

**Opening Remarks by Mr. M.I. Derry Aman
Director for Dialogue Partners and Inter-Regional Affairs
Directorate-General of ASEAN Cooperation
Ministry of Foreign Affairs
Republic of Indonesia
at
6th ARF Inter-Sessional Meeting on Maritime Security
Bali, Indonesia, 22 May 2014**

Mr. Jang Hyun-Cheol, Director for International Security Division, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Korea,

Mr. Christian Castro, Director for Multilateral Affairs, Department of State of the United States of America,

*Distinguished delegates
Ladies and gentlemen*

A very good morning to all of you

As host and Co-Chair, let me extend my Government's and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs' warmest welcome to all of you in Bali, for the 6th ASEAN Regional Forum Inter-Sessional Meeting on Maritime Security.

I would also like to express my particular privilege and honor to co-chair our significant meeting together with our able co-chairs, Mr. Hyun-Cheol and Mr. Castro.

Distinguished delegates,

We are fully aware that our region faces numerous challenges as well as threats which have increasingly grown from traditional security to non-traditional security issues. This would of course include in the maritime domain.

Thus we have consistently developed and carried out cooperation and deliberations on wide ranging maritime security issues in a variety of fora, including within the ARF Inter-Sessional Meeting on Maritime Security framework.

Indonesia believes that we have always share of the interest to pursue the potentials of cooperation rather than competition, in maritime issues.

The ARF Work Plan of Preventive Diplomacy, adopted during Indonesia's chairmanship in 2011, represents a platform for ARF towards a more action oriented forum highlighted the need for ARF to promote its networking with maritime-related fora as part of a comprehensive and mutually beneficial approach to maritime cooperation.

In fulfilling this need, I am delighted to welcome the Chair of the 4th ASEAN Maritime Forum/2nd Expanded ASEAN Maritime Forum, the Co-Chair of the ADMM-Plus Experts'

Working Group on Maritime Security, the Chair of the SOMTC, and the Chair of the ASEAN Working Group on Coastal and Marine Environment. I am confident that each of your participation will contribute to the enriching of our ARF deliberation on maritime security and eventually encourage all of us, accepting and see the bigger picture of maritime security issues.

*Co-Chairs,
Distinguished participants,*

Since we commenced the 1st ARF Inter-Sessional Meeting on Maritime Security in 2009 in Surabaya, Indonesia, and until the conduct of the 5th ARF Inter-Sessional Meeting on Maritime Security in Seoul, last year, we have engaged in various deliberations on wide spectrum of issues related to maritime security. We have also come up with a meaningful number of decisions and recommendations.

To further promote cooperation on maritime issues and build common perception on the challenges and threats in maritime security, in this inter-sessional meeting we will be having deliberations on issues, such as “maritime safety in the region”, “maritime search and rescue”, as well as “Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated (IUU) Fishing”, as the most challenging transnational maritime issues.

I believe these issues are critical aspects of ARF maritime security cooperation, given its geographic focus, participation, and the specific interests of its participants.

Distinguished Co-Chairs and participants,

The Ha Noi Plan of Action and the ARF Work Plan on Maritime Security have identified measures to develop concrete and effective regional responses to maritime security challenges based on three priority areas namely; sharing of information and best practices; CBMs; and capacity building of maritime law enforcement agencies.

It is clear that what we are discussing in terms of policy issues, best practices, cooperative activities and lessons learned under the ARF can be further developed, strengthened and implemented under other relevant ASEAN-led processes.

With the view of optimizing the role of ARF in norms setting, various activities to implement the ARF Work Plan on Maritime Security have been carried out. Yet, there are still many more to do, including the review of the work plan itself.

In concluding, I encourage all participants to share their thoughts and experiences to meet our one and half day meeting’s objectives. And I am optimistic that our presence here will contribute to the promotion and enhancement of maritime domain awareness, as well as developing concrete and effective regional responses to maritime security challenges

I thank you all, and allow me now to invite Mr. Jang Hyun-Cheol from the Republic of Korea and Mr. Christian Castro from the United States to deliver their opening remarks.