

**CO-CHAIRS' SUMMARY REPORT
ARF INTER-SESSIONAL SUPPORT GROUP MEETING ON
CONFIDENCE-BUILDING MEASURES AND PREVENTIVE DIPLOMACY
MELAKA, MALAYSIA, 2-3 DECEMBER 2014**

1. The ARF Inter-sessional Support Group Meeting on Confidence-Building Measures and Preventive Diplomacy (ISG on CBMs and PD) was convened in Melaka, Malaysia, on 2-3 December 2014. 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 Bangladesh, the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Papua New Guinea and Sri Lanka attended the Meeting. Representatives from the ASEAN Secretariat 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, Dato' Muhammad Shahrul welcomed all participants to the historic city of Melaka for the ARF ISG on CBMs and PD. He noted that the ARF ISG on CBMs and PD marks the beginning of the ASEAN chairmanship of Malaysia in 2015. He congratulated Myanmar for the successful chairmanship throughout 2014. He explained the vision of the ASEAN Malaysia chairmanship, where promotion of peace and security based on shared value will be the basis. He highlighted the establishment of the ASEAN Community during Malaysia's chairmanship in 2015 and the development of the Post-2015 vision. He believed that the ARF is an important platform for addressing security issues and the time is right for advancement into Stage Two of development of preventive diplomacy mechanisms, while at the same time recognised the need for greater effort in ARF cooperation through its evolutionary approach. The ARF has generated much comfort for its participants to discuss its security issues. He underscored that the ARF is a sui generis organisation with no precedent; its success is a product of hard work by all its participants. His opening remarks appear as **ANNEX 2**.

4. In his opening remarks, Mr. Katsuro Kitagawa recalled the important issues discussed at the 21st ARF in Nay Pyi Taw in August 2014, including the regional and international affairs such as the South China Sea, the Korean Peninsula, Ukraine and Gaza, and non-traditional security issues in the region. He emphasised that the ARF has played an important role in facilitating cooperation amidst the differences in the region and in ensuring peace and stability. He encouraged all ARF participants to continue to cooperate in the ARF

and contribute to the ARF process. He looked forward to the fruitful discussions and deliberations by all participants during the Meeting. His opening remarks appear as **ANNEX 3**.

AGENDA ITEM 2: ADOPTION OF AGENDA

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

AGENDA ITEM 3: BUSINESS ARRANGEMENTS

6. The Meeting noted that the Agenda Items 1-7 will be addressed on the first day and Agenda Items 8-15 will be discussed on the second day. The Meeting adopted the Business Arrangements which appears as **ANNEX 5**.

AGENDA ITEM 4: BRIEFING ON THE OUTCOME OF 21ST ARF AND OUTCOME OF THE 25TH ASEAN SUMMIT AND RELATED SUMMITS

7. The Meeting was briefed by Myanmar on the key outcomes of the 21st ARF and the 25th ASEAN Summit and Related Summits. The briefing highlighted that the 21st ARF was held in Nay Pyi Taw on 10 August 2014 and attended by all Foreign Ministers of the twenty-seven ARF participants. Among the issues discussed at the meeting were the South China Sea, the Korean Peninsula, developments in Syria, Ukraine and the Middle East, as well as other traditional and non-traditional security issues. The Ministers also adopted twenty new ARF Track I Activities for implementation in the inter-sessional year 2014-2015, a statement on Cooperation in Prevention, Preparedness, Response and Restoration from Marine Oil Spill Incidents, and a statement on Strengthening Coordination and Cooperation on Maritime and Aeronautical Search and Rescue. Myanmar also hosted the 25th ASEAN Summit and Related Summits from 11 to 13 November 2014. The Leaders adopted three key outcome documents, including the Nay Pyi Taw Declaration on the ASEAN Community's Post-2015 Vision, the Declaration on the Strengthening of the ASEAN Secretariat and Reviewing the ASEAN Organs, and the ASEAN Joint Statement on Climate Change 2014. In addition to the 25th ASEAN Summit, the ASEAN Summits with Dialogue Partners, namely China, Japan, India, the 17th ASEAN Plus Three Summit, and the 9th East Asia Summit (EAS) were also held. The briefing appears as **ANNEX 6**.

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

8. Malaysia and Japan briefed the Meeting on the outcomes of the ARF Defence Officials' Dialogue (DOD) which was held in Melaka on 1 December 2014 and co-chaired by Mr. Shakib bin Ahmad Shakir, Deputy 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 Defence of Japan. The Dialogue noted the presentation by the United States on Search and Rescue (SAR), which highlighted the importance of international conventions, the need to cooperate multilaterally and among various agencies, and the responsibility of all countries to meet their obligations as part of the global SAR community. The Dialogue noted the updates on the latest developments in the ASEAN Defence Ministers' Meeting Plus Experts' Working Groups (ADMM-Plus EWGs), the briefing by China on the 5th Xiangshan Forum in Beijing on 20-22 November 2014 and the European Union's new leadership and security and defence policy. The briefing emphasised the value of reviewing the structure of the ARF DOD and the importance of synergising the ARF DOD and other existing defence-related mechanisms. On the issue of reduction of the number of the ARF DOD, the Dialogue noted the reservation of the proposal by non-ASEAN ARF participants and thus agreed to discuss the matter further in the next ARF DOD in Tokyo in 2015. The briefing appears as **ANNEX 7**.

