



BRUNEI DARUSSALAM
2013

ASEAN SECURITY OUTLOOK



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ASEAN SECURITY OUTLOOK

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CHAPTER I

PREFACE

FOREWORD



On behalf of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations, it gives me great pleasure to present the First Volume of the “ASEAN Security Outlook”.

This publication is the result of four years of discussion and planning and responds to the importance stressed at the ASEAN Summit earlier this year of *“promoting greater transparency, confidence and understanding of regional defence policies and security perceptions among ASEAN Member States and their regional partners”*.

The “ASEAN Security Outlook” will provide information annually on Member States’ respective security approaches and I give my great appreciation to all fellow Members of ASEAN for their contributions.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Mohamed Bolkiah'.

Mohamed Bolkiah

Chairman of the 46th ASEAN Foreign Ministers Meeting (AMM)

Minister of Foreign Affairs and Trade of Brunei Darussalam

Bandar Seri Begawan
Brunei Darussalam, 2013

INTRODUCTION AND EXECUTIVE SUMMARY



The ASEAN Security Outlook 2013 (ASO 2013) marks the inaugural effort by the ASEAN Member States to promote greater transparency and deepen understanding of each other's defence policy as well as the security environment in the region. In a first for the region, this compilation highlights the national contributions to promote peace, security and stability in the region. It also outlines ASEAN's collective efforts and achievements in political and security cooperation.

The contributions of the ASEAN Member States for the ASO 2013 essentially reaffirm ASEAN's continued commitment to preserving and enhancing peace and stability in the region.

References to some of the seminal and milestone instruments in the field of peace and security that the ASEAN Member States have entered into in the past 40 years, such as the 1967 Bangkok Declaration, the 1976 Treaty of Amity and Cooperation in Southeast Asia, the 1995 Southeast Asian Nuclear Weapon-Free Zone Treaty (SEANWFZ) and the ASEAN Charter all emphasise ASEAN's commitment to create a peaceful and prosperous community of nations. In 2009, when the ASEAN Leaders signed the Cha-am Hua Hin Declaration on the Roadmap for the ASEAN Community (2009-2015), ASEAN committed to achieve the realisation of the ASEAN Political-Security Community (APSC) by 2015 under the guidance of its Blueprint. The publication of this ASO is another example of ASEAN's commitment to build the APSC Community within the ASEAN Community.

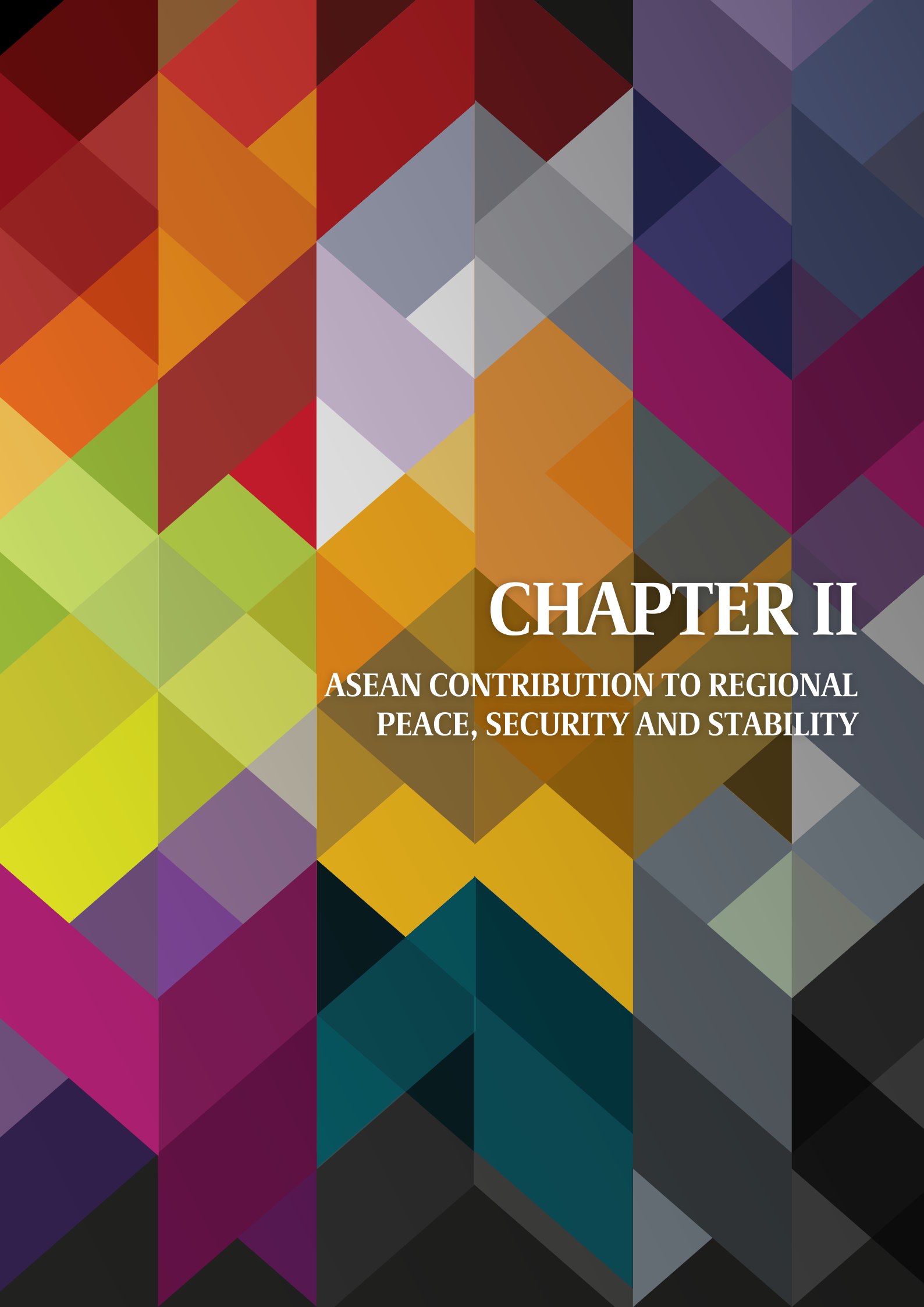
In their respective contributions, it is evident that the ASEAN Member States recognise that sustainable economic development is only possible in a stable political and security environment. Thus, through their collective efforts, the region is more peaceful, stable, and secure. However, they have also highlighted and cautioned against traditional and non-traditional security threats that continue to pose significant challenges. Territorial disputes and regional tensions could have potentially grave consequences, if not resolved peacefully and amicably. Furthermore, the ASEAN Member States are aware of the fact that non-traditional security threats, such as terrorism, natural disasters, drug trafficking, climate change, and infectious diseases are increasing in complexity and require enhanced cooperation among themselves as well as with ASEAN's external partners.

The ASO has also highlighted the various regional mechanisms established to address these security challenges, such as the ASEAN Regional Forum (ARF), the ASEAN Defence Ministers' Meeting (ADMM) and the ASEAN Defence Ministers' Meeting Plus (ADMM-Plus), and the ASEAN Ministerial Meeting on Transnational Crime (AMMTC). These mechanisms enable ASEAN and its external partners to engage in a mutually reinforcing and beneficial collaboration, while building trust and confidence among the countries involved.

The ASO 2013 further outlines future security trends and prospects on regional security. In light of the current shift of economic and geo-political dynamics to Asia, regional stability will continue to depend on the stable relations between ASEAN and the major powers. As such, the ASEAN Member States have stressed the importance of continuing to uphold the principle of ASEAN centrality and ASEAN unity to ensure ASEAN's central role in the regional security architecture.

I do hope that the publication of this much awaited document would be an invaluable confidence-building tool for all parties concerned to understand the region's defence and security policies better. It gives me great pleasure, in my first year as the Secretary-General of ASEAN, to bear witness to this collective effort and I look forward to future editions.

H.E. Le Luong Minh
Secretary-General of ASEAN

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CHAPTER II

ASEAN CONTRIBUTION TO REGIONAL PEACE, SECURITY AND STABILITY

ASEAN CONTRIBUTION TO REGIONAL PEACE, SECURITY AND STABILITY

FIFTH, that the Association represents the collective will of the nations of the South-East Asia to bind themselves together in friendship and cooperation and, through joint efforts and sacrifices, secure for their peoples and for posterity the blessings of peace, freedom and prosperity.

Bangkok Declaration, 8 August 1967

INTRODUCTION

In promoting greater transparency and understanding of each ASEAN Member States' defence policies and security situation in the region, the ASEAN Political-Security Community (APSC) Blueprint calls for the development and publication of an ASEAN Security Outlook (ASO).

This chapter provides an overview of ASEAN's contribution to regional peace, security and stability through the various documents and mechanisms that were established under the ambit of ASEAN. The first section of this chapter will focus on ASEAN's milestone political documents, while the second part will look at the security cooperation among the Member States and with ASEAN's Dialogue Partners.

A. ASEAN PRINCIPLES, VISION AND GOALS ON REGIONAL PEACE, SECURITY AND STABILITY BASED ON EXISTING ASEAN DOCUMENTS

Desiring to establish a firm foundation for common action to promote regional cooperation in Southeast Asia in the spirit of equality and partnership, and thereby contribute towards peace, progress and prosperity in the region, five countries signed the ASEAN Declaration (Bangkok Declaration) on 8 August 1967. The Association of South-East Asian Nations (ASEAN) was established based on mutual respect and understanding to promote cooperation among its Member States for the welfare of the people in the region.

ASEAN Declaration (Bangkok Declaration)

The Bangkok Declaration defines the aims and purposes of the Association as follows:

- To accelerate the economic growth, social progress and cultural development in the region through joint endeavours in the spirit of equality and partnership in order to strengthen the foundation for a prosperous and peaceful community of South-East Asian Nation;
- To promote regional peace and stability through abiding respect for justice and the rule of law in the relationship among countries of the region and adherence to the principles of the United Nations Charter;
- To promote active collaboration and mutual assistance on matters of common interest in the economic, social, cultural, technical, scientific and administrative fields;
- To provide assistance to each other in the form of training and research facilities in the educational, professional, technical and administrative spheres;
- To collaborate more effectively for the greater utilization of their agriculture and industries, the expansion of their trade, the improvement of their transportation and communications facilities and the raising of the living standards of their peoples;
- To promote South-East Asian studies;
- To maintain close and beneficial cooperation with existing international and regional organizations with similar aims and purposes, and explore all avenues for even closer cooperation among themselves.

Zone of Peace, Freedom and Neutrality (ZOPFAN)

Political and security cooperation is an important area for ASEAN Member States. In 1971, four years after the signing

of Bangkok Declaration, ASEAN Member States signed the Zone of Peace, Freedom and Neutrality (ZOPFAN), with the aim of ensuring the region's freedom from any form or manner of interference by outside powers. It also makes concerted efforts to broaden the areas of cooperation that would contribute to the strength, solidarity and closer relations among the Member States. The ZOPFAN was the first document that set ASEAN's vision towards security cooperation in the region.

Treaty of Amity and Cooperation in Southeast Asia (TAC)

Nine years after the establishment of ASEAN, the Leaders of its Member States held their first Summit on 24 February 1976, in Bali, Indonesia. They signed three major documents which shaped the political security landscape of the region. These were:

- 1) Treaty of Amity and Cooperation in Southeast Asia (TAC);
- 2) Declaration of ASEAN Concord; and
- 3) Agreement on the Establishment of the ASEAN Secretariat.

The TAC, a legally binding code of conduct for inter-State relations in Southeast Asia, established a fundamental principle that became a trademark of ASEAN's framework. The TAC embodies universal principles of peaceful coexistence and friendly cooperation among States in Southeast Asia. It stipulates that in their relations with one another the High Contracting Parties shall be guided by the following fundamental principles:

- Mutual respect for the independence, sovereignty, equality, territorial integrity and national identity of all nations.
- The right of every State to lead its national existence free from external interference, subversion or coercion.
- Non-interference in the internal affairs of one another.
- Settlement of differences or disputes by peaceful means.

- Renunciation of the threat or use of force.
- Effective cooperation among themselves.

Chapter IV of the TAC, entitled "Pacific Settlement of Disputes", provides a mechanism to settle disputes through regional processes, whereby the High Council, comprising of a Representative at the ministerial level from each of the High Contracting Parties, take cognizance of the existence of the disputes or situations likely to disturb regional peace and harmony. The High Council can also recommend appropriate means of settlement such as good offices, mediation, inquiry or conciliation in the event that no solution is reached through direct negotiations.

On 15 December 1987, the Protocol Amending the TAC (First Protocol) was signed, opening it up for accession by other States in Southeast Asia. Following this amendment, Brunei Darussalam acceded to the TAC in 1987, followed by Viet Nam in 1995, Lao PDR and Myanmar in 1997 and Cambodia in 1999.

Taking into consideration the interest demonstrated by non-Southeast Asian States to accede to the TAC, the Second Protocol was signed at the side-lines of the 31st ASEAN Ministerial Meeting (AMM) in Manila, Philippines, on 25 July 1998. The Second Protocol identifies by name which High Contracting Parties are States in Southeast Asia with the right to give consent to accession by States outside Southeast Asia. The Third Protocol in 2010 allows accession by regional organisations whose members are only sovereign States.

To date, there are more than 30 High Contracting Parties to the TAC, consisting of all ten ASEAN Member States and more than 20 non-ASEAN High Contracting Parties, including the five Permanent Members of the United Nations Security Council (UNSC)¹.

Treaty on the Southeast Asia Nuclear Weapon-Free Zone (SEANWFZ)

ASEAN also envisioned the establishment of a region free from nuclear weapons. This is seen as an essential component of ZOPFAN as it would contribute towards bolstering the security of States within the Zone and towards enhancing international peace and stability as a

whole. This vision was translated into the Treaty on the Southeast Asia Nuclear Weapon-Free Zone (SEANWFZ), which was signed by ASEAN's Leaders on 15 December 1995 in Bangkok, Thailand. It entered into force two years later on 27 March 1997. The Treaty includes a Protocol for the five Nuclear Weapon States (NWS) to accede to in order to recognise and support SEANWFZ.

Under the Treaty, States Parties are obliged, among others, to the following understandings:

- Not to develop, manufacture, acquire, possess or have control over nuclear weapons; station nuclear weapons; or test or use nuclear weapons anywhere inside or outside the treaty zone.
- Not to take any action to assist or encourage the manufacture or acquisition of any nuclear explosive device by any state.
- Not to provide source or special fissionable materials or equipment to any Non-Nuclear Weapon State (NNWS), or any Nuclear Weapon State (NWS) unless subject to safeguards agreements with the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA).
- To prevent in the territory of States Parties the stationing of any nuclear explosive device.
- To prevent the testing of any nuclear explosive device.
- Not to dump radioactive wastes and other radioactive matters at sea anywhere within the zone, and to prevent the dumping of radioactive wastes and other radioactive matters by anyone in the territorial sea of the States Parties.

The SEANWFZ has become one of the cornerstones in the APSC. It provides the foundation for all ten Parties to cooperate on keeping Southeast Asia free of nuclear weapon as well as other weapons of mass destruction². This demonstrates ASEAN's efforts in contributing to the global non-proliferation regime.

¹China acceded TAC in 2003, Russia in 2004, France in 2007, US in 2009 and the UK in 2012.

²The ASEAN Charter's Article 1, Paragraph 3 identifies as one of ASEAN's purposes: *"To preserve Southeast Asia as a Nuclear Weapon-Free Zone and free of all other weapons of mass destruction;"*

ASEAN Declaration on the South China Sea

ASEAN has also been working actively to maintain peace and stability in the South China Sea. The ASEAN Declaration on the South China Sea was signed by ASEAN Foreign Ministers in Manila, Philippines, on 22 July 1992, which was later endorsed by other countries and the Non-Aligned Movement. This Declaration reaffirmed the peaceful and constructive approaches to addressing the South China Sea issue, which among others, highlighted the need to resolve all sovereignty and jurisdictional issues pertaining to the South China Sea by peaceful means, without resorting to force, and urge all parties concerned to exercise restraint with the view to creating a positive climate for eventual resolution of all disputes. In March 1995, ASEAN Foreign Ministers issued the Statement on the Recent Developments in the South China Sea, which, among others, urged all parties to remain faithful to the letter and spirit of the 1992 Declaration.

Declaration on the Conduct of Parties in the South China Sea (DOC)

In Phnom Penh, Cambodia on 4 November 2002, ASEAN and the People's Republic of China signed the Declaration on the Conduct of Parties in the South China Sea (DOC). It is another milestone document which embodies the collective commitment of the parties to the promotion of peace, stability and mutual trust in the South China Sea as well as the peaceful settlement of disputes in accordance with international law, including the 1982 United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS) and TAC. This declaration calls for the parties to:

- Reaffirm their respect for and commitment to the freedom of navigation in and overflight above the South China Sea as provided for by the universally recognised principles of international law, including the 1982 UNCLOS;
- Resolve their territorial and jurisdictional disputes by peaceful means, without resorting to the threat or use of force, through friendly consultations and negotiations by sovereign states directly concerned, in accordance with universally recognised principles of international law, including the 1982 UNCLOS;

- Exercise self-restraint in the conduct of activities that would complicate or escalate disputes and affect peace and stability including, among others, refraining from action of inhabiting on the presently uninhabited islands, reefs, shoals, cays, and other features and to handle their differences in a constructive manner.

