### CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

### TRACK II NETWORK OF ASEAN DEFENCE AND SECURITY INSTITUTIONS (NADI) 10<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL MEETING

### 27-30 March 2017 Conrad, Manila, Philippines

#### Introduction

- The Track II Network of ASEAN Defence and Security Institutions (NADI) 10<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting was co-organised by the National Defense College of the Philippines (NDCP) and the Armed Forces of the Philippines-Office for Strategic Studies and Strategy Management (AFP-OSSSM) at Conrad, Manila, Philippines.
- 2. The representatives from Brunei Darussalam, Kingdom of Cambodia, Indonesia, Lao PDR, Malaysia, Republic of the Union of Myanmar, Philippines, Republic of Singapore, Kingdom of Thailand, and Socialist Republic of Viet Nam attended the meeting. The list of the participants is at **Annex I**. The 10<sup>th</sup> NADI Annual Meeting was co-chaired by Rear Admiral Roberto Q Estioko, AFP (Ret), PhD, MNSA, President, NDCP; and Brigadier General Paterno V Morales, AFP, Chief, AFP-OSSSM.

## Welcome Address by Rear Admiral Roberto Q Estioko AFP (Ret), PhD, MNSA, President, NDCP, and Co-Chair, 10<sup>th</sup> NADI Annual Meeting

- 3. Rear Admiral Estioko expressed his gratitude to the participating institutions for their continued support for NADI activities. He noted that the Annual Meeting provides an opportunity for the participants to further improve NADI as a platform for free academic discussions, as well as a Track II think tank group in support of the ASEAN Defence Ministers' Meeting (ADMM).
- 4. In light of NADI's 10<sup>th</sup> founding anniversary, the NDCP President underscored that it is but fitting and timely for the delegates to engage in meaningful, comprehensive, and honest discussions about the character of NADI as Track II dialogue platform, the previous accomplishments, as well as the future of the network.

# <u>Welcome Address by Brigadier General Paterno V Morales AFP, Chief, AFP-OSSSM, and Co-Chair, 10<sup>th</sup> NADI Annual Meeting</u>

5. Brigadier General Morales welcomed the NADI participants to the Philippines. He noted that the world is faced with ever evolving challenges to security that are man-made and natural, political, economic, social and environmental in scope. It is because of this changing and highly dynamic world that NADI remains ever relevant. It is essential for ASEAN, Brigadier General Morales underscored, to be closely assisted by an independent, pragmatic research agenda essential for its unity, centrality and prosperity.

 Cognisant of the changes in the strategic landscape, the AFP-OSSSM Chief noted that NADI must be able to visualize, predict, and forecast emerging security challenges. In conclusion, he looked forward to a productive and substantive 10<sup>th</sup> NADI Annual Meeting.

### Adoption of Agenda

7. The meeting adopted the agenda and the programme attached in **Annex II** and **Annex III**, respectively.

### <u>Meeting with ASEAN Defence Senior Officials' Meeting Working Group Leader</u> of the Philippines

- 8. The ASEAN Defence Senior Officials' Meeting (ADSOM) Working Group (WG) Leader of the Philippines and the Assistant Secretary for Assessment and International Affairs of the Philippine Department of National Defense, Mr Raymund Jose G Quilop, shared the outcomes of the ADSOM WG. In particular, Assistant Secretary Quilop discussed the "Concept Paper on Enhancing the Linkages Between the ASEAN Defence Ministers' Meeting (ADMM) and the Network of ASEAN Defence and Security Institutions (NADI)," which has been adopted by the ADSOM WG to be submitted to the ADSOM for consideration.
- 9. Assistant Secretary Quilop identified the objectives of the Concept Paper: (i) promote engagement between the support mechanisms of the ADMM, specifically the ADSOM and ADSOM WG, through regular interactions; (ii) improve existing channels of communication between the ADMM and NADI; and (iii) institutionalize the consideration of NADI inputs. In discussing the various modalities as to how such objectives could be achieved, he underscored that the said Concept Paper is an initiative of and addressed to Track I platforms, in particular the ADMM.
- 10. The ADSOM WG Leader of the Philippines and the NADI delegates had an exchange of views regarding the Concept Paper, although NADI was not privileged to the Concept Paper.