9. The Meeting noted views expressed by some ARF participants on the significance of the dialogue process in the ARF DOD. The Meeting reaffirmed that complementarity between the ARF DOD and other existing defence-related fora should be strengthened. A forward looking agenda of the future ARF DODs was also suggested in this respect.

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

10. Ms. Elina Noor from CSCAP Malaysia updated the Meeting on the work of current CSCAP Study Groups, namely the Study Group on Energy Security, the Study Group on Preventive Diplomacy and the Study Group on Non-Proliferation and Disarmament. She informed the Meeting that a Study Group on Harmonising Air and Sea Search and Rescue is currently being proposed and will contribute to the implementation of the ARF Work Plan on Maritime Security. She also informed the Meeting that CSCAP has recently issued Memorandum No. 25 on Maritime CBMs, Trust and Managing Incidents at Sea and No. 26 on Towards Effective Regional Security Architecture for the Asia Pacific. CSCAP is currently working on the draft Memorandum No. 27 on the Implementation of UNSCR 1540. CSCAP appreciates and welcomes ARF feedback on the relevance of its recommendations as well as the priority areas which CSCAP should focus on in view of better assisting the ARF. CSCAP is looking into aligning its researches to fit to the changing dynamics of the region. The briefing appears as **ANNEX 8**.

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

11. The Meeting recognised the role of ASEAN in addressing common challenges through a cooperative fashion and in maintaining regional peace and stability. The Meeting reaffirmed that cooperation on regional security is a

prerequisite to address regional security challenges. In this context, the ARF has contributed to the promotion of regional dialogue and confidence. The Meeting affirmed the support to Malaysia in leading the efforts towards the realisation of the ASEAN Community in 2015 and the commitment in upholding the ASEAN centrality in this process.

12. The Meeting deliberated on the regional security architecture and the paradox facing the region in which the economic situation is improving but at the same time the security situation remains challenging. Some participants pointed out that the region still lacks a comprehensive security architecture, which is based on a common set of rules that, if agreed, could be translated into a legally-binding document. Existing documents such as the Treaty of Amity and Cooperation in Southeast Asia (TAC) and the EAS Declaration on the Principles for Mutually Beneficial Relations were mentioned as possible starting points. Other participants underscored that a comprehensive security architecture should be based on the equal participation of both major powers and small countries. In this context, involvement of sub-regional process such as the Six-Party Talks and regional organisations such as the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation in the overall regional security architecture was suggested. The possibility of merging bilateral dialogues with existing multilateral process could also be examined.

13. The Meeting exchanged views on maritime security. The Meeting reaffirmed the importance of promoting peace, stability and security, unimpeded lawful trade, and freedom of navigation and overflight, including in sea lines of communication (SLOC) in particular, in the South China Sea. Some participants expressed concerns that unilateral actions are continued in the South China Sea. In this regard, the Meeting reaffirmed the importance of peaceful resolution of disputes and issues in accordance with universally recognized principles of international law, including the 1982 United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS). The Meeting called on all parties concerned to exercise self-restraint in the conduct of activities and not to undertake unilateral actions that would complicate the situation or the threat or use of force or coercion. The Meeting welcomed ASEAN Member States and China's efforts towards the full and effective implementation of the Declaration on the Conduct of Parties in the South China Sea (DOC) and commitments to the principles of the DOC. The Meeting also welcomed the progress of ongoing consultations between ASEAN Member States and China towards the early conclusion of the Code of Conduct in the South China Sea (COC) on the basis of consensus and the early harvest measures to decrease tension, promote trust and enhance confidence agreed by all the parties.

14. The Meeting exchanged views on the issue of the Korean Peninsula. Participants expressed concerns over the DPRK's continued development of nuclear and missile programs including multiple ballistic missile launches, the restart of the Yongbyon nuclear reactor and the expansion of its uranium

enrichment facility which are a threat to the region and the international community. The Meeting urged the DPRK to exercise self-restraint and implement the international obligations under all relevant United Nations Security Council Resolutions (UNSCR) as well as the DPRK's commitments under the 2005 Joint Statement of the Six-Party Talks. The Meeting expressed its support for the denuclearisation of the Korean Peninsula and for the creation of a conducive environment for the resumption of the Six-Party Talks. The Meeting emphasised the importance of addressing humanitarian issues of the DPRK based on the UN Resolution on the Situation of Human Rights in the DPRK as well as the Report of the Commission of Inquiry on Human Rights in the DPRK. In this regard, the Meeting noted the need to address humanitarian concerns of the international community including the abductions issue.

15. The Meeting acknowledged that events which are occurring in other parts of the world are also affecting the Asia-Pacific region. The rise of the self-declared Islamic State in Iraq and the Levant (ISIL) was highlighted in the Meeting. The Meeting strongly condemned the violent actions of ISIL which target civilians including women and children and stressed the importance of collective efforts to combat this threat through a combination of hard and soft approaches. Participants also recognised that it is of crucial importance to address the root causes of violent extremism and prevent the recruitment of more foreign fighters. The Meeting affirmed support for United Nations Security Council Resolutions 2170 and 2178 and the commitment to implement the resolutions.