Under the DOC, the parties are also intended to intensify efforts to seek ways, in the spirit of cooperation and understanding, to build trust and confidence, and explore cooperative activities. ASEAN and China also reaffirmed their commitment to work towards, on the basis of consensus, the eventual conclusion of a Code of Conduct (COC) in the South China Sea.

On 21 July 2011, the Guidelines for the Implementation of the DOC were formally endorsed by the ASEAN-China Ministerial Meeting in Bali, Indonesia. The Guidelines is to guide the implementation of the possible joint cooperative activities, measures and projects as provided for in the DOC. This was a significant outcome and a major step toward the implementation of the DOC.

ASEAN's Six-Point Principles on the South China Sea

As a result of consultations among the ASEAN Foreign Ministers, the "ASEAN's Six-Point Principles on the South China Sea" was issued on 20 July 2012 during Cambodia's Chairmanship of ASEAN. The Statement reaffirms ASEAN's commitment to the full implementation of the DOC, the Guidelines, the early conclusion of a COC, the full respect of the universally recognised principles of international law, including the 1982 UNCLOS, the continued exercise of self-restraint and non-use of force and the peaceful resolution of disputes in accordance with universally recognised principles of international law, including the 1982 UNCLOS. The ASEAN Foreign Ministers resolved to intensify ASEAN consultation in the advancement of the Six-Point Principles, consistent with the TAC and the ASEAN Charter (2008).

ASEAN Charter

For over four decades ASEAN worked without a formal legal guideline. ASEAN Member States realised that an instrument was needed to lay the foundation of the

institution and provide ASEAN with a legal status. During the annual ASEAN Foreign Ministers Meeting in Jakarta, Indonesia, in 2004, the Foreign Ministers agreed to develop an ASEAN Charter which would reaffirm ASEAN's goals and principles in inter-State relations, in particular the collective responsibilities of all ASEAN Member States in ensuring non-aggression and respect for each other's sovereignty and territorial integrity; the promotion and protection of human rights; the maintenance of political stability, regional peace and economic progress; and the establishment of effective and efficient institutional framework for ASEAN.

The ASEAN Charter was signed at the Summit in Singapore on 20 November 2007 as ASEAN celebrated its 40th anniversary. It entered into force on 15 December 2008. With this Charter, ASEAN provided the groundwork for establishing the ASEAN Community and narrowing the development gap between Member States.

Since the Charter, new organs have been set up to support the community-building process. Several legal and administrative instruments, ranging from agreements and protocols to terms of reference, rules of procedure and operational guidelines, have been adopted or are being developed to apply specific provisions of the ASEAN Charter.

In the preamble of the ASEAN Charter, it is stated that ASEAN is committed to intensifying community building through enhanced regional cooperation and integration, in particular by establishing an ASEAN Community; which includes the ASEAN Political-Security Community (APSC).

ASEAN Community

In 2003, ASEAN adopted the Bali Declaration of ASEAN Concord II, which recognised that sustainable economic development requires a secure political environment based on a strong foundation of mutual interests generated by economic cooperation and political solidarity. The said Concord was also adopted to establish an ASEAN Community by 2020, which consists of three pillars, namely the ASEAN Security Community (ASC), ASEAN Economic Community (AEC) and ASEAN Socio-Cultural Community (ASCC). The ASC would later on evolve into the APSC.

During the 12th ASEAN Summit in Cebu, Philippines on 13 January 2007, the Leaders acknowledged the need to

respond to the increasing number of regional challenges with deeper political and security cooperation. Convinced that strengthening ASEAN integration through the accelerated establishment of an ASEAN Community would reinforce ASEAN centrality and its role as the driving force in charting the evolving regional architecture, the ASEAN Leaders agreed to move the establishment of the ASEAN Community from 2020 to 2015.

The APSC is aimed to ensure that the people and Member States of ASEAN live in peace with one another and with the world at large in a just, democratic and harmonious environment. During the 14th ASEAN Summit in Thailand in 2009, ASEAN Leaders adopted the APSC Blueprint which provides a roadmap consisting 145 action lines and timetable to establish the community by 2015.

The APSC Blueprint itself is designed to promote peace and security in the region by elevating ASEAN's political and security cooperation to a higher plane. It has three key characteristics which are a rules-based Community of shared values and norms; a cohesive, peaceful, stable and resilient region with shared responsibility for comprehensive security; and a dynamic and outward-looking region in an increasingly integrated and interdependent world.

B. DEVELOPMENTS IN ASEAN SECURITY COOPERATION IN PROMOTING REGIONAL PEACE, SECURITY AND STABILITY

Since its establishment in 1967, ASEAN has placed the promotion of regional peace and security at the forefront of its endeavors. The following section will highlight the current state of cooperation among ASEAN Member States and between ASEAN and Dialogue Partners in addressing both traditional and non-traditional challenges in the Asia-Pacific region.

Addressing Terrorism and Transnational Crimes

ASEAN Member States have developed and adopted instruments to address transnational crime in the region, namely the ASEAN Declaration on Transnational Crime, the ASEAN Plan of Action to Combat Transnational Crime,

and the Work Programme to Implement the ASEAN Plan of Action to Combat Transnational Crime.

The ASEAN Ministerial Meeting on Transnational Crime (AMMTC) was established as the highest Sectoral Body in ASEAN to discuss issues related to transnational crime. It is convened every two years, while the Senior Officials Meeting on Transnational Crime (SOMTC) meets annually. They discuss cooperation in eight priority areas, namely terrorism, illicit drug trafficking, trafficking in persons, arms smuggling, sea piracy, money laundering, international economic crime and cybercrime.

The SOMTC also hold consultations with all of ASEAN's Dialogue Partners on issues of regional concern in response to the threats of transnational crime. The consultations with Australia, Canada, China, the EU, India, Japan, New Zealand, Republic of Korea, Russia and the United States have been held to develop future practical cooperation in supporting ASEAN's efforts to stem transnational crime in the region.

On combating terrorism, ASEAN has issued joint declarations on cooperation to combat terrorism with all its Dialogue Partners. To implement these joint declarations, ASEAN has developed plan of actions with a number of its Dialogue Partners.

Meanwhile, the ASEAN Convention on Counter-Terrorism (ACCT) was signed in January 2007 and entered into force in May 2011. As of January 2013, all ASEAN Member States have ratified the Convention. The ACCT provides a regional cooperation framework to counter, prevent and suppress terrorism, in all its forms and manifestations. It also aims to deepen cooperation among law enforcement agencies and relevant authorities in countering terrorism. As the main sectoral body responsible for monitoring and reviewing the implementation of the ACCT, AMMTC/SOMTC is committed to ensure its effectiveness in addressing terrorism in the region.

As early as 1972, ASEAN has recognised the increasing regional threats of drugs and the importance of cooperation to fight against the menace. ASEAN cooperation in drugs and narcotics control was institutionalised under the purview of the ASEAN Drug

Experts held in 1976. Four major areas were identified, namely enforcement and legislation; treatment and rehabilitation; prevention and information; and training and research. The ASEAN Senior Officials Meeting on Drug Matters (ASOD) has been held annually since 1984 to address these areas.

In July 1998, ASEAN Foreign Ministers signed the Joint Declaration for a Drug-Free ASEAN by 2020. The declaration affirmed the Association's commitment to eradicate illicit drug production, processing, trafficking and use by the year 2020 in ASEAN. In July 2000, the Ministers agreed to advance the target year from 2020 to 2015. The realisation of a Drug-Free ASEAN 2015 is to successfully and effectively control illicit drug activities and mitigate its negative consequences to society, primarily on the significant and sustainable reduction in illicit crop cultivation, illicit manufacture and trafficking of drugs and drug-related crime and prevalence of illicit drug use. To encourage efforts in achieving a Drug-Free ASEAN within its stated deadlines, ASEAN Leaders adopted the Declaration on Drug-Free ASEAN 2015 at the 20th ASEAN Summit in Phnom Penh, Cambodia on 3-4 April 2012.

Strengthening Borders and Facilitating Intra-regional Movement

In order to facilitate the legal flow of people, goods and services within the region and to forge stronger economic integration, ASEAN recognised the need to strengthen regional collaboration and effective cooperation on immigration. With the globalised world setting and vision for regional connectivity, a more interconnected ASEAN also calls for an enhanced system and capabilities of regional border management and security.

ASEAN cooperation on immigration issues has been institutionalised through the ASEAN Immigration Intelligence Forum (AIIF) and Meeting of Directors-General of Immigration Departments and Heads of Consular Affairs Divisions of the Ministries of Foreign Affairs (DGICM) which are convened annually. Guided by the Plan of Action for Cooperation on Immigration Matters, ASEAN's cooperation on immigration has facilitated sharing of information, experiences and challenges being encountered.

Towards A Comprehensive Regional Security Architecture

ASEAN has taken a proactive approach in developing a comprehensive regional security architecture by building ASEAN-centric regional security frameworks. One such framework is the ASEAN Regional Forum (ARF). It was established in 1994 as a venue to foster constructive dialogue and consultation on political and security issues of common interest and concern. The ARF has also contributed towards confidence-building and preventive diplomacy in the Asia-Pacific region. The inaugural ARF Ministerial Meeting in Bangkok in July 1994 was attended by 18 participating countries. It is now comprised of 27 participants and has convened its 20th Ministerial Meeting in Bandar Seri Begawan on 2 July 2013.

The ARF adopted a gradual and evolutionary approach in addressing security challenges in the region, in three broad stages namely:

- Promotion of confidence-building measures;
- Development of preventive diplomacy mechanisms; and
- Development of conflict-resolution mechanisms.

Confidence-building measures have taken shape in the form of regular discussions among government officials and Foreign Ministers of the ARF participants. Their regular interactions have helped facilitate candid and frank discussions, thereby encouraging greater transparency, mutual trust and understanding.

At the 17th ARF on 23 July 2010, ARF Ministers adopted the Hanoi Plan of Action to Implement the ARF Vision Statement as policy guidance to develop and implement concrete and practical actions, especially in the context of moving the ARF process forward in its evolution. Six areas of cooperation are identified in the Plan of Action as the basis for the ARF's future work, namely disaster relief, counter-terrorism and transnational crime, maritime security, non-proliferation and disarmament, peacekeeping operations and defence dialogues. To guide cooperation on these priority areas, the Work Plans on Disaster Relief, Counter-Terrorism and Transnational Crime, Maritime Security, and Non-Proliferation and Disarmament have been developed.

In addition, the adoption of the ARF Work Plan on Preventive Diplomacy in July 2011 marked a significant juncture in the evolution of the ARF from stage I to stage II. The Work Plan outlines the definition, objectives, principles, and implementation of preventive diplomacy through mechanisms such as capacity building, establishment of offices, fact-finding and observer missions, possible expansion of the functions of the ARF Experts and Eminent Persons (EEPs), other mechanisms identified in the TAC and, in the long term, more direct methods such as mediation/facilitated dialogue or conciliation.

In moving the ARF process into a more action-oriented one, the ARF has conducted several exercises in the area of disaster relief. The first exercise conducted by the ARF was the Voluntary Demonstration of Response (VDR) held in the Philippines in May 2009, which was followed by the ARF Disaster Relief Exercise (ARF DiREx) held in Indonesia in March 2011. Emulating the successes of the two exercises, the ARF DiREx 2013 was conducted in Thailand on 7-11 May 2013. The exercise aimed at testing ASEAN and ARF disaster response mechanisms, exploring how to build effective linkages and interface among these mechanisms and strengthening civil-military coordination among ARF participating countries.

Another key framework of the regional security architecture is the ASEAN Defence Ministers' Meeting (ADMM). The establishment of the ADMM in May 2006 was mandated by the ASEAN Security Community Plan of Action of 2004. As the highest defence mechanism within ASEAN, the annual ADMM facilitates the ASEAN Defence Ministers discussions and exchange of views on current defence issues and security challenges.

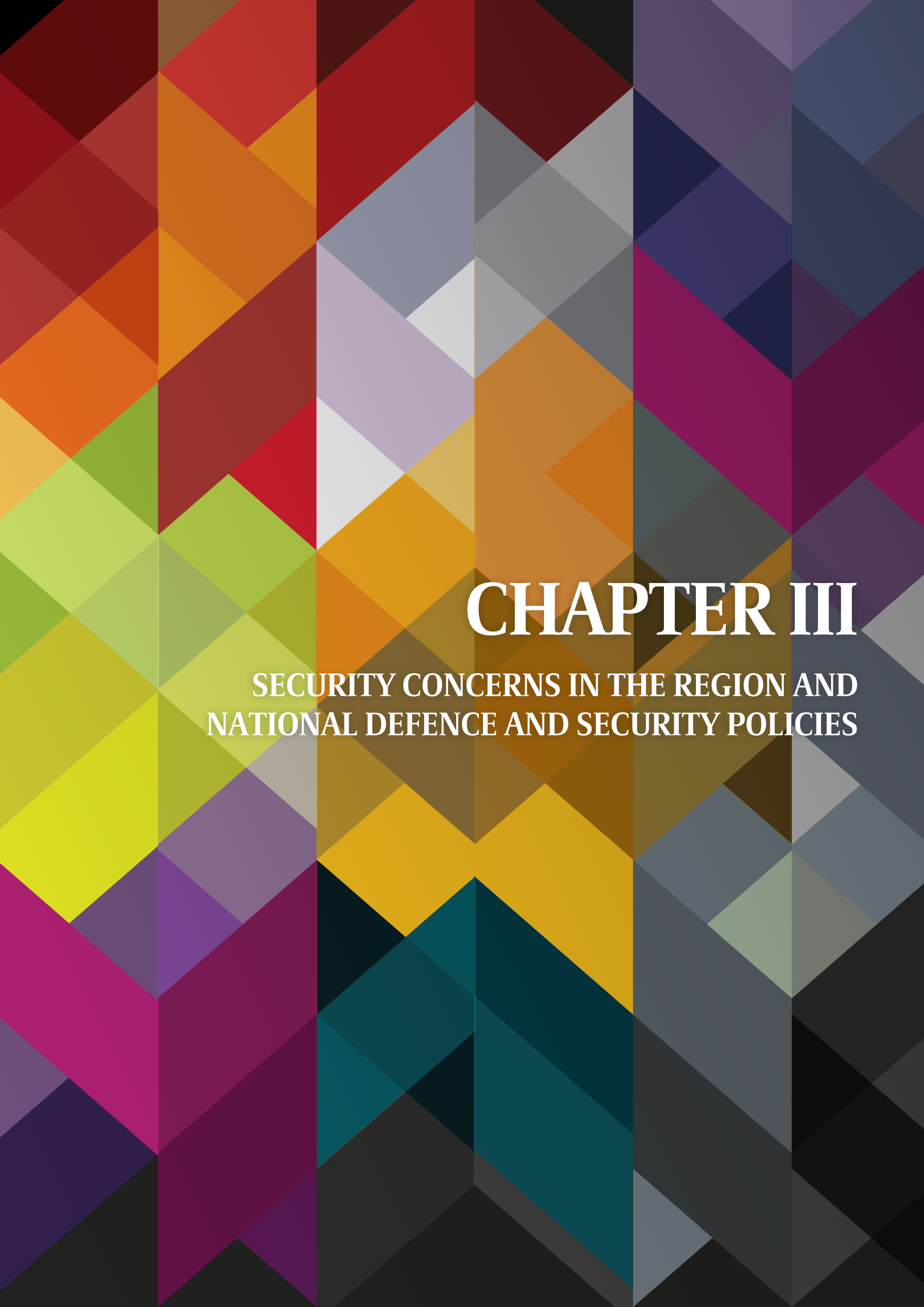
As a framework to guide ADMM cooperation, a Three-Year Work Programme (2008-2010) was adopted in 2007 which included measures and activities to promote regional defence and security cooperation. With the completion of the first term in 2010, a new ADMM Three-Year Work Programme (2011-2013) was adopted in 2011. It builds on the achievements of the previous Work Programme while focusing on measures and activities in four areas, namely strengthening regional defence and security cooperation; enhancing existing practical cooperation and developing possible cooperation in defence and security; promoting enhanced ties with Dialogue Partners; and shaping and sharing of norms.

In order to actively engage ASEAN Dialogue Partners in dialogue and cooperation on defence and security matters, the ASEAN Defence Ministers established the ADMM-Plus. Its inaugural meeting was in Ha Noi on 12 October 2010. The ADMM-Plus is comprised of ASEAN Member States and eight Dialogue Partners, namely Australia, China, India, Japan, New Zealand, Republic of Korea, Russia and the United States.

The inaugural ADMM-Plus meeting agreed to pursue five areas of practical cooperation – to include maritime security, counter-terrorism, humanitarian assistance and disaster relief (HADR), peacekeeping operations and military medicine. To facilitate cooperation on these areas, an Experts' Working Group (EWG) for each area of cooperation was established in 2011. Practical cooperation undertaken by the EWGs has been progressing steadfastly with three multilateral exercises lined-up for in 2013, namely the ADMM-Plus HADR/Military Medicine Exercise in Brunei Darussalam in June; the ADMM-Plus EWG on Counter Terrorism Exercise (CTX) in Indonesia in September; and the ADMM-Plus EWG on Maritime Security Field Training Exercise (FTX) in Australia in October.

