THE TWELFTH
ASEAN REGIONAL FORUM
VIENTIANE, LAO PDR, 29 JULY 2005
1. The Twelfth Meeting of the ASEAN Regional Forum (ARF) was convened on 29 July 2005 in Vientiane, the Lao People’s Democratic Republic (Lao PDR). The Meeting was chaired by H.E. Somsavat LENGSAVAD, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Lao PDR.

2. The Meeting was attended by the Foreign Ministers of all ARF Participants. The Secretary-General of ASEAN was also in attendance. The List of Delegates appears as ANNEX I.

3. A meeting of the defence and military officials attending the 12th ARF was also held on 28 July 2005 in Vientiane.

4. The Ministers welcomed the admission of Timor-Leste, as the 25th Participant of the ARF and took note of its expressed commitments to contribute to the attainment of the ARF’s goals and to abide by and subscribe to all the decisions and statements already made by the ARF.

Overview of the ARF Process

5. The Ministers reaffirmed the importance of ARF as the main multilateral political and security forum in the region and agreed to its further strengthening. The Ministers reiterated their support for ASEAN as the primary driving force of ARF and encouraged the continued cooperation and contribution of all ARF participants in moving the ARF process forward.

6. The Ministers noted with satisfaction the significant progress and the role that ARF has played in enhancing political and security dialogue and cooperation as well as confidence building in the Asia-Pacific region. The Ministers agreed to continue to observe in good faith the basic principles of decision-making by consensus and non-interference. In this regard, the Ministers reaffirmed that ARF should move forward at a pace comfortable to all.
7. The Ministers held comprehensive discussions on issues of common concern and stressed the need for the ARF to focus its deliberations on regional issues, particularly in the Asia-Pacific region, as well as international issues with regional impact. The Ministers recognized that the challenges facing the Asia Pacific region were becoming more complex and interrelated and required greater regional cooperation.

Highlights of Discussions on Regional and International Security Issues

8. The Ministers exchanged views on the tsunami disaster of 26 December 2004 and the follow-up actions taken by the concerned countries and the international community. They expressed sympathy, solidarity and support to all those affected by the earthquake and tsunami in the Indian Ocean and Southeast Asia. They welcomed the Special ASEAN Leaders Meeting in Jakarta on 6 January 2005 and its Declaration on Action to Strengthen Emergency Relief, Rehabilitation, Reconstruction and Prevention on the Aftermath of Earthquake and Tsunami Disaster of 26 December 2004. They underlined the importance of ARF partners in working together in emergency relief, rehabilitation and reconstruction as well as prevention and mitigation efforts in addressing natural disaster.

9. The Ministers welcomed the common statement of the UN World Conference on Disaster Reduction in Kobe, 18-22 January 2005, which called for the establishment of an effective and durable tsunami early warning system for the Indian Ocean under the co-ordination of the United Nations which must be tailored to the specific circumstances of the Indian Ocean and the individual requirements of countries.

10. The Ministers underscored the importance of regional co-operation and coordination in disaster reduction and the need to co-ordinate and examine the various proposals made in Kobe and Phuket. In this respect, they welcomed the results of the Ministerial Meeting on Regional Co-operation on Tsunami Early Warning Arrangements held in Phuket, Thailand on 28-29 January 2005 as well as efforts and initiatives by ARF partners in the field of early warning and disaster reduction. The Ministers welcomed the upcoming Asian Conference on Disaster Reduction to be held from 27 to 29 September 2005 in Beijing, and encouraged all Asian countries and interested countries outside Asia to participate in the Conference at the ministerial level.

11. The Ministers welcomed the idea of stand-by arrangements for disaster relief under the auspices of the United Nations, including rehabilitation and reconstruction efforts in the medium and long terms. They looked forward to the expeditious establishment of regional mechanisms on disaster reduction, including preparedness and mitigation and supported the ASEAN Agreement on Disaster Management and Emergency Response. The Ministers recognized with appreciation the contributions of donors to the relief and
expressed the urgent need for speedy delivery of assistance to affected communities. They also noted the efforts of affected countries, as national coordinators, to ensure an effective channeling and utilization of assistance in reconstruction efforts.

12. In response to this recent and tragic experience, the Ministers agreed on the reconvening of the ARF Inter-Sessional Meeting on Disaster Relief and Related Issues for the inter-sessional year 2005-2006 to be co-chaired by Indonesia and China.

13. The Ministers welcomed and expressed their support for the Plan of Action for the ASEAN Security Community, the Vientiane Action Programme adopted at the 10th ASEAN Summit and the ASEAN Leaders’ shared vision and common values to achieve peace, stability, democracy and prosperity in the region.

14. The Ministers recognized the importance of the purpose and principles of the Treaty of Amity and Cooperation in the Southeast Asia (TAC), which can serve as a very important code of conduct governing the inter-state relations in the region and for the promotion of cooperation, amity and friendship within Southeast Asia and between ASEAN and other ARF participants. The Ministers welcomed the accession by the Republic of Korea and the Russian Federation to the TAC during the 10th ASEAN Summit in November 2004 in Vientiane and by Mongolia and New Zealand during the ASEAN Post-Ministerial Conferences on 28 July 2005 in Vientiane. The Ministers also welcomed the signing of the declaration of intent of Australia to accede to the Treaty on the same occasion.

15. The Ministers exchanged views on recent developments on the Korean Peninsula. The Ministers welcomed the resumption of the Six-Party Talks and expressed the hope that the talks would lead to a substantial progress in finding a peaceful solution acceptable to all concerned parties towards the denuclearization of the Korean Peninsula. They underlined the importance of finding a peaceful solution to the denuclearization on the Korean Peninsula by engaging in dialogue to promote mutual confidence and common approach on the basis of the principle of mutual respect for sovereignty and equality.

16. The Ministers welcomed the recent resumption of the inter-Korea dialogue and expressed the hope that the dialogue would continue in accordance with June 15 North-South Joint Declaration and expressed the hope that the ongoing momentum of the inter-Korean relations will be conducive to the peace and stability in the Korean Peninsula and to the peaceful achievement of the denuclearization on the Korean Peninsula.

17. The Ministers took note of the briefing by Myanmar on the recent developments in the country, including the progress of the National Convention and expressed their concern at the pace of the democratization process. They called for the lifting of restrictions and for effective dialogue with all parties concerned. They also called for an early resumption
of the visit to Myanmar by UNSG Special Representative and to continue cooperate with other relevant UN agencies.

18. The Ministers welcomed the progress made by ASEAN and China in the implementation of Declaration on the Conduct of Parties in the South China Sea (DoC). The Ministers emphasized the importance of confidence building and the need to explore ways and means for cooperative activities among the parties concerned in accordance with the spirit and principles of the DoC, thus creating favourable conditions for settling disputes in South China Sea peacefully. The Ministers welcomed the convening of the ASEAN-China Senior Officials’ Meeting on the Implementation of the DoC in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, in December 2004 and the establishment of the ASEAN-China Joint Working Group that would oversee the implementation of the Declaration, which will convene in August 2005 in Manila, the Philippines.

19. The Ministers welcomed the presidential election in Palestine on Sunday, 9 January 2005 and later the resumption of direct dialogue between Israel and Palestine at Sharm el-Sheikh in February 2005. The Ministers look forward to a final, just and comprehensive settlement with the realization of two states, Israel and Palestine, living side by side in peace within secured and recognized borders, based on the Roadmap and relevant United Nations Security Resolutions.

20. The Ministers welcomed the full reassertion of the sovereignty of Iraq since June 2004. They emphasized the need to ensure substantive materialization of this sovereign state status and reaffirmed their commitment to the independence, sovereignty, unity, and territorial integrity of Iraq. The Ministers welcomed the successful conduct of the 30 January election in Iraq and the formation of Transitional Government in accordance with UNSCR 1546. They emphasized the central role of the United Nations in the process of political transition, reconstruction and economic development as well as the establishment of rule of law and public order in the country. The Ministers welcomed the “Iraq International Conference” held in Brussels on 22 June 2005. The Ministers strongly condemned all acts of terrorism directed against innocent victims and called for the cessation of all those acts. The Ministers welcomed the United Nations Security Council’s press statement in support of the continuation of the mandate of the Multinational Forces in Iraq (MNF-I) in accordance with paragraphs 4 and 12 of UNSCR 1546 and at the request of the newly elected Iraqi government.

21. The Ministers strongly condemned the recent terrorist attacks in London and in Sharm el-Sheikh which caused tragic loss of lives of innocent people and property and expressed their deepest sympathy and condolences to the victims of the attacks, their families and friends. The Ministers affirmed that terrorism, irrespective of its origins, motivations
or objectives, constitutes a threat to all peoples and countries, and to the common interest in ensuring peace, stability, security and economic prosperity in the region and beyond. The Ministers reaffirmed the need to combat by all means, in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations and international law, threats to international peace and security caused by terrorist acts. Several Ministers emphasized the importance of addressing the root causes of terrorism and avoiding the identification of terrorism with any particular religion or ethnic group or nationality. The Ministers agreed that states must ensure that any measures taken to combat terrorism and related crime comply with all their obligations under international law and should adopt such measures in accordance with international law, in particular international human rights, refugee, and humanitarian law.

22. The Ministers expressed continued support for the activities of the Jakarta Centre for Law Enforcement Cooperation (JCLEC), the Southeast Asia Regional Centre for Counter-Terrorism (SEARCCT) and the International Law Enforcement Academy (ILEA).

23. The Ministers welcomed the ARF’s sustained efforts in promoting maritime safety and security and noted the four key areas for future cooperation: multilateral cooperation, operational solution to maritime safety and security, shipping and port security, and application of technology for maritime safety and security.


25. The Ministers welcomed the enhancement of inter-faith dialogues aimed at promoting mutual understanding and trust among people in the region, such as the UN Conference on Interfaith Cooperation for Peace initiated by the Philippines, Indonesia and Pakistan, the convening of the Dialogue on Interfaith Cooperation in Yogyakarta and ASEM Interfaith Dialogue held in Bali, Indonesia, on 21-22 July 2005.

26. The Ministers stated that the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction (WMD) and their delivery vehicles remain a serious security challenge of our time and the most dangerous one as they might fall into terrorist hands. In this connection, the Ministers urged all the states to sign and conclude the International Convention for the Suppression of Acts of Nuclear Terrorism and to provide for its early entry into force. They underlined the necessity to continue strengthening the international legal foundation in combating terrorism and spoke in favour of an adoption without delay of the Comprehensive Convention on International Terrorism. The Ministers noted that the adoption by the UN Security Council of the Resolution 1540 signifies the world community’s efforts in
preventing proliferation of WMD to non-state actors. In this respect, they expressed their support to the efforts of the Committee 1540 and called upon all States to ensure effective and full implementation of the Resolution.

27. The Ministers of the States Parties to NPT, reconfirming the validity of the Treaty as a cornerstone of the global stability and security, expressed the need of undertaking further efforts to strengthen NPT bearing in mind the discussions at the 2005 Review Conference and agreed to make further efforts to strengthen compliance with and enforcement of all provisions of the Treaty. The Ministers reiterated their continued support for the important role of the NPT in preventing nuclear proliferation and promoting nuclear disarmament as well as peaceful use of nuclear energy.

28. The Ministers called for the maintenance of existing moratorium on nuclear testing. They reaffirmed their support for the concept of internationally recognized nuclear-weapons-free zones (NWFZs) established on the basis of arrangements freely arrived at among States in the regions concerned and emphasized the contribution of such zones to enhancing global and regional peace and security. They further reaffirmed the importance of continued consultation on the Protocol of the SEANWFZ Treaty between the nuclear weapon states and the parties to the Treaty.

29. The Ministers noted the importance of all countries in the region taking effective measures to prevent, combat and eradicate the illicit trafficking of small arms and light weapons.

30. The Ministers were concerned about problems caused by people smuggling and trafficking. They welcomed ongoing practical cooperation under the Bali Process on People Smuggling and Trafficking in Persons and Related Transnational Crime to develop national and regional capacities to combat people smuggling and trafficking.

31. The Ministers shared their concerns about highly pathogenic avian influenza and recognized its growing threat to both human and animal health as well as to the broader security of the region. The Ministers expressed the importance of conducting robust surveillance and continued, immediate and transparent reporting of avian influenza cases in affected countries to ensure that avian influenza does not become the next influenza pandemic. The Ministers also underscored the importance of developing national pandemic influenza preparedness plans.

32. The Ministers stressed the necessity of comprehensively reforming the United Nations with a view to strengthening and enhancing its representativeness, transparency and effectiveness.
33. The Ministers attached importance to effective leadership of the United Nations to address the needs and aspiration of all people, particularly those in the developing world. They noted that the Asian-African Ministerial Meeting in Jakarta in April 2005 generally felt that it would be the turn of the Asian region to occupy the post of the United Nations Secretary-General (UNSG), which will become vacant upon expiry of the term of the current UNSG at the end of 2006. In this regard, the Ministers were informed of ASEAN’s strong support for the ASEAN candidate from Thailand, Dr. Surakiart Sathirathai, for this important post.

Review Activities of the Current Inter-sessional Year (July 2004-July 2005)

34. The Ministers expressed their satisfaction with the success of Track I and Track II activities that have taken place during the current inter-sessional year (July 2004-July 2005). They commended the work of the ARF Inter-sessional Support Group on Confidence Building Measures (ISG on CBMs), co-chaired by Cambodia and the European Union, held in Phnom Penh, Cambodia, 26-28 October 2004 and in Potsdam, Germany, 21-23 February 2005. The Ministers noted the summary report of the co-chairs and endorsed its recommendations. The Co-Chairs’ Reports appears as ANNEX II.

35. The Ministers welcomed the contributions made by defence officials in the ARF process. In this regard, they were pleased with the outcomes of the First ASEAN Regional Forum Security Policy Conference (ASPC) Chaired by Indonesia and hosted by China in Beijing on 4-6 November 2004 and the Second ASPC chaired and hosted by Laos in Vientiane on 18-19 May 2005. They noted with satisfaction that the high-level interaction among the ARF defence policy officials contributed further to building confidence and fostering mutual understanding, thus contributing to the maintenance of peace and stability in the Asia-Pacific region and the world.

36. The Ministers noted the report of Thailand and Canada as Co-Chairs of the Third Inter-sessional Meeting on Counter-Terrorism and Transnational Crime (ISM on CTTC), which was held in Bangkok, on 6-8 April 2005, and endorsed its recommendations. The Co-Chairs’ Report appears as ANNEX III.

37. The Ministers adopted the ARF Statement on Information Sharing and Intelligence Exchange and Document Integrity and Security in Enhancing Cooperation to Combat Terrorism and Other Transnational Crimes, as recommended by the ISM on CTTC. The Statement which appears as ANNEX IV expressed the ARF participants’ determination to enhance cooperation in combating terrorism and transnational crimes through information sharing, intelligence exchange and the promotion of document integrity and security. The Ministers welcomed Brunei Darussalam and China’s offer to co-chair the next ISM on CTTC in 2006 in China.
38. The Ministers noted the following activities, which were completed in intersessional year 2004/2005:


Programme of Work for the Next Inter-sessional Year

39. The Ministers agreed that the ISG on CBMs continue its work and welcomed the offer of the Philippines and the United States to co-chair the ISG on CBMs and Preventive Diplomacy in the next inter-sessional year. The Ministers also noted that the first ISG on CBMs and PD will be held in Honolulu, the United States on 17-19 October 2005 and the second meeting will be held in the Philippines in first quarter of 2006.

40. The Ministers reaffirmed the procedure that all proposed ARF activities should first be discussed at the ISG/ISM level and agreed at ARF-SOM. The Ministers approved the work program for the next inter-sessional year (July 2005-July 2006) as in ANNEX V.

Future Direction of the ARF Process

41. The Ministers agreed to continue the implementation of the Nine Recommendations of the Stocktaking of the ARF process, which was adopted in Brunei Darussalam on 31 July 2000. The Ministers agreed to extend further cooperation and support for the ARF Chair in carrying out the mandates outlined in the paper on the Enhanced Role of the ARF Chair.

