



## **CO-CHAIRS' SUMMARY REPORT**

### **ASEAN REGIONAL FORUM INTER-SESSIONAL SUPPORT GROUP MEETING ON CONFIDENCE-BUILDING MEASURES AND PREVENTIVE DIPLOMACY (ARF ISG ON CBMs AND PD)**

Auckland, New Zealand, 8-9 May 2018

#### **INTRODUCTION**

1. The Meeting was held in Auckland, New Zealand on 8-9 May 2018 and was Co-Chaired by Mr. Gerard Ho, Director General, ASEAN Directorate, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Singapore, and Ms. Alison Mann, Divisional Manager, Asia Pacific Regional Integration Division, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade. The Meeting was attended by representatives from all ARF Participants except Papua New Guinea, the Democratic People's Republic of Korea (DPRK) and Mongolia. Representatives from the ASEAN Secretariat were also in attendance. The List of Delegates appears as **ANNEX 1**.

#### **AGENDA ITEM 1: OPENING REMARKS BY CHAIRMAN**

2. In her opening remarks, Ms. Mann underlined the ARF as one of the primary fora to address security issues in the region and highlighted that the Forum, along with other ASEAN-led mechanisms such as the East Asia Summit (EAS) and the ASEAN Defence Ministerial Meeting Plus (ADMM-Plus), have become key platforms for mutual confidence-building measures in the region. Ms. Mann further reiterated that the ARF has consistently built up the capacity of its Participants, in keeping with the ASEAN spirit of promoting dialogue and consensus. In his opening remarks, Mr. Gerard Ho underlined the role of ARF as a key architecture that has fostered constructive dialogues on issues of common interest among its participants. Recalling the recently established ARF Inter-Sessional Meeting on the Security of and in the Use of Information and Communication Technologies (ISM on ICTs Security), Mr. Ho also noted that the ARF has evolved over time and underlined the necessity for the ARF to keep pace with geostrategic shifts and emerging challenges in this time of uncertainty.

**AGENDA ITEM 2: ADOPTION OF AGENDA**

3. The Meeting adopted the Agenda, which appears as **ANNEX 2**.

**AGENDA ITEM 3: BUSSINESS ARRANGEMENTS**

4. The Meeting noted the Administrative Arrangements which appears as **ANNEX 3**.

**AGENDA ITEM 4: BRIEFING ON THE OUTCOMES OF THE 31<sup>ST</sup> ASEAN SUMMIT, THE 24<sup>TH</sup> ASEAN REGIONAL FORUM AND OTHER MINISTERIAL MEETINGS**

**4.1. 31<sup>st</sup> ASEAN Summit**

5. The Philippines briefed the Meeting on the 31<sup>st</sup> ASEAN Summit and related Summits, which took place in Manila, the Philippines, on 10-14 November 2017 under the theme “Partnering for Change, Engaging the World”. The Meeting noted the six thematic priorities under the Philippines’ ASEAN Chairmanship, namely; (i) people-oriented and people-centered ASEAN; (ii) peace and stability in the region; (iii) maritime security and cooperation; (iv) inclusive, innovation-led growth; (v) ASEAN resiliency and (vi) ASEAN: A model of regionalism, A Global Player. The Meeting further noted several highlights from the 31<sup>st</sup> ASEAN Summit, including the formal announcement by the Leaders of ASEAN and China on the start of negotiation of the Code of Conduct in the South China Sea and the adoption of the ASEAN Consensus on the Protection and Promotion of the Rights of Migrant Workers. The Chairman’s Statement of the 31<sup>st</sup> ASEAN Summit appears as **ANNEX 4**.

**4.2. 32<sup>nd</sup> ASEAN Summit**

6. Singapore briefed the Meeting on the outcomes of the 32<sup>nd</sup> ASEAN Summit, which was convened in Singapore on 25-28 April 2018 under the theme “Resilience and Innovation”. At the Summit, the Leaders adopted three outcome documents, namely; (i) ASEAN Leaders’ Vision for a Resilient and Innovative ASEAN; (ii) Concept Note for an ASEAN Smart Cities Network; and (iii) ASEAN Leaders’ Statement on Cybersecurity Cooperation. The Meeting took note of several regional issues that were discussed at the Summit, including the situation in Rakhine State, the developments in the South China Sea, the situation in the Korean Peninsula, as well as trade

protectionism and regional architecture. The Chairman's Statement of the 32<sup>nd</sup> ASEAN Summit appears as **ANNEX 5**.

#### **4.3. 24<sup>th</sup> ASEAN Regional Forum**

7. The Philippines briefed the Meeting on the outcomes of the 24<sup>th</sup> ARF which was held in Manila on 7 August 2017. The Meeting took note that Ministers were briefed on the progress of implementation of the ARF Hanoi Plan of Action and the respective ARF Work Plans, and exchanged views on regional security issues such as: nuclear proliferation and disarmament and nuclear energy; developments in the Korean Peninsula; maritime security particularly in the South China Sea; and climate change and disaster risk reduction. The Meeting further noted the adoption of two statements, namely the ARF Statement on Cooperation to Prevent, Deter and Eliminate Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated Fishing and the ARF Statement on Enhancing Cooperation in Addressing and Countering the Drug Problem, as well as the establishment of the ARF Inter-Sessional Meeting on Security of and in the Use of Information Communication Technologies (ISM on ICTs Security). The Chairman's Statement of the 24<sup>th</sup> ARF appears as **ANNEX 6**.

