





26 & 27 June 2024 | JEN Singapore Tanglin

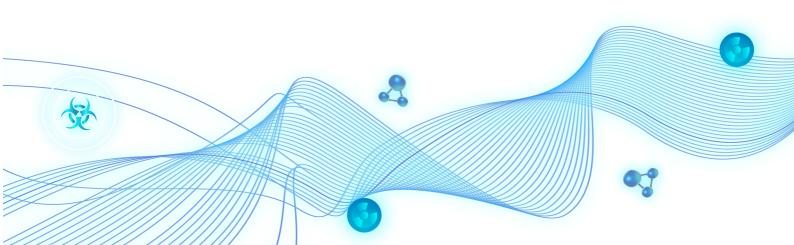
Detection, Response, and Deterrence of Chemical, Biological, and Radiological (CBR) Incidents



WELCOME

Welcome to the ASEAN Regional Forum (ARF) Workshop on the Detection, Response, and Deterrence CBR Incidents.

Since 1994, the ARF has sought to foster constructive dialogue and consultation on political and security issues of common interest and concern amongst its member states, and promote confidence-building and preventive diplomacy within the region. This workshop is co-hosted by the European Union (EU) and Singapore, with the EU Chemical, Biological, Radiological and Nuclear Centres of Excellence (CBRN CoE), and the Network of ASEAN CBR Defence Experts co-organising it. We hope that the workshop will provide a useful opportunity for policy-makers from the respective ARF members' foreign and defence ministries, CBR experts, and distinguished speakers from renowned regional and international organisations to come together to discuss how to tackle the issue of CBR threats.





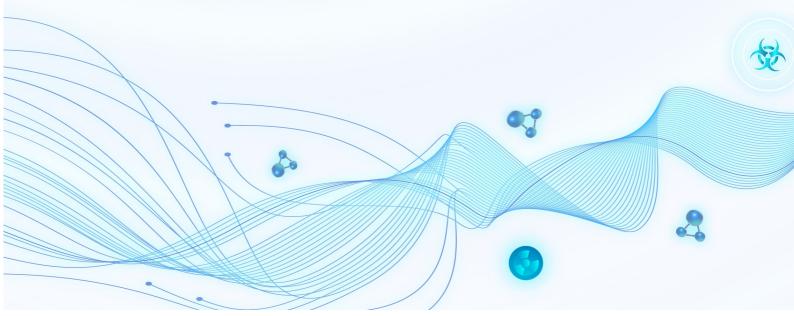
Workshop Theme

Detection, Response, and Deterrence of CBR Incidents

The aim of this Workshop is to bring together representatives from ARF member states, including regional and international partners, as well as, expert speakers from government and non-governmental organisations, to discuss and share their risk mitigation experiences with regard to CBR threats and emerging risks. Participants will also get the opportunity to learn about relevant international legal instruments and convention, and existing regional and international CBR cooperation programmes. Participants will also put into practice what they have learnt through a table-top exercise which will simulate an emergency response to a CBR incident.

About Workshop's Key Visual Design

Detection and responding to CBR incidents provides a protection shield, here depicted as an illuminated armour, where ARF member states and its partners hold the key to the deterrence of CBR incidents. With collective action, the shield provides greater security, with the illuminated shield radiating greater coverage.



PROGRAMME

Day 1 - 26 June 2024

TIME (GMT +8)

PROGRAMME

08:00 - 09:00

Registration

09:00 - 09:30

Opening Remarks, Singapore

Ms Karen Ong

Deputy Director-General, ASEAN Directorate

Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Singapore

Keynote Address, European Union

Mr Errol Levy

Chargé d'Affaires a.i.

