



## CO-CHAIRS' SUMMARY REPORT

### 15<sup>TH</sup> ASEAN REGIONAL FORUM INTER-SESSIONAL MEETING ON NON-PROLIFERATION AND DISARMAMENT

Honolulu, United States of America, 29 April–1 May 2024

#### INTRODUCTION

1. The 15<sup>th</sup> ARF Inter-Sessional Meeting on Non-Proliferation and Disarmament (ISM on NPD) was held in Honolulu, Hawai'i, USA, in a hybrid format on 29 April–1 May 2024. The Meeting was Co-Chaired by Mr. Bolbongse Vangphaen, Acting Director-General, Department of ASEAN Affairs, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Thailand; Ms. Dayani Mendis, Director General, United Nations & Human Rights Division, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Sri Lanka; Ms. Ann K. Ganzer, Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary, Bureau of International Security and Nonproliferation, United States Department of State; and Ms. Alexandra Bell, Deputy Assistant Secretary, Bureau of Arms Control, Deterrence, and Stability, United States Department of State.

2. The Meeting was attended by all ARF Participants except delegates from the Democratic People's Republic of Korea (DPRK) and the Russian Federation (the latter due to visa non-issuance; Russia subsequently declined virtual participation but provided written interventions to be shared). Representatives of the ASEAN Secretariat were also in attendance. The List of Participants and the Agenda appear as **ANNEX 1** and **ANNEX 2**, respectively.

#### OPENING SESSION

3. In their opening remarks, the Co-Chairs welcomed the ARF Participants to the 15<sup>th</sup> ARF ISM on NPD. The Sri Lankan Co-Chair, Director General (DG) Dayani Mendis, highlighted global challenges and emerging technologies and stressed the importance of effective diplomacy in disarmament and non-proliferation. DG Mendis advocated for guidelines on lethal autonomous weapons and identified the ARF as an

important platform for dialogue and building trust. Meanwhile, the Thailand Co-Chair, Bolbongse Vangphaen, Acting Director-General, stressed that the ARF serves as a vital platform for exchanging perspectives on efforts towards a nuclear weapons-free world. Furthermore, Acting DG Vanghphaen highlighted the crucial need for all parties to collaborate in strengthening complementarity, transparency, and inclusiveness between disarmament processes, including the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons (NPT). For the United States opening remarks, Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary (PDAS) Ann Ganzer underscored the rapid, unprecedented development of technology in fields like biotechnology, robotics, artificial intelligence, quantum computing, space and avionics, nuclear and renewable energy – that can revolutionise our economies and our societies, help fuel investment, and promote sustainable and inclusive economic growth. This revolutionary growth and change is accompanied by the increasing need for prioritising non-proliferation and disarmament, and PDAS Ganzer emphasised that this ISM is a unique venue where that is possible in ways where it may not be elsewhere.

## **COUNCIL FOR SECURITY COOPERATION IN THE ASIA PACIFIC (CSCAP) SESSION**

4. The Meeting began with a session from CSCAP, led by David Santoro, President of the Pacific Forum, who started off with a summary of CSCAP's recent risk reduction work. Santoro highlighted first-time participation from Pacific Island countries in their study group and discussed the impact of nuclear weapons in the Pacific. The session also covered the increased interest in nuclear energy across the Southeast Asia region and the need for a safety, security, and safeguards governance mechanism for emerging civil nuclear energy technologies such as small modular reactors (SMRs), microreactors, and Floating Nuclear Power Plants (FNPPs). David Santoro also raised how the ASEAN Network of Regulatory Bodies on Atomic Energy (ASEANTOM) can work with the Southeast Asian Nuclear-Weapons-Free Zone Treaty (SEANWFZ) framework and member states. CSCAP is open to thoughts on what they should be doing, or not doing in the region and affirmed that key players, including China and Russia, need to be at the table in CSCAP, including as part of the discussions to reduce risk. The Chinese delegation explained their stated policies on nuclear risk reduction and said they are open to academic discussions. CSCAP has also developed proposals on missile notifications and would like the ARF to consider the practicality of how they would work.