42. We welcomed the ARF’s progress towards Preventive Diplomacy (PD). In this regard, the Ministers agreed to establish the Inter-Sessional Group on Confidence Building Measures and Preventive Diplomacy (ISG on CBMs and PD) to replace the present Inter-Sessional Group on Confidence Building Measures. The Ministers recalled the importance of the adopted Concept and Principles of Preventive Diplomacy in guiding the ARF in its actions and works in Preventive Diplomacy and looked forward to the development of concrete measures in PD.
43. The Ministers decided to formulate the standard operating procedures for the ARF Chair to perform its enhanced role. The Meeting also agreed to establish "Friends of the Chair" in the ARF, and welcomed the Philippines' offer to draft the terms of reference for this concept with the understanding that such an ad-hoc group shall have an advisory role to assist the ARF Chair and be flexible in terms of its membership.

44. The Ministers agreed on the continued publication of the ARF Annual Security Outlook (ASO) to promote transparency as well as confidence building among ARF participants and welcomed the sixth volume of the ASO.

45. The Ministers agreed to convene a meeting of the ARF EEPs during the inter-sessional year 2005/2006 in line with the Guidelines for the Operation of the ARF EEPs. The Ministers noted that the regularly updated Registry of EEPs is available on the ARFNet.

46. The Ministers emphasized the need to continue strengthening ties with other regional and international security organizations as well as linkages between Track I and Track II.

47. The Ministers commended the ARF Unit in assisting the ARF Chair and in developing the ARF’s institutional memory, including through the regularly updated Matrix of ARF Decisions and their Status, which is made available on the ARFNet, and the development of the ARF internet homepage and virtual communications network at www.aseanregionalforum.org. The Ministers acknowledged the assistance that some ARF participants were extending to the ARF Unit and encouraged others to do the same.

48. The Ministers adopted the Terms of Reference for the Establishment of the ARF Fund, which appears as ANNEX VI, for the purpose of implementing projects, activities, and decisions of the ARF.

49. The Ministers noted that application to participate in the ARF would be considered on a case-by-case basis. In this connection, they welcomed and agreed to ASEAN’s consensus on the admission of Bangladesh as the 26th participant in the ARF, which would be officiated during the 13th ARF.

50. The Ministers expressed their satisfaction with the open dialogue regarding the progress of the ARF process and committed to further advancing the ARF process towards the preventive diplomacy stage and beyond, on the basis of consensus and at a pace comfortable to all, while continuing to build mutual confidence and trust among its participants.
1. The ARF Workshop on “Evolving Changes in the Security Perceptions of the ARF Countries” was held in Ulaanbataar, Mongolia, on 21-22 June 2005.

2. The Workshop was attended by representatives of ARF participants and the ARF Unit at the ASEAN Secretariat. Cambodia, New Zealand and Papua New Guinea were not represented. The list of participants appears as ANNEX A.

3. The Workshop was co-chaired by H.E. Altangerel Radnaabazar, SOM Leader, State Secretary of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Mongolia and H.E. Nguyen Trung Thanh, SOM Leader, Assistant Minister of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam. The Workshop was co-sponsored by the European Union, led by H.E. Ambassador Bas ter Haar.

Agenda Item 1: Opening of the Workshop by the Co-Chairs

4. In their opening remarks, the Co-Chairs welcomed the participants to the Workshop and stated the aim of the Workshop, which was to provide an opportunity for the participants to exchange views on changes in security concepts and perceptions on the evolving security environment in the region and thereby contribute to confidence building. The Workshop was reminded that false perceptions could lead to unnecessary arms build-up and even wars. ARF’s strategic objective should be to narrow the perception gaps among the ARF participants. Mr. R. Altangerel in his opening remarks informed the participants of the intention of the Government of Mongolia to accede to the Treaty of Amity and Cooperation in Southeast Asia (TAC).

Agenda Item 2: Adoption of Agenda

5. The Workshop considered and adopted the Agenda, which appears as ANNEX B.

Agenda Item 3: Security Concepts and Perceptions of the ARF Participants

6. The Workshop exchanged views on the present and evolving security environment as follows:
   6.1 The overall trends in international relations are in favor of peace, development and cooperation among nations;
6.2 Economic interdependence at the global and regional levels continues to increase;
6.3 Economic disparity among social groups and nations remains high, particularly between developed and developing countries;
6.4 Traditional inter-state security issues have remained, including unresolved territorial disputes, which contribute to uncertainties;
6.5 Large stockpile of WMD by Nuclear Weapon States continues to exist;
6.6 The proliferation of nuclear weapons and other WMD, materials and their means of delivery is threatening the strategic balance and stability;
6.7 Northeast Asia remains an area of high tension as a result of military posture;
6.8 Non-traditional security threats are becoming more prevalent and common, such as international terrorism, organized crime, piracy, smuggling, illegal fishing, natural disasters, environmental degradation, communicable diseases and the potential of human pandemic and energy insecurity;
6.9 Separatism and sporadic communal and inter-ethnic tensions persist in some countries;
6.10 The illicit spread of small arms is fueling armed conflict in various parts of the region and the world;
6.11 China and India have emerged as major powers in the region; and
6.12 Non-state actors are now playing a greater part in shaping regional and international affairs.

7. The Workshop exchanged views that the following would enhance security cooperation in the region and in the world:
7.1 Greater respect for national sovereignty and territorial integrity;
7.2 Promotion of sustained economic development, including achieving the targets of the U.N. Millennium Development Goals;
7.3 Broader support for comprehensive, cooperative and common security concepts;
7.4 Effective multilateralism and rule-based international system, including supporting the primary role of the United Nations in the maintenance of international peace and security, including more active participation in the U.N. stand-by peacekeeping arrangements;
7.5 Greater commitment to and reliance on peaceful settlement of disputes through political dialogue and diplomacy;
7.6 Increased commitment and cooperation on multilateral non-proliferation and arms control agreements;
7.7 Earliest possible resumption of the Six-Party Talks for the denuclearization of the Korean Peninsula on the basis of the principle of mutual respect for sovereignty and equality;
7.8 Continuation of the inter-Korean dialogue in accordance with the June 15, 2000 North-South Joint Declaration;
7.9 Greater stability in Major Power relations;
7.10 Promotion of defense cooperation in military operations other than war;
7.11 Sustained counter-terrorism efforts at the domestic, bilateral, regional and multilateral levels;
7.12 Further strengthening of the ARF towards building an effective regional security framework;
7.13 Support for other regional arrangements, including the Shanghai Cooperation Organization;
7.14 Common actions on transnational issues, including the building of networks of contact points to promote dialogue, exchange of information and best practices, capacity building, joint research, and early warning against disasters or conflicts, among others;
7.15 Greater commitment to the promotion of free, democratic societies, human rights and human security; and a new international consensus on the proposed “On Larger Freedom” for the consideration of the U.N. Summit in September 2005; and
7.16 Active cooperation to search and develop alternative sources of energy, such as palm diesel, bio-fuel, etc.

8. The Workshop exchanged views on the meaning of “non-traditional security issues” and agreed that the ARF should continue to discuss this concept with a view to defining its appropriate parameters for purposes of developing cooperative activities within its framework.

9. The Workshop exchanged views on the need to establish links between East Asia cooperative arrangements on one hand and Asia Pacific processes on the other to ensure that they complement and not detract from each other.

10. The Workshop noted the presentations of the following countries: the European Union, Mongolia, Canada, DPRK, Indonesia, Australia, India, Myanmar, United States, Singapore, the Philippines, Malaysia, Brunei Darussalam, Thailand, Japan, Viet Nam, People’s Republic of China, Lao PDR and Pakistan. The presentations appear as ANNEX C.

Agenda Item 4: Prospects for ASEAN Security Community

11. Indonesia briefed the Workshop on the prospects for the ASEAN Security Community (ASC). The participants expressed their support for the establishment of the ASC and hope that the ASC would contribute to the maintenance of peace and security in the region. The presentation appears as ANNEX D.
Agenda Item 5: Prospects for Security Cooperation in Northeast Asia

12. The Workshop exchanged views on the security situation in Northeast Asia and the possible forms and ways of establishing a framework for regional dialogue and cooperation among Northeast Asian countries. The Workshop noted the desire of the countries concerned to enhance sustained dialogue and cooperation among themselves. Views were expressed that such prospects could be achieved by:
(a) Promoting greater economic integration;
(b) Fostering political trust and confidence;
(c) Continued bilateral defense dialogue and cooperation;
(d) Continued cooperation against various forms of transnational crime, including terrorism;
(e) Workshop participants hoped that the Six-Party Talks would be held as early as possible on the basis of the principle of mutual respect for sovereignty and equality;
(f) Use other venues, such as the ARF, ASEAN+3 process, the East Asian Summit, and SCO, as well as CSCAP and NEACD, to continue to discuss this matter; and
(g) Support ASEAN’s continued role in promoting cooperation in East Asia.

13. The participants took note of Mongolia’s willingness to join the NEACD and East Asian Community when the right conditions will be set.

Acknowledgement

14. The Workshop expressed its appreciation to the people and Government of Mongolia for their generous hospitality and the excellent arrangements made for the Workshop. The participants also expressed their gratitude for the excellent work done by the two Co-Chairs and the co-sponsor in shepherding the Workshop to fruitful and successful outcomes.
Chairman’s Summary

of the Second ARF Security Policy Conference

Vientiane, Lao PDR, 19 May 2005

1. As endorsed by the 11th ASEAN Regional Forum (ARF) in Jakarta on 2 July 2004 and in pursuance of the recommendation of the 1st ARF Security Policy Conference (Beijing, 4-6 November 2004), the Second ARF Security Policy Conference (ASPC) was held in Vientiane on 19 May 2005. The Conference was chaired by Lieutenant General Ay SOULIYASENG, Deputy Minister of National Defense of the Lao PDR.

2. The Conference was attended by representatives from Australia, Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, Canada, China, DPR Korea, European Union, India, Indonesia, Japan, Lao PDR, Malaysia, Myanmar, New Zealand, Pakistan, Papua New Guinea, the Philippines, Republic of Korea, Russian Federation, Singapore, Thailand, United States of America, Viet Nam, and the ARF Unit of the ASEAN Secretariat. The List of Delegates appears as ANNEX A.

3. In his Opening Remarks, the Chair welcomed the participants to the Conference. He outlined the objectives of the Conference as follows: to promote mutual understanding, exchange of information and data among the ARF participants with a view to ensuring regional and international peace and security; and to contribute to enhancing exchange of views among the ARF participants.

Agenda Item 1: Adoption of Agenda

4. The Conference considered and adopted the Agenda, which appears as ANNEX B.

Agenda Item 2: Business Arrangements

5. The Conference was held in Plenary. The Programme of Activities appears as ANNEX C.

Agenda Item 3: Exchange of Views on International and Regional Security Situation, Including Voluntary Briefing on the Security Policy of Participating Countries

6. The Conference exchanged views on major regional and international issues that had an impact on the security situation in the Asia Pacific region. The Conference shared the view that, on the whole, the security situation in the region is positive and stable and that dialogue and cooperation are the mainstream trends. At the same time, the Conference
acknowledged the existence or emergence of some threats to peace in the form of both traditional and non-traditional issues. These include proliferation of weapons of mass destruction and small arms, territorial disputes, and various forms of transnational crime and international terrorism.

7. The Meeting exchanged views on the role of the Major Powers in regional security and its security implications in the Asia-Pacific region. The Conference also reiterated the importance of encouraging the major powers to continue their dialogue and cooperation to ensure peace and security in the region.

8. The Conference agreed that terrorism remained a serious and present danger to peace and security not only in the region but also in other parts of the world. The Conference agreed that it required collective and multilateral response from all countries concerned. The Conference agreed that, in addition to operational military and law enforcement measures, there was a need to address all form of terrorism.

9. While recognizing the primary role of the United Nations in the maintenance of international peace and security, the Conference agreed that regional arrangements, such as the ARF could play an important role in addressing these various forms of threats and problems.

10. The Conference noted that the link between terrorism and the proliferation of WMD represented a great security challenge in the world today. The Conference reaffirmed the call on all ARF participants to implement effective export controls and enforcement measures to control the transfer of materials, technology and expertise that can contribute to the design, development, production or use of WMD and their means of delivery.

11. The Conference discussed maritime security issues and urged ARF member countries to enhance close cooperation in this regard.

12. Views were expressed on the need to preserve the prevailing stability through cooperation, maintenance of the status quo on the South China Sea and respect for internationally recognized Conventions, particularly the 1982 United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea.

13. The participants exchanged views on the situation on the Korean Peninsula and expressed their hope that all parties concerned would continue their efforts to peaceful solution to the denuclearization of the Korean Peninsula through dialogue and called for early resumption of the Six-Party Talks on the principle of mutual respect for sovereignty and equality.
14. Number of participants briefed the Conference on their respective security and defense policies. Some briefing papers appear as ANNEX D.

Agenda Item 4: The Role of the Armed Forces in Disaster Relief

15. The participants exchanged views on the role of the armed forces in disaster relief and consequence management, particularly in light of the recent tsunami and Earthquake in the Indian Ocean on 26 December 2004.

16. The Conference noted that the existing regional dialogue and cooperation provided an effective foundation for the multinational humanitarian response to the tsunami disaster.

17. The Conference noted a wide range of activities that the military could contribute to disaster relief and consequence management, among others, search and rescue, medical assistance, evacuation, transportation, engineering, planning, and command and control.

18. The Conference identified the following lessons learned from the 26 December 2004 Tsunami disaster and response from the international community:
   - Early warning is very important;
   - A fast response is essential to save lives, minimize effects, protect public health and safety, and limit damage to the environment;
   - The need for timely sharing of information;
   - Better civil-military coordination;
   - The need for effective national coordination mechanism;
   - The importance of cooperative relations and framework among countries, particularly of the defense agencies;
   - The need for standard operating procedures in multinational disaster relief operations;
   - Careful planning to ensure that response, management, and support teams are knowledgeable, trained, equipped, and ready for the unique challenges presented by a disaster;
   - Setting up of or designation of first responders;
   - Forces involved in an initial response need to be self-sufficient;
   - Effective command and control system; and
   - Interoperability of defense assets.

19. Based on the above lessons, the Conference agreed on the following:
   - To continue to exchange of views on disaster preparedness and relief operations, sharing lessons learnt among nations, studying lessons carefully, identifying lessons to enhance ability to manage the results of a disaster;
• To promote joint capacity building in consequence management, including in having common definitions;
• To organize seminars to discuss organization for command and control, contribution of facilities/forces and liaison between/transition to civilian relief; and
• To adhere to the existing UN & OSLO guidelines on the use of civilian and military assets in humanitarian assistance to avoid competition, duplication and waste of resources.

20. Number of participants gave comprehensive presentations on the role of their respective armed forces in disaster relief, especially in the Tsunami and Earthquake in the Indian Ocean on 26 December 2004; their national experiences and national delivery mechanisms for dealing with natural and man-made disasters. Some presentations appear as ANNEX E.

Agenda Item 5: Management of Non-traditional Security Issues

21. The Conference agreed that as non-traditional security issues are trans-national and trans-regional in nature, it is important to address them through an integrated use of political, economic, diplomatic, legal, scientific, and technological means and through cooperation in all possible forms.

22. The meeting acknowledged that a holistic and comprehensive approach is needed to address non-traditional security issues. Participants exchanged views on the importance of strong coordination, better integration and effective action of all concerned agencies in managing non-traditional security.

Agenda Item 6: Other Matters

23. The Conference agreed that Malaysia would be the next Chairman of the ASPC in 2006.

24. Viet Nam informed the Conference of its preparation for the 9th Meeting of the Heads of ASEAN Defense Universities/Institutions, which would be held on 10-13 October 2005 in Hanoi.

Acknowledgement

25. The Conference expressed its gratitude and appreciation to the people and Government of the Lao PDR for the excellent arrangements made for the Conference and for the hospitality extended to the Participants.
1. As agreed by the Ministers at the 11th ASEAN Regional Forum (ARF) in Jakarta on 2 July 2004, the Third ARF Inter-Sessional Meeting on Counter-Terrorism and Transnational Crime (ARF ISM on CT/TC) was held in Bangkok, Thailand, on 6-8 April 2005. The Meeting was organized by Thailand and Canada and co-chaired by Mr. Kitti Wasinondh, Director-General of the Department of ASEAN Affairs, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Thailand, and Ms. Ruth Archibald, Senior Coordinator for International Crime and Terrorism, Foreign Affairs Canada.

