

The 9th ASEAN Regional Forum, Inter-Sessional Meeting on
Counter Terrorism and Transnational Crime (ISM-CTTC)

Kuala Lumpur ,Malaysia

29 - 31 May 2011

Mr. Co-Chairs

Distinguished Delegates

Ladies and Gentleman

On behalf of the Thai delegation, let me first of all take this opportunity to express my appreciation to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Malaysia and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan for co-hosting the 9th ASEAN Regional Forum, Inter-Sessional Meeting on Counter Terrorism and Transnational Crime in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.

Thank you very much for the warm welcome, gracious hospitality and of course, the impeccable arrangements.

Please allow me to share with you Thailand's experience in counter terrorism since the past years. I wish to begin with Thailand has a clear policy in supporting and enhancing the UN Resolution on Counter Terrorism. Thailand sees that terrorism as well as transnational crime represents a serious threat to international peace, security and stability. Every region is facing such threats. So is the Southeast Asia region. Therefore, in this regard, Thailand has become party to nine out of sixteen UN anti-terrorism conventions and protocols, three of which were ratified or acceded in 2007. Thailand also sanctions person and group of persons relating to terrorism in accordance with UN Declaration under Resolution of UNSC no.1267 and no.1373.

With regard to counter terrorism and transnational crime, Thailand has established the Committee on Counter International Terrorism (COGIT) presided over by the Prime Minister at the policy or national level. For

operational level, we have Counter Terrorist Operations Center (CTOC) as well as the setting up of the National Coordinating Center on Combating Terrorism and Transnational Crime (NCC-CTTC), while the Royal Thai Police, such as Special Branch, Immigration and Interpol as the significant mechanisms to combat terrorism and transnational crime.

I wish to add further that the Thai policy has been in line with the Strategy of Counter-Terrorism Implementation Task Force (CTITF), United Nations on combating terrorism. This can be made clear that:

Thailand has been supporting and enhancing the social and economic development to prevent such conditions conducive to the spread of terrorism.

Thailand has a clear policy in the support of peace operations and has such a potentiality to support the mission of the United Nations in the rehabilitation after conflict, especially in the development aspect, humanitarian relief as well as democratic election.

Thailand sees that interfaith dialogue will help support not to create such conditions conducive to the spread of terrorism. The Thai Government is planning with a project for the interfaith dialogue and enhancing the role of moderate muslims for deradicalization. This project will focus on the exchange of visit between religious leaders and religious organisations for an example.

As of preventing and combating terrorism and transnational crime, Thailand has legal measure such as law on money laundering, extradition law and criminal law to tackle with such problems.

As for law enforcement matters, Thailand has implemented a number of measures against any activities that can be employed to support the operations of international terrorists and transnational crime.

On an arm control basis, in June 2007, the Prime Minister approved the regulation on control of Man, Portable, Defense System (MANPADS) which

was drafted by the Ministry of Defense in line with the APEC's Bangkok Declaration 2003. The regulation imposes stricter control on the possession of MANPADS and closer monitoring on sales, transportation, and import-export of such weapons so as to prevent the possibility that the weapons could fall into the hand of criminals and terrorist groups.

As for border control and transportation security, Thailand has strengthened its border control system by increasing the utilization of information and intelligence exchange with better use of modern technology. Thailand has already put in place the Personal Identification Secure Comparison and Evaluation System (PISCES) at major airports and border checkpoints, to track movement of passengers. This system has complimented the Advanced Passenger Information (API) which has become a standard routine and the Advanced Passenger Processing (APP) system which is currently operational at Thailand five major airports. The Airport Authority of Thailand (AOT) has imposed a strict measure on issuing secured area passes and keeps track on personal data of the holders of passes.

Finally, I would like to conclude that while globalization fosters many positive advance, interdependence between states and the opening of borders, it helps facilitate as well the transnational organised crime particularly, drug trafficking illegal arms sales, human trafficking, cross-border terrorism and money laundering. We must also keep our eyes closely on the cyber terrorism, the new threat for today and tomorrow. I fervently hope to see closer cooperation among international community both bilateral and multi-lateral level on intelligence cooperation and the development of law as well as other necessary aspects to maintain the security and peace in all regions.

Thank you very much for your kind attention.