Delegation of the European Union to Singapore

09:30 - 09:40

Photo Taking Session and Tea Break

10:00 - 10:30

Session 1: Introduction to CBR Threats and Emerging Risks

Mr Rory Alexander Hamilton

EU CBRN Centres of Excellence (CoE)

Regional Coordinator for Southeast As

Regional Coordinator for Southeast Asia United Nations Interregional Crime and Justice Research Institute

(UNICRI)

10:30 - 11:15

Session 2: International Legal Instruments and Conventions

1. Ms Rana Baydoun

Acting EU CBRN CoE Regional Coordinator for the Middle East UNICRI

2. Ms Amanda Cowl

1540 Regional Coordinator for Asia and the Pacific United Nations Office for Disarmament Affairs (UNODA)

3. Mr Dawsar Drissi

Programme Adviser

Office of the Director of the International Cooperation and Assistance Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons (OPCW)

4. Mr Esmel Gislere Oscar Meless

Political Affairs Officer

Biological Weapons Convention Implementation Support Unit (BWC-ISU)

UNODA



Day 1 – 26 June 2024

TIME (GMT +8)

PROGRAMME

11:15 - 12:30

Session 3: Regional and International Cooperation Programmes

1. Mr Daniel P. Caporaso

Chief, Regional Cooperative Engagement Office – Indo-Pacific Defense Threat Reduction Agency (DTRA)
US Embassy Singapore

2. Dr Chong Chee Kheong

Senior Advisor, ASEAN Mitigation of Biological Threats (MBT) Programme

3. Dr Phonesavanh Lathdavong

Director, Radiation and Nuclear Safety Office Department of Science, Ministry of Education and Sports, Lao PDR / Chairperson, ASEAN Network of Regulatory Bodies on Atomic Energy (ASEANTOM)

4. Dr Loke Weng Keong

Director, Chemical, Toxin, Radiological and Nuclear Programme DSO National Laboratories / Head of Secretariat, The Network of ASEAN CBR Defence Experts

5. Mr Balazs Maar

Programme Manager, Service for Foreign Policy Instruments, European Commission

12:30 - 14:00

Lunch

PROGRAMME

Day 1 – 26 June 2024

TIME (GMT +8)

PROGRAMME

14:00 - 15:30

Session 4: CBR Breakout Groups (World Café Format)

1. Ms Rana Baydoun

Acting EU CBRN CoE Regional Coordinator for the Middle East UNICRI

2. Mr Rory Alexander Hamilton

EU CBRN CoE Regional Coordinator for Southeast Asia UNICRI

3. Mr Francesco Marelli

Head of CBRN Risk Mitigation and Security Governance Unit UNICRI

4. Mr Adil Radoini

Acting Head of CBRN Programme UNICRI

15:30 - 16:00 Debrief by Facilitators

16:00 - 18:00 Participants Networking Session

16:00 – 18:30 Closed Session for the Network of ASEAN CBR Defence Experts

19:30 - 22:00 Welcome Dinner



Day 2 - 27 June 2024

TIME (GMT +8)

PROGRAMME

09:00 - 16:30

Table-Top Exercise:

Exploring Good Practices during CBR Security Incidents

This exercise will explore emergency response procedures during a hypothetical CBR security incident. The exercise will consider critical capabilities needed to detect CBR materials/agents and mount an effective response, which will likely include coordination between multiple agencies and information-sharing between countries, including regional and international partners.

Facilitators:

1. Ms Rana Baydoun

Acting EU CBRN CoE Regional Coordinator for the Middle East UNICRI

2. Mr Stanley Cheong

On-Site Technical Assistance Expert for Southeast Asia EU CBRN CoE

3. Mr Rory Alexander Hamilton

EU CBRN CoE Regional Coordinator for Southeast Asia UNICRI

4. Mr Francesco Marelli

Head of CBRN Risk Mitigation and Security Governance Unit UNICRI

5. Dr Pong Boon Kin

Principal Scientist
DSO National Laboratories

6. Mr Adil Radoini

Acting Head of CBRN Programme UNICRI

16:30 - 17:00

Workshop Summary

OPENING REMARKS

Ms Karen Ong
Deputy Director-General, ASEAN Directorate
Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Singapore

Ms Karen Ong has been the Deputy Director-General of the ASEAN Directorate of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MFA) since June 2022, covering issues across the three pillars of the ASEAN Community.



She previously served as the Minister Counsellor and Deputy Chief of Mission of the Singapore Embassy in Paris from August 2016 to December 2021 and was concurrently accredited as the Alternate Permanent Delegate of Singapore to UNESCO. She has handled various portfolios during her time in MFA, including nuclear non-proliferation issues and the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), Sub-Saharan Africa, Western Europe, and Southeast Asia.

