

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT OF
Track II Network of ASEAN Defence AND SECURITY INSTITUTIONS (NADI) Meeting
Evolving and Emerging Non-Traditional Security Challenges in the Era of Disruptive World

15 – 18 July 2024
Aonang Villa Resort, Krabi Province, Thailand

1. Track II Network of ASEAN Defence and Security Institutions (NADI) Meeting on “**Evolving and Emerging Non-Traditional Security Challenges in the Era of Disruptive World**” was organized by Strategic Studies Center (SSC), National Defence Studies Institute (NDSI), at Aonang Villa Resort, Krabi, Thailand from 15 – 18 July 2024.
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 Socialist Republic of Vietnam attended the Meeting, with a representative from Timor Leste as an observer. The list of participants is attached in Annex I. Major General Nirut Duangpanya, Director of Strategic Studies Center, National Defence Studies Institute, Royal Thai Armed Forces, chaired the Meeting.

Opening Remarks by Air Marshal Suriyapun Winwun, Advisor, National Defence Studies Institute (NDSI), Royal Thai Armed Forces

3. The meeting was conducted under the topic of "Evolving and Emerging Non-Traditional Security Challenges in the Era of Disruptive World," which was timely and important to ASEAN and the world at large. In an increasingly complex global landscape rose transnational non-traditional security (NTS) threats, which required innovative, collaborative, and comprehensive approaches. Therefore, it is important for ASEAN to strengthen the collective resolve and enhance its capacities to address these evolving threats. In Track II NADI, delegates would engage in in-depth discussions and deliberations on various facets of NTS. As a result, its outcomes would contribute to shaping policies and strategies at the highest level of regional defence and security cooperation as they would be reported to the ASEAN Defence Ministers' Meeting (ADMM).

Adoption of Agenda:

4. The Meeting adopted the agenda and the program, which are attached in Annex II and Annex III respectively.

SESSION I: Keynote Speaker

Keynote speech on the “Emerging NTS in Southeast Asia” by General Jerdwut Kraprayoon (Retired), Advisor to Senate Committee on Military and National Security

5. The keynote speech focused on addressing NTS threats in Southeast Asia. The speech highlighted the importance of recognizing and responding to a wide range of security challenges beyond conventional military threats. These NTS threats include environmental degradation, pandemics, cyberattacks, food and water insecurity, and transnational crimes

like human and drug trafficking. Given Southeast Asia's diverse geography, populations, and economies, the region is particularly vulnerable to these threats, necessitating comprehensive and coordinated responses.

6. Addressing these threats requires the concept of comprehensive security, which integrates multiple dimensions of security into a unified framework. This approach encompasses societal, technological, economic, environmental, geopolitical, and military security. By adopting this holistic framework, the interconnectedness of various security threats can be better understood and addressed. For instance, environmental degradation can lead to resource conflicts, which in turn can exacerbate social tensions and economic instability. A comprehensive security framework promotes holistic and integrated responses, leveraging the strengths and capabilities of various sectors to enhance regional resilience and sustainability.
7. Regarding NTS threats and their impacts on Southeast Asia, environmental security is highlighted due to the increasing frequency of natural disasters exacerbated by climate change. Health security is another critical area, with the COVID-19 pandemic exposing vulnerabilities in regional health systems. Food and water security issues are also prominent, driven by population growth, urbanization, and environmental changes. Furthermore, cybersecurity threats have risen with digital transformation, and recent incidents in countries like Singapore and Malaysia demonstrate the need for robust cybersecurity measures. Additionally, human trafficking and transnational crimes remain persistent challenges that undermine the rule of law and human rights, necessitating continuous regional cooperation and capacity-building.
8. As a result, regional cooperation through ASEAN is emphasized as vital for effectively addressing NTS threats. Initiatives like the ASEAN Agreement on Disaster Management and Emergency Response (AADMER) and the ASEAN Health Sector Cooperation are examples of frameworks that promote coordinated disaster management and health security. Collaborative efforts and international partnerships, such as those with the United Nations and the World Health Organization, enhance ASEAN's capacity to manage NTS challenges.
9. However, the implementation can be complicated by political diversity and economic disparities among ASEAN member states. These differences result in divergent priorities and capacities, hindering collective action. Political instability and governance issues in some countries further complicate coordinated responses. Economic disparities also pose challenges because they lead to uneven implementation of regional initiatives. Effective coordination and communication are crucial, yet gaps often impede timely responses. Enhancing information sharing, standardizing protocols, and building trust among member states are essential for fostering cooperation and ensuring more effective efforts.
10. Despite these challenges, there are significant opportunities for leveraging technology and innovation to cope with NTS threats. Technological advancements can enhance early warning systems, disaster response, health surveillance, and cybersecurity measures. For example, satellite technology and remote sensing can improve disaster monitoring, while drones and AI can aid in search and rescue operations. Digital health platforms, telemedicine, and mobile

