

FINAL

**CHAIRMAN'S REPORT OF  
TRACK II NETWORK OF ASEAN DEFENCE AND SECURITY INSTITUTIONS (NADI)  
WORKSHOP ON  
"STRENGTHENING BORDER MANAGEMENT COOPERATION IN ASEAN"  
23<sup>rd</sup> - 24<sup>th</sup> NOVEMBER 2022  
VIA VIDEO TELECONFERENCE  
INDONESIA**

1. The Track II Network of ASEAN Defence and Security Institutions (NADI) Workshop on "**Strengthening Border Management Cooperation in ASEAN**" was organized by the Center for Strategic Studies, Research and Development *Tentara Nasional Indonesia* (CSSRD-TNI), via Zoom Meeting, on the 23<sup>rd</sup> - 24<sup>th</sup> November 2022.
2. Representatives from Brunei Darussalam, Kingdom of Cambodia, Republic of Indonesia, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Malaysia, Republic of the Union of Myanmar, Republic of the Philippines, Republic of Singapore, Kingdom of Thailand, and the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam attended the Workshop. The list of participants is attached in Annex I. Major General Agape Zacharia R. Dondokambey, S.E., M.Han., Chief of CSSRD-TNI, chaired the Workshop.

**Opening Remarks by Major General Agape Zacharia R. Dondokambey, S.E., M.Han., Chief of CSSRD-TNI; and Chairman of the NADI Workshop.**

3. Major General Agape Zacharia R. Dondokambey, S.E., M.Han greeted all of Head of Delegations and welcomed all participants to the Track II Network of ASEAN Defence and Security Institutions (NADI) Workshop organized via video teleconference. He noted that the theme of the Workshop as one of efforts to participate in supporting ASEAN connectivity to strengthen mutual trust between ASEAN Member States (AMS). He highlighted that ASEAN already has a Master Plan on ASEAN Connectivity, which has been implemented through several border subregional cooperation.
4. The Chairman invited all colleagues, to share their views and perspectives on this topic, which in practice is still constrained in various aspects, including infrastructure at the border that is not evenly distributed; geographic character differences; as well as institutional differences in each member country. He also invited all participants to pray for the earthquake victims in Cianjur.

**Adoption of Agenda**

5. The Workshop adopted the agenda and the program, which are appended in Annex II and Annex III respectively.

**SESSION I: Keynote Speaker: Brigadier General Oktaheroe Ramsi, S.IP., M.Sc., Secretary of Defense Strategy Directorate General, Ministry of Defense of The Republic of Indonesia.**

6. Brigadier General Oktaheroe Ramsi, S.IP., M.Sc. mentioned that since the first Shangri-la Dialogue meeting in 2002, followed by the ADMM in 2006, the use of

military means for diplomatic purposes has become routine in Southeast Asia. ADMM plus existence since 2010 demonstrates the significance of defence diplomacy in the implementation of foreign policy. With the participation of the military, including troops from the majority of countries, it has become an integral component of Southeast Asia's security framework. As stated previously, in the post-cold war period, when threats shifted, the military served as a peacekeeping force, preventing conflict, managing natural disasters, and ensuring good and accountable governance.

7. He highlighted that the development of ADMM cooperation is not only cross-pillar but also cross-sectoral which is more coordinated and synchronized so as to reduce duplication and overlapping cooperation while strengthening our diplomatic position at the ASEAN level. He also emphasized that there are more than 17 initiatives have been made through this cooperation. One of which is the role of ASEAN defence establishment in supporting border management adopted at the 13th ADMM in July 2019. NADI as a think tank of ADMM hopefully can contribute a lot of inputs in this matter. He believe that NADI delegates will also share their perspectives on the norms and principles for defence and security cooperation, as well as which areas of cooperation that ADMM should focus on, so as to enhance defence diplomacy among ASEAN Member States.
8. He concluded with the statement of confidence that the goal of ASEAN cooperation in border management is to encourage ASEAN Member States to realise the importance of achieving comprehensive cooperation, increasing trust building, and strengthening strategic security partnerships among asean member states in order to respond to transnational challenges. Furthermore, effective cooperation in border management not only helps to facilitate a prosperous future for the asean economic community (AEC) and the Asean Socio-Cultural Community (ASCC), but it also aims to lead to long-term peace and stability that falls under the jurisdiction of the asean political and security community (APSC). In the end, this will achieve a sustainable balance toward the goal of achieving a prosperous, secure, and safe asean community for our people. He highlighted the interest of people's safety and security, and hope that all ASEAN Member States efforts to cooperate in the management of their borders can be effectively coordinated with today's event. As a result, Indonesia requests that all ASEAN Member States have the same views in regard to how to deal with the ongoing issues. He is aware that the current state of affairs on a global scale has made things challenging; therefore, as brothers and sisters in ASEAN, he invited us to collaborate in find solutions to the problems in the spirit of ASEAN.

