



CO-CHAIRS' SUMMARY REPORT

ASEAN REGIONAL FORUM INTER-SESSIONAL SUPPORT GROUP MEETING ON CONFIDENCE-BUILDING MEASURES AND PREVENTIVE DIPLOMACY (ARF ISG ON CBMs AND PD)

Seoul, Republic of Korea, 3 May 2019

INTRODUCTION

1. The Meeting was held in Seoul, Republic of Korea on 3 May 2019 and was co-chaired by Dr. Suriya Chindawongse, Director-General, Department of ASEAN Affairs, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Kingdom of Thailand, and Mr. Hong-seok Koo, Director-General for South Asian and Pacific Affairs, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Korea. The Meeting was attended by representatives from all ARF Participants except the Democratic People's Republic of Korea (DPRK), Papua New Guinea, and Sri Lanka. Representatives from the ASEAN Secretariat were also in attendance. The List of Delegates appears as **ANNEX 1**.

AGENDA ITEM 1: OPENING REMARKS BY CO-CHAIRS

2. In their opening remarks, the Co-Chairs underscored the progress of the ARF since its inception in 1994 and noted the contributions of the ARF as a platform to foster constructive dialogue and consultation on political and security issues of common interest as well as a venue to further efforts towards confidence building and preventive diplomacy in the region. Recalling the adoption of the ARF Vision Statement in 2009 and the ARF Hanoi Plan of Action to Implement the ARF Vision Statement (HPoA) in 2010, the Co-Chairs noted that the ARF Participants have made great efforts in the areas of cooperation of the ARF through the convening of more confidence building measures and preventive diplomacy promotion activities. Against the backdrop of the evolving regional security landscape, the Co-Chairs reiterated the need to further strengthen dialogue and cooperation to make the Forum more effective and efficient in order to address the increasingly complex security challenges.

AGENDA ITEM 2: ADOPTION OF AGENDA

3. The Meeting adopted the Agenda, which appears as **ANNEX 2**.

AGENDA ITEM 3: BUSSINESS ARRANGEMENTS

4. The Meeting noted the Administrative Arrangements which appears as **ANNEX 3**.

AGENDA ITEM 4: BRIEFING ON THE OUTCOMES OF THE 33rd ASEAN SUMMIT, THE 25th ASEAN REGIONAL FORUM AND OTHER MINISTERIAL MEETINGS

a. 33rd ASEAN Summit

5. Singapore briefed the Meeting on the 33rd ASEAN Summit which was held in Singapore on 13 November 2018. In addition to the East Asia Summit Participating Countries, the 33rd ASEAN Summit was also attended by Canada, Chile and the International Monetary Fund (IMF) as the Guests of the Chair. The ASEAN Leaders also adopted a number of outcome documents, including the ASEAN Smart Cities Framework. The Chairman's Statement of the 33rd ASEAN Summit appears as **ANNEX 4**.

b. 25th ASEAN Regional Forum

6. Singapore briefed the Meeting on the outcomes of the 25th ARF held in Singapore on 4 August 2018. The Meeting took note that the 25th ARF underlined the need to update the HPoA and encouraged ARF Participants to look beyond 2020 to ensure that the ARF maintains its relevance in the evolving regional environment. The 25th ARF also exchanged views on regional security issues, such as the developments in the South China Sea, Korean Peninsula, and Rakhine State, and how to enhance cooperation in the maritime domain, non-proliferation and disarmament, disaster relief, counter-terrorism, and ICTs Security. The Chairman's Statement of the 25th ARF appears as **ANNEX 5**.

c. 12th ASEAN Ministerial Meeting on Transnational Crime (AMMTC)

7. Myanmar briefed the Meeting on the outcomes of the 12th AMMTC held in Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar, on 30 October – 1 November 2018, highlighting the following points: (i) the adoption of the Senior Officials' Meeting on Transnational Crime (SOMTC) Work Programme 2019-2021 which will provide guidance for the

implementation of the ASEAN Plan of Action in Combating Transnational Crime 2016-2025; (ii) the adoption of the Guidelines on Consular Assistance by the ASEAN Member States Missions in Third Countries to Nationals of Other ASEAN Member States; and (iii) the adoption of the ASEAN Plan of Action to Prevent and Counter the Rise of Radicalisation and Violent Extremism 2018-2025. The 12th AMMTC also discussed measures to tackle the spread of radical ideology and fake news as well as other issues related to cybercrime, narcotics and border security issues.

d. 12th ASEAN Defence Ministers' Meeting (ADMM) and the 5th ADMM-Plus

8. The Meeting was briefed on the outcomes of the 12th ADMM and the 5th ADMM-Plus held in Singapore on 18-20 October 2018. Singapore highlighted the progress made under the three focus areas of Singapore's ADMM Chairmanship: (i) enhancing regional counter-terrorism cooperation; (ii) improving the region's capability to respond to chemical, biological and radiological threats; and (iii) putting in place a set of practical confidence-building measures in the aviation and maritime domains. The Meeting further noted that the 12th ADMM adopted the following outcome documents: (i) the Concept Paper on Establishment of the Virtual ASEAN Network of Chemical, Biological and Radiological Defence Experts; (ii) the Guidelines for Air Encounters between Military Aircraft and its Operational Annexes; (iii) the Terms of Reference of the Military Representative to the AHA Centre for the ASEAN Militaries Ready Group on Humanitarian Assistance and Disaster Relief; (iv) the Concept Paper on "Our Eyes" Initiative; and (v) the Concept Paper on the Observership of the ADMM-Plus Experts' Working Group Activities. The Meeting was also briefed on the convening of the 5th ADMM-Plus which adopted the Joint Statement by the ADMM-Plus Defence Ministers on Preventing and Countering the Threat of Terrorism and the Joint Statement by the ADMM-Plus Defence Ministers on Practical Confidence-Building Measures.