16. The Meeting expressed deep concern over the outbreak of the Ebola virus. The Meeting shared the view that the Ebola virus is a serious threat to the survival of human existence and called on all participants to remain vigilant in preventing the disease from causing further harm. The Meeting viewed that the outbreak is providing a strong impetus for the ARF to step up cooperation on pandemic preparedness and response. Some participants emphasised the importance of information-sharing to enable effective disease detection and surveillance. In response to the outbreak, the Meeting noted that Thailand will host the ASEAN Plus Three Health Ministers Special Meeting in Bangkok on 14-15 December 2014.

17. 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 to respect the sovereignty and territorial integrity of Ukraine. The Meeting also condemned the tragic downing of Malaysian Airlines MH17 and called for a full and comprehensive international investigation into the incident in accordance with United Nations Security Council Resolution 2166.

18. The Meeting expressed views on the issue of disarmament and non-proliferation of weapons of mass destruction and supported the work of the ISM on NPD in advancing ARF cooperation in this area. The Meeting noted the readiness of some ARF participants to resume consultation between ASEAN and the P5 countries on the accession of the latter to Protocol to the Southeast Asia Nuclear-Weapons-Free Zone (SEANWFZ) Treaty. Several participants commented on the continuing negotiations between the EU3+3 and Iran on resolving the Iranian nuclear issue.

19. The Meeting addressed non-traditional security issues with impacts on global security such as humanitarian assistance and disaster relief, maritime security, counter-terrorism and transnational crime, pandemic diseases, space security, cyber security, climate change, energy security, food security and environmental protection. Recognising their critical implications to the regional stability and security, the Meeting was of the view that the future ARF activities should maintain the focus on these issues. In this context, the Meeting noted the suggestion for the next ARF ISM on CTTC to be convened as early as possible in 2015 to enable in-depth discussions on practical actions to address these issues.

20. The Meeting noted several comments on the potential security situation in Afghanistan during its transition period. The Meeting welcomed the recent presidential elections and expressed support to the reconstruction process in Afghanistan.

21. The Meeting commended on the positive direction of the ARF in embarking on the preventive diplomacy stage. As the ARF is developing to become a mature institution, the Meeting was of the view that the ARF should advance further the preventive diplomacy trainings and reaffirm the future agenda of the preventive diplomacy in the ARF. The Meeting welcomed the outcomes of the ARF Seminar on Preventive Diplomacy and Mediation Training in Brunei Darussalam on 7-10 October 2014 and the ARF Training Course on Preventive Diplomacy in Beijing on 13-19 October 2014, which have demonstrated the comfort level of the ARF participants to develop the preventive diplomacy in the ARF process. ARF participants were also encouraged to continue implementing the ARF Work Plan on Preventive Diplomacy.

22. The Meeting noted the progress on the establishment of the ASEAN Regional Mine Action Centre (ARMAC). Following up on the adoption of the Terms of Reference (TOR) of the Establishment of ARMAC at the 23rd ASEAN Summit in Brunei Darussalam in 2013, ASEAN Member States were encouraged to nominate their representatives to the ARMAC Steering Committee. The Meeting welcomed the outcomes of the Regional Seminar on the Establishment of an ARMAC in Siem Reap in on 2-3 November 2014. The Meeting expressed support for Cambodia as the host country of ARMAC and encouraged ASEAN

and non-ASEAN ARF participants to contribute to the operationalisation of ARMAC.

AGENDA ITEM 8: FOLLOW-UP TO THE 21ST ARF AND REVIEW OF CBMs AND PD

8. 1. ARF Bio-Preparedness and Disaster Response Workshop, Manila, 26-28 August 2014

23. The Meeting was briefed on the outcomes of the ARF Cross-Sectoral Bio-Preparedness and Disaster Response Workshop in Manila on 26-28 August 2014, co-chaired by the Philippines and the United States. The Workshop focused on the “One Resilience” concept which is a whole-of-society, all levels of government response to disasters and produced a bio-preparedness and response template for use by ARF participants at the national level. Among the recommendations of the Workshop was to conduct an ARF table-top exercise (TTX) on bio-preparedness in 2015 and to present the outcomes to the ARF DiREx 2015 to encourage multilateral interoperability in this area. The briefing appears as **ANNEX 9**.

8. 2. Initial Planning Conference (IPC) of the ARF DiREx 2015, Alor Setar, 9-11 September 2014

24. The Meeting took note of the outcomes of the IPC of the ARF DiREx 2015 in Alor Setar on 9-11 September 2014, co-chaired by Malaysia and China. The Co-Chairs informed the Meeting that the ARF DiREx 2015 has been rescheduled to 24-29 May 2015 to allow additional preparation time. Accordingly, the Final Planning Conference (FPC) of the ARF DiREx 2015 will be held in Kedah on 3-5 February 2015. Malaysia and China sought the support and encouraged participation of all ARF participants to ensure the successful conduct of the Exercise. The briefing appears as **ANNEX 10**.