### Overview of the 10<sup>th</sup> NADI Meeting

11. Against the backdrop of ASEAN's 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary, the Philippine chairmanship of the 10<sup>th</sup> NADI Annual Meeting focused on three major objectives: (i) reviewed the previous NADI activities and important points made since its inception; (ii) identified ideas for the current and upcoming year; and (iii) exchanged views on enhancing NADI as a track II think tank group in support of the ADMM.

### Session One: Review of Previous NADI activities and Important Points Made

#### NADI Secretariat

Presented by Mr Tan Seng Chye, Senior Fellow, S. Rajaratnam School of International Studies, and Head of NADI Secretariat

- 12. Mr Tan Seng Chye gave an overview of NADI since its establishment in 2007, highlighting the purpose and objectives of establishing NADI, with the main focus on supporting the ADMM with fresh ideas and policy recommendations. He said that the establishment of NADI to support the ADMM was a significant milestone in defence cooperation. Over the years, NADI has promoted closer cooperation among the NADI core institutions and the partner institutions, enhanced networking and promoted better understanding and confidence building as well as making efforts to enhance cooperation among the MADI secretariat in responding to non-traditional security (NTS) and Transnational issues. Mr Tan highlighted the roles played by the NADI Secretariat in supporting NADI's meetings, workshops and retreats, and the NADI Website which has profiled the work of NADI through the uploaded NADI Chairman's Reports of all the NADI meetings, workshops and retreats.
- 13. The NADI Concept paper and guidelines for meetings, retreats and workshops, and the Terms of Reference NADI (TOR) enable the smooth organising and conduct of the NADI meetings. NADI has in place these mechanisms and practices to ensure that it is able to provide fresh ideas and policy recommendations to the ADMM. First, the delegates participate in presenting their national policies, organisational structures and responses to NTS issues and challenges. Second, the delegates participate in their personal capacities when discussing and exchanging views on relevant inputs, fresh ideas and recommendations that could go beyond their national positions as there will be no attribution to anyone in the summary of the outcomes of their discussions. In this way NADI has been successful in providing relevant inputs, fresh ideas and forward looking recommendations to the ADMM for their consideration. Third, NADI has set the standard to complete its Chairman's Report by the conclusion of the meeting or workshop. Fourth, core NADI institutions could establish a national committee to co-opt experts for specific workshops, but these experts have to be their respective countries' nationals. Fifth, NADI has the biennial Retreats to review the work of NADI and to consider new ideas to support the ADMM. These are good practices in NADI that have enabled NADI to make successful contributions to support the ADMM even on new issues that the ADMM has yet to consider. ADMM has acknowledged NADI's relevant inputs and recommendations in its joint declarations in the last two years. Looking to the future, NADI will be able to continue to effectively support the ADMM as long as these mechanisms are in place. NADI is the only ASEAN think tank group that supports an ASEAN Ministerial Meeting.

## Malaysia

Presented by Lieutenant Colonel (R) Principal Fellow Ahmad Ghazali Abu Hassan, Director, Center for Defence and International Security Studies, National Defence University of Malaysia

- 14. When NADI was established ten years ago in Singapore, the aim set for this network of defence and security institutes was to have a Track II network of think tanks representing all ASEAN countries that would be able to discuss issues related to regional defence and security openly and without being restricted to the official Track I agenda. NADI came to an understanding that confidence and capacity-building would still be the main thrust of ASEAN military and security cooperation. NADI also acknowledged that the principle of ASEAN centrality should always be the guiding principle in ASEAN's dealing with its Plus partners.
- 15. Throughout the years, NADI workshops were held to explore the various means of enhancing cooperation in the areas such as peacekeeping, humanitarian and disaster relief (HADR), maritime security, cyber security, military medicines and issues related to non-traditional security.
- 16. Of significance is that NADI's efforts have eventually been recognised by others. NADI's views are taken seriously by the various interested parties and there were also interests shown by other think tanks to participate in NADI workshops and meetings. This development is indeed an honour as well as a challenge for NADI. NADI needs to have a careful evaluation in dealing with these challenges. Regardless how we intend to move ahead, the principle of NADI's independence as a Track II institution should always prevail.