e. 6th ASEAN Ministerial Meeting on Drug Matters (AMMD)

9. The Meeting noted Viet Nam's briefing on the outcomes of the 6th AMMD which was held in Hanoi, Viet Nam, on 17-18 October 2018. The 6th AMMD reaffirmed ASEAN's commitment in upholding zero tolerance against drugs use and enhancing efforts to combat illicit drugs through the implementation of relevant drugs-related United Nations resolutions. The Meeting also highlighted the following points; (i) the adoption of the Joint ASEAN Statement Against Legalisation of Controlled Drugs which was delivered by Singapore in Vienna, Austria, on behalf of ASEAN Member States at the 61st session of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs (CND) 5th Intersessional Meeting on 7-9 November 2018; (ii) the Joint ASEAN Statement delivered by Viet Nam at the 62nd CND Ministerial Segment in March 2019 in Vienna; and (iii) the adoption of the Guiding Criteria and Modalities in Engaging External

Parties for the AMMD and Its Subsidiary Mechanisms. The Meeting was also briefed on the first Internal Review of the ASEAN Work Plan on Securing Communities Against Illicit Drugs 2016-2025 and was updated on the implementation of the ASEAN Cooperation Plan to tackle Illicit Drug Production and Trafficking in the Golden Triangle 2017-2019.

AGENDA ITEM 5: REPORT OF THE ARF DEFENCE OFFICIALS' DIALOGUE (DOD)

10. The Meeting took note of Thailand's and ROK's briefing on the outcomes of the ARF DOD held on 2 May 2019, wherein the topics of reinforcement of maritime security capabilities and confidence building and humanitarian assistance and disaster relief (HADR) cooperation and cases were highlighted. On maritime matters, the DOD noted the close connection between maritime security and regional economic development and underlined the significance of practical cooperation to address traditional and non-traditional security challenges at sea. The DOD further highlighted the ongoing sub-regional, regional and multilateral cooperation among ARF Participants including through information sharing, coordinated patrols, maritime exercises, as well as capacity building on the implementation of relevant laws of the sea. The DOD also noted the importance of confidence building in reducing potential miscalculation at sea.

11. On HADR, the DOD noted the expanding domain of disaster management which encompasses both natural and man-made disasters and exchanged views on the various efforts carried out by ARF Participants in post-disaster situation. The DOD also underlined the role of military as the first responder whereby in several ARF Participating Countries, the military is a key component on HADR operations. The DOD also noted the role of the ASEAN Coordinating Centre for Humanitarian Assistance (AHA Centre), especially in managing assistance from ASEAN Dialogue Partners and in streamlining coordination and implementation of the 2020 ASEAN Agreement on Disaster Management and Emergency Response (AADMER) Work Programme.

AGENDA ITEM 6: FUTURE DIRECTION OF THE ARF

a. Implementation of the Ha Noi Plan of Action to Implement the ARF Vision Statement

12. The Meeting took note that the current overall implementation rate of the HPoA stands at 58.7%, wherein out of 74 action lines, 44 action lines have been implemented

and 30 action lines are yet to be implemented. The Meeting further noted the breakdown of implementation in which 72% of Section I: Areas of Cooperation have been implemented, while the implementation of Section II: Confidence Building Measures (CBMs) and Preventive Diplomacy currently stands at 55% and Section III: Institutional Enhancement stands at 27%. The Meeting further noted that ARF Participants have been active in proposing and implementing activities under the HPoA wherein on average, 10-15 activities in the format of workshops, seminars, exercises and training courses are held annually. The Meeting also noted that in order for these activities to contribute to building confidence and capacity of the ARF Participants, the support and commitment to attend and participate in these activities should be maintained and strengthened.

13. The Meeting took note that the 25th ARF underlined the need to review and implement the pending action lines of the HPoA and encouraged ARF Participants to look into updating the ARF Vision Statement beyond 2020 to ensure that the ARF maintains its relevance in the evolving regional environment. Noting that the HPoA will expire at the end of 2020, the Co-Chairs requested the ASEAN Secretariat to circulate the Matrix on the Status of Implementation of the ARF HPoA to all ARF Participants for further inputs and comments on the implementation rate. The Matrix appears as **ANNEX 6**.

b. Proposal to Streamline the ARF Senior Officials' Meeting

14. The Meeting took note of Australia's proposal to streamline the ARF reporting process at the ARF Senior Officials' Meeting (SOM) aimed to save time and reduce duplication between the ARF SOM and the ARF ISG on CBMs and PD. The proposal entails that instead of each ARF meetings reports being delivered by the respective Co-Chairs, the Co-Chairs of the ARF ISG on CBMs and PD could deliver a summary report of all completed ARF meetings in the respective inter-sessional year. The proposal outlined that the working-level ISG is the more appropriate venue for in-depth readouts of ISMs and other ARF meetings/activities reports and that the Co-Chairs of the ISG will be able to summarise the key outcomes from these meetings at the SOM in a more efficient and straight forward manner, thus enabling ARF SOM leaders to focus more on regional security issues, institutional matters and preparations for the ARF Ministerial Meeting. Under the proposal, an amount of time could be set aside at the end of the ISG Co-Chairs' presentation at the SOM, should ISM Co-Chairs or other ARF members wish to discuss specific issues arising from the completed activities.