health applications can expand healthcare access and improve disease monitoring. Integrating big data and analytics provides valuable insights for public health decision-making. In cybersecurity, adopting advanced technologies, such as blockchain, AI, and machine learning, can enhance infrastructure and data protection. Collaborative platforms can facilitate real-time information sharing and coordinated responses to cyber threats, bolstering collective security efforts in ASEAN.

SESSION II: Presentation on the “Emerging National and Regional NTS Challenges”

Brunei Darussalam

Presentation by Ms. Noorhazwani Ariffin, Acting Assistant Director, Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Institute of Defence and Strategic Studies (SHHBIDSS), Ministry of Defence, Brunei Darussalam

11. Ms. Noorhazwani Ariffin in her presentation underscored the strategic threat landscape of the 21st century that is fundamentally changing; in what is now described as the Contemporary Operating Environment (COE). Largely facilitated by geopolitical shifts, globalisation and technological advances; the spectrum of threats has broadened and the character of warfare has evolved to include newer threats and domains, more sophisticated strategies/tactics as well as the involvement of an intricate web of both state and non-state actors.
12. Based on the 2021 Defence White Paper (DWP), the presentation outlines several emerging NTS threats that Brunei Darussalam will prioritise for the next 15 years; 1) cyber security threats, 2) terrorism, violent extremism & transnational crimes, 3) natural disasters' increasing possibilities and 4) maritime security challenges. As ASEAN Member States (AMS) continue to face complex issues from the NTS domain, it is imperative to recognise the interconnectedness of the security domains and to foster effective responses that correspond to contemporary security threats. All in all, she highlighted how emerging NTS threats require adaptive governance structures and cooperation at all levels to effectively mitigate the impacts of the NTS threats.

Kingdom of Cambodia

Presentation by Major General Sam Sophea, Deputy Director of the Department of ASEAN Affairs, General Department of Policy and Foreign Affairs (GDPFA), Ministry of National Defence of Cambodia.

13. In his presentation, MG Sam highlighted some key NTS challenges in the Southeast Asian region, including (i) the impact of climate change, (ii) disruptive technologies, cybersecurity, and (iii) transnational crime. Climate change has led to an increase in the frequency of natural disasters and has placed significant stress on Southeast Asian countries. The security of Southeast Asia will become more fragile due to rapid global warming and extreme climate change, which will have an imminent effect on ecosystems, national development, and economic progress. This will be caused by the drastic destruction of energy resources, food production, and water reservoirs.
14. With the increasing interconnectedness of the region and greater reliance on Emerging and Disruptive Technologies, such as Artificial Intelligence and cyberspace, ASEAN will continue to face a growing range of NTS threats. Southeast Asia's high Internet penetration rate has led

to a greater reliance on the Internet, resulting in the emergence of numerous new security threats capable of causing significant harm. Furthermore, threats stemming from transnational organized crime are becoming more deeply integrated within the region and beyond. These include activities such as drug trafficking, large-scale trafficking of wildlife and forest products, a wider range of counterfeit consumer and industrial goods, smuggling of migrants, trafficking in persons for sexual and labor exploitation, as well as online gambling and scams, all of which pose ongoing NTS threats to people's security and harmony.

15. Therefore, the following points were recommended:

- a. ASEAN should encourage cooperation on defence technological innovations, especially within the ASEAN Defence Industrial Collaboration framework. The ASEAN Defense establishment should also participate in discussions about establishing norms for international security related to Emerging and Disruptive Technologies, including the ethical use of AI and Cybertechnologies in the military sector.
- b. The ADMM should prioritize building defence capacities to mitigate environmental impact and address security challenges arising from climate change such as heat waves and floods. Given the anticipated increase in demand for humanitarian assistance and disaster relief operations due to climate change, the ADMM should focus on developing predictive capabilities and collaborating with Plus countries to strengthen regional HADR response capacity by incorporating climate change into the ADMM and ADMM-Plus EWGs activities and work plan.
- c. In addressing transnational crime, the ADMM should collaborate with other sectoral bodies to combat transnational organized crime in the region, especially through information sharing and joint patrols on land and maritime borders. Additionally, ADMM-Plus should consider conducting joint exercises across ADMM-Plus EWGs to improve military interoperability against emerging challenges.

