

**35th CSCAP STEERING COMMITTEE MEETING**  
**REMARKS BY AMBASSADOR HAZAIRIN POHAN**  
Shangri-La Hotel, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, 1-2 June 2011

Excellencies,  
Distinguished CSCAP Member Committees and Associates,  
Ladies and Gentlemen,

I would like to first convey my highest appreciation to the Organizing Committee for its hospitality, especially because CSCAP is a Track II organization which has regularly contributed its thoughts and ideas to the strengthening ASEAN efforts in establishing the ASEAN Community by 2015. It is also a pleasure for me to be here to discuss the priorities of Indonesia's ASEAN Chairmanship in 2011, and the ASEAN Regional Forum (ARF), its developments, and how the ARF and CSCAP could engage with one another more effectively. Thus, I consider this Meeting as an opportune chance for Indonesia as the Chair of ASEAN to commune with experts and think tanks more intimately, to get across our priorities during this year's Chairmanship of ASEAN and ARF, and to engage you in that regard.

As the Chair of ASEAN, Indonesia has set three priorities for the year 2011: to ensure significant progress in achieving the ASEAN Community; to ensure that the regional architecture and regional environment remain ASEAN-centered and conducive to development; and to commence deliberations on an ASEAN vision beyond 2015 namely "ASEAN Community in a Global Community of Nations." In this context, we strive to ensure progress internally within ASEAN, then regionally, and globally.

In the context of political-security in the region, as one of the pioneers of regional integration, ASEAN was formed based on the desire to create peace, build consensus, and promote stability through regional integration and cooperation. We realize that to ensure peace and stability in East Asia, ASEAN must first be able to guarantee peace in the region itself. ASEAN must be able to respond to the dynamics of conflict, which can affect the image of ASEAN and sustainable peace in the region. In a fragile world that is ripe with challenges both traditional and non-traditional, ASEAN cannot remain idle. It has the obligation to further strengthen multi-dimensional cooperation, among Member States as well with Dialogue Partner, with other regions, or organizations. And more than that, ASEAN needs to be responsive to quick-changing realities; to resolve and overcome various challenges,

and to seize opportunities that arise both within and outside the region. All these efforts are outlined in the APSC Blueprint. Our responsibility is to fully commit to it and implement it.

The ASEAN Regional Forum, amidst global changes and the dynamism of the Asia Pacific, continues to be the primary forum for discussions on political and security issues with ASEAN as the driving force. In this regard, the ARF needs to continue to maintain its relevance in the Asia Pacific and become a forum that is more action-oriented to effectively address challenges.

Our vision for the future is to enhance the capacity of the ARF, with ASEAN in the driving seat, to be a mechanism to strengthen peace, stability, and security in the wider region through confidence building measures, preventive diplomacy, and conflict resolution. Towards attaining these goals, the ARF could benefit from shared experiences and lessons-learned. The ARF could gain insight from the Organization for Security Cooperation in Europe (OSCE), for example, as a reference and point of comparison for regional security cooperation. On the road to 2015, the ARF would hopefully have the capacity to have the mechanisms to deal with security issues and challenges with confidence-building measures, preventive diplomacy, toward conflict resolution.

It is also our hope that the ARF could one day have the ability, organization-wise and mechanism-wise, as the sole political forum to strengthen and ensure stability and security in the Asia Pacific, with the ASEAN centrality as the basic principle. In this connection, think tanks have more and more given Track I a greater understanding of the development of political-security, both traditional and non-traditional. To the ARF, Track II's inputs could be incorporated as part of the steps to ensure and encourage the establishment of a political-security community by 2015.

As the Chair of the ARF in 2011, Indonesia aspires to reach the objectives expressed in the ARF Vision Statement 2020 - to build an everlasting region of peace, friendship, and prosperity. Just as important is creating a region where all facets can cooperate to promote a culture that is rooted in peace, tolerance, mutual understanding, respect, and dialogue. In this endeavor, we could create an environment where people can thrive and prosper in an atmosphere of peace and harmony. It is a daunting task to accomplish, as the Asia Pacific has experienced atrocious wars in its history and States in the region differ in size, population, political systems, and levels of development. Nevertheless, to continue propelling the region's growth economically



and politically, there must be an ongoing and fervent effort in maintaining peace and enhancing prosperity.

Though the region has recently experienced an unprecedented period of peace, some security challenges, traditional and non-traditional, still exist. One can open the newspaper today and see the lighting of sparks. The Korean Peninsula is still a concern, the skirmishes between Cambodia and Thailand have yet to be completely resolved, a grave earthquake and tsunami struck Japan and caused calamitous consequences, and so forth. These current events will probably be topics of discussions in the ARF this year, along with internal "hot topics," such as the configuration of the regional architecture, the progression of the ARF into the Preventive Diplomacy phase, as well as peace and reconciliation on the region.

