



**14th ASEAN REGIONAL FORUM
HEADS OF DEFENSE UNIVERSITIES/COLLEGES/INSTITUTION MEETINGS 2010
WASHINGTON, D.C., USA
ACCEPTANCE SPEECH FOR 2011**

10 NOVEMBER 2010

- Vice Admiral Ann Rondeau,
- Distinguished Heads of Delegation, Participants and Friends,
- Ladies and gentlemen,

Let me begin by extending my sincere gratitude and appreciation to Vice Admiral Ann Rondeau, our Chair of the 14th ARF HDUCIM, for her excellent arrangements and hospitality extended to my delegation as well as the ARF HDUCIM Delegates.

I am honored to have been invited to attend this important meeting which graciously hosted by the NDU. I would also like to congratulate the success and outstanding outcomes of the 14th ARF HDUCIM. The outcomes of this meeting under the able US Chairmanship of this ARF HDUCIM will pave the way to the smooth preparation of the next ARF HDUCIM scheduled to be held in Indonesia in 2011. At bilateral level, I should also like to thank NDU to facilitate a possible cooperation between NDU and the Indonesian Defense University (IDU) on providing expertise and experience to develop programmes in our university.

I am pleased and honored to accept the challenge to be the host of the 15th ARF HDUCIM that would be held in November 2011 in Indonesia. I would also like to express our appreciation to Chinese Delegation for being able to Co-host at the 15th ARF HDUCIM.

In my capacity as head of Indonesian Defense University, I extend cordial invitation to all ARF defense education establishments, to participate in the 15th ARF HDUCIM in Indonesia next year; this is our forum in which we can learn more about each other, our forum in that we can share best practices and experience and how best we can mutually benefit of this cooperation as well as find ways in strengthening networking.

I am humbled and delighted by the unique honor of being able to present to you a few thoughts on how we — the representatives of ARF defense education institutions — can strengthen our bonds of friendship for the betterment not only of our individual countries, but also for the strengthening of trust, peace and stability across our region. After all, our only aspiration as defense educators is the creation of a body of officers and other national decision-makers who will work hard, creatively and harmoniously to help this region to become an ideal place in which all its citizens can prosper and live in peace.

The Asia-Pacific region covers a quarter of the globe, with most of its people separated by the vastness of seas and oceans. It possesses many of the world's most dynamic, growing economies and critical maritime trade routes. We face challenging issues of both traditional and non-traditional securities issues. Therefore, I am sure that none of us would disagree that this region is undoubtedly of enormous strategic significance.

At the state relations, the region is relatively peaceful. Following policies based on trust-building and on co-operation rather than competition, the harmonious interaction of ARF nations will progress in the coming days. I am pleased to attribute my optimism to the obvious desire of nations throughout the region to strengthen and maintain dialogue and good relationships based on shared values, friendship and strategic cooperation.

Education lies at the heart of effective problem-solving. It also sits at the heart of international cooperation. We, defense educators, have a solemn responsibility. If we develop truly transformational curricula based on critical thinking, evidence-based objective research and research-led teaching of the highest standard, we might just be able to transform the ways in which our military forces go about their business — as informed and responsible stewards of national power — in the pursuit of a better state peace.

ARF defense educational institutions have played a significant role in improving capability of defense officials. Indonesia has taken a bold step towards empowering its armed forces with knowledge and critical thinking skills, through the establishment of an Indonesian Defense University (IDU) in 2009.

The IDU, as new defense education institutions in the region, we are very keen to learn from friends on their best educational practices. We have established our own procedures, and have extensively made consultation with professional, military educators from several countries to faithfully lay the groundwork for our new defense university. We are looking forward to having possible lesson learned and experience

from our ARF colleagues who have longer history in professional military education. We stand ready to learn on how programs should be developed, responded to various emerging challenges, stayed consistent with educational “best practice”, and to stay abreast of emerging strategic, operational, doctrinal and technological concepts and practices.

It is our high hope that we, together, can progress our ideas, good will and initiatives. We can collectively support, encourage and assist each other. Allow me to kindly propose the title of next year’s conference to be:

*Enriching and Transforming ARF Defence Education Establishment:
Communication, Cooperation, Coordination*

Please allow me to explain why we place so much importance on the words “enrichment” and “transformation”. Improving our efforts in training, means we have to teach specific tasks or to teach specific skills. Military officials must be well trained at every level. Besides training we must give our officials education. As well as teaching them what to think critically and comprehensively. That’s the role of education. We must enhance and enrich our officials by developing their high-level cognition; by making them better critical thinkers and better problem-solvers. In a world of unpredictability, with new threats and challenges to peace seemingly emerging every year, we need to empower our officials the ability to embrace ambiguity and to think their way toward better solutions. By enriching our officials, we might just transform them, and if we transform them, we stand a better chance of transforming our nations and our region.

