

**CO-CHAIRS' REPORT**  
**of the ASEAN Regional Forum Intersessional Meeting**  
**on Non-Proliferation and Disarmament**  
**2019-2020**  
**by Indonesia, Japan, the Republic of Korea**

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the Co-Chairs of the ASEAN Regional Forum (ARF) Inter-Sessional Meeting on Non-Proliferation and Disarmament (ISM on NPD) — Indonesia, Japan and the Republic of Korea — have not been able to hold the 12<sup>th</sup> ARF ISM on NPD in the Inter-Sessional Year (ISY) 2019-2020. To take forward the operation and activities of the ISM-NPD amidst the pandemic, the Co-Chairs have implemented provisional measures online, as outlined by the ARF Chair.

The Co-Chairs are pleased to report as follows on: the proposed co-chairmanship arrangements for the ISM on NPD; the progress made in ISM on NPD activities in the ISY 2019-2020; and the proposed ISM on NPD activities for the ISY 2020-2021.

**I. ARF ISM on NPD Co-Chairmanship**

Considering the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on the management and activities of the ISM on NPD, and in order to ensure continuity of the activities of the ISM on NPD and the ARF Work Plan on Non-Proliferation and Disarmament 2018-2020, Indonesia, Japan and the Republic of Korea proposed extending the tenure as Co-Chairs of the ISM on NPD until August 2021 to the ARF participants via email on 3 June 2020.

As there is no objection from the ARF participants, the Co-Chairs will officially submit this proposal to the ARF ISG and the ARF SOM for endorsement, before formal adoption at the 27<sup>th</sup> ARF Ministerial Meeting.

The Co-Chairs will continue to implement the ARF Work Plan on Non-Proliferation and Disarmament 2018-2020 until the extended tenure ends in August 2021.

**II. Progress of ISM on NPD Track-1 Activities: ISY 2019-2020**

**1. The following approved ARF ISM on NPD Track 1 activity was carried out in the ISY 2019-2020:**

*(i) The ARF High-Level Symposium on the Nuclear Security Capacity Building in the Asia-Pacific Region (20-22 November 2019 in Beijing, China)*

- co-chaired by the Kingdom of Cambodia and the People's Republic of China

The Co-Chairs' summary report on this activity is attached as **Annex 1**.

**2. The following approved activities will be moved to the ISY 2020-2021 due to COVID-19:**

*(i) The 12<sup>th</sup> ARF Inter-Sessional Meeting on Non-Proliferation and Disarmament*

- to be co-chaired by Indonesia, Japan and the Republic of Korea

*(ii) The ARF Tabletop Exercise on Response Capabilities to CBRN Incidents*

- to be co-chaired by the Philippines, the Republic of Korea and the United States  
The Co-chairs will update ARF participants on the arrangements for these activities in due course.

### **III. Proposals for the 27<sup>th</sup> ARF Ministerial Meeting**

Australia has put forward a proposal about activities for the ISY 2020-2021 to be considered at the 27<sup>th</sup> ARF Ministerial Meeting, and the concept paper of its proposed initiative is attached. ARF participants are invited to provide comments on, and inputs to, the concept paper directly to the proponent of this proposal.

*1. Concept paper on “Nuclear Risk Reduction Workshop” proposed by Australia*

- The proponent invites comments and inputs from ARF participants about the concept paper attached as **Annex 2**.

*2. Concept paper on “ARF Workshop on Nuclear Non-Proliferation Safety and Security Standards and Peaceful Uses of Nuclear Technology” proposed by Viet Nam and the United States*

- The proponent invites comments and inputs from ARF participants about the concept paper attached as **Annex 3**.