## **SESSION II: "Security challenges in the border, both national and regional"**

### **Brunei Darussalam**

*Presentation by Mr Azlan Abdul Ghani, Acting Assistant Director, Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Institute of Defence and Strategic Studies (SHHBIDSS), Ministry of Defence, Brunei Darussalam*

9. Mr Azlan Abdul Ghani highlighted Brunei Darussalam's border security challenges, which are mainly related with the ongoing efforts of its local security agencies in combatting transnational crimes. This involves land border regions, wherein the areas are remote, mostly uninhabited, and its porous conditions are attractive to other perpetrators to conduct illegal and criminal activities. The presentation

identified emerging issues related to border security and highlighted the importance of addressing transnational crimes. He further stressed that it remains important that nations develop capabilities to protect its border areas in varied terrains and foster cooperation with its neighbouring countries to help curb criminal elements along the borders.

10. The presentation also reviewed future scenario, including the employment of mixed approaches to deter or prevent transnational crime. Furthermore, the presentation put forward the following recommendations for consideration, including achieving strengthened border security enhanced by diplomatic relations and capability enhancements; secondly, promoting collaborative border development, such as establishing buffer zones or joint conservation areas, whereby such strategic alignments will also focus efforts on local community empowerment in agreed areas; and lastly, advocating increased conservation efforts whilst empowering local communities, whereby countries could pursue economic development in suitable areas near the border which would also justify sustaining a more persistent security presence and empowering local communities to support conservation efforts.

### **Kingdom of Cambodia**

*Presentation by Capt. Phon Thearin, Assistance to Director of Border Affairs Directorate.*

11. Capt. Phon Thearin highlighted that the joint field survey and demarcation are not completed which causes many issues with the neighboring countries in the undemarcated area (White Zone). The people who live along the border area have illegally crossed the border for fishing or hunting in these areas and they were arrested for illegal crossing. Therefore, to strengthen the border management effectively, the relevant authorities of Cambodia and the neighboring countries shall be increased the close cooperation, sharing of experiences, and exchange of information to promptly and effectively tackle problems along the border area. Currently, Cambodia has only Border Liaison Office (BLO) with Thailand. Therefore, he suggests establishing the Border Liaison Office (BLO) with Lao PDR and Vietnam to facilitate legal border crossing the g of the people.
12. He mentioned illegal migration as one of the main challenging issues in Cambodia. The number of workers illegally migrating to Thailand is increased, many of them were cheated by their brokers and they mostly do not go through the legal method. Cambodia has signed Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) on the Cooperation in the Employment of Worker in 2003 with Thailand. Nonetheless, this MoU cannot prevent the workers from illegal migration due to its ineffectiveness time and cost. Most workers can't afford to migrate through the legal process because they have pay much money and take too long. Moreover, the cruel violation, torture and killing against the illegal migration on Cambodia worker is still continue. Therefore, he suggest to the relevant authorities to adhere strictly to respect international law and law of each country in accordance with humanitarian basis and preventing from inhuman action on migrant worker.

### **Republic of Indonesia**

*Presentation by Dr. David Yacobus, S.E., M.B.A., M.Si(Han), Lecturer of Asymmetric Warfare Study, Republic of Indonesia Defense University (RIDU).*