2. The Meeting was attended by representatives of Australia, Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, Canada, China, European Union, India, Indonesia, Japan, Republic of Korea, Laos, Malaysia, Mongolia, Myanmar, New Zealand, Pakistan, Papua New Guinea, the Philippines, Russian Federation, Singapore, Thailand, United States and Vietnam. The ASEAN Secretariat, the International Law Enforcement Academy (ILEA) and the Southeast Asia Regional Centre for Counter-Terrorism (SEARCCT) also participated in the Meeting. The List of Delegates appears as ANNEX A.

3. The Agenda, Concept Paper and Programme of Activities appear as ANNEXES B, C and D.

4. The Meeting took note of the Welcoming Remarks of H.E. Mr. Thakur Phanit, Deputy Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Thailand, which appears as ANNEX E. The Opening Remarks of the Thai and the Canadian Co-Chairs appear as ANNEXES F and G respectively.

5. The List of Speakers at the Meeting appears as ANNEX H.

Agenda Item 1: Overview of the Challenges of Information/Intelligence Sharing and Document Integrity and Security

6. Presentations were made by China, the Republic of Korea, the Russian Federation and SEARCCT. Participants agreed on the importance of further enhanced international cooperation in responding to terrorism and transnational crime on the basis of existing bilateral, regional and multilateral agreements and institutions including, *inter alia*,

*ANNEX A*
the United Nations, its Specialized Agencies and INTERPOL. Participants noted the importance of political will, national sovereignty, the rule of law and respect for human rights in these efforts.

7. Copies of these presentations appear in ANNEXES I, J, K and L.

Agenda Item 2: Information Sharing Policies and Practices

8. Presentations were made by Cambodia, Canada, India, Indonesia, Japan, Laos and Viet Nam. Participants agreed on the need to balance timely, effective and systematic sharing of information and exchange of intelligence with appropriate protections for sources of information, particularly when provided by another partner, and privacy and human rights. They further agreed that national legislation, regulations and requirements must be respected and better understood as the basis for effective international sharing of information and exchange of intelligence.

9. Copies of these presentations appear in ANNEXES M, N, O, P, Q, R and S.

10. In the Breakout Session that followed, presentations were made by Australia and the Philippines. Participants recognized the importance of more timely, effective and systematic information sharing and intelligence exchange as a fundamental basis for cooperation to combat terrorism and transnational crime. They agreed on the need to expand bilateral cooperation among all ARF participating states on information sharing and intelligence exchange as a step towards a multilateral arrangement in the future.

11. Participants recognized the importance of the third-party rule agreed upon at the ASEAN+3 Workshop on Collaboration in Information and Intelligence to Effectively Combat Transnational Crime and agreed to use appropriate caveats in this respect. The participants agreed that the type of intelligence that could be shared among the ARF participating countries should at the preliminary stage begin with strategic intelligence and subsequently include tactical intelligence. The participants noted that the sharing of strategic intelligence is easier than the sharing of tactical intelligence but it should also be based on bilateral arrangement in light of sensitivities. The participants underlined that in the use and sharing of information, there is a need to respect national laws of respective countries.

12. Copies of these presentations appear in ANNEXES T and U.

13. Participants agreed on the following recommendations:

• To establish a list of national points of contact for information exchange as a means to supplement existing bilateral arrangements among the ARF participating countries;
To consider collaboration among law enforcement agencies for the purpose of prosecution a priority for multilateral cooperation and to encourage the ARF participating states to share best practices on this issue. The use of information and intelligence for prosecution must be in accordance with domestic laws of respective ARF participants;

To strengthen cooperation on capacity building through training and, where feasible, technology transfer, in order to reduce the gap between developed and developing countries. It was also agreed that capacity building should include training on, *inter alia*, cognitive skills, threat recognition and operational capabilities.

**Agenda Item 3: Combatting Document Fraud**

14. Presentations were made by Malaysia, Singapore, the United States, Australia, Canada and the Russian Federation. Participants agreed on the importance of document integrity and security in combating terrorism and transnational crime, and the importance of international standards such as ICAO 9303 and participation in the INTERPOL database of lost and stolen travel documents. Some participants shared their experiences on the measures undertaken to enhance document integrity and security through the use of technology. Some participants stated that they were on track to implement biometric passports.

15. Copies of these presentations appear in ANNEXES V, W, X, Y, Z and AA.

16. In the Breakout Session that followed, presentations were made by the Republic of Korea, Viet Nam and Thailand.

17. Copies of these presentations appear in ANNEXES BB, CC and DD.

18. The participants, taking into account their resources and capacity and in accordance with their respective national laws, committed to:

- Work towards implementation of ICAO document standards;
- Designate points of contact for the purposes of exchanging information on documents, including supporting documents, and document fraud;
- Enhance capacity building through training, sharing of best practices, technological resources, and in this regard, agree to submit information about document fraud and other related training programmes, facilities and needs, including relevant regional centres, to the ARF Unit of the ASEAN Secretariat for compilation;
- Broaden the accessibility to the INTERPOL I 24/7 communications system and databases, including the lost and stolen passport database, amongst relevant national agencies.
Agenda Item 4: Police and Law Enforcement Cooperation

19. Presentations were made by India, Thailand, and ILEA. Participants noted the value of international police and law enforcement cooperation in preventing, disrupting and investigating terrorist acts and other transnational crimes. Participants noted that it was vital to promote and strengthen international cooperation in such areas as mutual legal assistance and extradition regime. It was also emphasized that improvement and strengthening of legal tools and mechanisms, including timely information sharing and intelligence exchange are essential in the fight against terrorism and transnational crime.

20. Copies of these presentations of India and Thailand appear in ANNEXES EE, FF and GG.

21. In the Breakout Session that followed, presentations were made by Australia, Japan, the Republic of Korea, Pakistan and the Russian Federation.

22. A copy of the presentation of Japan appears in ANNEX III.

23. Participants recommended the following:
   • To strengthen ARF law enforcement cooperation on the basis of bilateral and multilateral agreements and through use of existing mechanisms in particular INTERPOL and its I 24/7 communications network for the exchange of information;
   • To develop a directory of ARF law enforcement points of contact;
   • To provide law enforcement assistance to counter terrorism, including in response to terrorist attacks, and other transnational crime on the basis of UN Directory of Counter-Terrorism Information and Sources of Assistance;
   • To further enhance capacity building cooperation and assistance and sharing of best practices and to utilize existing regional centres including, inter alia, ILEA, JCLEC and SEARCCT for that purpose;
   • To further strengthen cooperative efforts to combat drug trafficking and the illicit profits therefrom, that can be used to finance terrorism and other transnational crimes;
   • To encourage participants to enter into mutual legal assistance and other cooperative arrangements and to simplify and streamline formal mechanisms for cooperation in areas such as extradition to the degree possible.

Agenda Item 5: Other Matters

24. The draft ARF Statement on Information Sharing and Intelligence Exchange and Document Integrity and Security appears in ANNEX II. The participants agreed to
submit their comments to Thailand and Canada, through diplomatic channels, by the end of April to allow for the consolidation of comments in time for the ARF Senior Officials’ Meeting in Vientiane in May.

25. The participants welcomed the offer of Brunei Darussalam and China to co-host the next Inter-Sessional Meeting on Counter-Terrorism and Transnational Crime in 2006.


27. The participants expressed their appreciation to the Government of Thailand for the arrangements made for the meeting and for the warm hospitality accorded to the delegates.
Introduction

1. Pursuant to the approval of the 11th Ministerial Meeting of the ASEAN Regional Forum (ARF) held in Indonesia on 2 July 2004, the ARF CBM Workshop on Peace Arrangements Ensuring Stability and Security in the Region, Including Civil-Military Cooperation was held on 22-23 March 2005 in Tokyo, Japan. The Workshop was organized by Japan and Singapore, and co-chaired by Mr. Tsuneo Nishida, Deputy Vice-Minister for Foreign Policy, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan and Mr. Andrew Tan, Deputy Secretary, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Singapore.

2. The meeting was attended by representatives of Australia, Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, Canada, China, European Union, India, Indonesia, Japan, Republic of Korea, Lao People’s Democratic Republic, Malaysia, Mongolia, Myanmar, New Zealand, Papua New Guinea, Pakistan, Philippines, Russian Federation, Singapore, Thailand, United States of America, and Viet Nam. The ARF Unit also participated in the Workshop. Several participants had Experts and Eminent Persons (EEPs) in their respective delegations. The list of delegates is attached as ANNEX I.

3. The Agenda is attached as ANNEX II and the Programme is attached as ANNEX III.

Agenda Item 1: Opening

4. Both Mr. Nishida and Mr. Tan made opening remarks for the Workshop (ANNEX IV and V).

Agenda Item 2: Case Studies – Post Cold War Peace Arrangements

5. In this session, participants from the relevant countries made presentations on the following specific regional cases on Post Cold War peace arrangements. The ensuing discussions encapsulated the key elements of peacekeeping operations and came up with proposals and recommendations for future efforts.
Presentations

6. The following presentations were made by respective presenters.

1) Cambodia by Mr. Samol Ney, Deputy Director-General, ASEAN Department, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation, Cambodia (ANNEX VI)

2) Timor-Leste by Mr. Alan March, Assistant Director General, East Timor, Humanitarian and Regional Program Branch, AUSAID, Australia (ANNEX VII)

3) Solomon Islands by Dr. John McArthur, Ambassador-designate, New Zealand (ANNEX VIII)

4) Afghanistan/Haiti by Ms. Emi Furuya, Policy Advisor, Peace Support and Security Sector Deployments, Regional Security and Peacekeeping Division, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Canada (ANNEX IX)

5) Africa by Col. Kang Honglin, Officer, MND, China (ANNEX X)

Discussion

7. After the presentations, many participants shared their countries’ experiences. The participants emphasized that the exchange of experiences was useful for future peacekeeping operations.

8. The workshop reaffirmed that the United Nations Transitional Authority in Cambodia (UNTAC), the first hybrid PKO, had successfully fulfilled its mandate and provided a model for future involvement in increasingly multi-dimensional and more complex peace arrangements. Nevertheless, some participants felt that UNTAC did not achieve a comprehensive political settlement and the lessons learnt should be taken into consideration for future UN peacekeeping operations.

9. In the case study of Timor-Leste, participants noted the smooth transition from the multinational force (INTERFET) to UNTAET and later UNMISET, and appreciated the sustained support and full cooperation provided by the countries in the region to that process.

10. Some delegations noted with interest that regional actors played a useful role in the Regional Assistance Mission in the Solomon Islands (RAMSI). RAMSI had shifted its tasks from restoring law and order and stabilizing government finances to now assisting the Solomon Islands Government to undertake economic reform, rebuild the machinery of government and improve accountability mechanisms.

11. In Afghanistan, the peace operation was led by multinational forces. The Workshop recognized through this case study that a new-model of peace arrangement in which multinational forces provide security to activities by civilian actors including humanitarian and development assistance as well as providing access to the regions for local Afghanistan authorities has emerged.
12. In case studies of peacekeeping operations in Africa, the Workshop recognized that despite the different circumstances between Africa and the Asia Pacific region, the case studies of operations in Africa provided valuable lessons for other regions.

13. The Workshop also acknowledged the need for such seminars and workshops where valuable lessons drawn from the experiences of the ARF members can be shared.

14. The Workshop took up the tsunami issue and acknowledged the timely response by tsunami-affected countries and their international partners.

Agenda Item 3: Examine Peace Arrangements that ensure Regional Stability and Security, including Civil-Military Cooperation

Presentations

15. The following presentations were made by respective presenters.
   1) Quick Impact Project; and, 2) DDR by Lt Col. Kuldeep Singh Dalai, Indian Army, India (ANNEX XI);
   3) Civilian Police by Col. Nopadon Mungkalat, Assistant Director, Peace Operation Division, Directorate of Joint Operations, Supreme Command Headquarters, Thailand (ANNEX XII);
   4) Humanitarian Assistance by Mr. Hasnan Zahedi Bin Ahmad Zakaria, Principal Assistant Director, National Security Division, Prime Minister’s Department, Malaysia (ANNEX XIII);
   5) Ensuring Security by Mr. Ahmad LATHFI bin Kamarul Baharin, Chief Provost Marshal of Malaysian Armed Forces, Malaysia (ANNEX XIV);
   6) Capacity Building; and, 7) Coordination with the NGO by Mr. Bas Ter Haar, Ambassador for International Security, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Netherlands (European Union) (ANNEX XV).

Discussion

16. QIPs are an integral part of peacekeeping operations. It is important for QIPs to result in immediate benefits to the local population. This would promote understanding across ethnic, religious and social divides. The relevant actors within the mission should have a coordinated framework to work closely with the local communities and local implementation partners. However, there is a need to manage the expectations of the local population.

17. DDR often spells the difference between a transition to peace or a return to conflict. To fulfill the mandate for the DDR program, the mission needs to establish the infrastructure and resources for disarmament, demobilization and reintegration. There is a need to involve all stakeholders in the DDR process. The DDR program also needs to
be in harmony with the political and economic processes.

18. Training is important to prepare the peacekeepers to carry out their duties effectively. Two levels of training have been identified; specific vocational training and training for capacity building. One of the effective ways is to provide training through the Train-the-Trainer program.

19. Given the multi-dimensional aspects of peacekeeping, the involvement of key NGO partners, humanitarian agencies and other actors in mission planning and implementation could be utilized to facilitate better coordination. Some participants highlighted that although the interests of peacekeeping missions and the NGOs are closely related, they are not necessarily identical and there is a need for better coordination.

20. There is commonality between peacekeeping operations and disaster relief efforts. It would be useful to discuss the issue in different fora from different angles, for example, the ISM on Disaster Relief. We should try to build on the discussions and identify how they can complement each other.

21. Participants noted increasing responsibilities of the civilian police and the need to augment their capabilities to bridge the security gap between combat forces and civilian police in international peace support operations.

Recommendations

Agenda Item 4: Co-Chairmen’s Summary

22. The Workshop decided to convey the following recommendations to the ASEAN Regional Forum Senior Officials Meeting to be held in Vientiane, Laos:

   (a) Many of the missions were, if not perfect, effective and successful in dealing with the short term objective of restoring or maintaining order and law, and also to pave the way for further reconstruction and peace consolidation.

   (b) The participants recognized that there is no single “magic formula”, on the command issue, composition of the mission, scope of mandate, or exit strategy, etc., that works for the diverse situations that each different case faces. Therefore, it is important to have a ‘tool box’ of capabilities from which the most appropriate approach can be selected and implemented.

   (c) While all actors must be proactive and at the same time willing to work and coordinate with others, the active partnership or ownership of the state in question is essential for any outside effort to be successful. This is even more so, when we have to bear in mind the fact that no mission is indefinite but must be terminated at one point for the country to stand on its own.
(d) The cases of the Solomon Islands and some missions in Africa highlight the role of regional arrangements in supporting peace arrangements. While a shared cultural background and good understanding of regional actors facilitates the successful implementation of the mission, it must not be used as a pretext to restrain countries from outside the region to engage in missions.

(e) The coordination and liaison between the government sectors, civil-military components and NGOs must be systematic and sufficient as the missions become more multi-dimensional. In this regard, the participants recognize the need for a coordinated, integrated and planned multinational approach. This is important in order to gain expertise from the different actors. UN should play a central coordinating role.

(f) The participants acknowledged the importance of training for all actors including civil police and NGOs, and rapid deployment. In this regard, some participants noted the G8 initiative to strengthen peace support operations (PSO) training and urged members to look for ways to participate. In addition, the participants agreed to consider partnerships among ARF members and national peacekeeping training centers to provide and participate in PSO training, particularly to address capability gaps in engineering, medical, logistics and transportations in support of both UN and regional peace support operations.

(g) The participants recognized the need to draw upon seminars and workshops for the sharing of experiences and capacity building for peacekeeping operations. Therefore, the ARF should continue such exercises to study peacekeeping issues in depth to involve relevant government sectors.