In maintaining peace and security in the region, ASEAN has already established mechanisms which encourage confidence building and mutual trust. It regularly holds the ASEAN Defence Ministers' Meeting (ADMM) where the ASEAN Member States conduct exchange of views on security issues of common concern as well as deliberate on efforts and programmes in the area of security and defence. At the most recent ADMM in Jakarta in May 2011, the Meeting adopted concept papers on the Establishment of ASEAN Peacekeeping Centres Network, the Establishing of ASEAN Defence Industry Collaboration,

The ARF has used the ASEAN way of consultation and consensus to establish good neighborliness. It has also worked on a second approach, that is, to implement confidence-building measures. The ARF and Track II have worked together in this. The ARF has built partnerships and cooperation with security organizations and fora in the Asia Pacific in order to create synergies between the ARF and organizations and fora on issues of common concern. Track II organizations, such as the ASEAN Institute of Strategic and International Studies (ASEAN-ISIS) and the CSCAP provide meaningful and useful inputs on security policy, especially on issues of current concern, while also helping to raise awareness. The ARF is also enriched by the so-called Track 1.5, the ARF Experts Eminent Persons (EEPs), which is also comprised of academics and former Government officials of ARF Participant countries.

Involving Track II organizations is essential in generating ideas towards progress in the ARF. CSCAP has always been one of the key Track II organizations in the work of the ARF. This is evident from the Hanoi Plan of Action to implement the ARF Vision

Statement 2020 whereby the ARF is encouraged to work together with Track II organizations on several activities. As an example, CSCAP and the ASEAN-ISIS have been invited to the Inter-Sessional Group on Confidence Building Measures and Preventive Diplomacy meetings to present reports on their works, most recently at the ARF ISG on CBM PD in Bali, December 2010, and Sydney, March 2011. With the Track II's reports, the ARF is able to attain a clearer picture on how the Track II can continue to support the ARF's development. Other Track II list of activities within the ARF includes the Inter-Sessional Meeting on Disaster Relief (ISM on DR), the ISM on Counter Terrorism and Transnational Crimes, the ISM on Non Proliferation and Disarmament, and the ISM on Maritime Security.

The CSCAP could further play a vital role to the ARF's development in providing studies and ideas on ongoing discussions within the ARF. An example for this is the current ongoing discussions on regional security architecture in East Asia. To maintain stability and security in the region, and to ensure the community-building process, ASEAN as the central driving force for the ARF has itself established cooperation in the areas of security with its Dialogue Partners, such as the Senior Officials' Meeting on Transnational Crime (SOMTC) and the ASEAN-Japan Counter Terrorism Dialogue. ASEAN most recently held the 10<sup>th</sup> SOMTC in Manila in October 2010, where consultations with ASEAN Dialogue Partners were held.

ASEAN has taken a step further and convened in October 2010 the first ASEAN Defence Ministers' Meeting Plus (ADMM Plus), comprised of the ASEAN Member States and eight Dialogue Partners, namely Australia, China, India, Japan, the Republic of Korea, New Zealand, Russia, and the United States. ASEAN has provided the 27-member ASEAN Regional Forum (ARF) for dialogue where the defence establishments have been participating. However, the ADMM Plus is the first time that the defence establishments of ASEAN and its Dialogue Partners have their own forum at the highest level for effective dialogue and cooperation. This Meeting will focus on concrete areas of cooperation, which are (1) Maritime Security, (2) Humanitarian Assistance and Disaster Relief, (3) Peace Keeping Operations, (4) Counter Terrorism, and (5) Military Medicine. Through this Meeting, the ADSOM Plus was also established as well as Expert Working Groups (EWG) with specific tasks. This Meeting will be held once every three years, and the 2<sup>nd</sup> ADMM Plus will be held in 2013 in Brunei Darussalam.

With the establishment of the ADMM Plus, this new mechanism must somehow complement the work of the ARF rather than overlap with it. As stated in the Joint



Communiqué of the 43rd ASEAN Foreign Ministers' Meeting (19-20 July 2010), the Foreign Ministers reaffirmed the importance of the ADMM Plus as an important component of a robust, effective, open and inclusive regional security architecture that would complement the work of the ASEAN Regional Forum and help ensure ASEAN centrality in regional efforts to deal with security issues. On defense-related matters, it must be ensured that the ADMM Plus will not overshadow the ARF.

