

CONFIDENTIAL

SUMMARY RECORD OF THE  
SECOND ASEAN REGIONAL FORUM SENIOR OFFICIALS MEETING (ARF-SOM)  
22 - 24 MAY 1995, BANDAR SERI BEGAWAN

---

1. The Second ASEAN Regional Forum Senior Officials Meeting (ARF-SOM) was chaired by H.E. Dato Paduka Lim Jock Seng, Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Brunei Darussalam.

2. The list of delegates appears as Annex A.

ITEM 1: ADOPTION OF AGENDA

3. The Meeting considered and adopted the Agenda which appears as Annex B.

ITEM 2: BUSINESS ARRANGEMENTS

4. The Meeting was held in Plenary.

ITEM 3: CONSIDERATION OF "THE ASEAN REGIONAL FORUM; A CONCEPT PAPER"

5. " The Meeting considered "The ASEAN Regional Forum: A Concept Paper" which appears as Annex C. There was a consensus that the paper provided a balanced approach and useful framework for the organization and future direction of the ARF. The paper could also form the basis of the Report of the Chairman of the ARF-SOM to the ARF.

6. The Meeting agreed that the ARF should proceed at a pace comfortable to all participants. While recognising some views that the ARF is a forum for **consultation** on regional political and security issues, the Meeting endorsed the evolutionary approach of the ARF, taking place in three broad

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

stages namely the promotion of confidence building, development of preventive diplomacy and elaboration of approaches to conflicts. It was suggested that since the elements contained in the first and second stages were interrelated, they could be implemented in tandem. Discussions will continue regarding the incorporation of elaboration of approaches to conflicts, as an eventual goal, into the ARF process.

7. Taking into account the views expressed by the participants, the Meeting approved the elements contained in Annex D which shall form part of the Report of the Chairman of the ARF-SOM. These elements include: goals and expectations, method and approach, participation, organization of the ARF and implementation of ideas and proposals.

8. The Meeting also noted the following information papers which appear as Annexes E, F, G, H, I and J respectively.

- i. Defense Policy Statement to the ASEAN Regional Forum, 1995 by Australia;
- ii. Approaches to Peace Building and Preventive Diplomacy in the Asia-Pacific Region by Australia;
- iii. Defense Policy Paper for the 2nd ARF-SOM, May 1995 by Japan;
- iv. Proposal of the European Union on Non-Proliferation;
- v. Position of the European Union on the ARF and
  - especially on the ASEAN Concept Paper; and
- vi. Security in a Changing World: The Report of the Special Joint Committee on Canada's Defence Policy

ITEM 4: CONSIDERATION OF THE RUSSIAN SUGGESTIONS

- 4.1 ARF Declaration on Principles of Security and Stability in the Asia Pacific Region
- 4.2 Establishment of Working Groups within the framework of the Regional Forum on security problems

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

9. The Meeting took note of the proposals by the Russian Federation on draft "Declaration on Principles of Security and Stability in the Asia-Pacific Region" and establishment of working groups which appear as Annex K. The Meeting took note of the Russian offer to host a seminar in Moscow in Spring of 1996 to elaborate further on the Russian proposals as an ARF Track Two activity. The Meeting also noted the additional considerations to the Russian proposal which appear as Annex L.

ITEM 5: CONSIDERATION OF THE REPORTS OF THE SECOND TRACK ACTIVITIES.

- 5.1 Seminar on the Building of Confidence and Trust in the Asia Pacific, 23-25 November 1994, Canberra, Australia
- 5.2 Peacekeeping: Challenges and Opportunities for the ASEAN Regional Forum, 8-9 March 1995, ~~andar~~ Seri Begawan, Brunei Darussalam
- 5.3 Seminar on Preventive Diplomacy, **Seoul**, Republic of Korea, **8 - 10** May 1995

10. The Meeting noted with appreciation the various presentations on the three seminars held under ARF Track Two process. These include the following: Seminar on the Building of Confidence and Trust in the Asia Pacific, held in Canberra, Australia from 23 - 25 November 1994; Seminar on Peacekeeping: Challenges and Opportunities for the ARF, held in Bandar Seri Begawan from 8 - 9 March 1995; and Seminar on Preventive Diplomacy, held in Seoul, Republic of Korea from **8 - 10** May 1995. These reports appear as **Annexes M. N and Q respectively**. The Meeting felt that these seminars had been useful in providing the Track One with constructive ideas and proposals.

CONFIDENTIAL

**CONFIDENTIAL**

**ITEM 6: GENERAL EXCHANGE OF VIEWS ON REGIONAL ISSUES**

11. The Meeting exchanged views on the political and security situation in the Asia Pacific region involving the South China Sea, Korean Peninsula, Nuclear Non-Proliferation, Cambodia and Myanmar.

a. Korean Peninsula

12. The Meeting discussed the latest developments in the Korean Peninsula particularly on the issue surrounding the implementation of the Framework Agreement of October 1994 between the Democratic People's Republic of Korea (DPRK) and the United States. The Meeting felt that the Korean Peninsula Energy Development Organization (KEDO) was the best solution to the situation. In order to maintain peace and stability in the region, the Meeting supported and emphasized a peaceful resolution through negotiation among the parties concerned.

13. The Meeting recognized the importance of resumption of the dialogue between the Republic of Korea (ROK) and the DPRK for the maintenance of peace and security on the Korean Peninsula.

-b. South China Sea

14. The Meeting discussed recent developments in the South China Sea. The participants expressed serious concern over recent moves by some claimants to enhance claims of sovereignty over South China Sea. The Meeting called on the parties concerned to refrain from taking further unilateral actions which could increase tension in the region. They expressed the hope that the claimant States continue to engage in consultations in

**CONFIDENTIAL**

CONFIDENTIAL

order to promote confidence building with in a view to creating a conducive atmosphere favourable to conflict resolution. The Meeting reiterated its call on all concerned parties to adhere to the principles contained in the ASEAN Declaration on South China Sea of 1992.

c. Cambodia

15. The Meeting exchanged views on the positive developments in Cambodia and expressed support to the Government of Cambodia in its efforts towards national reconstruction and reconciliation in order to sustain greater peace, progress and stability.

d. Myanmar

16. The Meeting exchanged views on the various efforts to engage Myanmarese leadership in a constructive dialogue to effect positive change. However, the Meeting expressed concern over the slow progress in achieving solution to the current situation. The Meeting stressed that the dialogue between the concerned parties should continue.

17. • The Meeting was briefed on the recent situation in the Thai-Myanmar border particularly on the consequences of conflict between the Government forces and the dissidents.

e. Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT)

18. The Meeting welcomed the conclusion of the U.N. Review Conference on the NPT and agreed that the ARF could contribute to the implementation of the accord.

CONFIDENTIAL

**CONFIDENTIAL**

**ITEM 7: PREPARATIONS FOR THE SECOND ASEAN REGIONAL FORUM**

19. The Meeting was briefed by Brunei Darussalam on the preparations for the Second ASEAN Regional Forum to be held on 1 August 1995. The Meeting was informed that the ARF would comprise two sessions - two hours in the morning and two hours in the afternoon. The sessions will be devoted to general exchange of views on regional and international issues and future direction of the ARF. The ARF would be preceded by an informal dinner to be held on 31 July 1995.

20. The Meeting was also informed that a Chairman Statement would be issued at the end of the ARF. In this regard, the Chairman invited all ARF participants to give their inputs.

. . . . .

**CONFIDENTIAL**