

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT
Track II Network of ASEAN Defence and Security Institutions (NADI)
15th NADI ANNUAL MEETING
21st – 22nd March 2022, via Video Conference, Siem Reap, Cambodia

INTRODUCTION

1. The 15th Track II Network of ASEAN Defence and Security Institutions (15th NADI) Annual Meeting was organised by General Department of Policy and Foreign Affairs (GDPFA), Ministry of National Defence, Kingdom of Cambodia. It was held via videoconference on 21-22 March 2022.
2. The representatives from Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, Indonesia, Lao PDR, Malaysia, Myanmar, the Philippines, Singapore, Thailand, and Viet Nam attended the Meeting. The list of the participants is at **Appendix I**. The meeting was chaired by Lieutenant General Nem Sowathey, Deputy Director-General of Policy and Foreign Affairs, Director of SENA TECHO Unit, Ministry of National Defence.

Welcome Remarks by Lieutenant General Nem Sowathey, Deputy Director-General of Policy and Foreign Affairs and Director of SENA TECHO Unit, Ministry of National Defence

3. In her welcoming remarks, she highlighted that NADI has continued to serve an essential role in bringing together policy analysts specializing in defence and security issues, academics researching in defense and security cooperation, and defense officials to address security cooperation concerns presented by the ASEAN Defence Ministers Meeting (ADMM). In addition to the annual meeting and retreat, various workshops were also held on security issues that are posing challenges in the present and the foreseeable future, on both of transnational and non-traditional natures.
4. She highlighted that Track II NADI is a platform that provides suitable environment for the unfettered discussion of ASEAN defence and security cooperation. Track II thinks ahead of the curve and anticipates potential security challenges. She expressed high appreciations for the commitments and efforts of the NADI institutions, that have made tremendous progress, in addressing the challenges and tapping into potential contemporary security issues. She stated that as long as we muster our courage and strong solidarity, together we can tackle any challenges.

ADOPTION OF AGENDA

5. The meeting adopted the agenda and the programme attached in **Appendix II** and **Appendix III** respectively.

SESSION I: EXCHANGE OF VIEWS WITH CAMBODIA ADSOM WG LEADER

6. The meeting had exchanges of views with ADSOM WG leader, Lieutenant General Lay Chenda, Deputy Director General of Policy and Foreign Affairs, Director of ASEAN Affairs Department, Ministry of National Defence. In his remarks, Lieutenant General Lay Chenda, acknowledged the important role of NADI in contributing to the

ADMM process by thinking ahead of the curve and anticipating future security challenges, new ideas and recommendations for the ADMM's consideration. He also stated that the practical cooperation in the ASEAN defence sector has grown steadily in the areas of maritime security, cyber security, counter-terrorism, peacekeeping operations, humanitarian assistance and disaster relief, military medicine, and the defence industry.

7. As Chair of ADMM 2022, under the theme “Solidarity for Harmonised Security”, Cambodia sets out priorities to deepen ASEAN cooperation, which includes (1) Concept Paper on Enhancing Cooperation Amongst Defence Forces of ASEAN Member States (AMS) in Cross-Border Pandemic Containment; (2) Concept Paper on Enhancing Support Mechanism for ASEAN Women Peacekeepers; (3) Concept Paper on the Establishment of ASEAN Defence Educational Institutes’ Collaborations; (4) Discussion Paper on Establishing a link between SEAMLEI and ADMM-Plus in the area of Maritime Security; and (5) Discussion Paper on Reflecting Military History to Promote Sustainable Peace. In addition, under its ADMM Chairmanship, Cambodia also focuses on strengthening ASEAN Centrality and ASEAN Unity for both regional mechanisms and external partner cooperation based on ASEAN Way and Principles stipulated in the ASEAN Charter, Treaty of Amity and Cooperation in Southeast Asia, and ASEAN Outlook on the Indo-Pacific.
8. Towards the end of his remarks, Lieutenant General Lay Chenda highlighted the challenges the region is currently facing. The development of a regional security environment such as the emergence of new security cooperation such as AUKUS, the revival of QUAD, the security situation development in Korean Peninsular, South China Sea, Myanmar, and Russia-Ukraine crisis indeed requires deliberation and further study from AMS, especially the ASEAN Defence and Security research institutions—such as NADI.

