



CO-CHAIRS' SUMMARY REPORT
**11TH ASEAN REGIONAL FORUM INTER-SESSIONAL MEETING ON NON-
PROLIFERATION AND DISARMAMENT**
Bali, Indonesia, 8-9 April 2019

INTRODUCTION

1. The 11th ARF Inter-Sessional Meeting on Non-Proliferation and Disarmament (ARF ISM on NPD) was held in Bali, Indonesia, on 8-9 April 2019. The Meeting was co-chaired by Mr. Michael Tene, Special Advisor to the Director-General for ASEAN Cooperation, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Indonesia, Mr. Sang-beom Lim, Director-General for Non-proliferation and Nuclear Affairs, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Korea (ROK) and Mr. Fumito Miyake, Director of Non-Proliferation, Science and Nuclear Energy Division, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan.

2. The Meeting was attended by all ARF Participants except Bangladesh, Brunei Darussalam, Democratic People's Republic of Korea (DPRK), Mongolia, Papua New Guinea, Pakistan, Sri Lanka and Timor-Leste. Representatives from the ASEAN Secretariat as well as the Council for Security Cooperation in the Asia Pacific (CSCAP) were also in attendance. The List of Participants and the Agenda appear as **ANNEX 1 and 2**, respectively.

OPENING REMARKS

3. In his opening remarks, Mr. Tene recalled the current development of non-proliferation and disarmament in the region and noted that while progress has been made on non-proliferation efforts and peaceful uses of nuclear energy, he recognised that much still needs to be done on the nuclear disarmament front. In this regard, he highlighted the role of the ARF in encouraging its Participants to continue deliberating on concrete and effective regional responses to address challenges in these areas as outlined in the ARF Hanoi Plan of Action to Implement the ARF Vision Statement and the ARF Work Plan on Non-Proliferation and Disarmament, as well as to promote cooperation between Nuclear Weapon States (NWS) and Non-Nuclear Weapon States (NNWS) through dialogues and confidence building measures. Highlighting the role of the Southeast Asian Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone

(SEANWFZ), Mr. Tene further highlighted the crucial role of ARF in encouraging NWS and all State Parties to the SEANWFZ to work constructively towards ensuring the early accession of the NWS to the Protocol to the Treaty.

4. Mr. Fumito Miyake in his opening remarks underlined the ARF as a platform to facilitate dialogue on international security issues, including those encompassed under the three pillars of the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons (NPT) namely, non-proliferation, disarmament, and peaceful use of nuclear energy. Mr. Miyake also highlighted the challenges related to Weapons of Mass Destruction and potential threats and encouraged ARF Participants to enhance discussions on these matters.

5. In his opening remarks, Mr. Lim recalled a number of emerging challenges related to non-proliferation and disarmament arising from the growing dynamics of international security landscape, namely, the development of activities in outer space and cyber space, as well the revolution of new technologies such as digital interference capabilities. In addition, he emphasized the importance of the 2020 NPT Review Conference and explained recent developments concerning the Korean Peninsula. In this connection, Mr. Lim encouraged the ARF Participants to effectively utilise the Forum to foster ties and increase practical activities to address issues of common concern in the region.

AGENDA ITEM 1: CSCAP SESSION

6. The Meeting was briefed on the outcomes of the 6th CSCAP Study Group on Non-proliferation and Disarmament in the Asia Pacific, which took place prior to the 11th ARF ISM on NPD on 7 April 2019. The Study Group discussed a number of issues including the impact of the termination of the Intermediate-range Nuclear Forces (INF) Treaty; the importance of extending NewSTART; denuclearisation on the Korean Peninsula in the wake of the United States – DPRK Summit in Hanoi in February 2019; development of nuclear governance in Southeast Asia; and nuclear disarmament collaboration between NWS and NNWS on nuclear verification and other confidence building measures. A number of key findings from the Meeting were highlighted, including: (i) the international security environment is deteriorating with the growing competition among major NWS and complicated by advances in weapons capability such as missile defence systems and hypersonic missiles; and (ii) while both parties at the United States – DPRK Summit in Hanoi, Viet Nam, in February 2019 demonstrated willingness to continue dialogue, more could have been achieved in formulating a step-by-step approach towards the denuclearisation efforts in the Korean Peninsula.