**AGENDA ITEM 1: PANEL SESSION: PEACEFUL USES OF NUCLEAR ENERGY  
– CIVIL NUCLEAR SAFETY AND SECURITY AND REGIONAL  
PARTNERSHIP**

5. The Meeting's first agenda item was a Panel Session on civilian nuclear energy and peaceful uses. Ms. Saranjit Srisarkun, Minister Counsellor, Political and Security Division, Department of ASEAN Affairs, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Thailand, moderated the session, with excellent presentations from Ms. Diane Cameron, Head of Division of Nuclear Technology Development and Economics at the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) Nuclear Energy Agency who participated virtually, as well as Dr. Carlo Arcilla, Director, Department of Science and Technology at the Philippines Nuclear Research Institute; Mr. Zi Huang, Assistant Director, Counter-Proliferation, International Security and Nuclear, International Organisations Directorate, Ministry of Foreign Affairs from Singapore; and Mr. Chaiyod Soontrapa, Nuclear Engineer, Head of the Nuclear Licensing Group, Office of Atoms for Peace from Thailand. Panellists and delegates alike generated thoughtful and productive discussions on the increasing number of countries pursuing nuclear energy and various technology designs, and the reasons for selecting to pursue potential paths for including nuclear in the countries' energy mixes. The Philippines highlighted many other peaceful uses of nuclear energy and panellists agreed upon the importance of increasing education and awareness and the benefits of nuclear energy. Singapore indicated that it was studying the potential deployment of nuclear energy and building up its capabilities in preparation for deployment. Thailand conveyed the importance of nuclear safety, security, and safeguard agreements. Currently Thailand is developing a new civil liability law. Panellists acknowledged the good work of ASEANTOM and noted the importance of gaining public trust towards developing nuclear energy applications.

**AGENDA ITEM 2: BREAKOUT SESSION: EMERGING TECHNOLOGIES IN THE  
CONTEXT OF NONPROLIFERATION AND DISARMAMENT**

6. Agenda Item 2 was a breakout session focused on emerging technologies which raised opportunities and challenges for non-proliferation and disarmament, with the main facilitator Mr. Jesudevan Viveganandam, President of Trade Excellence, Singapore, tying together themes across a plenary discussion and with small groups led by three leading subject matter experts from Pacific Northwest National Laboratory, the National Academies of Sciences, Medicine, and Engineering, and the University of California Berkley, in the respective areas of artificial intelligence, biotechnology, and quantum technology. Many of the ISM participants were able to explore the new

topic areas, with which they were less familiar, and the breakout sessions provided for stimulating question and answer sessions. The plenary consensus was that the ISM should seek ways to continue this dialogue and identify new opportunities to cultivate learning on emerging technologies and the importance to non-proliferation and disarmament within the ARF construct. There were many questions, both within the smaller breakout groups and within the larger plenary session; there is a lot to consider in this area, including how the various technologies and enabling technologies impact various countries across regional and socioeconomic dynamics, and how risks from ubiquitous technologies and tools may be mitigated. Participants suggested more time be devoted to these topics in future meetings.

### **AGENDA ITEM 3: PANEL SESSION: PREPARING FOR THE FUTURE: GENDER AND YOUTH IN NON-PROLIFERATION AND DISARMAMENT**

7. The Agenda Item 3 Panel Session was considered a highlight by ARF member participants, with the panel discussion on gender and youth in non-proliferation and disarmament moderated by Mr. Maxwell Keegel, Director, Secretary's Bureau, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Sri Lanka. It was a great reminder that increasing diversity in our collective global conversations on non-proliferation and disarmament must be a priority. Panellist Her Excellency Mrs. Yentieng Puthirasmey, Secretary of State of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation of Cambodia, highlighted the importance of finding concrete mechanisms to empower women to join and participate in the discussions, and ensuring their voices are heard. Mr. Mike Ketchen, Consul-General, New Zealand, outlined approaches to assess gendered impacts on policy making and analysis and the need to increase representation of both women and of youth in these discussions. Two youth participants from local high schools in Hawaii joined, and emphasising the need to make educational opportunities on nuclear issues more accessible and inclusive. They suggested access to networking and exposure to international perspectives. The discussion highlighted that youth voices and perspectives can shape policy in a transformative way. ARF member states were encouraged to bring the next generation to the table.

### **AGENDA ITEM 4: PANEL SESSION: IMPORTANCE OF IRREVERSIBILITY, VERIFICATION AND TRANSPARENCY ON NON-PROLIFERATION AND DISARMAMENT**

8. The second day of the ISM on NPD started off with a panel on the Importance of Irreversibility, Verification and Transparency for Non-proliferation and Disarmament, where U.S. Department of State Deputy Assistant Secretary for Arms Control, Disarmament, and Strategic Stability, Alexandra Bell, moderated, and panellists from Sri Lanka, Australia, and Thailand provided presentations. Mr Mohammed Jauhar, Acting Secretary, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Sri Lanka, virtually provided a briefing on the Comprehensive Nuclear Test Ban Treaty (CTBT), noting that Sri Lanka signed the Treaty on 24 October 1996 and was also the 13th country to sign a facility agreement with the CTBTO, which led to the establishment of the auxiliary seismological station in Palkelele, Kandy in 2000, a part of the International Monitoring System (IMS) network. He also stated that fundamental to nuclear disarmament, the CTBT verification regime provides States the assurance that if any State conducts a nuclear test, it would be detected. Once the Treaty enters into force, its onsite inspection component will improve transparency and contribute to a more stable global environment. The CTBTO is working to build its on-site inspection capability through field tests including the Integrated Field Exercise (IFE), a field exercise which will test the readiness of the verification regime. In line with its long maintained principled position on nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation, Sri Lanka will host the IFE 2025, the 2nd country in Asia and the first country in South Asia to do so.