The successful conclusion of the ADMM-Plus HADR/MM Exercise in June 2013 underscores the positive momentum of practical cooperation under ADMM-Plus. The inaugural exercise of the ADMM-Plus witnessed the participation of over 3,200 personnel, 6 ships and 15 helicopters and provided a good platform for building military-to-military relations through exchanges and joint drills, which also served to enhance interoperability in disaster management. The first cycle of activities for all the EWGs will conclude in 2014. In the next cycle, the ADMM-Plus will add Humanitarian Mine Action as its sixth area of cooperation.

At the 6th ADMM in Phnom Penh, Cambodia, on 29 May 2012, the Ministers agreed to increase the frequency of convening the ADMM-Plus from once every three years to once every two years. The Second ADMM-Plus was convened in Brunei Darussalam on 29 August 2013.

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CHAPTER III

SECURITY CONCERNS IN THE REGION AND NATIONAL DEFENCE AND SECURITY POLICIES

BRUNEI DARUSSALAM

A. SECURITY CONCERNS COMMON TO THE ASEAN COMMUNITY

For Brunei Darussalam, the overall security outlook of the region is relatively peaceful and stable. Through close collaboration and joint efforts, ASEAN has created a favourable environment for trade, business and investment; which is an important component in further developing the region's economic progress and prosperity.

Despite such cooperation, there continues to be security concerns in the region. These include terrorism, transnational crimes, sea piracy, cybercrimes/attacks, epidemic and infectious diseases, climate change and environment degradation. These non-traditional threats have become increasingly challenging as result of globalization and the advancement of communication technologies, which have seemingly defied national boundaries.

Another pressing non-traditional threat is natural disasters. Prominent natural disasters for Brunei Darussalam include flooding, landslides, forest fires and haze. The challenge is not only in terms of managing response to disasters, but also in terms of mitigating, preventing and preparing for the disasters.

Traditional threats that can be sparked by unresolved territorial claims, both land and sea, are another security concern to the region. In this globalized era, countries cannot escape from feeling the spill-over effects from any possible outbreak of conflict between states.

B. INDIVIDUAL NATIONAL DEFENCE POLICIES

The White Paper, *Defending the Nation's Sovereignty: Expanding Roles in Wider Horizons*, published in 2011, outlines Brunei Darussalam's vision of how to respond effectively the new security agenda.

The White Paper charts policies which attempt to maximize the operational effectiveness of the armed forces across the breadth of the new security agenda.

In doing so, the paper outlines practical measures, such as:

- Identifying particular capabilities that will be acquired in both short and long term, including the advanced airborne surveillance system, new medium lift helicopters and the improved mobility and firepower of the land force; and
- Strengthening the joint operational planning and capability development process through technology and professional development.

The White Paper also seeks to ensure that Brunei Darussalam can make an effective contribution to promoting a regional stability. It supports security cooperation both in the region and beyond – which Brunei Darussalam has demonstrated in its peace monitoring mission in the Philippines and Lebanon.

Military Expenditure

In the financial year 2012, the approved defence spending was estimated at B\$ 513,172,760.00. This was 0.15% less than the approved defence spending for 2011.

C. NATIONAL CONTRIBUTIONS TO PROMOTING REGIONAL SECURITY

As the Chairman of ASEAN, Brunei Darussalam's overall agenda is intended to ensure that ASEAN's regional commitments are carried out, especially as the Association work towards completing the ASEAN Community by 2015. In implementing these commitments, Brunei Darussalam strives to ensure that all participants are consulted and consensus is reached.

Brunei Darussalam encourages efforts to support the implementation of the Declaration on the Conduct of Parties in the South China Sea (DOC) and pursuing the Code of Conduct (COC) in the South China Sea through a step-by-step approach. Such efforts can only take place by creating the 'right' environment for the parties concerned, which Brunei Darussalam aims to undertake peacefully through dialogue and consultations.

While maintaining ASEAN's centrality, Brunei Darussalam continues to support the work and cooperation in all of the ASEAN led-mechanisms such as the ASEAN Plus Three (APT), ASEAN Regional Forum (ARF), East Asia Summit (EAS) and respective dialogue partners. In close collaboration with China, Brunei Darussalam launched the Commemorative Publication for the 20th ASEAN Regional Forum in July 2013.

In terms of enhancing regional cooperation in the defence sector, Brunei Darussalam hosted the 7th ADMM and 2nd ADMM Plus. Reflecting the theme of 'Securing Our People, Our Future Together', Brunei Darussalam promotes the interaction of defence and military personnel. In realising this goal, Brunei Darussalam introduced the 'ASEAN Defence Interaction Programme (ADIP), which aims to build understanding and confidence building among the personnel in the defence establishments.

Also in the ADMM/ADMM Plus framework, Brunei Darussalam hosted the Second ASEAN Humanitarian Assistance and Disaster Relief (HADR) Exercise (2nd AHX) and the first ADMM Plus HADR/Military Medicine Exercise in June 2013. The exercise focused on military cooperation and activities which concentrated on military medicine, engineering and distribution of aid to disaster-affected population. The exercise was successful in enhancing and increasing practical military cooperation to the next level. It brought together the ADMM-Plus countries in a joint exercise that incorporated HADR and military medicine scenario.

Brunei Darussalam, through the National Disaster Management Centre (NDMC), is engaged in cooperation in disaster management with regional and international bodies such as the ASEAN Committee on Disaster Management (ACDM) and the UN International Strategy for Disaster Reduction (UNISDR). NDMC also fully supports the regional ASEAN Coordinating Centre

for Humanitarian Assistance. NDMC is expected to assume the role of ACDM Chairman and host to the '3rd Conference of the Parties for the AADMER' in 2014. NDMC supports the implementation of the AADMER Work Programme which aims to enhance disaster management capacity of ASEAN Member States.

In terms of combating transnational crime, Brunei Darussalam hosted the Second Special ASEAN Ministerial Meeting on Drug Matters in September 2013, which reaffirmed the region's commitment to implementing the Leaders' Declaration for a Drug-Free ASEAN 2015. Brunei Darussalam is also an active participant in the ASEAN Ministerial Meeting on Transnational Crime (AMMTC).

In improving border controls, Brunei Darussalam's law enforcement agencies have bilateral arrangements with its Malaysian neighbouring states – Sabah and Sarawak. Periodically, Brunei Darussalam and Malaysia exchange intelligence, share experiences and best practices. This cooperation is an important initiative, especially in dealing with malicious activities at border checkpoints. Similar cooperation takes place with Singapore.

Since October 2004, Brunei Darussalam has also been participating in the peace-keeping and monitoring mission of the International Monitoring Team (IMT) led by Malaysia in the Southern Philippines. There are currently 15 Brunei Darussalam IMT personnel serving in Mindanao. The 9th mandate of the IMT will expire in March 2014. Brunei Darussalam has moreover made financial contributions to the Philippines following the Tropical Storm Washi and Typhoon Bopha.

CAMBODIA

A. SECURITY CONCERNS COMMON TO THE ASEAN COMMUNITY

Non-traditional security issues are threatening and impacting our livelihood and socio-economic development. These impacts are getting more serious since we are very much interdependent on each other. The triple disasters- earthquake, tsunami, and nuclear crisis- in Japan is posing a new big challenge for the region, given Japan is one of the most active country in the region and the world at large. Japan has been very active in supporting regional economic integration, especially in the reduction of development gap in ASEAN and ASEAN infrastructure connectivity projects. Wars against terrorism and insurgency in Iraq, Afghanistan, Israel, Palestine, India, Pakistan and also many other parts of the world appear to be never ending despite the great efforts and mechanisms to deal with threats.

In this regard, the Asia Pacific Region and ASEAN Communities remain under the threats of Non- Traditional Security (terrorism, transnational organized crimes, epidemics, natural disasters, etc.) and also Traditional Security (sea and land territorial disputes, nuclear and conventional arms proliferation, and also political and legal disputes) With the increase in emerging security issues, defense and security cooperation among ASEAN member-states face difficulties which demands for new ideas to resolve the conflicts. Effective cooperation amongst the ASEAN member states, and also between ASEAN and its others partners, is promoted, since defense and security cooperation between all these countries is vital.

Solutions would require enhancing international cooperation, confidence building and preventive diplomacy among the ASEAN member states. No single country can deal with the threats (war against terrorism, economic-financial crisis and climate change and global warming) alone. Thus, the international community is required to work together as one to address all the threats. In addition, ASEAN Regional Forum, Shanghai Cooperation Organization, APEC, ASEAN plus China, Korea, and Japan (ASEAN + 3), EU-ASEAN, US-ASEAN, China and SCO, ARF, ASEAN+ 3+3, and ADMM-Plus are examples of existing

avenues to deal with these treats. These are continuously improving and playing a more prominent role in maintaining regional peace and stability, and some positive factors are gaining the upper hand in regional security cooperation.

B. INDIVIDUAL NATIONAL DEFENCE POLICIES

For Cambodia's defense policy and security strategy within these emerging new security paradigms in region and world at large, the Royal Government of Cambodia especially through the Ministry of National Defense has reviewed the so-called Defense White Paper and redefined defense and security's priorities to respond to its development.

Cambodia's new stability, the importance of providing a secure environment for development, and the nation's engagement in the international community demand a coherent and well founded defense policy.

According to Article 49 of the Cambodian Constitution, all Cambodian people have an obligation to contribute to the building and defense of the nation. The nation defense strength fundamentally depends on people force, and the RCAF is the core in the implementation of this defense responsibility. The RCAF is born from the people and must implement the Royal Government's political guidelines of defending the nation and maintaining security, of engaging in nation building and to save people from disasters.

National Defense Objectives

Managing these security challenges effectively will not be an easy task and it will take some years to achieve a comprehensive outcome. National resources are not unlimited and the right balance must be maintained between expenditure on defense and security, and the resources devoted to overall national development. The clear national objective is to achieve security and development together.

To support this national goal, Cambodia's defense policy needs to pursue several key objectives in coming years. These are to:

- maintain the capacity to ensure stability and social order within Cambodia in support of national interests;
- protect the nation's borders against transnational crimes such as the unauthorized movement of people, drugs, criminal activity, firearms and other goods that maybe detrimental to national security;
- reshape the RCAF into a smaller, more professional military force able to defend Cambodia's national interests;
- contribute to national development through the provison of specialist skills and services (e.g. engineering, communications, transport, medical and Humanitarian Assistance and Disaster Relief);
- to fight terrorism effectively, governments should invest multi-prolonged response, especially dealing appropriately with youth venerable or subjected to be terrorists;
- in order to meet the UN Standard, the Cambodian Peace Keeping Forces have conducted regular training in country and abroad and also maintained a high level in mine clearance throughout their UNMIS operations as well as abstaining level 3 in Explosive Ordnance Disposal and upgrade Peacekeeping Training Center as regional level;
- develop over time an enhanced capacity to protect Cambodia's interests in surrounding maritime areas;
- engage in confidence building measures with Cambodia's neighbors including meeting of senior officers and development of security dialogues.

The RCAP has an essential part to play in promoting national cohesion and development in support of other Government agencies. The specific initiatives set out subsequently in this White Paper provide a clear agenda for realizing that potential.

C. NATIONAL CONTRIBUTION TO PROMOTING REGIONAL SECURITY

Cambodia has been active in regional and international security engagement namely ASEAN, ARF, ADMM, ADMM-Plus, ASPC, etc. Cambodia also successfully chaired ASEAN last year including ADMM.

Cambodia maintains bilateral defense and security cooperation with countries in the region and across the globe. Relationships with the United States, China, Russia, Vietnam, and Japan have increasingly been improved and defense cooperation with other countries in the region has also been constructively fruitful.

The Royal Government of Cambodia under the leadership of Samdech Techo Prime Minister HUN SEN always holds her stand toward peace, stability, and growth with the neighbouring countries, ASEAN and the world community as well. Cambodia will never desire to use force to invade any countries and not allow the border to be subjected to any illegal activities. Cambodia is committed to the regional and world security by working in very constructive and effective ways with the neighbouring countries, partner, regional security mechanisms and the United Nations.

INDONESIA

A. SECURITY CONCERNS COMMON TO THE ASEAN COMMUNITY

Despite the fact that Southeast Asia region has become much more stable, peaceful, and secure, ASEAN continues to face challenges to the maintenance of peace, security, and stability in the region. Territorial disputes, proliferation of weapon of mass destruction, internal conflicts, terrorism, and transnational crime are some of the challenges that the region continues to confront.

To nurture peace and stability, ASEAN Member States should reaffirm their commitments to the existing norms and principles that guide interstate relations in the region and beyond, such as the TAC, ASEAN Charter, Treaty of SEANWFZ, DOC, and the Bali Principles. At the same time, it is also important to continue strengthening the institutions and mechanisms for dialogue, cooperation, and confidence building measures such as the ARF, ADMM, AMMTC/SOMTC, EAS, and AMF.

Indonesia believes that ASEAN norms and principles should be made more inclusive. In this connection, Indonesia welcomes the accession and the intention of a number of countries to accede to the Treaty of Amity and Cooperation. We believe that the more countries become part of the TAC, the more ASEAN norms, values, and principles become universal, and the more beneficial to the region.

The threat of nuclear weapons and weapons of mass destruction has not been totally absent from the Southeast Asia region. While reaffirming commitment to the Treaty of SEANWFZ, ASEAN should continue its efforts to have the Nuclear Weapon States to accede the Protocol to the SEANWFZ. Indonesia believes that the accession by the NWSs is crucial to ensure the realization of a nuclear-free Southeast Asia and the maintenance of regional peace and stability.

Indonesia is of the view that the issue of South China Sea should be solved through dialogue and peaceful means. In this spirit, it is crucial that ASEAN and China start the negotiation on the establishment of a code of conduct in the South China Sea, as part of the comprehensive implementation of the DOC.

Equally important is endeavors to strengthen ASEAN's capacity to prevent and address conflicts, including internal conflicts. In this connection, it is important to ensure the effective operationalisation of the Institute for Peace and Reconciliation (AIPR), which was formally launched at the 21st Summit in Phnom Penh, November 2012.

In the light of current geopolitical dynamics in our region, Indonesia is of the view that ASEAN must strengthen regional architecture based on the principle of dynamic equilibrium with ASEAN stays firm at the driver's seat. To ensure its leadership in the regional architecture, ASEAN must constantly maintain and nurture unity and cohesiveness.

Due to its strategic geographical position and being the largest archipelagic state in the world, Indonesia attaches great importance to the issue of maritime security and maritime cooperation. Indonesia is of the view that the sea should not prohibit countries in the region to promote and develop maritime cooperation. In fact, the sea has a lot of potentials for cooperation for our common benefit including building maritime connectivity for ASEAN and beyond. For that reason, Indonesia has been a strong advocate of maritime cooperation through various mechanisms and forums, including the ASEAN Maritime Forum.

In addition to traditional security issues, ASEAN is also confronting a set of complex non-traditional threats, particularly in the form of terrorism and transnational crimes. Drugs trafficking, money laundering, cyber crime, trafficking in persons, and people smuggling are some of the transnational crimes that Indonesia and ASEAN have given priority to deal with. Stronger and closer ASEAN cooperation, particularly among law enforcement agencies, is indeed crucial to deal with such challenges.

B. INDIVIDUAL NATIONAL DEFENCE POLICIES

Indonesia's Defence Policy

Indonesia is located in 'strategic centrality' within the Asia Pacific region. It is the largest archipelagic state in the world situated at the 'cross-roads' between the Indian and Pacific Oceans and between the Asian and Australian continents.

Indonesia is factoring in geographical feature while still maintains the enduring linkage between external and internal threats. Its strategic environment exhibits signs of a nexus between traditional and non-traditional security challenges. The traditional concerns includes interstate conflict in the region, territorial/border disputes, internal conflict, potential threat emanating from weapons of mass destruction while non-traditional concerns include energy security, food security, global warming, trafficking in persons, illicit arm trade, people smuggling, terrorism and natural disaster.

Indonesia's doctrine of National Defence is based on the nation's values manifested in a Total-National Defence System that involves all stakeholders, territories, and other national resources. The system is integrated, focused, sustainable, and continues to protect and defend the people, sovereignty, and territorial integrity of the Republic of Indonesia. This doctrine is formulated based on national ideology Pancasila, the 1945 Constitution, the historical foundation and the implementation of the concept of Archipelagic State. This strategic doctrine is oriented to building national defence resilience and capability, which contributes to the maintenance of regional peace and security. This layered defence strategy rests on the combined and integrated efforts of military and non-military elements.

Indonesia is preparing to gradually modify this layered defence strategy to focus more on integrated tri-service operations in three to five Joint Regional Commands –through retaining the geographical zoning. The two Defence White Papers (2003 and 2008) as well as Law No. 3 of 2002 on National Defence and Law No. 34 of 2004 on the TNI, made explicit mention of

the our geographically-based defence strategy. In the 2009 Strategic Defence Review process that formally gave birth to the Minimum Essential Force concept, a new geostrategic thinking was further adopted, that is 'Flash-point Defence'. This strategy focuses on Indonesia's force structure development not just qualitatively and quantitatively to obtain the minimum capability to deal with our actual threats, but also geographically by gradually positioning forces in the areas in the areas of potential conflict – most of which are part of the outer islands.