KEYNOTE ADDRESS

Mr Errol Levy Chargé d'Affaires a.i. Delegation of the European Union to Singapore

Mr Errol Levy began his term as Deputy Head of Mission and Head of the Political, Press & Information Section at the European Union Delegation to Singapore on 16th August 2023.

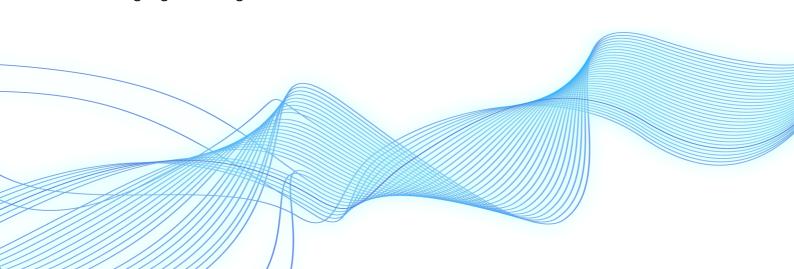
Prior to his assignment in Singapore, Mr Levy was based in Brussels as Desk Officer for Japan responsible for political issues and general coordination at the European External



Action Service (EEAS). His previous roles at the EEAS include: Political Counsellor, EU Delegation to Japan, based in Tokyo (2018-2019); and International Relations Officer within the US & Canada Division, responsible for energy, climate, environment and research & innovation issues (2015-2018). Before joining the EU diplomatic corps, he was Research & Innovation Counsellor and Deputy Head of the Science, Technology & Innovation Section at the EU Delegation to the United States of America, based in Washington D.C. (2012-2015). He served as Policy Officer in the Directorate-General for Research and Innovation of the European Commission, responsible for science and technology relations with the USA and Canada (2009-2012). He was Speechwriter to Mr Janez Potočnik, Commissioner for Science and Research (2007-2008). During 2001-2007, he held responsibilities as Policy Officer for European space policy and international Earth observation activities.

Mr Levy has over 30 years of experience in both the public and private sectors. This includes roles in spacecraft and instrument systems engineering for British Aerospace plc (now BAE Systems) and public affairs roles for what is now Airbus Defence and Space Ltd. He holds a Bachelor of Science degree in Physics (University of Manchester, UK) and a Master of Science degree in Remote Sensing (University of London, UK). In 2009, he completed a Master of Public Policy degree, specialising in international relations, at the School of Public and International Affairs of Princeton University (USA).

His main languages are English and French.



SPEAKER

Mr Rory Alexander Hamilton EU CBRN Centres of Excellence (CoE) Regional Coordinator for Southeast Asia UNICRI

Rory Alexander Hamilton has worked with the UNICRI since 2012, assuming the post of Regional Coordinator for Southeast Asia in April 2020.

Within the framework of the European Union CBRN Risk Mitigation Centres of Excellence Initiative, his work supports Partner Countries in the ASEAN region to more effectively prevent, detect and respond to CBRN

emergencies, whether natural, accidental or deliberate in origin.



Mr Hamilton holds a Doctor of Philosophy from the London School of Economics and Political Science (LSE) specialising in risk governance and biosecurity. He has published extensively on these subjects, and is a regular contributor to international efforts dedicated to combating biological weapons.

MODERATOR

Mr Francesco Marelli Head of CBRN Risk Mitigation and Security Governance Unit **UNICRI**

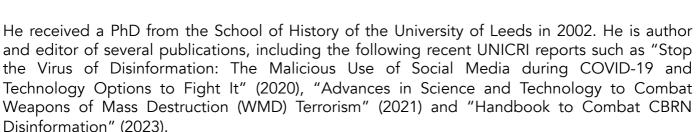
Francesco Marelli has worked for the UNICRI since 2003. As the Head of Unit, he coordinates a team of 30 experts that assist UN member states to anticipate, assess and mitigate CBRN threats. Since its creation in 2006, the team has been an early adopter of a CBRN Security Governance approach to ensure that all disciplines and organisations concerned with CBRN risk mitigation act as an integrated network with a shared goal of improving overall CBRN safety and security.

He is also responsible for the Knowledge Center Security Improvements through Research, Technology, and Innovation

(SIRIO) in Geneva that assesses emerging risks and identifies, tests, and promotes innovative solutions to reduce the risk of crimes, including in the technological areas such as big data, biotechnology, and blockchain. Since 2020, he has been responsible for a new project that monitors the malicious use of social media and promotes techniques to detect, analyse and debunk disinformation.