9. The second panellist, Ms. Vanessa Wood, Ambassador for Arms Control and Counter-Proliferation, Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade, Australia, outlined the three principles of transparency, verification and irreversibility as essential to nuclear disarmament. This had been enshrined by NPT States Parties in 2010. Significant work had been undertaken on transparency and verification, but how to achieve the irreversible disarmament of nuclear weapons was a newer body of work that was gaining attention. Ambassador Wood outlined the benefits of transparency and the expectation by non-nuclear weapons states that NWS should provide regular information on how they are implementing their disarmament commitments and the opportunity for dialogue. Transparency was critical to building confidence. On verification, significant work had been undertaken over several years both through the UN and in practical initiative like the International Partnership for Nuclear Disarmament Verification (IPNDV). There was a clear and compelling role for NNWS in doing the essential technical work with NWS on NDV.

10. Mr. Worawut Smuthkalin, Minister Counsellor, Peace, Security and Disarmament Division, Department of International Organizations, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Thailand also spoke on the panel and noted that on disarmament issues, the ARF community can build trust, while verification plays a great role in assuring compliance and all partners fulfilling obligations; without that, there is distrust and

suspicion. He also mentioned that the NPT is the cornerstone for all three components – including irreversibility and that the recent NPT meetings did not reach the outcomes hoped for. Mr. Smuthkaln stated that we need a standardised reporting template for States Parties to share their work done on Article VI obligations to strengthen the NPT review process, and addressing the disparities in verification capabilities will require considerable effort and inclusive discussions across a true multi-stakeholder effort. He also noted that the IMS is now ageing and that we will need to ‘reinvent’ it to adapt to new terrain including mountains, the ocean, and the desert.

11. In an intervention, Laos noted that eight (8) countries had now ratified, including Papua New Guinea, which has wider benefits including monitoring of other seismic events. Japan provided an intervention and noted verification is an important part of the treaty and that Russia’s announcement of the cancellation of ratification is regrettable, but there is still positive work; the Asia Pacific region is doing effective work with continued absence of nuclear testing, and the CTBTO along with the Pacific Island Countries are doing beneficial work. In an intervention, China asserted that nothing is purely technical and likened nuclear disarmament to parts of a car; the Nuclear Weapons States are the engines -they have the largest arsenals; the parts, including the accelerators, brakes, etc., need to be working in order for the whole car to operate – the analogy being that it’s important for all nuclear weapons treaties to be implemented and that the verification standards should be the same for all. China also said it actively participated in the Group of Government Experts and will continue to support within the context of the UN. China also advocated for reporting format of the P5. The United States provided an intervention noting its commitment to achieving a positive Preparatory Committee Meeting (PrepCom) this year [2024] and a positive outcome at the Review Conference (RevCon) in 2026, and appreciation of the Non-Aligned Movement’s (NAM) role as a bridge-builder within the NPT, acknowledging we need that more than ever at this time. The United States also stated that a key step for making progress on the disarmament pillar is negotiating a Fissile Material Cut-Off-Treaty (FMCT) – an essential step toward achieving the ultimate goal of a world without nuclear weapons, and that it hopes the NAM will make the FMCT a priority at the PrepCom this year. The United States also thanked Thailand for hosting the Proliferation Security Initiative workshop and tabletop exercise in 2023 and encouraged ARF Participants to join the Proliferation Security Initiative (PSI) to work together to prevent proliferation of weapons of mass destruction (WMD) and means of delivery.

## **AGENDA ITEM 5: SCENARIO-BASED DISCUSSION: HOW CAN NON-PROLIFERATION AND DISARMAMENT SUPPORT REGIONAL SECURITY AND STABILITY**

12. The Scenario-Based discussion was facilitated by subject matter experts Mr. David Santoro, President of Pacific Forum and Mr. Jesudevan Viveganandam, President, Centre for Trade Excellence, Singapore, who outlined a scenario where a partner country's Ministry of Foreign Affairs released a press statement alleging that missile technology items subject to UN Security Council Restrictions are being illicitly transported from a non-regional major power on an incoming ship transiting your port en route to Country X (an unspecified country with potential WMD intentions and sanctioned under UN Security Council Resolutions). The scenario stipulated that the cargo is potentially of WMD nature, and the ship has followed the proper procedures, with efforts underway to pinpoint the specific container involved. The discussion involved questions where the ARF member government is trying to prepare to intercept the vessel (at sea or in port). The facilitators inquired what ARF Participants' initial concerns in a scenario like this would be and what the national goals and priorities would look like. Many countries emphasised the need to know the strength and reliability of the intelligence information, the country of origin, and also the potential for the WMD nature of the commodities, including from a safety perspective, so that personnel can be appropriately protected if a decision to interdict is made. Delegates also discussed that cooperation is essential and to take legitimate action, the country must also follow its own 'rule of law'. The need for balance between expedient action and properly sourced information was emphasised.