7. During this agenda item, the Meeting was also briefed by the National University of Singapore (NUS), the Rajaratnam School of International Studies (RSIS) and the International Partnership for Nuclear Disarmament Verification (IPNDV) on other non-proliferation and disarmament matters that were touched upon during the 6th CSCAP Study Group. These presentations appear as **ANNEX 3, 4, 5**, respectively. The following points were highlighted:

- a. The Meeting took note of the ongoing efforts to expand work on of nuclear governance from Southeast Asia to the broader Asia-Pacific region. This could be achieved by strengthening the close connection between regional and multilateral frameworks and through the establishment of a centre of excellence on nuclear governance in the region, as stated in the East Asia Summit (EAS) Leaders' Statement on the Safe and Secure Use, Storage and Transport of Nuclear and other Radioactive Materials adopted by the 13th EAS in Singapore in November 2018;
- b. The concept of nuclear governance with an ASEAN approach may be developed in reference to the Article 4 of the SEANWFZ Treaty, which highlights the role of the SEANWFZ Commission, the SEANWFZ Committee, and the ASEAN Network of Regulatory Bodies on Atomic Energy (ASEANTOM) while still in line with the standard practice of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA);
- c. The meeting took further note of the role and development of the International Partnership for Nuclear Disarmament Verification (IPNDV), an ongoing initiative which brings together more than 25 countries, including both NWS and NNWS. The Meeting took note of the objective of the IPNDV, which is to identify challenges associated with nuclear disarmament verification to and develop potential procedures and technologies to address those challenges.

AGENDA ITEM 2: PEACEFUL USES OF NUCLEAR ENERGY

8. Indonesia briefed the Meeting on its approach in promoting prosperity through peaceful uses of nuclear energy and highlighted the benefits of nuclear programmes for socio-economic development in Indonesia, including on agriculture and pharmaceutical industries. Indonesia also underlined the role of the IAEA in the development of the peaceful uses of nuclear energy and nuclear applications through their Technical Cooperation Fund (TCF), the Meeting was also updated on the current budget discussions in the IAEA, wherein developing countries tend to increase the allocation towards the TCF to bolster nuclear techniques for development whilst developed countries tend to advocate to increase the allocation

towards nuclear verification programmes and efforts to prohibit the use of nuclear energy technology for military purposes. Indonesia's presentation appears as **ANNEX 6.**

9. Japan briefed the Meeting on the outcomes of the IAEA Ministerial Conference on Nuclear Science and Technology in Vienna in November 2018, which highlighted the contribution of nuclear science and technology to sustainable development. The Conference also took note of the importance in maintaining the highest standards of 3S (nuclear safety, security and safeguards) in nuclear development and underlined the necessity for countries who are embarking a new nuclear programme and/or for nuclear-supplier countries to improve their safety standards. Noting the benefits of capacity building programmes and human resource assistance to nuclear development, the Meeting also noted Japan's financial contribution in the amount of USD 34 million through the IAEA Peaceful Uses Initiative (PUI).

10. Thailand briefed the Meeting on the development of its nuclear organisations which is overseen by the Ministry of Science and Technology (MoST). The Meeting noted the utilisation of peaceful nuclear energy in Thailand for the following purposes: training and public education, nuclear and radiation research, utilisation of neutron/X-Ray to preserve cultural heritage, food irradiation to support shelf-life extension, insect disinfestation, *gamma* and e-beam irradiation of herbs for cosmetic development, plant mutation breeding and radioactive waste management. The Meeting further noted the role of the ASEAN Large Nuclear and Synchrotron Facility Network (LNSN), which provides platforms for facility and knowledge sharing among ASEAN Member States and promotes the development and utilisation of nuclear and synchrotron technologies in the ASEAN region. Thailand's presentation appears as **ANNEX 7.**

11. The Meeting was updated on the United States' efforts in promoting nuclear safety and security through sharing of technology at the bilateral and multilateral level, including with the IAEA. The Meeting noted that the United States has contributed more than USD 96 million to the IAEA through the PUI since 2010, wherein priorities are given to support IAEA members' response to unforeseen challenges on short notice, such as the Ebola and Zika viruses and Fukushima nuclear accident. The Meeting also noted that the United States' PUI-supported projects also include areas on human health, agricultural and livestock productivity, water resource management, food security, protection of the environment, nuclear safety and security, as well as nuclear power infrastructure development.