He is the Editor-in-Chief of the 1540 Compass, which is an e-journal published by UNICRI that is dedicated to advancing the objectives, awareness, and implementation of UN Security Council resolution 1540 (2004) (UNSCR 1540), and its successor resolutions.

Disinformation" (2023).





MODERATOR

Mr Adil Radoini
Acting Head of CBRN Programme
UNICRI

Mr Adil Radoini has been working with UNICRI since 2009 and is currently holding the position of Acting Head of the CBRN Programme where he coordinates the implementation of the EU CBRN Centres of Excellence Initiative.

He previously worked as the Regional Coordinator for the Middle East within the CBRN risk mitigation and Security Governance Programme.

Before joining the UN, he worked as a journalist for the Italian press and television. In 2009, together

with other international experts, he published "Un Hussein alla Casa Bianca", a perspective of the Arab world on the 2008 US Presidential elections.

He graduated from the University of Bologna with a Master's degree in International Relations that included a year at the Institut d'Etudes Politiques, Sciences Po in Paris.



PANELLIST / FACILITATOR

Ms Rana Baydoun

EU CBRN Centres of Excellence (CoE) Acting Regional Coordinator for the Middle East UNICRI

Ms Rana Baydoun works for UNICRI as Acting CBRN CoE Regional Coordinator for the Middle East.

She coordinates regional cooperation and facilitates the management an implementation of projects. She supports the development of outreach and partnerships.



Before joining UNICRI, she worked as a researcher at the Lebanese Atomic Energy Commission, where she gained experience in nuclear security and radiological emergency management. She conducted several research projects involving nuclear techniques in environmental studies and cultural heritage valorization. She holds a PhD in Environmental Chemistry from Beirut Arab University and completed her postdoctoral research at the Laboratoire des Sciences du Climat et de l'Environnement, CNRS-Paris. She has published more than 20 articles in national and international peer-reviewed journals.

Ms Amanda Cowl
1540 Regional Coordinator for Asia and the Pacific
United Nations Office for Disarmament Affairs
(UNODA)

Ms Cowl, a Canadian/Peruvian citizen, has been working in the field of disarmament for more than 20 years in the regions of Latin America, the Caribbean, and Asia and the Pacific.

Ms Cowl was appointed as the Regional Coordinator for Asia and the Pacific on behalf of the United Nations Office for Disarmament Affairs (UNODA) in Bangkok, in early 2022. Her role is to support States to implement UN Security Council resolution 1540 (2004) on preventing the proliferation of nuclear, chemical and biological weapons to non-State actors, including to and by terrorists, as well as to support the work of the 1540 Committee and its Group of Experts. To date, Ms Cowl has delivered close to 20 activities supporting 1540 implementation across the Asia-Pacific region.

Previously, Ms Cowl served as Deputy-Director at UNODA's Regional Centre for Latin America and the Caribbean in Peru (UNLIREC) where she worked for 18 years on issues related to both conventional arms control and the non-proliferation of WMDs. During this time, Ms Cowl participated in the landmark "laying down of arms" process in Colombia as part of the Peace Accord in 2017.

Prior to joining ODA, Ms. Cowl worked for the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) in Vienna to prevent drug abuse and promote treatment and rehabilitation across the globe while also teaching a criminology course on behalf of the British Open University in both Germany and Austria. Previously, Ms Cowl worked as an interpreter for Yomiuri Shimbun, a leading Japanese newspaper, during the 1996 Peruvian hostage crisis.

Ms Cowl holds a Masters degree in the Social Sciences, and was recently awarded a diploma with honours in Global Terrorism and in Principles in Peace-keeping Operations.

Mr Dawsar Drissi
Programme Adviser
Office of the Director of the
International Cooperation and Assistance
Organisation for the Prohibition of
Chemical Weapons (OPCW)

Dawsar is currently a Programme Advisor in the Office of the Director of the International Cooperation and Assistance Division of the OPCW Technical Secretariat.

He has over 20 years of experience focused on development, management, and coordination of strategic international cooperation and capacity building programmes, primarily in the context of the Chemical Weapons Convention (CWC).