## **AGENDA ITEM 6: PANEL DISCUSSION: USING ARF TO REDUCE STRATEGIC RISKS**

13. In the session on risk reduction, panellists were prompted to assess what scenarios would be most likely to lead to a strategic crisis or conflict in the region. [insert list of panellists] All three panellists expressed concerns over a conflict in the Taiwan Strait or on the Korean Peninsula. When asked what ARF could do to address these risks, one panellist suggested to focus on key, specific flashpoints of conflict to enable better coordination among ASEAN countries and have the forum serve as a proactive moderator for difficult strategic dialogues.

14. China provided an intervention stating its One China policy, the South China Sea policy, and the East China Sea policy. It claimed the Philippines and external forces were responsible for rising tensions in the South China Sea. In response, the

Philippines noted that China's actions, which in recent months have included shadowing, harassment, use of water cannons, and the conduct of dangerous manoeuvres leading to incidents of collision against regular rotation and resupply (RORE) missions of Philippine marine law enforcement agencies in Ayungin Shoal, are infringements of the Philippine's sovereignty, sovereign rights, and jurisdiction. China replied that recent tensions are caused by Philippine violation of an agreement not to send construction materials to Ayungin Shoal. Responding to the panellists' remarks questioning China's nuclear weapons build up, the Chinese delegate stated that Beijing does not have a strong nuclear force and nuclear modernisation is very normal to maintain the safety and security of the arsenal.

15. Sri Lanka presented a written intervention submitted by Russia on strategic risk reduction. The submitted intervention discussed Russia's concerns regarding strategic risks in the Indo-Pacific region, attributing them primarily to the United States and its allies' "aggressive policies." These policies, according to Russia, include expanding alliances and military programs, such as missile defence systems and the deployment of ground-launched missiles, which are "destabilising for global security." Russia asserted U.S.-led strategic risk reduction initiatives do not address underlying tensions.

16. The ROK representative argued that the root cause of instability for the Peninsula is the DPRK's illegal and destabilising actions rather than extended deterrence. In response to interest from some delegations, Australia explained its approach to setting the highest non-proliferation standard in its acquisition of conventionally armed, nuclear-powered submarines.

17. In closing comments, panellists and participants brought the discussion back to what the ARF can do to reduce strategic risks. Malaysia supported risk reduction and transparency, and also expressed concern that ASEAN mechanisms have been politicised recently with non-ASEAN states trying to convince them to take sides. Malaysia also encouraged countries to sign and ratify the SEANWFZ Protocols. Japan highlighted the need for a "free and open Indo-Pacific", explained that extended deterrence addressed a need for stability and safety in the current security environment, and suggested that ARF has an opportunity to address maritime security issues. Two panellists suggested that ARF work towards reducing tensions, restoring communication channels, and encouraging transparency on issues such as the entanglement of conventional forces. CSCAP moderator Mr. David Santoro summarised the need for thinking sub-regionally on how actors understand and perceive risks in order to develop tailored risk reduction measures for specific threats in the Indo-Pacific.



## **AGENDA ITEM 7: OTHER MATTERS**

18. The United States, Vietnam, and Mongolia gave an overview of the recent “Steppe Lotus” workshop they co-hosted on April 16-18 in Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia on Strengthening Legal Frameworks to Combat Chemical, Biological, Radiological, and Nuclear (CBRN) Terrorism. Over 80 participants and 16 countries joined the workshop, which was also supported by the United Nations Office of Counterterrorism and the UN Office on Drugs and Crime through funding by the European Union for Steppe Lotus. The United States and Vietnam thanked Mongolia for hosting an excellent workshop.

19. Two countries proposed activities for the subsequent ISM year. Japan proposed a workshop on preventing missile proliferation, co-hosted with the Philippines and the European Union. The Philippines announced its intention to provide a concept paper for an event on the Fissile Material Cut-off Treaty. Pakistan stated its view that the FMCT was discriminatory and a distraction from nuclear disarmament, noting its position that such efforts should also govern past production of fissile material is “well known.” China highlighted that the concept paper from Japan referenced the Hague Code of Conduct Against Ballistic Missile Proliferation (HCOG) while China and other ARF Participants were not subscribers. China suggested editing out this language and noted it would provide more detailed feedback to both the Japanese and Philippine papers in due course.