13. Dr. David Yacobus, S.E., M.B.A., M.Si(Han) highlighted that border security is an important issue for every ASEAN Member States in order to protect their national security. Traditionally, the threats are commonly related to disputes over boundaries and trespassings. Today, there are variety of challenges that becomes critical issues not only to the bordering countries but also potentially affecting the region as well. Such condition must be handled with concrete actions. Considering that the countries in ASEAN are directly adjacent to other member countries, a border problem or crisis may inflict damages to other ASEAN member states. There are already cooperation being performed between countries to handle border security issues in the form of: joint patrols, intelligence sharing, exchange visits by frontline forces, etc, and the latest is ASEAN's regional border management roadmap.
14. While the regional roadmap is starting to take shape for implementation, RIDU propose a next step for broader border management cooperation. Transforming border from a separator into opportunity between bordering nations. Creating jointly operated area to further promote friendship and economic opportunities through interactions especially of local population between bordering countries. Sharing infrastructures and capabilities to support humanitarian actions such as concerning the public health of border communities, search and rescue, disaster mitigation, etc. Increase cooperation between ASEAN Member State's border authorities through knowledge and intelligence sharing to counter high-risk potential threats. Increase cooperation in joint patrol and training between ASEAN Member State's military and law enforcement that are responsible for their respective borders. Joint actions towards acts of violent extremism, terrorism, separatism, and piracy in ASEAN Member State's border to maintain the stability of the whole ASEAN region.

### **Malaysia**

*Presentation by Col Dr Nizlan bin Mohamed, Director of Contemporary Security, Malaysian Institute of Defence and Security (MiDAS).*

15. Col Dr Nizlan bin Mohamed specified that an effective border management cooperation compels a dual purpose, helping to balance internal states security interests in both facilitating cross-border movements and maintaining security at regional level. In Malaysia's context, the security boundaries are porous to various threats which are not limited to traditional military threats but also encompasses to non-traditional threats such as terrorism and other transnational criminals, for example illegal immigrants, human trafficking and smuggling of prohibited goods.
16. The COVID-19 pandemic has generated an unprecedented chain reaction of border control closures around the globe in an effort to contain such outbreak. The National Task Force (NTF) that integrates 19 enforcement agencies was established to strengthen the country's border control from the entry of illegal immigrants to curb COVID-19. The challenges faced in border management cooperation includes establishing holistic operating models, comprehensive enforcement policy, human security vs national security dilemma, economic disparity, high demand workers in demanding sector, harness data and IT networks, adaptation of influence and intelligence operation, expansion of Civil-

Military (CIMIC) cooperation, interchangeable modus operandi, early warning and risks assessment.

### **Lao People's Democratic Republic**

*Presentation by LT Khamxay SANYKEO, Military Science and History Department (MSHD), Ministry of National Defence*

17. LT Khamxay SANYKEO highlighted the importance of border management and border management cooperation, as border management and cooperation not only ensures harmonious and friendly relations with its neighbors but is also an important means to ensure its national peace, security, stability as well as sovereignty and territorial integrity.
18. He also emphasized that as we can see the prominent issues and challenges maintaining national peace, security, stability as well as sovereignty and territorial integrity, it is more important than ever that ASEAN Member States to find ways to enhance the capacity in border management through bilateral and multilateral cooperation mechanisms. While ensuring the information exchanges especially with the neighboring countries to be able to address the non-traditional challenge that occurs along the borders.

### **Republic of the Union of Myanmar**

*Presentation by Major General Myint Kyaw Tun, Deputy Chief of Armed Forces Training (Strategic Studies), Office of the Chief of Armed Forces Training (OCAFT), Republic of the Union of Myanmar*

19. Major General MYINT KYAW TUN mentioned that a variety of transnational risks are becoming more prevalent in the ASEAN region, including the movement of fake goods, the trade in illegal drugs and wildlife, the smuggling of people over borders, and the threat of cross-border terrorism. As states frequently attempt to assert their sovereignty over a territory through invasion and non-state actors attempt to influence the actions of politicians through terrorism, he emphasized the necessity of strengthening border management cooperation and mentioned that border disputes are a major cause of war and terrorism. The UN Convention against Transnational Organized Crime lays out the domestic responsibilities of ratifying States and promotes global collaboration to stop the smuggling of migrants, human trafficking, and the production and trafficking of illegal weaponry. States are required to create efficient border controls according to the UN Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy and Security Council resolutions 1373 (2001), 1566 (2004), 1624 (2005), and 2178 (2014).
20. In accordance with their various domestic laws, rules, regulations, and policies, he said that ASEAN is encouraged to deepen border management cooperation as part of the ASEAN Political Security Community Blueprint 2025 and to work together to address issues of shared concern. To enhance policy and practical collaboration to counter transnational crime at and along borders, the ASEAN has developed the "ASEAN Border Management Cooperation Roadmap" framework. He argued that effective border security is the effective management of border processes and procedures leading to an unhindered flow of people, goods, and means of transportation for the mutual benefit of countries bordering each other.