#### **4.4. 11<sup>th</sup> ASEAN Ministerial Meeting on Transnational Crime (AMMTC)**

8. The Philippines briefed the Meeting on the outcomes of the 11<sup>th</sup> AMMTC and its related Meetings which were held in Manila on 20 September 2017, including the establishment of the Senior Officials Meeting on Transnational Crime Working Groups on Arms Smuggling and Illicit Trafficking of Wildlife and Timber and the endorsement of the ASEAN Declaration to Prevent and Combat Cybercrime. The Meeting also noted the outcome documents of the 11<sup>th</sup> AMMTC, namely; (i) ASEAN Plan of Action in Combating Transnational Crime (2016-2025); (ii) the Terms of Reference of the AMMTC; (iii) the updated ASEAN Comprehensive Plan of Action on Counter Terrorism; (iv) Manila Declaration to Counter the Rise of Radicalisation and Violent Extremism; and (v) Joint Statement of the 11<sup>th</sup> AMMTC, which appears as **ANNEX 7**.

#### **4.5. 11<sup>th</sup> ASEAN Defence Ministers' Meeting (ADMM)**

9. The Philippines briefed the Meeting on the outcomes of the 11<sup>th</sup> ADMM which was held in Clark, Pampanga, the Philippines, on 23 October 2017. The Meeting took note that the 11<sup>th</sup> ADMM adopted a number of outcome documents, including; (i) the ADMM Three-Year Work Programme (2017-2019); (ii) the Concept Paper on ADMM and ADMM-Plus Initiatives; (iii) the Concept Paper on the Guidelines for Maritime Interaction; (iv) the Concept Paper on ADMM-Wide Education and Training Exchanges; and (v) the Guidelines regarding the Conduct of ADMM's Informal Engagements or Meetings with Plus Countries. The 11<sup>th</sup> ADMM also adopted the Concept Paper on the Annualisation of the ASEAN Defence Ministers' Meeting-Plus

which aims to increase the frequency of ADMM-Plus meetings to be held annually instead of every two years commencing in 2018.

#### **4.6. 2018 ADMM Retreat**

10. Singapore briefed the Meeting on the ADMM Retreat held in Singapore on 6-7 February 2018. The Meeting took note of the focus areas of the defence sector in 2018, namely the Three Cs; enhancing counter-terrorism (CT) cooperation; establishing practical confidence-building measures (CBMs) / Code of Unplanned Encounters at Sea and in the Air, as well as on enhancing regional chemical, biological, and radiological (CBR) defence capabilities. The 11<sup>th</sup> ADMM also issued the Joint Statement by ASEAN Defence Ministers on Counter Terrorism, underlined the Three Rs framework in tackling terrorism threat, namely Resilience, Response, and Recovery as well as discussed the modalities of the ASEAN-China maritime exercise.

#### **4.7. 5<sup>th</sup> ASEAN Ministerial Meeting on Disaster Management (AMMDM)**

11. Lao PDR briefed the Meeting on the outcomes of the 5<sup>th</sup> AMMDM in Luang Prabang, Lao PDR, on 19 October 2017 which outlined the following: (i) the key milestones achieved in the implementation of the ASEAN Agreement on Disaster Management and Emergency Response (AADMER) Work Programme 2016-2020; (ii) the adoption of the ASEAN Risk and Vulnerability Assessment (RVA) Guidelines in January 2017; (iii) the establishment of Technical Thematic Working Group Focal Points on Risk and Vulnerability Guidelines; (iv) the adoption of the Work Plan on Strengthening Institutional and Policy Framework on Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) and Climate Change Adaptation (CCA); and (v) the endorsement of the ASEAN Standardization and Certification for Experts in Disaster Management (ASCEND) Framework. The 5<sup>th</sup> AMMDM also emphasised the need to strengthen multi sectoral coordination under the ASEAN Committee on Disaster Management (ACDM) through the Joint Task Force on Humanitarian Assistance and Disaster Relief (JTF on HADR) and recognised the role of the AHA Centre in the implementation of One ASEAN One Response.

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

12. The Meeting took note of Singapore and New Zealand's briefing on the outcomes of the ARF DOD held on 7 May 2018. The ARF DOD discussed two main topics, namely counter-terrorism and chemical, biological, and radiological (CBR) defence, and the need to take a multi-agency and multi-sectoral approach to these issues. It was also noted that defence officials should draw on their experiences in

other regions when addressing these threats. A number of sub-themes were discussed under the counter-terrorism topic including: maritime terrorism; smuggling; the threat of returning of the Foreign Terrorist Fighters, strengthening inter-agency coordination, establishment of information command center and Information Fusion Centre to enhance information sharing; as well as sub-regional and regional maritime exercises. On CBR defence, the Dialogue discussed ways to enhance ASEAN CBRN capacity and measures to respond to CBRN threats, particularly in dealing with non-state actors. The Dialogue also discussed the Philippines' proposal to streamline the ARF DOD and the ARF Security Policy Conference (ASPC). As consensus was not reached, it was agreed that a revised concept paper incorporating the views of all ARF Participants could be surfaced subsequently. In the meantime, the *status quo* of conducting one ARF DOD and one ASPC per Inter-sessional Year would be maintained.