15. Noting the need to revitalise and strengthen the ARF process, and the growing demands on SOM leaders' time in an increasingly crowded schedule of regional meetings, many Participants expressed in-principle support to the proposal. The Meeting also noted several suggestions from ARF Participants including:

(i) to re-consider the sequencing of the ISG as well as the ISMs, to ensure sufficient time for all reports to be submitted to the ISG and SOM; (ii) for the ARF Experts and Eminent Persons (EEPs) to report to the ISG instead of the SOM; (iii) to consider stocktaking the ARF process and develop a set of procedures based on core ARF documents such as the ARF Concept Paper adopted in 1994 and the ARF Vision Statement; (iv) seek permission from ARF Ministers to give mandate to the ISG to undertake the stocktaking exercise; and (v) to ensure the correct procedural action of reporting of all ARF ISMs, and that Co-Chairs of each ISM present their report to the ARF SOM for endorsement, and ARF Participants are given the opportunity to express views if they wish to do so.

16. Taking into consideration the different views and suggestions, the Co-Chairs requested that all inputs and comments to the proposal be submitted to Australia as the proponent of this initiative by 15 May 2019 so that the proposal could be further deliberated at the upcoming ARF SOM scheduled to be held on 31 May in Bangkok, Thailand. The Meeting noted that until a decision has been made, the current practice will be maintained. Australia's proposal appears as **ANNEX 7**.

AGENDA ITEM 7: OUTCOMES OF ARF INTER-SESSIONAL MEETINGS, PROGRESS OF IMPLEMENTATION OF THE ARF WORK PLANS AND OTHER MEETINGS

a. 11th ARF Inter-Sessional Meeting on Maritime Security (ISM on MS), Da Nang, Viet Nam, 14-15 March 2019 and ARF Work Plan on Maritime Security 2018-2020

17. The Meeting took note that the 11th ARF ISM on MS, co-chaired by Viet Nam, Australia and the EU, reviewed the implementation of the ARF Work Plan on Maritime Security 2018-2020 and exchanged views on traditional and non-traditional maritime security issues including the increasing naval presence at sea, illegal ship-to-ship transfer, transnational crimes at sea, Illegal, Unregulated and Unreported (IUU) Fishing, and marine environmental protection. The ISM was also updated on the various maritime cooperation in ASEAN carried out by 12 sectoral bodies across all three ASEAN Community Pillars. Noting the complexities and cross-cutting nature of maritime issues, the Meeting underlined the need to streamline and synergise these mechanisms to leverage on the strength of existing cooperation, ensure inclusiveness and avoid duplication of efforts, after which such issue will be further tabled at the ARF SOM scheduled in Bangkok on 31 May 2019.

b. 16th ARF Inter-Sessional Meeting on Counter-Terrorism and Transnational Crime (ISM on CTTC), Bali, Indonesia, 21-22 March 2019 and ARF Work Plan for Counter-Terrorism and Transnational Crime 2019-2021

18. Indonesia and Russia briefed the Meeting on the outcomes of the 16th ARF ISM on CTTC which discussed the recent development on CTTC-related issues and sought measures to strengthen regional cooperation to prevent and counter violent extremism, combat illicit drug trafficking, firearms, wildlife and timber, irregular migration including trafficking in persons and smuggling of migrants, as well as address the issue of Foreign Terrorist Fighters (FTFs) including returnees and relocators. The 16th ARF ISM on CTTC also deliberated on the draft ARF Work Plan on CTTC 2019-2021 and further noted the suggestion to extend the term of chairmanship of this ISM to two years or depending on the number of the co-chairs. The Meeting took note that the European Union and New Zealand have expressed interest to co-chair the 17th ARF ISM on CTTC with an ASEAN Member State. The Co-Chairs' Summary Report of the 16th ARF ISM on CTTC appears as **ANNEX 8**.

c. 2nd ARF Inter-Sessional Meeting on Security of and in the Use of ICTs (ISM on ICTs Security), Singapore, 28-29 March 2019 and ARF Work Plan on Security of and in the Use of ICTs

19. The Meeting took note of the outcomes of the 2nd ARF ISM on ICTs Security which agreed to submit the following proposals to the ARF SOM for consideration: (i) Establishment of the ARF Points of Contact (POC) Directory on ICTs Security (co-led by Malaysia and Australia); and (ii) Protection of ICT-Enabled Critical Infrastructure (co-led by Singapore and the EU). The 2nd ARF ISM on ICTs Security also implemented the initiative adopted by the 25th ARF termed CBM#2: Sharing of Information on Domestic Laws, National Policies, Best Practices and Strategies as well as Rules and Regulations which was co-led by the Philippines and Japan.

d. 18th ARF Inter-Sessional Meeting on Disaster Relief (ISM on DR), Vientiane, Lao PDR, 3 April 2019 and ARF Work Plan on Disaster Relief 2018-2020

20. The Meeting took note of the outcomes of the 18th ARF ISM on DR, co-chaired by Lao PDR, Canada and China, which discussed and deliberated on the following issues: (i) lessons learned and best practices on emergency management and preparedness among ARF Participants; (ii) ways and measures to improve cooperation on disaster relief in order to enhance capacity building; (iii) best practices in enhancing civil-military coordination in disaster response; (iv) ARF Participants' national experiences in coordination with external parties for humanitarian assistance; and (v) best practices in post-disaster responses, including in recovery and

reconstruction. The Meeting noted that the 19th ARF ISM on DR would be convened in China in the first half of 2020. The draft Co-Chairs Summary Report of the 18th ARF ISM on DR appears as **ANNEX 9**.

e. 11th ARF Inter-Sessional Meeting on Non-Proliferation and Disarmament (ISM on NPD), Bali, Indonesia, 8-9 April 2019 and ARF Work Plan on Non-Proliferation and Disarmament

