

**Indonesia's Country Statement**  
**5<sup>th</sup> ARF Inter-Sessional Meeting on Maritime Security**

18-19 April 2013  
Seoul, Republic of Korea

- *In the Southeast Asian region, there are multi-faceted threats to maritime security such as military threats and state sovereignty issues and non-traditional security issues, such as people smuggling, Illegal Unreported and Unregulated (IUU) fishing, illegal logging, trafficking in persons, illicit trafficking of narcotic drugs, piracy and armed robbery against ships at sea and maritime terrorism.*
- *Hence, Indonesia plays a strategic role as the interlinking country in the region. The efforts to address maritime security face a distinctive challenge as it covers both traditional and non-traditional security threats. Indonesia considers that the region including through the ARF should pay more attention and promote efforts in advancing regional cooperation and activities addressing the inevitable nexus between regional maritime security and regional efforts combating transnational maritime crimes.*
- *At the same time maritime security related issues also represent potentially useful areas of cooperation in the Asia Pacific region. Therefore, maritime cooperation is essential for ASEAN since most of its member countries share maritime borders, and almost 80% of the region consists of marine domain. It is imperative to address maritime security and cooperation regionally in a holistic, integrated and comprehensive manner. There is a pressing need to shift the paradigm in addressing maritime issues by recognizing that the potentials and areas of partnership are abundant and wide open to accommodate maritime cooperation.*
- *The issue of maritime security will remain one of Indonesia's main security concerns. Bearing in mind the recent developments of and challenges to maritime security, Indonesia will continue to address these problems accordingly. Indonesia notes with concern the increasing incidents of illegal fishing activities in the region and in particular in Indonesia's maritime areas. To protect and maintain security and safety at sea, Indonesia has developed an integrated approach including strengthening law enforcement measures and coastal community development and empowerment.*
- *One particular milestone is the establishment of the ASEAN Maritime Forum in 2010. The AMF and the Expanded AMF, are therefore important in promoting better understanding and dialogue on maritime issues in the region including the **protection of marine resources and combating maritime criminal activities**. Indonesia is of the view that maritime connectivity that facilitates the regional economic development of ASEAN Member States need to be enhanced with the focus on the safety of navigation for persons and vessels at sea.*
- *As the region is prone to disasters, the AMF is also an ideal forum to discuss cooperative activities and arrangements in search and rescue, humanitarian assistance and disaster relief in maritime including ways to implement the ASEAN arrangements such as the ASEAN Declaration on Cooperation in Search and Rescue of Persons and Vessels in Distress at Sea.*
- *Indonesia views capacity building as an important aspect of maritime security cooperation. All countries in the region should share best practices and resources to ensure effective handling of maritime security issues throughout the region. Indonesia*

*has initiated and is part of bilateral and regional arrangements such as coordinated patrol with almost all countries sharing maritime boundaries with Indonesia.*

- *Capacity building cooperation has also been conducted with countries and mechanisms such as through active role of the Heads of Asian Coast Guards Meeting (HACGAM), Maritime Law Enforcement Training sponsored by JICA, the Indonesia – US Coastguard Joint Training, and Indonesian – Korean Water Police Bilateral Annual Meeting.*
- *International cooperation can also be pursued through other means. Conducting seminars, workshops and any other capacity building program are important to enhance our respective capability in dealing with maritime security issues. In this regard Indonesia also actively engages in mechanisms and meeting such as AMF, Head of Asian Coast Guard Meeting (HACGAM), ASEAN Fisheries Consultative Forum (AFCF), and South East Asian Fisheries Development Centre (SEAFDEC).*
- *It is therefore crucial for the ARF to help promote more robust activities and programs in maritime security and issues in the region. The work plans of maritime security, preventive diplomacy and the Ha Noi Plan of Action can guide our joint undertakings in the future.*