

**CO-CHAIRS' SUMMARY REPORT
THE FOURTH MEETING OF THE ASEAN REGIONAL FORUM
EXPERTS AND EMINENT PERSONS
BALI, 14-15 DECEMBER 2009**

INTRODUCTION

1. Pursuant to the decision of the 16th Ministerial Meeting of the ASEAN Regional Forum (ARF) held in Phuket, Thailand on 23 July 2009, the Fourth Meeting of the ASEAN Regional Forum Experts and Eminent Persons, taking the theme of "Preparing an ARF Work Plan on Preventive Diplomacy: Moving Forward from Confidence Building Measures to Preventive Diplomacy" was held in Bali, Indonesia on 14-15 December 2009. The Meeting was co-chaired by Mr. Jusuf Wanandi from Indonesia and Ambassador Frank Wilson from New Zealand.
2. The Meeting was attended by 55 participants from all ARF participants except Bangladesh, Mongolia, and Sri Lanka, along with the ARF Unit of the ASEAN Secretariat. The list of delegates is attached as **Annex 1**.

OPENING SESSION

3. At the opening session, David Strachan, alternate ARF-SOM Leader of New Zealand delivered welcoming remarks, which highlighted examples of preventive diplomacy in the region and drew EEPs' attention to the mandate given to them by Ministers at the 16th ARF to provide their views on possible elements of a work plan on preventive diplomacy. The address is attached as **Annex 2**.
4. H.E.Triyono Wibowo, Vice Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Indonesia, delivered the Keynote Address during the opening session. In his address, he underlined the need for the ARF to establish institutional frameworks and mechanisms for the implementation of preventive diplomacy as tasked by the Minister at the 16th ARF. He expressed his hope that the ARF EEPs could not only share views and recommendations but also come up with a preliminary draft work plan on Preventive Diplomacy or skeleton of such work plan including suggested form and priority areas. The keynote address is attached as **Annex 3**.

PLENARY SESSION 1

5. The Meeting adopted the Agenda, which appears as **Annex 4**.
6. Mr Jusuf Wanandi, EEP Co-Chair from Indonesia, welcomed EEPs to Bali and highlighted the need to ensure the ARF and the EEPs Group were not just 'talk shops'. The EEPs had the opportunity to push the envelope in the ARF and should work to move efforts on preventive diplomacy towards action. Ambassador Frank Wilson, EEP Co-Chair from New Zealand observed that this was the first ARF EEPs' meeting that had been given specific tasking from Ministers and it could therefore be seen as a test of whether the EEP system worked. The ARF EEPs had a role to play in moving the ARF forward.
7. Mr. Ralph A. Cossa from the Pacific Forum Centre for Strategic and International Studies and Mr. Tan See Seng and Mr Ralph Emmers from the S. Rajaratnam

School of International Studies presented on recommendations of the Joint Study on Best Practices and Lessons Learned in Preventive Diplomacy which had been incorporated in the Matrix of Relevant Recommendations. Mr. Tan See Seng and Mr. Ralph Emmers provided an overview of the development of Preventive Diplomacy in the ARF, and observed that while a lot of work had been done conceptually on Preventive Diplomacy, the ARF had been slow in achieving its own benchmarks. Mr. Ralph Cossa noted that there was a need to define how other ARF efforts related to PD; to assess how the ARF could be more responsive; to develop milestones for PD; to identify training and trainers, and to define clearer cut roles for existing ARF mechanisms such as the EEPs, Friends of the Chair (FOC), ARF Chair and ASEAN Secretary-General. The presentation appears as **Annex 5**. The meeting recommended that the full Joint Study be released and be made available to the public.

8. During this Plenary session Mr. Termsak Chalermphanupap, Director for Political Security Community of the ASEAN Secretariat, briefed the meeting on the role of the ARF EEPs, its operating guidelines as well as the mechanism through which EEPs are selected. He advised that EEPs are individuals nominated by ARF Members and registered with the ARF Unit in the ASEAN Secretariat. He also elaborated developments of preventive diplomacy within the ARF process. His presentation appears as **Annex 6**.

PARALLEL DISCUSSION GROUPS

9. Group one discussed two main areas: identification of areas where structural preventive diplomacy initiatives could be undertaken; and establishment of specific preventive diplomacy roles for the Experts and Eminent Persons Group (EEPG), Friends of the Chair (FOC) and the ASEAN Secretary General. The group discussion was facilitated by the Co-chair New Zealand and recorded by Ms. Carolina Hernandez, EEP from Philippines, as the rapporteur.
10. The group had a discussion on the definition of structural PD, where it was decided that “structural” would cover both norms and mechanisms as stated in the Relevant Recommendations for Follow-up from the ARF Study on Preventive Diplomacy. The Group agreed on the need to move the ARF process forward from CBMs to PD through action-oriented recommendations.
11. On the second topic, the group drew a distinction between mechanisms and means. In addition, the group made several recommendations to enhance the roles of the EEPs, Friends of the Chair and the ARF Chair to contribute to preventive diplomacy initiatives.
12. Discussion of group two was focused on two main areas: identification of Information collection requirements to support preventive diplomacy; and conceptualization of monitoring and engagement systems for emerging security challenges. The facilitator for this discussion group was the Co-Chair Indonesia with rapporteur EEP from Korea, Mr Lee Seo Hang.
13. The discussion group stressed the importance of establishing a mechanism for sharing of information related to preventive diplomacy in Asia-Pacific, taking

advantage of information technology. The group also emphasized the importance of more meaningful engagement between track 1, track 1.5 and track 2 groupings. The group encouraged work towards standardizing the format of the Annual Security Outlook and making this process more meaningful by developing a review mechanism.

PLENARY SESSIONS 3, 4, 5 and 6

14. Building on reports from the two discussion groups, the Meeting further discussed priority issues, possible work programs, and scope of preventive diplomacy to be undertaken within the ASEAN Regional Forum. The Meeting considered a 'draft elements of a work plan on preventive diplomacy', which was subsequently finalized by the Co-Chairs.
15. The Co-Chairs' Summary Report, and associated 'draft elements of a work plan on preventive diplomacy', will be submitted to the next ARF Inter-Sessional Support Group on Confidence Building Measures and Preventive Diplomacy for further consideration by ARF Senior Officials. The draft was prepared by the Co-Chairs, taking into consideration the inputs from the participants of the meeting. The preliminary draft elements of a work plan - which reflects the substance of the 4th ARF EEPs' meeting - appears as **Annex 7**.

CONCLUDING SESSION

16. Co-Chairs noted that outcomes and conclusions of the Meeting would be reported to the ARF SOM in Hanoi in May 2010. The Meeting endorsed the idea that Co-Chair EEPs from this meeting should report directly to the ARF ISG and/or SOM.
17. Timor Leste offered to host the next ARF EEPs meeting in 2010, co-chaired with Thailand.
18. The Meeting expressed appreciation to the Co-Chairs for facilitating a frank and open discussion. The Meeting also thanked the Governments of the Republic of Indonesia and New Zealand for the excellent arrangements and hospitality extended to all participants.