## Summary of Discussions

- 17. The meeting noted that NADI must not act as a research body for ADSOM. The ability of NADI to think independently is crucial to the continued success of the Network as a flexible body that continues to offer fresh ideas and recommendations. It was also mentioned that although Track I and Track II both head towards the same destination they should stay in their respective tracks. The two tracks must complement each other rather than in mix or merged function. As it was pointed out earlier, NADI was not aware of the Concept Paper adopted by the ADSOM WG.
- 18. NADI has already started a dialogue with the ADSOM WG Chairman during the 6<sup>th</sup> NADI Annual Meeting in Brunei Darussalam in 2013 and this dialogue has continued since then.

## Session Two: Identifying Ideas for the current and upcoming year

### Philippines

Presented by Colonel Francis Alaurin PA (GSC), Assistant Chief, Armed Forces of the Philippines—Office for Strategic Studies and Strategy Management

19. The Philippine delegation recommended three topics for the upcoming NADI activities which the other delegates may wish to adopt. The first proposed topic is ASEAN's External Security Relations. It aims to review ASEAN centrality as a driving force for regional security and examine the relevance of the ASEAN Political-Security Community (APSC) vis-a-vis external relations. The second proposed topic is addressing violent extremism, in which it will review the trends in violent extremism and provide recommendation for the enhancement of regional cooperation in combating violent extremism. The third topic proposed is maritime domain awareness and challenges from non-state actors, and its objective is to examine existing non-state maritime security threat groups in Southeast Asia and the wider Asia Pacific Region and the challenges they pose on the MDA mechanisms of ASEAN member states. Also, it aims to generate policy recommendations in enhancing existing mechanisms and closing the gaps in maritime domain awareness (MDA) capability.

## Singapore

Presented by Mr Henrick Z Tsjeng, Associate Research Fellow, S. Rajaratnam School of International Studies

- 20.Mr Tsjeng underscored that NADI's structure and conduct of meetings have worked well and should be kept, and explored areas that NADI can look into, in support of the ADMM. One of the ways that NADI stays ahead of the curve is by keeping a relatively loose and flexible structure. With delegates presenting their positions in their personal capacities and allowed to go beyond national positions, with no attribution to anyone in the summary of discussions in the Chairman's Reports, delegates are given free rein to discuss issues. The biennial Retreat is also a good mechanism that reviews the work of NADI and discusses new directions that NADI could consider for future meetings and workshops. At the same time, NADI must always be a forward-looking think tank group to discuss and provide the ADMM with ahead-of-the-curve and relevant policy recommendations. This would mean considering the existing issues that the ADMM prioritises but has not been able to move forward yet. Besides this, NADI has already submitted new areas for ADMM's consideration. NADI will continue to scan the horizon for potential new issues that are relevant for the ADMM.
- 21. In view of the foregoing, he recommended the following for consideration: (i) The ADMM should look further into developing training courses, seminars and forums on both current and emerging issues, and involve existing coordination centres and NADI; (ii) The ADMM could involve the Plus countries in the transfer of expertise on HADR and other NTS issues to the ASEAN Member

States (AMS), but must always uphold ASEAN centrality and unity, and not let any Plus country impose its agenda on the ADMM; (iii) As NADI's practices have proven to be effective, NADI should not try to copy other think tank groups and not be constrained by a formal framework, so as to be able to think freely and have the flexibility to look at quickly emerging NTS issues; (iv) NADI should look deeper into the recommendations made in previous workshops and fine-tune them further into more detailed recommendations to the ADMM; and (v) NADI should carefully consider workshops during the annual meetings so that specific workshops will be hosted, and major issues that NADI could discuss during workshops in the current and upcoming year are HADR, transnational crime including the illicit trade of arms, counterterrorism, aviation security and cyber security.