He mentioned that the most fundamental rule of resolving territorial disputes is that they should be done in accordance with international law. According to the ASEAN Charter, member states must make every effort to quickly and peacefully resolve all conflicts via consultation, negotiation, and dialogue. He said that the ASEAN region should concentrate on strengthening border management cooperation as his final point.

## **Republic of the Philippines**

*Presentation by Col Haroun-Al-Rashid I Jaji PA, Chief, Office for Strategic Studies and Strategy Management, Armed Forces of the Philippines.*

21. In his presentation, Col Jaji emphasized ASEAN's role in fostering regional collaboration and ensuring border security amidst growing transnational concerns. The adoption of the ASEAN Border Management Cooperation Roadmap led to increased economic integration between the Member States. Nevertheless, transnational issues have become more pressing in the maritime domain and archipelagic nations which include: trafficking of timber and wildlife, illicit drug trafficking, smuggling, human trafficking, cross-border terrorism, and transporting of counterfeit goods. Recognizing these threats, the ASEAN continues to advocate for more areas of cooperation such as those bound under the ASEAN Political Security Community Blueprint 2025 and the Indonesia-Malaysia-Philippines Trilateral Maritime Patrol or INDOMALPHI. However, the INDOMALPHI, while offering some positive prospects for cooperation, is still faced with challenges such as lack of physical assets and resources and lack of credible defense capability which made the maritime waters vulnerable against security threats.
  
22. Col Jaji also discussed security challenges in the Philippines' border. Three challenges were identified, first on Maritime Piracy where the country is still battling with bandit groups. However, armed robbery and kidnapping for ransom have decreased from the previous year. Second challenge, on human smuggling and trafficking where victims were exposed to various crimes such as forced labor, sex trafficking, child labor, and organ trafficking. Nevertheless, concerned government agencies have partnered up with foreign law enforcement agencies to improve the effectiveness of investigating cases against human trafficking and smuggling. Last, is the smuggling of goods. Import smuggling has been prevalent in the country due to high tariffs that forced importers to illicitly trade them. Three agencies are in-charge of border inspection and entry and exit of commodity goods -- the Bureau of Customs, the Philippine Coast Guard, and the Philippine Navy. The country continues to adhere with its anti-smuggling operations together with the Armed Forces of the Philippines and the Philippine Coast Guard extending their aid to the Bureau of Customs. As a conclusion, Col Jaji stressed the severity of transnational crimes in the region. With this severity, there is a need to strengthen mechanisms such as the INDOMALPHI to increase cooperation with the member-states. Lastly, the Philippines being an archipelago is more prone to sea-based illegal activities such as maritime piracy, human smuggling and trafficking, and smuggling of goods.

### **SESSION III: “Potential cooperation to anticipate challenges at the border.”**

#### **Republic of Indonesia**

*Presentation by Colonel Army R.H.P. Tambunan, M.Han, Head of Military Operation Other than War Studies, Center for Strategic, Research and Development of Tentara Nasional Indonesia (CSSRD-TNI).*

23. Colonel Army R.H.P. Tambunan, M.Han highlighted the importance of strengthening cooperation with an emphasis on empowerment, as well as strengthening national integrity and capacity through diplomacy and international cooperation by positively interpreting various beneficial opportunities for the national interest.
  
24. Therefore, he recommended to encourages the establishment of integrated border management through the establishment of an integrated cross-border post for a technical officer or simplified as the ASEAN Single Window (ASW) consisting of one shared physical infrastructure in which intelligence, customs, police, immigration, and state border services operate side by side as one point of submission for data and information processing, together with a single decision-making point for customs clearance. This unit can provide customs, immigration, quarantine, and security (CIS) facilities. The goal is to shorten the time consume for licensing goods and to achieve greater economic efficiency. This type of integrated service structure simplifies the border crossing process for travelers and authorities and encourages international cooperation to share information to improve border security. A one-window regime can provide more available information, better handling, and acceleration of information flow between traders and the government. This can lead to more harmonization and data sharing across government systems, bringing advantages to all parties involved in cross-border trade. Finally, it can make official control more efficient and effective, reducing costs for governments and traders through better use of resources. Second, to encourage the establishment of an ASEAN cross-border research conference. The ASEAN cross-border research conference aims to facilitate an open and constructive dialogue between researchers and practitioners based on research work and practical experience that encourages a better understanding of resolving border-related issues.