## **AGENDA ITEM 6: FUTURE DIRECTION OF THE ARF**

13. The ASEAN Secretariat briefed the Meeting on the implementation of the Hanoi Plan of Action (HPoA) to implement the ARF Vision Statement which indicated that eight years after the adoption of the HPoA, the overall implementation rate is 58.7% with 44 action lines implemented and 30 action lines pending. The Meeting noted that 72% of Section I on ARF Priority Areas, 55% on Section II on CBMs and PD, and 27% on Section III on Institutional Enhancement have been implemented. The Meeting deliberated on the direction of implementation of the HPoA and was of the view that the ARF needs to strengthen its focus on the implementation of preventive diplomacy and to consider moving forward beyond 2020. The Meeting also underlined the importance of the ARF maintaining its relevance in the regional security architecture by making it a more action-oriented platform and by considering emerging security issues.

## **AGENDA ITEM 7: OUTCOMES OF ARF INTER-SESSIONAL MEETINGS AND PROGRESS OF IMPLEMENTATION OF THE ARF WORK PLANS**

### **7.1. 21<sup>st</sup> Heads of Defence Universities/Colleges/Institutions Meeting (HDUCIM), Manila, 17-21 September 2017**

14. The Meeting took note of the outcomes of the 21<sup>st</sup> HDUCIM, Co-Chaired by Japan and the Philippines, which discussed the following items; (i) evolving regional security landscape of the Asia Pacific, i.e. (i) increasing major power competition, the

situation in the Korean Peninsula, maritime and territorial disputes in the South China Sea, and non-traditional security issues such as terrorism, cyber security and natural disasters; (ii) education and research as elements of defence diplomacy, and (iii) measures to build confidence and enhance engagements among Defence Universities/Colleges/Institutions through exchange visits, establishing Memorandum of Understandings (MoUs), as well as joint trainings and research. The Chairman's Report of the 21<sup>st</sup> ARF HDUCIM appears as **ANNEX 8.**

**7.2. 12<sup>th</sup> ARF Experts and Eminent Persons (EEPs) Meeting, Hanoi, Viet Nam, 6-7 March 2018**

15. The Meeting took note of the outcomes of the 12<sup>th</sup> ARF EEPs Meeting, Co-Chaired by Viet Nam and Japan, which adopted the following recommendations; (i) the final report of the EEP Working Group on ARF Initiatives on Promoting Cyber Security; (ii) for the Co-Chairs of the EEPs or other representatives of the EEPs to attend and participate in the Track 1 Meetings; (iii) to review and compile all confidence-building measures and preventive diplomacy initiatives that the ARF has implemented so far, establishing an EEP Working Group on Reviewing Confidence Building Measures and Preventive Diplomacy of the ARF EEPs. The Meeting noted that these outcomes will be submitted to the 25<sup>th</sup> ARF as recommendations to the Ministers. The Co-Chairs' Summary Report of the 12<sup>th</sup> ARF EEPs Meeting appears as **ANNEX 9.**

**7.3. 10<sup>th</sup> ARF Inter-Sessional Meeting on Maritime Security (ISM on MS), Brisbane, Australia, 27-28 March 2018 and ARF Work Plan on Maritime Security 2018-2020**

16. The Meeting took note of the outcomes of the 10<sup>th</sup> ARF ISM on MS, Co-Chaired by Australia, Viet Nam and the European Union, which deliberated on the updated draft ARF Work Plan on Maritime Security 2018-2020. The 10<sup>th</sup> ISM on MS discussed issues in the maritime domain including: importance of dispute resolution of maritime boundaries; the increasingly strategic connections between the Indian and Pacific Oceans; the development of guidelines between Maritime Law Enforcement Agencies; security challenges, e.g. Illegal, Unregulated and Unreported (IUU) Fishing; marine environmental protection; the Centre for Humanitarian Dialogue's development of common operating principles for encounters at sea; and maritime transnational crimes. The Meeting noted that the 11<sup>th</sup> ARF ISM on MS will be held in Viet Nam in 2019, and the 12<sup>th</sup> ARF ISM on MS will be held in Brussels, Belgium in 2020. The Draft Co-Chairs' Summary Report of the 10<sup>th</sup> ARF ISM on MS appears as **ANNEX 10.**

**7.4. 17<sup>th</sup> ARF Inter-Sessional Meeting on Disaster Relief (ISM on DR), Seoul, Republic of Korea, 4 April 2018 and ARF Work Plan on Disaster Relief (2018-2020)**

17. The Meeting took note of the outcomes of the 17<sup>th</sup> ARF ISM on DR, Co-Chaired by Thailand and the Republic of Korea (ROK), which discussed the current status and future direction of regional cooperation in disaster relief; the means to enhance disaster management and disaster risk reduction (DRR) capabilities; emerging issues in disaster relief, including man-made disasters and challenges in civil-military coordination; as well as the process and procedures of military engagement in disaster operations. The Meeting also deliberated on the inputs provided by the ARF Participants on the updated ARF Work Plan on Disaster Relief 2018-2020. The draft Co-Chairs' Summary Report of the 17<sup>th</sup> ARF ISM on DR appears as **ANNEX 11**.

