressed concern over the deteriorating situation in Yemen and deplored the use of force which resulted in a humanitarian crisis. The Meeting took note of the efforts of some ARF participants in evacuating its nationals and supported efforts for a peaceful resolution of the conflict.

14. The Meeting underscored the importance of securing unimpeded lawful commerce, freedom of navigation and overflight. The Meeting viewed that the full and effective implementation of the Declaration of Conduct of Parties in the South China Sea (DOC) and the early conclusion of a Code of Conduct (COC) would be in the interest of all concerned parties. In this context, the Meeting urged all the parties concerned to exercise self-restraint and refrain from activities contrary to the DOC, including the threat or the use of force and to work towards the expeditious establishment of the COC. The Meeting reaffirmed the importance of peaceful resolution of disputes in accordance with universally recognized principles of international law, including 1982 United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS). In discussing recent developments in the South China Sea, some participants expressed their concern over unilateral actions including large scale reclamation in the area, while one participant explained that the reclamation was to improve facilities and for the benefit of all users. The Meeting supported the efforts of ASEAN Member States and China in implementing early harvest measures aimed at enhancing

mutual trust and confidence. The Meeting reaffirmed that ARF can play a significant role in promoting peace, stability and security in the region and welcomed proposals made towards that end.

15. The Meeting expressed concern over the DPRK's continued development of nuclear and missile programmes including multiple ballistic missile launches and the restart of its nuclear facilities in Yongbyon which is a threat to the region and the international community, and a violation of the relevant UNSC Resolutions and the 2005 Joint Statement of the Six-Party Talks. The Meeting urged the DPRK to comply with its international obligations under the relevant UNSC Resolutions and its commitment under the 2005 Joint Statement of the Six-Party Talks, and abandon its nuclear weapons and programmes in a complete, verifiable and irreversible manner. The Meeting supported the denuclearisation of the Korean Peninsula and the creation of a conducive environment for the resumption of the Six-Party Talks. The Meeting also urged the DPRK to address its human rights issues including the abduction of foreign citizens and called for the continuation of family reunions as a sign of goodwill between the DPRK and the ROK.

16. The Meeting recognised that despite the relative stability in the Asia Pacific, it faced traditional and non-traditional security challenges such as terrorism, piracy, trafficking of illicit drugs and natural disasters. The participants noted that the ARF's habits of dialogue and cooperation have contributed to peace and stability, and continues to serve as a valuable platform to discuss existing and emerging security challenges and how to address them effectively. The Meeting believed that the ARF should further strengthen its efforts across all three dimensions of preventive diplomacy, confidence-building measures and cooperation.

17. The Meeting recalled the end of World War II in Europe 70 years ago which led to the birth of the current global order of peace and security. In this context, one participant observed that the global security order should shift away from Cold War-style military alliances and establish a new order based on cooperation and common interests. Several participants suggested establishing a comprehensive, open, transparent and sustainable-security architecture based on international law, mutual trust, peaceful settlement of disputes and non-use of threat or use of force. The Meeting also noted the ongoing regional security architecture discussions within the framework of the East Asia Summit (EAS). Several participants suggested combining the efforts of the EAS and the ARF in promoting regional security.

18. The Meeting expressed its concern on the continuing situation in Ukraine. The Meeting called on all sides to engage in dialogue to resolve the crisis. In this context, the Meeting agreed that adherence to the United Nations Charter is of paramount importance in maintaining international peace and security as well as respecting the sovereignty and territorial integrity of Ukraine. The Meeting urged

all involved parties to implement the Minsk Agreement in a comprehensive manner.

19. The Meeting expressed condolences to the victims and families of the massive earthquake in Nepal and underscored the importance of building capacity and promoting greater regional cooperation in disaster relief and response.

20. The Meeting noted the Northeast Asia Peace and Cooperation Initiative (NAPCI) as a multilateral dialogue process for Northeast Asia to build trust through dialogue and cooperation on soft security issues such as nuclear safety, energy security, environment, disaster relief and cyber –space, health and drug, will also contribute to the development of the ARF process by advancing multilateral cooperation in the region.

21. The Meeting noted the developments in Timor-Leste’s formal application to ASEAN and expressed support for the ongoing process to assess the requirements of Timor-Leste’s membership.