20. The Philippines, Australia, and New Zealand expressed interest in serving as co-chairs for the next ISM.

## **CLOSING SESSION**

21. In their closing remarks, the Co-Chairs thanked their staffs and the ARF Participants for their participation in the ISM.

22. Thailand acknowledged ARF Participants have different approaches but encouraged further efforts to bridge the gaps between countries and to increase risk reduction efforts. They commented that the hard work for ARF Participants will be translating these commitments to action and bridging the gaps among Participants, but that they were hopeful for the future.

23. Sri Lanka welcomed the next co-chairs and thanked them for their expression of interest. With the number of ideas shared on non-proliferation and disarmament, they expressed their hope for productive outcomes during the next ISM session. While no longer a co-chair, Sri Lanka commented that they will continue their active engagement on disarmament discourse.

24. The United States thanked Participants for the opportunities for discussion on disarmament and non-proliferation. They continued with advice to keep up the productive and collaborative momentum for the next ISM co-chairs, as they will have many challenges to navigate. The United States emphasised that the ARF ISM for NPD is a critical opportunity where ARF Participants can use the forum to significantly advance the practical measures and substantive engagement to avoid an arms race and future conflicts.

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

25. The Meeting conveyed its gratitude and appreciation to the Co-Chairs for their efforts and hospitality across the 13<sup>th</sup>, 14<sup>th</sup>, and 15<sup>th</sup> ISMs on Non-Proliferation and Disarmament.

## ISSUES TO BE FOLLOWED UP

No.	Key Decision/Issues	Timeline	Follow-up By
1.	To finalise concept papers of new proposed activities for the next Inter-Sessional Year	Prior to the ARF ISG on CBMs and PD	ARF Participants
2.	To finalise co-chairs for the next ISM tri-co chairmanship term		



**List of Participants: 15<sup>th</sup> ASEAN Regional Forum Inter-Sessional Meeting on  
Nonproliferation and Disarmament  
April 29-May 1, 2024  
Honolulu, Hawaii, United States**

**ASEAN Secretariat**

- Annisa Nurul Wahidah, Senior Officer of Political Cooperation Division 2
- Muhammad Faisal Khaeri, Officer of Security Cooperation Division 2

**Australia**

- Vanessa Wood, Ambassador for Arms Control and Counter-Proliferation, Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade
- Timothy O' Sullivan, Assistant Director - Nuclear Policy, Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade

**Bangladesh**

- Md Atiqur Rahman, Director General Civil-Military Relations, Armed Forces Division, Prime Minister's Office
- Most. Hamida Khatun, Senior Assistant Secretary, Ministry of Foreign Affairs

**Brunei**

- Muhd Abd Aziz Yaakub, Research Officer, Ministry of Defence

**Cambodia**

- Yentieng Puthirasmey, Secretary of State of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation
- Vann Vorrith Chem, Director, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation
- Rothsia Thorn, Head of Office in the Department of Nuclear Science and Technology, Department of Nuclear Science and Technology, Ministry of Mines and Energy
- Sareun Phum, Pol.Lt.Col., Ministry of Interior
- Vitiea Noeun, Director of the Chemical Substance Control Department, National Authority for the Prohibition of CBRN Weapons (virtual)

**Canada**

- Marie Alnwick, Consul, Consulate General of Canada in San Francisco

**China**

- Yiliang Sun, Deputy Director, Ministry of Foreign Affairs
- Pengcheng Zhang, Second Secretary, Ministry of Foreign Affairs
- Xiang Li, Third Secretary, Ministry of Foreign Affairs

**European Union**

- David Pusztai, Policy Officer, European External Action Service (Virtual)

## **India**

- Prerna Shahi, First Secretary, Embassy of India, Washington DC

## **Indonesia**

- Rina P. Soemarno, Coordinating Ministry for Political, Legal, and Security Affairs
- Yaenurendra Hasmore Aryo Putro, Deputy Director for Regional Cooperation, National Counter Terrorism Agency of Indonesia
- Abdulla Zulkifli, Coordinating Ministry for Political, Legal, and Security Affairs
- Rukmini Tri Setiati, Ministry of Foreign Affairs
- Richo Putra, Foreign Policy Analyst, Coordinating Ministry for Political Legal and Security Affairs

## **Japan**

- Chitaru Shimizu, Director, Arms Control and Disarmament Division, Ministry of Foreign Affairs
- Saori Tonomura, Assistant Director, Arms Control and Disarmament Division
- Takanobu Sato, Assistant Director, Ministry of Foreign Affairs (Virtual)
- Ayako Ayako, Assistant Director, Ministry of Foreign Affairs (Virtual)
- Kentaro Minami, Senior Coordinator, Ministry of Foreign Affairs (Virtual)
- Kenta Kawaguchi, Principal Deputy Director, Ministry of Foreign Affairs (Virtual)
- Yuma Kajihara, Assistant Director, Ministry of Foreign Affairs (Virtual)