Indonesia's priorities and focuses on military defence posture are directed to the realization of the Minimum Essential Force of the Indonesian Armed Forces (TNI) with reference to the concept of development of the ideal Military posture that has been planned for long term to support the implementation of the TNI's main task throughout the national territory. The main concern of minimum essential force in enhancing the ability of combat unit and preparing standby unit for emergency including disaster management and peacekeeping missions to support peacekeeping operation (PKO).

Military budget is defined according to state financial capability and national development program priorities. Indonesia's military budget is relatively constant at around 1% of its GDP. Based on the priority of Minimum Essential Force to face actual and potential threats, national defence budget is allocated to provide the maintenance, operation, modernization of transportation equipment of Indonesian Army, developing combat units and preparing stand-by unit for emergency, modernization and maintenance of defence equipment and other supporting infrastructure.

Indonesia is committed to the peaceful resolution of any differences and disputes through dialogue in an amicable manner. As mandated by its constitution, Indonesia actively contributes to the maintenance of world and regional peace and stability based on the principles of the UN Charter, the Treaty of Amity and Cooperation (TAC), the ASEAN Charter and other related international and regional norms and values. Indonesia also attaches great importance to defence cooperation at bilateral, regional, or international level.

C. NATIONAL CONTRIBUTIONS TO PROMOTING REGIONAL SECURITY

Peacekeeping Operation

Indonesia has long history of contribution to the UN peacekeeping operations. In fact, Indonesia's active participation in the UN-led peacekeeping missions is mandated by the Constitution. Since our first participation in the UN Emergency Force in 1957, peacekeeping has become a vital element of Indonesia's foreign policy. This reflects Indonesia's commitment towards the maintenance of world peace and security.

Currently, Indonesian peacekeepers are deployed in seven UN peacekeeping operations, namely UNIFIL (Lebanon), UNAMID (Darfur), UNISFA (Abyei-Sudan), UNMISS (South Sudan), UNMIL (Liberia); MONUSCO (Congo) and MINUSTAH (Haiti). With a total of 1,971 personnel, Indonesia ranks fifteenth among Troops/Police Contributing Countries.

At the regional level, Indonesia has played an active role in strengthening ASEAN cooperation in the field of peacekeeping missions, including through the initiative to establish an ASEAN Peacekeeping Centre's Network under the framework of the ADMM. The initiative is aimed at promoting and enhancing cooperation among defence and armed forces within ASEAN Member States through sharing experiences, expertise and other related capacities in peacekeeping.

Conflict Prevention And Mediation

As a strong advocate of dialogue and peaceful resolution of conflicts, Indonesia has a long history of involvement in conflict mediation in the Southeast Asia region. Its role in the mediation of conflicts in the region can be traced even since the 1990's.

Over the past two decades, Indonesia has facilitated the peace process between the Philippine government and the MNLF, and between 1994 and 2002 sent the Garuda Contingent (Konga XVII) under the framework of the Organisation of Islamic Cooperation (OIC) peace process. Indonesia warmly welcomes the peace agreement reached between the Philippine government and the Moro Islamic Liberation Front (MILF) in October 2012. An Indonesian observer team is also

participating in the International Monitoring Team which has been agreed by the Philippine government and the MILF.

In 2011, as Chair of ASEAN, Indonesia has played an important role in facilitating dialogue between the Governments of Cambodia and Thailand on the dispute over the areas near a temple. The efforts by ASEAN have succeeded in reducing the tensions and brought the two parties to the negotiation table. Even more, the role of ASEAN has been acknowledged and commended by the international community, including the UN Security Council and the International Court of Justice.

Non-Proliferation And Disarmament

Indonesia's commitment to global nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation, and peaceful use of nuclear energy is total and absolute. Indonesia supports the universalization of the NPT and urges states which are not yet a party to immediately accede to the NPT as non-nuclear states. At the same time, Indonesia sees that it is inalienable right of any state to utilize nuclear energy for peaceful purposes. Indonesia has been a strong supporter of the CTBT, and gave it a further vote of confidence by ratifying it on 6 December 2011. Indonesia welcomes the increasing number of signatories and state parties to the CTBT. Indonesia therefore calls on the remaining Annex II countries to complete their ratification process so that the Treaty will soon come into force.

At the regional level, Indonesia is also fully committed to the realization of a region free from nuclear weapons and continues to abide by the Southeast Asia Nuclear Weapons-Free Zone Treaty (SEANWFZ). In 2011, under Indonesia's chairmanship, ASEAN member States concluded negotiations with the Nuclear Weapon States on the SEANWFZ, a breakthrough that came after more than 10 years of negotiations. Indonesia believes that the accession of the NWSs to the Protocol of SEANWFZ is essential to realize a nuclear-free Southeast Asia. In this regard, Indonesia will continue to work with ASEAN Member States and the NWSs to ensure their early accession to the Protocol of SEANWFZ.

Counter-Terrorism And Transnational Crime

Indonesia believes that counterterrorism efforts must address the root causes or condition conducive of terrorism. Since the root causes of terrorism are varied and complex, the strategy to address them must be comprehensive

and interlinked. It should take into account all factors that work against terrorism—including law enforcement, the legislative framework, foreign policy, and socio-economic policy. It should also address local circumstances and conditions that give rise to terrorism: political grievances and marginalization to cite a few.

Effective law enforcement measure is an essential component of the fight against terrorism. Since enacted anti-terror legislation in 2003, the Indonesian National Police has arrested and brought to justice hundreds of terrorists, most of them have been tried before a court of justice and convicted. To further strengthen its national legal framework for counterterrorism, in February 2012, the Indonesian Parliament passed Law on Prevention and Suppression of Terrorism Financing. The Law will enable the Government to take more robust measures in preventing and suppressing terrorists from using their money to finance their acts.

In addition to law enforcement measures, Indonesia continues to use a soft power approach through de-radicalisation programmes and initiatives to promote a culture of tolerance and the value of moderation. Indonesia has been a strong advocate for interfaith dialogue and dialogue among civilizations to promote pluralism and tolerance between and within faiths. At the same time Indonesia rejects the notion of associating terrorism with particular nations, ethnicities, cultures or religions. Indonesia is of the view that efforts to eradicate terrorism must be in conformity with democratic principles. All measures against terrorism must be consistent with the rule of law and a deep and abiding respect for human rights.

Being aware of the fact that terrorism is transnational and organized in nature, Indonesia has been a strong advocate for international cooperation to combat this crime – be it at bilateral, regional, and global level. At the regional level, Indonesia has played an important role in strengthening ASEAN cooperation to counter terrorism, through its various mechanisms. Under the framework of AMMTC/SOMTC, Indonesia has served as the lead shepherd of the counter terrorism issue and chairman of the Working Group on Counter Terrorism. One of the notable achievements under this framework has been the entry into force of the ASEAN Convention on Counter Terrorism in Mei 2011. Indonesia ratified the Convention on April 9, 2012, as stipulated in the Law no 5 2012.

Indonesia has also been a strong advocate of counter terrorism cooperation under the mechanism of ADMM Plus and the ASEAN Regional Forum. Together with the US, Indonesia serves as the co-chairs of the ADMM Plus Expert Working Group on Counter Terrorism. The Working Group is working on the plan to conduct a counter terrorism exercise to be held in Indonesia in September 2013.

At the global level, Indonesia has been an active player in the global efforts to combat terrorism under the framework of UN system. Since the adoption of the UN Global Counter Terrorism Strategy (UNGCTS) in 2006, Indonesia has worked with the international community to ensure the effective and full implementation of Strategy. Indonesia also continues to support the deliberations at the UN General Assembly on a Comprehensive Convention on International Terrorism, the establishment of which will strengthen international legal framework to address terrorism. As part of its commitment to the global efforts against terrorism, Indonesia signed and ratified international conventions on counterterrorism in the implementation of UN Resolution 1373.

To complement the efforts within the UN system, Indonesia has also played an active role in the Global Counter Terrorism Forum (GCTF), an informal multilateral forum established in September 2011 aimed at enhancing international cooperation to address terrorism. Indonesia and Australia serve as co-chairs of the Southeast Asia Regional Capacity Building Working Group.

With regard to the threats of transnational crime, Indonesia deems it important to forge closer cooperation to deal with the threats through bilateral, regional, or international mechanism. At the regional level, Indonesia has played an important role to intensify cooperation to suppress transnational crime through the framework AMMTC/SOMTC and the ARF. With regard to trafficking in persons, Indonesia supports the establishment of an ASEAN Convention on Trafficking in Persons (ACTIP) as a legally binding instrument to strengthen cooperation against trafficking in persons. At the larger scope, Indonesia has also played an active role in nurturing cooperation to deal with trafficking in persons and people smuggling through the framework of the Bali Process on People Smuggling, Trafficking in Persons and Related Transnational Crime (Bali Process).

LAO PDR

A. SECURITY CONCERNS COMMON TO THE ASEAN COMMUNITY

It is observed that amidst the globalization characterized by increased cooperation in a wide range of areas and intense competition, the international and regional environment continues to undergo complex changes with various traditional and non-traditional security challenges facing some countries and regions of the world. In spite of that, the promotion of peace and development cooperation remains the prevailing trend.

Overall, the Asia-Pacific region enjoys a relatively peaceful and stable environment that is conducive to the continued economic growth in Asia, despite some economic slowdown in other regions. Importantly, strategic shift towards Asia has become ever more prominent. This presents both opportunities and challenges for the region. But all in all, opportunities outweigh challenges as countries work together to seize the opportunities, while concerted efforts have been made to address common challenges in order to maintain peace, security, stability and prosperity in the region and the world at large.

In Southeast Asia, while making steady progress towards the establishment of an ASEAN Community by 2015, ASEAN, as an intergovernmental organization, maintains its centrality and proactive role as the primary driving force in the relations with its external partners in a regional architecture that is open, transparent and inclusive through the ASEAN-initiated regional frameworks namely, the ASEAN+1, ASEAN+3, ARF, EAS and ADMM Plus where each of those mechanisms has its own specific purposes, but complements and mutually reinforces one another that contributes to the common goal of peace and prosperity in the region and the world as a whole.

While witnessing vigorous achievements, ASEAN, like other regions of the world, faces various challenges which are transnational in nature, including, among others, transnational crime, terrorism, food and energy security, natural disasters, epidemics, and climate change. To address such challenges, it requires not only enhanced cooperation

within ASEAN, but also joint efforts with external partners of ASEAN so as to ensure regional peace and stability which is a precondition for socio-economic development of individual countries as well as for an ASEAN Community building that ASEAN aspires to establish by 2015.

B. INDIVIDUAL NATIONAL DEFENCE POLICIES

Since its proclamation in 1975, the Lao People's Democratic Republic (Lao PDR) has been implementing the two strategic tasks of national defence and development by pursuing consistently the People's Comprehensive National Defence and Security Policy of self-defence with the participation of the entire Lao multi-ethnic people and in combination with socio-economic development and international cooperation based on its foreign policy of peace, independence, friendship and cooperation.

The objective in the pursuit of the People's Comprehensive National Defence and Security Policy is to safeguard the national independence, sovereignty and the territorial integrity, to protect the national interest and the entire Lao multi-ethnic people, and to ensure security and social order that provide the environment favourable for socio-economic development of the Nation as well as to contribute to the cause of peace, security, stability and development of the region and the world. The Lao PDR's consistent policy is to neither participate in any military bloc or alliance as its armed forces are for self-defence only, nor allow foreign military bases in the territory of the Lao PDR.

The national defence and security task is the task of the entire Lao multi-ethnic people where everyone has a role to play as stipulated in the Constitution of the Lao PDR.

In order to fulfil the poverty reduction task and to lift the country out of the status of the least developed country in 2020, most of the government budget is allocated to the improvement of national socio-economic infrastructures, thus budget for national defence is very limited. The

allocated annual defence budget is used mainly for salary, allowance, welfare, education and training of the officers and soldiers as well as for international cooperation of the Lao People's Army.

C. NATIONAL CONTRIBUTION TO PROMOTING REGIONAL SECURITY

Based on its foreign policy of peace, independence, friendship and cooperation and the People's Comprehensive National Defence and Security Policy of self-defence, the Lao PDR has deepened and widened its cooperative relations with all friendly countries and regional and international organisations around the world both bilaterally and multilaterally to enhance mutual understanding, trust and confidence in the region and the world, thereby, ensuring conducive environment to promoting development cooperation.

To date, the Lao PDR has established diplomatic relations with 135 countries and actively participates in ASEAN, AMMTC, ADMM, ADMM-Plus, ARF, ASEM, ASEANAPOL, INTERPOL, Shangri-La Dialogue and the UN, among others.

The Lao PDR actively joins the regional and international efforts in combating terrorism and other transnational crime. The Lao PDR ratified the ASEAN Convention on Counter Terrorism on 12 November 2012, hosted and chaired the 9th AMMTC, the 3rd AMMTC+China Consultation and the 7th AMMTC+3 Consultation on 15-19 September 2013 in Vientiane and is in the process of preparing to host and chair the 10th ASEAN Air Chiefs Conference (AACC) on 2-4 November 2013 in Vientiane. The Lao PDR, together with Japan, will also be a Co-chair of ADMM-Plus Expert Working Group on Humanitarian Assistance and Disaster Relief (HADR) from 2014 to 2016. At the international level, the Lao PDR is now a State Party and signatory to following 13 UN conventions on counter-terrorism:

- 1) Convention on Offences and Certain Other Acts Committed on Board Aircraft (1963)
- 2) Convention for the Suppression of Unlawful Seizure of Aircraft (1970)
- 3) Convention for the Suppression of Unlawful Acts Against the Safety of Civil Aviation (1971)

- 4) Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of Crimes against Internationally Protected Persons, Including Diplomatic Agents (1973)
- 5) Convention on the Physical Protection of Nuclear Material (1979)
- 6) International Convention Against the Taking of Hostages (1979)
- 7) Protocol for the Suppression of Unlawful Acts of Violence at Airports Serving International Civil Aviation (1988)
- 8) Convention for the Suppression of Unlawful Acts Against the Safety of Maritime Navigation (1988)
- 9) Protocol for the Suppression of Unlawful Acts Against the Safety of Fixed Platforms Located on the Continental Shelf (1988)
- 10) Convention on the Marking of Plastic Explosives for the Purpose of Detection (1991)
- 11) Convention on the Safety of United Nations and Associated Personnel (1994)
- 12) International Convention for the Suppression of Terrorist Bombings (1997)
- 13) International Convention for the Suppression of the Financing of Terrorism (1999)

To ensure safety and security in the border areas, and to jointly address border-related issues, the Lao PDR has bilateral cooperative mechanism on border issue with each of its neighbouring countries, namely, Lao-China Joint Border Inspection, Lao-Cambodia Boundary Commission, Lao-Myanmar Border Authorities at Central Level, Lao-Thai Joint Boundary Commission, and Lao-Viet Nam Boundary Commission.

All in all, the Lao PDR is fully committed to promoting regional peace, security and stability and development cooperation and stands ready to participate in regional and international efforts in addressing common challenges facing the region based on its ability and in accordance with the principle of consent and upon request of an effected countries as well as the principles of respect for independence, sovereignty, territorial integrity and non-interference in each other's internal affairs, among others.

MALAYSIA

A. SECURITY CONCERNS COMMON TO THE ASEAN COMMUNITY

The 21st century is seeing more countries paying attention to asymmetrical threats as a new dimension in strategic defence. While traditional security issues remain a threat, non-traditional security issues such as terrorism and transboundary crime have become a serious challenge to peace and stability in the region.

Developments in the Asia Pacific region will continue to be largely influenced by relations between the United States of America (US) and China. The US will remain the predominant power and play an important role in shaping the regional strategic environment. Meanwhile, China's economic and political significance in Southeast Asia will serve as a stabilizing factor to the regional environment, capable of influencing the strategic balance in the Asia-Pacific as a whole.

Overlapping territorial claims in the South China Sea is an issue that still requires attention. Malaysia strongly believes that issues concerning overlapping claims in the South China Sea should be addressed through peaceful means, including dialogues and discussions amongst the countries concerned, without resorting to threat or use of force, in accordance with the recognised principles of international law, including the 1982 United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS). Malaysia, on its part, will continue to play a constructive role in managing and addressing the common challenges in the South China Sea. Pending the final resolution of disputes, Malaysia is confident that instruments like the Declaration on the Conduct of Parties in the South China Sea (DOC) and eventually the Regional Code of Conduct in the South China Sea (COC) will provide the necessary means in ensuring the maintenance of good order in the region.

The Northeast Asian region remains an area of concern particularly with regard to recent developments over the DPRK nuclear issue. Malaysia strongly believes

that continued existence of nuclear weapons present a grave threat to humanity, particularly by increasing risk of proliferation. Malaysia, therefore, reiterates the importance of achieving the universal goal of complete and general disarmament especially weapons of mass destruction and its delivery system.

B. INDIVIDUAL NATIONAL DEFENCE POLICIES

Overview

The primary objective of the National Defence Policy is to protect and defend national interests which form the foundations of Malaysia's sovereignty, territorial integrity and economic prosperity. To achieve this objective, a requirement for a comprehensive strategy has been formulated as the underlying principles for national defence. These fundamental principles include self-reliance, total defence, commitment towards the Five Power Defence Arrangement, support for the United Nations' efforts towards universal peace, counter-terrorism measures and defence diplomacy.