22. The Meeting noted the successful peace negotiations between the Philippine government and the Bangsamoro in 2014 and welcomed the recent initiative of the Myanmar government in signing the comprehensive ceasefire agreement with the armed ethnic groups in Myanmar.

## **AGENDA ITEM 8: STRENGTHENING THE ARF PROCESS AND FUTURE DIRECTION OF THE ARF**

### **8.1. Update on the Implementation of the Hanoi Plan of Action to Implement the ARF Vision Statement**

23. The ARF Unit of the ASEAN Secretariat briefed the Meeting on the progress of implementation of the action lines in the Hanoi Plan of Action. It was noted that action lines covering disaster relief, implementation of preventive diplomacy measures and activities, and enhancing the role of the Experts and Eminent Persons (EEPs) have been implemented while the rest are progressing steadily.

### **8.2. Stocktaking of the Implementation of ARF Activities**

24. The Meeting noted the presentation by the ARF Unit on the stocktaking of the implementation of ARF meetings and activities from 2009 to 2014, which highlighted the number of meetings and activities held in the past five inter-sessional years, participants’ contributions to the ARF Annual Security Outlook, and the participation rate.

25. The Meeting noted the steady increase in the number of ARF activities over the past five years. Recognising the growing number of activities in other ASEAN security-related mechanisms such as the ASEAN Defence Ministers' Meeting Plus (ADMM-Plus) and the ASEAN Ministerial Meeting on Transnational Crime (AMMTC), the Meeting encouraged ARF participants to continue their support for the ARF process while avoiding duplication of efforts.

### **8.3. Declaration on Strengthening the ASEAN Secretariat and Reviewing the ASEAN Organs: Reducing the frequency of ARF DoD and ARF ISG on CBMs and PD**

26. The Meeting noted the Declaration on Strengthening the ASEAN Secretariat and Reviewing the ASEAN Organs which called for the implementation of the High-Level Task Force (HLTF) Recommendations on Strengthening the ASEAN Secretariat and Reviewing the ASEAN Organs. The Meeting considered the recommendation relevant to the ARF is the reduction in the frequency of the ARF ISG on CBMs and PD from two to one with the ARF DOD to be adjusted accordingly. The co-chairmanship modality of one ASEAN and one non-ASEAN ARF participant would continue, the host of the ISG will continue to be an ASEAN Member State, and the convening of the ARF ISG on CBMs on PD should be held no later than one month before the ARF SOM. The text of the Declaration is attached as **ANNEX 11**.

27. Several non-ASEAN participants commented that the focus on streamlining the ARF ISG should focus less on the quantity of the meetings and more on the quality. Several participants wanted to keep the present frequency of two annual ISGs. One participant suggested retaining the number of ARF ISGs and to alter the format of each so as to differentiate between the two ISGs. Other participants who favoured retaining the two ISG format observed that the first ISG is usually used to implement the decisions of the ARF Ministerial while the second ISG reviews the activities of the current inter-sessional year and discusses new initiatives for the next inter-sessional year.

28. One participant suggested retaining the number of ARF ISGs but reduce the ARF DOD from three to one considering that the ADMM-Plus discussed the same issues. On a related note, another participant suggested removing the agenda item on exchange of views of regional and international issues at the ARF ISG in order to avoid repeating the points that will be discussed at the SOM and Ministerial levels. The Meeting took note of the suggestion for the ARF ISG to be extended to two days should the frequency of meetings be reduced from two to one in order to allow sufficient time for the discussions and deliberations.

29. The Meeting agreed to defer the decision on streamlining the ARF ISG on CBMs and PD to the ARF SOM.

#### **8.4. Guidelines for Hosting the ASEAN Regional Forum Meetings and Activities**

30. The Meeting noted the suggestion to revise the current practice of conducting ARF meetings and activities particularly in considering alternative seating arrangements of ad-hoc activities from the current U-shaped format.

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

31. The Meeting was briefed by the Singapore and EU representatives who are the current Co-Chairs of the ARF Experts and Eminent Persons (EEPs) Meeting on the outcomes of the 9<sup>th</sup> ARF EEPs Meeting held in Helsinki on 11-13 March 2015. The EEPs suggested that the ARF promote more practical and action-oriented activities. The ARF EEPs could provide the skills and expertise to offer ideas on implementing these activities. The Meeting took note of the ARF EEPs' recommendations including the establishment of an ARF EEP Working Group on implementing the ARF Vision Statement and for ARF participants to update their list of ARF EEPs regularly through the ARF Unit. The Co-Chairs' Summary Report of the 9<sup>th</sup> ARF EEPs Meeting appears as **ANNEX 12**.

