

Concept Paper

ASEAN Regional Forum

Training on USAR Capacity Building

Background

In recent years, major earthquakes, such as the 2004 Indonesian Earthquake and Tsunami and the 2008 Wenchuan Earthquake of China, frequently attacked the Asia-Pacific Region, bringing great losses of lives and properties. When reviewing all these cases, it is easy to find that key measures to save lives to the largest extent immediately after the disaster are timely and proper search and rescue activities, which should be committed not only by the countries in disaster but also with the regional and international cooperation of all countries.

Many ARF participating countries have built effective and efficient national capacity in emergency response as well as search and rescue. Sharing of the experiences in national capacity building will surely promote the comprehensive capacity of the Asia-Pacific Region, and more importantly, a better mutual understanding will then foster an effective coordination network in the region.

To this end, China proposes to host an Training of Urban Search and Rescue (USAR) Capacity Building. We are happy to invite USAR teams from ARF members to participate in this training. It will be a good communication platform on exchanging USAR skills, and also a chance to check each teams' cooperation capacity and International Search and Rescue Advisory Group (INSARAG) standard operation procedure with other teams. Beside the training and the drill, we plan to invite participants to visit earthquake-stricken regions, such as Wenchuan and Lushan County in Sichuan province to conduct a field study. We believe this Training will be conducive to enhance the capacity of disaster prevention, disaster risk reduction, and response to major disasters of countries in our region.

Format

- Lecture of USAR skills

- Practice of USAR skills
- Comprehensive USAR drill
- Field investigation and survey

Trainers of China International Search and Rescue (CISAR) Team and experts from relevant regional and international disaster management organizations will be invited to deliver the training lectures.

Participation

ARF participants are invited to send no more than 6 delegates from their national disaster search and rescue teams or other relative agencies to this training. Financial assistance may be provided to a limited number of delegates upon request.

Date, Venue and Language

The training is scheduled to be held in the first half of 2018 with the duration of 7 days which includes USAR skills lecture and practice for 3 days, comprehensive drill for one day, visits to earthquake stricken sites in Sichuan province for 3 days. English will be the working language.

Administrative Arrangements

China invites ASEAN countries and other ARF participants to be Co-Chairs of this workshop. Any comments or questions on this concept paper may be directed to following contacts:

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