Recognizing that the well-being of the nation is inextricably linked to regional peace and stability, Malaysia's defence policy is focused towards sustaining regional peace and stability that are conducive to our continued economic prosperity. Towards this end, regional cooperative endeavours that contribute towards maintenance of peace and stability of the region are given its due significance.

In an interdependent and interconnected world, adverse developments in other parts of the world can also affect Malaysia's interests as Malaysia is a trading nation. As such, Malaysia's defence policy is also focused towards supporting the nation's involvement in international peace endeavours, commitment to the various conventions and disarmament initiatives under the auspices of United Nations and its organs.

External Defence Relations

As a member of ASEAN, Malaysia gives high priority to the effort to ensure regional peace and development and maintains strong defence cooperation with other ASEAN Member States. Malaysia also recognises the significance of establishing defence cooperation with countries outside Southeast Asia especially in Asia-Pacific and Europe which would contribute to the peace, stability and prosperity in the region.

Commitment towards multilateral regional institutions is an important aspect of Malaysia's defence policy. The Five Power Defence Arrangement (FPDA) continues to provide significant avenues for professional enhancement of the Malaysian Armed Force (MAF) as well as capacity-building in addressing nonconventional threats.

The ASEAN Defence Ministerial Meeting (ADMM) is an important ASEAN sectoral body in promoting security in the region and the ADMM-Plus process is a testimony to the ADMM's open and inclusive nature. Defence involvement in the ARF has also increased over the years. The various cooperative endeavours under the auspices of ARF have contributed significantly in enhancing capacitybuilding especially in facing the challenges posed by non-conventional threats.

National Defence Industry

A Defence Industry Blueprint was developed in 2004 to provide guidance for the national defence industry, with particular emphasis on the following issues:

- (i) capability development levels;
- (ii) new approaches to the offset programme and technology transfer;
- (iii) new approaches to defence acquisition;
- (iv) industry incentive;
- (v) role of government agencies and the Malaysian Council for Defence and Security Industry, universities, research and design institutions;
- (vi) R&D activities;

- (vii) bilateral defence industry cooperation;
- (viii) establishment of strategic business alliances and smart partnership;
- (ix) marketing enhancement;
- (x) human resource and competency development; and
- (xi) different levels of defence industry development.

Defence Funding

Malaysia's defence allocation is based on the country's financial capability. In order to achieve the desired effectiveness of decisions on defence, allocations are not based on the national GDP, but on the principle of affordability.

C. NATIONAL CONTRIBUTIONS TO PROMOTING REGIONAL SECURITY

ASEAN Defence Ministers' Meeting (ADMM)

The ASEAN Defence Ministers' Meeting (ADMM) is the highest defence mechanism within ASEAN which is to facilitate the ASEAN Defence Ministers to discuss and exchange views on current defence and security issues and challenges faced in the region.

Cooperation in the ASEAN defence sector has grown steadily and been further intensified with the inception of the ADMM in 2006. Given the fast yet steady evolution, ADMM will indefinitely be a strong supporting pillar for the realization of the ASEAN Political-Security Community in 2015.

The ADMM signifies ASEAN readiness to embark into defence and security cooperation as well as the commitment to address common interest ranging from traditional to non-traditional security issues. Contrary to the European military coalition model or NATO, the ADMM is not to be seen as a military pact that is capable of executing military mission across the globe. Rather, it remains as a loose arrangement within the existing ASEAN defence fraternity.

Peacekeeping Operations

Malaysia began its chapter in UNPKOs in October 1960 with the deployment of 3,500 Malay Special Forces (MSF) of the then Malayan Armed Forces (MAF) to participate in the UN Operation in Congo (ONUC). Their tour of duty ended in April 1963 with great success. Malaysia had participated in over 20 peacekeeping missions and two UN-mandated PKOs namely the Implementation Force (IFOR), Stabilisation Force (SFOR) in BosniaHerzegovina and the International Force East Timor (INTERFET).

In January 1996, the Ministry of Defence established the Malaysian Peacekeeping Training Centre (MPTC) in Port Dickson, Negeri Sembilan. Apart from providing training on theoretical and practical peacekeeping related matters to Malaysian military and civilian police personnel, MPTC also provides training for foreign participants as well. The establishment of the MPTC clearly reflects the strong national commitment attached by Malaysia vis-à-vis towards international peace and security.

Conflict Prevention and Mediation

Malaysia is actively engaged in the on-going efforts to bring peace to Southern Philippines. Malaysia has since 2001 played the role as the Third Party Facilitator in the Peace Process between the Government of the Philippines (GPH) and the Moro Islamic Liberation Front (MILF). On 15 October 2012, the Chairman of the GPH and the MILF Peace panels signed the Framework Agreement in a ceremony held at Malacanang Palace in Manila. The ceremony was witnessed by Prime Minister of Malaysia, H.E. Dato' Sri Mohd Najib Tun Razak and President of The Republic of the Philippines, H.E. Benigno S. Aquino III.

The Framework Agreement serves as the overarching architecture for the Mindanao peace process and provides the foundation for a just and enduring peace in Mindanao. It sets the principles, processes and mechanisms that will shape the new relations between the Central Government and the Bangsamoro.

Malaysia also has been leading the International Monitoring Team in Mindanao (IMT-M), since its

establishment in 2004. The 19-member Malaysian contingent to IMT-M arrived in Cotabato City on 13 March 2012 for a 12-month assignment. The IMT-M is currently composed of 55 members from Brunei (15), Indonesia (15), Japan (2), Malaysia (19), Norway (2) and the European Union (2). Apart from its headquarters in Cotabato City, the IMT also has four (4) "Team Sites" located in Davao City, Illihan City, General Santos City, and Zamboaga City.

The IMT-M's mandate is to monitor the implementation of ceasefire between GPH and MILF. IMT-M's deployment has helped to drastically reduce incidents of armed conflict between the Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP) and the MILF, thus paving the way for GPH-MILF peace talks to proceed amicably.

On the situation in the Southern Thailand, Malaysia is also fully supportive of the approach being undertaken by the Thai side in efforts to bring peace in the area. In this regard, Malaysia is of the view that the General Consensus on Peace Dialogue Process which was signed on 28 February 2013 in Kuala Lumpur would be a major and constructive step toward creating an environment conducive to a lasting peace and prosperity in the Southern Border Provinces of Thailand that would bring benefit to Thailand and the region in general.

Counter Terrorism and Transnational Crime

Terrorism can be dealt effectively by addressing the conditions that breed it such as ignorance, backwardness and illiteracy. Malaysia places greater emphasis on education as a means to provide opportunity to escape poverty and develop greater understanding between different cultures to ensure peace and stability. Hence, the Government provides the biggest allocation of its national budget for education programmes.

Malaysia, under the purview of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, established the Southeast Asia Regional Centre for Counter-Terrorism (SEARCCT) on 1 July 2003. SEARCCT's aim is to conduct research, capacity-building and public awareness programmes in countering terrorism. Since its establishment, SEARCCT has held various types of training courses, in collaboration with numerous countries.

SEARCCT has conducted various capacity-building courses for local and foreign participants. SEARCCT is also developing its own database and a web-portal to foster networking and information/knowledge sharing among related agencies and institutions. SEARCCT has also published articles and monographs and is involved in delivering papers and lectures at the local, regional and international level.

Maritime Security

Malaysia is fully aware of its responsibilities to ensure that its maritime zones, which include the Straits of Malacca, are safe and secure for navigation. Malaysia constantly undertakes enforcement, direct protection and surveillance of its maritime zones. Regular patrols by enforcement agencies are conducted throughout Malaysia's maritime areas.

In addition to its physical presence, Malaysia has also introduced electronic monitoring capabilities to enable better surveillance of maritime activities in the Straits of Malacca. Two systems are currently in place, namely the Sea Surveillance System (SWASLA) manned by the MMEA and the Automatic Identification System (AIS) operated by the Marine Department.

Malaysia, together with Indonesia and Singapore have come up with initiatives to enhance the safety and security of the Straits of Malacca and Singapore, such as the Malaysia – Indonesia – Singapore Malacca Straits Coordinated Patrols, launched in June 2004, and the Eyes in the Sky (EiS) which was launched in September 2005.

Expert Working Group on Maritime Security (EWG-MS)

The ADMM-Plus Experts Working Group (EWG) on Maritime Security was created with the overall aim of enhancing cooperation on maritime security between ADMM-Plus Members, identifying risks in the maritime domain (especially on non-traditional security threats), and promoting wider information sharing across the regional maritime community. For the period of 2011-2013, the ADMM-Plus EWG-MS is co-chaired by Malaysia and Australia.

The EWG-MS have successfully conducted the first ever Maritime Security Table Top Exercise on Non Traditional Security in Langkawi Island in 2012. It was a testament of the commitment of the ADMM Plus community, in its effort to establish a regional practical cooperation that is sustainable as a way of addressing regional maritime security challenges. The next Table Top Exercise will be held in Sydney, Australia in the third quarter of 2013.

This achievement would not be possible without the cooperation and commitment from all ADMM Plus member countries. Malaysia is encouraged with this positive development that was made possible over a short period of time.

MYANMAR

ASEAN Leaders reiterated their commitments to promote security cooperation with a view to maintaining and further strengthening regional peace, security and stability. Toward this end, the ASEAN Leaders issued important Statements to build the ASEAN Community inspired by “One Vision, One Identity, and One Community”.

The ASEAN’s important Statements, among others, are as follows:

a. ASEAN Charter

The eleventh ASEAN Summit held in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia in December 2005 issued the Kuala Lumpur Declaration in order to draft the ASEAN Charter as ASEAN did not have any legal stature since its inception. The Eminent Persons Group (EPG) and the High Level Task Force (HLTF), comprising prominent persons from ten ASEAN Member States, were subsequently formed to prepare the ASEAN Charter. Myanmar accordingly participated in both activities. Myanmar and other ASEAN Leaders signed the ASEAN Charter during the thirteenth ASEAN Summit held in the Republic of Singapore in November 2007. Myanmar ratified the ASEAN Charter on 21 July 2008 as seventh Member State of ASEAN. The ASEAN Charter came into force on 15 December 2008.

b. ASEAN Political-Security Community

The objective of the ASEAN Political-Security Community is to ensure that the peoples and Member States of ASEAN live in peace with one another and with the world at large in a just, democratic and harmonious environment. While preserving and enhancing peace and stability in the region, the ASEAN Political-Security Community shall seek to strengthen the mutually beneficial relations between ASEAN and its Dialogue Partners and friendly countries. The ASEAN Political-Security Community has the following three dimensions:

- (i) Rules-based Community of shared values and norms;
- (ii) A cohesive, peaceful, stable and resilient region with shared responsibility for comprehensive security; and

- (iii) A dynamic and outward looking region in an increasingly integrated and interdependent world.

c. Bangkok Declaration

The Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) was formed on 8 August 1967 with the ASEAN Declaration or Bangkok Declaration. Bangkok Declaration stated the following aims and purposes of the Association, among others, the acceleration of the economic growth, social progress and cultural development in the region through joint endeavours in the spirit of equality and partnership; promotion of regional peace and stability through abiding respect for justice and the rule of law in the relationship among countries of the region; active collaboration and mutual assistance on matters of common interest in the economic, social, cultural, technical, scientific and administrative fields; and provision of assistance to each other in the form of training and research facilities in the educational, professional, technical and administrative spheres.

d. Declaration of ASEAN Concord

ASEAN Leaders adopted the Declaration of ASEAN Concord at Bali, the Republic of Indonesia on 24 February 1976. It was renamed as Bali Concord I when the Bali Concord II was signed in 2003. This Concord charts the framework for ASEAN cooperation and comprises of political, economic, social, cultural, information and security areas as well as the strengthening of the ASEAN mechanism.

e. Treaty of Amity and Cooperation in Southeast Asia

The Treaty of Amity and Cooperation in Southeast Asia (TAC) was signed by the original five Members of ASEAN in February 1976. Myanmar signed the TAC at the 28th ASEAN Ministerial Meeting held in Brunei Darussalam in 1995. The contracting parties to the TAC includes the ASEAN Member States as well other regional powers such as China, Russian

Federation, India, Australia, New Zealand, Japan and the Republic of Korea, which guarantee the assurances from the regional powers not to use force against ASEAN. France and Timor Leste also joined the TAC at the ASEAN Summit in Cebu, the Philippines in January 2007. Bangladesh and Sri Lanka also acceded to the TAC at the 40th ASEAN Ministerial Meeting held in Manila, the Philippines in July 2007. Democratic People's Republic of Korea also acceded to the TAC in July 2008; the United States of America in July 2009; and Turkey and Canada in July 2010. The high contracting parties of the TAC shall be governed by the following fundamental principles:

- (i) Mutual respect for the independence, sovereignty, equality, territorial integrity and national identity of all nations;
- (ii) The right of every State to lead its national existence free from external interference, subversion or coercion;
- (iii) Non-interference in the internal affairs of one another;
- (iv) Settlement of differences or disputes by peaceful means;
- (v) Renunciation of the threat or use of force;
- (vi) Effective cooperation among themselves.

f. Declaration of the Zone of Peace, Freedom and Neutrality

The Declaration of the Zone of Peace, Freedom and Neutrality (ZOPFAN) is one of the ASEAN's regional security agreements and was issued by the Kuala Lumpur Declaration on 27 November 1971. It is envisaged to avoid foreign interference; to unify in the region; and to closely cooperate among the Member States.

g. Treaty on the Southeast Asia Nuclear Weapon-Free Zone

The Treaty on the Southeast Asia Nuclear Weapon-Free Zone (SEANWFZ) was signed in Bangkok, Thailand on 15 December 1995. Myanmar signed the Treaty despite the fact that she was not the Member of the ASEAN regional organization. This Treaty is in line with Article 7 of the Treaty on the Non-proliferation of Nuclear Weapons (NPT). It came into force on 28 March 1997. The parties to this Treaty shall abide by its principles and prohibit from

initiating, developing, and containing nuclear weapons. It also deters from transiting, transporting and testing of nuclear weapons.

h. ASEAN's prospects on regional security

ASEAN Leaders adopted the Declaration of ASEAN Concord II (Bali Concord II) during the 9th ASEAN Summit held in Bali. The Bali Concord envisaged the establishment of the ASEAN Community based on ASEAN Security Community, ASEAN Economic Community and ASEAN Socio-Cultural Community. The three Pillars of ASEAN Community shall be established on an equal and consolidated manner. Close and cordial political-security cooperation is a pre-requisite for the success of the ASEAN Security Community. The establishment of the ASEAN Security Community will lead to a mechanism which intensifies and promotes regional peace and security. While the ASEAN Security Community promotes political and security cooperation, its Plan of Action supports and fosters mutual beneficial cooperation among the Member States. As outlined in the Bali Concord II, the ASEAN Security Community is envisaged to bring about ASEAN political and security cooperation to a higher plane to ensure that countries in the region live at peace with one another and with the world at large in a just, democratic and harmonious environment.

The ASEAN Member States shall foster the followings:

- (i) to promote harmony among the ASEAN Member States and further enhance democracy and justice;
- (ii) promote human rights and responsibility;
- (iii) foster people-to-people contact; and
- (iv) settle the remaining land, sea and air demarcations.

i. Setting ASEAN's norms relating to security

ASEAN has established norms of good conduct such as strengthening ASEAN unity; enhancing ASEAN integration; establishing democracy; and fostering democratic and transparent practices in Southeast Asia region. ASEAN Member States are also closely cooperating on the Treaty of Amity and Cooperation in Southeast Asia (TAC), the Southeast Asia Nuclear Weapon-Free Zone (SEANWFZ) Treaty, and the Declaration on the Conduct of Parties in the South China Sea (DOC).

j. ASEAN Policies relating to regional security

ASEAN is further enhancing its cooperation in the following areas with a view to fostering regional peace, stability and security:

Conflict Prevention: In order to effectively promote security cooperation in the region, ASEAN Member States are strengthening confidence-building measures, moving towards preventive diplomacy and deepening collaboration to combat non-traditional security issues. The objectives of conflict prevention, among others, include:

- (i) To develop and sustain confidence building to a highest level so that ASEAN Member States can avoid threats against each other;
- (ii) To deter conflict between ASEAN Member States and Non- ASEAN Member States; and
- (iii) To control and contain the conflicts from emerging in the region.

Resolving Conflicts: It is a paramount importance to resolve conflicts which involve the Member States in the region through peaceful means. While promoting regional peace and security, it is imperative that ASEAN observes and follows the regional conflict resolution mechanism which is acceptable to any ASEAN Member State. ASEAN also needs to develop new mechanism which will resolve the conflicts unconditionally in the region. Toward this end, ASEAN shall strengthen and further promote conflict management and conflict resolution mechanisms as well as regional peace maintaining mechanisms. ASEAN also needs to establish the supporting entities with a view to accelerate conflict resolutions in the region.

Peace Building: While sustaining peace in the conflict areas in the region, ASEAN also needs to focus on post-conflict peace building in order to deter the recurrence of conflicts in the region. ASEAN thus needs to establish regional capacity and mechanism for post-conflict peace building. It will involve collaboration with and involvement of the institutions and agencies outside the region. ASEAN Member States shall render support and share their experiences and best practices on the post-conflict peace building. ASEAN's post-conflict peace building involves,

among others, humanitarian assistance, reconstruction and rehabilitation, mobilization of available resources and setting up the evaluation and monitoring working groups.