### **AGENDA ITEM 9: REVIEW OF OUTCOME OF ARF INTER-SESSIONAL MEETINGS FOR INTER-SESSIONAL YEAR 2014-2015**

#### **9.1. 14<sup>th</sup> ARF ISM on Disaster Relief, Tokyo, 12-13 February 2015**

32. The Meeting took note of the outcomes of the 14<sup>th</sup> ARF Inter-Sessional Meeting on Disaster Relief (ISM on DR), co-chaired by Myanmar, China and Japan, which discussed, among others, civil-military coordination on humanitarian assistance and disaster relief (HADR), regional challenges for more effective HADR activities and the draft ARF Work Plan on Disaster Relief 2015-2017. The next ISM on DR will be convened in Myanmar. The Co-Chairs' Summary Report of the 14<sup>th</sup> ARF ISM on DR appears as **ANNEX 13**.

33. The Meeting also noted the successful convening of the 3<sup>rd</sup> UN World Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction in Sendai, Japan on 14-18 March 2015.

#### **9.2. 7<sup>th</sup> ARF ISM on Maritime Security, Honolulu, 30 March – 2 April 2015**

34. The Meeting took note of the outcomes of the 7<sup>th</sup> ARF Inter-Sessional Meeting on Maritime Security (ISM on MS), co-chaired by the Philippines, Japan and the United States, which discussed issues of maritime security, maritime safety and the marine environment as well as deliberated on the draft ARF Work Plan on Maritime Security 2015-2017. The 7<sup>th</sup> ARF ISM on MS also started breakout sessions for participants to discuss issues in an informal setting. The next ARF ISM on MS will be convened in the Philippines tentatively in the first

quarter of 2016. The Co-Chairs' Summary Report of the 7<sup>th</sup> ARF ISM on MS appears as **ANNEX 14**.

**AGENDA ITEM 10: REVIEW OF CBMs AND PD ACTIVITIES FOR INTER-SESSIONAL YEAR 2014-2015**

**10.1. ARF Seminar on Sea Lines of Communications (SLOCs) Security, Beijing, 7-9 December 2014**

35. The Meeting took note of outcomes of the Seminar, co-chaired by Indonesia and China, which evaluated the current SLOCs security in Asia Pacific, shared best practices in addressing maritime incidents, piracy and terrorism at sea and discussed ways to enhance multilateral cooperation on maintaining SLOCs security. The Co-Chairs' Summary Report of the Seminar which appears as **ANNEX 15**.

**10.2. Final Planning Conference (FPC) of the ARF DiREx 2015, Alor Setar, 3-5 February 2015**

36. The Meeting noted that the outcomes of the ARF DiREx 2015 FPC will be joined with the update on the preparations of the ARF DiREx 2015 under Agenda Item 11.3.

**10.3. ARF Workshop on Enhancing Regional Cooperation to Address Challenges Posed by Illicit Drugs, Bangkok, 11-12 February 2015**

37. The Meeting took note of the outcomes of the Workshop, co-chaired by Thailand and New Zealand, which identified emerging challenges on new psychoactive substances, the need to tackle trafficking of precursor chemicals and address the issue of drugs distribution through on-line means. The Co-Chairs' Summary Report of the Workshop appears as **ANNEX 16**.

**10.4. ARF Workshop on Precursor Chemicals and Synthetic Drugs, Bangkok, 12-13 February 2015**

38. The Meeting took note of outcomes of the Workshop, co-chaired by Thailand and Canada, which identified, among others, challenges and best practices in inter-agency and border management as well as trends in the movement of precursor chemicals at the national and regional levels. The Co-Chairs' Summary Report of the Workshop appears as **ANNEX 17**.