**7.5. 10<sup>th</sup> ARF Inter-Sessional Meeting on Non-Proliferation and Disarmament (ISM on NPD), Seoul, 5-6 April 2018 and ARF Work Plan on Non-Proliferation and Disarmament**

18. The Meeting took note of the outcomes of the 10<sup>th</sup> ISM on NPD, Co-Chaired by Indonesia, Japan and the ROK, which discussed the current trends in disarmament and non-proliferation in the region including denuclearisation in the Korean Peninsula; efforts to mitigate the threat of Weapons of Mass Destruction (WMD); and the development of peaceful uses of nuclear energy. For the first time, the agenda included conventional weapons. The Meeting also exchanged views on the current regimes on NPD, including the development towards the 2020 Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty Review Conference and the emerging threat of cluster munitions. The Meeting noted that the 11<sup>th</sup> ARF ISM on NPD will be held in Indonesia in 2019 and the 12<sup>th</sup> ARF ISM on NPD will be held in Tokyo, Japan in 2020. The draft Co-Chairs' Summary Report of the 10<sup>th</sup> ARF ISM on NPD appears as **ANNEX 12**.

**7.6. ARF Inter-Sessional Meeting on Security of and in the Use of ICTs (ISM on ICTs Security), Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, 23-26 April 2018 and ARF Work Plan on Security of and in the Use of Information and Communication Technologies**

19. The Meeting noted the outcomes of the 1<sup>st</sup> ISM on ICTs Security, Co-Chaired by Japan, Malaysia and Singapore, which deliberated on the five proposed CBMs on ICTs Security and the Terms of Reference of the Open-Ended Study Group on Confidence-Building Measures to Reduce the Risk of Conflict Stemming from the Use of ICTs. The Meeting discussed the five proposed priority areas and noted the briefings on ICTs security development in other sectoral bodies. The draft Co-Chairs' Summary Report of the 1<sup>st</sup> ARF ISM on ICTs Security appears as **ANNEX 13**.

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

20. The Meeting noted New Zealand and Singapore's briefing on the progress of implementation of the ARF Work Plan on Preventive Diplomacy and looked forward to the convening of the ARF Workshop on Preventive Diplomacy: Skills and Tools toward Effective Peacebuilding which is scheduled to be held in Myanmar in September 2018 and Co-Chaired by Myanmar, New Zealand and the United States. The Meeting was pleased to note that the ARF has adjusted to the changing strategic environment by establishing the new ISM on ICTs Security, which reflected a continued commitment toward the implementation of the Work Plan. The Meeting noted the need to continue building on consensus-based confidence measures in parallel with ongoing work on preventive diplomacy. The ARF Work Plan on Preventive Diplomacy appears as **ANNEX 14**.

## **AGENDA ITEM 8: UPDATES ON THE DELIVERY AND PREPARATION FOR ARF MEETINGS AND ACTIVITIES IN THE INTER-SESSIONAL YEAR 2017-2018**

### **8.1. ARF Training Course on Capacity Building on Disaster Comprehensive Loss and Damage Assessment and Recovery and Reconstruction**

21. The Meeting noted the outcomes of the Training Course, which was held in Wu Han, China, on 31 October – 2 November 2017 and Co-Chaired by China and Lao PDR. The Training Course focused on major formulation and implementation of disaster recovery efforts and disaster comprehensive loss assessments which have helped approximately 50 trainers in improving their capacities in coordination for disaster risk reduction in the region.

### **8.2. ARF Workshop on Typhoon Disaster Risk Reduction and Damage Mitigation**

22. The Meeting noted the outcomes of the Workshop which was held in Guangzhou, China, on 4-7 December 2017 and Co-Chaired by Thailand, China and the ROK. Participants in the workshop shared technical and management expertise on disaster risk reduction. The Workshop discussed a number of topics including: typhoon disaster management; the establishment of a typhoon warning system in the region; promotion of new technologies in the event of typhoon disasters; how the region could work better together; and the key role of international organisations in disaster response.



### **8.3. ARF Workshop on Ferry Safety**

23. The Meeting noted the outcomes of the Workshop, held in Guangzhou, China, on 12-13 December 2017 and Co-Chaired by the Philippines and China, which discussed the means to reduce ferry accidents through sharing experiences and technologies among the ARF Participants. The Meeting also took note of the Guangzhou Statement as the outcome document of the Workshop, which outlined the suggestion to establish a ferry safety cooperation network and to strengthen the safety standards of ferries.

### **8.4. ARF Workshop on Peacekeeping Operations: Cooperation in Capacity Building and Developing Partnership with the UN**

24. The Meeting noted the outcomes of the Workshop which was held in Hanoi, Viet Nam, on 19-21 December 2017 and Co-Chaired by Canada, Viet Nam and the ROK. The Workshop discussed ways to enhance capacity building among ARF Participants, including on creating stronger and more inclusive peacekeeping partnerships as modern peacekeeping missions became more complex, and to develop practical cooperation with the United Nations. The Workshop demonstrated the desire of ARF members to participate in peacekeeping. The Workshop also encouraged Troop Contributing Countries in the ARF to increase their contribution to the UN Peacekeeping Missions. The Co-Chairs' Summary Report of the Workshop appears as **ANNEX 15**.

### **8.5. ARF Workshop on Enhancing Regional Maritime Law Enforcement (MLE) Cooperation**

25. The Meeting noted the outcomes of the Workshop which was held in Nha Trang, Viet Nam, on 18-19 January 2018 and Co-Chaired by Australia, the European Union and Viet Nam. The Workshop highlighted eight recommendations stemming from the discussion during the Workshop, which include, among others, the establishment of communication directories/networks among ARF Participants, harmonisation measures i.e. development of common data standards and operating terminologies among ARF Participants and engaging maritime industries, communities and other relevant stakeholders to support MLE priorities. The next workshop would be held in 2019 in Viet Nam. The Co-Chairs' Summary Report of the Workshop appears as **ANNEX 16**.

