

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT OF

TRACK II NETWORK OF ASEAN DEFENCE AND SECURITY INSTITUTIONS (NADI) 17th ANNUAL MEETING

29 April - 02 May 2024, Vang Vieng, Lao PDR

- 1. The Track II Network of ASEAN Defence and Security Institutions (NADI) 17th Annual Meeting was organised by the Military Science and History Department (MSHD), Ministry of National Defence (MND) of the Lao PDR at the S Vang Vieng Boutique Hotel, Vang Vieng, Lao PDR on 29 April 02 May 2024.
- 2. The representatives from Brunei Darussalam, Kingdom of Cambodia, Republic of Indonesia, Lao PDR, Malaysia, Republic of the Union of Myanmar, Republic of the Philippines, Republic of Singapore, Kingdom of Thailand and Socialist Republic of Viet Nam attended the Annual Meeting. The list of participants is attached in Annex I.

Welcome Remarks by MG Saichay Kommasith, Permanent Secretary of National Defence, Lao ADSOM Leader

- 3. In the welcome remarks, MG Saichay Kommasith extended his sincere thanks to all NADI members for their participation in the NADI Annual Meeting in Vang Vieng, Lao PDR. He regarded the participation of the NADI members as an active contribution to the chairmanship of 18th ADMM, 11th ADMM-Plus and other related meetings hosted by the MND of the Lao PDR in 2024 under the theme "ASEAN: Together for Peace, Security and Resilience".
- 4. He discussed that in recent years, ASEAN has made significant progress in many certain areas, particularly the contribution of the defence sector to the implementation of the ASEAN Political-Security Community Blueprint 2025. At the same time, ASEAN is facing various challenges which include major power rivalry, geopolitical shift, among others. He also pointed out that the ADMM-Plus membership expansion has become a strategic challenge in the ADMM process; and thus, ASEAN needs a careful consideration and strategy to respond to such a strategic issue constructively.

Opening Remarks by Brig. Gen. Viengxay Somvichit, Director General of Military Science and History Department (MSHD), MND, Lao PDR, the Chair of NADI 17th Annual Meeting

5. In his Opening Remarks, Brig. Gen. Viengxay Somvichit expressed his heartfelt thanks and sincere appreciation to all NADI delegations for attending the NADI Annual Meeting. He congratulated the previous NADI chair for the successful conduct of the meeting.

6. The Chairman underscored the three important issues namely enhancing ASEAN defence cooperation for regional peace, security and resilience, ADMM-Plus membership expansion and ADMM and ADMM-Plus cooperation, which are the key focus of the NADI 17th Annual Meeting. The Chair, thus, encouraged all NADI members to actively share fresh ideas and recommendations in order to ensure the intended objectives of the Meeting can be met.

Adoption of Agenda

7. The Meeting adopted the agenda which appears as Annex II.

SESSION I: Enhancing ASEAN Defence Cooperation for Regional Peace, Security and Resilience

Brunei Darussalam

Presentation by Miss Nabilah Rahman, Research Officer, Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Institute of Defence and Strategic Studies (SHHBIDSS), Ministry of Defence, Brunei Darussalam.

- 8. Amidst ongoing global conflicts and diverse threats, ASEAN has demonstrated resilience, bolstering regional cohesion through initiatives like the ASEAN Defence Ministers' Meeting (ADMM) and ADMM-Plus. These platforms have fostered practical cooperation, addressing traditional and non-traditional security challenges through plethora of initiatives. However, challenges persist, including concerns about ASEAN's central role amidst the addition of growing interests to the ADMM-Plus and the effectiveness of numerous initiatives introduced or adopted.
- 9. To address these, recommendations include reviewing and updating domains of cooperation in addressing security challenges, and supporting ASEAN crosspillar collaboration in adapting to a future-ready cooperation. Through this holistic approach across diverse sectors within ASEAN framework, it will not only realise the overarching goals of ASEAN community, but also enhance regional security, resilience, and cooperation. This, in turn, will ensure ASEAN's preparedness to effectively confront future challenges.

Lao People's Democratic Republic

Presentation by Lt.Col. Souksan Khaiphom, Deputy Director of the Office of MSHD, MND of Lao PDR

10.Lt.Col. Souksan Khaiphom highlighted that ASEAN confronts various security challenges posed by both traditional and non-traditional threats including major power rivalry, geopolitical shift, among others. While the ADMM and ADMM-Plus existing mechanisms have demonstrated success, it is essential to explore new initiatives to respond to evolving security challenges. However, the ADMM

- needs to consider streamlining similar mechanisms and practical implications of such existing cooperative platforms.
- 11. He also recommended that in contributing to strengthening ASEAN Centrality, unity and cooperation, ADMM should lay out strategic directions to address the current and future ADMM-Plus membership expansion and also needs to assess the effectiveness of the adopted initiatives and consider whether some of the initiatives are to be streamlined.

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).