12. The Meeting noted Indonesia's national experience on the application of nuclear technology under the coordination of the National Nuclear Energy Agency (BATAN). Bearing in mind that nuclear energy in Indonesia is only permitted for peaceful purposes, the Nuclear Energy Regulatory Agency (BAPETEN) is tasked to control and prevent misuse of nuclear energy. The Meeting was also updated on Indonesia's nuclear facilities, which have been operating for medical, industry and agriculture purposes, as well as supporting the inspections and verification programmes with the IAEA. Indonesia's presentation appears as **ANNEX 8**.

13. Singapore updated the Meeting on its ongoing efforts towards peaceful uses of nuclear energy, including through IAEA Technical Cooperation (TC) programmes. The Meeting took note that since 2000, Singapore has actively participated in a number of practical activities, including through hosting 36 workshops, 115 training fellowships and 26 scientific visits focused on the application of nuclear technologies. The Singapore Government has also signed an Enhanced Third Country Training programme (TCTP) with the IAEA to strengthen its relationship with the IAEA. Beyond the Singapore-IAEA TCTP, other forms of collaboration include a Practical Arrangement between the Singapore General Hospital (SGH) and the IAEA, focusing on nuclear medicine techniques for dementia as well as quality control and health regulations for radiopharmaceuticals. Under the ambit of ASEAN framework, the Meeting took note of the ongoing cooperation between the ASEANTOM and the IAEA through the "Supporting Regional Nuclear Emergency Preparedness and Response in the Member States of ASEAN" project, which is being implemented for the period of 2016-2019 and the Workshop on Assessment and Decision Making Protocol and Public Communication Strategy in a Nuclear or Radiological Emergency for ASEAN Region" which was held in Singapore on 19-23 March 2019. Singapore's presentation appears as **ANNEX 9**.

14. The Office of Atoms for Peace, Thailand, updated the Meeting on the overview and development of the ASEANTOM on its efforts to strengthen regulatory activities and nuclear safety, security and safeguards within the ASEAN Community. The Meeting also noted the most recent projects carried out by the ASEANTOM, namely: (i) Supporting Regional Nuclear Emergency Preparedness and Response in the Member States of ASEAN Region (in accordance to IAEA RAS9077); and (ii) Enhancing Emergency Preparedness and Response in ASEAN: Technical Support for Decision Making (in accordance to EU REG 3.01/16) for the period of 2018-2020. The Meeting further noted that Thailand will host the 6th Meeting of ASEANTOM in Krabi, Thailand on 1-4 July 2019. Thailand's presentation appears as **ANNEX 10**.

15. The ROK briefed the Meeting on its "New Southern Policy" which is built upon the pillars of people, prosperity and peace. The Policy is a part of ROK's vision for

regional cooperation and mutual development, including on cooperation in the peaceful uses of nuclear energy. Recalling the 30th anniversary of the ASEAN-ROK Dialogue Relations which will further elevate the level of cooperation between both parties on peaceful uses of nuclear energy, the Meeting noted that ASEAN and the ROK will enhance practical cooperation this year on radiation emergency response, by launching a regional training course entitled “Enhancing Radiation Emergency Preparedness and Response Capabilities of ASEAN” in cooperation with the IAEA. Another training course on radioisotope production and synthesis of radiopharmaceuticals will take place, which also aims to enhance ASEAN’s capability in cancer management.

16. During this agenda item, the Meeting noted China’s proposal to convene a High-Level Symposium on Nuclear Capacity Building in the Asia Pacific in the ARF Inter-Sessional Year 2019-2020. The Meeting also took note that China is seeking an ASEAN Co-Chair for the activity. The Concept Paper for the Symposium appears as **ANNEX 11**.