Republic of Indonesia (CSSRD, TNI)

Presentation by Air Vice Marshall Jorry S. Koloay, S.I.P., M.Han., Chief of Center for Strategic Studies, Research and Development of Tentara Nasional Indonesia (CSSRD-TNI)

16. AVM Jorry S. Koloay, S.I.P., M.Han. addressed Southeast Asia's NTS challenges by highlighting three priorities, namely cybercrime, climate change, and public health. These challenges require serious attention and cooperation from ADMM and ADMM-Plus, as the capabilities of Southeast Asian countries tend to be weak in independently addressing NTS threats, also becoming a barrier. ADMM and ADMM-Plus play an important role in regional defence diplomacy, focusing on cooperation in various NTS fields to maintain regional peace and stability.
17. Therefore, he recommended strategic steps to strengthen regional cooperation.
 - a. ADMM & ADMM-Plus should continue to be encouraged to become inclusive, innovative, and adaptive cooperation platforms that operate within the ASEAN Way corridor, which is the core value in building CBM in ASEAN.

- b. ASEAN member states need to strengthen synchronization and collaboration by incorporating the three priority NTS challenges, namely cyber security, climate change, and public health, through relevant frameworks.
- c. ADMM and ADMM-Plus need to strengthen collaboration with the ASEAN Ministers Meeting on Transnational Crime (AMMTC) in addressing these three priority NTS challenges, focusing on exploring collaboration with the ADMM Plus Expert Working Group on Military Medicine, HADR, Cyber Security, and Maritime Security.

Lao People's Democratic Republic

Presentation by Lieutenant Colonel Souksan Khaiphom, Deputy Director of the Office of Military Science and History Department, Ministry of National Defence, Ministry of National Defence

18. LTC Souksan Khaiphom highlighted that the international security landscape has shifted due to NTS challenges, leading to more global fatalities than traditional security concerns. These challenges are currently confronting the Asia region as well as ASEAN region is facing non-traditional challenges like infectious diseases, migration, and food security, and so on. The pandemic has caused significant health and economic impacts. The repercussions have affected migrants and worsened food security issues. He stressed that addressing these challenges, joint approaches and multilateral cooperation will be crucial for preventing future crises. Additionally, NTS threats at the national level, such as environmental degradation, natural disasters, and food insecurity, are hampering economic growth and development.
19. He underscored that Lao PDR is dealing with emerging NTS challenges such as dengue fever, migration, and the deprivation of skilled and young labourers. Dengue fever significantly impact children's lives, education, and the country's security concerns. He emphasized that the economic downturn has led to increased immigration and the outflow of skilled young laborers, changing the nature of security cooperation among states. Integrating these issues into the national security paradigm and engaging with relevant stakeholders on an enduring basis is necessary. A timely and coordinated approach is essential to address these challenges at both the national and international levels.

Malaysia (MiDAS)

Presentation by Major General Dato' Hj Ya'cob Bin Hj Samiran, Chief Executive, Malaysian Institute of Defence and Security (MiDAS)

20. Southeast Asia faces a rapidly evolving security landscape, requiring a comprehensive understanding of NTS issues such as terrorism, food security, pandemics, economic resilience, climate change, and cybersecurity. These threats are often interconnected and can spread quickly, requiring collaboration across government agencies and international cooperation. Recent terrorist attacks in Malaysia highlight the need for vigilant counter-terrorism efforts across the region and warrant close cooperation between the relevant agencies. Cybersecurity is another critical NTS challenge, with increasing sophistication and frequency of attacks targeting critical infrastructure and financial institutions. Investing in advanced technologies, enhancing cybersecurity awareness, and fostering public private partnerships are essential. Climate change poses severe threats to Southeast Asia, with rising

sea levels and extreme weather events impacting food security and livelihoods. The COVID-19 pandemic has highlighted the importance of health security and regional cooperation. The armed forces are increasingly called upon to assist in emergency responses, presenting opportunities for improved training, equipment, and inter-agency cooperation.