8. 3. 18th ARF Heads of Defence Universities/Colleges/Institutions Meeting (HDUCIM), Seoul, 22-25 September 2014

25. The Meeting was briefed by the Republic of Korea on the outcomes of the 18th ARF HDUCIM in Seoul on 22-25 September 2014, co-chaired by Myanmar and the Republic of Korea. The 18th HDUCIM was held under the theme of “Military Cooperation and the Role of National Defense Universities for Heightened Peace and Trust in the Asia-Pacific Region”. The Meeting noted that the 19th ARF HDUCIM will be held in Myanmar in 2015. The briefing appears as **ANNEX 11**.

8. 4. Briefing on the Outcome of the ARF Workshop on Preventive Diplomacy and Mediation Training, Bandar Seri Begawan, Brunei Darussalam, 7-10 October 2014

26. The Meeting was briefed on the outcomes of the ARF Workshop on Preventive Diplomacy and Mediation Training in Bandar Seri Begawan on 7-10 October 2014, co-chaired by Brunei Darussalam and the European Union. Over sixty participants attended the Seminar including experts in mediation and negotiation. The Seminar looked into the lessons learned from experience in the Aceh and Mindanao peace processes. The Seminar produced several ideas including introducing how the ARF could ensure consensus and understanding on ARF PD practices, organising more ARF seminars on mediation and preventive diplomacy at different levels and documentation of best practices on mediation and preventive diplomacy. The briefing appears as **ANNEX 12**.

8. 5. 2nd ARF Workshop on Space Security, Tokyo, 9-10 October 2014

27. The Meeting was briefed on outcomes of the 2nd ARF Workshop on Space Security in Tokyo on 9-10 October 2014, co-chaired by Indonesia, Japan and the United States. The Workshop aimed to strengthen ARF participants' understanding of security in the space domain. The Workshop reaffirmed the common needs of the ARF participants to secure the outer space and the view that cooperation on space issues should continue notwithstanding differences in national positions. Views were expressed in the Workshop on the need for legally-binding and/or non-legally mechanisms to enhance the security of outer space. The draft Co-Chairs' Summary Report of the Workshop was circulated to the ARF participants for reviews and comments. The draft Co-Chairs' Summary appears as **ANNEX 13**.

8. 6. ARF Training Course on Preventive Diplomacy, Beijing, 13-19 October 2014

28. The Meeting was briefed on the outcomes of the ARF Training Course on Preventive Diplomacy in Beijing on 13-19 October 2014, co-chaired by Thailand, China, New Zealand and the United States. The Workshop exposed the participants on the various United Nations mechanisms on preventive diplomacy, how the ARF should conduct preventive diplomacy agenda in the Asia Pacific region in the future and China's views on preventive diplomacy. The briefing appears as **ANNEX 14**.

29. The Meeting noted observations on the Training Course, including the need to sustain the ARF preventive diplomacy training on track, the importance of a structure to develop preventive diplomacy in the future, and sharing of the experience and knowledge from the training at the national level.

30. The Meeting was informed on the establishment of the ASEAN Institute for Peace and Reconciliation (AIPR), whose main tasks include providing inputs to the governments in the region on peace, reconciliation and conflict resolution. Members of the AIPR Governing Council and Advisory Board include academics

and former government officials. Indonesia has provided an office for the operationalisation of AIPR in Jakarta where the next meeting of the Governing Council and Advisory Board will take place on 4 December 2014.

8. 7. ARF Workshop on Earthquake Relief And Emergency Response, Beijing, 23-29 November 2014

31. The Meeting was briefed on the outcomes of the Workshop on Earthquake Relief and Emergency Response in Beijing on 23-27 November 2014, co-chaired by Malaysia, China and New Zealand. The Workshop provided the participants with the opportunities to share experiences and best practices in earthquake relief and response. The briefing appears as **ANNEX 15**.

AGENDA ITEM 9: UPDATES ON THE PREPARATION OF THE ARF INTER-SESSIONAL MEETINGS/ ARF ACTIVITIES IN THE INTER-SESSIONAL YEAR 2014-2015

Preparation of the ARF Inter-Sessional Meetings

9. 1. 13th ARF ISM on Counter-Terrorism and Transnational Crime (CTTC)

32. Thailand and China updated the Meeting on the preparation for the 13th ARF ISM on CTTC which will be held in Nanning in the first week of May 2015 under the general theme of counter-terrorism and transnational crime challenges and cross-border management. Further details of the ISM on CTTC will be informed to ARF participants in due course.

9. 2. 7th ARF ISM on Non-Proliferation And Disarmament (ISM on NPD)

33. Canada updated the Meeting on the preparation for the 7th ARF ISM on NPD held in Kuala Lumpur in April 2015, to be co-chaired with Malaysia and New Zealand. The 7th ARF ISM on NPD will coincide with the Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT) Review Conference in 2015. Further details of the ISM on NPD will be informed to ARF participants in due course.

9. 3. 14th ARF ISM on Disaster Relief (ISM on DR)

34. Japan updated the Meeting on the preparation for the 14th ARF ISM on DR to be held in Tokyo in early 2015 and co-chaired with Myanmar and China. Further details and agenda of the ISM on DR will be informed to ARF participants in due course.