(h) Beyond the seminars and workshops, the ARF could incorporate certain elements of peacekeeping training in future ARF activities in conjunction with the UN DPKO. Given the significant commonality between peacekeeping operations and disaster relief, we can draw experiences from the regional cooperation on disaster relief to build up competency in areas such as civil-military cooperation. Focusing on both types of operations would make more efficient use of our limited resources.

Conclusion

23. The Workshop was conducted in a frank and cordial manner. The lively, candid and constructive discussion at the Workshop is a reflection of the growing interests of the ARF members in peace arrangements. The ARF could further develop these seminars and workshops for the sharing of experiences, capacity building and in depth study of the peacekeeping issues. In doing so, we could include other actors such as civil, humanitarian and relief agencies in the dialogue, particularly for disaster relief. Moving beyond seminars, workshops and search and rescue exercises, the members can consider enhancing cooperation in the field of peacekeeping training in the future.
1. Pursuant to the decision of the 11th Ministerial Meeting of the ASEAN Regional Forum (ARF), China hosted the ARF Seminar on Enhancing Cooperation in the field of Non-traditional Security Issues in Sanya from 7 to 8 March 2005.

2. Delegates from Australia, Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, Canada, China, DPRK, European Union, India, Indonesia, Japan, Laos, Malaysia, Myanmar, New Zealand, Pakistan, Papua New Guinea, Philippines, Republic of Korea, Russia, Singapore, Thailand, United States of America, Vietnam and the ARF Unit of the ASEAN Secretariat attended the Seminar. The agenda and the list of participants are attached as ANNEX 1 and ANNEX 2.

Session I: Non-traditional Security Threats in the Asia Pacific Region

3. Participants from various countries briefed the meeting on the non-traditional security threats facing their respective countries.

4. The meeting recognized that while the regional security situation remained generally stable, the region was still faced with a number of security challenges and threats. Terrorism and other non-traditional security issues such as illicit drugs, infectious diseases, HIV/AIDS, people smuggling and human trafficking, corruption, money laundering, cyber crime, piracy, environmental degradation, corruption and illegal logging have, in varying degrees, posed threats to the stability and development of the Asia-Pacific region.

5. Participants exchanged views on possible causes for the increase of non-traditional security threats. They emphasized that non-traditional security issues are products of interwoven political, economic, ethnic, religious and other factors and have emerged against diverse historical and cultural backgrounds. They were more diversified and had both intrastate and interstate implications and propagated more rapidly than traditional ones and their effects were increasingly complex.
6. Participants emphasized that countries in the region should avoid linking non-traditional security threats including terrorism to any specific religion, race and culture.

Session II: Addressing Non-traditional Security Issues

7. Participants shared their best practices and experiences in coping with non-traditional threats such as terrorism, illicit drugs, piracy, smuggling and HIV/AIDS, corruption, illegal logging.

8. The meeting acknowledged that a holistic and comprehensive approach is needed to address non-traditional security issues. Participants emphasized the importance to identify and address both the symptoms and root causes of these threats.

9. Participants agreed that non-traditional security issues are transnational and trans-regional in nature, which requires regional and international cooperation that involve a more diverse set of actors. Participants concurred that ARF participants shared common responsibility to address non-traditional security threats at national, regional and international levels. It was agreed that the ARF should continue to play an important role in promoting regional non-traditional security cooperation. Participants underscored the need to develop procedures, processes, cooperative activities and possible decision making structures to facilitate broader cooperation. Some participants suggested that other relevant international and regional fora should also be used to address these issues. Some participants pointed out that duplication should also be avoided in regional and international cooperation.

10. The meeting agreed that regional non-traditional security cooperation should abide by the principles of the UN Charter and commonly recognized international laws and conventions and observe the basic principles such as mutual respect for sovereignty, territorial integrity, non-interference into each other’s internal affairs. Some participants pointed out international humanitarian, human rights and refugee laws should also be observed in response to non-traditional issues.

Session III: Non-traditional Security Cooperation and Regional Development

11. Participants discussed the correlation between non-traditional security issues and regional development. The meeting noted that terrorism, drug smuggling, environment deterioration and other non-traditional security issues have adversely affected the development of regional countries and would go against the long-term growth of the region as a whole. The meeting agreed that strengthening non-traditional security cooperation was, therefore, conducive to the regional development.
12. Participants also recognized that poverty, illiteracy and underdevelopment were negative elements contributing to non-traditional security issues. The meeting emphasized that programs aiming at promoting sustainable development both in economic and social dimensions were essential in the prevention and mitigation of non-traditional security threats; however, near-term actions were also necessary to meet immediate threats.

Session IV: Enhancing Non-traditional Security Cooperation Within the ARF

13. The meeting agreed that effective actions and concrete progress were important in dealing with non-traditional security issues. In this regard, participants discussed actions that could be taken within the framework of ARF.

14. Participants made the following recommendations:

- Encourage prompt, accurate and effective exchange of intelligence and information on non-traditional security issues among ARF participants.
- Strengthen intra-agency and inter-agency cooperation and coordination.
- Develop plans of action to implement relevant ARF statements on non-traditional security issues. It was suggested that the ARF unit could play a coordinating role in this regard.
- Enhance capacity building cooperation and assistance.
- Establish early warning mechanisms particularly in the area of major natural disasters and infectious diseases.
- Enhance contacts, exchanges and personnel training and share best practices and experiences on a regular basis through bilateral and regional channels such as Jakarta Center for Law Enforcement Cooperation, the International Law Enforcement Academy (Bangkok), and Southeast Asia Regional Center for Counter Terrorism in Kuala Lumpur.
- Conduct in-depth studies on non-traditional security issues. Encourage ARF Experts and Eminent Persons to contribute in this regard to the ARF cooperation in non-traditional security areas.
- Enhance public awareness, preparedness and participation in the process of combating non-traditional security threats.
- Initiate an ARF annual report of Non-traditional Security Outlook or incorporate a special section on non-traditional security issues in the existing Annual Security Outlook.

15. Participants agreed that the Seminar was an important confidence-building measure within the ARF framework. The Chair’s Summary Report and the recommendations contained within will be submitted to the ARF Senior Officials’ Meeting to be held in Vientiane in May 2005 for information. Participants expressed their appreciation to China for hosting the Seminar.
Co-Chairs’ Report of the ARF CBM
On Regional Cooperation in Maritime Security
Singapore, 2-4 March 2005


2. The Meeting was attended by representatives from Australia, Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, Canada, the People’s Republic of China, the European Union, India, Indonesia, Japan, the Republic of Korea, Lao PDR, Malaysia, Myanmar, Mongolia, New Zealand, Pakistan, the Philippines, the Russian Federation, Singapore, Thailand, the United States, Vietnam, the ASEAN Secretariat, and the International Maritime Organisation (IMO). Ambassadors and Defence Attaches of ARF countries were also invited to attend the Opening Ceremony and Keynote Plenary of the event. The programme and list of participants are attached at ANNEXES A and B respectively.

3. The Meeting was opened by Mr. Teo Chee Hean, Minister for Defence of Singapore. The Secretary-General of the IMO, Mr Efthimios Mitropoulos spoke at the Keynote Plenary Session on “Regional Cooperation in Maritime Security”. In addition, the ASEAN Navy Chiefs, who were in Singapore for the ASEAN Navy Interaction participated in the Meeting and shared their experiences in handling maritime security threats.

4. The Meeting built on the positive dynamics that have developed within the ARF since the adoption of the 2003 ARF Statement on Cooperation Against Piracy and Other Threats to Maritime Security, as well as the consensus on the importance of maritime challenges and the need to manage threats to maritime security through comprehensive national strategies and multinational cooperation that was forged at the ARF Workshop on Maritime Security co-chaired by Indonesia, Malaysia, and the US in September 2004. The Meeting sought to take the next step, by identifying concrete “solution sets” through focused discussion in four key areas: multilateral cooperation, operational solutions to maritime security, shipping and port security and applicable technology for maritime security.

5. In addition to plenary discussions, ARF delegates observed an operational demonstration of the inter-agency maritime security measures that Singapore had put in place in its ports and waters. Delegates visited the Singapore Maritime and Port Authority’s Port
Operations Control Centre and viewed a display of container screening operations, before proceeding out to sea on a Republic of Singapore Navy Landing Ship Tank to witness a demonstration of inter-agency counter-measures against small boat threats as well as against larger rogue vessels that could be used as “floating bombs”.

Multilateral Cooperation in Enhancing Maritime Security

6. IMO Secretary-General Mr Efthimious Mitropoulos delivered the keynote address on “Multilateral Cooperation in Maritime Security”. Ambassador Barry Desker, Director of the Institute for Defence and Strategic Studies in Singapore, served as the discussant for this session.

7. The Meeting noted that the maritime security agenda had moved beyond its traditional concern of maritime piracy and armed robbery to include the threat of maritime terrorism and other transnational maritime crimes. The Meeting also noted the transnational nature of these maritime threats as well as the strategic importance of key shipping lanes, and agreed that these both necessitated cooperation on the part of the littoral states and the user states.

8. The Meeting recognised the positive role that the IMO could play in catalysing multilateral cooperation in maritime security, in particular because of its experience in balancing the interests of the littoral states and user states and in upholding the fundamental principle of freedom of navigation. The Meeting welcomed the recent initiative that the IMO had launched to secure vital sea lanes, and it expressed strong support for the forthcoming IMO-sponsored meeting on the Malacca Strait which would be held in Jakarta in September 2005 as part of a continuing series of meetings on the security of regional waters that brought together both littoral states and the user states. The Meeting also agreed that some possible areas in which the IMO could help in building regional cooperation included the promotion of situational awareness, information sharing, personnel training, capacity building, and technical cooperation. The Meeting reiterated the importance of ARF participants becoming parties to the Convention for the Suppression of Unlawful Acts against Safety of Maritime Navigation and its Protocol, as committed to in the 2003 ARF Statement on Cooperation against Piracy and Other Threats to Maritime Security.

Operational Solutions to Maritime Security Threats

9. The Navy Chiefs of Malaysia and Singapore, the Deputy Chief of Staff of the Indonesian Navy and the Commander of US Coast Guard Pacific Area shared their perspectives and experiences in dealing with maritime security threats. China, Australia and India also shared their national experiences and highlighted national best practices in this session.
10. The Meeting noted the efforts of many ARF countries to strengthen measures in their countries, including the establishment of the Malaysian Maritime Enforcement Agency (MMEA), the setting up of additional navy control command centres in Indonesia, the strengthening of legal system and structure in China to safeguard the security of its waters, ports and ships, and the US’ identification of a performance model that would provide a framework for collaboration on all the critical elements of maritime security. The importance of interagency cooperation was highlighted. Some participants noted the need to address safety of navigation as well as environmental protection in an effective maritime security regime. Some participants also referenced recent coordinated efforts on disaster relief in the wake of the 26 December 2004 earthquake and tsunami as an example of effective cooperation.

11. The Meeting noted that a significant number of forms of operational cooperation already existed both bilaterally and multilaterally. The Meeting commended the numerous coordinated patrol arrangements that had been set up in the region, and agreed that it would be useful to further explore how the modalities of such patrols could be further improved. The recently launched Trilateral Coordinated Patrols of the Straits of Malacca and Singapore, involving the navies of Indonesia, Malaysia, and Singapore, were cited as a positive example of such evolving modalities.

12. Some participants commented on the operational benefits of pursuit arrangements and joint patrols. Some also noted that such arrangements could touch on potentially sensitive issues. Some participants suggested that these issues could be addressed through consultation and mutual confidence building, as well as through the involvement of international organisations like the UN or the IMO. Some participants expressed the hope that pursuit and joint patrol arrangements could come about in the region in the future given the pressing nature of maritime threats.

13. The Meeting acknowledged the professional benefits of multilateral naval interactions, and commended the expansion in the breadth and depth of the maritime security-related activities in groupings such as the Five Power Defence Arrangements (FPDA) and the Western Pacific Naval Symposium (WPNS). It was noted that such joint maritime security exercises were useful not only for building confidence and mutual understanding, but also for developing the standard operational procedures and inter-operability that would be necessary for any future operational responses.

Port and Shipping Security

14. Singapore, Japan, Thailand, Vietnam, Malaysia and the EU made presentations. A representative from the shipping industry also shared the commercial perspective on how the shipping industry coped with the enhanced maritime security measures.
15. The Meeting noted that a key challenge facing participants was how to sustain unimpeded economic growth while ensuring higher levels of maritime security demanded by the new threat environment. Given the immensity of the task of securing ships, ports and containers, there was a broad recognition that countries should adopt a holistic approach.

16. The Meeting noted the significant achievements of the ISPS Code, and agreed that vigilance needed to be sustained with regard to continued compliance through regular audits of security plans and the conduct of security. Some participants suggested that there was a need to explore security measures that went beyond the ISPS code, including the monitoring of small vessels, and giving emphasis to security of the entire supply chain.

Technological Solutions to Maritime Security Threats

17. Singapore and the United States made presentations. The Meeting noted that while technology was a critical enabler in maritime security, it was not a silver bullet. It was agreed that countries needed to adopt a holistic approach by integrating technological solutions with policy and operational measures. The Meeting also noted the various uses of advanced technology to enhance maritime situational awareness and to support the decision-making processes of security agencies. The Meeting noted that bilateral and multilateral collaboration on the use of technology should be encouraged.

Voluntary Briefing on ReCAAP

18. Singapore delivered a voluntary briefing on the Regional Cooperation Agreement on Anti-Piracy and Armed Robbery Against Ships in Asia (ReCAAP) and the associated Information Sharing Centre (ISC) that Singapore would host. The Meeting noted that the depositary for the Agreement had already been established, and that a number of countries had already begun their processes of ratification. The Meeting welcomed the imminent coming into force of ReCAAP and noted Singapore’s plans for the prompt establishment of the ISC. The Meeting acknowledged that the proposed ISC will take into account concerns regarding the definitions of piracy applied by the International Maritime Bureau that has distorted the actual situation in the region.

Proposals for Future ARF Cooperation

19. The Meeting also commended the recent growth in maritime security arrangements. Some participants suggested formulating regional maritime security cooperation around three broad principles: First, that the primary responsibility for the safety and security of key waterways like the Malacca and Singapore Straits lay with the littoral states. Second, that due to the multiplicity of stakeholders, and the complexity of the task at hand, there
was a role for all stakeholders – interested countries, international organisations like the IMO, the shipping community, and even multinational corporations. And third, that as the region charted out how best to move forward in this new area of cooperation, we should proceed on the basis of consultation and in accordance with international law. Some participants suggested that these three principles would be a useful basis for future maritime security dialogue.

20. The Meeting agreed that the ARF should play an important role in forging regional cooperation in maritime security given its wide membership that encompassed the key stakeholders in regional maritime security. The Meeting therefore commended the ARF’s sustained focus on maritime security to date and welcomed the development of future regional maritime security activities.

21. The Meeting also recognised the important role that the IMO could play in regional maritime security and, particularly with regard to enhancing the security of vital regional sea lanes while ensuring continued freedom of trade and navigation through them. The Meeting therefore supported the continued involvement of the IMO in future ARF maritime security initiatives.

22. The Meeting agreed that the exchange of information among maritime agencies in ARF countries was an important first step in developing wider cooperative arrangements, with some participants highlighting that information should be shared for mutual benefit and that issues of confidentiality should be addressed. It was suggested that these information exchanges could take place, perhaps through seminars, operations room linkages, or through formal regional cooperative arrangements such as the Regional Agreement on Cooperation in Anti-Piracy in Asia (or ReCAAP).

23. The Meeting noted that Maritime Domain Awareness at the national and regional levels could be an important precursor to effective operational responses. The Meeting therefore noted the usefulness of developing cooperative modalities and protocols for exchanging and integrating information to build a comprehensive maritime operating picture.

24. The Meeting also took note of the proposal of Singapore to consider the initiation of an ARF maritime security exercise in conjunction with the other littoral states as an operational Confidence Building Measure for 2006. Such a CBM would be in line with the call made in the 2003 ARF Ministerial Statement on Cooperation Against Piracy and Other Threats to Maritime Security for multilateral cooperation through increased personnel contact, information exchanges, and anti-piracy exercises.