21. MiDAS recommends ADMM set parameters for NTS, focusing on priorities and not overlapping with other ASEAN initiatives. ADMM should not lose focus on NTS while addressing geopolitical issues and the South China Sea. Cooperation among superpowers is needed to address these Nontraditional security challenges. This could involve strengthening cybersecurity measures, implementing climate adaptation strategies, enhancing regional healthcare cooperation, and improving counter-terrorism training. ADMM can serve as a bridge for these collaborations.

Republic of the Philippines (NDCP)

Presentation by Mr. Lawrence N Llanita, Defense Research Officer, National Defense College of the Philippines (NDCP)

22. Mr. Llanita, presented on “Dual-Use Technology and Artificial Intelligence as NTS Challenges for ASEAN” and underscored the strategic significance of the Southeast Asia Region for technological advancements and expanding industries. This progress has brought about notable security challenges, including weapon proliferation, cyber threats, and the potential misuse of dual-use technologies by non-state actors and hostile states. Dual-use technologies discussed by the NDCP are goods, software, and technologies applicable for civilian and military purposes. The rise of these technologies is reflected in the transformative shift in research and development (R&D) from government-led initiatives to the much more profit-oriented private sector. Notable dual-use technology goods come from ICTs, biotechnology, AI, robotics, and satellite technology sectors. The presentation highlighted the economic and defence benefits of dual-use technologies fuel industries and innovation. As part of dual-use technology, Mr. Llanita presented the risks of artificial intelligence (AI), such as cybersecurity threats and ethical dilemmas if not appropriately regulated. AI's ability to perform tasks requiring human intellect offers vast applications across various fields, including energy, agriculture, health, and defence, with military applications extending to autonomous weapons and drones. The 2024 Global Risk Report ranks the adverse effects of AI technology as the sixth most severe long-term risk, compounded by limited regional AI readiness, as evidenced by the Oxford 2023 Government AI Readiness Index. Singapore leads the region with a high readiness score of 81.97. At the same time, the Philippines lags at the fifth (5th) spot with an AI readiness score of 51.98, reflecting disparities in governance and preparedness in the Southeast Asia Region. Though Mr. Llanita only presented a few key issues on dual-use technology, its coverage may be more than what the current policies and frameworks cover.
23. Mr. Llanita presented some recommendations in preventively addressing possible security issues of dual-use technologies.

- a. The ADMM should strengthen national and regional regulatory frameworks on dual-use technology and AI. States must strengthen its current policies and framework by considering its applicability on dual-use technology trade and development, and AI.
- b. ADMM should promote confidence building measures on ethical and responsible use of technology. These measures and establishing ethical guidelines for dual-use technology is crucial to ensure responsible use. Included in this recommendation is fostering regional and global awareness and education to further counter the risk posed by dual-use technology.
- c. It is recommended for ASEAN Member States to enhance Public-Private Partnerships with emerging dual-use industries. These partnerships can raise awareness of security challenges and help develop effective regulatory measures. Enhancing these partnerships could help in earlier detection of emerging security threats. To conclude, ASEAN must acknowledge that the region is currently a volatile security environment. With the rapid technological advancement and the creation of dual-use industries, adaptable regulatory policies are a must. Dual-use technology is a necessary innovation, but it is essential to proceed with caution.

Kingdom of Thailand

Presentation by Colonel Thanita Wongjinda, Deputy Director of Regional Studies Division, Strategic Studies Center (SSC), National Defence Studies Institute (NDSI), Royal Thai Armed Forces Headquarters

24. The rise of NTS threats, including ecological problems, demographic challenges, and transnational crimes, presents a complex challenge impacting security across the region, including Thailand. Globalization, with its increased interconnectedness, has amplified the impact of issues like climate change, environmental degradation, and pandemics. Due to its vulnerability to natural disasters and dependence on shared ecosystems, Southeast Asia is particularly susceptible. Additionally, transnational crimes such as human trafficking, drug smuggling, and cybercrime are intensifying, undermining regional stability and security. These challenges necessitate a collaborative and comprehensive response from ASEAN nations to mitigate their impacts and ensure sustainable development. In this regard, Thailand has been proactive in addressing these emerging threats through various initiatives and collaborations, especially in tackling with transboundary haze pollution and supporting border management through existing military relation and cooperation.
25. To deal with these emerging security threats, a multifaceted approach is essential. Regional cooperation should be strengthened through existing ASEAN frameworks to enhance information sharing, joint training, and coordinated responses. The military should play a key role with neighboring countries through ASEAN defence mechanism as well as related stakeholders for particular issues, including transboundary haze pollution. Also, the military should be at the frontline in addressing transnational crime and supporting border management. Most importantly, collective action and mutual support within ASEAN in addressing these challenges are essential.