SESSION II: ASSESSMENT ON THE PROGRESS AND ACHIEVEMENT OF NADI OVER THE PAST 15 YEARS

Brunei Darussalam

Presentation by Nor Azriah Binti DSS Haji Abdul Aziz, Research Officer, Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Institute of Defence and Strategic Studies (SHHBIDSS), Ministry of Defence, Brunei Darussalam

9. Ms Nor Azriah Binti DSS Haji Abdul Aziz provided an overview of the role of NADI. Over the years, NADI has made strides in its capacity as an ASEAN think tank group supporting ADMM. The concept paper on ‘Enhancing the Linkages between the ADMM and NADI’, adopted at the 11th ADMM, which took place at Clark, the Philippines on 23 October 2017 is the most significant achievement for NADI as it institutionalises the formality of the modes of communication between the two platforms of Track 1 and Track II. The birth of the concept paper revolved around the need to harness the fullest potential of NADI, and that in order to do that, linkages between the ADMM and NADI have to be enhanced (improved) so that policy recommendations generated at NADI can be considered by the ADMM. Appropriately, this concept paper should serve as a benchmark for NADI members to regulate their standards. SHHBIDSS recommends looking into this particular concept paper to stock take whether the purpose and objectives have been attained.

10. As the only defence network between ASEAN countries, NADI is in a position to be the main Track II network of defence think tanks to support the ADMM. The upcoming fifteen-year anniversary of the NADI establishment is a significant milestone in itself as it continues to remain active in its activities and discussions. However, it is timely for NADI to look back and reconsider ways to better enhance its role and strengthen its contributions to the defence and security discourse. More importantly, it must ensure it remains relevant and become a more effective Track II network of think tanks for ASEAN and the ADMM in particular.

Cambodia

Presentation by Lieutenant Colonel Suon Witu, Deputy Director of Policy and Planning Department, General Department of Policy and Foreign Affairs, Ministry of National Defence

11. In his presentation, Lieutenant Colonel Suon Witu highlighted that over the last 15 years, NADI has played significant roles as a forum to network, build confidence and familiarity among the ASEAN strategic think tanks. It has functioned as a forum for policy analysts to discuss issues of security cooperation that the ASEAN Summit and ASEAN Defence Ministers have raised, and a forum for participants to think beyond their governments' positions, and to provide timely ideas and relevant recommendations for Track I. Indeed, the evolution of global as well as regional security issues have presented the needs for strategic think tanks to project forward and to think ahead on contemporary security challenges, and how these issues can be addressed, in the efforts of maintaining peace and security within the region and promote cooperation among AMS. NADI has built closer relations with Track I, and has encouraged deeper cooperation and collaboration among NADI core institutions as well as partnering institutions. This also includes the presence of Track I officials in NADI annual meetings and workshops. It has also promoted confidence and better understanding to enhance cooperation among the militaries of the AMS in responding to non-traditional security (NTS) challenges and transnational issues (TI). In terms of the scope for studies and research, NADI has seen wider coverage of diverse topics. It is also important to note that traditional security issues remain prevalent, and this requires NADI to conduct comprehensive studies and research on how these issues can be addressed.
12. NADI faces multiple challenges such as shortages of joint research and collaboration, and the lack of follow up mechanisms and collaboration with Track I. As such, it is recommended that NADI increases its joint research initiatives and collective recommendations. It is also crucial for NADI to increase communications with Track I and the mechanisms to follow up on given recommendations, to gauge the level of success, and better convey future recommendations. Moving forward, NADI must recall that Track II acts as an independent entity, free to research and recommend relevant ideas that NADI sees fit to present to Track I. Lastly, it is recommended that NADI increases the conduct of joint training courses, seminars, and forums in collaboration with Track I.