21. The Meeting took note of the outcomes of the 11th ISM on NPD, co-chaired by Indonesia, Japan and the ROK, which discussed the following issues: (i) ways and measures to promote peaceful uses of nuclear technology and regional cooperation in nuclear energy, including updates on the ASEAN Network of Regulatory Bodies on Atomic Energy (ASEANTOM) and Southeast Asia Nuclear Weapon-Free Zone Treaty (SEANWFZ); (ii) updates on Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons (TPNW), the initiative on Creating an Environment for Nuclear Disarmament (CEND) and the preparation for the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons (NPT) Review Conference 2020; and (iii) recent development and, prospects in safety, security, safeguards and export controls, as well as non-proliferation challenges in the region, including on the recent progress in the Korean Peninsula. Noting that higher attention has been given to issues on non-proliferation as one of the key pillars of the NPT, the 11th ARF ISM on NPD also underlined the necessity to pay greater attention towards the other two pillars, i.e. disarmament and peaceful use of nuclear energy. The Meeting noted that the 12th ARF ISM on NPD will be convened in Japan in the first half of 2020. The draft Co-Chairs' Summary Report appears as **ANNEX 10**.

f. 13th ARF Experts and Eminent Persons Meeting, Chiba, Japan, 26-27 February 2019

22. The Meeting noted the outcomes of the 13th EEPs, co-chaired by Myanmar and Japan, which reviewed the outcomes of 12th ARF EEPs Meeting held in Hanoi in March 2018 and exchanged views on emerging international security issues, including the current trend of major power relations i.e. the growing tension in United States (U.S.) – China relations and its implication to countries within and outside the region, challenges of nuclear issues to regional peace, and non-traditional security issues such as human trafficking, terrorism, cyber-crimes, transboundary environmental issue and marine degradation. The 13th ARF EEPs Meeting also deliberated two key recommendations to be submitted to the ARF Ministers through the ARF ISG on CBMs and PD and the ARF SOM, namely: (i) on the occasion of the ARF's 25th anniversary, to renew and refresh the ARF and consider embracing a wider and more inclusive security cooperation while continuing to focus on CBMs, PD, and Conflict Resolution; and (ii) to establish a Virtual Working Group to further examine and make recommendation regarding the EEPs' future focus, role and relevance as well as to prepare recommendations for a review of the ARF EEPs' Terms of Reference (TOR)

and its guidelines of operations. The Meeting further noted that the 14th ARF EEPs Meeting, co-chaired by Myanmar and China, was scheduled to be held in Myanmar in the first half of 2020.

23. During this agenda item, one ARF Participant was of the view that to ensure more effective discussion at the EEPs Meeting, the Track 1 could provide direction on issues and matters that should be discussed at future ARF EEPs meetings. The draft Co-Chairs' Summary Report of the 13th ARF EEPs Meeting appears as **ANNEX 11**.

g. 22nd Heads of Defence Universities/Colleges/Institutions Meeting (HDUCIM), Tokyo, Japan, 25-29 September 2018

24. The Meeting noted that the 22nd ARF HDUCIM, co-chaired by Japan and Singapore, was carried out under the main theme "Building Partnerships and Capacities to Meet Emerging Security Challenges in the Asia-Pacific Region" and that discussions were divided under three sessions, namely: (i) Emerging Security Challenges, Capacity Building and International Cooperation, (ii) Roles of Defense Universities, Colleges and Institutions in Fostering Future Strategic Leaders, and (iii) Building and Enhancing Partnerships in Present-Day Security Environment. The Chairman's Report appears as **ANNEX 12**.

AGENDA ITEM 8: UPDATES ON THE DELIVERY AND PREPARATION FOR ARF MEETINGS AND ACTIVITIES IN THE INTER-SESSIONAL YEAR 2018-2019

a. ARF Workshop on Preventive Diplomacy and Early Warning: Linkages for Conflict Resolution, Dili, Timor-Leste, 24-26 April 2019

25. The Meeting noted the outcomes of the Workshop, co-chaired by Indonesia, Timor-Leste and the U.S., which explored the ways on how the ARF has and can continue to prevent conflict and the escalation of violence through the deployment of early warning and early response mechanisms. The Meeting further noted that the Workshop also discussed the role of women, youth, civil society, and non-governmental agencies in the preventive diplomacy and early warning system.

b. ARF Workshop on Preventive Diplomacy: New Ideas and New Approaches, Nanjing, China, 29-30 November 2018

26. The Meeting noted the outcomes of the Workshop, co-chaired by Brunei Darussalam, China and the U.S., which focused on achievements and challenges of PD in the ARF. The Workshop also discussed new ideas and approaches on how to conduct PD in non-traditional security areas and exchanged views on ways to promote PD in the ARF and the region.

c. ARF Workshop on Preventive Diplomacy: Skills and Tools Towards Effective Peacebuilding, Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar, 17-19 September 2018

27. The Meeting noted the outcomes of the Workshop, co-chaired by Myanmar, New Zealand and the United States. The Workshop provided its participants with a deeper understanding on the tools for effective peacebuilding and exchanged views on the principles of effective peace process as well as noted the progress of the ASEAN Institute for Peace and Reconciliation (ASEAN-IPR).

d. 2nd ARF Senior Training Course on Urban Search and Rescue (USAR), Singapore, 19-21 November 2018

28. The Meeting noted that the Training Course, co-chaired by Singapore and China, was meant to expose participants to carrying out exercises under different environmental conditions. The Workshop also allowed participants to share knowledge, gain skills and build network as well as develop deeper understanding on each other's USAR techniques.

e. ARF Workshop on Aviation Security and Information Sharing, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, 10-11 July 2019

29. The Meeting noted that the Workshop, co-chaired by Malaysia and the U.S., is intended to strengthen aviation border control measures to counter the movement of FTFs and prompt discussion on current vulnerabilities in civil aviation. The Meeting further noted that the invitation package will be circulated at the earliest opportunity.

