

ASEAN's Efforts Towards Non-Proliferation

A presentation by

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Commitments

- ❖ 2008 **ASEAN Charter** : “To preserve Southeast Asia as a Nuclear Weapon-Free Zone and free of all other weapons of mass destruction (Article 1, Para 3)
 - ❖ 1995 Treaty on the Southeast Asia Nuclear Weapon-Free Zone (**SEANWFZ**, Bangkok Treaty, entered into force on 27 March 1997)
- + 10 States Parties in Southeast Asia (all the 10 are ASEAN Member States) have agreed to the following basic undertakings:
- No Nuclear Weapons**
 - Peaceful Use of Nuclear Technology**
 - Safe Disposal of Radioactive Wastes**



SEANWFZ Plan of Action 2007

❖ Plan of Action

to Strengthen the Implementation of the SEANWFZ Treaty (2007-2012)

- + *Encourage States Parties to complete their accession to the IAEA safeguard agreements, and join international agreements, e.g. the CTBT, Convention on Nuclear Safety and IAEA Additional Control*
- + *Establish a regional nuclear safety regime, to regulate and oversee the safety assessment requirements for those State Parties which have embarked on peaceful nuclear energy programmes*
- + Increase the international profile of SEANWFZ : UNGA resolutions in 2007, 2009, and the third one in 2011
- + Collaboration with like-minded countries in other nuclear weapon-free zones
- + Reactivate direct consultations with the five nuclear weapon-states (NWSs)

Need Support of NWSs

- Since the signing of the Treaty in 1995, the States Parties have pursued the goal of constructively engaging in consultations with the five Nuclear-Weapon States (NWS) to secure the latter's support for and recognition of the SEANWFZ by way of signing the Protocol to the SEANWFZ Treaty. After a decade-long hiatus of talks, the year 2011 saw a significant breakthrough in renewing direct consultations between the States Parties and the NWS towards the goal of enabling the NWS to sign the Protocol to the SEANWFZ Treaty at the soonest possible.
- ASEAN and the five NWSs reached an agreement in Bali November 2011 for the five NWSs to sign a revised Protocol to the Treaty on SEANWFZ.
- signing of these instruments remains pending
- The Chairman's Statement of the 21st ASEAN Summit in November 2012 states that ASEAN looks forward to the signing of the Protocol and its related documents without reservations as soon as possible.

Non-proliferation and Disarmament on ARF Agenda

- **ASEAN Regional Forum (ARF) - established in 1994**
- **27 Participants**
- **MFA led – policy oriented**
- **Non-Proliferation has been in the agenda of ARF since 1994**
- **Currently a special Inter-sessional Meeting is dedicated for NPD issues**
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ARF's Support for Resolution 1540

- **ARF Statement on Supporting National Implementation of United Nations Security Council Resolution 1540 (2 August 2007)**
 - ❖ calling on ARF participants to provide additional information, as appropriate, to the 1540 Committee on national implementation as part of the ongoing process of Resolution 1540 implementation
 - ❖ working toward practical capacity-building activities and cooperation in the ARF region to help participants meet their obligations under Resolution 1540 and other WMD non-proliferation commitments, in full cooperation with the 1540 Committee
 - ❖ remaining seized of the matter in the ARF in the future and may hold further exchanges of views on the implementation of Resolution 1540.

ARF ISM on NPD

➤ **Activities pertaining to non-proliferation of WMD and its related matters**

- ❖ ARF Export Licensing Experts Meeting in Singapore on 17-18 November 2005. The outcome document “Best Practices in Export Control” was endorsed by the 14th ARF in 2007.
- ❖ ARF Seminar on Non-Proliferation of Weapons of Mass Destruction, Singapore, 27-29 March 2006
- ❖ ARF Workshop on UN Security Council Resolution (UNSCR) 1540 Implementation, San Francisco, 13-15 February 2007
- ❖ ARF Workshops on Biological Threat Reduction, Manila, 10-11 June 2009; 28-30 September 2010; 13-15 September 2011; the fourth workshop in this series will also be held in Manila, tentatively in September 2012 with an emphasis on preparedness, response and prevention

➤ **The ARF Inter-Sessional Meeting on Non-Proliferation and Disarmament (ISM on NPD)**

- ❖ Established in 2008 to oversee non-proliferation and disarmament issues
- ❖ 1st ISM on NPD in Beijing on 1-3 July 2009; 2nd ISM on NPD in Singapore in July 2010
- ❖ A draft work plan on non-proliferation and disarmament was discussed at the 3rd ISM on NPD in Las Vegas, 23-24 February 2011 and subsequently adopted at the 19th ARF in Phnom Penh on 12 July 2012.
- ❖ The WP identifies non-proliferation, peaceful use of nuclear technology and disarmament as three priority areas.

❖ ASEAN Ministerial Meeting on Transnational Crime (AMMTC)

- Border security management
- Law enforcement, intelligence sharing in preventing the illegal trafficking and use of explosives, firearms, and other deadly weapons, as well as nuclear, chemical and biological materials
- Activities under the framework of counter-terrorism between ASEAN and its Dialogue Partners
- ❖ Workshop on Preventing Bioterrorism, July 2007, Manila
- ❖ ASEAN Seminar on Chemical, Biological, Radiological, Nuclear and Explosives (CBRNE) Consequence Management (21-23 Oct 2009)
- ❖ Seminar on ASEAN-EU Cooperation on CBRN Centres of Excellence, 8 July 2010, Jakarta
- ❖ ASEAN Convention on Counter-Terrorism entered into force on 28 May 2011

Small steps toward nuclear safety

- ASEAN energy officials took more than two years to negotiate the TOR of the Nuclear Energy Cooperation Sub-Sector Network (NEC-SSC)
 - + The debate on whether there is any need to establish a regional regime for nuclear energy safety (Isn't conformity with the IAEA safeguards and standards sufficient?)
- Immediate priorities of the NEC-SSN:
 - - capacity-building, exchange of technical experts
 - - public information, public education on nuclear power
 - - sharing of best practices in institutional, legislative and regulatory issues

ASEAN approach to WMD: Who to lead?

- ASEAN can move on to enhance regional cooperation on nonproliferation of WMD, nuclear security and nuclear safety.
- ASEAN Member States support the implementation of UNSC Resolution 1540 individually as part of their UN participation
- Different ASEAN bodies have own priorities: ASEAN Foreign Ministers Meeting (AMM), ASEAN Defence Ministers Meeting (ADMM), ASEAN Economic Ministers Meeting (AEM), ASEAN Ministerial Meeting on Transnational Crime (AMMTC), ASEAN Customs DGs, ASEAN S & T Ministers Meeting; ASEAN Ministers on Energy Meeting; ASEAN Centre for Energy

ASEAN is committed to :

- Develop Southeast Asia Nuclear Weapon-Free Zone (SEANWFZ)
- Keep Southeast Asia free of all weapons of mass destruction (WMD) through nonproliferation cooperation
- Ensure nuclear safety in Southeast Asia as ASEAN countries embark on nuclear energy
- Develop strategic trade management (export controls) nationally, and regionally later on.

Thank You