25. The Meeting also agreed that in addition to working on preventive measures, the ARF could also work to build up regional resilience by cooperating in consequence management in the event of a major maritime incident.
26. The Meeting called for sustained capacity building initiatives at the regional and sub-regional levels. In this regard, the Meeting welcomed India’s proposal to host a CBM on Training in Maritime Security and Japan’s proposal to host an ARF Workshop on Capacity Building in Maritime Security which will be held in Tokyo in the fall of 2005. Participants also noted the US’ informal efforts to assist the littoral states in capacity building in maritime security.

27. The Meeting noted the need for constant communication and coordination between governments and the shipping industry in implementing measures to enhance maritime security.

28. The Co-Chairs’ Report and the recommendations contained within will be submitted to the ARF Senior Officials’ Meeting to be held in Vientiane in May 2005 for information. The papers and briefing slides for this CBM are attached to this report.
Introduction

1. Pursuant to the decision of the 11th Ministerial Meeting of the ASEAN Regional Forum (ARF) held in Indonesia on 2 July 2004, the second meeting of the ARF Inter-sessional Support Group on Confidence Building Measures (ISG on CBMs) for the 2004-2005 inter-sessional year was held in Germany. The Meeting took place on 21-23 February 2005 in Berlin/Potsdam. It was cochaired by the European Union and the Kingdom of Cambodia.

2. Representatives from Australia, Brunei Darussalam, Kingdom of Cambodia, Canada, People's Republic of China, European Union, India, Indonesia, Japan, Laos, Malaysia, Mongolia, Myanmar, New Zealand, Pakistan, the Philippines, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Republic of Korea, Russian Federation, Singapore, Kingdom of Thailand, the United States of America, Viet Nam and the ARF Unit of the ASEAN Secretariat attended the Meeting. The South-East Asian Centre for Counter-Terrorism (SEARCCCT) was also invited to the Meeting. The Defence Officials' Dialogue was held on 21 February 2005. The Meeting also included a field trip to the German Expertise Center for early warning and disaster reduction/Potsdam (GeoForschungszentrum). The Agenda of the ARF ISG on CBMs meeting is attached as ANNEX 1, the Programme of Activities as ANNEX 2 and the list of Participants as ANNEX 3.

Exchange of Views on the Regional and International Situation

3. The Meeting had a comprehensive exchange of views on the Tsunami crisis and follow-up. It expressed its sympathy and solidarity to all those affected by the earthquake and the tsunami in Asia and the Indian Ocean on 26 December 2004. It welcomed the Special ASEAN Leaders Meeting in Jakarta on 6 January 2005 and its Declaration on Action to Strengthen Emergency Relief, Rehabilitation, Reconstruction and Prevention (ANNEX 4). It looked forward to the expeditious establishment of regional mechanisms on disaster prevention and mitigation.

4. The Meeting further welcomed the decision of the UN World Conference on Disaster Reduction in Kobe, 18-22 January 2005, (ANNEX 5) to establish an effective and durable
tsunami early warning system for the Indian Ocean, under the co-ordination of the UN and tailored to the specific circumstances of the Indian Ocean and the individual requirements of countries. The Meeting emphasised the importance of regional co-operation and co-ordination in disaster reduction and the need to co-ordinate and examine the various proposals made in Kobe and Phuket. In this respect, it welcomed the results of the Ministerial Meeting on Regional Co-operation on Tsunami Early Warning Arrangements, held in Thailand on 28 and 29 January 2005 (ANNEX 6) as well as efforts and initiatives by ARF partners in the field of early warning and disaster reduction. Russia, New Zealand, Singapore and India presented written contributions (ANNEXES 7-10).

5. The Meeting expressed its appreciation and continued support for the efforts of the UN in its role as co-ordinator of international assistance at the emergency relief phase and welcomed the idea of stand-by arrangements for disaster relief. The Meeting expressed the commitment of its participants to assist the affected countries and their peoples in order to fully recover from the catastrophic and traumatic effects of the disaster, including in their mid and long-term rehabilitation and reconstruction efforts. Participants underlined their interest in addressing expeditiously and as appropriate collectively the political and security-related lessons of the disaster and its aftermath. The meeting agreed that it would be useful to revive the ARF ISM on disaster relief and related issues, and looked forward to the ARF Ministerial Meeting in July 2005 for further discussions.

6. The Meeting was briefed by Myanmar on recent developments in that country. The meeting noted the resumption of the National Convention on 17 February 2005 and recalled that the National Convention should be a forum for genuine open debate with the participation of all political and ethnic groups. Several ARF participants expressed concern about increased restrictions on Daw Aung San Suu Kyi and urged her release and the release of all remaining political prisoners, including Hkun Htun Oo, president of the Shan National League Democracy Party.

7. Deep concern was expressed on the DPRK’s statement on 10th February of its possession of nuclear weapons and indefinite suspension of participation in the Six Party Talks. The participants agreed on the importance of the denuclearization of the Korean Peninsula and on the resolution of the nuclear issue through peaceful diplomatic means. Most delegations who spoke called for the early resumption of the Six Party Talks. Several delegations pointed to the Talks as the way forward for the DPRK to address international community concerns about its nuclear programmes. Some delegations stressed the need for flexibility of all concerned parties. The DPRK stressed that the right conditions and atmosphere should be created for its participation in the Six Party Talks. (The DPRK’s presentation appears as ANNEX 11.) The participants also expressed support for exchange, co-operation and dialogue between the ROK and the DPRK.
8. The Meeting welcomed and encouraged efforts by ASEAN and China to implement the Declaration on the Conduct of Parties in the South China Sea. They emphasized the importance of confidence building and the need to explore ways and means to cooperative activities among the parties concerned in accordance with the underlying spirit and principles of the DOC.

9. Some participants mentioned the recent developments in the Middle East and stressed the need to carry out the road map and the relevant UNSC Resolutions to achieve durable peace in that region with the realization of the vision of two states, Israel and Palestine, living side by side, in peace within the secured and recognized borders. The Meeting welcomed Iraqi and Palestinian elections.

Voluntary Background Briefings

10. The Meeting expressed its support for the intensification of regional cooperation and dialogue. It welcomed the briefing by Laos as the Chairman of the ASEAN Standing Committee on recent developments within ASEAN (ANNEX 12), in particular on ‘the Vientiane Action Programme, as well as information provided by Indonesia on the ASEAN Security Community (ANNEX 13). The Meeting also noted the accession to the Treaty of Amity and Cooperation in Southeast Asia by the Republic of Korea and the Russian Federation, as well as the plans to convene the first East Asia Summit and an ASEAN-Russia Summit in Malaysia in December 2005.

11. The Meeting heard voluntary background briefings by:
   i. Japan on “The New National Defense Program Guidline”, “The 4th Tokyo Defense Subcommittee Summary by the Chair”, the “10th Tokyo Defense Forum” and “Japan’s International Counter-Terrorism Cooperation” (ANNEX 14);
   ii. Malaysia on “International Peace Monitoring Team in the Mindanao peace process” (ANNEX 15);
   iii. SEARCCT on “Malaysia’s effort and views in combating terrorism” (ANNEX 15);
   iv. Australia on “Strengthening Australia’s Offshore Maritime Security” (ANNEX 16);
   v. India on a “First India-ASEAN Car Rally” and “India’s contribution to UN Peace Keeping Operations” (ANNEX 17);
   vi. the Philippines on progress of the peace talks between the government of the Philippines and the Moro Islamic Liberation Front (ANNEX 18).

12. The Meeting was also briefed by the EU on the concept and recent developments in the European Security and Defence Policy and the EU-ALTHEA operation in Bosnia and Herzegovina.
Non-traditional Security Issues

13. The Meeting reaffirmed its commitment to enhancing practical co-operation and co-ordination both within the ARF and with other regional and international organisations in addressing non-traditional security issues, including terrorism, WMD proliferation, people smuggling and trafficking, drug trafficking, money laundering, cyber crime, sea piracy, counterfeiting, arms smuggling and smuggling of goods.

14. The Meeting discussed options for greater cooperation, co-ordination and exchange of information among ARF participants on non-traditional security issues. The growing impact of non-traditional security issues highlights the need for enhanced practical and pragmatic co-operation, including the effective and timely exchange of information, among ARF participants and with other international organisations.

15. The Meeting was briefed by the representative of OSCE (Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe), Vienna, on the OSCE’s work on antiterrorism. It welcomed the involvement of the OSCE and looked forward to continuing dialogue and increasing co-operation with the OSCE on this and other issues.

16. India briefed the Meeting on the first meeting of the BIMSTEC Joint Working Group on Counter Terrorism and Transnational Crime held in New Delhi on 9-10 December 2004 (ANNEX 19).

17. The Meeting agreed that the spread of infectious diseases is a subject that requires high political attention. It was briefed by the EU on the ASEM expert meeting that will be called by Vietnam and a number of EU-member-states to strengthen the capacity of the participating countries to halt the spread of HIV/AIDS and to cope with its impact (ANNEX 20).

18. The Meeting discussed the arrangements for the next Inter-sessional Meeting on Counter Terrorism and Transnational Crime (ISM on CTTC), to be held in Bangkok on 6-8 April 2005 under Thai/Canadian co-chairmanship (ANNEX 32). The Meeting also saw merit in institutionalizing the ISM on CTTC. China offered to co-chair the 4th ISM on CTTC in 2006.

19. The Meeting agreed that ARF participants will submit an updated version of their Points of Contact for Disaster Relief to the ARF unit.

20. Singapore invited participants to update their inputs to the register of points of contact for consequence management of chemical, biological, radiological and nuclear terrorism (ANNEX 21).
21. The Meeting agreed that the implementation of various CBMs has contributed significantly to an improvement in the level of confidence and trust among the ARF participants. The Meeting also acknowledged the need to make full use of the results of ARF meetings and to carry out a regular review of action taken to follow up the recommendations of CBMs.

22. The Meeting discussed the results of the following CBMs:
   i. The Meeting noted the report of the meeting of Heads of Defence Colleges in Singapore, 1-3 September 2004 and agreed on the importance of continuing this type of CBM on a yearly basis.
   ii. The Meeting discussed the results of the ARF Workshop on Maritime Security that was held in Kuala Lumpur on 22-24 September 2004 and recommended that the next ARF workshop would build upon its recommendations. Several participants acknowledged that increased maritime situational awareness, inter-agency and international information sharing and cooperation, responsive decision-making structures, and effective interception skills are key elements of the effort to enhance maritime security capacity. They also noted the importance of empowering legal and other arrangements to enhance international information sharing and operational cooperation.
   iii. The Meeting discussed the outcome of the ARF Seminar on Cyber Terrorism (Republic of Korea; 13-15 October 2004) and agreed on the importance of dealing with this issue in the ARF framework.
   iv. Referring to the ARF Workshop on Alternative Development (Kunming/China 7-8 September 2004), China offered to host a second Workshop on the same issue in the first semester of 2006.

23. The Meeting welcomed the following new CBMs that will be implemented in this inter-sessional year:
   i. ARF CBM on “Regional Cooperation in Maritime Security, 2-4 March 2005 (Singapore and the United States, ANNEX 22).
   ii. ARF Seminar on Enhancing Cooperation in the Field of Non-traditional Security Issues, 7-8 March 2005 (China).
   iii. ARF Workshop on Peace Arrangements Ensuring Stability and Security in the Region, including Civil-Military Co-operation, 22-23 March 2005 (Japan).
   iv. 2nd track Workshop on Changes in the Security Perceptions and Military Doctrines of ARF Members, Ulaanbaatar, 21-22 June 2005 (Mongolia, Viet Nam, and EU).
24. The Meeting further welcomed information and draft concept papers on the following proposed Basket I CBMs:
   i. Seminar on Small Arms and Light Weapons (SALW) by the Kingdom of Cambodia and the EU for autumn 2005 in Phnom Penh (ANNEX 23).
   v. ARF Workshop on Capacity Building of Maritime Security to be hosted by Japan in Autumn 2005 (ANNEX 25).
   ix. Seminar on Non-proliferation of Weapons of Mass Destruction which will be co-chaired by the US, China and Singapore in spring 2006, based on the Concept Paper tabled by the US during the last ISG in Phnom Penh.

25. The Meeting welcomed the intention of the ARF Secretariat to maintain an inventory of actions, measures and recommendations agreed at ARF meetings and to circulate updates regularly to ARF participants.

26. The meeting took note with interest of the results of the 4th Subcommittee of the Tokyo Defence Forum and welcomed the fact that the 10th Tokyo Defense Forum that will be held in June 2005 in Tokyo will discuss lessons learned during the ongoing disaster relief efforts and discuss measures to enhance the effectiveness of such efforts.

Future Direction of the ARF

27. The Meeting agreed on the need to reinforce the ARF, particularly by moving further towards preventive diplomacy while continuing with confidence-building activities. Given that, the Meeting strongly recommended to reflect this in the title of the future ISG’s, i.e. “ISG on PD” or “ISG on CBMs and PD”.

28. The Meeting also agreed to strengthen linkage between Track I and Track II in the ARF process. Several participants suggested for that purpose that the chair of CSCAP will be invited at the next ISG to give a short presentation on Track II activities.
29. The Meeting noted the important role being played by various regional mechanisms, such as the ARF, ASEAN Plus Three process, Shanghai Cooperation Organization, Asia Pacific Economic Cooperation, Asia Cooperation Dialogue and the Asia Europe Meeting.

(i). Enhanced Role of the ARF Chair

30. The Meeting reviewed the implementation of the measures taken to enhance the ARF Chair’s role and welcomed the efforts made in this respect. Participants agreed that efforts to strengthen cooperation between the ARF and other regional organisations should be continued. The Meeting agreed that the ARF Chair, with the support of the ARF Unit, should seek to further identify and develop such contacts on a practical basis. The Meeting also agreed that it would be useful to continue to consider other ways to enhance the role of the Chair including by exploring the “Friends of the Chair” in the concept.

(ii) ARF Unit within the ASEAN Secretariat

31. The Meeting welcomed the useful role the ARF Unit plays on the basis of the Terms of Reference established by ASEAN on 26 June 2004. The Meeting agreed that full implementation of the role and functions of the ARF-Unit would require active cooperation of all ARF participating states.

32. The Meeting agreed to forward the draft Terms of Reference of the ARF Fund (ANNEX 29) to the ARF SOM for adoption by the 12th ARF. It took note of the EU’s non-paper on enhancing the role of the ARF Unit (ANNEX 30). Participants agreed on the benefit of developing contacts between the ARF Unit and other regional and international organisations. The Meeting agreed that the ARF Unit should focus such efforts in the short-term on developing contacts with ARF partner/participant organisations. In this respect, the Meeting welcomed the EU invitation to the ARF Unit to visit the General Secretariat of the Council of the EU in Brussels. The meeting also welcomed the willingness of participants to contribute to the work of the ARF Unit i.a. to help to set up data base and other practical ways as agreed with the ARF Unit.

(iii) Expert/Eminent Persons (EEPs)

33. The meeting discussed the implementation of the ARF EEPs following the adoption of the Guidelines for the Operation of ARF EEPs by the 11th ARF FMM, and endorsed ROK’s proposal for an EEP trial meeting.
(iv) Annual Security Outlook

34. The meeting welcomed the submission by ARF participants of their Annual Security Outlook and encouraged participants that had not yet done so, to submit their inputs to the ARF Chair for compilation before the ARF SOM in May 2005.

Preparations for the next intersessional year 2005/2006 and ARF ISG on CBMs meeting

35. The Philippines proposed to co-chair the ISG on CBMs in the 2005-2006 inter-sessional year. The other Co-Chair will be announced at the ARF SOM.

Other Matters

36. The Meeting was briefed on the outcomes of the Defense Officials’ Dialogue, which was held on 21 February 2005, and which appears in ANNEX 31.

37. The Meeting was briefed by Laos on the arrangements for the upcoming ARF Security Policy Conference and ARF SOM, which will take place in Vientiane in May 2005. Laos informed the Meeting of ASEAN’s intention to propose Timor-Leste’s participation in ARF at the Vientiane SOM.