Indonesia

Brigadier General Dr. Erry Herman, M.P.A., Lecturer of Defence Strategy Faculty, Republic of Indonesia Defence University (RIDU)

13. Assessment and evaluation commence from 2013 to 2021 or over 8 years period. The chairman's report has provided an positive input for ADMM forum. There are several topics, which can be assessed its effectiveness from 2013 to 2021. The average of effectiveness of NADI products is 78% which is considered moderate. The quality of of the next NADI activities and products can be improved by making a robust roadmap as a reference for NADI member to discuss current strategic issues. The roadmap can be developed wisely and it can sustain from year to year. It is necessary to establish a joint central research institution as a means to discuss current issues comprehensively.
14. There are several recommendations, as follow, establish a permanent NADI joint central think tank with expertise scholars in defense and security under the auspices of the NADI institution permanently in order to plan research road map, establishing an agency to analyze potential threats due to changes in the strategic environment. The goal of NADI think tank permanent institution are strengthening civil military scholars among NADI members, producing the variety of academic research, such as, journals, magazines, flyers, podcast, socializing all products at social media platforms for international readers and policy makers alike and submitting Policy Papers for ASEAN Defense Minister and it can also run Executive Education and Scholarship. Establish a NADI research institute consisting of experts from NADI member countries, so that they are able to discuss every topic raised in a comprehensive and in-depth manner and produce useful recommendations to be discussed in the ADMM forum and various stakeholder.

Lao PDR

Presentation by Brigadier General Viengxay Somvichit, Director General of Military Science and History Department, Ministry of National Defence (MSHD), Lao PDR

15. Brigadier General Viengxay Somvichit highlighted that the regional and global environment has evolved in a complex and unpredictable manner. At the present, the region continues to face more complex traditional and non-traditional security challenges with increasing extent of severity. Given these challenges, it has caused world economic crisis which could be seen in the rise of inflation and the cost of living. The shortage of energy that is pushing up the global oil price is also adding up to the challenges to the global and regional security.
16. He also noted that the achievement and activities of the NADI throughout 15 years since its inception. NADI has grown to be a platform for integration and mutual trust between ASEAN defense research institutes and NADI has proven that it has become an intellectual institution to contribute and provide useful ideas on defense and security for ADMM. Moreover, he has mentioned about the traditional and non-traditional issues that will continue to post the challenges to the region's security, especially on defense and economy. He sincerely hopes that NADI will continue to be a central forum for the exchange of views of the Intellectual Property Institutes, which dedicates all its capabilities and joint efforts, based on consultations, to find solutions and address security challenges for peace, stability and security of the ASEAN region.

SESSION III: IDENTIFYING EMERGING SECURITY CHALLENGES IN THE NEXT 5 YEARS AND DIRECTION FOR FUTURE ADMM AND ADMM-PLUS COOPERATION

Malaysia

Presentation by Mr. Noor Hisham bin Rosle, Acting Chief Executive, Malaysian Institute of Defence and Security (MiDAS), Ministry of Defence

17. Mr. Noor Hisham bin Rosle stated that identifying emerging security challenges has always been both tricky and puzzling. We have to rely on visible signs and insights from renowned scholars to develop our judgements. Among the emerging issues are: the present Russia-Ukraine issue must not spill to other countries; further tension relations between China and Taiwan; possible aggression in the South China Sea; the emergence of proxy wars; and possibly more political groupings in the future.
18. ADMM and ADMM Plus should be able to withstand future tests. There is a need for the regional body to have an action plan for possible worst-case scenarios. Such a plan would guide the right course of action that should be undertaken if an inevitable event occurs.

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), Myanmar Armed Forces

19. Major General Myint Kyaw Tun in his presentation mentioned that the COVID-19 pandemic is much more than a health crisis and it still poses threats to our regional security. He also highlighted climate change is affecting every country on every continent, disrupting national economies, affecting lives and it threatens people with food insecurity, water scarcity, flooding, infectious diseases, extreme heat, economic losses and displacement. He stressed that climate change is a threat we can no longer ignore and it is one of the most urgent and complex challenges. He also mentioned that terrorism, spread of infectious diseases, illegal migration, arms trafficking, drug trafficking, and human trafficking will remain as regional security challenges and threats in the next 5 years.
20. He expressed his concern that strategic situation in the region will become more complicated and potentially affect ASEAN's stance as a zone of neutrality since the powers are looking to expand their engagement with new and emerging partners throughout South and Southeast Asia. Power rivalries and complexities of interests continue to pose great challenges to regional stability, which also impacts ASEAN Centrality and Unity. He reminded that the ADMM-Plus is established as part of the ADMM and the ADMM-Plus should uphold ASEAN's principles. He suggested AMS should collectively weigh the benefits of engaging extra-regional countries and assessing the impact of power competition and the emergence of military-political alliance in the region whether they will affect the future role and centrality of ASEAN.