**10.5. ARF Seminar on Counter Piracy and Armed Robbery in Asia, Tokyo, 3-4 March 2015**

39. The Meeting took note of the outcomes of the Seminar, co-chaired by Malaysia, India, Japan and the United States, which identified the following

measures to combat piracy and armed robbery in Asia: 1) strengthen regional and international cooperation for capacity building of maritime law enforcement agencies of coastal states; 2) enhance regional and international cooperation to facilitate information exchanges on piracy and armed robbery against ships through existing mechanisms; and 3) promote exchanges among maritime law enforcement agencies to share experiences and lessons learned through both bilateral and multilateral frameworks. The Co-Chairs' Summary Report of the Seminar appears as **ANNEX 18**.

40. The Meeting noted that the scheduled ARF Workshop on Maritime Security will be convened at a later date to continue discussions on counter piracy issues.

**10.6. ARF Workshop on Security, Stability and International Migration in the ASEAN Region, Nay Pyi Taw, 10-11 March 2015**

41. The Meeting took note of the outcomes of the Workshop, co-chaired by Myanmar and the United States, which discussed key challenges in managing migration in ASEAN, opportunities in promoting economic cooperation and cross-border cooperation, protection of migrants in crisis and the role of international organisations and civil society organisations (CSOs). The Co-Chairs' Summary Report of the Workshop appears as **ANNEX 19**.

**10.7. 9<sup>th</sup> ARF Experts and Eminent Persons Meeting, Helsinki, 11-13 March 2015**

42. There were no further updates on this agenda item.

**10.8. ARF Workshop on Counter Radicalisation, Kuala Lumpur, 25-26 March 2015**

43. The Meeting took note of the outcomes of the Workshop, co-chaired by Malaysia and Japan, which discussed the organisational structure of terrorist groups such as Al-Qaeda, understanding the root causes of radicalisation and terrorism and the use of soft and hard approaches in counter-terrorism efforts. The Co-Chairs' Summary Report of the Workshop appears as **ANNEX 20**.

**10.9. ARF Workshop on Combating Wildlife Trafficking, Tuaran, Sabah, 30 March – 1 April 2015**

44. The Meeting took note of the outcomes of the Workshop, co-chaired by Malaysia and the United States, which discussed illegal trafficking of wildlife and protected species, building law enforcement capacity and capability, and the strengthening of regional networks such as the ASEAN Wildlife Enforcement Network (ASEAN-WEN) in combating wildlife trafficking. The Co-Chairs' Summary Report of the Workshop appears as **ANNEX 21**.

#### **10.10. ARF Workshop on Multi Year Strategic Exercise Plan, Kuala Lumpur, 9-10 April 2015**

45. The Meeting took note of the outcomes of the Workshop, co-chaired by Malaysia, Australia and the United States and attended by ARF participants as well as the AHA Centre and UNOCHA, which discussed the rationalisation and streamlining of the various HADR exercises conducted under ASEAN mechanisms, including ARDEX, ARF DiREx and ADMM-Plus HADR and MM Exercise. The Workshop also reinforced the role of AADMER as the common platform for disaster management in the region. The Co-Chairs' Summary Report of the Workshop appears as **ANNEX 22**.

#### **AGENDA ITEM 11: UPDATES ON THE PREPARATION OF THE ARF INTER-SESSIONAL MEETINGS/ ARF ACTIVITIES IN THE INTER-SESSIONAL YEAR 2014-2015**

##### **ARF Inter-Sessional Meetings**

##### **11.1. 13<sup>th</sup> ARF Inter-Sessional Meeting on Counter-Terrorism and Transnational Crime**

46. The Meeting noted that the 13<sup>th</sup> ARF ISM on CTTC will be convened in Nanning, Guangxi Province, on 14-15 May 2015 and co-chaired by Thailand and China. The 13<sup>th</sup> ISM on CTTC will discuss, among others, terrorist use of the internet and the update of the ARF Work Plan on CTTC.

##### **11.2. 7<sup>th</sup> ARF ISM on Non-Proliferation and Disarmament**

47. The Meeting noted that the 7<sup>th</sup> ARF on NPD will discuss the outcomes of the 2015 Review Conference of the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT) and other non-proliferation-related issues. The Meeting will tentatively be convened in June or July 2015 in Kuala Lumpur.