SESSION III: Presentation on “Way Forward for Strengthening ASEAN Cooperation in Response to Emerging Non-Traditional Security Challenges”

Republic of Indonesia (RIDU)

Presentation by Major General Dr. Priyanto, S.IP. M.Si (Han), Dean of Defense Strategic Faculty, Republic of Indonesia Defense University (RIDU)

26. The NTS challenges that have emerged in the ASEAN region with its multi-dimension and multi-complex traits have created region-dynamic security. The COVID-19 virus and cyberattacks become two of essential challenges for the ASEAN region. These non-traditional threats can transcend borders, disrupt economies, erode social cohesion, and pose significant challenges to national and regional security stability. A comprehensive and cross-sectoral approach, enhances and strengthens existing collaborations, sharing information, conducting Meetings, joint exercises in various fields, and collaborating on law enforcement efforts, especially discussing joint cyber defence policy-making to create a joint manual on international law as the ASEAN cooperative cyber defence are the keys lies in fostering strong regional resilience.

27. Educational institutions become one of significant actors in solving non-traditional challenges in the ASEAN region. RIDU has been playing an important role and proactively supporting the government of Indonesia by preparing for future threats through cadet training to overcome biowarfare and has a master's program in disaster management studies and informatics program. Moreover, RIDU is also conducting water drilling projects to overcome water scarcity in Indonesia as well as building floating houses to deal with natural disasters such as floods can be an alternative to increasing cooperation in improving human resources in ASEAN countries. Educational exchanges and collaborations among ASEAN countries will promote mutual understanding and solidarity in facing non-traditional challenges in the future.

Malaysia (NDUM)

Presentation by Lieutenant General Datuk Haji Abdul Halim bin Haji Jalal (Retired), Principal Fellow, Centre for Defence and International Security Studies (CDISS), National Defence University of Malaysia (NDUM)

28. ASEAN faces a range of emerging NTS issues, such as cyber threats, climate change, pandemics, natural disaster and transnational crimes. These NTS issues pose complex challenges that transcend national borders and could gravely threaten the survival and well-being of state and society. Effective collective responses to these challenges demand enhanced cooperation and collaboration among states. ASEAN need to consider strategies to foster such cooperation.

29. To address NTS challenges requires ASEAN to adopt a holistic and cooperative approach that focuses on tangible and measurable goals. ASEAN can effectively navigate these complex challenges by enhancing institutional frameworks, promoting information sharing, investing in capacity building, and strengthening regional and international cooperation. A unified and resilient ASEAN will not only safeguard regional stability but also contribute to sustainable development and human security. The journey ahead requires concerted and coordinated

efforts, innovative strategies, and unwavering commitment from all ASEAN member states and stakeholders.

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), Myanmar Armed Forces

30. MG Myint Kyaw Tun emphasized that NTS challenges—such as environmental degradation, pandemics, transnational crime, cyber threats, terrorism, and economic instability—extend beyond conventional military issues and often involve non-state actors. These interconnected threats frequently cross borders and necessitate international cooperation, as no single country can effectively address them alone. He noted that the ASEAN region is experiencing rising temperatures, increased rainfall, and more frequent extreme events such as droughts and floods. In response, ASEAN adopted the ASCC Blueprint 2025 and expanded the ADMM's mandate to include climate security, thereby promoting coordinated efforts and collective actions to address climate change through policy dialogue, research, and capacity building. He also pointed out that the spread of diseases like COVID-19, dengue fever, and avian influenza has exposed weaknesses in public health systems. To address this, ASEAN is creating APHECS and ACPHEED to improve regional health security and enhancing pandemic control cooperation through ACMM and AMRG to strengthen detection, prevention, and response to future pandemics.