f. ARF Workshop on Marine Debris Management for Sustainable Fisheries and Food Security in Southeast Asia, Nha Trang, Viet Nam, 13-15 May 2019

30. The Meeting noted that the Workshop, co-chaired by Thailand, Viet Nam, and the U.S., would highlight the impact of marine debris for sustainable fisheries and food security. The agenda will focus on current resources of marine plastic debris, potential solutions and ways to address the challenges.

g. 7th ARF Peacekeeping Experts' Meeting

31. The Meeting noted that Cambodia and China will co-chair the 7th ARF Peacekeeping Experts Meeting, scheduled to be held in Qingdao, China on 26-29 June 2019 and will focus on enhancing practical cooperation as well as improve the efficiency of the United Nations Peacekeeping Operations. The Meeting further noted that the invitation package will be circulated in due course.

h. ARF Workshop on Principles of Building Security in the Use of ICTs in the National Context, Singapore, 25-26 June 2019

32. The Meeting noted that the Workshop, co-chaired by Singapore and Canada, would take place in Singapore on 25-26 June 2019. The Meeting further noted that inputs and comments to the agenda of Workshop had been incorporated and that the invitation package would be circulated in due course.

i. ARF Workshop on Maritime Law Enforcement Promoting Comprehensive Approach to Address Maritime Crimes

33. The Meeting took note that Malaysia and the European Union (EU) as co-chairs are currently discussing the preparations for the convening of this Workshop.

j. Workshop and Table-Top Exercise on Enhancing Law Enforcement, Preventive Measures and Cooperation to Address Complex Issues in the Fisheries Sector, Bali, Indonesia, 26-28 June 2019

34. The Meeting noted that Indonesia and the U.S. will co-chair the Workshop aimed to develop common understanding on the nature and extent of crimes in the fisheries sector. It will also serve as a capacity building programme and facilitate good working relationship between the officials from various law enforcement agencies, to ensure that all anomalies in the fisheries sector are addressed and promote regional cooperation related to IUU Fishing in a comprehensive manner. The invitation package will be circulated to all ARF Participants in due course.

k. 2nd ARF Workshop on Enhancing Regional Maritime Law Enforcement Cooperation

35. The Meeting took note that Viet Nam, Australia and the EU co-chaired the Workshop in Da Nang on 12-13 March 2019. The Meeting noted the findings and recommendations of the Workshop including the proposal to organise a third iteration in the inter-sessional year 2019-2020, to explore to establishing an online working group to develop non-binding and voluntary ARF guidelines on managing incidents between law enforcement agencies with the aim of completing the document by 2020, and to build a roadmap to enhance regional maritime law enforcement within the ARF beyond 2020.

l. ARF Workshop on Implementing UNCLOS and Other International Instruments to Address Emerging Maritime Issues

36. The Meeting took note of several recommendations stemming from the Workshop, co-chaired by Viet Nam and Australia and held in Nha Trang in February 2019, including: (i) the need to create political will to overcome barriers to cooperation; (ii) promoting more comprehensive national implementation of UNCLOS and relevant

international instruments; (iii) taking action on plastic pollution; (iv) increasing information sharing within existing forums and processes in the region; (v) engaging all stakeholders; and (vi) to continue discussion on this topic in the next inter-sessional year.

AGENDA ITEM 9: CONSIDERATION OF CBMS AND PD INITIATIVES

a. Draft ARF Statement on Aviation Partnership: Soaring Ahead Together

37. The Meeting noted the updates provided by the United States and Brunei Darussalam as co-sponsors, which aims to promote aviation safety and security as well as strengthen information sharing to guard against the cross-border movement of terrorists. The Meeting further noted that the draft Statement is aimed to be submitted to the 26th ARF.

b. Draft Joint Statement on Promoting Women, Peace and Security

38. The Meeting noted that some ARF Participants would provide further comments and inputs to the draft, which aims to advance the Women, Peace and Security agenda including through training and sharing of information among ARF Participants. The updated draft Statement, co-sponsored by Canada, Indonesia, the EU, New Zealand and Thailand, will be circulated to all ARF Participants for further inputs prior to submission to the ARF SOM.

c. Draft ARF Statement on Preventing and Countering Violent Extremism Conducive to Terrorism

39. The Meeting noted Indonesia's briefing on the draft Statement which aims to promote cooperation and information sharing on preventive actions, including disrupting and preventing the financing of terrorisms, as well as implementing risk assessment on returning and relocating FTFs and their family member in accordance with existing international law. The Meeting also took note of Australia's, New Zealand's and the EU's interest to co-sponsor the Statement.

d. Concept Paper of the Guidelines for Preventing and Managing Incidents Between Maritime Law Enforcement Units

40. The Meeting noted that Viet Nam, Australia and the EU are co-sponsoring a proposal to establish an online working group comprising of representatives from the ARF Participating Countries to develop non-binding and voluntary Guidelines for Preventing and Managing Incidents between Maritime Law Enforcement (MLE) Units. Taking into consideration that there is not yet a framework to guide, manage and

respond to incidents among MLE agencies, the objective is to facilitate cooperation among these agencies; to reinforce the international maritime framework, in particular UNCLOS; and to complement existing framework such as the Code of Unplanned Encounters at Sea (CUES). Once established, the Co-Chairs will call for nominations for the working group to develop and distribute successive drafts of the Guidelines among its members for their comment and input (via email). A final version of the Guidelines would then be presented for consideration at the 3rd ARF Workshop on Enhancing MLE Cooperation in Spain in the first quarter of 2020. One ARF Participant expressed reservations towards the proposal, citing the need to consult line agencies and suggested to strengthen exchanges among MLE agencies as a start. The proposal had also been introduced on a number of occasions, including at: the 1st ARF Workshop on Enhancing Cooperation among Regional Maritime Law Enforcement Agencies on 18-19 January 2018 in Nha Trang Vietnam; the 10th ISM on Maritime Security on 27-28 March 2018 in Brisbane, Australia; and the ISG Meeting on 9 May 2018 in Auckland, New Zealand. In this regard, the Meeting noted that some ARF Participants may wish to further provide their respective inputs and comments to the proposal prior to discussion at the ARF SOM. The Concept Paper appears as **ANNEX 13**.