As such, he has developed and ran impactful projects which contributed to enhancing capacities of OPCW Member States in areas of detection, analysis and identification of chemicals listed in the Convention, chemical safety and security, and protection and response against chemical emergencies. Within this context, he has been collaborating with other international and regional organisations, as well as various national institutions in the Member States, including government agencies, chemical industries and associations, academia, laboratories, and research institutions. Since 2019 Dawsar has been focusing on the "OPCW Programme to Strengthen Cooperation with Africa", commonly known as the "OPCW Programme for Africa". He spearheaded the revamping of the Programme in consultation with African Member States.

The Africa Programme features the delivery of more than 50 capacity building projects and technical assistance activities annually and has been effectively addressing the needs of African Member States in areas of national implementation of the CWC, chemical safety and security as well as development though peaceful applications of chemistry. During his tenure at the OPCW, Dawsar has also served as Special Assistant to the Deputy Director-General. In this role, he assisted and advised the Deputy Director-General on policy and management matters, including the portfolio of international cooperation and assistance programmes offered by the Organisation to its Member States Prior to joining the OPCW, Dawsar has been serving at the Tunisian Foreign Service with posting to the Netherlands and Denmark. He was also Alternate Permanent Representative of Tunisia to the OPCW between 2007 and 2011.

Mr Esmel Gislere Oscar Meless

Political Affairs Officer Biological Weapons Convention Implementation Support Unit (BWC-ISU) United Nations Office for Disarmament Affairs

Oscar Meless has more than 16 years of experience working for international organizations.

Prior to joining the Biological Weapons Convention Implementation Support Unit (BWC ISU), he worked for the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) in Vienna as both Programme Management Officer and Focal Point for the African Regional Co-operative Agreement for Research, Development and Training Related to Nuclear Science and Technology (AFRA).



Mr Meless has worked for the OPCW as a Programme Officer supporting the implementation of Article X of the Chemical Weapons Convention, which relates to assisting States Parties in developing their national protection programmes and building capacity to prepare for and respond to chemical attacks and incidents. He has also served as Coordinator of the OPCW Africa Programme.

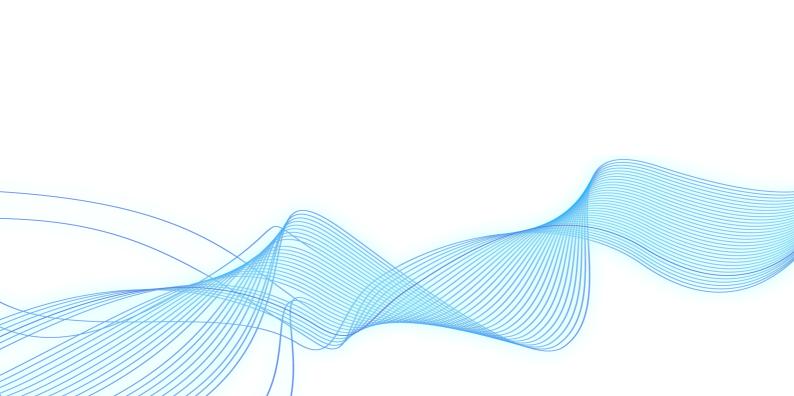
Mr Meless has served the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty Organisation (CTBTO) as an analyst, participated in several on-site inspection exercises, and contributed to the development and testing of the Seismic Aftershock Monitoring System (SAMS), a verification tool being developed by the CTBTO.

He holds a Master's degree in Earth Sciences, a Master's degree in Natural Hazards and Environment, and an MBA. Mr Oscar Meless is a national of Côte d'Ivoire and currently holds the position of Political Affairs Officer within the BWC Implementation Support Unit.

Dr Loke Weng Keong
Director, Chemical, Toxin, Radiological
and Nuclear Programme,
DSO National Laboratories /
Head of Secretariat, The Network of
ASEAN CBR Defence Experts

Dr Loke received his graduate training in both Chemistry and Pharmacology at the National University of Singapore. He has spent the last 30 years in defence research with DSO National Laboratories and is the co-editor for 1 book and co-author for 3 book chapters and 3 patents, 34 journal papers and 54 conference papers. For his technical contributions to chemical defence, he is recognised as a Distinguished Member of Technical Staff in DSO.