##### **ARF Activities in the Inter-Sessional Year 2014-2015**

##### **11.3. ARF Disaster Relief Exercise 2015, Malaysia, May 2015**

48. Malaysia and China updated the Meeting on the preparations of the ARF DiREx 2015 including the outcomes of the Final Planning Conference in 3-5 February 2015. The objectives of the ARF DiREx will be, among others, to test civil-military coordination as well as the implementation of AADMER as the common platform for disaster management in the ASEAN region. The Meeting encouraged ARF participants to take part in and contribute to the exercise.

#### **11.4. ARF Workshop on Raising Awareness and Promoting ARF Cooperation in CBRN Risk Mitigation**

49. The European Union updated the Meeting on the Workshop, co-chaired by the Philippines and the European Union, which will be held in Manila on 9-10 September 2015. The Workshop will be supported by the EU CBRN Centre of Excellence.

50. The Meeting noted the suggestion for the Workshop to incorporate the views of all ARF participants in developing and preparing for the provisional agenda.

#### **11.5. ARF Seminar on Operationalizing Cyber CBMs in the ARF**

51. The United States informed the Meeting that the Seminar, co-chaired with Singapore, has been moved to the next inter-sessional year and will tentatively be held in Singapore in October 2015.

#### **11.6. ARF Workshop on First Response Support for Victims of Terrorism**

52. The United States updated the Meeting that the Workshop will be co-chaired with the Philippines and will be convened in Manila on 20-21 July 2015. The Workshop will focus on supporting victims in the immediate aftermath of terrorist and mass-casualty events as well as on the importance of national strategies, plans and government civil responses in mitigating the negative effects.

#### **11.7. ARF Workshop on Cyber Security Capacity Building**

53. China informed the Meeting that the Workshop, co-chaired with Malaysia, has been rescheduled to be convened in Beijing on 29-30 July 2015. Main topics to be discussed include best practices in managing information and communications technologies (ICTs) security incidents, combating cybercrime and protecting critical infrastructure, cooperation with private sector and efficient use of ICTs to promote social and economic development.

#### **11.8. ARF Track 1.5 Preventive Diplomacy Symposium**

54. Thailand informed the Meeting that the Symposium, co-chaired with New Zealand and the United States, will be held in Bangkok and will build on the outcomes of the ARF Roundtable on Training Resources for Preventive Diplomacy which was held in Wellington in March 2014.

### **AGENDA ITEM 12: PROGRESS OF IMPLEMENTATION OF ARF WORK PLANS**

### **12.1. ARF Work Plan on Preventive Diplomacy**

55. The Meeting took note of the latest developments in the implementation of the ARF Work Plan on Preventive Diplomacy, including the convening of the preventive diplomacy training activities in Brunei Darussalam and China as well as upcoming and proposed preventive diplomacy activities. The Meeting recalled the decision of the 21<sup>st</sup> ARF in Nay Pyi Taw for ARF participants to exert greater effort in moving the ARF process from Stage 1 of promotion of confidence building measures to Stage 2 of development of preventive diplomacy mechanisms. The Meeting also reiterated the recommendations of the ARF ISG on CBMs and PD in Melaka in implementing the Work Plan, namely to promote more initiatives towards building capacity of officials in conducting preventive diplomacy with a view towards creating a pool of experts who are also cognisant of the peculiarities of the region; to consider nominating preventive diplomacy focal points to build regional expertise and to ensure that the capacity building efforts reach out to the right participants; and to consider developing a more comprehensive Work Plan including by adding time-bound elements to drive its implementation.

56. The Meeting noted the view that preventive diplomacy in the ARF should be conducted under the “three Cs” concept which are confidence building measures, consensus and centrality of ASEAN.

### **12.2. ARF Work Plan on Counter-Terrorism and Transnational Crime**

57. The Meeting noted that the 13<sup>th</sup> ARF ISM on CTTC will discuss the draft updated ARF Work Plan on CTTC as well as the implementation of the ARF Work Plan on Security of and in the Use of Information and Communications Technologies. The draft ARF Work Plan on CTTC appears as **ANNEX 23**.

### **12.3. ARF Work Plan on Non-Proliferation and Disarmament**

58. The Meeting noted that the ARF Work Plan on Non-Proliferation and Disarmament will be circulated to all ARF participants for updates prior to the convening of the 7<sup>th</sup> ARF ISM on NPD.