### <u>Session Three (Part I): Exchange of views on enhancing NADI as a Track II</u> <u>Think Tank Group in support of the ADMM</u>

### Brunei

Ms Ampuan Yura Kasumawati DP Adnan, Senior Research Officer, Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Institute of Defence and Strategic Studies

- 22. Ms Ampuan Yura Kasumawati DP Adnan shared that SHHBIDSS saw it timely for NADI to reconsider ways to enhance its role and strengthen its contribution to the defence and security discourse. The last ten years, NADI has carried out a number of interactions among its members on various issues and shared its recommendations to the ADMM. She also referred to the concept paper on Enhancing Linkages Between ADMM and NADI endorsed by the ADSOM Working Group (WG) in February 2017 which institutionalises the channel of communication between Track I and Track II as a step forward from the initial informal dialogue held in 2013.
- 23. She further shared SHHBIDSS observation on the main issues in the conduct of NADI activities from the aspects of relevance, substance and administrative that need further consideration of NADI. In moving forward, SHHBIDSS suggested to further strengthen NADI's substantive and administrative processes. The strategies could be implemented in short, medium and longterm phases with the core objective to ensure shared ownership and capitalise on the capacity and capability of all its NADI members. In the short term, it requires NADI to improve its current process whilst in the medium term, NADI may consider to re-evaluate the function and conduct of NADI activities and in the long term to consider ways to invest in the future of NADI's capacity as Track II network of think tanks. At the same time, NADI members should also enhance its relations such as through regular exchanges or visits. Most importantly, she stressed that an overall review mechanism needs to be in place to make sure NADI effectively continue to build momentum towards achieving what it sets to do in the NADI TOR.

## Cambodia

Presented by Colonel Nem Sowathey, Assistant to the Deputy Prime Minister of National Defence, Minister of National Defence

- 24. Established in 2007 as strategic think tank to offer timely and relevant policy recommendation to support the ASEAN Defense Ministers Meeting (ADMM); NADI has evolved into a forum for building confidence and deepening regional cooperations in addressing emerging defense and security challenges. Zoning in on the present and future international security order, defense and security sectors are being influenced by many factors: geopolitical influence, non-state actors and technology, just to name a few. This presents significant challenges and put pressure on the fast response mechanism. It is important for NADI to explore other platforms of exchange among members in addition to the annual meeting of NADI, in order to bring a closer network and deeper cooperation to share "relevant and timely" information in formulating policy recommendations. This can be in form of fast interactive discussion platform on the web, or regular publications, NADI Policy Brief, with the contributions from all members of NADI in order to gain continuous discuss and share perspectives of the fast-changing, fast-emerging security issues relevant to the region.
- 25. It is vital for NADI to strengthen engagements with the ADSOM and ADMM. NADI should consider extending its cooperation with other Think-tanks to gain wider strategic cooperation and enhanced perspectives in order to feed into the discussions in NADI's annual meeting. Furthermore, strengthening a more evidence-based policy papers will give weight to the NADI's policy recommendation and this can be done through conducting research and explore opportunities to cooperate on capacity building for the security and defense among officers and researchers in ASEAN. Through this, NADI can engage with a wider audience and maintain the effort to stay proactive in producing relevant recommendations to the ADMM.

## Indonesia

# Presented by Brigadier General Benny Octaviar, Chief, Center for Strategic Studies of TNI

- 26. NADI has been established on the fact of global issues and the region's interests. As a response, NADI more focused on non-traditional issues to strengthen cooperation among AMS. In this regard, NADI as a Track II diplomacy takes the role as think tank forum to contribute to ADMM with ahead-of-the-curve ideas. The Chairman's Report of NADI should be taken seriously by ADMM (through ADSOM).
- 27.NADI meetings scarcely discuss how to maintain itself to be consistently and precisely contributing to ADMM meeting. This is particularly about how NADI assures its contributions (recommendations) are received by ADMM through ADSOM.