31. He highlighted that as cyberattacks on infrastructure, businesses, and government institutions increase with digitalization, ASEAN's rapidly growing digital economy faces significant threats. To address these challenges, ASEAN should establish a comprehensive cybersecurity framework and strengthen its existing cooperation strategy, enhancing information sharing and timely responses to mitigate the impacts of cyberattacks. Additionally, he mentioned that ASEAN defence establishments are collaborating to address NTS threats, with a focus on enhancing regional counter-terrorism capabilities. By fostering cooperation with civil society organizations and international bodies, ASEAN defence establishments are crucial in tackling these evolving security challenges. In conclusion, he suggested that ASEAN should strengthen regional institutions and mechanisms, create dedicated working groups for specific NTS challenges, harmonize environmental laws and standards, and adopt a comprehensive, multi-stakeholder approach to effectively address these complex issues.

Republic of the Philippines (OSSSM)

Presentation by Brigadier General Joel M Paloma PA, Chief, Office for Strategic Studies and Strategy Management (OSSSM), Armed Forces of the Philippines

32. BGEN PALOMA highlighted the need to strengthen cooperation through the concept of Multilateralism and how it should be interconnected with ASEAN centrality. With the evolving regional architecture and the changing international dynamics, Multilateralism, in accordance with international law, plays a significant role in addressing emerging NTS challenges while maintaining ASEAN's central role in establishing regional cooperation mechanisms. The involvement of international organizations and like-minded non-member states and the

strengthening of partnerships and existing mechanisms among states are essential to developing effective and sustainable solutions as ASEAN pursues an outward-looking community outlook.

33. As a way forward in addressing NTS challenges, cooperation can be strengthened by:
- a. Leveraging External Partnerships - Through deeper engagements with external dialogue partners, including acceptance of other dialogues with non-member states, active participation in multilateral forums such as with the United Nations, and conduct of joint and specialized training programs with non-ASEAN members in areas such as cybersecurity, research, information sharing, and incident response coordination.
 - b. Enhancing ASEAN Institutional Mechanisms - Through strengthening of ASEAN institutions and frameworks like the enhancement of a secure real-time ADMM Cybersecurity and Information Centre of Excellence (ACICE) among ASEAN defence establishments related to cybersecurity and cognitive warfare, and enhancement of risk management and assessment tools for the monitoring and evaluation of ASEAN initiatives.

Republic of Singapore

Presentation by Ms. S. Nanthini, Associate Research Fellow, Humanitarian Assistance and Disaster Relief Programme, Centre for Non-Traditional Security Studies, S. Rajaratnam School of International Studies, Nanyang Technological University, Singapore

34. In her presentation, Ms. Nanthini expanded on the concept of NTS. Despite the non-military nature of these challenges, the military still has a role to play in the response to these challenges, particularly in cases of humanitarian assistance and disaster relief (HADR) and climate security. With militaries serving as first responders in HADR in Southeast Asia, the increase in extreme weather events as a result of climate change has led to a military interest in this global phenomenon. States are moving beyond the idea of militaries as only involved in disaster response to considering them a significant climate actor. Considering the transboundary nature of climate change, the ADMM should take on a bigger role in convening and promoting more collaborative climate action between militaries in Southeast Asia.
35. Ms. Nanthini made the following recommendations for ASEAN militaries to responding to NTS threat of climate change
- a. Militaries should look to bolster their greening efforts through the reduction of their footprint. This can be done through developing research on alternative fuel sources as part of multilateral organisations such as the ADMM.
 - b. There is a need for militaries to restructure and update infrastructure, equipment, and priorities to become more sustainable – potentially through renewable energy models. This can be an opportunity for militaries in the region to improve cooperative efforts and practical collaborations as part of an ADMM climate security agenda.
 - c. Militaries could cooperate with other militaries in the region to share climate information (i.e. modelling, vulnerabilities etc.), which can be used to analyse their current capabilities and how they fare in light of the emerging climate riskscape. This can

then be used to better inform multilateral HADR exercises and training between Southeast Asian militaries and partners to better prepare for emerging climate impacts in the Indo-Pacific region.