38. The participants expressed their appreciation to the EU for the excellent arrangements in hosting the Meeting and thanked Cambodia as the Co-Chair for its valuable contribution.
Introduction

1. As endorsed by the 11th ASEAN Regional Forum (ARF) in Jakarta on 2 July 2004, the first ARF Security Policy Conference (ASPC) was held in Beijing on 4-6 November 2004. The Meeting was chaired by Mr. Sudrajat, MPA, Deputy Minister for Defence Strategy, Department of Defence of the Republic of Indonesia.

2. The Conference was attended by representatives from Australia, Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, Canada, China, DPR Korea, European Union, India, Indonesia, Japan, Lao PDR, Malaysia, Mongolia, Myanmar, New Zealand, Pakistan, Papua New Guinea, the Philippines, Republic of Korea, Russian Federation, Singapore, Thailand, United States of America, Viet Nam, and the ASEAN Secretariat. The List of Delegates appears as ANNEX A.

3. On his opening remarks, the Chairman underlined among others the purpose, principles, modalities, and agenda of the ASPC contained in the agreed Concept Paper of the ASPC, which appears as ANNEX B. Along with the opening session, China as the host country for the first ASPC delivered a welcoming speech. The host stressed the importance of the ASPC to promote CBM among ARF participants, exchange of information, and seek common ground in solving possible differences among participants.

Agenda Item 1: Adoption of the Agenda

4. The Conference considered and adopted the Agenda, which appears as ANNEX C.

Agenda Item 2: Business Arrangements

5. The Conference was held in plenary. The Programme of Activities appears as ANNEX D.


6. The Conference exchanged views on international and regional security situation. The Conference viewed that in general the international and regional security


environment was relatively peaceful and stable. Participants, however, believed that there are still some traditional and non-traditional security issues that required immediate solutions.

7. The Participants exchanged views on traditional security issues inter alia the situation in Korean Peninsula. The Participants generally expressed their hope that the parties concerned on that issue continue their efforts to peaceful solution of the nuclear issue on the Korean Peninsula. The conference encouraged that the 4th round of Six-Party Talks be convened as soon as possible.

8. The Conference agreed that proliferation of WMD continued to pose a serious threat to the security in the region. The Conference had general understanding on the importance of multilateral cooperation to support national implementation of non-proliferation regimes.

9. The Participants focused on non-traditional security issues such as terrorism, proliferation of WMD, small arms smuggling, trafficking in drugs and persons, illegal immigrants, smuggling, maritime security, and money laundering. The Conference had a general understanding of the complexity and interdependence of the challenges, and hence, highlighted the need for enhancing cooperation among regional countries in order to safeguard peace, stability and prosperity in the Asia Pacific region.

10. The Participants were of the view that terrorism posed serious threat to peace and stability of the region. The Conference was of the view that terrorism should not be associated with any religion, race and ethnicity. The Conference also underlined the need to address terrorism comprehensively not only through military approach but also political, social and economic measures.

11. The Participants discussed maritime security issues and underlined the need to enhance regional cooperation to safeguard peace and security in this regard. Participants also highlighted the importance of upholding international law and principles, respect for national sovereignty and territorial integrity.

12. A number of participants briefed the Conference on their respective security and defence policies. Some briefing papers appear as ANNEX E.
Agenda Item 4: The Role of National Defence Forces in Combating Non-Traditional Security Threats

13. The Conference discussed and identified the potential threats of nontraditional security threats as a common ground to build concrete cooperation. The participants also exchanged views on the role of national defence forces in combating non-traditional security threats.

14. The Conference noted that national armed forces could be used in combating non-traditional security threats in accordance with individual national legal frameworks.

15. The Conference recommended to explore and develop ways and means of cooperation bilaterally and multilaterally in various areas among others intelligence and information sharing, capacity building, training programmes, consequence management, sharing experience on legal aspects on the role of armed forces in dealing with non-traditional security threats.

Agenda Item 5: Other Matters

16. The Conference agreed on the importance of the ASPC. The Conference welcomed Laos PDR as the next Chairman and host of the second ASPC in 2005.

17. The Conference expressed its gratitude and appreciation to the Government and people of the People’s Republic of China for their hospitality extended to the ASPC participants.
Co-Chairs’ Summary Report of the Meeting
of the ARF Inter-sessional Support Group
on Confidence Building Measures
Phnom Penh, Cambodia, 26-28 October 2004

Introduction

1. Pursuant to the decision of the 11th Ministerial Meeting of the ASEAN Regional Forum (ARF) held in Indonesia on 2 July 2004, the first meeting of the ARF Inter-sessional Support Group on Confidence Building Measures (ISG on CBMs) for the 2004-2005 inter-sessional year was held in Phnom Penh from 26-28 October 2004. The Meeting was co-chaired by the Kingdom of Cambodia and the European Union.

2. Representatives from Australia, Brunei Darussalam, Kingdom of Cambodia, Canada, People’s Republic of China, European Union, India, Indonesia, Japan, Lao PDR, Malaysia, Mongolia, Myanmar, New Zealand, Papua New Guinea, Pakistan, the Philippines, Democratic People’s Republic of Korea, Republic of Korea, Russian Federation, Singapore, Kingdom of Thailand, the United States of America, Viet Nam and the ARF Unit of the ASEAN Secretariat attended the Meeting. The Southeast Asia Regional Centre for Counter Terrorism (SEARCCT) was also invited to the Meeting. The Defence Officials’ Dialogue was held on 26 October 2004. The Agenda of the ARF ISG on CBMs meeting is attached as ANNEX A, the Programme of Activities as ANNEX B and the list of Participants as ANNEX C.

Exchange of Views on the Regional and International Situation

3. The participants congratulated Cambodia on the ascending to the throne by His Majesty the King NORODOM SIHAMONI.

4. The Meeting exchanged views on the political and security issues and developments in the Asia Pacific region and beyond since the 11th ASEAN Regional Forum on 2 July 2004.

5. The Meeting noted that, in general, peace, security, development and cooperation are the mainstream trends in the region. The Meeting reaffirmed the valuable role of multilateral security dialogue and cooperation through the ASEAN Regional Forum in contributing to these trends.
6. The Meeting welcomed the successful holding of democratic elections and peaceful transfer of power in several countries in the region.

7. The Meeting was briefed by Myanmar on recent developments in that country. Myanmar assured the Meeting that the recent change in leadership would not affect Myanmar’s commitment to the implementation of the seven-step Roadmap to Democracy adopted in August 2003. Several ARF participants urged the release of Daw Aung San Suu Kyi and other political prisoners. The Meeting encouraged all stakeholders in the country to work together to ensure a successful outcome of the ongoing national reconciliation process. The National Convention should be a forum for genuine open debate with the participation of all political groups in the country. In this context, the Meeting looked forward to the early lifting of restrictions placed on political parties. The Meeting also reaffirmed its support for the efforts of the UN Secretary-General and his Special Envoy, Tan Sri Razali Ismail.

8. The Meeting noted the stable relations among the major powers in the region and their contribution to the maintenance of regional security. The Meeting welcomed recent exchanges of high-level visits among these countries.

9. The Meeting noted the important role being played by various regional mechanisms, such as the ARF, ASEAN Plus Three process, Shanghai Cooperation Organization, Asia Pacific Economic Cooperation, Asia Cooperation Dialogue and the Asia-Europe Meeting.

10. The Meeting welcomed the adoption of the Bali Concord II at the 9th ASEAN Summit, held in Bali, Indonesia on 5-6 October 2003, which provided a framework for the establishment of the ASEAN Community by 2020 resting on the three pillars of ASEAN Security Community, ASEAN Economic Community and ASEAN Socio-cultural Community.

11. The Meeting noted the accession to the Treaty of Amity and Cooperation in Southeast Asia (TAC) by China, India, Japan and Pakistan. The Meeting also noted that preparations are underway for the accession of the Russian Federation and the Republic of Korea in November 2004. ASEAN participants called on other countries to accede to the TAC as a way of demonstrating political support to the role of ASEAN in the promotion of regional peace and security.

12. The Meeting underlined the importance of the implementation of the Declaration on the Conduct of Parties in the South China Sea (DOC). Some participants stressed that the parties concerned to exercise self-restraint in the conduct of activities that would affect peace and stability in the region. They emphasized the importance of confidence building and the need to explore ways and means for cooperative activities among the
parties concerned in accordance with the underlining spirit and principles of the DOC. In this connection, the Meeting looked forward to the convening of the ASEAN-China SOM on the Implementation of the Declaration on the Conduct of Parties in the South China Sea in Kuala Lumpur, on 7 December 2004.

13. The Meeting agreed that proliferation of weapons of mass destruction (WMD) continued to pose a serious threat to the security in the region. The Meeting agreed on the importance of multilateral security cooperation. The Meeting expressed particular concern on possibility of WMD getting into the hands of terrorist organizations.

14. The participants stressed the importance of the comprehensive denuclearization of the Korean Peninsula in maintaining peace and stability in the Asia-Pacific region. The participants also voiced support for the peaceful resolution of the issue. In this context, participants underlined the importance of early resumption of the Six-Party Talks to maintain the momentum and to make substantive progress in the process of the Talks. The participants also welcomed the recent progress of exchange and cooperation between the North and South Korea including Kaesong industrial complex project and also confirmed their continued support for further dialogue and cooperation between North and South Korea.

15. The Meeting reaffirmed its commitment to intensify national, regional and global efforts in combating various forms of transnational crime and international terrorism. The Meeting recall the need to implement the various ARF statements on counter-terrorism, such as the Statement on Strengthening Transport Security Against International Terrorism, Statement on Measures Against Terrorist Financing, Statement on Cooperative Counter-Terrorist Actions on Border Security, and Statement on Cooperation Against Piracy and Other Threats to Maritime Security.

16. Some participants expressed concern over the situation in the Middle East, particularly on the deteriorating security situation and relations between Israel and the Palestinian Authority. They stressed the need to carry out the Roadmap and the relevant UNSC Resolutions to achieve durable peace in that region with the realization of the vision of two states, Israel and Palestine living side by side, in peace within the secured and recognized borders.

17. The participants expressed their condolence and sympathy to Japan for the taking of a Japanese national as hostages in Iraq.

18. Some participants welcomed the transfer of authority in Iraq and expressed support for the holding of elections in Iraq in January 2005. The Meeting expressed support for the upholding of territorial integrity and independence of Iraq.
19. The Meeting welcomed the holding of elections in Afghanistan and agreed to remain committed to international efforts in the reconstruction of Afghanistan.

Voluntary Background Briefings

20. The Meeting was briefed by Thailand on its participation in UN peacekeeping operations and observer missions in various continents, particularly its contributions to the United Nations peacekeeping forces in Cambodia and East Timor. The briefing noted the importance of certain critical elements, such as, the need for countries to give consent to a UN role, to commit resources, and to recognize the multifaceted nature of peacekeeping operations, including maintaining law and order and reconstruction (ANNEX D). Thailand also briefed the Meeting on its contribution to mine action (ANNEX E).

21. The Meeting was briefed by Indonesia on the adoption by the ASEAN Leaders in October 2003 of the Bali Concord II and noted that the Plans of Action for the ASEAN Security Community and ASEAN Socio-Cultural Community would be adopted at the next ASEAN Summit in November 2004.

22. The Meeting was briefed by New Zealand on the achievement of the Regional Assistance Mission to the Solomon Islands under the auspices of the Pacific Island Forum, particularly on return of normal life in the Solomon Islands.

23. The Meeting was briefed by Japan on its efforts to counter proliferation of WMD, such as the implementation of PSI and enforcement of domestic and export controls (ANNEX F), Japan’s international cooperation to combat terrorism and the seminar to encourage accession to counter-terrorism convention (ANNEX G). The Meeting noted Japan’s efforts in organizing Asian Export Control Seminars for 12 consecutive years and the on-going maritime interdiction exercise in relation to non-proliferation.

24. The Meeting noted the EU’s non-paper on an international instrument to identify and trace in a timely and reliable manner illicit small arms and light weapons (SALW) (ANNEX H). The Meeting was also briefed by the EU on the “ASEM Conference on Counter Terrorism,” in Berlin, on 18-20 October 2004 (ANNEX I).

25. The Meeting was briefed by Malaysia on Malaysian International Monitoring Team in the Mindanao Peace Process (ANNEX J).


27. The Meeting was briefed by Canada on Canada’s National Security Policy: Securing an Open Society (ANNEX L).
28. The Meeting was briefed by the representative of the Southeast Asia Regional Centre for Counter Terrorism (SEARCCT), which was established by Malaysia in July 2003, on the activities of the Centre. SEARCCT undertakes three activities, training and capability building, enhancement of public awareness and upgrading of institutional capability in preventing terrorism and managing consequences of terrorist attacks (ANNEX M). SEARCCT welcomes support by other countries by sending lecturers and funding of participants.

Non-Traditional Security Issues

29. The Meeting discussed strengthening cooperation in addressing nontraditional security issues, including terrorism, drug trafficking, people smuggling, money laundering, cyber crime, piracy and arm smuggling, which continue to pose threats to the peace and security in the region. Participants were of the view that these issues should remain one of the priorities on the ARF agenda. They welcomed the results of the Bali Process Senior Officials Meeting held in Brisbane, in June 2004, which provided practical measures to combat people's smuggling and trafficking in persons.

30. The Meeting welcomed the inauguration of the Jakarta Center for Law Enforcement Cooperation (JCLEC) in Semarang, on 3 July 2004, to build regional operational law enforcement capacity needed to fight transnational crimes with a main focus on terrorism. The Meeting welcomed Indonesia in collaboration with Australia to conduct the Training Program on Counter Terrorism Post Blast, organised by JCLEC, in Jakarta, on 3-17 July 2004.

31. The Meeting agreed that there was an urgent need to enhance practical and pragmatic cooperative measures among the ARF participants to address the non-traditional security issues. In this regard, participants stressed on the importance of capacity building, information sharing and intelligence exchanges among the ARF participants. Participants have expressed their hope that the ARF would work closely with the SEARCCT in Kuala Lumpur as well as JCLEC, International Law Enforcement Academy (ILEA) in Bangkok. Participants welcomed the signing of the ASEAN-Australia Joint Declaration on Cooperation on Counter-Terrorism and ASEAN-Russia Joint Declaration for Cooperation to Combat International Terrorism during the 11th ARF. The Meeting also welcomed the ARF Statement on Strengthening Transport Security against International Terrorism which lent further weight on the existing measures already implemented by the ARF.

32. The Meeting welcomed Thailand and Canada for co-chairing the 3rd Inter-Sessional Meeting on Counter-Terrorism and Transnational Crime in Bangkok, preferably in the first week of April 2005.
33. The Meeting welcomed Indonesia for successfully convening the Ad Hoc Working Group on Law Enforcement Practitioners in Bali on 12-13 August 2004. The participants also welcomed China for organizing the Workshop on ARF Alternative Development with the aim to promote cooperation among concerned agencies among the ARF participants on fighting drug trafficking.

34. The participants were encouraged to submit their points of contact for “Register of Points of Contact for Consequence Management of Chemical, Biological, Radiological and Nuclear Terrorism” to Singapore.

Consideration of CBMs

35. The Meeting agreed that the implementation of various CBMs has significantly contributed to an improvement in the level of confidence and trust among the ARF participants. The Meeting also acknowledged the need to consider the required follow-up of CBMs activities.

36. The Meeting took note of the implementation of agreed CBMs and reports, as follows:
   - 8th ARF Meeting of the Head of Defence Colleges/Institutions, Singapore, 1-3 September 2004.
   - ARF Workshop on Alternative Development, Kunming, China, 7-8 September 2004 (ANNEX N).
   - ARF Seminar on Cyber Terrorism, Jeju Island, 13-15 October 2004 (ANNEX P).

37. The Meeting noted the following new CBMs that will be implemented in this inter-sessional year:
   i. ARF CBM on “Regional Cooperation in Maritime Security, 2-4 March 2005. (Singapore and the United States) (ANNEX Q).
   ii. ARF seminar on Enhancing Cooperation in the Field of Non-Traditional Security Issues, 2-5 March 2005 (China).
   vi. ARF Workshop on Changes in the Security Perceptions and Military Doctrines of ARF Members, first half of 2005 (Viet Nam and Mongolia).
38. The Meeting received draft Concept Papers and noted the following proposed CBMs:
   i. ARF Seminar en Small Arms and Light Weapons, 2005. The Concept Paper will be circulating in due course. (Cambodia and EU).
   iii. ARF Seminar on Non-Proliferation to be hosted by China for inter-sessional year 2005-2006. The Concept Paper will be circulated at the next ARF ISG on CBMs meeting (China).
   iv. ARF Seminar on Countering Cyber-Terrorism, 2005. The Concept Paper will be circulated in due course (the Philippines and ROK).