### **8.6. 1st and 2nd Open Ended Study Group Meetings on Confidence-Building Measures to Reduce the Risk of Conflict Stemming from the Use of Information and Communication Technologies (ICTs)**

26. The Meeting noted the outcomes of the 1<sup>st</sup> Open Ended Study Group (OESG) held in Tokyo, Japan, on 18 January 2018 which deliberated on the Terms of Reference (TOR) of the OESG, three proposed confidence building measures by ARF Participants and proposed priority areas for the ARF Work Plan on ICTs Security. The 1<sup>st</sup> OESG also exchanged views on the various aspects of recent regional and global cyber landscapes. These matters were followed up at the 2<sup>nd</sup> OESG, which was held in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, on 23 April 2018. The 2<sup>nd</sup> OESG also discussed two additional proposed confidence building measures to be carried out under the ISM on ICTs Security. The 2<sup>nd</sup> OESG continued to discuss the TOR which has incorporated inputs from ARF Participants, including the principles, mandates, objectives and rules of procedure of the OESG. The Minutes of the 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> OESG appear as **ANNEXES 17 and 18, respectively.**

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

27. The Meeting noted the outcomes of the Workshop which was held in Manila, Philippines, on 6-8 March 2018 and Co-Chaired by Canada, Philippines, and the United States. The Workshop outlined the different approaches to assist victims of terrorism through medical, psychological and mental counselling and exchanged views on the role of media and multi-agency coordination in increasing regional knowledge on handling the victims of terrorism and mass casualty events.

#### **8.8. ARF Workshop on International Cooperation on Maritime Domain Awareness (MDA)**

28. The Meeting noted the outcomes of the Workshop which was held in Tokyo, Japan, on 7-8 March 2018 and Co-Chaired by Malaysia and Japan. The Workshop discussed the various concepts and perspectives of MDA among ARF Participants and affirmed the necessity of enhancing capacity building for maritime law enforcement agencies to address maritime challenges, such as piracy and IUU fishing. The Meeting also took note that future capacity building activities on MDA will be based on the needs of ARF Participants as reflected in the discussion carried out in the Workshop. The Co-Chairs' Summary Report of the Workshop appears as **ANNEX 19.**

#### **8.9. ARF Workshop on Sustainable Fisheries Management and Food Security**

29. The Meeting noted the outcomes of the Workshop which was held in Bangkok, Thailand, on 13-14 March 2018. The Workshop encouraged greater regional cooperation on food security through sustainable management of shared fisheries and exchanged views on the ASEAN Common Fisheries Principles and other fisheries

policies. The Workshop also discussed fisheries-related issues, including the conservation of marine protected areas, the use of emerging technology for traceability, and the strengthened efforts to use small vessels to support sustainable fisheries.

#### **8.10. ARF Senior Training Course on Urban Search and Rescue (USAR)**

30. The Meeting noted the outcomes of the Training Course which was held in Beijing and Chengdu, China, on 7-14 May 2018 and Co-Chaired by China and Singapore. The Training Course discussed ways to promote capacity building in managing potential major disasters in the region, and to establish a regional platform for cooperation and exchanges among professional USAR teams. The Meeting took note that the second training course would take place at the end of 2018 in Singapore.

#### **8.11 ARF Workshop on National Single Points of Contacts (SPOC)**

31. The Meeting took note that the Workshop, Co-Chaired by Australia, Malaysia and the United States, would be carried over to the ARF Inter-Sessional Year 2018-2019 and was tentatively scheduled to be held in August 2019.

#### **8.11. ARF Workshop on Best Practices in Using Maritime Data to Combat Transnational Organized Crime**

32. The Meeting took note that the Workshop, Co-Chaired by Indonesia and the United States, would be held in Bali, on 17-19 July 2018 and the Invitation Package would be circulated in due course.

#### **8.12. 2<sup>nd</sup> ARF Workshop on Urban Emergency Response**

33. The Meeting took note that the Workshop, Co-Chaired by China and Malaysia, would take place in Nanning, China, on 9-12 July 2018 and the Invitation Package would be circulated in due course.

#### **8.13. ARF Workshop on Preventive Diplomacy: Skills and Tools towards Effective Peacebuilding**

34. The Meeting took note that the Workshop, Co-Chaired by Myanmar, New Zealand and the United States, would be carried over to the ARF Inter-Sessional Year 2018-2019 and was scheduled to take place in Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar on 17-19 September 2018.

#### **8.14. ARF Workshop on Aviation Security and Information Sharing**

35. The Meeting took note that the Workshop, Co-Chaired by Malaysia and the United States, was one of the three Workshops that have been proposed on Aviation Security under the ARF. The Meeting noted that the Workshop would be carried over to the ARF Inter-Sessional Year 2018-2019.

## **AGENDA ITEM 9: CONSIDERATION OF CBMS AND PD INITIATIVES**

### **9.1. ARF Statement on Enhancing Disaster Management Cooperation**

36. The Meeting noted China's proposal to Co-Sponsor a Statement on disaster management to coincide with the 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Sichuan Earthquake in China in 2008. The Statement aimed to summarise outcomes that have been achieved in disaster relief areas in the region and to put greater importance on disaster cooperation. China was seeking an ASEAN Co-Sponsor and the draft Statement would be circulated for inputs from all ARF Participants. The Draft Statement appears as **ANNEX 20**.