Military Exercises: Joint military exercises contribute to sustaining regional peace and security. Such exercises strengthen and foster mutual confidence among the ASEAN Member States. Joint military exercises comprise of allowing ground military equipment and facilities for training purposes as well as secondment or attachment and conducting military trainings for military personnel from the Member States.

Development Cooperation in ASEAN: ASEAN attained much progress in development cooperation in late 1990s, which led to economic development and peace in the region. ASEAN is now focusing on peaceful resolution of conflicts between the neighbouring States through consultation and mediation as well as through the International Court of Justice in accordance with international dispute resolution norms. ASEAN also gained valuable experiences and lessons learned from conflicts occurred in the region. Such experiences should be further built upon to effectively address the conflicts through cooperation and collaboration.

ASEAN Security Perspectives: ASEAN has been striving to foster cooperation in combating terrorism, maritime security, pandemic, climate change and transnational crimes. Security cooperation in Asia-Pacific region transformed significantly and International Dialogues on security cooperation have been convened on a regular basis. ASEAN maintains its pivotal role in the international diplomatic arena as well as one of the essential regional organizations in Asia region. ASEAN Regional Forum (ARF) now comprises of 27 Member States since its inception fourteen years ago. ASEAN is closely cooperating with its neighbours at the regional security dialogues, such as, Pakistan and India in the west; and United States of America, Russia Federation and EU in the north. ASEAN established the ASEAN Defence Ministers Meeting (ADMM) in 2006 and enhanced cooperation in defence related areas. ADMM will collaborate on addressing transnational security threats, establishing ASEAN defence and security institutions, and providing security assurances among the ASEAN Member States.

A. SECURITY CONCERNS COMMON TO THE ASEAN COMMUNITY

The situations in Korean Peninsula and the South China Sea as well as strengthening of military powers in the region and rivalries between the super powers can lead to crises in the region. Such crises can destabilise the region if they are not resolved peacefully. There are also non-traditional security issues threatening the Asia-Pacific region, such as transnational terrorism, illicit trade and delivery of weapons of mass destruction, illicit trade of drugs, human trafficking, maritime security, natural disasters, environmental degradation, pandemic diseases, and illegal migration. The negative effect of Globalization and the advancement of technologies may cause the proliferation of non-traditional security threats, and thus threaten the global security.

ASEAN can consider the following traditional and non-traditional security concerns:

- (i) Current security concerns are not only related to military affairs but also political, economic, social and technology areas. Non-traditional security therefore becomes global concern in the post cold war era;
- (ii) Non-traditional security becomes more deepened than traditional security in the twenty first century. Both are inter-related to each other. It is therefore imperative to emphasise on both areas as the traditional security may have impact on non-traditional security.

Myanmar's Security Outlook

Non-traditional security becomes more deep rooted than the traditional security when the world entered the twenty first century. The challenges posed by non-traditional security may thus have an impact on global security. In order to effectively address these security challenges, ASEAN shall implement and accelerate confidence building and preventive diplomacy, and further enhance cooperation among the Member States. Collective efforts among the ASEAN Member States are essential to address and overcome the non-traditional security concerns. Myanmar believes that the democratic reform process of Myanmar will be further accelerated with the support of the ASEAN Regional Forum.

B. INDIVIDUAL NATIONAL DEFENCE POLICIES

The Republic of the Union of Myanmar never pursues a policy of aggression against its neighbours or other countries. The Armed Forces of Myanmar uphold its tradition to defend the country from any kind of threats. Myanmar does not permit any foreign troops in its territory. The Armed Forces of Myanmar also adhere to the three national causes and carry out its main responsibilities on national security and defence. Article 42 of the Constitution of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar further stipulates the following principles pertaining to the national defence policy of Myanmar:

Article 42

- (i) The Union shall not commence aggression against any nation;
- (ii) No foreign troops shall be permitted to be deployed in the territory of the Union.

The Republic of the Union of Myanmar has laid down the following national defence policy based on its historical background, socio-cultural condition, situation of countries in the region, geographic location and tradition of the Armed Forces (Tatmadaw):

- a. To safeguard non-disintegration of the Union, non-disintegration of national solidarity and perpetuation of sovereignty;
- b. To defend the nation through people's militia strategies centered on Tatmadaw and the internal powers together with the nationalities;
- c. To refrain from any form of interference and intervention in the internal affairs of other nations as well as to defend against any aggressive acts or interference in domestic affairs by foreign countries;
- d. To adhere to the five principles of peaceful co-existence;
- e. To refrain from forming military blocs and allow no foreign troops to be deployed in the Union;

- f. To cooperate with international community in addressing non-traditional security issues and counter-terrorism as well as to render assistance to natural disaster affected areas.

Military Expenditure

The proposed amount of military expenditure of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar in fiscal year 2013-2014 is approximately United States dollars 2.412 billion.

In order to promote friendly relations and advance security cooperation, the Commander-in-Chief of the armed forces, Commander-in-Chief (Army), Commander-in-Chief (Navy), and Commander-in-Chief (Air Force) paid official visits to the countries in the region. The Chiefs of armed forces from the countries in the region also reciprocated with visits to Myanmar. The Commanders-in-Chief, Ministers and Deputy Ministers also participated in the ASEAN Defence Ministers Meetings and related Workshops and signed also agreements pertaining to the regional security. Moreover, Myanmar participated in the regional security exercises.

C. NATIONAL CONTRIBUTIONS TO PROMOTING REGIONAL SECURITY

Myanmar joined the ASEAN in 1997 and has been contributing greatly to the regional cooperation since then. It became a member of the Bay of Bengal Initiative for Multi-Sectoral Technical and Economic Cooperation (BIMSTEC) in the same year and enhancing its cooperation with South Asian countries. Myanmar is also participating in the ASEAN Regional Forum, which is an important political and security forum in the Asia-Pacific region.

Myanmar ratified the ASEAN Convention on Counter-Terrorism and is now actively carrying out counter-terrorism measures. Myanmar has also drafted the national legislation on counter-terrorism since 2005, which also contained amendments on terrorism financing and extradition of criminals.

Myanmar participated in the annual meetings of the ASEAN Senior Officials on Drug Matters (ASOD) as an observer even before she joined the regional organization. Myanmar attended the 20th Meeting of ASOD held in Brunei Darussalam in August 1997 and implemented the projects and programmes under the ASOD.

Since 1999-2000, Myanmar launched the 15-year Drug Free programme through the elimination of illicit drug production to eradicate drug abuse, prevention and elimination of psychotropic drug substances and participation and cooperation with the international community. Myanmar also closely cooperates with neighbouring countries in this endeavour on real time basis.

PHILIPPINES

A. SECURITY CONCERNS COMMON TO THE ASEAN COMMUNITY

Asia's economic resilience provides the backdrop for the establishment of the ASEAN Community in 2015. For ASEAN to sustain economic momentum, collective efforts must continue to ensure that the security environment remains stable and conducive to development.

The maintenance of peace and stability in the region relies heavily on constructive and peaceful relations between and among nations based on the rules of international law, such as the United Nations (UN) Charter and the 1982 United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS), and sustained dialogue and cooperation.

Pressing security issues facing the ASEAN Community that were brought to the fore by geopolitical realities in 2012 were the following:

- Competing claims and disputes in the West Philippine Sea/South China Sea;
- Maritime security concerns;
- Terrorism;
- The situation in the Korean Peninsula.

Developments concerning the Bajo de Masinloc/Scarborough Shoal, an integral part of the Philippine territory, and increasing incidents in maritime areas, have highlighted the need for concerned parties and the international community to redouble efforts towards achieving the peaceful and durable settlement of disputes and safeguarding the freedom of navigation and commerce.

It is incumbent upon all claimant states to resolve disputes peacefully and in accordance with international law, especially the UNCLOS. Given the strategic importance of the South China Sea to regional and global trade, ASEAN has an interest to reaffirm the full and effective implementation of the Declaration on the Conduct of Parties in the South China Sea (DOC) as well as obligations under the 1976 Treaty of Amity and Cooperation (TAC).

The negotiation and conclusion of a binding and credible Code of Conduct in the South China Sea should remain a priority for ASEAN to bring into fruition a regional architecture that truly operates based on the rule of law.

Southeast Asia was identified as the "Second Front" in the Global War on Terrorism, but the resolve of the ASEAN governments has kept the terrorist threat in check. Nevertheless, Jemaah Islamiah and other al-Qaeda linked groups continue to operate in the region, highlighting the need for ASEAN to further enhance and deepen their cooperation with each other in the fight against terrorism.

The situation in the Korean Peninsula has far-reaching implications on regional stability. The launching of a rocket by the Democratic People's Republic on 13 April 2012 was a cause of grave concern to the international community. Relevant UN Security Council resolutions should be upheld to ensure peace and stability on the Korean Peninsula. The resumption of the stalled six-party talks will reaffirm dialogue as the prime mover in the process of the development and denuclearization of the Korean Peninsula.

Due to a more interdependent security environment, various threats confronting the region are beyond the capacity of individual states to address. These threats include terrorism, the financing of terrorism, and the rise of armed non-state actors; transnational crimes particularly human smuggling, trafficking in persons, and drug trafficking; man-made and natural disasters; climate change and environmental concerns; and proliferation of weapons of mass destruction. Increasing cross-border trade and the adoption of new technologies by criminal entities have facilitated the rise of illicit networks and activities that pose new threats to the security and safety of nationals.

B. INDIVIDUAL NATIONAL DEFENSE POLICIES

The 2011-2016 National Security Policy (NSP) of the Philippines guides national decision-making and courses of action towards the protection and enhancement of the well-being of the Filipino people and institutions. The Philippines is also harnessing and expanding its defense cooperation with strategic partners to help in the

establishment of a minimum credible defense posture to further the goals of its NSP.

Defense Expenditure (2012)

Operating Expenses	: PHP 19,126,784,000
Capital Outlay	: PHP 5,858,878,000
Total	: PHP 24,985,662,000
Population	: 95,800,000
Defense Expenditure Per Capita	: PHP 260.81
Actual Number of Personnel in the Armed Forces (as of February 2012)	: 121,529

C. NATIONAL CONTRIBUTIONS TO PROMOTING REGIONAL SECURITY

The Philippines is guided by the ASEAN Community Blueprints. In addition to undertaking national/domestic programs and projects called for in the Blueprints, the Philippines is a firm and consistent advocate of good stewardship of the regional/global commons and adherence to the rule of law.

Counter-Terrorism

The Philippine counter-terrorism strategy adopts a “whole-of-government” and “whole-of-nation” approach. The National Anti-Terrorism Strategy (NATS) recognizes that the fight against terrorism requires a comprehensive approach, comprising political, economic, diplomatic, military and legal means; and collaboration of the entire government machinery with the private sector and local communities. It also recognizes that a terrorist threat is a common concern among nations and thus, cooperation with other government and international organizations is beneficial to protecting the Philippines and its national interests.

The Philippines actively participates in multi-lateral, regional and bilateral efforts to counter-terrorism. The Philippines strongly supports the United Nations Global Counter Terrorism Strategy (UNGCTS), UN Conventions and UN Security Council Resolutions.

The Philippines is a State Party and signatory to 12 of the 16 UN Conventions on counter-terrorism, as follows:

- Convention on Offences and Certain Other Acts Committed On Board Aircraft (1963)
- Convention for the Suppression of Unlawful Seizure of Aircraft (1970)
- Convention for the Suppression of Unlawful Acts Against the Safety of Civil Aviation (1971)
- Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of Crimes against Internationally Protected Persons, including Diplomatic Agents (1973)
- International Convention Against the Taking of Hostages (1979)
- Convention on the Physical Protection of Nuclear Material (1979)
- Protocol for the Suppression of Unlawful Acts of Violence at Airports Serving International Civil Aviation, Supplementary to the Convention for the Suppression of Unlawful Acts against the Safety of Civil Aviation (1971)
- Convention for the Suppression of Unlawful Acts Against the Safety of Maritime Navigation (1988)
- Protocol for the Suppression of Unlawful Acts Against the Safety of Fixed Platforms Located on the Continental Shelf (1988)
- Convention on the Marking of Plastic Explosives for the Purpose of Detection (1991)
- International Convention for the Suppression of Terrorist Bombings (1997)
- International Convention for the Suppression of the Financing of Terrorism (1999)

In addition, the Philippines supports and undertakes to implement its obligations under UN Security Council Resolutions that established UN committees and prescribes measures aimed at assisting states to implement and report on measures to fight terrorism. For example, the independent Anti-Money Laundering Council of the Philippines has been a very useful instrument in the government’s effort to combat terrorism. To effectively pursue major players involved in illegal finance activities, including terrorists, President Aquino signed bills aimed at strengthening the country’s Anti-Money Laundering Act (AMLA) and suppressing terrorist funding in 2012.

Aside from the UN, the Philippines is active within ASEAN, the ARF, ASEM and APEC on counter-terrorism cooperation. The Philippines is a party to the ASEAN Convention on Counter Terrorism, signifying its strong commitment to regional efforts in countering the threat of terrorism. In line with this, the Philippines actively participates in discussions to implement the ASEAN Comprehensive Plan of Action on Counter-Terrorism and is the Lead Shepherd for the Senior Officials Meeting on Transnational Crime (SOMTC).

The Philippines actively participated in counter-terrorism workshops and fora including the ARF Workshop on Preparedness and Response to a Biological Event in Manila, the 3rd Biennial Review of the UN Counter-Terrorism Strategy, the 2nd Global Counter-Terrorism Forum Working Group for Southeast Asia, and the 10th ASEAN Regional Forum Inter-sessional Meeting on Counter Terrorism and Transnational Crime (CTTC).

The threat emanating from domestic terrorists has been significantly diminished as a result of the government's counter-terrorism program. Nevertheless, government forces remain vigilant in order to deter terrorists from implementing their plans.

The domestic terrorist threat mainly comes from the Abu Sayyaf Group (ASG) and rogue elements of the Moro Islamic Liberation Front (MILF) and Moro National Liberation Front (MNLF). There have also been reports of the continued presence of foreign terrorists linked to the Jemaah Islamiyah in Southern Philippines.

Counter-terrorism operations of the government have successfully neutralized key leaders of the ASG as well as support for the group. In 2012, the Philippines neutralized 11 leaders who are known to have caused much destruction and suffering, not only in the Philippines, but in other parts of the region as well. Most noteworthy are the neutralization of Ibnu Gholib al-Jitli or (Ustadz) Sanusi, Noor Fikrie Kahar, and Umbra Jumdal - one of the founding members of Abu Sayyaf.

This has diminished the group's ability to sow large scale attacks. Nevertheless, there have been sporadic incidents of small-scale bombings and kidnappings in southern Philippines suspected to have been perpetrated by these extremist groups.

In line with the "promotion of just and lasting peace and the rule of law" as one of the Key Result Areas of the Social Contract to the Filipino People of President Benigno S. Aquino III, amendments to the Human Security Act of 2007 have been included in the 13-point legislative priority of the President. The amendments seek to make the law more effective in bringing terrorists to justice and preventing them from undertaking terrorist acts with impunity while at the same time continuing to promote human rights in the country's counter-terrorism campaign.

Border Security

The Philippines has cooperative mechanisms with Indonesia and Malaysia to address security threats in the tri-border area.

The Philippine-Malaysia Joint Commission for Bilateral Cooperation established in July 1993 paved the way for the establishment of the Joint Committee on Border Cooperation (JCBC). The Philippine-Malaysia Border Patrol Coordinating Group, the implementing arm of the JCBC, conducts annual joint patrols.

Border patrol exercises and periodic intelligence exchanges between the Philippines and Indonesia are held under the auspices of a JCBC-administered Border Patrol Agreement, an adjunct of the 1975 Agreement on Border Crossing between both countries.

The Philippines initiated the Coastwatch South program, with the cooperation of the US and Australia. The program includes the installation of radar and other monitoring equipment in the porous islands of Mindanao to monitor and prevent movements of terrorists and pirates. The program aims to improve oversight of the tri-border area with the use of coastal radar sites connected by a string of air, ocean, and ground surveillance and interdiction assets, including Forward-Looking Infrared Radar (FLIR) pods for Philippine Navy aircraft and rigid-hull inflatable boats.

Non-proliferation, Counter-proliferation, Arms Control and Disarmament

The Philippines welcomes the renewal of the mandate of the 1540 Committee. The Philippines is in the process of working on a draft export controls legislation that would address the grave threat posed by illicit transfers of chemical, biological, radiological and nuclear materials.

In 2010, the Philippines joined the Global Initiative to Combat Nuclear Terrorism (GICNT). During the GICNT Implementation and Assessment Group (IAG) meeting in Marrakech, Morocco from 13 to 17 February 2012, the Philippines' proposed language on the importance of capacity building in nuclear forensics was included in the draft document on "Nuclear Forensics Fundamentals for Policy and Decision-makers" and will be reflected in the final version of the Document to be forwarded to the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA). The Philippines also volunteered to be part of the Working Group on Response and Mitigation that will work intersessionally to help move the process forward.

