

**STATEMENT BY THE MINISTERS OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS OF
THE ARF PARTICIPATING STATES ON COOPERATION IN
ENSURING INTERNATIONAL INFORMATION
SECURITY**

Ministers of Foreign Affairs, on behalf of the participating states of the ASEAN Regional Forum, issue the following statement:

Noting the considerable progress in developing and applying advanced information and communication technologies (ICTs),

Expressing concern over threats related to potential use of ICTs by non-state and state actors for the purposes inconsistent with the objectives of ensuring international and regional security and stability,

Taking into account the recommendations of the UN General Assembly resolutions on the developments in the field of information and telecommunications in the context of international security and on the creation of a global culture of cyber security,

Bearing in mind an important role of information security in protection of human and civil rights and fundamental freedoms,

Willing to ensure international information security in all its aspects,

Being convinced that efforts to increase confidence and promote cooperation in ensuring international information security are urgently needed and meet the interests of the ARF participating states,

Building on and further developing the ARF Statement on Cooperation in Fighting Cyber Attacks and Terrorist Misuse of Cyberspace of July 28, 2006.

1. ARF participating states recognize that the security of global information and cyber space requires collective efforts on the international and regional levels.

2. ARF participating states acknowledge that their activities in the global information and cyber space should be consistent with the task of maintaining international and regional security and stability. These efforts should be

compatible with the right to seek, receive and disseminate information, taking into account the need to respect national sovereignty.

3. ARF participating states agree that they should enjoy equal rights to protect their information resources and critical infrastructure from misuse and unauthorized intervention, including cyber attacks.

4. ARF participating states, taking into account the above mentioned existing and potential threats, highlight the need to further intensify regional cooperation in the sphere of international information security, including the following measures:

- countering challenges posed by use of ICTs for terrorist, criminal and hostile purposes;
- elaboration, coordination and implementation of joint measures to ensure international information security;
- developing appropriate confidence building measures;
- exchange of information about national experiences and best practices in developing and implementing national strategies, business-government partnerships, appropriate national legal frameworks, incident management capability and national experience in raising awareness of cyber security issues.