

Contribution of the Armed Forces in Response to Traditional and Non-Traditional Security Challenges (China)

Just like the armed forces of many other countries in the region, in face of a complex security environment, the Chinese armed forces are entrusted with diversified tasks and missions in response to traditional and non-traditional security challenges.

The diversified employment of China's armed forces adheres to the following fundamental policies and principles:

Safeguarding national sovereignty, independence, territorial integrity, so as to support the country's peaceful development.

--Aiming to win local wars under the conditions of informationization, expanding and intensifying combat readiness.

--Fostering the concept of comprehensive security and effectively conducting Military Operations other than War (MOOTW).

--Deepening security cooperation and fulfilling

international obligations.

--Acting in accordance with laws and strictly abiding by policies and disciplines.

In the context of globalization, traditional and non-traditional security challenges should be addressed with an even keener awareness of the international environment and more emphasis on international cooperation. Therefore, I'd like to focus on the participation by the Chinese armed forces in international security cooperation and share with you our practices and contribution in response to traditional and non-traditional security challenges.

China is committed to properly handling disputes over territorial sovereignty and maritime rights and interests. Like the armed forces of the other countries, the Chinese armed forces shoulder the responsibility of safeguarding national sovereignty, territorial integrity as well as maritime rights and interests. In subordination to and in the service of the country's overall political and diplomatic policies, we actively conduct

international exchanges and cooperation and strive to maintain regional security and stability.

China makes positive efforts to maintaining maritime security and stability in its neighborhood. And these efforts, to name a few, include such concrete actions as establishing the Navy-to-Navy Cooperation Talks with Indonesia and the joint patrol in the Beibu Gulf with Vietnam.

We actively strengthen friendly military to military relations with our Asia-Pacific partners. And such efforts have been rewarded by our unprecedentedly dynamic military interactions with Asia-Pacific partners that cover all dimensions, wide spectrums and multiple levels, including our bilateral defense consultation mechanisms with 17 Asia-Pacific countries, and more than 50 joint exercises/training events and frequent high-level visits, functional exchanges and personnel training with the armed forces in the Asia-Pacific region.

At the current stage, we are adding to the security contents of the comprehensive strategic

coordinative partnership with Russia and working towards a new model of military-to-military relationship with the United States. In particular, we are working with our US counterparts towards the establishment of *the Mechanism of Notification of Major Military Operations* and *the Standards of Behavior for Air and Sea Military Maritime Safety at High Seas*. We are also enhancing our friendly military security cooperation with India and some other major countries. Through friendly military exchanges and cooperation, we continue to strengthen mutual trust with all countries and are committed to joining hands with them in responding to traditional and non-traditional security challenges.

We participate extensively in regional multilateral cooperation in defense and security areas. Under the framework of ARF, China initiated the current ASPC, which has facilitated the participation of defense establishments and armed forces in the forum. This year, the PLA National Defense University will host a symposium on the safety of

sea lines of communication under the ARF framework. In the year of 2015, China and Malaysia will co-host the 4th ARF Disaster Relief Exercise.

Under the ADMM+ framework, China takes part in practical cooperation in all fields with the other member countries. As the co-chair of the HADR Expert Working Group in the previous three years, China made due contribution to the first real troop exercise under the ADMM+ framework in Brunei in 2013. Under the 10+1 arrangement, the defense ministers of China and ASEAN countries have met for 4 consecutive years, and we are now inviting ASEAN defense ministers to go to China in the year of 2015 for a special session. Besides, we are also exploring the possibility of establishing a direct China-ASEAN defense telephone link.

Under the framework of Shanghai Cooperation Organization, we strengthen practical cooperation with all the other member states, to fight against terrorism, extremism and separatism. Not long ago, we successfully held the annual meeting of the

Western Pacific Naval Symposium and endorsed with all participants a revised edition of *the Code of Unplanned Encounters on the Sea (CUES)*, which is conducive to preventing maritime contingencies in the region.

We try our best to provide public security products to the region. Immediately after such disasters as the earthquake and the subsequent tsunami in Japan and Super Typhoon Haiyan in the Philippines, the Chinese armed forces dispatched professional rescue teams and the naval hospital ship to participate in the disaster relief efforts. Since early 1990s, China has dispatched more than 25,000 military personnel to 24 UN Peacekeeping Operations, making China the biggest force contributor among the five permanent members of the UN Security Council. Since the end of 2008, we have dispatched 45 ships in 17 task forces to the Gulf of Aden as well as the waters off Somalia to carry out anti-piracy operations and provided escort for over 5,600 ships, half of which were foreign ships.

Common security challenges call for common responsibility. The Chinese armed forces are willing to continue to strengthen exchanges and practical cooperation with our counterparts, in a bid to upgrade the capability to respond to common security challenges and safeguard the security and stability of the Asia-Pacific region.