e. 3rd ARF Workshop on Enhancing Regional MLE Cooperation

41. The Meeting took note that Viet Nam, Australia and the EU are proposing to convene the third iteration of the ARF Workshop on Enhancing Regional Maritime Law Enforcement Cooperation back-to-back with the 12th ARF ISM on Maritime Security in Alicante, Spain in March 2020. The Meeting noted that the Workshop will seek to review draft Guidelines, which would be developed by the ARF Online Working Group. In this regard, the Meeting also took note that an ARF Participant expressed their reservations towards this proposal, particularly the Guidelines has yet to be drafted. The Concept Paper appears as **ANNEX 14**.

f. 2nd ARF Workshop on Implementing UNCLOS to Address Emerging Maritime Issues

42. The EU and Viet Nam proposed to hold the second iteration of the Workshop which would focus on recent developments and the implementation of UNCLOS provisions and associated frameworks, identify specific regulatory gaps in the region with a focus on maritime security and environmental cooperation, as well as share knowledge and best practices on the implementation of the law of the sea. The Concept Paper appears as **ANNEX 15**.

g. 2nd ARF Workshop on Maritime Domain Awareness

43. The Meeting took note of Viet Nam and Japan's proposal to hold the second iteration of the Workshop in Japan in February 2020. Stemming from the outcomes of the first Workshop in 2018, the 2nd Workshop aims to focus on concrete areas of interest identified in the first Workshop, namely piracy, armed robbery against ships,

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Seoul, Republic of Korea, 3 May 2019

IUU fishing, and maritime terrorism. The Workshop will aim to enhance participants' understanding of MDA capabilities to address these maritime challenges. The Concept Paper appears as **ANNEX 16.**

h. 3rd ARF Workshop on Ferry Safety

44. China briefed the Meeting on its proposal to hold the third iteration of the workshop in the second half of 2019 in China, which is meant to continue the exchange and cooperation among ARF Participants. The Meeting noted that China is seeking an ASEAN Co-Chair. The Concept Paper appears as **ANNEX 17.**

i. ARF Workshop on Dispute Resolution and Law of the Sea

45. Australia and Timor-Leste proposed to convene a workshop with the objectives of examining various avenues for dispute resolution under international law, and consider emerging issues in dispute resolution in the region, drawing from regional experiences, including a case study on the UNCLOS conciliation between Timor-Leste and Australia. The Meeting noted that Malaysia will be the ASEAN Co-Chair of the workshop. The Concept Paper appears as **ANNEX 18.**

j. Concept Paper of the International Ship and Port Facility Security Code Training Series and Manual

46. The U.S. briefed the Meeting on the proposal, which consist of a three-part training series to increase understanding and implementation of the requirements under the International Maritime Organization's Safety of Life at Sea Convention on International and Ship and Port Facility Code. The Workshop will build on the ARF's work to establish the Maritime Points of Contact, highlighting protocols on inter-agency communication and information sharing. Through the series, the U.S. would also propose for the ARF to develop a regional Best Practices Manual, envisioned to be adopted in 2020. The Meeting noted that the U.S. is seeking an ASEAN Co-Chair. The Concept Paper appears as **ANNEX 19.**

k. Concept Paper of the National Maritime Points of Contact Directory

47. The Meeting took note of the U.S.' proposal to hold a workshop to discuss the parameters of the directory, which is meant to create a concrete voluntary network of maritime points of contact and provide an added value at the operational level. One ARF Participant suggested to ensure coordination and synergy with already existing centre in the region including the Regional Cooperation Agreement on Combating Piracy and Armed Robbery against Ships in Asia Information Sharing Centre (ReCAAP ISC) and to perhaps consider for the lead countries of priority area 3 of the

ARF Work Plan on Maritime Security to take lead on updating the directory. The Meeting noted that the U.S. is seeking an ASEAN Co-Chair. The Concept Paper appears as **ANNEX 20.**

I. Points of Contact Directory on Security of and in the Use of ICTs

48. The Meeting took note that further to the conclusion of the 4th OESG and 2nd ISM on ICTs Security, the proposal, co-sponsored by Australia and Malaysia, has received consensus from all ARF Participants. The voluntary directory is meant to promote confidence building measures among ARF participants to reduce tensions and risk of conflict arising from misperceptions of ICTs security incidents. The Concept Paper appears as **ANNEX 21.**

m. Protection of ICT-Enabled Critical Infrastructures

49. The Meeting took note that the proposal], co-sponsored by Singapore and the EU, would serve as a practical avenue for consultation and information sharing among ARF Participants on measures to protect critical infrastructure from ICT-related threats. The Meeting noted that at the 2nd ISM on ICTs Security, one ARF Participant proposed utilising alternative term to CBMs in the proposal. In spirit of cooperation, the co-sponsors agreed to circulate the revised proposal with “CBM” reference withdrawn, which addressed all remaining concerns accordingly. On this note, the Meeting agreed to submit the revised Concept Paper to the ARF SOM for endorsement. The Concept Paper appears as **ANNEX 22.**

n. 2nd ARF Workshop on Aviation Security and Information Sharing

50. The Meeting noted the U.S.’ proposal to convene the second iteration of the Workshop and that the U.S. is currently seeking an ASEAN Co-Chair. The Concept Paper appears as **ANNEX 23.**

o. ARF Enhancement Training on USAR Capacity Building and Comprehensive USAR Drill