AGENDA ITEM 3: DISARMAMENT

17. The Meeting was briefed by the International Campaign to Abolish Nuclear Weapons (ICAN) on the importance and progress of entry into force of the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons (TPNW). The Meeting also took note of the explanations of several participants that the TPNW aims to fulfil the objectives of the NPT which envisages the creation of additional treaties to help achieve and maintain a nuclear-weapons-free world as well as complement other existing arms control and disarmament agreements, especially in light of recent developments in international security architecture such as heightened tensions between NWS, usage as well as nuclear arms race. During the discussions on the objectives of the TPNW to eliminate all nuclear weapons, several ARF Participants noted the importance of taking into account the international security environment when negotiating disarmament. A number of ARF Participants also discussed State Parties’ right to withdraw from the TPNW and whether such a condition may be exploited for future proliferation. ICAN’s presentation appears as **ANNEX 12**.

18. The United States briefed the Meeting on its initiative on Creating an Environment for Nuclear Disarmament (CEND), provides an alternative approach to nuclear disarmament in the midst of the dynamics of the international security environment and ongoing nuclear proliferation by NWS. The initiative was based on the necessity to reassess traditional approaches to disarmament. New approaches to engage both NWS and NNWS are necessary for further progress in disarmament,

especially due to the fact that while many weapons have been dismantled after the end of the Cold War, the global security environment appears to have deteriorated. To this end, the Meeting noted that the CEND, which was launched in 2018, aims to bring both NWS and NNWS together to explore ways in which it may be possible to stimulate an environment more conducive to nuclear disarmament, as guided by Article VI of the NPT and for the NWS to find their mutual interest and advance their political will towards nuclear disarmament. The Meeting took note that there is no concrete timeline for this initiative.

19. In their capacity as the Chair of the Third and final session of the PrepCom for the 2020 Review Conference of the Parties to the NPT, Malaysia briefed the Meeting on the development and preparation of the upcoming session, which include substantive and procedural issues related to the Treaty and the upcoming Review Conference. The Meeting noted that a number of possible issues will be raised at the PrepCom, including the possibility of multiple outcomes of the Review Conference and the necessity for more interactive discussions among NPT State Parties. Malaysia also raised the issue of the President of the Review Conference noting that an Argentina candidate, Mr Raphael Grossi (Argentina's Permanent Representative to the IAEA) has been endorsed as the President-Designate in 2017 by the Group of Latin America and the Caribbean within the Non-Aligned Movement (NAM) in the past two years. However, the Meeting noted that Venezuela as the current Chair of NAM has not allowed the nomination of Argentina to be formally confirmed. In moving forward, Malaysia reiterated the importance for the NAM Coordinating Bureau in New York to address the issue as soon as possible to ensure the success of the session. Recalling the failure of the 2015 NPT Review Conference to produce an outcome and bearing in mind the substantive differences among the State Parties towards the implementation of the NPT, Malaysia encouraged all states participating at the PrepCom to provide support towards the sanctity of the Treaty and refrain from negative rhetoric that could prevent the Conference from achieving agreeable language in the outcome documents.

20. The Meeting also touched upon other matters that could be discussed at the 3rd PrepCom, namely the universalization of the CTBT and the importance of countries, especially Annex 2 States, to expedite the Treaty's entry into force, the commencement of negotiations on a Fissile Material Cut-Off Treaty (FMCT), as well as enhancing transparency and verification of nuclear disarmament. The Meeting further noted the activities of the Non-Proliferation and Disarmament Initiative (NPD) such as the submission of working papers and outreach activities in the 2020 NPT Review Cycle, a side event that will be held during the 3rd PrepCom. The Meeting also noted that Japan established a Group of Eminent Persons in 2017 to come up with recommendations for substantive advancement of nuclear disarmament, and

the “Kyoto Appeal” as the latest outcome of discussions in the Group will be submitted to the 3rd PrepCom.

AGENDA ITEM 4: NON-PROLIFERATION CHALLENGES IN THE REGION

21. ARF Participants exchanged views on non-proliferation challenges and welcomed the progress of ASEAN-led mechanisms in upholding non-proliferation and disarmament efforts in the region, such as the ASEANTOM and the SEANWFZ. The Meeting noted that NWS must make meaningful progress in their commitment under the NPT to reduce and eliminate all types of nuclear weapons in transparent manner and further diminish the role of such weapons in their military concepts, doctrines, and policies, as well as extend to the NNWS, effective, universal, unconditional, non-discriminatory and irrevocable legally binding assurances against the use of or threat of use of nuclear weapons.