#### **Malaysia**

*Presentation by Dr. Amer Fawwaz bin Mohamad Yasid, Research Fellow, Center for Defence and International Security Studies (CDISS), National Defence University of Malaysia (NDUM).*

25. In his presentation, Dr. Amer Fawwaz bin Mohamad Yasid highlighted the issue of maintaining border security against threats from transboundary criminal activities is a huge challenge for any country in the world, including Malaysia. One of the main concern in maintaining Malaysia's national security is border security between Malaysia and Thailand. The current situation demonstrates that transboundary criminal and illegal activities, including drug smuggling, have occurred across the Malaysia-Thailand border, posing a significant threat to Malaysia's national security (the country is located near the Golden Triangle region, which is infamously known as the main production area of heroin, amphetamine-type stimulant, and methamphetamine in Southeast Asia). The Malaysian government needs to

address this issue carefully in order to increase the security level of the Malaysia-Thailand border. The coordinated border management measures have been imposed in order to strengthen the security of the Malaysia-Thailand border. Nevertheless, several issues need to be resolved to ensure that the problems at the border can be resolved.

26. Hence, several recommendations and suggestions were given to cater to the problems: (1) the border needs to be fortified through the development of new lines of fencing, particularly in the Kedah and Kelantan regions, where most of the border area was not protected with any kind of barriers due to the geographical conditions (most of the areas were covered with secondary jungles and rivers); and (2) the number of law enforcement agency members involved in safeguarding the Malaysia-Thailand border needs to be increased, as sufficient manpower will enable the border security agency to cover the vast areas of the porous border through regular border patrols by the members of the border security agencies. (3) The establishment of a single border agency by the Malaysian government needs to be done in order to improve and increase the efficiency of Malaysia-Thailand border management. The single border agency will reduce the issues of overlapping jurisdiction in managing the security of the border. Furthermore, it will give the border security agency a clear responsibility for their task and duty rather than doing multiple tasks that go beyond their jurisdictions. Those recommendations and suggestions given above might take time and a huge amount of financial resources, particularly for the Malaysian government, to be implemented in the long term. However, it could secure the country from the continuous transboundary criminal activities that might pose a threat to Malaysia's national security.

### **Republic of the Philippines**

*Presentation by Mr. Vince Andre C Sabellon, Defense Research Officer I, National Defense College of the Philippines (NDCP).*

27. Mr. Vince Andre Sabellon emphasized the importance of border management and its attendant challenges for ASEAN member states, necessitating international security cooperation. In the Philippines, a maritime and archipelagic nation, numerous policy and legal documents highlight the role of border management in protecting the country's national interests. Porous borders have made the Philippines and its neighbors, particularly areas near the Sulu-Celebes Sea, vulnerable to transnational issues such as terrorism, piracy, and crime. The Trilateral Cooperative Arrangement (TCA) and other intergovernmental initiatives have reduced maritime incidents, but these threats, although weakened, continue to persist. This stresses the significance of further security cooperation in maritime areas of common concern.
28. To sustain the benefits of such existing measures, Mr. Sabellon proposed four recommendations: first, continue maintaining border security cooperation policies and practices in the Sulu-Celebes Sea; second, share best practices and intelligence with respect to border management through platforms such as the ASEAN Our Eyes Initiative; third, enhance joint exercises to significantly deter traditional security issues; and fourth, strengthen border management cooperation in accordance with the ASEAN Border Management Cooperation Roadmap.



Ultimately, the Philippines and its partners can work together to address transnational threats, improve national and regional security, and promote holistic growth in Southeast Asia.

### **Republic of Singapore**

*Presentation by Mr Muhammad Faizal bin Abdul Rahman, Research Fellow (Regional Security Architecture Programme), Institute of Defence and Strategic Studies, S. Rajaratnam School of International Studies (RSIS), NTU, Singapore*