Philippines

Presentation by Brigadier General Edgardo C Palma PA (MNSA), Chief, Office for Strategic Studies and Strategy Management (OSSSM), Armed Forces of the Philippines.

21. The coronavirus pandemic (COVID-19) teaches us that the hierarchy of global security threats is changing rapidly, and we are dealing with radically new enemies. That calls

for a fundamental change in our security priorities. National security should no longer be defined solely by a country's military capabilities. Nuclear arms and other modern weapons are unable to combat pandemics, climate change, uncontrollable migration, and other challenges faced both by humanity as a whole and each country individually. There are many emerging security challenges in the next five years, namely: Cyber Threat (Visual Threat), Terrorism (Physical Threat), and future pandemics (Health Threat).

22. First, on cyber threats, the costly attack on several high profiles in 2021 and in 2022 such as on colonial pipeline, JBS, and other attacks on sovereign government and officials may result to an attack on regional armed forces that may breach sensitive information and files which will make the military vulnerable. Second, on terrorism, as stated by Professor Brahma Chellaney, a geostrategist, the recent blow from America's War on Terror may cause the rise of terrorist super-state and lay the foundation for a new caliphate or rule of a Muslim ruler sought by the late Al-Qaeda leader, Osama bin Laden and the hijackers who carried out the 9/11 attacks. Last, is on future pandemics where the presence of 1.4 million zoonotic viruses may jump into humans from time to time which may cause an increase of severity and frequency of infectious disease.
23. Based on the emerging threats of cyber, terrorism, and future pandemics in the next five years, direction for future cooperation for ASEAN Defense Ministerial Meeting (ADMM) and ASEAN Defense Ministerial Meeting (ADMM) plus should focus on (1) Information sharing and collaboration, (2) Joint Planning, (3) Joint Report, (4) Joint Workshop; and (5) Joint Training, which will equip the region with combined skills in dealing with these three threats.

Indonesia

Presentation by First Admiral Joni Sudianto, M.Tr.(Opsla), Director of Strategic Studies, Center for Strategic Studies, Research and Development of Tentara Nasional Indonesia (CSSRD TNI)

24. First Admiral Joni Sudianto, M.Tr.(Opsla), highlighted that changes in the dynamics of the global and regional strategic environment have direct implications for the response of each country in the Southeast Asian region in viewing the changes in the strategic environment, based on the estimation of threats, challenges, and risks in the implementation of national defence, so that the role of the NADI is needed. NADI should be able to support ADMM and ADMM Plus through identifying security challenges for the next 5 years, namely handling the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic, energy scarcity, cyber-attacks, climate change, terrorism, issues of weapons of mass destruction, arms race, national borders and transnational crime. This becomes a guideline in determining the plan for the direction of cooperation for ADMM and ADMM-Plus.
25. It is recommended to continue to improve defense cooperation in the Southeast Asia region based on mutual understanding and trust, so that it is hoped that it will contribute to the development of defence capabilities in the region and as a forum for high-level dialogue among its member countries facing various challenges. security challenges and practical cooperation in several areas of expertise (Expert Working Groups/EWGs) in line with the identification of challenges in the field of defense and security in the next 5 years, namely: handling the impact of the covid-19 pandemic, energy scarcity,

cyber-attacks, climate change, terrorism, issues weapons of mass destruction, arms races and national borders and transnational crimes.

SESSION IV: WAY FORWARD FOR NADI IN SUPPORT OF ASEAN DEFENCE COOPERATION

Philippines

Presentation by Brigadier General Archimedes H Viaje, AFP (Ret) PhD, MNSA, CESE, President, National Defense College of the Philippines (NDCP)