39. The United States informed the Meeting that it was developing a proposal for a seminar on missile defense to promote transparency and further mutual understanding for consideration.

40. The Meeting noted the outcome of the 9th Tokyo Defense Forum held on 19-20 October 2004 (ANNEX T). The Meeting was also briefed by Japan on the upcoming 4th Tokyo Defense Forum Sub-Committee Meeting in late January 2005 (ANNEX U).

Future Direction of the ARF

41. The Meeting agreed on the need to further strengthen the ARF, particularly by moving towards preventive diplomacy while continuing with confidence-building activities.

42. The Meeting was of the view that the ARF had made remarkable progress during the past recent years, and that the contribution of the ARF as a forum for political and security dialogue in the region, with ASEAN as the driving force, should be maintained. In the same vein, the ARF should continue to observe the basic principles featuring decision-making by consensus and non-interference. At the same time, participants also stressed that the ARF should keep abreast with the times, and move forward at a pace comfortable to all. In this regard, the Meeting was of the view that progress should continue to be made towards the implementation of the adopted Nine Recommendations of the Stocktaking of the ARF process.

43. The Meeting agreed on the need to maintain informal contacts between ARF and other regional and international organizations such as the UN, APEC, SCO, OSCE and the OAS. The Meeting also agreed to strengthen linkage between Track I and Track II in the ARF process and noted that the 22nd CSCAP Steering Committee will be convened in Hainan, PRC, in December 2004.
(i) Preventive Diplomacy (PD)

44. Some participants suggested that the ARF requests the ARF EEPs to conduct a study on measures to carry out preventive diplomacy by the ARF Chair or the ARF. Some stressed that some activities implemented under the ARF framework such as workshops/seminars on counterterrorism, non-proliferation and other transnational crimes related issues have gone beyond building confidence and are themselves cooperative activities in the nature of preventive diplomacy.

(ii) Enhanced Role of the ARF Chair

45. The Meeting commended the ARF Chair for the efforts made in enhancing the role of the Chair. Participants agreed to extend further cooperation and support for the ARF Chair in carrying out the mandates outlined in the paper on the Enhanced Role of the ARF Chair.

(iii) ARF Register of Experts/Eminent Persons

46. The Meeting noted the adoption of the Guidelines for the Operation of ARF EEPs and agreed to use the EEPs as appropriate. The Meeting was briefed by the Republic of Korea on Questionnaire on the Operation of the EEP system (ANNEX V). The Meeting also agreed that the Trial Meeting of the EEPs should be convened as soon as possible.

(iv) ARF Unit and the Proposed ARF Fund.

47. The Meeting welcomed the establishment of the ARF Unit in the ASEAN Secretariat since June 2004 and expressed appreciation for its role in supporting the enhance role of the ARF Chair. The Meeting noted the proposal by ASEAN to establish an ARF Fund based on voluntary contributions from ARF participants for the purpose of implementing projects, activities, and decisions of the ARF Ministers. The Meeting agreed to submit their comments on the draft Terms of Reference for the ARF Fund as soon as possible. The draft TOR appears in ANNEX W.

48. The United States informed the Meeting that it has funds available for, and is working with the ARF Unit to develop, a proposal for an ARF website and invited inputs from other ARF participants. Some participants requested further discussion on the proposal.

(v) Annual Security Outlook.

49. The Meeting observed that the continued publication of the ARF Annual Security outlook was an important contribution to promoting transparency and enhancing confidence-building among the ARF participants. The Meeting requested ARF participants to submit
their respective Annual Security Outlook to the ARF Chair for compilation before the next ISG on CBMs in the first half of 2005.

Arrangements of the next ISG Meeting

50. The Meeting agreed that the next ARF ISG on CBMs, to be co-chaired by the EU and Cambodia, would be hosted by Germany on behalf of the EU and would be held in Berlin on 21-23 February, 2005.

Other Matters

51. The Meeting took note of the Co-Chairs Report of the ARF-ISG on CBMs Defense Officials Dialogue, which was held on 26 October 2004, which appears as ANNEX X.

52. The Meeting was briefed by Indonesia and China on the arrangements of the upcoming ARF Security Policy Conference, which will take place in Beijing, 4-6 November 2004.

53. The participants expressed their appreciation to Cambodia for its excellent arrangements in hosting the Meeting and thanks the EU as the Co-Chair for its valuable contribution.
1. As agreed by the Foreign Ministers at the 11th ASEAN Regional Forum (ARF) FMM, the “ARF Seminar on Cyber Terrorism” was held on 13-15 October 2004 in Jeju and was co-chaired by the Republic of Korea and the Philippines. The seminar was attended by 90 participants from 20 members of the ARF.

2. The objective of the seminar was to share information and ideas on the national policies of ARF member countries on cyber terrorism and to encourage the cooperative and effective efforts to combat diverse cyber threats and cyber terrorism. It was also intended to build trust and confidence and enlarge the network of the cyber security community.

3. The seminar was recognized by the participants as the important first step in dealing with the issue of cyber terrorism as a new milestone for the further undertaking of this issue within the ARF framework and was also meaningful in a sense that a mixed combination of participants both from the security policy and cyber security sectors enabled the meeting to take stock of countering cyber terrorism at the policy, as well as operational levels in a balanced manner. The seminar was conducted in a professional and sincere manner with participants exchanging constructive ideas on the countermeasures to combating cyber terrorism.

Opening Session

4. The seminar was composed of the following 5 sessions:
   - Session I: Cyber Terrorism as a New Security Threat: Assessing its Implications for National and Global Security
   - Session II: Private-Government Partnership and Cooperation in Combating Cyber Terrorism
   - Session III: Developing Technologies and Policies against Cyber Threats
   - Session IV: Today and Tomorrow of CERTs — Activities and Cooperation
   - Session V: Enhancing International Cooperation among ARF Members on Cyber Terrorism
Opening Session

5. The Korean co-chair of the seminar emphasized that with the spread of information technology, cyber terrorism has emerged as a new non-traditional threat to security. He highlighted that as one of the leading countries in information technology, the Korean government has played a proactive role in addressing this transnational issue including the initiative for strengthening cyber security taken up at the Asia-Europe Meeting (ASEM) held last week in Vietnam. In this regard, the Republic of Korea has assumed the co-chair of this seminar with the Republic of the Philippines, which will be significant in addressing the various aspects of this issue within the framework of the ARF for the first time, with the aim to lay the groundwork for future cooperation among ARF participants.

6. The Philippine co-chair expressed the hope that the seminar would enable participants to have a better understanding of the nature, motivation and tools of cyber terrorism, which would lead to better prevention and the building of a level of trust and confidence in the nascent ARF cyber security community. She reaffirmed the commitment of the Philippines to the fight against global terror and cyber terrorism, in particular.

Session 1: Cyber Terrorism as a New Security Threat — Assessing its Implications for National and Global Security

7. The Korean National Cyber Security Center gave a presentation on “Korea’s Cyber Terror Response System and Policies.” The Korean delegation showed that traditional security threats could be threatened by non-traditional means. In this context, the threat has been addressed by respective governmental institutions that are operating under the guidelines of a cyber security management system. The scope of application is configured with the definition of cyber terrorism in the system and adequate responses are conducted in phases of prevention and recovery.

8. China’s Ministry of Public Security presented a paper on “China’s Policies on Cyber Terrorism.” The Chinese delegation pointed out that cyber terrorism includes two aspects, in which ‘cyber’ is considered as (1) a ‘target,’ or (2) a ‘tool.’ Accordingly, the Chinese delegation introduced its legal aspects as ‘cyber’ as an object and tool and emphasized that prevention was essential in promoting its national cyber security. China also presented its national detection, reporting and responding mechanisms, as well as its training and research programmes aiming at promoting its national information infrastructure.
Session 2: Private-Government Partnership and Cooperation in Combating Cyber Terrorism

9. The National Computer Center of the Philippines presented a paper on “Private-Government Partnership” with the aim to protect critical information infrastructure. In this regard, private-government cooperation will be one of the most essential countermeasures for respective ARF participants. Information exchange between the governmental and private sectors should be conducted on a large scale with an assessment of vulnerabilities. Training and education on cyber security will also be a crucial part of cooperation.

10. The Information Security Office of the Cabinet Secretariat of Japan presented a paper to report the functions of the National Incident Response Team (NIRT) as a national CERT. The Japanese delegation also provided helpful information for a CERT collaboration network among ARF participants.

11. It was pointed out that the expansion of the cooperation network of national CERTs would be essential to countering cyber terrorism. Therefore, suggestions included framing out a contact list of the CERTs of respective ARF participants. In order to maximize the security surveillance of ARF participants, the possibility of increasing cooperation on blocking the source of terrorist organization websites was pointed out. However, the counterpoint was also made that blocking websites may not be an effective method due to problems related to ISP and could create a nuisance for some countries in terms of basic rights.

Session 3: Developing Technologies and Policies against Cyber Threats

12. The National Security Research Institute (NSRI) of Korea made their presentation on the recent trend of cyber attacks in 2004. Statistics of recent attacks were presented and a detailed explanation of the threats and comparison between various viruses and worms were provided. The means to protect computers were also introduced, which reflects the current trend of the cyber attacks. The Korean delegation demonstrated a simulation of actual techniques used in PC hacking, web hacking, wireless hacking and cyber terrorism to stress the importance of preventive measures.

Session 4: Today and Tomorrow of CERTS - Activities and Cooperation

13. The presentations by the Malaysian and Indian delegations introduced national CERT activities including reactive and proactive measures, as well as security management services aiming at enhancing cyber security and providing protection on critical national infrastructure. In particular, the Korea Information Security Agency pointed out some limitations and challenges to CERT activities such as the lack of legal and
analytical/technical support, information exchange, and coordination with related national organizations and vendors.

14. With regard to current limitations that exist in national CERT activities, the need to promote cooperation among national organizations and vendors was emphasized in promoting future CERT activities at the national level. Govcert.nl of the Netherlands also presented its views in promoting regional cooperation through its past experience in constructing a CERT network in Europe.

Session 5: Enhancing International Cooperation among ARF Members

15. The evolving nature of recent cyber attacks have limited the activities of national CERTs in effectively responding to threats to their cyber security. The National Cyber Security Center (NCSC) of the Republic of Korea proposed to examine the possibilities of constructing a CERTs network within the framework of the ARE, which would help ARF participants minimize the damaging effects of cyber terrorism through information exchange and technical support.

16. With regard to promoting cooperation in combating cyber terrorism in the Asia-Pacific region, the Ministry of Information and Communication Technology of Thailand proposed to establish a ‘World Cyber Alert System,’ which would provide essential information on current security issues, vulnerabilities, and cyber attacks. The representatives of the Russian Federation pointed out the need to establish universal legal frameworks in countering cyber terrorism activities, and for this purpose, to explore ways of harmonizing the relevant national legislation of the ARF participants, in particular, by holding legal experts meetings.

General Discussions

17. The participants discussed possible methods in reaching a consensus on a definition for cyber terrorism. Several participants referred to the absence of a definition of cyber terrorism as an inhibiting factor in identifying measures in combating it. Discussion on the definition of cyber terrorism continued within the context of the motivation, means of cyber terrorism, and the scope and extent of damage caused by acts of cyber terrorism.

18. Some participants pointed out the necessity to establish common regulations on cyber security among the members. It was also noted that there are different levels of IT development in member countries and there was a need to bridge these gaps.

19. The seminar exchanged ideas on the positive and negative aspects of information technology. Some concerns were expressed on the possibility that some organizations
might be involved in building up an asymmetrical information warfare capacity. Different perspectives were expressed on whether to focus on the control of hacking tools or on capacity-building measures to prevent hacking.

20. The participants shared their experiences on the interaction between public and private sectors of CERTs. The seminar also explored the possibility of sharing information and setting up a regional network of CERT within the ARF framework.

21. Member countries recognized the need to educate organizations and the public on the realities of cyber threats and cyber terrorism. Workshops, seminars and similar forums could be held for this purpose.

22. Various opinions were raised on whether or not the meeting should discuss common cyber crimes in general or focus on terrorism-related cyber crimes.

Suggested Recommendations

(1) The issues dealt with in this seminar will be reported for consideration at the ARF Inter-Sessional Support Group Meeting on CBMs (ISG), the Senior Officials’ Meeting (SOM), and the Foreign Ministerial Meeting (FMM). The proceedings and outcomes of the seminar will also be briefed to ARF CTTC Meetings.

(2) Recognize the importance of dealing with the issue of cyber terrorism within the ARF framework and recommend holding further formal discussions on a regular basis with a view to promoting trust and confidence building in the ARF cyber community.

(3) Efforts will be made by the ARF participants to examine possible harmonization of domestic laws and regulations on cyber terrorism.

(4) Consider ways and means to improve coordination among ARF participants including the creation of ARF national contact points and the establishment of an ‘ARF National CERT Network’ with the following illustrative functions, in a manner complementing to existing networks:
   – Strengthening ties among member CERTs for the purpose of reducing the possibility of cyber terrorism
   – Sharing analysis and countermeasures for latest hacking techniques, worms and viruses
   – Consultation on investigation cooperation to trace suspects of cyber terrorism
   – Policy and technology support for member countries to set up their own CERTs, as well as assist newly established CERTs
1. Pursuant to the decision reached at the 11th ASEAN Regional Forum (ARF) on 2 July 2004 in Jakarta, Indonesia, the ARF Workshop on Maritime Security was held from 22-24 September 2004 in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia. The Workshop was co-chaired by Malaysia, Indonesia and the United States.

2. Representatives from Australia, Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, Canada, China, European Union, India, Indonesia, Japan, Lao PDR, Malaysia, Myanmar, New Zealand, Pakistan, Philippines, Russian Federation, Singapore, Thailand, United States of America, Viet Nam, the ASEAN Secretariat, the International Maritime Organisation (IMO) and the Southeast Asia Regional Centre for Counter Terrorism (SEARCCT) attended the Workshop. The agenda and list of delegates are attached as ANNEX A and B respectively.

3. The opening remarks by H.E. Tan Sri Ahmad Fuzi Haji Abdul Razak, Secretary-General, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Malaysia is attached as ANNEX C. The programme for the Workshop is attached as ANNEX D.

4. On the second day the workshop divided into three breakout sessions to discuss in detail various aspects of maritime security.

Agenda I : Overview of Maritime Security Environment: Challenges and Threat

5. The Session was chaired by Malaysia and discussed papers presented by China, European Union, Indonesia, Japan, Malaysia, Singapore, United States of America and the ASEAN Secretariat. The papers are attached as ANNEXES E,F,G,H,I,J,K and L.

6. A number of participants briefed the workshop on recent national efforts in facing the challenges and threats to maritime security. The participants presented various measures adopted by their countries. These measures include the establishment of coordinating agencies looking into maritime security, enhancement of sea communications systems and port facilities, and the conduct of highly specialized training programs.
7. There was general agreement and understanding among participants that piracy and armed robbery against ships, criminal activity such as smuggling and the potential for terrorist attacks pose a threat to maritime security. In this regard, it was noted that these challenges and threats may disrupt the stability of global commerce.

Agenda II: Managing Maritime Security Challenges and Threats

8. The Session was chaired by Indonesia and discussed papers presented by Australia, European Union, Malaysia, Thailand and United States of America. The papers are attached as ANNEXES M, N, O, P and Q.

9. Participants generally shared the view on the importance of managing challenges and threats by employing a number of measures, whether at the domestic, regional or even international level. Piracy, transnational organised crimes such as smuggling, terrorist activities, and environmental damage were also highlighted as threats in maritime security. Towards this end, the participants exchanged their views on the need to implement and develop international and national standards such as the safety of navigation, application of ISPS Code and surveillance systems in order to ensure the safe movement of people and goods.