The success of previous ARF HDUCIM will pave the way to the Indonesia’s Chairmanship in 2011. Therefore, we propose three main themes, as follows:

1. Enhancing the ability of professional military educational institutions to develop, deliver and review educational “best practice” through inter-institutional and multinational dialogue, support and cooperation.
2. Integrating professional military educational intuitions seamlessly into the overall knowledge architecture of the region — in order to advance knowledge across all sectors of society — by working more closely and harmoniously with civilian institutions in terms of research, development and publication.
3. Positioning professional military educational institutions at the forefront of Asia-Pacific and ASEAN efforts to develop comprehensive strategies for

addressing global, regional and local threats to security, stability and prosperity.

Please allow me to elaborate briefly on the topics that we are proposing.

Theme One: This will be aimed at enhancing the ability of professional military educational institutions to develop, examine and deliver educational “best practice”. We have identified the following topics for discussion:

- Strategies for developing and maintaining curricula and syllabi that is relevant, coherent, consist and transformational.
- Strategies for selecting, training, developing and retaining world-class military instructors and civilian educators.
- Strategies to keep teaching and learning environments effective.
- Strategies for maintaining quality control standards through internal and external review and assessment.
- Strategies for keeping library and other informational and retrieval systems credible, effective and relevant.
- Strategies for introducing new teaching and learning technologies such as e-Learning, distance learning, blended learning and individual study.

Theme Two: This theme deals with the integration of professional military educational institutions into the overall knowledge architecture of the region in order to advance knowledge across all sectors of society.

We propose the following topics for discussion:

- Strategies for recruiting the very best thinkers in the nations involved within our institutions so that we can benefit from their knowledge as well as share with them ideas of our own.
- Strategies for building effective relationships between our institutions and other governmental and non-governmental centers of excellence.

- Strategies for supporting civilian institutions in conceptual and technological research and development of mutual importance.
- Strategies for ensuring that the wider society — that is, sectors beyond the defense and educational environments — is able to see, appreciate and access the results of our activities.
- Strategies for building public confidence in the peaceful intentions and influence of our activities.

Theme Three: This theme deals with how best to position professional military educational institutions at the forefront of ARF efforts to develop comprehensive strategies for addressing regional and local threats.

We propose the following topics for discussion:

- Strategies for developing internships, studentships and teaching faculty exchange programs among the region's professional military educational centers, "think tanks" and other related institutions.
- Strategies for strengthening government support for our institutions.
- Strategies for developing institutional credibility within the armed forces based on awareness of the "value-added" nature of the educational activities.
- Strategies for ensuring that the armed forces and government departments make the best use of graduates and all knowledge outputs (research essays, papers and publications).
- Strategies for ensuring that the institutions are able to feed their ideas and outputs into the wider national and regional strategic processes.

Distinguished delegates,
Ladies and gentlemen,

I would also like to explain the most common concept of strategy. I highlighted the word strategy since it is important to describe the role of professional military education institutions, such as our universities and colleges.

In responding the discussion on possible joint collaboration raised during 14th ARF HDUCIM, I appreciate the initiative of establishing the APAN as one of the alternatives for communication and information among the member. I would also like to welcome proposals on the need of concrete cooperation among ARF HDUCIM in the future as discussed yesterday. Indonesia stands ready to provide a special session during the next ARF HDUCIM, to discuss and to explore the best possible way in moving forward with the proposals and initiatives, as proposed such as by the Korean National Defense University and the Vietnamese Defense Academy.

Distinguished colleagues, I genuinely hope the above mentioned theme, topics and proposed special session for the 15th ARF HDUCIM serves our interests.

Allow me also to further inform you that the Indonesia Ministry of Defense and the Indonesian Defense University are hosting the first Jakarta International Defense Dialogue (JIDD) in March 2011, along with the Asia-Pacific Security & Defense Expo 2011. The brochures have been distributed to all of you. Both events will serve as a venue to encourage dialogue on a wide range of issue of regional concern and to showcase the advancement of defense industry.

Finally, I would like to express our sincere gratitude to all delegation, for supporting and participating at next year event.

I wish you every success in your educational endeavors. I look forward to having you all at the 15th ARF HDUCIM in 2011 in Indonesia. Thank you

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MG. Dr. Syarifudin Tippe, S.IP, M.Si
Rector the Indonesian Defence University