22. The Meeting acknowledged the developments in the Korean Peninsula and expressed support for the diplomatic process between the United States and the DPRK and welcomed the diplomatic process between the ROK and the DPRK. Towards achieving complete, verifiable, and irreversible dismantlement of all DPRK’s weapons of Mass Destruction and ballistic missiles of all ranges and related programmes in accordance with all the relevant UNSC resolutions. The Meeting also emphasized the importance of full implementation of all the relevant UNSC resolutions. The Meeting further noted that ASEAN and ASEAN-led mechanisms could play a greater role in the Korean Peninsula, especially taking into consideration the ARF being the only regional forum with the DPRK as an active participant.

23. The Meeting also discussed developments in the ongoing monitoring and verification by the IAEA of the implementation of the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action (JCPOA) on the Iranian nuclear programme and welcomed IAEA’s confirmation that Iran has complied with the Agreement and the United Nations Security Council Resolution (UNSCR) 2231. To ensure the continuity of such progress, the Meeting expressed hope that Iran would ratify the Additional Protocol to the IAEA Safeguards Agreement to provide wider access to information and location of the nuclear programme.

24. The Meeting noted that non-proliferation concerns in the region extended beyond nuclear weapons, and expressed concern regarding the re-emergence of chemical weapons use that occurred in Syria and at the Kuala Lumpur International Airport in 2017. In addressing these challenges, the Meeting underlined the importance of ARF Participants to comply with frameworks and regulations outlined

in existing regimes such as the Chemical Weapons Convention (CWC) and the Biological Weapons Convention (BWC). The Meeting also discussed the challenges in eliminating Unexploded Ordnance (UXO) and encouraged ARF Participants to discuss further possible measures in tackling this issue.

25. Taking note of the increasing threat of illegal procurement of Weapons of Mass Destructions (WMD) materials and other elements of proliferation, the Meeting encouraged ARF Participants to strengthen their domestic control through intelligence and information sharing, as well as to learn from other existing export control regimes such as the Australia Group and the Nuclear Supplier Group.

AGENDA ITEM 5: NON-PROLIFERATION

26. Australia briefed the Meeting on the universalisation of the Additional Protocol to the IAEA Safeguard Agreements and noted that safeguards implementation provides the necessary confidence in the international community on the peaceful nature of nuclear activities, and credible assurance of the absence of undeclared nuclear material and activities. The Meeting took note that states which have yet to ratify the Additional Protocol, especially those with nuclear facilities, cannot be verified. The Meeting took note that as at December 2018, 150 states have signed an Additional Protocol and of these 134 have the Additional Protocol in force. These numbers are a demonstration that the combination of a comprehensive safeguards agreement and an Additional Protocol are a *de facto* safeguards standard to ensure that obligations from the State Parties to the IAEA are met. The Meeting further noted the importance on enhancing regional awareness on the Additional Protocol among countries in the region, including through The Asia-Pacific Safeguards Network (APSCN) and the Asia Senior-Level Talks on Non-Proliferation (ASTOP).

27. Malaysia updated the Meeting on its export control efforts, which were developed in response to UNSCR 1540. The Meeting took note that Malaysia enacted the Strategic Trade Act 2010 which came into force on 1 July 2011 and that the Act is overseen by the Strategic Trade Secretariat under the Ministry of International Trade and Industry. The Act aims to provide control over export, transshipment, transit and brokering of strategic items including arms and related materials as well as other activities that can facilitate the design, development and production of WMD and their delivery systems. As further implementation of the Act, Malaysia also adopted a number of subsidiary pieces of legislation, including among others, the Strategic Trade (United Nations Security Council Resolutions) Regulations 2010 and the Strategic Trade (Restricted End-Users and Prohibited End-Users) Order 2010. In light of the evolution and emerging development in

proliferation, Malaysia amended the Strategic Trade Act in 2017 to better facilitate trade and enhance reinforcement between the government and trade industries.