To raise public awareness on the importance of the 2012 Nuclear Security Summit and to apprise the public of the Philippines' contributions in the areas of nuclear security, a seminar on the issue was hosted by the Philippine Government, in cooperation and coordination with the Department of Science and Technology-Philippine Nuclear Research Institute (DOST-PNRI) and the Republic of Korea. The Philippines' hosting of the seminar signified its strong support to the Nuclear Security Summit. It also gave the Philippines the opportunity to present best practices and achievements in the area of nuclear security, emphasizing the need for promoting collaboration among stakeholders and increasing public awareness of nuclear security issues.

Transnational Crime

The Philippines has existing bilateral, regional and multilateral cooperative arrangements on CT and transnational crimes with ASEAN Member States. Aside from CT, other areas of cooperation in these arrangements include combating illicit drug trafficking, money laundering, trafficking in persons/human smuggling, identity fraud, counterfeiting of currency and negotiable securities/

instruments, maritime piracy, cyber-crimes and illegal trafficking in weapons, ammunition, explosives, and toxic and environmentally destructive and radioactive materials.

Combating trafficking in persons, especially women and children, remains a top priority of the Government. International partners have acknowledged national progress in terms of more effective filing of cases and provision of assistance to victims of trafficking. The Philippines continues to strongly support the adoption of an ASEAN Convention on Combating Trafficking in Persons.

At the 6th Session of the Conference of the Parties to the UN Convention against Transnational Crime and the Protocols thereto, the Philippines co-hosted with Indonesia, a well-attended side event on "Trafficking of Migrant Workers."

The Office for Transportation Security (OTS) strengthened its capacity to implement appropriate measures for the security of both the maritime transportation system and civil aviation. The Australian Government assisted the Philippine Government in the development of a national strategic framework for Port Security and Capacity Building of Port Personnel. In civil aviation, the Philippine Aviation Security Assistance (PASTA) project provides scholarships and training programs for aviation security personnel and equipment for the Civil Aviation Center. Aside from aviation security training, the PASTA project also seeks to assist the OTS on policy development and enhancement to strengthen its oversight function on transportation security.

In the area of judicial and legal collaboration, the Philippine Senate concurred in the ratification of the Philippines' Mutual Legal Assistance Treaties (MLAT) on Criminal Matters with the People's Republic of China and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland. Similar MLATs with the Kingdom of Belgium and Ireland are also currently being negotiated.

Humanitarian Assistance and Disaster Relief

The Philippines has ratified the ASEAN Agreement on Disaster Management and Emergency Response (AADMER), the agreement establishing the ASEAN Coordinating Centre for Humanitarian Assistance on Disaster Management (AHA Centre), and the ASEAN Plus

Three Emergency Rice Reserve Agreement. The Philippines has also adopted the ASEAN Regional Forum Work Plan on Disaster Relief which aims at coordinating ARF-wide or sub-regional training for disaster preparedness.

The Philippines works closely with ASEAN and the international community in building adaptive capacities and actions, and enhancing mitigation measures against climate change. It signed into law the Renewable Energy Act of 2008 and the Climate Change Act (CCA) of 2009. The use of renewable energy is a part of the country's long-term mitigation plan.

Maritime Security

The Philippines hosted the 3rd ASEAN Maritime Forum and 1st Expanded Maritime Forum in October 2012. The meetings discussed cooperation on maritime issues of common interest to ASEAN and EAS member states, such as adherence to the UNCLOS, combating sea piracy, maritime connectivity, seafarers' training, protection of the marine environment, and fisheries management.

As a major supplier of the world's seafarers, the Philippines is heavily affected by piracy. As such, the Philippines actively participates in international and regional meetings which aim to combat piracy and armed robbery against ships, particularly in the International Maritime Organization (IMO).

The Philippines became a member of the US-initiated Contact Group on Piracy off the Coast of Somalia (CGPCS) on 10 November 2010. Prior to this, the Philippines had already been actively participating in the various working groups under the CGPCS. The CGPCS plays a key role in driving and coordinating a joint response, to include political, military, and other efforts, to piracy off the coast of Somali. The Philippines deployed a naval liaison officer to the Combined Maritime Forces (CMF) in Manama, Bahrain to monitor official activities of the CMF on counter-piracy initiatives.

The Philippines continues to be guided by IMO's Guidelines for Governments, Guidelines for Ship Owners and the Code of Practice and Best Management Practices for the Shipping Industry. The Maritime Industry Authority of the Philippines (MARINA) issues

flagship advisories to relevant maritime authorities, through piracy incidence forms before a Philippine flag vessel sails to the Gulf of Aden.

The Philippines was one of the countries that initiated the Regional Cooperation Agreement on Combating Piracy and Armed Robbery against Ships in Asia (ReCAAP), which has been recognized as a best practice model in combating piracy.

The Philippines also pursues bilateral cooperation with other countries to combat maritime piracy and ensure the protection of Filipino seafarers. The Philippines has an existing Memorandum of Cooperation in Maritime Counter-Piracy Training and Education with the United States. This memorandum provides for the development of training programs and academic exchanges.

The Philippine Navy likewise sustains agreements with other naval forces through port calls, goodwill visits and intelligence exchanges to enhance cooperation in addressing maritime security issues.

The passage of Executive Order No. 57 on 6 September 2011 established a National Coast Watch System (NCWS) as the central inter-agency mechanism for a coordinated and coherent approach on maritime issues and maritime security operations towards enhancing governance of the country's maritime domain.

Contributions to UN Peacekeeping Operations

The Philippines actively participates in UN Peacekeeping Missions. As of 31 December 2012, the Philippines has a total of 727 police, military and civilian personnel on such missions. The Philippines ranks 3rd in Southeast Asia and 30th overall in terms of contribution of personnel to UN peacekeeping operations.

SINGAPORE

A. SECURITY CONCERNS COMMON TO THE ASEAN COMMUNITY

As global economic and geopolitical weight continues to shift east towards Asia, the key challenge for ASEAN will be to ensure that the region remains peaceful and stable, against the backdrop of increased potential for strategic competition and friction. Southeast Asia sits astride critical sea lanes and energy routes, and is also rich in natural resources, making it an area where the key interests of major powers are likely to intersect. Regional stability will therefore continue to depend critically on stable relations between ASEAN and the major powers, as well as among the major powers themselves. The interplay of relations between the US and China, in particular, will be central in determining the complexion of the regional security environment.

Strategic uncertainty in our region is further compounded by the persistence of potential flashpoints in the South China Sea, East China Sea and the Korean Peninsula. The situation on the Korean Peninsula remains volatile, while the periodic escalation of tensions over competing claims in the South China Sea and East China Sea is also not conducive for regional stability.

At the same time, ASEAN continues to face a host of new and complex non-traditional security challenges. In today's interconnected world, the security of all nations is intertwined. While the global community has made significant strides against international terrorism over the past decade, ASEAN countries need to remain vigilant to deal with the long-term challenges of terrorism and the extremist ideologies that perpetuate it. Maritime security is another area of concern, given that many ASEAN economies are critically dependent on the maritime trade that flows through sea lanes such as the Straits of Malacca and Singapore and the South China Sea. ASEAN also shares other security interests in areas such as counter-proliferation and humanitarian assistance and disaster relief. As we go forward, enhanced practical cooperation amongst

ASEAN and our other major security partners will be key to tackling these transnational security challenges and enhancing regional peace and stability.

B. INDIVIDUAL NATIONAL DEFENCE POLICIES

Overview

Singapore's defence policy is based on the twin pillars of deterrence and diplomacy. Singapore believes in the need for a strong defence, to ensure that we enjoy peace and stability, to protect our independence and sovereignty, and to provide us with the political space and freedom to act in the best interests of our people. This is why Singapore has invested steadily and prudently in defence over the years, to build up a capable Singapore Armed Forces (SAF). Given our small population size and limited resources, Singapore focuses on force multipliers - technology, paired with a highly-educated and technologically-savvy population - to overcome the limits of our small standing army.

Singapore also puts equal emphasis on building friendships. Singapore endeavours to partner all countries in the region to enhance regional security through dialogue, practical cooperation and other confidence-building measures. At the bilateral level, Singapore seeks to build cooperative relationships with all friendly countries, and to work with them for mutual benefit. We maintain close relations with all ASEAN members, and also actively engage key countries from outside the region. At the multilateral level, Singapore is committed to building a robust, open and inclusive regional security architecture that can help sustain peace and stability in our region, by encouraging countries to engage constructively in dialogue and ensuring that all key stakeholders have a voice and a seat at the 'table'. This is why Singapore actively participates in multilateral fora and arrangements such as ASEAN, the ASEAN Regional Forum (ARF), the ASEAN Defence Ministers' Meeting (ADMM), the ADMM-Plus, and the Shangri-La Dialogue (SLD).

UN Register on Conventional Arms (UNRCA)

To demonstrate support for transparency and confidence-building, Singapore has been submitting annual reports

since 1993 to the UN Register of Conventional Arms (UNRCA) on international arms transfers made in the preceding year for the seven weapon categories' defined by the UN.

Military Expenditure

Singapore's overall approach is to maintain a stable defence budget that grows gradually. The Singapore government is committed to spending up to 6% of GDP on defence, and over the years, Singapore's defence expenditure has grown steadily by about 4% annually on average. This steady, prudent and long-term approach to defence spending is a critical enabler in allowing the SAF to develop its capabilities in a systematic and disciplined fashion, and to obtain the best value for our defence investments.

C. NATIONAL CONTRIBUTIONS TO PROMOTING REGIONAL SECURITY

As a small country, Singapore's peace and prosperity are inextricably linked to the region's peace and stability. Singapore endeavours to partner all friendly countries to promote greater dialogue, confidence building and cooperation at both bilateral and multilateral levels, in order to maintain a peaceful and stable regional environment.

Singapore believes that regional security and stability are best served by an open and inclusive security architecture with a network of strong bilateral relationships as well as multilateral fora and arrangements. As such, Singapore actively participates in ASEAN, the ADMM and the ADMM-Plus, the ARF, the Five Power Defence Arrangements (FPDA) and the SLD.

Singapore strongly supports the ADMM-Plus which was inaugurated in Hanoi in October 2010. The ADMM-Plus comprises the ten ASEAN Member States and eight "Plus" countries, namely Australia, China, India, Japan, New Zealand, the Republic of Korea, Russia and the US. Singapore also strongly supports the ongoing work and good progress of the five ADMM-Plus Experts' Working Groups (EWGs) in the areas of maritime security, humanitarian assistance and disaster relief, peacekeeping operations, counter-terrorism and military medicine. Singapore co-chairs the

EWG on military medicine with Japan, and is committed to enhancing practical cooperation in this area as well as in the other EWGs. From Singapore's perspective, the ADMM-Plus offers a useful and valuable platform for ASEAN Member States and the "Plus" countries to have open and constructive dialogue on issues of common security interest. The ADMM-Plus also complements the ADMM and the ASEAN Chiefs of Defence Informal Meeting (ACDFIM), and fosters closer practical collaboration amongst defence establishments to address non-traditional and transnational security challenges.

In this regard, Singapore strongly supports the conduct of the ADMM-Plus Humanitarian Assistance and Disaster Relief/Military Medicine (HADR/MM) exercise in Brunei in 2013. The exercise will be a significant milestone for the ADMM-Plus as the first live military exercise to be conducted under the ambit of the ADMM-Plus. The exercise will also be a good opportunity for all 18 ADMM-Plus militaries to work together to enhance interoperability in areas of disaster management with elements of military medicine in support. In addition, Singapore also strongly supports the agreement by the 6th ADMM held in Phnom Penh in May 2012 for the ADMM-Plus to be held biennially from 2013 onwards. This will strengthen the existing framework and mechanism of facilitating strategic discussion by Defence Ministers at the ADMM-Plus. These two initiatives, as driven by ASEAN, underscore ASEAN's centrality and leadership in the ADMM-Plus process.

Singapore also remains fully committed to the ARF process and supports its role as a central pillar in the Asia Pacific security architecture. Singapore believes that the ARF is poised to embark on more substantive cooperation amongst its members in the future. The ARF should also continue its work in enhancing linkages between the complementary activities of Track I and Track II. With the establishment of the ADMM-Plus, there will be an inevitable overlap between the ARF and the ADMM-Plus. That said, both the ARF and the ADMM-Plus serve complementary purposes with unique characteristics that reinforce each other. Having overlapping agendas will help to minimise any gaps that may exist in our efforts to address the increasingly transnational security challenges. This will serve to maintain a robust regional security architecture which is sufficiently flexible to adapt to the evolving environment, and maintain peace, stability and security in the region.

The SLD, which is held annually in Singapore, has established itself as the foremost defence and security conference in the Asia-Pacific region. It provides a useful opportunity for the Defence Ministers, senior officials and prominent security experts of the region to meet and discuss important security issues of the day. Indonesian President Dr H Susilo Bambang Yudhoyono delivered the keynote speech at the 11th SLD in June 2012. This marked the fourth successive year that a foreign Head of State or Government had done so. 29 Ministerial-level delegates and participants from 28 countries attended the 11th SLD. The Ministers reaffirmed the value of the SLD as an open and inclusive platform that provides the opportunity for them to come together informally on an annual basis and engage one another on salient regional defence and security issues. The Ministers agreed that the SLD provided an important opportunity for all to exchange views on how to enhance defence cooperation and relationships to promote security and prosperity.

THAILAND

A. SECURITY CONCERNS COMMON TO THE ASEAN COMMUNITY

The promotion of peace and stability in ASEAN is a key part of the process towards the establishment of an ASEAN Community in 2015. The effort to build an ASEAN-centered regional architecture has led to greater cooperation within ASEAN and with external parties to enhance peace, security, and stability in the region. At the same time, there is increased competition by powers outside the region to advance their respective strategic interests, which could lead to potential conflict. It is thus more important than ever for ASEAN to have solidarity and underscore its credibility as a force for stability and progress in the region, especially Southeast Asia. Overall, ASEAN and its partners need to promote better coordination and cooperation to respond more rapidly and effectively to both traditional and non-traditional security threats, in line with the ASEAN Political-Security Community Blueprint. In addition, ASEAN needs to further develop preventive diplomacy in Southeast Asia and in the wider Asia-Pacific region through the ARF, as an instrument to promote regional stability and contain disputes.

ASEAN has shown its ability to express its collective view to regional security challenges. It has voiced concern on the testing of nuclear weapons by the Democratic People's Republic of Korea on 12 February 2013. As a non-nuclear weapon state under the NPT and a State Party to the Treaty on the Southeast Asia Nuclear Weapon-Free Zone (SEANWFZ), Thailand strictly adheres to all three pillars of the NPT non-proliferation regime and supports implementation of UN Security Council Resolutions 1540 and 1977. The proliferation of nuclear weapons and other weapons of mass destruction will remain a threat to long term regional peace and stability. In this connection, ASEAN must put its utmost effort to get the Nuclear Weapon States under the NPT to accede to the Protocol to the SEANWFZ Treaty.

As one of the world's most economically dynamic regions, threats to safe and secure maritime trade remain a serious

concern. In the Malacca Straits, cooperation through frameworks such as the Malacca Straits Coordinated Patrol (MSCP), the Eyes in the Sky patrol and the Regional Cooperation Agreement on Combating Piracy and Armed Robbery against Ships in Asia (ReCAAP) have contributed to the substantial decrease in the number of reported attacks in recent years. According to the ReCAAP Piracy and Armed Robbery in Asia Annual Report for January-December 2012, the overall reported incidents in Asia, especially in the Malacca Straits and South China Sea, have declined compared to the same period in 2011. In 2012, a total of 132 cases were reported compared to 167 cases in 2011. Nonetheless, the figure in 2012 was still higher than those in 2008 and 2009. There is also concern of threats of piracy and armed robbery at sea in the Indian Ocean as a result of continuing challenges in the Gulf of Aden and off the coast of Somalia. Concerned states thus have a shared responsibility to continue their surveillance as the region's economic prosperity depends on these vital marine trading routes.

Overlapping land and maritime boundary claims and disputes between countries in the region persist. These could pose as serious challenges to ASEAN unity and economic vitality. The claims and disputes should be resolved by the parties directly concerned through dialogue and peaceful means, in line with the principles stated in the ASEAN Charter and the Treaty of Amity and Cooperation in Southeast Asia. As the ASEAN-China Dialogue Relations Coordinator, Thailand urges all countries concerned to implement the Declaration on the Code of Conduct of Parties in the South China Sea (DOC). It is imperative that the discussion on the Code of Conduct (COC) continues. This will help improve the trust and confidence underpinning regional cooperation for maritime safety and security.

As ASEAN moves toward becoming a Community in 2015, we will become more inter-connected. Free movement of people, goods, and services is the basis for regional prosperity, but also has inherent risks. With greater connectivity, non-traditional security threats will become even more pervasive. Transnational crimes will likely evolve to more complex forms. Improved connectivity necessitates better intelligence exchange and more stringent security control within ASEAN to effectively deal with cross-border challenges, especially in the forms of transnational crime and terrorism.

Trafficking in persons is a persistent region-wide problem. Several ASEAN countries are the source, transit point, and destination of trafficking in persons, especially in women and children. ASEAN countries can better address this problem through the development of the Regional Plan of Action to Combat Trafficking in Persons (RPA) and the ASEAN Convention on Trafficking in Persons (ACTIP).