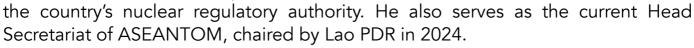
He is currently serving as the Director to a bunch of wonderful folks researching on technological solutions to counter Chemical, Toxins, Radiological and Nuclear threats. At the national level, Dr Loke is actively involved in several national committees that includes the Technical Working Committee for Select Agents in support of National Biosafety Committee, Operational Civil Emergency Joint Planning Staffing of the Singapore Civil Defence Force and the Toxicology Advisory Team advising the Ministry of Health.



Dr Phonesavanh Lathdavong

Director, Radiation and Nuclear Safety Office Department of Science, Ministry of Education and Sports, Lao PDR / Chairperson, ASEAN Network of Regulatory Bodies on Atomic Energy (ASEANTOM)

Dr Phonesavanh Lathdavong is the Director of the Radiation and Nuclear Safety Office (RNSO), Ministry of Education and Sports of Lao PDR,



In this capacity, one of Dr Lathdavong's key responsibilities involves representing the ASEANTOM community, where he shares best practices and lessons learned for radiological and nuclear emergencies, with an emphasis on nuclear security. This role showcases his commitment to collaboration and knowledge exchange, essential elements for enhancing radiological and nuclear emergency preparedness and response.

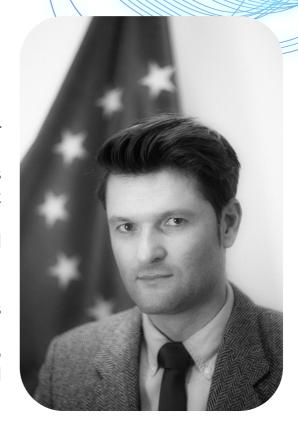
Additionally, he serves as Lao PDR's National Coordinator for emergency preparedness and response, and the National Coordinator for technical cooperation with the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA).

Dr Lathdavong has 8 years of professional experience in this area and holds a Master's degree in Renewable Energy and a PhD in Nuclear Physics.



Mr Balazs Maar Programme Manager, Service for Foreign Policy Instruments, European Commission

Balazs Maar is staff member of the Service for Foreign Policy Instruments of the European Commission. He has worked, since 2017, as Programme Manager of the EU CBRN Risk Mitigation Centres of Excellence Initiative. He was initially responsible for the North Africa and Sahel, and the African Atlantic Façade regions. Since 2021, he has overseen the Southeast Asia and the Gulf Cooperation Council Countries regions of the EU CBRN CoE from the European Union's regional office in Bangkok. He is also Programme Manager of the global and EU Control transregional P2P Export Programme for Dual-use Goods.



Mr Maar joined the European Union in 2015 and has since served in the Central African Republic, Cameroon, Belgium and Thailand. Previously, he worked at the United Nations Assistance Mission to the Khmer Rouge Trials (UNAKRT) in Cambodia.

Balazs Maar holds a Master's degree in International Security from Sciences Po Paris.

Dr Chong Chee KheongSenior Advisor, ASEAN Mitigation of Biological Threats (MBT) Programme

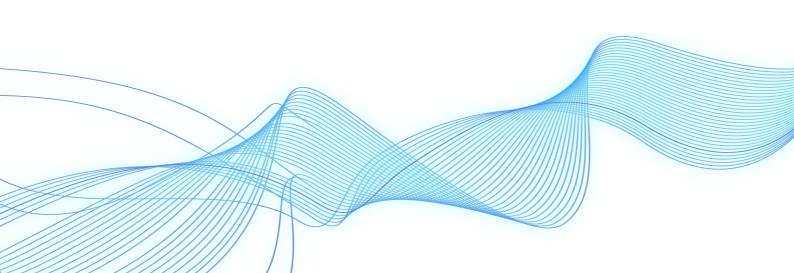
Dr Chong is a Contributing Scholar with the Johns Hopkins Center for Health Security. Dr Chong was formerly with the Ministry of Health (Malaysia) and held positions of Director of the National Public Health Laboratory, Director of the Disease Control Division, and Deputy Director General of Health (Public Health) prior to retiring in July 2022.