35. The Meeting noted the suggestion to include the issue of streamlining of various ASEAN-led exercises on HADR in the agenda of the 14th ARF ISM on DR.

9. 4. 7th ARF ISM on Maritime Security (ISM on MS)

36. The United States updated the Meeting on the preparation for the 7th ARF on MS in the United States in early April 2015 to be co-chaired with the Philippines and Japan. The Co-Chairs will extend invitations to the Chair of the Expanded ASEAN Maritime Forum and Co-Chairs of the ADMM-Plus EWG on MS to brief the ARF ISM on MS on the latest developments of their respective Sectoral Bodies.

ARF Activities in the Inter-Sessional Year 2014-2015**9. 5. ARF Workshop on Maritime Security, Malaysia**

37. Malaysia updated the Meeting on the preparation for the ARF Workshop on Maritime Security in Kuala Lumpur in 2015, to be co-chaired by Malaysia and Japan.

9. 6. ARF Workshop on Climate Change Adaption and Disaster Management, Brunei Darussalam, 2015

38. The United States updated the Meeting on the preparation for the ARF Workshop on Climate Change Adaptation and Disaster Management in Brunei Darussalam in 2015, to be co-chaired with Brunei Darussalam and Bangladesh. The Co-Chairs invited ARF participants to recommend experts to contribute as speakers in the Workshop.

9. 7. Final Planning Conference (FPC) of the ARF DiREx 2015, Kedah, Malaysia

39. Malaysia informed the Meeting that the FPC of the ARF DiREx 2015 will be held in Kedah on 3-5 February 2015.

9. 8. ARF Workshop on Precursor Chemicals and Synthetic Drugs, Thailand, February 2015

40. Canada updated the Meeting on the preparation for the ARF Workshop on Precursor Chemicals and Synthetic Drugs in Thailand in February 2015, to be co-chaired with Thailand. The Workshop will be an activity under priority area no. 1 of the ARF Work Plan on CTTC, namely, on illicit drugs.

9. 9. ARF Disaster Relief Exercise 2015, Malaysia, May 2015

41. Malaysia informed the Meeting that the ARF DiREx 2015 will be conducted in Kedah on 24-28 May 2015.

9. 10. ARF Workshop on Raising Awareness and Promoting ARF Cooperation on CBRN Risk Mitigation, Metro Manila, Spring 2015

42. The European Union updated the Meeting on the preparation for the ARF Workshop on Raising Awareness and Promoting the ARF Cooperation on CBRN Risk Mitigation in Manila which will be moved to September 2015. The Workshop is to be co-chaired by the Philippines and the European Union.

9. 11. 9th ARF Experts and Eminent Persons Meeting, Helsinki, 2015

43. The European Union updated the Meeting on the preparation for the 9th ARF EEPs Meeting in Helsinki on 11-13 March 2015, to be co-chaired with Singapore. The ARF EEPs as well as the ARF Track I representatives are invited to the 9th ARF EEPs. The 9th ARF EEPs will be conducted in 1.5 day meeting with breakout group discussions which was a feature of the previous ARF EEPs Meeting. The special theme of peace mediation is included for the EEPs' discussion

9. 12. ARF Seminar on Operationalizing Cyber CBMs in the ARF

44. Singapore updated the Meeting on the preparation for the ARF Seminar on Operationalising Cyber CBMs in the ARF to be held in Singapore in the second week of March 2015, to be co-chaired with the United States.

9. 13. ARF Seminar on Counter-Piracy and Armed Robbery In Asia, Tokyo

45. Japan updated the Meeting on the preparation for the ARF Seminar on Counter-Piracy and Armed Robbery in Asia in Tokyo in early 2015, to be co-chaired with Malaysia. The Seminar will focus on the legislations on counter-piracy in ARF countries and exchange views on capacity building to further strengthen counter-piracy capabilities.

9. 14. ARF Workshop on First Response Support for Victims of Terrorism

46. The United States updated the Meeting on the preparation for the ARF Workshop on First Response Support for Victims of Terrorism. The Workshop will emphasise the importance providing support for victims of terrorist attacks and their families including financial and psychological assistance. The United States is inviting ASEAN Member States to co-chair the Workshop.

9. 15. ARF Seminar on Sea Lines of Communications (SLOCs) Security

47. China updated the Meeting on the preparation for the ARF Seminar on Sea Lines of Communications (SLOC) Security on 7-9 December 2014, to be co-chaired with Indonesia. The Workshop will focus on the current security situation of SLOCs and exchange views on the best practices dealing with maritime

incidents. The Co-Chairs encouraged all ARF participants to send representatives to participate in the Workshop.

9. 16. ARF Workshop on Multi-Year Strategic Exercise Plan, Malaysia

48. Australia updated the Meeting on preparations for the ARF HADR (Humanitarian Assistance and Disaster Relief) Multi-Year Strategic Exercise Planning Workshop, which will be held in Kuala Lumpur on 7-8 April 2015. The meeting will be co-chaired by Australia, Malaysia and the United States. The purpose of the Workshop is identify the key regional needs to be addressed by disaster exercises and to develop recommendations for harmonising the calendar of disaster exercises under different ASEAN-led mechanisms such as the ARF, ADMM-Plus and EAS

9. 17. ARF Workshop on Cyber Security Capacity Building

49. China informed the Meeting that the ARF Workshop on Cyber Security Capacity Building, to be co-chaired with Malaysia has been postponed to a later date. Further details will be informed to ARF participants in due course.