- 28. Track II NADI could accommodate the recommendation from CSS, Indonesia:
  - a. For clarity recommendation to the ADMM, it would need to be presented by representatives of NADI in the upcoming ADSOM meeting.
  - b. NADI representatives present in the ADSOM meeting is representative of the country that hosts the ADSOM meeting. The representative provides recommendations from previous NADI meeting.
  - c. As an independent observer in ADSOM meetings, the representative report to NADI by email.

# Presented by Colonel (Army) Budi Pramono, S.IP., M.A., M.M, Chief of Collaboration Center, Indonesian Defense University

- 29. Southeast Asian security may interfere in national culture, economy, politics, defence and security. Transformation of national security systems can be seen from the dynamic development of strategic environment which evolves rapidly. Based on data, it is known to have three issues most frequently discussed in some NADI Meetings such as the maritime security, HADR, and defence diplomacy because these topics reflect regional issues which concern the ASEAN region. Analyzing the condition of the current international security dynamic, maritime security, and HADR are the two main topics that need to be explored again with more actual discussion as policy formulation and joint action.
- 30. The recommendation of NADI must be applied easily in constructing political policy either ASEAN policy, or national policy. Peacekeeping operation, cyber security, and counter-terrorism issues have been discussed during NADI workshops but the frequency is still rare, though all three are part of the ADMM objectives. The three topics are important because of efforts to synchronize NADI recommendations with ADMM objectives, as well as a response to strategic environment dynamics.

## Lao PDR

Presented by Colonel Soulivanh Sengchanh, Deputy Director General of Military Science and History Department, Ministry of National Defence

- 31. Colonel Soulivanh shared his views on "Enhancing NADI as a Track II think tank group in Support of the ADMM." In his remarks, he recognised NADI's recent achievements as a significant transition enabling NADI to make greater success and contribution to the ADMM's efforts in promoting regional peace and security.
- 32. In order to further enhance NADI's performance, he encouraged NADI to:

- a. revise NADI's performances by conducting a more in-depth analysis and assessment on strengths, weaknesses, and impediments that need to be further addressed by NADI;
- b. enhance linkages between NADI and the ADMM in a more tangible form in order to ensure that ideas and recommendations proposed by NADI can reach ADMM for consideration and adoption; and
- c. acknowledge and be well informed of critical, challenging issues periodically faced by the ADMM, so that NADI can further bring them into discussion and can then provide ideas and recommendations to the ADMM in an effective and timely manner.

## Malaysia

# Presented by Lieutenant General Dato' Suhaimi bin Haji Mohd Zuki, Chief Executive, Malaysian Institute of Defence and Security

- 33. Lt Gen Dato' Suhaimi bin Hj Mohd Zuki provided an overview on how to enhance NADI as the Track II think tank group in support to ADMM and promoting regional security cooperation. He suggested some of the areas that can be considered by NADI are: (i) review on the past and present initiatives by identifying shortcomings and strengthen them, (ii) promote cross cultural interaction by bringing in young professionals to generate new ideas which are creative and innovative, (iii) maintain continuity through connectivity where issues arising from Track I (ADMM) needs to be shared to Track II (NADI) in timely manner – vice versa and (iv) conduct discussions outside NADI's network by using social network service in order to discuss issues promptly and enhance the cohesiveness among its members.
- 34. He then highlighted contemporary issues that threaten regional security architecture and provided some recommendations to enhance NADI's contribution in promoting regional security cooperation such as enhance efforts in building trust by regional engagement through the establishment of ASEAN Peacekeeping Force and ASEAN HADR training centre. He also emphasized NADI to provide comprehensive study on future threats that will impact regional security such as humanitarian crisis where sudden influx of refugees has caused spillover effects to the region. He also stressed that the comprehensive study is to avoid 'black swan'.
- 35.Lt Gen Dato' Suhaimi bin Hj Mohd Zuki finally gave an overview on the establishment King Salman Centre of International Peace (KSCIP) in Kuala Lumpur which is the latest initiative by Malaysia and Saudi Arabia. The main purpose of this centre is to defeat terrorism and extremism. KSCIP will find ways to promote peace through *Wasatiyyah* and moderation.