## **Lao PDR**

- Amith Phetsada, Desk Officer, ASEAN Department, Ministry of Foreign Affairs
- Maykham Tongvongkham, Deputy Director, ASEAN Department, Ministry of Foreign Affairs
- Niphaphone Songkham, Officer, Ministry of Foreign Affairs
- Phetsamone Keovongvichith, Director, Division of Intergovernmental Organizations, Ministry of Foreign Affairs

## **Malaysia**

- Azril Abd Aziz, Deputy Director General, Ministry of Foreign Affairs
- Mohd Iqbal Mohd Roslim, Assistant Director, Ministry of Foreign Affairs

## **Mongolia**

- Byambasuren Guntevsuren, Director, Department for Policy and Planning, Ministry of Foreign Affairs
- Tulga Narkhuu, Counsellor, Department for Policy and Planning, Ministry of Foreign Affairs

## **Myanmar**

- Khin Pa Pa Tun, Deputy Director, Department of Atomic Energy, Ministry of Science and Technology (Virtual)

**New Zealand**

- Lucy Power, Senior Policy Officer, Non-Proliferation, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade (Virtual)
- Michael Ketchen, Consul-General, New Zealand Consulate-General
- James Golightly, Policy Advisor, New Zealand Consulate-General

**Philippines**

- Jahzeel Abihail Cruz, Acting Director, ASEAN Political-Security Community Division, Office of ASEAN Affairs, Department of Foreign Affairs
- Carlo Arcilla, Director, Department of Science and Technology - Philippine Nuclear Research Institute

**Republic of Korea**

- Jongyul Heo, First Secretary, Ministry of Foreign Affairs

**Russia**

- Evgeny Zakharov, First Secretary, Ministry of Foreign Affairs (paper points for delivery)

**Singapore**

- Zi Huang, Assistant Director (International Organisations), Ministry of Foreign Affairs

**Sri Lanka**

- Aruni Wijewardane, Foreign Secretary, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, (Virtual)
- Dayani Mendis, Director General, Ministry of Foreign Affairs
- Subashini Silva, Deputy Director, Ministry of Foreign Affairs
- Saritha Ranatunga, Counsellor, Permanent Mission of Sri Lanka to the UN in Geneva, Ministry of Foreign Affairs

**Thailand**

- Bolbongse Vangphaen, Acting Director-General Department of ASEAN Affairs, Ministry of Foreign Affairs
- Saranjit Srisarkun, Minister-Counselor, Ministry of Foreign Affairs
- Worawut Smuthkalin, Minister Counsellor, Ministry of Foreign Affairs
- Chaeyod Soontrapa, Head of Nuclear Licensing Group, Office of Atoms for Peace
- Karin Kunjara Na Ayudhya, First Secretary, Ministry of Foreign Affairs

**Timor-Leste**

- Sidonio Jorge Martins, Director, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Cooperation
- Domingos Sarmiento Alves, Eminent Person, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Cooperation
- Anacleto da Costa Ribeiro, Legal Advisor, Ministry of Interior

**United States**

- Ann Ganzer, Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary, Bureau of International Security and Nonproliferation, U.S. Department of State
- Alexandra Bell, Deputy Assistant Secretary, Bureau of Arms Control, Deterrence and Stability, U.S. Department of State
- Amali Wijeweera, Policy Advisor, Bureau of International Security and Nonproliferation, U.S. Department of State
- Andrew Bariahtaris, Foreign Affairs Officer, Bureau of Arms Control, Deterrence and Stability, U.S. Department of State
- Margaret Tennis, Foreign Affairs Officer, Bureau of Arms Control, Deterrence and Stability, U.S. Department of State
- Sara Beth Marchert, Foreign Affairs Officer, Bureau of Arms Control, Deterrence and Stability, U.S. Department of State
- Maria Dudenhoeffer, ASEAN Program Manager, U.S. Department of State

## **Vietnam**

- Huong Nguyen Lien, Assistant Director-General, Ministry of Foreign Affairs
- Nga Phan Quynh, Official, Ministry of Foreign Affairs
- Dang Luu Cao, Staff Officer, Ministry of Defence - National Presiding Agency on Countering the Proliferation of WMD
- Kien Ngoc Dao, Chief of Division, Department of Foreign Relations, Ministry of Public Security

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## *Other Speakers and Facilitators*