- 12.MG Myint Kyaw Tun emphasized that defense cooperation within ASEAN serves as a vital mechanism for fostering regional stability, facilitating joint initiatives among member states to address shared security challenges and bolster collective resilience against emerging threats, thereby ensuring peace and prosperity in the region. Additionally, he noted that ASEAN's defense cooperation fosters dialogue and collaborative military exercises, thereby enhancing regional security despite encountered challenges, reflecting a steadfast commitment to adapting and upholding collective security interests. Moreover, he underscored that the 17th ADMM's Jakarta Joint Declaration recognizes climate change as a significant security challenge for ASEAN, prompting discussions on potentially expanding its mandate to address climate security, such as through the establishment of a new Experts' Working Group or by broadening the existing one for Humanitarian Assistance and Disaster Relief (HADR). Furthermore, he highlighted the parallelism between the complexity and uncertainty evident in global conflicts such as the Russia-Ukraine War and the Gaza War, and the challenges faced in the ASEAN region. where the emergence of alliances like the QUAD, the AUKUS, and the Trilateral Indo-Pacific Dialogue pose potential risks to regional stability and peace.
- 13. He noted that ASEAN is currently considering expanding ADMM-Plus activities to encompass more partners, yet the possible inclusion of Western countries raises concerns regarding its effect on ASEAN's defense cooperation, unity, and central role in maintaining regional peace and stability. In conclusion, MG Myint Kyaw Tun proposed the following recommendations:
 - (a) The ADMM should thoroughly assess whether to establish a new Experts' Working Group (EWG) or broaden the existing EWG on Humanitarian Assistance and Disaster Relief (HADR) to effectively address climate security;
 - (b) To uphold ASEAN Centrality, the ADMM must assert itself as the primary agenda-setter within the ADMM-Plus framework, ensuring that any initiatives within the ADMM-Plus are determined by the ADMM;
 - (c) The ADMM should exercise caution and conduct a comprehensive evaluation of the potential consequences of expanding the ADMM-Plus, as

there is concern that such expansion could undermine ASEAN Centrality and Unity.

Republic of the Philippines

Presented by BGEN JOEL M PALOMA PA, Office for Strategic Studies and Strategy Management (OSSSM), Armed Forces of the Philippines.

- 14. In his presentation, BGEN JOEL M PALOMA PA highlighted the escalating threats of cybercrime and cyber terrorism, which are integral to the everevolving landscape of cyber warfare. He underscored the 2007 cyberattacks on Estonia as a pivotal event, a stark reminder of the need for a comprehensive understanding of cyber warfare beyond its kinetic and technical aspects. This understanding should also encompass its cognitive and cross-domain nature, rooted in rules-based and norms-building principles within sovereign nations. He also emphasized the role of international law, the rule of law, and human rights in shaping global responses to cyber threats. Further, he discussed how state-sponsored cyberattacks, local cybercrime, transnational cyber threats, and hacktivism significantly challenge ASEAN's regional peace, security, and resilience, undermining national sovereignty and developmental pathways. Drawing lessons from NATO's extensive experience in cybersecurity, it proposed areas for ASEAN to enhance its cyber resilience and defense capabilities, emphasizing robust cybersecurity measures, collective defense principles, and interdisciplinary approaches. The establishment of the ADMM Cybersecurity and Information Center of Excellence (ACICE) last year in Singapore is akin to NATO's Cooperative Cyber Defence Centre of Excellence (CCDCOE) as a model for fostering regional cooperation and expertise exchange on operations and law with the Tallinn Manual as its foundation in various international cyber initiatives.
- 15. Lastly, he described that the Tallinn Manual has been a flagship research initiative of NATO's CCDCOE. Its original publication in 2013 addressed severe cyber operations that violate the prohibition of using force or occur during armed conflict. The Tallinn Manual 2.0, released in 2017, expands on this work by examining the rules of international law governing cyber incidents encountered by states daily, falling below the thresholds of using force or armed conflict. Therefore, BGEN Paloma forwarded three recommendations to the ADMM: (1) enhance regional cooperation by strengthening cooperation among ASEAN member states in sharing information on cyber threats and vulnerabilities as well as establishing regional platforms for such exchange; (2) enhance existing cybersecurity framework that reflects the unique needs and dynamics of the region; and (3) engage in international cyber dialogues and ensure ASEAN's cybersecurity initiatives are informed and contribute to international law and practice.

SESSION II: ADMM-Plus Membership Expansion: Opportunities and Challenges Republic of Indonesia

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

- 16. In his presentation, Air Vice Marshall Jorry S. Koloay, S.I.P, M.Han highlighted that, the membership expansion of the ADMM Plus is important for maintaining regional stability, but it will impact the increasing complexity in coordination and decision-making, as well as differences in opinions and interests among new and existing members. Therefore, it is important to manage the addition of members wisely to ensure that the benefits can be obtained effectively and the risks can be minimized.
- 17. Indonesia is open to the expansion of new membership within the ADMM-Plus, as long as ASEAN continues to uphold processes that are in line with the ASEAN Charter, respecting the sovereignty of each member country.