28. The Philippines briefed the Meeting on its commitment in strengthening domestic controls to prevent the proliferation of WMD and their means of delivery through the signing of the Republic Act 10697 in November 2015, or known as the Strategic Trade Management Act (STMA). The Meeting noted that the STMA provides the following: (i) the establishment of a National Strategic Goods List which consists of strategic goods subject to authorisation, such as military goods, dual-use goods, and nationally-controlled goods or goods placed under unilateral controls for reasons of national security and anti-terrorism; (ii) the creation of the National Security Council – Strategic Trade Management Committee (NSC-STMCom), which is the central authority relating to strategic trade management; (iii) the establishment of a Strategic Trade Management Office (STMO) which is mandated to serve as the executive and technical agency for the establishment of the management systems for the trade in strategic goods; and (iv) the imposition of sanctions and penalties in case of administrative and criminal violations. The Meeting noted several challenges in the implementation of the STMA, such as insufficient budget, lack of Information and Technology infrastructure and resources to conduct comprehensive industry awareness, as well as the need for stronger coordination among government agencies.

29. The ROK updated the Meeting on the progress of the Proliferation Security Initiatives (PSI), which was first launched in 2003 and which aims to stop WMD shipments of proliferation concern. The Meeting further noted that currently there are 107 PSI endorsing countries with the most recent being the Republic of Palau and the Federated States of Micronesia. The Meeting further noted that a regional exercise by Asia-Pacific Exercise Rotation (APER) countries has been held annually and that the ROK will host the Eastern Endeavor Exercise 19 in Busan on 10-11 July 2019, a Table-Top Exercise and a Port Exercise which will demonstrate container inspections by ROK law enforcement officials. The Port Exercise will also include inspections from Thailand and the Philippines as part of capacity building activities. The ROK's presentation appears as **ANNEX 13**.

30. The European Union (EU) briefed the Meeting on its ongoing efforts on the implementation of the UNSCR 1540 through a number of diplomatic and financial instruments, as carried out by EU institutions such as the European Council, the Foreign Affairs Council and the Political and Security Committee. The Meeting further noted EU's policy in creating a demarche which have been delivered via networks of EU delegations and embassies, wherein the EU has issued six demarches to 60 countries in 2018 on issues related to non-proliferation and

disarmament, the CTBT and relevant UNSC resolutions. The Meeting also noted that since 2004, the EU has contributed approximately EUR 240 million in which 38% was allocated for nuclear programmes, 25% for small arms and light weapons-related projects, 11% on chemical weapons and 9% for arms export control capacity-building programmes. EU's presentation appears as **ANNEX 14**.

AGENDA ITEM 6: OTHER MATTERS

31. The Meeting took note of the Philippines' proposal to convene an ARF Table Top Exercise on Response Capabilities to Chemical, Biological, Radiological and Nuclear Incidents in the ARF Inter-Sessional Year 2019-2020. The Meeting took note that the activity will build upon previous ARF workshops, including the ARF Bio-Preparedness Tabletop Exercise and Workshop held in August 2015, and the two ARF Workshops on Raising Awareness and Promoting Cooperation on CBRN Risk Mitigation held in September 2015 and March 2018 respectively. The Meeting took note that the Philippines is seeking a non-ASEAN Co-Chair. The Concept Paper for the Exercise appears as **ANNEX 15**.

32. The Meeting took note that the 12th ARF ISM on NPD will be held in Japan in 2020.

CONCLUDING REMARKS

33. In their Closing Remarks, the Co-Chairs thanked all ARF Participants for their active contributions and support rendered and for the comprehensive and in-depth discussions demonstrated in the Meeting. The Co-Chairs also expressed appreciation towards the proposed new initiatives tabled at the Meeting and expressed hope for continued dialogues and practical cooperation to strengthen discussion on non-proliferation and disarmament in the region under the ARF framework.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

34. The Meeting expressed gratitude and appreciation to the Government of Indonesia for the excellent arrangements made for the Meeting and the warm hospitality extended to all ARF Participants.

ISSUES UP FOR FOLLOW UP

No.	Key Decision/Issues	Timeline	Follow-up By
1.	To finalise the co-chairmanship of proposed activities for the ARF Inter-Sessional Year 2019-2020	Prior to the 26 th ARF	Proponent of the activities
2.	To provide inputs to the proposed Concept Papers for activities to be implemented in the ARF Inter-Sessional Year 2019-2020	Prior to the ARF ISG on CBMs and PD	ARF Participants

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