

Concept Paper

Second ASEAN Regional Forum

Workshop on Urban Emergency Rescue

Background

With the enhanced urbanization and expanded infrastructure in the world, the incidents in urban areas have been on the rise. Frequent natural disasters and human-made incidents have brought new challenges to the urban emergency rescue in countries in the Asia Pacific and the world at large.

The annual ARF Inter-Sessional Meeting on Disaster Relief and relevant workshops have played an important role in achieving consensus and strengthening cooperation in this area. Based on that, more specific and focused discussions in urban disaster rescue can further promote regional cooperation.

In 2016, China and Malaysia co-hosted the ARF Urban Emergency Rescue Workshop in Shanghai, China, participated by more than 80 delegates from ARF participating countries and 3 international organizations. Participants highly commended the achievement of the workshop and looked forward to further dialogues in the future.

To this end, China proposes the Second Workshop on ARF Urban Emergency Rescue, focusing on international cooperation on problems from modern urban disaster emergency rescue. The workshop aims to enhancing the capability of regional countries to resist the threat of disaster and incidents, and provide a platform for exchange of experiences and techniques on urban emergency rescue.

Content and Form

Enhancing participants' understanding of the current security situation in modern urban area, conducting a comprehensive analysis and judgment of risks and challenges, and gathering the consensus on the urban emergency rescue.

Exchange of rescue experience and practical techniques concerning urban disasters such as structural collapse, high-rise building fires, incidents in subway and underground construction, and hazardous materials incidents, etc.

Seeking the consensus on enhancing the national capability to resist the modern city security threats through multilateral cooperation and exploring effective ways to improve the ARF cooperation in urban emergency rescue such as technical exchange and training, exchange of rescue technologies.

The workshop will take the combined form of technical training, joint exercise and seminars.

Participants

The workshop will be held in the format of track 1.5. Each ARF participant is expected to send delegates from foreign ministry, fire and rescue, police and civil defence related agencies, or from relevant academic institutions and rescue force, and an urban rescue team of 4-7 members if possible.

Date and Working Language

The workshop will be held in the first half of 2018 with duration of 4 days. English will be the working language.

Administrative Arrangement

ASEAN countries and other ARF participants are welcome to be Co-Chairs of this workshop. The host will cover costs of the training facilities, conference facilities, daily working meals (buffet), two banquets and visits during the workshop. The participants shall bear all expenses incurred in their accommodation, international travel, etc.

Workshop Contacts

Any questions about the workshop, please contact Mr. Li Xinbo (li_xinbo@mfa.gov.cn) from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Mr. Zhang Zhi (Chydier@vip.163.com) from the Fire Department of the Ministry of Public Security of China.