- David Santoro, President, Pacific Forum
- Miles Pomper, Fellow, Senior Fellow, Center for Nonproliferation Studies, Middlebury Institute
- V Jesudevan, President, Centre for Trade Excellence, Singapore
- Diane Cameron (virtual), Head of Division and OECD Nuclear Technology Development and Economics (NTE), Nuclear Energy Agency (NEA)
- Lucas Mir, Nuclear Analyst; OECD NTE, NEA
- Micah Lowenthal, Senior Director, International Networks & Cooperation, The National Academy of Sciences
- Ashok Ajoy, Faculty Scientist and Assistant Professor, University of California, Berkley/Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory
- Lami Kim, Professor, Daniel K. Inouye Asia-Pacific Center for Security Studies
- Adam Attarian, Senior Scientist, Pacific Northwest National Lab
- Dr. Lavina Lee, Senior Lecturer, Macquarie University (virtual)
- Vivienne Momo-Hill, Junior at Waldorf High School of Honolulu
- Gage Bassett, Senior at Kamehameha High School, Kapālama Campus, Honolulu



**15<sup>th</sup> ASEAN REGIONAL FORUM INTER-SESSIONAL MEETING**  
**ON NONPROLIFERATION AND DISARMAMENT (15<sup>th</sup> ARF ISM on NPD)**  
**Waikiki Beach Marriott, Honolulu, Hawaii, United States**  
**APRIL 29- May 1, 2024**

<b>Monday, April 29, 2024</b>		
<b>17:00 -20:00</b>		<b>Welcome Cocktail Reception</b> <i>Kaimiku 1, Waikiki Beach Marriott Resort Hotel, Waikiki, Honolulu</i> <b>Welcome Remarks:</b> <b>United States Officials and ASEAN Chair - Laos Head of Delegation</b>
<b>Tuesday, April 30, 2024</b>		
<b>TIME</b>	<b>AGENDA</b>	<b>PROGRAM</b>
<b>08:30-09:15</b>		<b>Registration - Third Floor Terrace Outside Kona Moku Ballroom</b>
<b>09:30-09:50</b>		<b>Opening Session</b> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>1. United States</b> Ms. Ann K. Ganzer, Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary, Bureau of International Security and Nonproliferation (ISN), United States Department of State</li> <li><b>2. Sri Lanka</b> Ms. Dayani Mendis, Director General, United Nations &amp; Human Rights Division, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Sri Lanka</li> <li><b>3. Thailand</b> Mr. Bolbongse Vangphaen, Acting Director-General, Department of ASEAN Affairs at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Thailand</li> </ol>
<b>09:50-10:00</b>		<b>Recap of Last ARF ISM on NPD</b>
<b>10:00-10:10</b>		<b>Group Photo</b>
<b>10:10-10:30</b>		<b>Coffee Break</b>

10:30-11:30	CSCAP Session	<p><b>Council for Security Cooperation in the Asia Pacific (CSCAP) Nonproliferation and Disarmament Study Group</b></p> <p><i>Discussion led by: David Santoro, Pacific Forum President; Miles Pomper Senior Fellow, Center for Nonproliferation Studies, Middlebury Institute</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Recap of Last ARF Discussions and Regional Updates</li> <li>2. Q&amp;A from ARF Members</li> </ol>
11:30-12:30	Agenda Item 1	<p><b>Panel Session: Peaceful Uses of Nuclear Energy – Civil Nuclear Safety and Security and Regional Partnership</b></p> <p><i>Moderator: Ms. Saranjit Srisarkun, Minister Counsellor, Political and Security Division, Department of ASEAN Affairs, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Thailand</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Ms. Diane Cameron (virtual), Head of Division; and Mr. Lucas Mir, Nuclear Analyst; OECD Nuclear Technology Development and Economics (NTE), Nuclear Energy Agency (NEA)</li> <li>- Dr. Carlo Arcilla, Director, Department of Science and Technology - Philippine Nuclear Research Institute</li> <li>- Mr. Chaiyod Soontrapa, Nuclear Engineer, Head of Nuclear Licensing Group, Nuclear and Radiation Licensing Division, Office of Atoms for Peace, Thailand</li> <li>- Mr. Zi Huang, Assistant Director, Counter-Proliferation, International Security and Nuclear, International Organisations Directorate, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Singapore</li> </ul>
12:30-13:30	<p><b>LUNCH</b></p> <p><i>Waikiki Beach Marriott Resort Hotel, Waikiki, Honolulu</i></p>	
13:30-15:15	Agenda Item 2	<p><b>Breakout Session: Emerging Technologies in the Context of Nonproliferation and Disarmament</b></p> <p><i>Facilitators: Jesudevan Viveganandam, J.D., President, Trade Excellence, Singapore; Dr. Micah Lowenthal, National Academies of Sciences; Dr. Adam Attarian, Pacific Northwest National Laboratory; Dr. Ashok Ajoy, Faculty, University of California Berkley</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Introduction - Evolution of AI, Quantum, Biotechnology</li> <li>- Breakout of Groups: A (AI), B (Biotech), C (Quantum).</li> <li>- Group Discussion in Plenary Room</li> </ul>
15:15-15:30		<b>Coffee Break</b>