He is currently serving as the Senior Health Advisor for the MBT Programme, which lies under the purview of the ASEAN Health Cluster 2.

His experience in ASEAN began in 2009, when Malaysia was lead country for the ASEAN Risk Communication Centre (now known as Risk Assessment and Risk Communication), rotating Chair for the ASEAN Partnership Laboratory and ASEAN Experts Group for Communicable Diseases (AEGCD). Subsequently, Malaysia also became the lead country for United in Tackling Epidemic Dengue (co-lead with Singapore) and the ASEAN Emergency Operation Centre Network.

Dr Chong earned his MBBS and MPH degrees at the Malaya University.



Mr Daniel P. Caporaso
Chief, Regional Cooperative Engagement
Office – Indo-Pacific, Defense Threat
Reduction Agency (DTRA),
US Embassy Singapore

Mr Caporaso is the Chief for the DTRA Regional Cooperative Engagement Office (RCEO) - Indo-Pacific. As the RCEO Chief, Mr Caporaso is responsible for working with U.S. Embassy Country Teams and host government officials to facilitate execution of all DTRA programs and strategies in the region. He provides expertise, guidance, and support to all DTRA activities across the Indo-Pacific region, primarily focused on the ASEAN countries.



From 2017 to 2020, Mr Caporaso served as DTRA's Indo-Pacific Regional Lead for its Biological Threat Reduction Program (BTRP) where he built on the capacities of regions and partner countries to safely and rapidly detect and report dangerous infections, enhance bio risk management, consolidate, and secure high threat pathogens.

As the acting Deputy Branch Chief for BTRP's Africa and Southeast Asia Programs (2016) and as BTRP's international program manager for India and Vietnam (2015-2016), he managed teams and a multitude of efforts seeking to prevent terrorists or non-state actors from accessing biological material or expertise that could contribute to a biological weapons capability. He implemented training and exercises enhancing response to and identification of the cause of outbreaks and reporting the findings to international bodies such as the World Health Organization.

From 2009 to 2014, Mr Caporaso served as an international project manager for DTRA's Global Nuclear Security program, where his portfolio included: DTRA CTR Inventory Management projects to enhance security of nuclear weapons in storage and during transit in the Russian Federation, several Nuclear Security Centers of Excellence, Counter Nuclear Smuggling efforts in Central Asia, and global efforts to enhance Inventory Management of sensitive materials. He also served as a Pol-Mil Counselor with USNATO from 2010-2011 and is a 2009 Presidential Management Fellow.

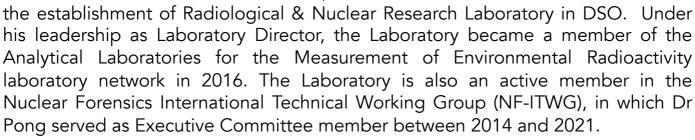
Mr Caporaso holds B.A. and M.A. in Political Science with a focus on International Relations.

FACILITATOR

Dr Pong Boon KinPrincipal Scientist
DSO National Laboratories

Dr Pong Boon Kin graduated from the National University of Singapore (NUS) in 1998 with an honours degree in chemistry and joined Singapore DSO National Laboratories (DSO) as a research scientist. In 2003, he went on to pursue his doctorate degree under the Singapore-MIT Alliance programme.

After receiving his training in radiological and nuclear sciences in Sweden, Dr Pong spearheaded



Dr Pong is currently a member of the IAEA Nuclear Security Guidance Committee (NSGC), which is responsible for reviewing and providing recommendation on new publications under the IAEA Nuclear Security Series.



FACILITATOR

Mr Stanley Cheong
On-Site Technical Assistance Expert for Southeast Asia
EU CBRN CoE

Mr Stanley Cheong is a strategic planner of more than 10 years of experience in providing guidance to government ministries, in incident management and design of response frameworks, for the mitigation of CBRN exposure against civilians, and an innovative leader in the coordination of medical response in complex humanitarian crises - notably for Iraq and Syria.



Career milestones include the building of CBRN response capacity for the Ukraine MOH since the inception of the Russian-Ukraine War, the OPCW-UN chemical weapons removal and fact-finding investigations of alleged use in Syria, and incident management of chemical attacks in Iraq - an unprecedented and first in coordination for a humanitarian crisis of such magnitude.