26. In his presentation, Brigadier General Viaje underscored the significance of ASEAN defence diplomacy in an evolving security environment. The multiple frameworks for cooperation that were established under ADMM and ADMM-Plus as multilateral defence diplomacy platforms are considered as a key strength. Mindful of its accomplishments, Brigadier General Viaje noted that ASEAN defence diplomacy faces two challenges. First, there is a refocus towards traditional security issues in the Asia-Pacific region as a result of the great-power competition. As the long-standing focus of ADMM and ADMM-Plus is non-traditional security issues, these platforms may need to consider how to address emerging security challenges such as gray zone coercion and increasing armament and utilization of coast guard and paramilitary forces. Second, the growing Plus-one engagements and unilateral arrangements may challenge ADMM and ADMM-Plus as the main platforms for dialogue and cooperation on defence and security matters. Therefore, it is important that ASEAN defence diplomacy adapts to the evolving geostrategic environment.
27. Cognizant of ASEAN defence diplomacy's strength and challenges, Brigadier General Viaje put forward several recommendations. First, major power rivalries between or among ADMM and ADMM-Plus countries must be recognized and managed to ensure that key initiatives are pursued. Second, there is a need to strengthen ADMM and ADMM-Plus through the enhancement and review of previous agreements, including those concerning traditional security issues. This includes the ASEAN Direct Communications Infrastructure (ADI), the Guideline for Maritime Interaction (GMI), and the Guidelines for Air Military Encounters (GAME), among others. Third, it is important to promote the resilience of ASEAN defence diplomacy by addressing emerging security concerns. Fourth, the principles espoused by the Southeast Asian Nuclear Weapon-Free Zone (SEANWFZ) Treaty and the Zone of Peace, Freedom and Neutrality (ZOPFAN) declaration must be advanced. Finally, the positive and complementary roles of unilateral arrangements in the future of ASEAN defence diplomacy must be explored. Brigadier General Viaje concluded his presentation by saying that NADI, as a Track II platform, has a unique privilege and opportunity to contribute to the attainment of peace, security, and stability in Southeast Asia.

Malaysia

Presentation by Professor Dr Adam Leong Kok Wey, Director of Centre for Defence and International Security Studies (CDiSS), National Defence University of Malaysia (NDUM)

28. Dr Adam Leong Kok Wey emphasized that the NADI institutions serve as an excellent network for academic research collaboration and joint knowledge-sharing sessions to build cohesive and resilient cooperative and collaborative measures. As NADI is constituted of various think-tanks among ASEAN members, the think-tanks can build

two different strategic approaches to enhance academic research and building new knowledge on defence cooperation in the region. The two strategic approaches are: building research clusters among the NADI institutions with each research cluster focusing on particular research areas, and the setting up of an open access NADI Journal. By conducting joint research via these two strategic approaches, NADI institutions and their members will continue their research collaboration beyond official NADI meetings. The research topics can encompass issues such as the use of military power in humanitarian assistance and disaster relief operations, countering-nuclear-proliferation, countering-terrorism, anti-piracy, defence medicine, cyber security and other research areas.

29. These research activities will also involve researchers that are not taking part in the official NADI meetings building more comprehensive networking and peer-ship among NADI members. The joint research can be presented to wider audiences through webinars and virtual conferences (physical if Covid-19 pandemic conditions allow it). These knowledge sharing activities will be enhanced later with the publication of research findings through a proposed NADI journal. As NADI meetings are classified, academic research on non-classified areas via the research clusters can publish its findings and knowledge-sharing as well as policy recommendations via a neutral academic channel in the proposed NADI academic journal. This collaborative approach will enable NADI members to continue close interaction and cooperation beyond official NADI meetings, creating new network of knowledge, build new knowledge in an academic research setting, and make NADI a visible and reputable research institution via the proposed NADI Journal.

Singapore

Presentation by Mr Henrick Tsjeng, Associate Research Fellow, Regional Security Architecture Programme, Institute of Defence and Strategic Studies, S. Rajaratnam School of International Studies (RSIS), Nanyang Technological University (NTU), Singapore

30. Mr Henrick Tsjeng highlighted how the Russia-Ukraine war, and the resulting humanitarian catastrophe, has sharply demonstrated the importance of peace and security throughout the world. Mr Tsjeng outlined how the war will have implications for Southeast Asia's peace and prosperity. He affirmed that ASEAN should maintain the principles of respect for sovereignty and territorial integrity of ASEAN Member States (AMS), as well as the peaceful resolution of differences or disputes, as laid out in the Treaty of Amity and Cooperation in Southeast Asia (TAC) and the ASEAN Charter. AMS should also be mindful, when dealing with extra-regional (including Plus) countries, to keep ASEAN in the driver's seat and maintain ASEAN unity and centrality at all times.
31. Turning to the South China Sea, Mr Tsjeng underscored the importance of maintaining existing confidence building measures (CBMs) and developing new ones as part of tension mitigation and conflict prevention efforts in Southeast Asia. One potential CBM that could be considered is one for coastguards, which Code for Unplanned Encounters at Sea (CUES) does not cover. He also suggested that cross-sector collaboration between coastguards and navies could be strengthened. He underscored the importance of the continuation of ADMM-Plus maritime security exercises despite the mounting tensions between Russia and China on one hand, and the US on the other. In this regard,

Mr Tsjeng also called on NADI members to consider the ramifications of the Russia-Ukraine war on the ADMM-Plus.