## Summary of Discussion

- 36. The meeting noted the importance of maintaining the independence and flexibility of NADI as a Track II think tank group in support of the ADMM. Aside from discussing relevant issues, NADI should likewise provide practical and forward-looking recommendations. Likewise, it was noted that the NADI should be adept to the changing regional security environment.
- 37. The meeting also agreed on the need for NADI to refine its internal conduct of activities in order to effectively enhance its contribution in defence and security discourse.

## Session Three (Part II): Exchange of views on enhancing NADI as a Track II Think Tank Group in support of the ADMM

### Myanmar

Presented by Major General Soe Naing Oo, Deputy Chief of Armed Forces Training of Myanmar Defence Services

- 38. Maj Gen Soe Naing Oo, Deputy Chief of Armed Forces Training of Myanmar Defence Services recounted the establishment of ADMM and NADI including their specific aims. He also thoroughly reviewed the policy recommendations generated by NADI for the ADMM. He then highlighted the exchange of views and observations among the NADI members on the ADMM. He also recognised the endeavor of the NADI members in enhancing the linkage between NADI and ADMM.
- 39. Maj Gen Soe Naing Oo finally confirmed the perceptions of Myanmar Defence Services on enhancing NADI's role as a Track II think tank group in support of the ADMM by publishing three recommendations to the 10th NADI Annual Meeting: (i) to deepen the cooperation among the NADI members in the form of scholarly exchanges rather than in the form of organizational meetings; and (ii) to consider inviting other stakeholders from ASEAN Member States to the NADI workshops.

## Philippines

Presented by Brigadier General Rolando G Jungco AFP (Ret), Executive Vice President, National Defense College of the Philippines

40. Brigadier General Jungco discussed the theoretical underpinnings of Track II diplomacy, which is characterized by the principles of informality, openness, non-attribution, and discussion of issues that might be considered as too sensitive in formal diplomatic channels of communication. Based on its Terms of Reference, NADI indeed attempts to achieve the said essential features of a Track II platform. Brigadier General Jungco also highlighted the major accomplishments of NADI by identifying the issues discussed in the last ten years, in particular the areas of practical cooperation, including Humanitarian

Assistance and Disaster Relief (HADR), counter-terrorism, maritime security, peacekeeping operations, cyber security, and military medicine.

41. To further enhance the role of NADI as Track II think tank group in support of ADMM, Brigadier General Jungco provided the the following recommendations: (i) initiate joint research initiatives on issues discussed in the ADMM, as well as the drafting of a NADI Regional Security Outlook; (ii) publication of a year-end Chairman's report of all NADI activities, with emphasis on the policy recommendations generated in a given calendar year; (iii) prescribe a format for lecture presentations during Meetings, Workshops, and Retreats, which may indicate the need to identify the concerned regional and national offices or entities in a given security issue, as well as the importance of including a time horizon in every policy recommendation; (iv) consider the novelty of the topics that we discuss here in NADI in order to ensure that the issues are fresh, timely, and relevant; and (v) explore the possibility of engaging other Track II platforms in the region.

## Singapore

Presented by Mr James Char, Senior Analyst, S. Rajaratnam School of International Studies

42. Mr James Char reviewed the role of NADI in supporting the ASEAN Defence Ministers Meeting (ADMM) in the past decade, and explore how it can improve its policy recommendations focusing on non-traditional security (NTS) and transnational issues, as well as providing inputs on facilitating the building of human resource capacities and the transfer of expertise from the Plus countries to the ASEAN countries. NADI has to stay relevant to the ADMM in addressing future NTS challenges. Mr Char reviewed NADI's efforts in providing recommendations to enhance the AMS capacities so that they can respond better to NTS issues. In the future, NADI should consider new issues and emerging NTS challenges that are relevant to the ADMM so that it can better support the ADMM. NADI should remain flexible in responding effectively to NTS challenges. NADI has proven itself as an effective ASEAN think tank in the past decade to effectively support the ADMM, and will continue to do so in the future.