29. In his presentation, Mr Faizal described contemporary challenges to border security management. Global megatrends and their impact are shaping operational challenges that no single border agency, stakeholder or country can resolve alone. He then explained that Coordinated Border Security Management (CBSM) is needed to ensure the secure and efficient movement of people, trade, and national security. This is an approach for managing borders in a systematic manner and comprises domestic and international elements. Domestic coordination spans three missions, viz. (i) border surveillance and sense-making, (ii) border protection, and (iii) checkpoint management. International/regional coordination comprises (i) cooperation at the operational level, (ii) bilateral and multilateral initiatives, and (iii) working with international organisations.
30. Mr Faizal concluded that international/regional cooperation is a crucial element of CBSM and made the following recommendations that are relevant to ASEAN:
  - a. ASEAN defence establishments can convene meetings/workshops specifically on border security management: (a) share best practices and experiences, (b) discuss emerging challenges, and (c) enhance communications among senior officials and working-level officers.
  - b. Organise ADSOM-level meetings on border security cooperation with representatives from other ASEAN-related non-defence establishments such as ASEANAPOL, DGICM and AMMTC/SOMTC.
  - c. Discuss border-related information sharing between defence, police, and immigration platforms: ASEAN Our Eyes (AOE), ASEANAPOL database system, and ASEAN Immigration Intelligence Forum (AIIF).
  - d. ASEAN Defence establishments can explore enhancing regional cooperation in border security under the general framework of the ASEAN Border Management Cooperation Roadmap.

### **Kingdom of Thailand**

*Presentation by Ms. Napit Kornpakawatjinda, Researcher, Strategic Studies Center (SSC), National Defence Studies Institutes, Royal Thai Armed Forces Headquarters.*

31. The establishment of ASEAN Community in 2015 has rapidly transformed ASEAN into an interconnected community. While the recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic trends to increase the flow of people and goods, which, on one hand, need to facilitate the resumption of safe and seamless cross-border travel, on the other hand, will also bring challenges from transnational crime such as illicit drug trafficking, illegal

labour migration, arms smuggling, illegal fishing, trafficking of timber, forgeries of identification and travel documents, as well as cyberscamming and human trafficking. In order to reduce barriers that impede the movement of people and goods together with maintaining secure borders from emerging challenges, effective border management is substantially needed.

32. Effective border management can be achieved by considering some significant factors as follows: 1) Inter-agency coordination: There are many relevant government authorities and agencies involved in border management, such as Border Guards, Customs, Veterinary and Phytosanitary Inspection Administration, Ministry of Transportation and Immigration. Therefore, domestic inter-agency coordination is important for effective border management. 2) Cross-border cooperation: Cooperation with neighboring countries at border crossing sites is also necessary to reduce duplication of processes/procedures by sharing information. 3) ASEAN also have the Concept Paper on the Role of ASEAN Defence Establishments in Supporting Border Management that has been adopted since 2019 to enhance cooperation amongst ASEAN Member States defence establishments in dealing with cross-border challenges by enhancing dialogue to exchange experiences, ideas and best practices. After that, on 29-31 August 2022, Thailand held a seminar on the role of ASEAN defence establishments in supporting border management to exchange ideas and experiences regarding border management. The seminar result highlights the importance of cooperation to enhance the role of ASEAN Defence Establishments in supporting border management.
33. Therefore, recommendations for potential cooperation to anticipate challenges at the border are as follows: 1) AMS should strengthen cooperation between government agencies across national borders including sharing information, intelligence and resources. 2) AMS should strengthen domestic inter-agency collaboration as well as civil society and local community to ensure secure and efficient border management. 3) ASEAN Defence establishments related to border management should arrange dialogue forum to share/ exchange experiences and best practices, conduct exchange visits, as well as education and training exchange in order to enhance interoperability which will eventually lead to ASEAN Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) on border management.

### **Socialist Republic of Vietnam**

*Presentation by Colonel Vu Cao Dinh, Deputy Director, Department of International Studies, Institute for Defence Strategy, Vietnamese Ministry of National Defence.*

34. Colonel Dinh highlighted that Southeast Asia is facing both traditional and nontraditional security challenges at the border. Cooperation among ASEAN member states in anticipating challenges at the border is essential due to existing territorial disputes, the transnational and transboundary nature of nontraditional security challenges, the reality of responding to infectious diseases, the importance of ensuring border security, and the role of prediction in preventing and responding to security challenges at the border.
35. It is within this context that ASEAN member states need to work out solutions to strengthen cooperation in anticipating challenges at the border. Accordingly, they are requested to promote political trust at the strategic level; have cross-border cooperation programs in accordance with principles of equality and mutual

benefits, aiming at effectively addressing common security challenges and building borders peace and cooperation for development.