Noting the importance of both the ARF and the ADMM Plus in the emerging regional architecture, there has been a common understanding among ASEAN Member States to find a modality in synergizing the work of the ADMM Plus and the ARF. Both mechanisms must complement and reinforce each other to help ensure ASEAN centrality in regional efforts on security issues. Some overlapping areas between the ARF and the ADMM Plus include disaster management, maritime security, peacekeeping, and counter-terrorism. Therefore, there needs to be a clear delineation of roles among the ARF, the ADMM Plus, and other ASEAN mechanisms in the region.

One of the advantages of the ARF is that it is an internationally recognized process which provides a platform for dialogue, norm-building, and cooperation. Meanwhile, the ADMM Plus is made up of a compact group of countries, involving a sectoral ministerial body with a focused mandate on defense matters. The ADMM Plus therefore can focus on more specialized cooperation activities. With that in mind, there is a common thought that the ARF, as a forum of Foreign Ministers of 27 countries, could focus on strategic and policy issues with impacts on peace and security. Meanwhile, the ADMM-Plus could focus more on operational aspects that require defence facilities, expertise, and personnel.

Another development is the ARF now focusing its efforts in the implementation of preventive diplomacy. The 16th ARF assigned ARF Senior Officials to embark on the development of an ARF PD Work Plan, and also requested the ARF Experts and Eminent Persons (EEPs) to provide their views on the elements of such a Work Plan. As a follow-up, the ARF EEPs in Bali on 15-16 December 2009 came up with a draft Elements of a Work Plan on Preventive Diplomacy which consists of priority areas, mechanisms, possible projects and timeline for the implementation of ARF PD. The 17th ARF on 23 July 2010 reiterated that the ARF Work Plan on Preventive Diplomacy be based on the longstanding principles of the ARF as contained in ARF documents since 1994 and the relevant recommendations of ARF Track I and II, taking into account the diversity of views within the ARF, as a means to move towards Stage 2 of the ARF. Based on the above guidance and recommendations, the Work

Plan on Preventive Diplomacy is currently being developed and the draft will be submitted for endorsement of the 18<sup>th</sup> ARF in July 2011.

As the ASEAN and ARF Chair, Indonesia strongly believes that along with the Hanoi Plan of Action to Implement the ARF Vision Statement 2020, this Work Plan will constitute a fundamental and meaningful breakthrough which would bring the ARF to a higher and more essential level of cooperation. Indonesia is fully committed to support the finalization of the Work Plan and to seek its adoption by the 18th ASEAN Regional Forum in July 2011. It would further enhance and maximize the ARF as not only a forum for dialogue and consultation on political and security issues, but also to become a more action-oriented forum. The CSCAP and EEP have previously done studies on the issue of preventive diplomacy and the ARF's future role and the ARF will benefit from these briefings.

Related to conflict management and resolution, the Joint ASEAN Leaders' Statement on the Establishment of an ASEAN Institute for Peace and Reconciliation is one of the outcomes of the 18<sup>th</sup> ASEAN Summit. In it, the ASEAN Leaders recalled the relevant provisions in the ASEAN Political-Security Blueprint on conflict resolution, the pacific settlement of disputes, and post-conflict peace-building. ASEAN is striving to move towards a culture of peace and respect for diversity in the region, and its Leaders have tasked the ASEAN Foreign Ministers to submit their recommendations to the 19<sup>th</sup> ASEAN Summit in November 2011 for further consideration.

In this regard, ASEAN must now start discussing the modalities for such an institution. The ARF, with ASEAN at its core, and as a relevant forum on security issues in the region, could be further enriched by the CSCAP's knowledge and studies on conflict management and resolution, the pacific settlement of disputes, and post conflict building. The ARF could then also incorporate such studies in finalizing the ARF Work Plan on Preventive Diplomacy.

With the expertise and support of Track II organizations such as CSCAP and ASEAN-ISIS, the ARF could gain insight on the development of regional architecture in the region as well as moving towards Preventive Diplomacy phase. Indonesia is confident that the ARF will continue to engage Track II organizations in conducting joint research projects, discussions, and studies, briefing the ARF ISG, ISM, or CBM activities, and to disseminate information of activities and outcomes of the ARF to Track II organizations.

In this light, the Track II's valuable inputs and information would over time contribute to a synergy between Government and non-Government institutions. This synergy would result in confidence-building that is enhanced and create a shared sense of community. We hope that the Track II's support will continue to support and enlighten Track I in its efforts. Currently, the world's eyes are drawn to the ASEAN region, where we are developing and moving forward together. This fact should be an inspiration for us to work harder, to achieve the ASEAN Community by 2015, and make the relationships among ASEAN, ARF, and Track II more useful to solve global problems.

I thank you.