

Contribution of the Armed Forces in Response to Tradition and Non-tradition Security Challenges (ROK)

Introduction

Thank you Mr. Chairman!

Today, I would like to discuss the international and nation-wide contribution for the response against regional traditional and non-traditional security threats.

Security Environment of Northeast Asia

Despite the post-cold war atmosphere around the world, significant number of cold-war like issues persist in Northeast Asia. Conflicts induced from territorial disputes on top of economic competition continues.

I believe this reality is induced by the special characteristic of the Northeast Asia. This region has historically demonstrated diverse perspectives on security threats with deep-rooted historical and cultural conflicts that have rendered it difficult for the countries in the region to develop shared concept and framework for the common security.

Moreover, as the international community has been evolving, the response against non-traditional threats has emerged as an important factor in establishing security strategy of each country. Those threats include Piracy, climate change, large-scale national disasters, drug trafficking, terrorism prevention, and environment protection.

As we discuss response measures against the increasing trend of these traditional and non-traditional security threats in the Northeast Asia, we need to work together on international and national level resolutions.

Response Against Traditional – Non-traditional Security Threats

Key responsive measure at the international level is the resolution through a multilateral security consultation mechanism. The purpose of the multilateral consultation mechanism is to resolve tensions among member states to prevent conflicts from being exacerbated into a military conflict and to prevent expansion of such conflict.

With this objective, multilateral security consultation mechanism should reinforce multilateral security cooperation for enhancement of regional security through political dialogue and military trust building. It should also engage in

preventative diplomacy preventing conflicting and unstable factors among nations in response to certain security threats, rather than turning to military response.

I believe the key responsive measure at the national level is the trust building between defense authorities. The military should go beyond its restrictive prior role of armed forces.

Most of the non-traditional security threats, in particular, are difficult for an individual country to resolve independently, unlike traditional threats. On top of advantages that the military currently possesses, we must contemplate on reinforcement of response teams with expertise and experiences, acquisition of necessary equipments and materiel and realistic training and education.

Military's Contribution

For various non-traditional security threats calling for military's contribution, each military should identify areas to focus on and build complementary and cooperative system among concerned authorities both domestically and internationally.

I believe such areas would include PKO Counter-Terrorism, Cyber Defense and Disaster Relief Operation. We can enhance defense cooperations on these issues in the regional multilateral security consultation mechanisms, and they are already issues of interest.

I believe we can develop our cooperation on these issues in a future oriented manner by sharing each other's information, technology, and experiences through various venues and combined exercises and educations. The issue at hand is how we will plan and continue such multilateral efforts.

I would like to note that militaries of various countries have promptly and effectively dispatched to Philippines for reconstruction efforts after the typhoon, and successfully conducted their mission.

In order to expand such military's contribution, as it had been mentioned numerous times in relevant meetings, I believe the establishment of SOP, meetings for information sharing, combined exercises and training are necessary.

Conclusion

Military is a professional, goal-oriented and focus-driven organization with substantial human and material resources. Now our militaries are committed to the

defense of the broader concept of national security and the appropriate response to regional security threats.

Militaries from the ARF member states should continue to expand its role in resolving the ever increasing non-traditional security threats. Our militaries should actively and positively respond to this generation's requirements for greater role through diverse and comprehensive efforts.

I firmly believe that when these measures are developed cumulatively, it will provide a foundation for the trust-based security for the peace and stability of the region enabling us to complete the new paradigm of regional security cooperation in a future oriented manner.

Thank you for listening.