### **9.2. ARF Statement on Aviation**

37. The Meeting noted United States' proposal to Co-Sponsor a Statement on the security and safety of aviation. The Meeting noted that the Statement would underscore the importance of safe and secure transport, to support security cooperation and economic integration in the Southeast Asia, in accordance with the United Nations Security Council Resolution (UNSCR) 2309. The United States was seeking an ASEAN Co-Sponsor and the Draft Statement would be circulated in due course.

### **9.3. ARF High-Level Symposium on Nuclear Security Capability Building**

38. The Meeting noted China's proposal to convene the Symposium aiming to share experiences and best practices in nuclear security management and technology development among ARF Participants. China was seeking an ASEAN Co-Chair. The Concept Paper of the Symposium appears as **ANNEX 21**.

### **9.4. ARF Workshop on Capacity Building for ASEAN Institute for Peacebuilding and Reconciliation (ASEAN-IPR)**

39. The United States briefed the Meeting on the proposed Workshop, which aimed to strengthen institutional capacity arrangement for both the ARF and the ASEAN-IPR

to achieve concrete results and to use all available tools for third party engagement, particularly in the peace process. The United States was seeking an ASEAN Co-Chair.

#### **9.5. ARF Workshop on Sustainable Fisheries**

40. The Meeting took note that the Workshop would be a follow up to the Workshop on Sustainable Fisheries Management and Food Security held in March 2018, and would focus on information sharing, challenges and best practices in sustainable fisheries management. The United States was seeking an ASEAN Co-Chair.

#### **9.6. 2<sup>nd</sup> ARF Workshop on Enhancing Regional Maritime Law Enforcement (MLE) Cooperation**

41. Australia, European Union and Viet Nam proposed to hold the second series of the Workshop which would focus on identifying potential areas of cooperation and discuss approaches to mitigate risks associated with incidents at sea occurring between MLE vessels and aircraft. The Concept Paper of the Workshop appears as **ANNEX 22.**

#### **9.7. ARF Workshop and Table-Top Exercise on Crimes Related to Fisheries**

42. The Meeting took note of Indonesia's proposal which aimed to further develop common understanding of the serious nature and extent of criminal offences that take place along the entire supply and value chain of fisheries sector. The Workshop and TTX would also serve as a capacity building program for fisheries control and law enforcement agencies. Indonesia was seeking a non-ASEAN Co-Chair. In response to concerns from some ARF Participants over the issue of linking Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated Fishing to "crimes related to fisheries" in the proposal, Indonesia welcomed further inputs to the Concept Paper, which appears as **ANNEX 23.**

#### **9.8. ARF Workshop on Maritime Law Enforcement Comprehensive Approach to Address Maritime Crimes**

43. The European Union and Malaysia proposed to hold a Workshop which aimed to strengthen the region's ability to address Maritime Transnational Organised Crime (MTOC), to reach common understanding of the land-sea nexus in regional maritime cooperation as well as to bring together relevant stakeholders such as the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC), ASEANAPOL and Interpol. The Meeting noted that a revised Concept Paper would be circulated in due course. The Concept Paper appears as **ANNEX 24.**

#### **9.9. 2<sup>nd</sup> ARF Workshop on Ferry Safety**

44. China briefed the Meeting on the Workshop, which was a follow up to the Guangzhou Statement issued during the first Workshop held in December 2013. The Workshop aimed to provide a platform to share best-practices on activities related to ferry safety management, to promote the use of fit-for-purpose vessels, as well as to encourage safety culture within the ARF Framework. China was seeking an ASEAN Co-Chair. The Concept paper appears as **ANNEX 25**.

#### **9.10. ARF Workshop on Regional Climate Change and Coastal Disaster Mitigation**

45. China briefed the Meeting on the Workshop, which aimed to identify the status of regional ocean climate and common coastal disasters that pose a threat to the economic and social development and to provide a platform for ARF Participants to exchange research progress on climate change, rising sea levels, and ocean disaster mitigation. China was seeking an ASEAN Co-Chair. The Concept paper appears as **ANNEX 26**.

#### **9.11. ARF Workshop on Enacting UNCLOS to Address Emergency Maritime Issues**

46. Viet Nam briefed the Meeting on the Workshop which aimed to raise awareness on the current situation and effects of emerging maritime issues, share best practices in implementation of the law of the sea and seek possible measures to promote cooperation among ARF Participants in addressing emerging maritime challenges, by enacting the law of the sea. The Meeting took note that the Workshop would be held in the 4<sup>th</sup> quarter of 2018. In response to a suggestion to amend the title of the Workshop to “ARF Workshop on Enacting UNCLOS and International Instruments to Address Emergency Maritime Issues”, Viet Nam welcomed further inputs to the Concept Paper, which appears as **ANNEX 27**.

#### **9.12. Draft Terms of Reference (TOR) of the ARF Open Ended Study Group on Confidence-Building Measures to Reduce the Risk of Conflict Stemming from the Use of information and Communication Technologies**

47. The Meeting took note that the draft TOR had been agreed by the 1<sup>st</sup> ARF ISM on ICTs Security which was held in Kuala Lumpur on 25-26 April 2018 and would be further tabled at the upcoming ARF Senior Officials' Meeting (SOM). The Draft TOR appears as **ANNEX 28**.