### **Exchange of Views**

36. The security challenges at the border experienced by ASEAN Member States vary from one to another according to the different characteristics of the borders in terms of geography, institution, infrastructure, and the relations between countries. Some of the most common threats at the border are terrorism, smuggling and illegal trade, flow of illegal immigrants, piracy, and border disputes. On the other hand, the new challenges of the Covid-19 Pandemic add to the complexity of the existing challenges faced at the border, where the governments of ASEAN Member States are confronted with the choice of whether to tighten the border entrances or open them to build cooperation between countries.
37. The workshop underscored the need for more intense cooperation between ASEAN Member States, with reference to the ASEAN Border Management Cooperation Roadmap adopted in 2019 in Thailand, and in particular The Concept Paper on the Role of ASEAN Defense Establishments in Supporting Border Management to enhance cooperation which was proposed at a seminar on 29-31 August in Thailand. For this reason, efforts are needed to optimize existing mechanisms such as the ASEAN Our Eyes (AOE), the ASEANAPOL database system, and the ASEAN Immigration Intelligence Forum (AIIF).
38. In consideration of the challenges brought by border security issues such as illegal migration and trafficking, there is a need for countries to uphold principles enshrined in international law in addressing common transnational concerns.

### **Recommendations**

39. Promote collaborative border security management, such as establishing buffer zones or joint conservation areas, whereby such strategic alignments shall also focus efforts on local community empowerment in agreed areas.
40. Widen border management cooperation by enhancing joint operational areas such as the ASEAN Single Window (ASW) platform to promote close cooperation and encourage economic opportunities.
41. Enhance capacity in border management through bilateral and multilateral cooperation mechanisms, while ensuring the information exchanges especially with the neighboring countries to be able to address the non-traditional security challenges that occurs along the borders.
42. Enhance the role of ASEAN Defence establishments to strengthen regional cooperation in border security under general framework of the ASEAN Border Management Cooperation Roadmap. For example, utilizing ASEAN security platforms like ASEAN Our Eyes (AOE), ASEAN Immigration Intelligence Forum (AIIF), and ASEAN Direct Communications Infrastructure (ADI), as well as organizing ADSOM-level meetings on border security cooperation with representatives from other ASEAN-related non-defense establishments such as ASEANAPOL, DGICM and AMMTC/SOMTC.

43. Encourage the implementation of Concept Paper on the Role of ASEAN Defence Establishments in Supporting Border Management that has been adopted since 2019 to enhance cooperation amongst ASEAN Member States defence establishments in dealing with cross-border challenges by enhancing dialogue to exchange experiences, ideas and best practices.
44. Conduct inter-agency coordination and cross-border cooperation with neighboring countries at border crossing sites to reduce duplication of process/procedures by sharing information.
45. Promote cooperation in training and conducting joint exercises to address potential security challenges.

### **Other Matters**

46. Forthcoming NADI activities

<b>Date</b>	<b>Activities</b>	<b>Country</b>	<b>Via</b>
March 2023	16 <sup>th</sup> NADI Annual Meeting	CSSRD-TNI, Indonesia	Physical/Hybrid
June 2023	NADI Workshop (Topic: TBA)	SSC, Thailand	Physical/VTC
August 2023	NADI Workshop(Topic: TBA)	MiDAS, Malaysia	Physical
Third quarter of 2023 (July/August/September)	NADI Workshop (Topic: TBA)	IDS, Viet Nam	Physical
TBA	TBA	MSHD, Lao PDR	TBA

### **Consideration of NADI Workshop Chairman's Report**

47. The meeting considered the draft Chairman's Report of the NADI Workshop on Strengthening Border Management Cooperation in ASEAN. After examining the Chairman's Report carefully, the meeting endorsed the report.
48. The NADI Workshop Chairman will submit the Report to the ADSOM Chairman for consideration at the ADMM Track and a copy to the NADI Chairman.

### **Closing Remarks by Major General Agape Zacharia R. Dondokambey, S.E., M.Han, Chief of CSSRD-TNI.**

In his closing remarks, Major General Agape Zacharia R. Dondokambey, S.E., M.Han expressed sincere appreciation to delegates and all NADI members for their dedication in participating this NADI Workshop. All contributions will be useful in supporting the ADMM in strengthening border management cooperation in ASEAN. He expressed his deepest gratitude to all participants for the prayers to the victims of earthquake in Cianjur, and hoped for a speedy recovery.

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