

Concept Note for the “Collection of Documents Commemorating the 30th Anniversary of the ASEAN Regional Forum”

I. Background

As the important intergovernmental security dialogue mechanism in the Asia-Pacific region, through security dialogue and practical cooperation over the past three decades, the ASEAN Regional Forum (ARF) has enhanced mutual trust in politics and security among its member states, promoted security cooperation in non-traditional security fields in the region, and become a vital mechanism for maintaining security and stability in the Asia-Pacific. At present, traditional and non-traditional security challenges are intertwined. Maintaining the effectiveness and authority of the Asia-Pacific cooperation framework, including the ARF, has been the inevitable requirement for regional cooperation and the common responsibility of regional countries. On the occasion of the 30th anniversary of the ARF, it is of great significance to review the past achievements, analyze the current challenges, look forward to the direction of future development, and forge more consensus among countries in the region, for the sake of both healthy and sustainable development of the ARF mechanism, and security and stability of the region.

For this purpose, China, Cambodia, Indonesia, Lao PDR, Myanmar and Singapore are jointly proposing a project of making the “Collection of Documents Commemorating the 30th Anniversary of the ASEAN Regional Forum”, to systematically sort out milestone official documents released by ARF in the past three decades, and to lead ARF in the right direction.

II. Design

Based on the experience of compiling and publishing the Commemorative Publication for the 20th ASEAN Regional Forum, this Collection of Documents includes the following: Forward, Milestone Documents, Areas of Cooperation, and Statements, covering key issues like confidence-building measures and preventive diplomacy, disaster relief, counter-terrorism and combating transnational crime, maritime

security, non-proliferation and disarmament, and ICT security. Documents will be selected from the ARF website.

III. Timeline

2023.05 Sorting out official documents

2023.06 Reviewing and finalizing the draft

2023.07 Submitting the draft to the ARF Foreign Ministers' Meeting

After the adoption of the draft, the Collection of Documents will proceed and be expected to finish in 2023.

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