### **9.13. Concept Paper on ARF Directory of Cyber Points of Contact**

48. The Meeting took note that further to the conclusion of the 1<sup>st</sup> ISM on ICTs Security, the updated draft Concept Paper, Co-Sponsored by Australia and Malaysia, has been circulated to all ARF Participants for further comments with a deadline of 11 May 2018. The initiative aimed to strengthen real time communication between ARF participating countries, particularly in order to reduce tension and risk of conflict arising from misinterpretation of cyber incidents. While the majority of the ARF Participants supported this proposal, one country queried the processes and procedures of the establishment of the points of contact and was of the view that it would still be premature to proceed with the Initiative. The Concept Paper appears as **ANNEX 29.**

### **9.14. Concept Paper on Sharing of information on National Laws, Policies, Best Practices and Strategies as well as Rules and Regulations**

49. The Meeting took note that the proposal, Co-Sponsored by Japan and the Philippines, aimed to reduce misunderstanding, misperception and/or miscalculation and prevent possible conflicts by increasing transparency through sharing information on each ARF Participating countries' national systems. The Meeting noted that a draft had been circulated to the ARF Participants for further comments, which appears as **ANNEX 30.**

### **9.15. Concept Paper on Protection of Critical Infrastructures and Consultation Mechanisms**

50. The Meeting took note that the Concept Paper, Co-Sponsored by Singapore and the European Union, had been circulated to all ARF Participants for inputs, with a deadline of 11 May 2018. The proposed initiative would serve as a practical avenue for consultation and information sharing among ARF Participants on measures to protect critical infrastructure from malicious ICTs acts. In regard to this proposal, the Meeting sought further clarification as to the types of practical cooperation that were proposed in the Concept Paper, which appears as **ANNEX 31.**

### **9.16. Concept Paper on Awareness-Raising and Information Sharing on Emergency Responses to Security Incidents in the Use of ICTs**

51. China briefed the Meeting on the initiative, which aimed to improve capacity building of regional countries in addressing ICT-related incidents and ensure timely and appropriate responses. Cambodia had expressed interest to Co-Chair this initiative. The Concept Paper appears as **ANNEX 32.**

**9.17. Concept Paper on ARF Workshop on Principles of Building Security in the Use of ICTs in the National Context**

52. Singapore briefed the Meeting on the Concept Paper which had been amended following the discussion at the 1<sup>st</sup> ISM on ICTs Security. The Workshop aimed to enhance regional confidence and readiness in the use of ICTs by equipping ARF Participants with a holistic understanding of the approaches toward principles of building ICTs security in the national context. Singapore was seeking a non-ASEAN Co-Chair. The Concept Paper of the Workshop appears as **ANNEX 33**.

**9.18. Concept Paper on ARF Workshop on Preventive Diplomacy: New Ideas and New Approaches**

53. China briefed the Meeting on its proposal to convene a Workshop, which aimed to discuss new approaches to ASEAN's preventive diplomacy culture with a focus on addressing non-traditional security. China was seeking an ASEAN Co-Chair and the concept paper would be circulated in due course.

**AGENDA ITEM 10: CO-CHAIRS OF ARF MEETINGS AND ACTIVITIES FOR THE NEXT INTER-SESSIONAL YEAR**

**10.1. ARF ISG on CBMs and PD**

54. Thailand, as the incoming ARF Chair for 2019, informed the Meeting that information regarding the non-ASEAN Co-Chair as well as the date and venue of the Meeting would be circulated in due course.

**10.2. 16<sup>th</sup> ARF ISM on Counter-Terrorism and Transnational Crime (CTTC)**

55. The Meeting took note of Russia's interest in Co-Chairing the 16<sup>th</sup> ARF ISM on CTTC and encouraged other ARF Participants to consider Co-Chairing this ISM.

**10.3. 18<sup>th</sup> ARF ISM on Disaster Relief (DR)**

56. The Meeting encouraged ARF Participants to consider Co-Chairing the 18<sup>th</sup> ARF ISM on DR.

**10.4. ARF Disaster Relief Exercise (DiREx)**



57. There were not yet any expressions of interest to Co-Chair this activity. The Co-Chairs encouraged ARF Participants to consider conducting alternative formats for the DiREx i.e. a Table-Top Exercise, in the next ARF Inter-Sessional Year, given that it would be more manageable and less resource intensive.

#### **10.5. 22<sup>nd</sup> ARF Heads of Defence Universities/Colleges/Institutions Meeting (HDUCIM)**

58. The Meeting took note that the 22<sup>nd</sup> ARF HDUCIM, Co-Chaired by Japan and Singapore, was scheduled to be held in Tokyo, Japan, on 25-29 September 2018. The Concept Paper of the 22<sup>nd</sup> ARF HDUCIM appears as **ANNEX 34**.

#### **10.6. 13<sup>th</sup> ARF Experts and Eminent Persons (EEPs) Meeting**

59. The Meeting took note that the 13<sup>th</sup> ARF EEPs Meeting would be Co-Chaired by Japan and Myanmar and would take place in Japan in the first half of 2019.

#### **10.7. 7<sup>th</sup> ARF Peacekeeping Experts' Meeting**

60. The Meeting took note of China and Cambodia's interest in Co-Chairing the 7<sup>th</sup> ARF Peacekeeping Experts' Meeting.