9. 18. ARF Workshop on Counter Radicalisation

50. Malaysia and Japan updated the Meeting on the preparation for the ARF Workshop on Counter Radicalisation which will be held in Kuala Lumpur on 25-26 March 2015.

9. 19. ARF Workshop on Combating Wildlife Trafficking

51. Malaysia updated the Meeting on the preparation for the ARF Workshop on Combating Wildlife Trafficking, to be held tentatively in Sabah during 30 March – 1 April 2015 and co-chaired with the United States bringing together policy and experts to discuss areas for cooperation within ASEAN to combat wildlife trafficking.

9. 20. ARF Workshop on Security, Stability and International Migration in the ASEAN Region

52. Myanmar updated the Meeting on the preparation for the ARF Workshop on Security, Stability and International Migration in the ASEAN Region in the last week of February 2015 in Myanmar, to be co-chaired with the United States.

9. 21. ARF Track 1.5 Preventive Diplomacy Symposium

53. New Zealand updated the Meeting on the preparation for the ARF Track 1.5 Preventive Diplomacy Symposium, to be co-chaired with Thailand and the United States. The Co-Chairs are currently discussing the framework of the

Symposium based on the outcomes and recommendations of the previous ARF activities on preventive diplomacy.

9. 22. 3rd ARF Workshop on Nuclear Forensics

54. The United States updated the Meeting on the preparation for the 3rd ARF Workshop on Nuclear Forensic, to be co-chaired with the European Union and an ASEAN Member State. The ASEAN Member States were invited to co-chair the Workshop.

9. 23. ARF Workshop on Enhancing Regional Cooperation to Address Challenges Posed by Illicit Drugs

55. Thailand updated the Meeting on the ARF Workshop on Enhancing Regional Cooperation on Challenges Posed by Illicit Drugs in Thailand in 2015, to be co-chaired with New Zealand.

9. 24. Workshop on Concept Development of the ARF Transnational Threat Information-Sharing Centre

56. The Meeting noted that the Co-Chairs will provide updates on the Workshop on the Concept Development of the ARF Transnational Threat Information-Sharing Centre at the next ARF ISG on CBMs and PD in Tokyo in 2015.

AGENDA ITEM 10: UPDATES OF THE ARF WORK PLANS

10.1 ARF Work Plan on Preventive Diplomacy

57. The Meeting took note of the progress of the implementation of the ARF Work Plan on Preventive Diplomacy. As of this year, two activities on preventive diplomacy have been successfully conducted, which will be followed by further activity in the 22nd inter-sessional year. The Meeting noted the following recommendations on the implementation of the Work Plan: promote more initiatives towards building capacity of officials in conducting preventive diplomacy with a view of creating a pool of experts on the subject matter, nominate preventive diplomacy focal points to ensure regional expertise, and consider developing a more comprehensive Work Plan including by adding time-bound elements. These recommendations would inject further dynamism to the implementation of the Work Plan.

10.2 ARF Work Plan on Counter-Terrorism and Transnational Crime

58. The Meeting took note of the progress of the implementation of the ARF Work Plan on CTTC 2014-2015. The Meeting recalled the suggestion for the addition of Trafficking in Persons as a new priority area of the Work Plan and

agreed that further discussions on the Work Plan will be made at the next ARF ISM on CTTC in 2015.

59. Some participants noted that human trafficking is already a priority area under the ASEAN Ministerial Meeting on Transnational Crime (AMMTC) and therefore suggested that the ARF should streamline its efforts on this proposed priority area.

10.3 ARF Work Plan on Non-Proliferation And Disarmament

60. The Meeting took note of the progress of the ARF Work Plan on Non-Proliferation and Disarmament. The Meeting noted the new proposal for the ARF Workshop on Mongolia's Nuclear Weapons-Free Status.

10.4 ARF Work Plan on Maritime Security

61. The Meeting took note of the progress of the implementation of the ARF Work Plan on Maritime Security. The ARF ISM on MS Co-Chairs have submitted an initial draft for a new ARF Work Plan on Maritime Security to all ARF participants for comments by 2 February 2015. The draft Work Plan is attached as **ANNEX 16**.

10.5 ARF Work Plan on Disaster Relief

62. The Meeting noted that the Co-Chairs of the ARF ISM on DR will circulate the first draft new ARF Work Plan on Disaster Relief at the 14th ARF ISM on DR in Tokyo in early 2015.

AGENDA ITEM 11: UPDATES ON ARF INITIATIVES

11.1 Draft Work Plan on Security of and in the Use of Information and Communications Technologies

63. Malaysia, Australia and Russia updated the Meeting on the development of the draft Work Plan on Security of and in the Use of Information and Communication Technologies. The Meeting recalled the instructions by the Ministers at the 21st ARF Ministerial Meeting for the draft to be submitted to the ARF ISG on CBMs and PD for adoption at the 22nd ARF Ministerial Meeting in 2015. The three co-leads on cyber security advised the Meeting that they had agreed the draft Work Plan which would be circulated to all ARF participants in ten days for review. The draft will be further discussed at the next ARF ISG on CBMs and PD in Tokyo in 2015.