15:30-16:30	Agenda Item 3	<p><b>Panel Session: Preparing for the Future: Gender &amp; Youth in Nonproliferation and Disarmament</b></p> <p><i>Moderator: Mr. Maxwell Keegel, Director, Secretary’s Bureau, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Sri Lanka</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- H.E. Mrs. Yentieng Puthirasmeay, Secretary of State of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation of Cambodia</li><li>- James Golightly, Policy Advisor, Consulate-General, New Zealand</li><li>- Vivienne Momo-Hill, Junior Student at Waldorf High School of Honolulu, Hawaii</li><li>- Gage Bassett, Senior Student at Kamehameha High School, Kapālama Campus, Honolulu, Hawaii</li></ul>
16:30-17:00		<b>Tri-chairs Wrap Up Day 1 and Preview Day 2</b>
19:00-21:00	<b>RECEPTION DINNER FOR DELEGATES</b> <i>Paina Terrace, Waikiki Beach Marriott Resort Hotel, Waikiki, Honolulu</i>	
<b>Wednesday, May 1, 2024</b>		
09:00-09:15	Opening	<b>Tri-chairs Summary of Day 1 and Introduction to Day 2</b>
09:15-10:15	Agenda Item 4	<p><b>Panel Session: Importance of Irreversibility, Verification, &amp; Transparency on Nonproliferation &amp; Disarmament</b></p> <p><i>Moderator: Ms. Alexandra Bell, Deputy Assistant Secretary for the Bureau of Arms Control, Disarmament, and Strategic Stability, United States Department of State</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Ms. Vanessa Wood, Ambassador for Arms Control and Counter-Proliferation, Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade, Australia</li><li>- Ms. Aruni Wijewardena, Secretary, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Sri Lanka (virtual)</li><li>- Mr. Worawut Smuthkalin, Minister Counsellor, Peace, Security and Disarmament Division, Department of International Organizations, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Thailand</li></ul>
10:15-10:30		<b>Coffee Break</b>

10:30-12:00	Agenda Item 5	<p><b>Scenario-Based Discussion: How Can Nonproliferation and Disarmament Support Regional Security and Stability</b></p> <p><i>Facilitators: David Santoro, President, Pacific Forum; and Jesudevan Viveganandam, President, Centre for Trade Excellence, Singapore</i></p> <p><b>Themes:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Achieving Compliance Across Borders: Navigating Complexities and Competition in the Region</li> <li>- How Can Members Enhance Dialogue Between ASEAN and Partner Nations to Maintain Regional Peace and Stability</li> <li>- How Can Members Enhance and Support Interagency Efforts Within ASEAN to Build Shared Resilience</li> </ul>
12:00-13:00	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>LUNCH</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Waikiki Beach Marriott Resort Hotel, Waikiki, Honolulu</i></p>	
13:00-14:00	Agenda Item 6	<p><b>Panel Discussion: Using ARF to Reduce Strategic Risks</b></p> <p><i>Moderators: David Santoro, Pacific Forum President; Miles Pomper Senior Fellow, Center for Nonproliferation Studies, Middlebury Institute</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. What scenarios are most likely to lead to crisis or conflict in the region?</li> <li>2. What measures can begin to address these risks?</li> <li>3. How can ARF facilitate this?</li> </ol> <p><i>Panelists:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Dr. Lavina Lee, Senior Lecturer, Macquarie University, Sydney, Australia (virtual)</li> <li>- Dr. Sayuri Romei, Associate Director of Programs, Mansfield Foundation</li> <li>- Dr. Lami Kim, Professor, Daniel K. Inouye Asia-Pacific Center for Security Studies</li> </ul>
14:00-14:45	Agenda Item 7	<p><b>Other Matters (Co-Chairs: United States. Thailand, Sri Lanka)</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Activities conducted in the Inter-Sessional Year 2023-2024</li> <li>2. Proposals of new activities for the Inter-Sessional Year 2024-2025</li> <li>3. New Co-Chairs</li> </ol>

14:45-15:00		<p><b>Closing Session</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li> <p><b>1. Thailand</b>  Mr. Bolbongse Vangphaen, Acting Director-General of the Department of ASEAN Affairs at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Thailand</p> </li> <li> <p><b>2. Sri Lanka</b>  Ms. Dayani Mendis, Director General, United Nations &amp; Human Rights Division, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Sri Lanka</p> </li> <li> <p><b>3. United States</b>  Alexandra Bell, Deputy Assistant Secretary Bureau of Arms Control, Deterrence, and Stability, United States Department of State</p> </li> </ol>
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