51. China briefed the Meeting on the proposal to convene an enhancement training to build USAR capabilities in the second half of 2019 and is seeking an ASEAN Member State to co-chair this activity. The Concept Paper appears as **ANNEX 24.**

p. 3rd ARF Workshop on Urban Emergency Rescue

52. China briefed the Meeting on its proposal to convene a Workshop which aimed to enhance exchanges of cooperation on USAR. The Meeting noted that China was seeking an ASEAN Co-Chair and the Concept paper appears as **ANNEX 25.**

q. ARF Workshop on Global Multi Hazard Early Warning Capacity Development in Asian Region

53. The Meeting took note of China's proposal to convene a workshop to enhance capabilities in managing meteorological disasters. The Meeting noted that China is seeking an ASEAN Co-Chair. The Concept Paper appears as **ANNEX 26.**

r. ARF High-Level Symposium on Nuclear Security Capability Building

54. China briefed the Meeting on its proposal to convene a high-level symposium with the purpose of providing a platform for ARF Participants to strengthen exchanges and cooperation in nuclear security areas, identify common challenges and needs for sustainable development. The Meeting further noted Cambodia's expression of interest to co-chair this symposium with China. The Concept Paper appears as **ANNEX 27.**

s. ARF Table-Top Exercise on Response Capabilities to Chemical, Biological, Radiological and Nuclear (CBRN) Incidents

55. The Philippines briefed the Meeting on its proposal to convene a Table-Top Exercise (TTX) with the goal of enhancing inter-operability and coordination among agencies as well as to identify priority actions to strengthen national capabilities in CBRN risk mitigation and response. The Meeting noted that the Philippines is seeking a non-ASEAN ARF Participant to co-chair this TTX. The Concept Paper appears as **ANNEX 28.**

t. ARF Workshop on Women, Peace and Security

56. The Meeting took note of Canada's proposal to convene a workshop to strengthen existing regional coordination mechanisms and mainstream WPS into its activities. The Meeting also noted that Canada has received several expressions of interest from ARF Participants to co-chair this activity. The Concept Paper appears as **ANNEX 29.**

u. Concept Paper and Agenda of the First Workshop of Awareness Raising and Information Sharing on Emergency Responses to Security Incidents in the Use of ICTs

57. The Meeting took note of Cambodia, Singapore and China's proposal which appears as **ANNEX 30.**

v. Concept Paper on Preventive Diplomacy in Election Processes

58. The Meeting noted that New Zealand, and the U.S. are proposing to convene a series of activities aimed at increasing the ARF Participants' understanding of

preventive diplomacy in election processes. It was further noted that New Zealand and the U.S. are currently in discussion with a potential ASEAN Co-Chair. The Meeting also took note that some ARF Participants may need further time to study the concept paper which appears as **ANNEX 31.**

w. Leveraging the ASEAN Regional Forum Experts and Eminent Persons Group to Conduct Region-Wide Tracking, Monitoring, and Reporting on Preventive Diplomacy and Maritime Efforts Undertaken in the Southeast Asian Region

59. The U.S. briefed the Meeting on its proposal to define a critical role for the ARF EEPs and utilise their expertise. The Meeting noted that some ARF Participants would need more time to further study the concept paper which appears as **ANNEX 32.**

x. ARF Workshop on Countering Terrorism and Violent Extremism Online

60. The Meeting noted New Zealand's proposal to convene a workshop on countering online violent extremism. The Meeting also noted that the Concept Paper for this proposal will be circulated in due course.

AGENDA ITEM 10: CO-CHAIRS OF ARF MEETINGS AND ACTIVITIES FOR THE NEXT INTER-SESSIONAL YEAR

a. ARF ISG on CBMs and PD

61. Viet Nam as the incoming ARF Chair for 2020 shared that the ISG is scheduled to be held in the first half of 2020 and that information regarding the non-ASEAN Co-Chair would be shared in due course. The Meeting also noted that during its chairmanship, Viet Nam intends to stocktake the ARF process to ensure that the ARF enhances its effectiveness and relevancy in the region.

b. 17th ARF ISM on Counter-Terrorism and Transnational Crime

62. The Meeting took note of New Zealand and the EU's interest in co-chairing the 17th ARF ISM on CTTC and encouraged ASEAN Member States to consider co-chairing this ISM.

c. ARF Disaster Relief Exercise (DiREx)

63. There were no expressions of interest to Co-Chair this activity.

d. 23rd ARF Heads of Defence Universities/Colleges/Institutions Meeting (HDUCIM)

64. The Meeting took note that the 23rd ARF HDUCIM, co-chaired by Singapore and Pakistan, is scheduled to be held in Singapore in November 2019 and that the invitation package will be circulated in due course.

e. 14th ARF Experts and Eminent Persons (EEPs) Meeting

65. The Meeting took note that Myanmar and China would co-chair the 14th ARF EEPs Meeting scheduled to take place in Nay Pyi Daw in the first quarter of 2020.

f. 8th ARF Peacekeeping Experts' Meeting

66. There were no expressions of interest to Co-Chair this activity.

AGENDA ITEM 11: EXCHANGE OF VIEWS ON REGIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL ISSUES

67. The Meeting welcomed the positive development in the Korean Peninsula following the convening of the three inter-Korean Summits, two DPRK – U.S. Summits, and the recently convened DPRK – Russia Summit in Vladivostok, Russia in April 2019. In moving forward, the ARF Participants expressed continued support towards the ongoing efforts on the establishment of permanent peace, as well as for the complete, verifiable, irreversible denuclearisation of the Korean Peninsula in line with relevant United Nations Security Council (UNSC) Resolutions. In this regard, ARF Participants noted the obligation of all states in the region to fully implement UNSC sanctions.