Narcotic drugs production and trafficking still remain a major source of income for transnational criminal groups in the region. To combat transnational crime and meet the goal of a Drug-Free ASEAN in 2015, countries must make progress in the implementation of the ASEAN Work Plan on Combating Illicit Drug Production, Trafficking and Use (2009-2015).

The increased frequency and severity of natural disasters demand better coordination of disaster management policies and measures at the regional and global levels. Countries must constantly work to enhance cooperation in early warning to the provision of appropriate, adequate, need-based and timely emergency response and humanitarian assistance. Cooperation in disaster relief under the ASEAN Defense Ministers Meeting (ADMM) Plus Expert Working Group, the ASEAN Regional Forum Inter-sessional Meeting (ARF ISM) on Disaster Relief, and the biannual ARF Disaster Relief Exercise is essential to improve ASEAN Member States' individual and collective capacity to meet this unpredictable challenge.

Addressing the challenge of extremism and intolerance is necessary if the ASEAN Community is to be built on a secure foundation and if Southeast Asia is to remain a region where diversity and tolerance is protected and respected. ASEAN therefore needs to implement concrete programs, including in education, to promote a culture of respect for diversity and tolerance, and take collective action to tackle extremism. ASEAN support for initiatives such as "Movement of the Moderates" needs to be translated into concrete action.

B. INDIVIDUAL NATIONAL DEFENSE POLICIES

Thailand's national defense policy is based mainly on self-defense, with the ultimate goal of safeguarding

the independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity of the nation, as well as supporting Thailand's national security policy. Our approach is to develop and maintain a comprehensive national-preparedness capacity to combat both traditional and nontraditional security threats, with the effective cooperation between all relevant civilian and military agencies.

The Royal Thai Armed Forces are encouraged to foster friendly relations with their counterparts of neighboring countries, as a basis for mutual confidence and trust. In the effort to promote military cooperation, the Thai military regularly participates in regional cooperation framework such as ADMM and ADMM-Plus. Every year Thailand hosts Cobra Gold, the world's premier multi-national defense exercises. About 13,000 servicemen and women from 7 countries (Indonesia, Japan, Malaysia, the Republic of Korea, Singapore, Thailand, and the United States) participated in Cobra Gold 2013. This year, one of the highlights was the fixed-wing aerial refueling exercise, during which FIA-18 D Hornets received fuel midair from the KC-130J Hercules aircraft.

With regard to non-traditional security threats, the Thai Government has prioritized anti-drug and anti-trafficking in person policies, with an emphasis on prevention and strict enforcement of the law while at the same time respecting the basic rights of individuals. During times of humanitarian emergencies and large-scale natural disasters, the military has a special role in supporting civilian agencies in providing humanitarian assistance and disaster relief.

For the fiscal year 2013, a budget of 6.016 billion US dollars is allocated for military expenditure. This is an increase of 7.10% from the budget of the previous year. It is equivalent to 1.44% of Thailand's national GDP.

C. NATIONAL CONTRIBUTIONS TO PROMOTING REGIONAL STABILITY

At the 19th ARF Ministerial Meeting held in Phnom Penh, Cambodia, the ARF Ministers welcomed the proposal of Thailand and the Republic of Korea as co-chairs of the ARF Disaster-Relief Exercise (ARF DiREx) 2013, to be held in Cha-am, Phetchaburi Province in Thailand on 7-11 May

2013. The ARF DiREx is widely recognized as landmark event in improving the capacity of the region's disaster response mechanisms in a multinational operation. ARF DiREx 2013 aims to enhance regional and affected nation's civilian - military (civ-mil) coordination, cooperation, effectiveness, and response to a disaster.

Thailand has been an active contributor to peace-keeping and peace- building efforts around the world and in the region, including our participation in African-United Nations Hybrid Operation in Darfur (UNAMID), United Nations Military Observer Group in India and Pakistan (UNMOGIP), and United Nations Stabilization Mission in Haiti (MINUSTAH). At regional level, Thailand supports the initiative of the ADMM as a means to enhance coordination, share information and best practices as well as conduct joint training exercises in order to increase the capacities of ASEAN members in the area of peacekeeping. Thailand sees a need to establish an ASEAN Peacekeeping Center Network among ASEAN Member States, to promote and enhance cooperation among the armed forces through sharing experiences, expertise, and greater collaboration on the basis of mutual respect. Toward this end, Thailand hosted the Inaugural Meeting of the Establishment of ASEAN Peacekeeping Center Network on 4-7 September 2012.

In August 2012, Thailand joined the UN's Global Marketplace for Civilian Capacities (CAPMATCH), an online platform aimed to better match the demand and supply of specialized civilian capacities for countries emerging from conflict. Thailand is listed as a provider country, offering experience and expertise in the areas of development and economic revitalization for post-conflict countries.

To emphasize our ongoing effort to prevent the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction, Thailand joined the Proliferation Security Initiative on 16 November 2012. In May 2013, Thailand will co-host with the United States the 2nd ARF CBM Seminar on Implementation of UNSCR 1540.

As a current member of the Board of Governor of IAEA, Thailand attaches great importance to the issues of nuclear safety, security and safeguards at the international, regional and national levels. Following

Thailand's initiative announced at the 2012 Nuclear Security Summit, ASEAN is exploring the establishment of ASEANTOM, a network of nuclear regulatory bodies in Southeast Asia. The objective of the network is to enhance regulatory activities and further strengthen nuclear safety, security and safeguards in ASEAN, which will help prevent illicit trafficking of nuclear and radioactive materials. The idea of such a Network was welcomed by ASEAN Leaders at the 20th ASEAN Summit in Phnom Penh in April 2012, which will be developed further.

Thailand supports international efforts on confidence building measures (CBMs). Thailand regularly submits reports on international transfer of conventional arms as well as small arms and light weapons under the UN Register on Conventional Arms (UNROCA) and the annual report on military expenditures to the UN Secretary-General and is exploring with ASEAN Member States to develop similar arrangements within ASEAN.

Thailand has been doing its part to protect and safeguard Sea Lines of Communication in Southeast Asia and beyond. We have been participating in the Malacca Straits Coordinated Patrol since September 2008 and the Eyes in the Sky air patrol since January 2009. The Royal Thai Navy joined the Combined Maritime Forces (CMF) in 2010 to combat piracy and armed robbery at sea in international waters of the Indian Ocean and Arabian Gulf. In 2012, Thailand for the first time assumed command of CTF 151, one of three taskforces under control of the CMF. CTF 151 is tasked to deter, disrupt and suppress piracy, protect maritime vessels and secure freedom of navigation in the 1.1 million square miles of international waters in the Gulf of Aden and the Somali Basin. These actions are necessary to prevent spilling over of piracy and armed robbery at sea into the Indian Ocean which is adjacent to the Straits of Malacca.

In the area of nontraditional security threats, transnational crimes and international terrorism will likely become even more serious challenges for ASEAN countries as the region becomes more inter-connected. Thailand places great emphasis to tackle transnational crimes, particularly the scourge of drugs, trafficking in person, economic and cyber crimes. In June 2012, Thailand hosted a workshop on "Cross-border

Management: a Key to Efficient ASEAN Connectivity.” In September 2012, Thailand hosted the 12th ASEAN Senior Officials Meeting on Transnational Crime (12th SOMTC) to address these issues. We co-hosted with Australia a workshop on the implementation of the UN Convention against Transnational Organized Crime (UNTOC) for the Bali Process Countries in December 2012.

Drug control and suppression are on the Royal Thai Government’s national agenda. We are committed to strengthening regional cooperation and to coordinate regional measures in the fight against illicit production, distribution, trafficking, smuggling, and abuse of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances. Thailand hosted the first Special ASEAN Ministerial Meeting on DrugMatters in August 2012, which produced tangible results to be followed up by Member States.

Trafficking in persons is a serious concern for Thailand, a country that receives large number of migrant workers from neighboring countries. Thailand has put in place improved measures, in cooperation with neighboring countries, to facilitate legal/ document workers and prevent trafficking in persons. Thailand is working with ASEAN Member States to develop the ASEAN Convention against Trafficking in Persons at the same time as the Regional Plan of Action. Thailand also actively participates in the Bali Process, working with our partners to find viable long-term solution to illegal migration, people smuggling, and trafficking in persons in the region.

Thailand is committed to strengthening regional cooperation on counterterrorism, with an emphasis on intelligence exchange and capacity building. Terrorists and transnational criminals are increasingly resorting to cyber and economic crimes to fund activities. To this end, Thailand has been improving our Anti-Money Laundering¹ Combating the Financing of Terrorism (AMLI CFT) regime to meet the standards set by the Financial Action Task Force (FATF). As a result, Thailand has been removed from the FATF’s Public Statement in February 2013.

VIET NAM

A. SECURITY CONCERNS COMMON TO THE ASEAN COMMUNITY

Southeast Asia has largely maintained peace, stability and development, attracting the interest of major powers and international organizations around the world. The regional processes for political and security cooperation led by ASEAN have significantly developed. At the same time, the region is still faced with grave challenges, traditional and non-traditional alike, which are interwoven and affecting all countries in the region.

Disputes over territory, natural resources in land and at sea are on the increase. Non-traditional security challenges, including terrorism, transnational crime, sea piracy, human trafficking, cyber crime, infectious disease, climate change and natural disasters are also on the rise, which are severely affecting many countries in the region. Freedom of navigation is still a matter of special concern of all countries.

B. INDIVIDUAL NATIONAL DEFENSE POLICIES

Overview

The consistent aim of Viet Nam's defence policy to maintain a peaceful and stable environment for national development. Vietnam pursues a defense policy of peace and self-defence, non-use of force or threat to use force in international relations, settlement of differences and disputes by peaceful means in accordance with international law. Viet Nam advocates the gradual modernization of the Viet Nam People's Army (VPA) and enhancement of the defence to maintain its military power sufficient for self-defence, while opposing arms race.

With regard to the sovereignty disputes in the South China Sea, Viet Nam stands ready for peaceful negotiations to resolve the disputes in accordance

with the 1982 UNCLOS. Pending a durable solution to the disputes, Viet Nam calls on all parties concerned to exercise self-restraint, strictly abide by and effectively implement the Declaration on the Conduct of Parties in the South China Sea (DOC) and strive toward the adoption of a Code of Conduct (COC), thus contributing to maintain the South China Sea as a sea of peace, friendship and development.

Defense Budget

The annual defense budget is determined by the Government based on national economic capacity and requirements for maintaining weapons and equipment for the armed forces as well as the VPA readiness. Currently, the average annual defense budget is about VND 23,000 billion, equivalent to USD 1.3 billion and accounting for 2.1% GDP.

Organization Of The VPA

At the moment, the regular forces of the VPA, including the main forces and the local forces, consist of 450,000 personnel. At the same time, the VAP is in the process of streamlining to become highly-skilled and compact while maintaining its readiness to protect the country in the current situation. The VPA are organized into three services, mainly the Ground Forces, Air Defence-Air Forces and Navy. In addition, the VPA also includes Border Guard, Marine Police, Militia and Self-defence Force.

C. NATIONAL CONTRIBUTIONS TO PROMOTING REGIONAL SECURITY

Viet Nam's Main Contribution For Regional Security In 2012

Viet Nam maintains a positive and supportive view of all the initiatives that are in line with and contribute to ASEAN's common goal of regional peace, stability and development. In 2012, Viet Nam has, in the spirit of proactiveness and responsibility, participated and contributed to the activities of all levels under

the framework of building ASEAN Political-Security Community as well as within other regional security fora, including the ASEAN Summit, the East Asia Summit (EAS) and the ASEAN Regional Forum (ARF).

As the Country Coordinator for ASEAN-China Dialogue Relations during July 2009- July 2012 period, Viet Nam has worked closely with all the ASEAN countries and China to promote the constructive dialogue and consultation between the two sides on the South China Sea issue, which results in, inter alia, the resumption of the regular ASEAN-China SOM on the implementation of the DOC, the conclusion of the Guidelines for the Implementation of the DOC (July 2011) and most recently the adoption of the Joint Declaration of the 15th ASEAN-China Summit on the 10th Anniversary of the DOC.

With regard to multilateral military and defence cooperation, the Ministry of National Defense of Viet Nam has actively participated in and contributed to strengthening the defence-military cooperation frameworks within ASEAN as well as between ASEAN and its partners at all levels, including: (1) ASEAN Defense Ministers' Meeting (ADMM) and ASEAN Defense Ministers' Meeting Plus (ADMM Plus) as well as related meetings and activities; (2) ASEAN Chiefs of Defence Force Meeting, ASEAN Chiefs of Army Multilateral Meeting and related activities; (3) Defence dialogue and cooperation within the ARF and other regional fora.

As Co-Chair of the ADMM-Plus Experts' Working Group on Human Assistance and Disaster Relief (HADR), the Ministry of National Defence of Viet Nam has been working closely with the Ministry of National Defence of China in steering the work of the group. Viet Nam successfully hosted the 2nd Meeting of the ADMM Plus Experts' Working Groups on HADR in August 2012 in Hanoi.

D. FUTURE DIRECTIONS

Viet Nam is committed to fully participate in and actively contribute to the regional dialogue and cooperation on defence and security areas. In the near future, we would like to focus on three priorities as follows:

- Incorporate the mine action cooperation ADMM/ADMM-Plus frameworks;
- Extend the Co-Chairmanship with China on the ADMM Plus Experts' Working Group on HADR to another term (after 2013); and
- Fulfill its role of Country Coordinatorship for ASEAN-EU Dialogue Relations (7/2012-7/2015).

The background is a complex, abstract geometric pattern composed of numerous triangles and diamonds in various colors. The colors include shades of red, orange, yellow, green, blue, purple, and grey, arranged in a way that creates a sense of depth and movement. The pattern is dense and covers the entire page.

CHAPTER IV

FUTURE TRENDS ON REGIONAL SECURITY

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To maintain the centrality and proactive role of ASEAN as the primary driving force in its relations and cooperation with its external partners in a regional architecture that is open, transparent and inclusive.

ASEAN Charter, Article 1, Paragraph 15

In the coming years, ASEAN will face an increasingly complex geopolitical environment. Aside from having to deal with traditional challenges, ASEAN Member States will also have to confront many emerging non-traditional security challenges that will impact regional peace and stability. In this context, ASEAN must ensure that it stays united in order to stay true to its *raison d'être* of maintaining peace and stability in the region. For instance, ASEAN Member States continue to foster cooperation in combating transnational crime. Since the signing of the Declaration of ASEAN Concord in 1976, the ASEAN Leaders have stressed the need for concerted regional efforts to combat the abuse of narcotics and trafficking in illegal drugs and noted the increasingly complex nature of transnational crime. As such, ASEAN has stepped-up and agreed to expand its cooperative efforts to tackle eight areas of transnational crime, namely terrorism, illicit drug trafficking, trafficking in persons, arms smuggling, money laundering, sea piracy, international economic crime and cybercrime.

ASEAN must ensure its central role in the evolving regional architecture by accelerating ASEAN integration, strengthening its capabilities, including the ASEAN Secretariat's capacity and expertise and effectively engaging ASEAN's external partners. To this end, ASEAN Member States have made proactive efforts to deepen ASEAN's relations with dialogue partners through the ASEAN Plus One framework as well as other ASEAN-driven regional fora, such as the ASEAN Plus Three, East Asia Summit, ASEAN Regional Forum and ASEAN Defence Ministers Meeting-Plus.

It is important to promote a regional architecture based on multi-layered regional frameworks which are mutually supporting and reinforcing with ASEAN as the primary driving force. In this connection, efforts will continue to encourage constructive and deeper engagement by

ASEAN's major partners in the evolving regional architecture through appropriate existing regional processes, with a view to promoting peace, security and prosperity in the region. The ASEAN Work Plan on Maintaining and Enhancing ASEAN Centrality could be used as a guideline in moving forward these efforts.

ASEAN needs to accelerate and set a clear direction for its community building efforts. Regional integration is an on-going process, and with 2015 around the corner, ASEAN should look ahead to examine what an ASEAN Community would mean in the post-2015 context. One of ASEAN's important goals is to enhance ASEAN Connectivity. Progress has been made on the ASEAN Economic Community front, and ASEAN has begun work on broader regional economic integration through the launch of Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership (RCEP) negotiations. However, while ASEAN integrates economically, it should not lose sight of the ASEAN Political-Security Community and ASEAN Socio-Cultural Community. ASEAN needs to define them with greater resolution, while taking into account regional realities.

To strengthen ASEAN means to improve its capacity to respond faster and proactively to existing and emerging challenges. It is therefore important for ASEAN to continue pursuing efforts to narrow the development gap among ASEAN Member States and enhance the ASEAN Secretariat's capacity and expertise to provide the necessary support for ASEAN. This is likely to require an increase in resources.

ASEAN interactions with its Dialogue Partners should move beyond routine meetings, focusing instead on achieving outcomes that would benefit the region. The streamlining and rationalisation of ASEAN meetings will ensure that they focus on strategic and substantive issues affecting the region. Concurrently, there has also been growing interest by new external partners and countries to engage ASEAN. This is to be welcomed, as it is in line with ASEAN's efforts to build an open, inclusive and outward-looking regional architecture at a pace comfortable to all. At the same time, ASEAN needs to be prudent and cautious in ensuring that the expansion of its external relations does not come at the expense of its own internal consolidation.