AGENDA ITEM 12: CONSIDERATION OF NEW ARF INITIATIVES

12.1. ARF Workshop on Mongolia's Nuclear Weapon Free Status

64. The Meeting took note of the briefing on the ARF Workshop on Mongolia's Nuclear Weapon Free Status. The Workshop aims to present Mongolia's nuclear-weapon-free status as a case study for ARF participants. Mongolia invited ARF participants to submit their inputs to the proposal. The concept paper for the Workshop appears as **ANNEX 17**.

12.2. ARF Capacity Building Workshop on Ship Profiling

65. The Meeting noted the briefing by New Zealand on the ARF Capacity Building Workshop on Ship Profiling, which is a follow-up to the ARF Workshop on Ship Profiling held in Kuala Lumpur in April 2013. ARF participants are invited

to submit their inputs and comments to the concept paper of the workshop, which appears as **ANNEX 18**.

66. The Meeting noted the query on whether maritime domain awareness will be included as issue to be addressed in this Workshop. The Meeting was informed that maritime domain awareness had been addressed in the ARF Workshop on Ship Profiling in 2013 and thus the focus of the proposed Workshop will be less on maritime domain awareness and more on capacity building.

12.3. 3rd ARF Workshop on Space Security

67. The Meeting took note of the proposal by China for the 3rd ARF Workshop on Space Security. The Workshop will build on the outcomes and experiences from the previous two ARF Workshops on Space Security. China invited ASEAN Member States to co-chair the Workshop. The Concept Paper of the Workshop appears as **ANNEX 19**.

12.4. ARF Workshop on Urban Emergency Rescue

68. The Meeting took note of the proposal by China for the ARF Workshop on Urban Emergency Rescue with a focus on the problem relief operation and the multilateral framework on urban search and rescue particularly in the aftermath of natural disasters. China invited ASEAN Member State to co-chair the Workshop. The Concept Paper of the Workshop appears as **ANNEX 20**.

12.5. ARF Workshop on Emergency Response to Offshore Oil Spill

69. The Meeting took note of the proposal by China for the ARF Workshop on Emergency Response to Offshore Oil Spill as a follow up to previous ARF activities on marine environment protection in 2014 and the ARF Statement on Cooperation in Prevention, Preparedness, Response and Restoration from Marine Oil Spill Incidents which was adopted by the 21st ARF in Nay Pyi Taw in August 2014. The Concept Paper of the Workshop appears as **ANNEX 21**.

12.6. ARF Seminar on Cooperation in Transnational Pursuit of Fugitives

70. The Meeting took note of the proposal by China for the ARF Seminar on Cooperation in Transnational Pursuit of Fugitive in the second half of 2015. China invited ASEAN Member States to co-chair the Seminar. The Concept Paper of the Seminar appears as **ANNEX 22**.

12.7. Other Initiatives

71. The Meeting took note of proposals by the European Union on activities for the next inter-sessional year, namely 1) an ARF workshop on cyber incident

response, which will follow-up to the previous activity co-chaired by Singapore and the Australia in 2012. It will look into international cooperation aspect of the cyber incident response and include a TTX element; and 2) an ARF training on preventive diplomacy and mediation which will follow up on the lessons learnt from previous activities in this field, look into mediation in both inter- and intrastate conflicts, and develop a web-based tool for mediation. In addition, the European Union also informed the Meeting of the second Common Security and Defence Policy (CSDP) orientation seminar which will be convened in 2015. The seminar is organised outside the ARF framework but it will be open to all ARF participants to attend.

72. The Meeting also took note of the initial interest of China to host ARF workshops on environmental protection and on managing potential crises at sea. The concept papers of these workshops will be submitted at the next ARF ISG on CBMs and PD. In addition, China is also looking into conducting a Study on Regional Security Order and Concept, whose Concept Paper was circulated in the previous inter-sessional year. The Meeting considered implementing this Study through the ARF EEPs channel and will discuss this matter at the upcoming 9th ARF EEPs in Helsinki in March 2015. The Study will be open to all ARF EEPs with the objective of developing non-binding recommendations on the issue of regional security architecture. In this context, the Meeting welcomed the offer of an additional contribution of USD 50,000 from China to the ARF Fund.

AGENDA ITEM 13: UPDATES FROM OTHER ASEAN MECHANISMS/ COOPERATION BETWEEN ARF AND OTHER REGIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL SECURITY COOPERATION

13.1. ASEAN Defence Ministers' Meeting Plus (ADMM-Plus)

73. The Meeting took note of the briefing by Malaysia on the latest developments in the ADMM-Plus. The Meeting noted the schedule of major ADMM-Plus meetings and activities in 2015 under the chairmanship of Malaysia, starting with the ADMM-Plus Working Group in January 2015 and culminating with the 3rd ADMM-Plus which will tentatively be held in November 2015. The Meeting expressed support to Malaysia for the successful chairmanship of the ADMM and the ADMM-Plus. The briefing appears as **ANNEX 23**.