32. Mr Tsjeng made the following recommendations: (i) NADI should continue promoting the adherence of the principles of the TAC and the ASEAN Charter, both among AMS as well as with external countries, and in so doing, always ensure that ASEAN is in the driver's seat.; (ii) NADI could make further suggestions on how the ADMM and ADMM-Plus could practice the usage of CBMs in coordinated exercises, as well as new CBMs to manage tensions and prevent conflict, especially in flashpoints like the South China Sea; and (iii) NADI institutions could study the implications of the Russia-Ukraine war on ADMM-Plus cooperation.

Thailand

Presentation by Group Captain Choosak Kasatewit, Director, Regional Studies Division, Strategic Studies Center (SSC), National Defence Studies Institute (NDSI), Royal Thai Armed Forces Headquarters (RTARF HQ)

33. Group Captain Choosak Kasatewit mentioned that the current global and regional security environment have a rapid change, growing complexity, and critical uncertainty. Bringing various new security challenges to the world including the ASEAN region as the unprecedented challenge posed by the Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID19) pandemic, power states competition and other non-traditional security threats such as threats from the climate crisis, technology advancement, etc. In dealing with rapid change and uncertainty, it is important to prepare for the unexpected by having multiple future possibilities and strategic foresight offers the means to do that.
34. The key for any unified or common response to any strategic development is to have a common threat perception. Moreover, a common threat perception is also important for cohesive and resilient ASEAN defence cooperation to achieve the vision of solidarity for harmonized security. To discuss, shared information and exchange views on common security issues in the region are the ways to have a common threat perception that ASEAN defence cooperation activities can be prioritized. For example, the commitment and contribution of defence sectors to ASEAN's collective response to the COVID-19 pandemic, including through the ASEAN Centre of Military Medicine (ACMM), the Network of ASEAN Chemical, Biological and Radiological Defence Experts, and the ASEAN Military Medicine Conference (AMMC) as acknowledged by ASEAN during the 38th and 39th ASEAN Summits.
35. In order for the ASEAN defence track to build more cohesive and resilient cooperation in the vision of solidarity for harmonized security, Group Captain Choosak Kasatewit recommended that: 1) ADMM should have a common threat perception in order to respond to the threats collectively 2) NADI should support ADMM to have a common threat perception in (2.1) define the themes of NADI workshops together during NADI Annual Meeting each year. (2.2) During NADI workshops, NADI participants should be divided into groups for brainstorming and the results of the discussion represent groups' ideas. (3) Foresight could be used as alternative tool to identify plausible future security scenarios.

Viet Nam

Presentation by Colonel Vu Cao Dinh, Deputy Director for International Studies Department, Institute for Defence Strategy (IDS), Ministry of National Defence (MOD)

36. The year 2022 marks an important milestone in the history of the Track II Network of ASEAN Defence and Security Institutions (NADI) as we are celebrating the 15th anniversary of the founding of NADI. It is the time that NADI has made concrete contribution to the strengthening of ASEAN defence cooperation through recommendations to the ASEAN Defence Senior Officials' Meeting (ADSOM) and the ASEAN Defence Ministers' Meeting (ADMM) as well as policy recommendations to governments of ASEAN Member States (AMS). The foundation of NADI is a useful and timely supplement to the formal track I, ASEAN defence cooperation. Serving as a channel for exchange of ideas among scholars and experts in defence and security in the region, NADI meetings, workshops, and activities have always been a source of reliable information and proposals on innovative approaches to ASEAN defence cooperation, thereby contributing to increased defence cooperation within ADMM as well as with dialogue partners.
37. ASEAN defence cooperation is further expanded in many aspects and reaping more and more practical outcomes. In the time to come, NADI is to provide effective support for ASEAN defence cooperation. To do so requires NADI to bring into play its key role in studying, analysing, and forecasting risks to defence and security and proposing remedies to problems. It is necessary to improve the effectiveness of cooperation in researching and proposing solutions to tackle common security challenges in the region as well as in each country. The scope for cooperation should not be narrowed to non-traditional security issues but may be widened to cover traditional security issues and geopolitical competition. Models of cooperation and collaboration should be diversified to include not only meetings, workshops but also joint research projects, exchange of finding of studies. It is necessary to enhance the linkage between NADI and the track I, increase the involvement of NADI representatives in track I activities. NADI may consider expansion of exchange and cooperation with defence, security research institutes of ASEAN dialogue partners. This does not necessarily broaden NADI, but cooperation between NADI and certain partners in specific fields and themes, at specific periods of time.