68. On the situation in the South China Sea, the Meeting welcomed the notable progress of formal negotiations between ASEAN Member States and China on the Code of Conduct in the South China Sea (COC), and expressed hope that the first reading of the text would be completed in 2019 and noted the proposals for the negotiation to be concluded in 2021. ARF Participants also reaffirmed the importance of maintaining and promoting peace, security, stability, safety and freedom of navigation in and overflight above the South China Sea and in upholding the norms and international law including the 1982 UNCLOS. On the way forward, the Meeting encouraged all relevant Parties to exercise self-restraint and to remain committed to the peaceful settlement of disputes in accordance with international law.

69. The Meeting expressed condolences on the horrific bombing in Sri Lanka and the shooting incident in Christchurch, New Zealand and underlined that terrorism remains one of the greatest security threats in the region. Noting the growing capacity and evolving nature of terrorists, the Meeting reaffirmed the necessity to address the roots of terrorism and violent extremism, including through addressing economic disparity and social marginalisation, as well as by strengthening policies and legal

frameworks to address terrorism through a whole-nation approach. The Meeting also noted the positive developments in practical cooperation in addressing CTTC-related threats under the ASEAN frameworks, as outlined in the Manila Declaration to Counter the Rise of Radicalisation and Violent Extremism.

70. The Meeting highlighted the growing significance of cyber security in creating trust and stability in the cyber space as well as the importance of the cyber domain in regional economic and technological development. Recalling the ASEAN Leaders' Statement on Cyber Security Cooperation adopted in 2018 and the 2012 ARF Statement by the Ministers of Foreign Affairs on Cooperation in Ensuring Cyber Security, the Meeting encouraged greater discussions on ICTs security issues among ARF Participants and to develop multilateral initiatives to address cyber threats. To generate multi-level practical cooperation, the Meeting also encouraged the inclusion of issues related to the UN Group of Governmental Experts on Developments in the Field of Information and Telecommunications in the Context of International Security (UNGGE) and the UN Open-Ended Working Group (OEWG) into the ARF frameworks.

71. Some ARF Participants touched upon other regional and international developments, including the situation in Rakhine State, Myanmar, Iran nuclear issue, the Indo-Pacific concepts, climate change and natural disasters as well as maritime security issues. Some ARF Participants were of the view that maritime exercises between ASEAN and external parties should remain inclusive so as to reflect the region's spirit of promoting confidence building measures.

AGENDA ITEM 12: OTHER MATTERS

a. ARF Annual Security Outlook

72. The Meeting noted that the voluntary contributions to the 2019 edition of the ARF Annual Security Outlook (ASO) are to be submitted to the ARF Chair by 14 June 2019. The Meeting further took note that the ARF ASO would be issued at the 26th ARF in August 2019.

b. Dates and Venue of the ARF SOM

73. The Meeting noted that the ARF SOM would be convened at the Marriott Marquis Hotel in Bangkok, Thailand on 31 May 2019 and that the draft agenda will be circulated to all ARF Participants at the earliest.

AGENDA ITEM 13: CLOSING REMARKS BY CO-CHAIRS

74. The Co-Chairs expressed gratitude to the ARF participants for their continued support and efforts in maintaining the ASEAN spirit throughout the discussion and commended the frank discussion which contributed to the success of the Meeting. In light of the upcoming ARF SOM, the Co-Chairs encouraged for proponents of activities and initiatives to coordinate with all ARF Participants to achieve consensus and finalise their respective proposals by 15 May 2019. The Co-Chairs also recalled the items which would need to be finalised prior to submission to the SOM for consideration, namely the three draft ARF Statements, the Co-Chairs' Summary Report of the five ARF ISMs, and the ARF Work Plan on CTTC. In addition to these documents, the Co-Chairs further noted that the List of ARF Track 1 Activities for the Inter-Sessional Year 2019-2020 will also be submitted to the 26th ARF for adoption and that a Chairman's Statement will be issued at the 26th ARF in August 2019.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

75. The Meeting expressed gratitude and appreciation to the Co-Chairs for the effective leadership and to the Government of the Republic of Korea for their hospitality and the excellent arrangements made for the Meeting.

ISSUES TO BE FOLLOWED UP

No.	Key Decision/Issues	Timeline	Follow-up By
1.	Identification of Co-Chairs for the next cycle of ARF ISM on CTTC	Before ARF SOM on 31 May 2019	ARF Chair and ARF Participants
2.	Seek the interest of ARF Participating Countries to Co-Chair the ARF DiREx and the 8 th ARF Peacekeeping Experts' Meeting	Before ARF SOM on 31 May 2019	ARF Chair and ARF Participants
3.	To develop the List of Track I Activities for the Inter-Sessional Year 2019-2020	Before ARF SOM on 31 May 2019	ARF Chair
4.	To circulate the pending concept papers of the proposed activities in the Inter-Sessional Year 2019-2020	By 15 May 2019	Proponents of the proposed activities and ARF Chair

5.	Identification of Co-Chairs for proposed 2019-2020 ARF activities	Before ARF SOM on 31 May 2019	ARF Participants and Proponents of the activities
6.	Circulate and update the three Draft Statements	Before ARF SOM on 31 May 2019	Proponents and co-sponsors of the Statements
7.	To finalise all Summary Reports of <i>ad-hoc</i> ARF activities in the current inter-sessional year and to share it with the ARF Unit for records purposes	Before 26 th ARF Ministerial Meeting	Co-Chairs of the respective activities

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