### **12.4. ARF Work Plan on Maritime Security**

59. The Meeting noted the latest draft ARF Work Plan on Maritime Security 2015-2017 of which the key feature is the pillar structure consisting of the maritime security, safety of navigation and protection of the marine environment pillars. Each pillar will be led by one Co-Chair of the ARF ISM on MS and consist of the original three priority areas as the guiding principle for activities under each pillar. Furthermore, the draft Work Plan contains a list of contact points which complements the list currently available at the ARFNet website. The Co-Chairs of the ARF ISM on MS invited participants to submit further inputs and feedback to

the draft Work Plan by 20 May 2015. The draft Work Plan appears as **ANNEX 24**.

60. The Meeting noted the suggestion for the original priority area 1 to be reviewed considering the lack of co-leads in the years since the Work Plan was first adopted. On this note, the ISM on MS Co-Chairs clarified that the pillar structure was developed in order to reinforce the implementation of the original priority areas.

#### **12.5. ARF Work Plan on Disaster Relief**

61. The Meeting noted the draft ARF Work Plan on Disaster Relief 2015-2017 which incorporated recommendations to the draft made at the 14<sup>th</sup> ARF ISM on DR including the inclusion of activities related to disaster risk reduction and post-disaster response. The Meeting noted that the draft will be submitted to the ARF SOM in June. The draft Work Plan appears as **ANNEX 25**.

62. One participant requested clarification on whether the abovementioned Work Plans would be submitted to the ARF Ministers for adoption. The Meeting noted the clarification that the ARF Work Plans on Counter-Terrorism and Transnational Crime, Maritime Security and Disaster Relief are due for review this year and as such would be submitted to the ARF Ministers for adoption.

### **AGENDA ITEM 13: UPDATES ON ARF INITIATIVES**

#### **13.1. Draft ARF Work Plan on Security of and in the Use of Information and Communications Technologies**

63. Australia and Russia briefed the Meeting on the latest status of the draft ARF Work Plan on Security of and in the Use of Information and Communications Technologies. The Meeting noted that the draft has been finalised and will be submitted to the ARF SOM for endorsement and eventual adoption by the 22<sup>nd</sup> ARF in August 2015. The final draft Work Plan appears as **ANNEX 26**.

64. The Meeting expressed appreciation to Malaysia, Australia and Russia as the co-leads in developing of the Work Plan and commended the structure of the Work Plan which allows flexibility in its implementation.

### **AGENDA ITEM 14: CONSIDERATION OF NEW ARF INITIATIVES**

#### **14.1. ARF Workshop on Mongolia's Nuclear Weapon Free Status**

65. Mongolia updated the Meeting on the proposal for convening an ARF Workshop on Mongolia's Nuclear Weapon Free Status in Ulaanbaatar in

September 2015. ASEAN Member States were invited to co-chair the Workshop. The concept paper for the Workshop appears as **ANNEX 27**.

#### **14.2. ARF Capacity Building Workshop on Ship Profiling**

66. New Zealand updated the Meeting on the proposal for convening the ARF Capacity Building Workshop on Ship Profiling which would be a follow up on the 2013 ARF Workshop on Ship Profiling. The proposed Workshop will be co-chaired with Malaysia and would be held in the first quarter of 2016. The Concept Paper for the Workshop appears as **ANNEX 28**.

#### **14.3. 3<sup>rd</sup> ARF Workshop on Space Security**

67. China briefed the Meeting on the proposal for the 3<sup>rd</sup> ARF Workshop on Space Security. The proposed Workshop would continue the discussions from the previous workshops on space security including the prevention of weaponisation of space. The proposed Workshop will be co-chaired with Lao PDR and Russia and would be held in Beijing in November 2015. The Concept Paper for the Workshop appears as **ANNEX 29**.

68. The Meeting took note of the suggestion that the current discussions on the development of a code of conduct on outer space activities to be integrated into the agenda of the proposed Workshop.

#### **14.4. ARF Workshop on Urban Emergency Response**

69. China briefed the Meeting on the proposal for the ARF Workshop on Urban Emergency Response which would discuss, among others, the effects of natural and man-made disasters occurring in urban areas. The proposed Workshop would be held in Shanghai in the first half of 2016. The Concept Paper for the Workshop appears as **ANNEX 30**.

