

UPDATED CONCEPT PAPER (EU/INDONESIA)

ARF Workshop on “Confidence-Building Measures and Preventive Diplomacy in Asia and Europe”

1. Introduction

In Asia as in Europe confidence-building measures (CBMs) and preventive diplomacy (PD) have made a substantial contribution to the creation of a climate of transparency, dialogue and co-operation, which serves as a basis for conflict prevention, arms control and disarmament measures. Such experiences in both regions should be examined with a view to elaborating recommendations for the future work of the ARF and which might also be useful for the OSCE.

The OSCE, through its comprehensive Security Concept, has contributed greatly to stability in Europe. The main elements of the OSCE's body of mutually reinforcing agreements are the Vienna Document of 1999 on CSBMs, the CFE-Treaty and the Code of Conduct on Politico-Military Aspects of Security, which form a regional network of co-operative security. All these agreements are based on the principles of CBMs and PD and contain corresponding elements.

In Asia, the ARF provides for a framework of regional co-operation on CBMs and Preventive Diplomacy. In addition the European Union (EU) and Indonesia, as members of the ARF, are committed to supporting the inter-regional security dialogue of the ARF with other regional organisations such as the OSCE.

2. Objectives of the Workshop

- To examine and share regional experiences in Asia and Europe on CBMs and Preventive Diplomacy with a view to developing recommendations for the future work of the ARF in this field. A special focus will be placed on the examination of existing measures and the evaluation of their benefits.
- To identify ways and means of enhancing co-operation between regional organisations such as the ARF and the OSCE on CBMs and Preventive Diplomacy.

To this end, the workshop will take up the results of previous ARF activities on the subject, such as the ARF Workshop on Preventive Diplomacy in Tokyo in 2004, and of the CSCAP workshop on PD planned for the fall of 2007 as well as initial results of the PD study to be carried out via the ARF Fund.

Conclusions will eventually be offered to the ARF Ministerial Meeting in 2008.

3. Format of the Workshop

It will be at Senior Experts and Official level with participants from Ministries of Foreign Affairs and Ministries of Defence (maximum 3 participants per country). Experts from other organisations such as the OSCE will be invited.

4. Date and venue; Administrative arrangements

The workshop will be held in Berlin (Germany) in February or March 2008.

Participants are expected to cover their travel and accommodation expenses and make their hotel reservations directly. The host will forward a list with hotels offering special rates.

5. Tentative Framework-Agenda (two-day-workshop)

- Introduction
- CBMs and Preventive Diplomacy in Europe
 - The example of the OSCE: Overview and development of the existing acquis of OSCE arms control agreements
 - Mechanisms for the implementation and evaluation of OSCE agreements,
 - Experiences of an OSCE participating State with implementation and evaluation measures of the Vienna Document 1999 (on CSBMs)
- CBMs and Preventive Diplomacy in Asia
 - The example of the ARF: Overview of existing activities and structures on CBMs and PD (with input of ARF participating countries)
 - The future of the ARF: Ways to strengthen ARF-structures
- Strengthening dialogue and co-operation between the ARF and the OSCE
 - Existing co-operation of ARF with other regional and security organisations
 - Co-operation of the OSCE with other regional organisations
 - Discussion on enhancing regional co-operation between ARF and OSCE

6. Preparation

The ARF-SOM will be asked to recommend the initiative for approval by the ARF Ministerial. Co-Chairs will prepare the workshop on the basis of input by ARF-members.