Socialist Republic of Vietnam

Presentation by Major General, Doctor Nguyen Anh Tuan, Deputy General Director, Department of International Studies, Institute for Defense Strategy (IDS), Ministry of National Defence

36. NTS threats, especially the emerging ones, have become serious challenges for Southeast Asia and the world as a whole. Given their dynamics and non-stop transformation along with development of humans and societies, NTS challenges become more and more serious, complex, and unforeseeable and are likely to transform into traditional security challenges. Those challenges have an increasingly huge impact on development of countries, territories, and economies, especially the developing countries and small island states. Strategic competition amongst great powers continues to be fierce and extensive, including NTS, but the great powers still maintain dialogue and cooperation in addressing global issues such as climate changes and artificial intelligence.
37. To strengthen regional cooperation in response to emerging NTS challenges requires AMS to strengthen capacity to prevent and deal with the challenges, promote strategic trust, improve the effectiveness of existing regional cooperation mechanisms, explore the possibility of establishing new cooperation mechanisms, promote ASEAN centrality in cooperation in response to NTS challenges, especially the emerging issues, formulate and improve legal frameworks for enhancing cooperation among AMS in addressing NTS challenges, and bring into play the vital role of militaries of AMS.

Discussion

38. The broad nature of the NTS challenges suggest the need for it to be broken up into individual topics. As such, NTS could be made a theme for the year, with each meeting focusing on 1-2 NTS issues. Since NADI is a military based grouping, and there may be limited technical knowledge about NTS, there is the need for subject matter experts to provide relevant technical perspectives and information on other ASEAN sectors. This would benefit both NADI members in terms of broadening their knowledge, as well as the experts in terms of real-world applications for their technical knowledge.
39. The meeting discussed dual-use technologies and artificial intelligence (AI) as NTS issues, and underscored the strategic significance of the Southeast Asia Region for technological advancements and expanding industries. This progress has brought about notable security challenges, including weapon proliferation, cyber threats, ethical issues, and the need for relevant rules and regulations to mitigate against the potential misuse of dual-use technologies and AI by non-state actors and hostile states.

Recommendations

1. NADI will focus on specific topics in future meetings on NTS challenges. NADI also recommends that ADMM may wish to take a similar focus-oriented approach in its discussions on NTS challenges.

2. ASEAN Member States need to address NTS challenges such as cyber security, climate change, public health and transnational crimes through relevant frameworks. This can be done through the following:
 - a. Processes. ASEAN member states need to strengthen synchronisation and collaboration through existing ASEAN frameworks like the ADMM, ADMM-Plus, and Experts Working Groups. ASEAN as an outward-looking community should leverage external partnerships and enhance cooperation in NTS challenges. ASEAN Member States could also explore enhancing public-private partnerships.
 - b. Instruments. ASEAN could conduct information-sharing and research, joint training and exercises, as well as meetings and workshops, as well as improving legal frameworks, including harmonising environmental laws and standards. The aim is to strengthen ASEAN Centrality by comprehensive multistakeholder approach to effectively address these complex non-traditional security issues.
3. Dual-Use Technologies and AI. To address possible security issues of dual-use technologies, the ADMM should strengthen national and regional regulatory frameworks. ADMM should also establish and promote confidence building measures on ethical and responsible use of technology. This would foster regional and global awareness and education to further counter the risk posed by dual-use technologies and AI.
4. Traditional security issues. In focusing on NTS challenges, ADMM should not lose focus on the need to address geopolitical and regional issues.

Other Matters

40. Forthcoming NADI activities

Date	Activities	Country	Via
18 – 21 September 2024	NADI Meeting	Siem Reap, Cambodia	Physical
4 – 7 November 2024	NADI Meeting on Conflicts Affecting the Region, and the ADMM/ ADMM-Plus' Role in Conflict Prevention and Management	Singapore	Physical
End of April 2025	Annual General Meeting	Malaysia	Physical
17 – 20 June 2025	Meeting	Philippines	Physical
October or November 2025	Meeting	Brunei	Physical

Consideration of NADI Meeting Chairman's Report

41. The meeting considered the draft Chairman's Report of the NADI Meeting on "Evolving and Emerging Non-Traditional Security Challenges in the Era of Disruptive World". After examining the Chairman's Report carefully, the meeting endorsed the report.
42. The NADI Meeting Chairman will submit the Report to the ADSOM Chairman for consideration at the ADMM Track and a copy to the NADI Chairman.

Concluding Remarks by Major General Nirut Duangpanya, Director of Strategic Studies Center (SSC), National Defence Studies Institute (NDSI), Royal Thai Armed Forces

43. In his concluding remarks, Major General Nirut expressed his sincere appreciation to delegates for their contribution and commitment, which reflected spirit of solidarity. He deemed their insights and recommendations invaluable to address the NTS challenges. Furthermore, he encouraged the delegates to carry forward the momentum and insights gained from this meeting and continue to work together to build a secure and prosperous future for ASEAN region.