## Thailand

Presented by Colonel Kitti Kongsombat, Deputy Director of Strategic Studies Center (SSC), National Defence Studies Institute (NDSI), Royal Thai Armed Forces Headquarters (RTARF HQs).

43. Colonel Kitti highlighted that the new threat and security emerging and affecting ASEAN should be a core concern. NADI ought to signal ADMM on other emerging threats and security issues beyond the 6 areas of security cooperation under ADMM-Plus framework: Maritime Security, Humanitarian and Disaster Relief, Military Medicine, Peacekeeping Operations, Humanitarian Mine Action, and Counter-Terrorism, such as Human Security, Cyber Security, Environmental Security, and Regional Regulation and

Standard. He suggested that in terms of administrative perspective (i) If NADI is able to get funding support from ASEAN's office, it will strengthen NADI's administrative capability in the future; and (ii) NADI should consider developing a calendar which contains a schedule of activities and meetings in a two-year plan.

44. In the present, NADI is one of the best platforms of academic security cooperation (Track II) in Southeast Asian region. A study has shown that other regions have no academic security cooperation platform similar to NADI, as such NADI is a role model for other think tank institutes to follow. NADI should continue its academic cooperation activities to support ADMM's policy platform on defence and security trends and issues that appear in the new global security.

### Viet Nam

Presented by Senior Colonel Vu Van Khanh, Director of the Department of International Studies, Institute for Defense Strategy, Ministry of National Defense of Viet Nam

- 45. Senior Colonel Vu Van Khanh stressed that since its inception in 2007, the Track II Network of ASEAN Defence and Security Institutions (NADI) has been an important forum for the ASEAN think tanks, policy makers, and research institutions to discuss about defence and security matters. NADI has made important contributions to the ADMM by conducting research on defence and security issues; analyzing and predicting defence and security threats; and proposing solutions to deal with defence and security issues. It also plays an important role in building confidence and mutual understanding between the ASEAN think tanks, policy makers, and research institutions on defence and security.
- 46. In the coming time, in spite of the basically stable, peaceful and development trend, traditional and non-traditional security challenges still remain in the Asia-Pacific region. Because of emerging security issues, defence and security cooperation among ASEAN member states is faced with difficulties. In such context, enhancing the role of NADI as a Track II think tank group is necessary through: (i) enhancing the information and experience sharing in dealing with regional common security issues; (ii) promoting cooperation in building human resources; and (iii) encouraging proposals for more new initiatives.

### Summary of Discussion

47. The meeting clarified that the concept paper which the Myanmar delegation referred to in their presentation was the same document which was discussed by Assistant Secretary Raymund Jose G Quilop, ADSOM WG Chair of the Philippines. The concept paper was never submitted to the 9<sup>th</sup> NADI Annual Meeting in Lao PDR. The main objective of the said paper is to enhance the

linkage and improve existing channels of communication between the ADMM and NADI. However, the said paper needs careful consideration and study.

- 48. The meeting also noted that the definition of the Human Security should be based from the UN's definition described in 1994 United Nations Human Development Report.
- 49. It was agreed that NADI members would focus on the research agenda on defence and security issues only among the ten member-countries of the network.
- 50. NADI has been submitting the Chairman's Reports containing policy recommendations to the ADSOM for the consideration of the ADMM. NADI hopes that ADSOM and ADMM has duly considered NADI's recommendations on various issues as in 2015 and 2016 the ADMM Joint Declarations have acknowledged the inputs and policy recommendations of NADI. However, NADI also hopes that there could be some form of feedback mechanism on the follow-up or implementation of the recommendations submitted to ADMM.

