

**CO-CHAIRS' SUMMARY REPORT  
ASEAN REGIONAL FORUM DISASTER RELIEF EXERCISE (ARF DiREx 2013)  
FINAL PLANNING CONFERENCE (FPC)  
CHA-AM, THAILAND, 1-3 APRIL 2013**

**INTRODUCTION**

1. The ARF DiREx 2013 Final Planning Conference (FPC) was held in Cha-Am, Thailand on 1-3 April 2013. The Conference was co-chaired by Mr. Arthayudh Srisamoot, Director-General, Department of ASEAN Affairs, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Thailand, and Ms. Oh Young Ju, Deputy Director-General, Development Cooperation Bureau, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Korea.
2. Representatives from Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, Lao PDR, Indonesia, Malaysia, Myanmar, Philippines, Singapore, Thailand, Viet Nam, Australia, Canada, China, India, Japan, New Zealand, the Republic of Korea, the Russian Federation, the United States of America, and the European Union attended the Conference. Representatives of the ASEAN Coordinating Centre for Humanitarian Assistance on disaster management (AHA Centre), the United Nations Office for Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (UNOCHA), the World Health Organization (WHO), the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) and the ASEAN Secretariat were also present. The List of Participants appears as **ANNEX 1**.

**OPENING SESSION**

3. In his opening remarks, Mr. Arthayudh Srisamoot recalled the constructive deliberations during the Initial Planning Conference in January, and expressed hope that the Final Planning Conference will further develop and finalise the preparations for the ARF DiREx 2013. He welcomed the contributions from ARF participants to the ARF DiREx and announced the extension of the deadline to allow additional contribution of assets.
4. Ms. Oh Young Ju in her opening remarks touched on the vulnerability of the Asia Pacific region to natural disasters and emphasised the goal of the ARF DiREx which is to strengthen partnerships among ARF participants in addressing the challenges in the field of humanitarian assistance and disaster relief (HADR). She underscored the value of the Final Planning Conference as a platform to share the collective wisdom of ARF participants in improving regional coordination and cooperation in disaster preparedness, response and relief.

**AGENDA ITEM 1: ADOPTION OF AGENDA**

5. The Conference adopted of the Agenda as appears in **ANNEX 2**.

**AGENDA ITEM 2: OVERVIEW OF ARF DIREX 2013**

6. Mr. Pongsatorn Sirisakorn of the Department of Disaster Prevention and Mitigation updated the Conference on the planning and coordination aspects of the ARF DiREx 2013. He informed the Conference that a Joint Coordination Center will be established prior to the

Exercise; the Center will comprise of a Joint Information Center (JIC), Liaison, Operation, Planning and Logistic sections. The presentation appears as **ANNEX 3.**

7. Ms. Bacharee Puengpak from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Thailand updated the Conference on the logistical and administrative arrangements of the ARF DiREx 2013, including the deadline for customs, immigration and quarantine (CIQ) procedures and the arrival of cargos and aircrafts on 16 April 2013, the launch of ARF DiREx 2013 website at [www.arfdirex2013.org](http://www.arfdirex2013.org) and accommodation arrangements for participants. The presentation appears as **ANNEX 4.**
8. Col. Sungkom Piamviriyawong from the Royal Thai Armed Forces and Mr. Lee Min Kyu, Chief of National 119 Rescue Services, Republic of Korea updated the Conference on the Field Training Exercise (FTX) component of the ARF DiREx 2013. The Conference took note of the main coordination bodies of the FTX, namely the Emergency Operations Center (EOC) as the overall coordinating body, the AHA Center which will coordinate ASEAN civil-military assets, the On-Site Operations and Coordination Centre (OSOCC) which will coordinate non-ASEAN civilian assets, and the Civil-Military Operations Center (CMOC) which will coordinate non-ASEAN military assets. The presentation is attached as **ANNEX 5.**
9. Dr. Songkiat Lektrakul from the Ministry of Public Health of Thailand presented an overview of the Medical scenario of the FTX. Participants took note of the procedures for registering medical personnel. The presentation appears as **ANNEX 6.**
10. Maj. Jung Han Chul of the Republic of Korea Air Force briefed the Conference on the Air Operations scenario which will be conducted during the FTX, including aerial reconnaissance, air drops to isolated areas, medical evacuations, and illumination for night search-and-rescue (SAR) operations. The presentation appears as **ANNEX 7.**
11. Mr. Kim Il-ho from the Ministry of Defense of the Republic of Korea presented an update on the preparations for the Table Top Exercise (TTX) component of the ARF DiREx 2013. Participants took note of the Expert Session on Frameworks and Response, discussion groups, updated tentative schedule and scenario, ground rules for the discussions, and administrative arrangements. The presentation appears as **ANNEX 8.**
12. Mr. Kim Yong Sang from National 119 Rescue Services, Republic of Korea presented an update of the After Action Review (AAR) process of the ARF DiREx 2013. The Conference noted the completion of the field manual and operations manual which will guide the work of the AAR teams. The presentation appears as **ANNEX 9.**
13. Mr. Sebastian Rhodes Stampa from the United Nations Office for Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (UNOCHA) briefed the Conference on the upcoming OSOCC Training Course which will be held on 3-6 May 2013 at Dusit Thani Hotel, Hua Hin prior to the ARF DiREx. He reaffirmed UNOCHA's support for the successful conduct of ARF DiREx 2013.

### **AGENDA ITEM 3: WORKING GROUP CONSULTATIONS**

14. Participants were divided into four planning working groups, namely TTX, FTX, AAR, and Planning, Coordination/ Support Division. The outcomes of the discussions were presented at the plenary session.

15. The Planning and Coordination/ Support Working Group discussed the administrative and draft logistic arrangements for the ARF DiREx 2013. The Conference took note of the combined programme of ARF DiREx 2013, which appears as **ANNEX 10.**
16. The TTX Working Group discussed the structure of the TTX, the core questions to be presented, the TTX tools to be utilised, the identification of participants and facilitators, and the expected outcomes of the TTX. The report of the TTX Working Group appears as **ANNEX 11.**
17. The FTX Working Group discussed the main coordination bodies of the FTX, list of participants and list of assets for the FTX, allocation of personnel, principles of operations, logistic arrangements, and the plans of action for the SAR, Maritime, Air Operations, and Medical scenarios. The Working Group also took part in a site survey on 2 April 2013 in the planned locations for the FTX in and around Cha-am/Hua Hin. The reports of the FTX Working Group appear as **ANNEXES 12**
18. The AAR Working Group discussed the composition, tasks, assignment of duties, and work plan of the AAR Working Group. The AAR WG is also preparing a questionnaire to be utilised in the review process. The draft questionnaire will be posted on the ARF DiREx 2013 website at [www.arfdirex2013.org](http://www.arfdirex2013.org) and participants were invited to submit inputs and comments to the draft by 30 April 2013. The report of the AAR Working Group is attached as **ANNEX 13**
19. Ms. Indira Kulenovic from the IFRC presented an overview of the contribution by the IFRC and the Thai Red Cross Society (TRCs) to the ARF DiREx 2013 in the form of equipment and personnel. The presentation appears as **ANNEX 14**

#### **AGENDA ITEM 4: OTHER MATTERS**

20. No discussions were made under this agenda item.

#### **AGENDA ITEM 5: CONCLUDING SESSION**

21. The Conference thanked the Co-Chairs for the effective chairmanship and cordial atmosphere for discussions and expressed gratitude to the Government of Thailand for the warm hospitality and excellent arrangements.

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