#### **14.5. ARF Workshop on Emergency Response to Offshore Oil Spill**

70. China briefed the Meeting on the proposal for the ARF Workshop on Emergency Response to Offshore Oil Spill which would build on the outcomes of the previous ARF workshops on spill incidents involving oil and noxious substances. The proposed Workshop would be held in Qingdao at the end of October 2015. The Concept Paper for the Workshop appears as **ANNEX 31**.

#### **14.6. ARF Seminar on Cooperation in Transnational Pursuit of Fugitives**

71. China briefed the Meeting on the proposal for the ARF Seminar on Cooperation in Transnational Pursuit of Fugitives which would focus on promoting regional law enforcement cooperation and sharing best practices on transnational pursuit of fugitives. The proposed Seminar would be held in Beijing

in the third quarter of 2015. The Concept Paper for the Seminar appears as **ANNEX 32**.

#### **14.7. ARF Workshop on Operationalising CBMs for Cooperation during Cyber-incident Response**

72. The European Union informed the Meeting that Malaysia and the Netherlands, on behalf of the EU, have proposed to convene the ARF Workshop on Operationalising Confidence Building Measures for Cooperation during Cyber-incident Response. The Meeting noted that the proposed Workshop will build on the outcomes of previous ARF activities on cyber incident response as well as contribute to the implementation of the ARF Work Plan on Security of and in the Use of Information and Communications Technologies. The Concept Paper for the Workshop appears as **ANNEX 33**.

#### **14.8. ARF Workshop on Increasing Regional Security by Improving Fisheries Management**

73. The United States briefed the Meeting on the proposed ARF Workshop on Increasing Regional Security by Improving Fisheries Management which would focus on the threat of illegal, unreported and unregulated (IUU) fishing to sustainable fisheries and address the security, socio-economic, ecological and biological challenges posed by IUU fishing. The Concept Paper for the Workshop appears as **ANNEX 34**.

74. The Meeting noted the recommendation for the agenda of the proposed Workshop to focus on IUU fishing issues consistent with the scope provided for by the FAO International Plan of Action on IUU Fishing to ensure that the outcomes of the Workshop would complement ASEAN's ongoing work in this area.

#### **14.9. ARF Ministerial Statement on Strengthening Cooperation on Maritime Environmental Protection and Conservation**

75. The United States briefed the Meeting on the draft ARF Statement on Strengthening Cooperation on Maritime Environmental Protection and Conservation which seeks to reinforce the implementation of the Hanoi Plan of Action and the ARF Work Plan on Maritime Security. ARF participants were invited to co-sponsor as well as provide inputs to the draft Statement by 20 May 2015. The draft Statement appears as **ANNEX 35**.

#### **14.10. ARF Workshop on Maritime Risks Management and Cooperation**

76. China briefed the Meeting on the proposed ARF Workshop on Maritime Risks Management and Cooperation which seeks to strengthen maritime cooperation by identifying maritime risks and discussing the rules which would

help to minimise these risks. The proposed Workshop would be held in December 2015. The Concept Paper for the Workshop appears as **ANNEX 36**.

#### **14.11. ARF Workshop on Green Shipping**

77. China briefed the Meeting on the proposed ARF Workshop on Green Shipping which aims to discuss ways to reduce the adverse environmental impacts caused by international shipping activities. The proposed Workshop would be held in Hangzhou on the second half of 2015. The Concept Paper for the Workshop appears as **ANNEX 37**.

#### **14.12. ARF Seminar on the Regional Confidence Building and Law of the Sea**

78. Japan briefed the Meeting on the proposal to convene the ARF Seminar on the Regional Confidence Building and Law of the Sea during the next inter-sessional year, which would look into provisions in international law as well as national practices and discuss norms of behaviour conducive to regional confidence building in the maritime domain. The Concept Paper for the Seminar is attached as **ANNEX 38**.

#### **14.13. ARF Workshop on Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated Fishing**

79. Indonesia briefed the Meeting on the proposal to conduct an ARF Workshop on Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated Fishing which would focus on reviewing the current state of international cooperation in combating IUU fishing and explore concrete and practical measures to enhance cooperation to overcome this problem. The proposed Workshop would implement the first pillar of the ARF Work Plan on Maritime Security 2015-2017 and would be held in the first quarter of 2016. The Concept Paper for the Workshop appears as **ANNEX 39**.

80. The Meeting noted that there are similarities between the proposed Workshop with the United States' proposal on the ARF Workshop on Increasing Regional Security on Improving Fisheries Management.