Summary of Discussions

- a) The meeting acknowledged the important role of NADI as a forum for discussions providing policy analysis and recommendations in supporting for ASEAN Defence Track I and II Cooperation.
- b) The meeting noted the achievements of NADI in supporting the ADMM in the past 15 years. NADI has become a platform for integration and mutual trust among ASEAN Research institutions and in providing crucial inputs to support the ADMM.
- c) The meeting recognised that defence and security issues remain prevalent to regional peace and stability. As such, it is important for NADI to emphasise its research efforts into these issues.
- d) The meeting also discussed how NADI can enhance its analytical role in supporting the ADMM and ADMM-Plus framework. The meeting discussed the potential establishment of joint research endeavors. One way to do it is to consider the establishment of a joint central research institution. Another proposal is to consider

establishing research clusters followed by a NADI journal with its own products and deliverables. Finally, it is also suggested that NADI members prepare 1500-word essays to be compiled by the host country based on a theme.

- e) NADI participants exchanged views on the Russia-Ukraine conflict and its impact on ASEAN and the region.

Recommendations

- a) NADI should ensure that it remains relevant and become a more effective Track II network in support of the ADMM.
- b) NADI should conduct joint courses, seminars, and fora in collaboration with Track I in order to encourage a deeper understanding between Track I and Track II.
- c) The meeting recommended that the ADMM and ADMM-Plus framework should continue to focus on information sharing and collaboration, joint planning, joint reports, joint workshops, and joint training. This will enhance the capacity of AMS to deal with emerging issues.
- d) NADI should continue promoting the adherence to the principles of the TAC and the ASEAN Charter, both among AMS as well as with external countries. In addition, NADI could make further suggestions on how the ADMM and ADMM-Plus could practice the usage of CBMs, through coordinated exercises to manage tensions and prevent conflict.

Other Matters

38. The meeting discussed NADI Term of Reference (TOR) and agreed on all proposals raised by NADI institutions. The final outcome of the TOR will be shared by the NADI secretariat in due course.

39. SHHBIDSS provided updates on the NADI joint publication initiative on emerging technologies. This joint publication is now in the final stage and will be ready for publication on the NADI website by the end of March.

40. Future NADI Activities

Date	Activity	Country	Via
TBC	NADI Workshop: Climate Change	SHHBIDSS, Brunei Darussalam	VTC
28 - 30 June 2022	NADI Workshop: ASEAN Security Challenges in the Next Five Years (2023-2027)	SSC, Thailand	VTC
19 - 21 July 2022	NADI Workshop: Strengthening ASEAN CBR Cooperation	RSIS, Singapore	VTC
05 - 07 September 2022	NADI Workshop: Cyber Threat and Its Impacts to National and Regional Security in Southeast Asia	RIDU, Indonesia	VTC
15 - 17 November 2022	NADI Workshop: Strengthening Border Management Cooperation in the Region	CSSRD TNI, Indonesia	Physical / VTC

Concluding Remark

Closing Remarks by Lieutenant General Nem Sowathey, Deputy Director-General of Policy and Foreign Affairs and Director of SENA TECHO Unit, Ministry of National Defence

41. In her concluding remarks, Lieutenant General Nem Sowathey expressed sincere appreciations for commitments of NADI members in their contribution towards the constructive discussion in this annual meeting.
42. NADI participants congratulated GDPFA for an excellent arrangement of a productive and substantive NADI annual meeting, that is a key contribution to the NADI endeavors in supporting the ADMM in order to promote solidarity and harmony of the region.

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