10. Given the immensity of the problem the participants concurred that there was no single country that could handle maritime security alone, thus, they shared the view that cooperation based on the international laws and conventions between and among countries is a must in order to manage maritime security effectively. They also stressed that besides implementing the international laws, standards and regulations, there is an urgent need to develop an accurate and timely information system and apply a cooperative approach in the form of bilateral, trilateral or multilateral arrangements as strategic steps to identify problems and appropriate measures in managing security challenges and threats. There was also a general understanding that in addressing maritime security, there is a need to have a clear picture of the state of the maritime environment.

11. In the context of the Straits of Malacca, the participants welcomed the coordinated patrol between Indonesia, Malaysia, and Singapore and other bilateral cooperation with India, noting that this was in line with the primary role of the littoral states of the Straits of Malacca and the Singapore Straits. The participants emphasized the importance of respecting sovereignty of the littoral states in managing their territorial waters under their jurisdiction and implementing the United National Convention on the Law of the Seas 1982 as the legal framework within which all activities in the ocean and seas must be carried out.
Agenda III: Optimising the Use of Technologies for Maritime Security

12. The Session was chaired by the United States of America and discussed papers presented by Canada, Malaysia, Singapore and IMO. The papers are attached as ANNEXES R, S, T, and U.

13. The participants noted that there are a variety of technologies that can be used to improve maritime security. However, the participants also noted that technology itself is not sufficient. The participants agreed that technology must be part of a larger strategy for effective maritime security. Some participants also noted the difficulty to achieve the desired level of cooperation if procurement in the region continued to be vendor driven.

14. The participants therefore agreed that appropriate technology needs to be chosen to suit objectives, budget and maritime environment. The participants agreed that the sharing of information is vital to ensure maritime security. In this regard, some participants stressed the need to manage and integrate information and establish effective decision making process.

15. The participants noted that the proposed Maritime Electronic Highway (MEH) to be applied in the Straits of Malacca and Singapore could enhance the transparency of navigation and overall traffic control and also provide the basis for intensive monitoring of the real-time situation of navigation.

Agenda IV: Enhancing Cooperation on Maritime Security

16. The session was chaired by Malaysia and discussed papers presented by India, Indonesia, Japan, Pakistan, United States of America and IMO. The papers are attached as ANNEXES V, W, X, Y, Z and AA.

17. The participants agreed that maritime security is an indispensable and fundamental condition for the prosperity and economic security of the ARF region. The participants recognized that collective effort is vital to address threats against maritime security. It also agreed that it should be on the basis of mutual respect for sovereignty, territorial integrity and in accordance with the UN Charter and other recognized international laws.

18. There was general understanding among the participants that the use of bilateral and regional agreements is a useful method to enhance maritime security.

19. The participants acknowledged the need for comprehensive actions including enhancing cooperation on fighting piracy and armed robbery in the region between ARF participants’ shipping and international organizations.
20. The participants recognized the need to encourage bilateral and multilateral maritime cooperation among ARF member countries to combat piracy, including increased contact among personnel related to or assigned with such tasks. The participants acknowledged the need to enhance inter-regional cooperation through sharing of real time information, creating of intelligence databank and identifying the sources of funding for such activities.

21. In this context some participants referred to the ongoing discussions on proposed amendments in the Convention on the Suppression of Unlawful Acts Against the Safety of Maritime Navigation (SUA).

Report of the Breakout Sessions

22. The Meeting divided into three Breakout Sessions to further deliberate on the issue of Maritime Security. The format used was based upon a hypothetical scenario involving smuggling, piracy, bombings, hijacking, kidnapping, and the responses, procedures and ways to address this. Breakout Session I discussed Managing Maritime Security Challenges and Threats. Breakout Session II discussed Optimising the Use of Technologies for Maritime Security. Breakout Session III discussed Enhancing Cooperation on Maritime Security. The output of the three Sessions appears as ANNEX BB.

Breakout Session I: Managing Maritime Challenges and Threats

23. This Session was facilitated by Japan and Malaysia. The Session discussed issues involving ways and areas for improvement in managing maritime challenges and threats in the region. The Session recommended that ARF member countries should have a common understanding and observance of applicable legal frameworks which includes observance of international law, capacity building and increasing awareness.

24. Due to the inadequacy and lack of cooperation in intelligence sharing, the Session recognised the need for ARF member countries to identify their national focal point and to enhance cooperation in intelligence and information sharing. This involves the accuracy, reciprocity and speed of sharing among the ARF member countries. This Session recognised that in order to strengthen interdepartmental cooperation among the maritime enforcement agencies, ARF member countries should develop national contingency plans involving all stakeholders.

25. The Session highlighted the need to establish inter-governmental agreements, such as standard operating procedures and also to develop a regional contingency plan where and when possible and appropriate. Due to the lack of resources and assets in managing maritime security in the region, the Session highlighted the need to undertake national and regional assessments and gap analysis. This includes sharing of expertise and
technology and providing technical assistance where and when possible by developing cooperative processes and arrangements.

Breakout Session II: Optimising Maritime Technologies for Maritime Security

26. This Session was facilitated by Singapore and Australia. The Session first identified the regional challenges or threats and took stock of the technologies available to address these challenges. The Session identified the following as challenges or threats: transnational crimes and terrorism; lack of inter-state coordination; lack of capabilities; issues and arrangements.

27. With this information, the Session recommended possible first steps to address these challenges using the technologies available and also the appropriate forum in which these first steps could be initiated.

28. The Session noted that there were many varying forms of technology available for use in maritime security, such as among others, remote systems, tripwire capabilities, radar, and satellites. The Session also noted that these technologies could be used in tandem with non-technical tools and measures such as common definitions, common approaches and confidence building measures.

29. In order to address the threat of transnational crimes, the Session recommended as a first step that countries develop information sharing capacities leading to actionable intelligence. However, there were questions on who is responsible for and how intelligence can be classified as “actionable”.

30. The Session also discussed the establishment of an appropriate standing or coordinating group under the appropriate UN or other bilateral, regional or multilateral fora where possible. In order to improve inter-state coordination, the Session recommended adherence to international standards such as the IMO Codes.

31. To address the problem of the lack of capabilities such as surveillance, enforcement, a common view or picture of the threat or area of interest, and system inter-operability, the Session agreed that it was important for countries concerned to make an assessment of their own as well as regional capacities. Through the identification of national and regional capacities, the next stop would be to identify the necessary technical and financial assistance needed to build and enhance the necessary capacities. The Session also proposed conducting more confidence building activities and there was also the suggestion to develop common operating procedures where possible.
32. On the issue of legal arrangements, the Session proposed conducting appropriate workshops to further legal aspects. The Session also noted the need to enhance legal arrangements at bilateral, regional and multilateral levels.

Breakout Session III: Enhancing Cooperation on Maritime Security

33. This Session was facilitated by the United States and Indonesia. The Session identified four areas for enhancing cooperation on maritime security, namely: cooperative frameworks; common understanding of threats; information exchange, mechanisms, policies and procedures; and national capacities.

34. The Session agreed that existing frameworks needed to be strengthened and further developed to be better able to address maritime security. It was noted that a lack of common understanding on what constitutes maritime crimes, and a lack of uniformity in national laws hinders cooperation as definitions of maritime crime and the parameters for action vary from country to country. The Session therefore recommended as a first step that countries review existing frameworks at the national, bilateral, regional and multilateral levels in various fora such as the United Nations, ASEAN, the ARF, and ASEAN+3 among others.

35. There was agreement that there was a need to promote common understanding of threats among countries. The Session noted that different perceptions on what constitutes maritime threats influence the efforts taken by countries to address, and the urgency of such threats. As such, it was recommended that further CBMs such as this ARF Workshop be implemented. It was recommended that various fora allow countries to engage and discuss for further convergence on a common understanding on maritime security threats.

36. The Session also agreed that information exchange, mechanisms, policies, and procedures can be further improved to allow countries to better respond and take appropriate action. Obstacles for cooperation identified include lack of political will, a lack of trust between countries, the difficulties in exchanging classified information, and a lack of resources in terms of information and data. The notion of an accessible and reliable clearinghouse and database for information and resources was also discussed.

37. The Session also identified the enhancing of national capabilities as an important area that facilitates further regional and international cooperation on maritime security. Obstacles to cooperation include a lack of funding and resources among various countries in terms of not only assets and capabilities, but also trained human resource. Furthermore, differing levels of technology was identified as another obstacle to cooperation. The Session recommended cooperation among all stakeholders including collaboration with the private sector in terms of technology upgrades and research and development.
1. With the endorsement of the 11th Ministerial Meeting of the ASEAN Regional Forum (ARF), the ARF Seminar on Alternative Development was held as a CBM in Kunming, 7-8 September 2004. The Seminar was co-hosted by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the Ministry of Public Security of China. Participants from 19 ARF members attended the Seminar. After the seminar, participants visited the Kunming Municipality Mandatory Drug Addiction Dropping Institute. The agenda and the list of participants are attached as ANNEX 1 and ANNEX 2.

2. Participants exchanged information of their respective countries on Drug Law Enforcement, Meaning, Role and Achievement, Experiences and Challenges and Market and Policy, focusing on their achievements and challenges.

3. Participants emphasized that drug-related crimes are posing threats to social stability and the economic development in the region and have become one of the serious concerns of all ARF participants. Combating drug problem is shared responsibility of all countries and requires joint efforts of the international community. ARF should be an important forum for strengthening regional cooperation in drug control and prevention.

4. Participants expressed the view that the drug issue is closely connected with other transnational crimes such as terrorism. The elimination of illicit drugs requires balanced and comprehensive approaches. Whereas drug law enforcement constitutes the basis of combat against drug-related crimes, assisting drug-producing areas in developing alternatives contributes to addressing the root causes of drug-related crimes.

5. Participants shared their country-experience in alternative development. They agreed that alternative development is an important component for generating and promoting lawful, viable and sustainable economic options to illicit drug crop cultivation. Participants commended the efforts of countries in alternative development. They emphasized that the success of alternative development programs depends on the long-term political and financial commitment of communities, governments and international community.

6. Participants also discussed the difficulties in implementing alternative development programs. The multilateral cooperation is still at a lower level. The lack of financial
resources, technological know-how, equipments and market access were also emphasized as major obstacles to alternative development. Some participants pointed out that the re-planting and displacement of drug-crops have even worsened the drug situation. A participatory approach is vital to ensure that such interventions are sustainable. Trade facilitation measures should be taken to promote the competitiveness and market access of alternative development products to generate regular incomes for local peoples. Participants were of the view that regional and international cooperation needs to be further strengthened. Developed countries in the ARF should provide more technical and financial assistance to less developed countries in the region in the fight against illicit drugs.

7. The Seminar made the following recommendations:

- Countries in the region should develop and improve a comprehensive and balanced strategy for drug control and double their efforts in education on drug prevention, law enforcement, demand reduction, harm reduction and alternative development.

- Countries with drug crops planting problem should be encouraged to further incorporate alternative development into their national social-economic development plans, and promote sustainable economic growth through alternative development. Bilateral and regional cooperation to reduce illicit drug crops planting through alternative development programs should also be strengthened.

- International community should provide possible assistance to countries, which are facing with the problem of illicit drug-crops in terms of technology, capital, planning, market and policy.

- Comprehensive efforts need to be made to encourage the opium poppy farmers to participate in alternative development programs and a broad range of experts, including harm reduction/health, as well as other related experts should be encouraged to participate in alternative development.

- Provide assistances to strengthen capacity building of countries concerned in alternative development, particularly in developing basic social, economic and educational infrastructures.

- Further efforts should be made to enhance international awareness of the importance of alternative development and expand international participation in further cooperation with UNODC, World Bank, ADB and other international and regional agencies.

- ARF participants should strengthen exchanges on alternative development to share information and experiences and coordinate regional policies and strategies.
8. Participants agreed that this Seminar is an important confidence-building measure within the ARF framework. It contributes to deepening mutual understanding and promoting cooperation among ARF participants. Participants suggested that a second Seminar on Alternative Development be considered at an appropriate time in order to work out and implement concrete plans and measures in promoting alternative development. Some participants proposed that ARF and UNODC could jointly sponsor future alternative development seminars.

9. Participants expressed their sincere appreciation for the efforts made by the Chinese government for hosting the Seminar.
ARF STATEMENT ON INFORMATION SHARING AND INTELLIGENCE EXCHANGE AND DOCUMENT INTEGRITY AND SECURITY IN ENHANCING COOPERATION TO COMBAT TERRORISM AND OTHER TRANSNATIONAL CRIMES

VIENNA, LAO PDR, 29 JULY 2005

The Chairman of the ASEAN Regional Forum, on behalf of the ARF participating states and organization, issues the following statement:

Recognizing that:

Terrorism and other transnational crimes pose significant threats to the peace, order, and security of our countries and our peoples;

Effective regional and global action requires a comprehensive approach and international cooperation reflecting best practices built upon agreed norms, standards, institutions, and international agreements; in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations and other applicable principles of international law, including humanitarian and human rights law;

Every state has a duty to refrain from organizing, instigating, assisting or participating in terrorist acts in other states or acquiescing in organized activities within its territory directed towards to the commission of terrorist acts;

Links between corruption and the proceeds generated by transnational crime could undermine and threaten legitimate commerce and finance and support terrorist and other criminal activities;

Effective information and intelligence exchange among states is an essential contribution to efforts to combat terrorism and transnational crime and must be carried out in a well-managed, responsible and systematic manner, including appropriate protections for sensitive and national security information obtained from other and adequate respect for and protection of personal privacy and other human rights;

The integrity and security of national identity, travel and other documents is a vital contribution to ensuring the security of our citizens and to identifying, apprehending and prosecuting terrorist and other offenders.
Committed to:

Further strengthening effective cooperation among ARF participants in these efforts while noting the progress that has already been made, encourages ARF governments to further enhance their efforts and commitment to combat terrorism and other transnational crimes on a voluntary basis in a more comprehensive manner, taking into account resources and capacity of ARF participants and in accordance with international law and their respective national laws through information-sharing and intelligence exchange, cooperation in combating document fraud, and law enforcement cooperation. In particular, through the following efforts:

Information Sharing and Intelligence Exchange

• to better exchange relevant information and intelligence in a timely, effective systematic manner on the basis of bilateral, sub-regional, regional or other information-sharing agreements, bearing in mind that such information and intelligence shall not be further disclosed or disseminated without the official authorization of the originator;
• to strengthen cooperation for the effective and appropriate sharing and exchange of information, particularly on terrorist and other transnational criminal activities, for the prosecution of the perpetrators of such activities, while protecting the confidentiality of individual information, in accordance with domestic laws;
• to ensure that adequate national protections for sensitive and other information obtained from foreign partners are in place and effective;
• to ensure that the privacy and other rights of individuals about whom personal information is exchanged between states are respected and protected.

Combating Document Fraud

• to implement more secure and fraud-resistant national documents based upon internationally-agreed standards and containing appropriate biometric identifiers and to foster cooperation on adoption of Machine Readable Travel Documents (MRTD), with biometrics if possible;
• to criminalize, investigate, and prosecute the possession or creation of fraudulent national identity, travel and other documents from any country;
• to actively participate in the elaboration and implementation of new international document standards through ICAO and other international, regional and functional organizations;
• to actively contribute on an ongoing basis to the INTERPOL database of lost and stolen travel documents, bearing in mind other effective channels of cooperation that exist.
Law Enforcement Cooperation

- to strengthen ARF law enforcement cooperation on the basis of bilateral and multilateral agreements and through the use of existing mechanism, in particular INTERPOL and its I 24/7 communications network for the exchange of information;
- to further strengthen international capacity building cooperation and assistance including through existing regional centers, such as *inter alia*, the International Law Enforcement Academy (ILEA), the Southeast Asia Regional Centre for Counter-Terrorism (SEARCCT), the Jakarta Centre for Law Enforcement Cooperation (JCLEC) and the Regional Anti-Terrorism Structure (RATS) of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO).

ARF participating states and organization are to regularly review the progress of these and other efforts to further strengthen cooperation against terrorism and other transnational crimes at the 4th and subsequent ARF Inter-Sessional Meetings on Counter-Terrorism and Transnational Crime.