#### **14.14. ARF Workshop on National Maritime Single Points of Contact**

81. The Philippines briefed the Meeting on the proposed ARF Workshop on National Maritime Single Points of Contact which aims to bring together national maritime single points of contact in the region to discuss ways to contribute to the establishment of regional norms and practices on cross-border maritime security operations. The Meeting noted that the Workshop would be held in Cebu in the second quarter of 2016. The Concept Paper for the Workshop appears as **ANNEX 40**.

#### **14.15. ARF Preventive Diplomacy Training Course**

82. The United States informed the Meeting on the proposal to convene a series of preventive diplomacy training courses which would involve both track 1 officials and track 2 experts. The primary goals of the training courses would be to enable ARF participants to develop critical understanding of the essential skills, principles and goals of preventive diplomacy within the ARF context. The Concept Paper for the training course appears as **ANNEX 41**.

#### **14.16. 2<sup>nd</sup> ARF Workshop on Mediation, Preventive Diplomacy and Conflict Prevention**

83. Indonesia and the European Union briefed the Meeting on the follow-up activity to the ARF Seminar on Preventive Diplomacy and Mediation Training held in Bandar Seri Begawan in October 2014. The Meeting noted that the proposed activity would involve AIPR and would discuss, among others, the use of preventive diplomacy mechanisms in countering radicalisation and violent extremism. The proposed activity would be conducted in Bali in the first half of October 2015. The Concept Paper for the follow-up Workshop appears as **ANNEX 42**.

#### **14.17. ARF Bio-Preparedness Table-Top Exercise**

84. The United States briefed the Meeting on the proposed ARF Bio-Preparedness Table-Top Exercise and Workshop which is a follow up of the outcomes of the ARF Cross-Sectoral Workshop on Bio-Preparedness and Disaster Response held in Manila in August 2014. The proposed activity would seek to validate the national bio-preparedness template which was prepared by the workshop in August. The Concept Paper for the activity appears as **ANNEX 43**.

#### **14.18. ARF Workshop on Trafficking in Human Beings**

85. The European Union introduced the proposal for the ARF Workshop on Trafficking in Human Being, co-hosted by the United Kingdom on behalf of the EU, which would be the preliminary activity under the new priority area of Trafficking in Persons under the ARF Work Plan on CTTC. The Meeting noted that the proposal would be further discussed at the 13<sup>th</sup> ARF ISM on CTTC in Nanning. The Concept Paper for the Workshop appears as **ANNEX 44**.

86. The Meeting encouraged ARF participants to consider the proposals and to co-chair the new initiatives. In this context, the Meeting noted the suggestion for the concept papers of new ARF initiatives to be circulated earlier ahead of the ARF ISG and ARF SOM so as to allow sufficient time for the relevant ministries and agencies of ARF participants to study and consider the proposals.

## **AGENDA ITEM 15: OTHER MATTERS**

### **15.1. ARF Annual Security Outlook**

87. Malaysia informed the Meeting that the request for submissions to the ARF ASO 2015 has been circulated and that ARF participants should submit their contributions by 31 May 2015.

### **15.2. Dates and Venue of ARF SOM**

88. The Meeting noted that the ARF SOM will be convened in Kuching, Sarawak on 10 June 2015. The ARF SOM will be preceded by the ARF DOD and the 12<sup>th</sup> ASPC which will be convened on 8 and 9 June 2015, respectively.

### **15.3. Dates and Venue of Next ARF ISG on CBMs and PD**

89. The Meeting welcomed Lao PDR and India as the next Co-Chairs of the ARF ISG on CBMs and PD. The dates and venue of the next ARF ISG on CBMs and PD will be communicated to all ARF participants pending the decision of the ARF SOM on the streamlining of the ARF ISG on CBMs and PD.

## **AGENDA ITEM 16: CLOSING REMARKS BY CO-CHAIRS**

90. The Co-Chairs expressed appreciation to all participants for their active support for and contribution to the success of the Meeting and hoped that the discussions would lead to further meaningful discussions at the ARF SOM and the 22<sup>nd</sup> ARF Ministerial Meeting.

91. The Meeting commended the frank and fruitful discussions and thanked the Government of Japan for the excellent arrangements and warm hospitality made for the Meeting.

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