

**ASEAN REGIONAL FORUM  
STATEMENT BY THE MINISTERS OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS  
ON COOPERATION IN ENSURING CYBER SECURITY**

*Noting* the considerable progress in developing and applying advanced information and communication technologies (ICTs),

*Expressing concern* regarding the vulnerability of ICTs to threats to their availability, reliability and integrity from a variety of malicious sources,

*Recognizing* the need for all ARF participants to take systematic steps to protect their national information infrastructures,

*Taking into account* the UN General Assembly resolutions on the developments in the field of information and telecommunications in the context of international security, aimed at combating the use of ICTs for criminal or terrorist purposes and purposes inconsistent with the objectives of maintaining international stability and security,

*Recognizing* that confidence and security in the use of ICTs are among the main pillars of the information society, and that a robust global culture of cyber security needs to be encouraged, promoted, developed and vigorously implemented,

*Bearing in mind* that ensuring security in the use of ICTs should be consistent with international law and its basic principles,

*Acknowledging* the increasing interconnectivity in the use of ICTs by countries in the region,

*Underlining* the need to bolster coordination and cooperation among ARF participants in strengthening security in the use of ICTs,

*Highlighting* the need for further dialogue on the development of confidence-building and other transparency measures to reduce the risk of misperception, escalation and conflict,

*Stressing* the need for enhanced efforts to close the digital divide by capacity building for developing countries and exchanging best practices and training in the sphere of security in the use of ICTs,

*Consistent with* the ARF Statement on Cooperation in Fighting Cyber Attacks and Terrorist Misuse of Cyberspace of July 28, 2006,

*Noting* the United Nations Consensus Report of the Group of Governmental Experts on Developments in the Field of Information and Telecommunications in the Context of International Security (A/65/201),

ARF participants reiterate the need to further intensify regional cooperation on security in the use of ICTs, including through the following measures:

- promote further consideration of strategies to address threats emerging in this field consistent with international law and its basic principles;

- promote dialogue on confidence-building, stability, and risk reduction measures to address the implications of ARF participants' use of ICTs, including exchange of views on the potential use of ICTs in conflict;

- encourage and enhance cooperation in bringing about culture of cyber security;

- develop an ARF work plan on security in the use of ICTs, focused on practical cooperation on confidence building measures, which could set out corresponding goals and a timeframe for their implementation;

- review a possibility to elaborate common terms and definitions relevant to the sphere of the use of ICTs.