13.2. ASEAN Ministerial Meeting on Transnational Crime (AMMTC)

74. The Meeting took note of the briefing by Malaysia on the latest developments in the AMMTC. Malaysia will host the 10th AMMTC on 29 September – 2 October 2015. Among the key deliverables of the 10th AMMTC will be the finalisation of the ASEAN Convention on Trafficking in Persons (ACTIP). The briefing appears as **ANNEX 24**.

13.3. ASEAN Committee on Disaster Management (ACDM)

75. The Meeting took note of the briefing by Cambodia as the current Chair and Brunei Darussalam as the outgoing Chair of the ACDM. The briefings highlighted the outcomes of the 3rd Meeting of the Conference of Parties (COP) to the ASEAN Agreement on Disaster Relief (AADMER) and the 2nd ASEAN Ministerial Meeting on Disaster Management (AMMDM), held in Bandar Seri Begawan on 16 October 2014, which adopted the strategy of “One ASEAN, One Response 2020 and Beyond: ASEAN Responding to Disasters as One”. This strategy will be launched in 2015 and will build on the collective strength of ASEAN Member States to ensure that ASEAN’s effective and efficient response to regional disasters. The briefings appear as **ANNEXES 25-26**.

AGENDA ITEM 14: FUTURE DIRECTION OF THE ARF

14.1. Update on the Implementation of the Hanoi Plan of Action to Implement the ARF Vision Statement

76. The ASEAN Secretariat briefed the Meeting on the progress in the implementation of the Hanoi Plan of Action. The briefing highlighted the number of action lines that have been implemented and that are still pending under all areas of cooperation. In total, 40 out of 74 action lines have been implemented. Among the issues highlighted in the briefing was the development of the the Concept Paper on the Institutionalisation of Cooperation and Exchange among National Defence Universities, which is undertaken by the HDUCIM. In order to promote synergy among related ASEAN mechanisms, the ARF Unit has prepared the Joint ADMM, ADMM-Plus and ARF Calendar 2015 which is available online at the ARFNet website. The Co-Chairs of the upcoming ARF meetings and activities were requested to inform the ARF Unit of the ASEAN Secretariat of the dates of their respective meetings and activities to be incorporated to the Joint Calendar.

14.2. Consideration on the Recommendations of ARF Experts and Eminent Persons

77. The Meeting noted the briefing by Tan Sri Mohamed Jawhar Hassan, EEP from Malaysia, and Ambassador Esko Hamilo, EEP from the European Union, on the recommendations of the EEPs including the outcomes of the 8th ARF EEPs Meeting in Kuala Lumpur on 17-18 February 2014. The Meeting took note of the request by the ARF EEPs for a more detailed feedback on the recommendations submitted to the ARF and the issues that the ARF EEPs should look into. The ARF could identify successful confidence-building measures, preventive diplomacy activities and even conflict resolution initiatives that have taken place in the region and incorporate them in the future efforts. The composition of the ARF EEPs that has been heavy on the experts and less on the eminent persons was also highlighted. The ARF EEPs also suggested that having more eminent persons, such as former heads of state or foreign ministers,

in the ARF EEPs will provide more weight to the ARF EEPs considering the stature of these eminent individuals. Further integration of the ARF EEPs into the ARF framework in view of implementing their recommendations was also discussed. Such process could be done by including the ARF EEPs in the national delegations to the ARF ISGs. It was emphasised that it would be at the ARF's discretion to utilise the ARF EEPs. Nevertheless, the support of the ARF ISG on CBMs and PD is critical for these recommendations to be carried forward.

78. The Meeting noted the suggestion to request the ARF EEPs to contribute to the review of the ARF Work Plan on Preventive Diplomacy. It was also suggested that Malaysia as the ARF Chair could look into a more detailed procedure on how the recommendations of the ARF EEPs could be channeled to the ARF process.

AGENDA ITEM 15: OTHER MATTERS

15.1. ARF Annual Security Outlook

79. Malaysia invited the ARF participants to submit their contributions to the ARF Annual Security Outlook by the fourth week of April 2015 to allow for sufficient time to prepare the publication.

15.2. Dates and Venue of the Next ARF ISG on CBMs and PD

80. Japan informed the Meeting that the next ARF ISG on CBMs and PD will be held in Tokyo in 16-17 April 2015. Further details of the meeting will be informed to the ARF participants in due course.

CLOSING REMARKS

81. In his closing remarks, Mr. Katsuro Kitagawa extended his gratitude to the Malaysian Co-Chair for the warm hospitality and effective co-chairmanship. He emphasised the importance of the ARF ISG on CBMs and PD as part of the preparation of the ARF Ministerial meeting and expressed his appreciation to all ARF participants for the fruitful discussion and active contributions in the Meeting.

82. Dato' Mohammad Shahrul in his closing remarks underscored the need to continue the ARF efforts to promote confidence-building and preventive diplomacy. He also expressed his appreciation to the Japanese Co-Chair and to all participants for the successful conduct of the Meeting

83. The Meeting commended on the frank and fruitful discussion and thanked the Government of Malaysia for the excellent arrangements and warm hospitality made for the Meeting.

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