## <u>Recommendations on Enhancing NADI as a Track II Think Tank Group in</u> <u>Support of the ADMM</u>

- 51. In order to support the ADMM with fresh policy ideas and recommendations, the 10<sup>th</sup> NADI Annual Meeting recommends the following:
  - a. Enhance close cooperation, networking, and better understanding among NADI participating institutions;
  - b. Strengthen the established flexible mechanisms of NADI, including meetings, workshops, and retreats, to further enhance NADI as a think tank group that stays ahead of the curve vis-à-vis defence and security issues;
  - c. Sustain the policy of non-attribution to enable the delegates to go beyond their national positions, as well as to strengthen the exchange of views and ideas during open discussions;
  - d. Ensure that the topics discussed in NADI are timely, fresh, and relevant to the concerns of the ADMM;
  - e. Explore the possibility of joint research initiatives, education, and training among NADI participating institutions on issues relevant to the ADMM; and
  - f. Explore the possibility of inviting subject matter experts to NADI workshops. These experts must be nationals of AMS.

## Recommendations of the 10<sup>th</sup> NADI Annual Meeting to the 11<sup>th</sup> ADMM

- 52. In its ten years of existence, NADI has discussed a wide array of defence and security issues and challenges facing the region. As such, the ADMM may consider the analysis and recommendations of NADI on these concerns as inputs to the initiatives of ADMM, in particular to specific ADSOM Working Groups (WGs). The topics discussed by NADI largely correspond to the issues discussed in the ADMM through the ADSOM WGs.
- 53. To further strengthen the role of NADI as a Track II think tank group, the ADMM may consider NADI representatives to participate in the various ADMM activities, in particular the ADSOM WGs, as observers.

### Other Matters

- 54. The Philippines made a presentation on a proposed NADI Roadmap.
- 55. The meeting likewise noted the advantages and disadvantages of adopting a NADI Roadmap. There is a positive view that a forward looking plan is necessary to address the shared concern on enhancing the efficiency and effectiveness of NADI as a think tank institution. While Track I processes have roadmaps, Track II think tanks do not have roadmaps so that they can discuss freely emerging issues. NADI must continue to freely discuss issues in order to provide fresh ideas and relevant policy recommendations to ADMM.
- 56. There was a recommendation from the Philippine delegation that the discussion of the traditional security issues should be included in its annual meetings. However, there was a consensus that NADI should focus on NTS. For sensitive traditional security issues, NADI should take the cue from the ASEAN Leaders Meeting and ASEAN Foreign Ministers Meeting.

### **Upcoming NADI Activities**

- 57. Thailand (SSC) will organise a NADI workshop on "Countering Extremist Narratives: Integrated Efforts and Approaches within ASEAN" in Chachoengsao, Thailand on 18-22 April 2017.
- 58. Singapore (RSIS) will host the 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Commemorative Workshop on 2-5 May 2017 at the Holiday Inn Atrium, Singapore.
- 59. Indonesia (IDU) will organise a NADI workshop in the last week of July 2017. Further detailed topic will be confirmed in May 2017.
- 60. Malaysia (MiDAS / NDUM) will organise a workshop on "Evaluating ASEAN Relations with Dialogue Partners" in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia on 14-17 August 2017.

61. The Philippines (NDCP / AFP-OSSSM) will organise the NADI Retreat and workshop in 4th quarter of 2017 (date TBC).

### **Concluding Remarks**

- 62. The Co-Chairs underscored the notable achievements of NADI as it celebrates its 10<sup>th</sup> founding anniversary, especially in terms of providing insights and recommendations to the ADMM.
- 63. The Co-Chairs extended their congratulations to the delegates for the comprehensive and insightful discussions during the 10<sup>th</sup> NADI Annual Meeting.
- 64. The delegates conveyed their appreciation for the hospitality of and excellent arrangements by the Philippines in chairing the 10<sup>th</sup> Track II NADI Annual Meeting.