

**REVIEW OF  
THE ASEAN REGIONAL FORUM DISASTER RELIEF EXERCISE 2011  
(ARF DIREX 2011)  
MANADO, INDONESIA, 15-19 MARCH 2011**

*Thank you Mr. Chairman,  
Distinguished delegates,*

*On the outset and on behalf of our co-chair Japan, allow me to inform you that the presentation under this sub-agenda will be delivered in two parts. I will deliver the first part of the review of the ARF Disaster Relief Exercise, and our co-chair will continue with the After Action Review of the exercise.*

*Distinguished delegates,*

*Pursuant to the decision of the 17<sup>th</sup> ARF Ministerial Meeting in Ha Noi, 23 July 2010, the ARF Disaster Relief Exercise (ARF DIREX) 2011 was then held in Manado, Indonesia, on 15-19 March 2011, and co-chaired by Indonesia and Japan. The Vice President of the Republic of Indonesia H.E. Dr. Boediono and the parliamentary Vice-Minister for Foreign Affairs of Japan, Ms. Makiko Kikuta officially opened the exercise.*

*The ARF DiREx 2011 provided an opportunity for ARF participants to enhance the cooperation and inter-operability among ARF nations' civilian and military agencies at strategic, operational and tactical levels. This was also aimed to verify the effectiveness of the ARF Strategic Guidance for Humanitarian Assistance and Disaster Relief and the ARF Model Arrangement on the Use of Military and Civilian Defense Assets (MCDA), in the context of the existing standard operating procedures/protocols of ASEAN, regional, international and the affected country pertaining to multinational disaster relief operations.*

*In addition, the ARF DiREx allowed participants to enhance their ability to mobilize assets and personnels in a rapid, coordinated and effective manner. In*

*these circumstances, the ARF DiREx 2011 was considered as a success and has accomplished its objectives namely to advance the capacity for multinational disaster response.*

*The exercise was attended by 25 ARF Participants and 6 international organizations who have taken part as active participants as well as observers. In total, there were 4,334 personnels who participated in 3 (three) main activities of the ARF DiREx 2011, namely Table Top Exercise (TTX), Field Training Exercise (FTX) and Humanitarian Civic Action (HCA).*

*Now, allow me to touch upon each main activity at a glance:*

***The Table Top Exercise***, was held from March 16-18 of March and was designed and developed to address the operational issues of multinational disaster relief operation involving the ARF Participants. The TTX was designed to examine the responses to various phases of the disaster from the perspectives of the local government, regional and international communities. The Framework of the TTX include the actors (affected states, coordinaton and assisting entities), the stage (preparation, operation, exit and military-civilian transition of assets) and aspects of Disaster Relief operation (medical, engineering, life support, search and rescue, transportation, communicatio and clean environment). This framework was structured in four exercise moves namely: initial response, disaster plus 2-4 days, disaster plus 5-7 days and disaster plus 2-4 weeks.

***The Field Training Exercise***, was held from 16-18 March and the demonstration was implemented on the March 15, 2011 at North Sulawesi Province following the opening ceremony. The framework of Exercise includes actors (affected states, coordinator, assisting entities), stages (preparation and early stage operation, exit), aspects of DR operation (evacuation and identification, logistical distribution, recovery and reconstruction, mapping service, communication, pubilc information, medical operation, displaced person relocation).

*The FTX itself successfully conducted under the principle of “safety first-zero accident” in several operations such as urban SAR, land, maritime and air operations.*

***The Humanitarian Civic Action***, through the Medical Civic Action Programme (MEDCAP) and Engineering Civic Action Programme (ENCAP), has benefited the local people who lived near the sites of the exercise by providing free medical service as well as reconstructing dirt roads, repairing water sanitation facilities, establishing water purifiers and tree plantings.

*Distinguished delegates,*

*From the experiences on the exercise, the participants recommended that the ARF should consider conducting future exercises in the field of disaster relief on a more regular basis, by taking into account the potential threat of natural disaster in our region. This initiative was supported by the 18th ARF as stipulated in the chair’s statement...”to conduct the joint field exercises on a regular basis, every two years, while convening table-top exercises in between”.*

*In this regard, while noting many recommendations and supports on the conduct of the ARF DiREX, Indonesia would like to encourage the continuity of the exercise in 2013 by supporting Republic of Korea to chair the next ARF DiREx and the initial assurance of Indonesia’s participation in it. In this opportunity I would also like to support any fellow ASEAN member states to join ROK in co-chairing the exercise.*

*And last but not least, with the successful conduct of the ARF DiREx and as underlined by the 18th ARF Chair’s Statement, it is also important for us to start the deliberation on coordinating the future exercises with activities under the framework of EAS and the ADMM-Plus while utilizing the positive momentum we have right now in this noble meeting.*

*I would also like to inform the meeting that in order to keep and enhance the national as well as the regional capacity in the disaster relief management, Indonesia is planning to conduct a national exercise similar to the ARF DiREx with the possibility of multinational participation. The exercise will be organized*

*by Indonesian National Agency for Disaster Relief and will consist of the TTX which is planned to be conducted in the end of 2012 and the FTX in 2013.*

*Without taking any more of the time provided, I should now conclude my presentation here and give the floor to our colleague from Japan to continue with the After Action Review.*

*Thank you*