### **AGENDA ITEM 11: EXCHANGE OF VIEWS ON REGIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL ISSUES**

61. The Meeting exchanged views on current regional and international security issues. Participants welcomed recent developments in the Korean Peninsula, including the Inter-Korean Summit and the preparation for the upcoming DPRK – United States Summit. Some ARF Participants expressed support for complete, verifiable and irreversible denuclearization of the Korean Peninsula in a peaceful manner. Other related issues discussed included the importance of dialogue, maintaining pressure on DPRK, and humanitarian concerns with regard to the DPRK. ARF Participants expressed hope for permanent peace on the Korean Peninsula.

62. Considering the importance of the South China Sea to regional peace and stability, trade and economic development, the Meeting welcomed the commencement of Code of Conduct negotiations. Some ARF Participants expressed hope for conclusion of an effective Code of Conduct. ARF Participants also emphasised the importance of freedom of navigation and overflight, non militarisation, and the peaceful settlement of disputes in the South China Sea. They also stressed

the necessity for all the relevant parties to exercise restraint and uphold relevant international law, including the 1982 United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS).

63. Some Participants also touched upon the concept of Indo-Pacific Strategy, which recognised that countries along the Indian and Pacific Oceans share similar maritime challenges and agreed on the importance of countries behaving in accordance with international rules and norms to maintain stability and prosperity in the region. Some Participants questioned the rationale of the Indo-Pacific concepts, underlining the importance of maintaining ASEAN Centrality in the Asia-Pacific security architecture and strengthening of existing ASEAN-led mechanisms. There was a suggestion of further thorough discussion on this issue in the framework of relevant EAS dialogue in Jakarta

64. The Meeting also deliberated on counter-terrorism and transnational crime issues, including the increased threats posed by returning Foreign Terrorist Fighters (FTFs), the need to increase efforts to stop and prevent terrorist financing, the situation in the Marawi, Philippines and kidnapping incidents in the Sulu Sea, as well as the increased activities of irregular migration, which could be seen as both the cause and effect of the spread of radicalism. On this note, the Meeting highlighted the role of the internet and social media as powerful tools to tackle the spread of radicalism and extremist ideologies.

65. The Meeting also touched upon other regional and international security issues, including the Iran nuclear issue, the situation in Rakhine State, Myanmar, the use of chemical weapons by non-state actors, cyber security issues, as well as challenges stemming from climate change and natural disasters.

## **AGENDA ITEM 12: OTHER MATTERS**

### **12.1. ARF Annual Security Outlook**

66. The Meeting noted that contributions to the 2018 ARF Annual Security Outlook (ASO) were to be submitted to the ARF Chair by 15 June 2018. The Meeting further took note that the ARF ASO would be issued at the 25<sup>th</sup> ARF in Singapore in August 2018.

### **12.2. Dates and Venue of the ARF SOM**

67. The Meeting noted that the ARF SOM would be held at the Marina Bay Sands Expo and Convention Centre in Singapore, on 7 June 2018. The Invitation Package including the Provisional Agenda would be circulated in due course.

### **12.3. ARF Fund**

68. On the ARF Fund, which was established in 2005, the Meeting noted that the current balance of the ARF Fund stands at USD 163,366.00 and that the ARF Fund had been determined as dormant due to inactivity. The Meeting further discussed the way forward and noted Viet Nam's suggestion to consider revising the TOR of the ARF Fund. The Meeting agreed that further deliberation was necessary to determine the future direction for the usage of the Fund. The Information Paper on the ARF Fund and its TOR appear as **ANNEXES 35 and 36, respectively.**

### **AGENDA ITEM 13: CLOSING REMARKS BY CO-CHAIRS**

69. The Co-Chairs expressed gratitude to the ARF participants for their continued support and the frank discussion and for their efforts in maintaining the ASEAN spirit throughout the discussion.

### **ACKNOWLEDGEMENT**

70. The Meeting expressed gratitude and appreciation to the Co-Chairs for the effective leadership and to the Government of New Zealand for their hospitality and the excellent arrangements made for the Meeting.

### **ISSUES TO BE FOLLOWED UP**

<b>No.</b>	<b>Key Decision/Issues</b>	<b>Timeline</b>	<b>Follow-up By</b>
1.	Identification of Co-Chairs for the next cycle of ARF ISM on CTTC and ARF ISM on DR	Before the 25 <sup>th</sup> ARF in August 2018	ARF Chair and ARF Participants
2.	Seek the interest of ARF Participating Countries to Co-Chair the ARF DiREx	Before the 25 <sup>th</sup> ARF in August 2018	ARF Chair and ARF Participants

3.	To develop the List of Track I Activities for the Inter-Sessional Year 2018-2019	Before the 25 <sup>th</sup> ARF in August 2018	ARF Chair
4.	To circulate the pending concept papers of the proposed activities in the Inter-Sessional Year 2018-2019	Before the 25 <sup>th</sup> ARF in August 2018	Proponents of the proposed activities and ARF Chair
5.	Identification of Co-Chairs for proposed 2018-2019 ARF activities	Before the 25 <sup>th</sup> ARF in August 2018	ARF Participants and Proponents of concepts
6.	Update the Draft Statement on Enhancing Disaster Management Cooperation	Before the 25 <sup>th</sup> ARF in August 2018	China
7.	Circulate and update the Draft Statement on Aviation Security	Before the 25 <sup>th</sup> ARF in August 2018	The United States

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