Malaysia

Presentation By Major General Dato' Haji Ya'cob bin Haji Samiran Chief Executive of Malaysia Institute of Defence and Security (MiDAS)

- 18. The ASEAN Defence Ministers' Meeting (ADMM) and ADMM-Plus are crucial institutions in the Asia-Pacific region, with a surge in working groups and observer countries since its inception in 2010. The ADMM-Plus has grown to include nations such as Australia, China, India, Japan, New Zealand, the Republic of Korea, Russia, and the United States. These institutions aim to build trust between participating militaries, encourage participation standards, and address shared security concerns. The expansion plan aims to increase regional defence and security cooperation, address non-traditional security threats more effectively, and reinforce ASEAN's centrality in multilateralism. However, challenges include major power competition, concerns about confidence-building initiatives, and the need for bureaucratic design.
- 19. The expansion plan can potentially strengthen regional security cooperation and introduce new challenges related to major power competition, diverging strategic visions, and the platform's institutional effectiveness. The ultimate impact depends on how ASEAN and Dialogue Partners navigate these complex dynamics and remain focused on the benefits for ASEAN. The potential expansion of the ADMM-Plus membership presents opportunities and challenges for regional security cooperation in the Asia-Pacific region but also raises questions about consensus-building, resource allocation, security sensitivities, forum management, institutional adaptation, and legal frameworks.

Republic of the Philippines

Presentation by Arielle Ann Nicole Lopez, MPA, Senior Defense Research Officer, National Defense College of the Philippines (NDCP).

- 20. In her presentation, Ms Arielle Ann Nicole Lopez presented the different factors that influence the possible expansion of the ADMM-Plus membership which includes: (1) the growing relevance of the ADMM-Plus in the Indo-Pacific; and (2) the rapidly changing geopolitical landscape and geopolitical tensions that needs to be addressed. Ms Lopez then discussed the opportunities of the ADMM-Plus membership expansion. First, it would enhance regional and security cooperation which would facilitate an increase in collaboration among member states and dialogue partners that could contribute to regional stability and security. Second, additional membership would broaden perspectives and expertise which can promote ASEAN inclusivity and increase chances in achieving a holistic approach towards security concerns. Third, it would increase interoperability among the armed forces of member countries and improve working together through joint exercises. Finally, it promotes stability and peace through the ADMM-Plus, along with other ASEAN platforms. Aside from the opportunities, Ms Lopez also presented the challenges. First, the internal dynamics within ASEAN serves as a crucial role in the effectiveness of the ADMM and the ADMM-Plus. Without a cohesive ASEAN, it would be detrimental for the ADMM to manifest its agenda-setting influence in the ADMM-Plus. Second, an expanded membership would need to consider diverse interests and priorities which may hinder reaching a consensus on security issues. Finally, another challenge is that the uneven participation and contributions of ADMM-Plus members may cause disparities and complicate commitments to the objectives of cooperation. Overall, this potential challenge could slow down the implementation of initiatives and agreements established by the platform.
- 21. Ms Lopez also presented some recommendations moving forward. First, it is recommended to consult regional cooperation and mechanisms such as the ASEAN Regional Forum (ARF) and the East Asia Summit (EAS) to ensure coherence and complementary actions across ASEAN platforms in addressing security concerns. Second, there should be consultation and dialogue among ADMM-Plus member states regarding the criteria of membership acceptance. An open and transparent process will ensure the effectiveness of the ADMM-Plus platform. Finally, it is recommended that expanding the ADMM-Plus membership should be done at a gradual phase or limited acceptance to enable the platform to conservatively phase through the acceptance of a new member and monitor its effectiveness. Overall, with the rapidly evolving geopolitical landscape, the value of cooperation is higher than ever. However, in the context of expanding the membership of the ADMM-Plus, there is a need to consider and weigh the opportunities and challenges that come with it. This is to ensure and maintain the management of security challenges to promote peace and stability in the region.

Republic of Singapore

Presentation by Mr Henrick Tsjeng, Associate Research Fellow Fellow, S. Rajaratnam School of International Studies, Nanyang Technological University, Singapore

- 22. In his presentation, Mr Tsjeng highlighted that, within the ADMM-Plus, there is a higher proportion of countries in the "pro-Western camp", even as other non-Plus countries in the same "camp" continue to express interest in engaging the ADMM-Plus. Expanding ADMM-Plus membership to include these countries would only tip the balance further and affect the ADMM-Plus' neutrality and autonomy. The ADMM should instead take a gradual and cautious approach towards membership, and non-Plus countries that express interest in engaging with the ADMM-Plus could be directed to participate in the ADMM-Plus observership programme for Experts' Working Groups (EWGs). Even so, the ADMM must determine via consensus the suitability of a prospective observer country.
- 23. Mr Tsjeng concluded that it may be too early to start admitting more members into the ADMM-Plus. Informal meetings between the ADMM and non-Plus members could also take place, but these must be carefully managed. Ultimately, ASEAN autonomy and centrality should always be the first consideration when managing the issue of observership and expansion of the ADMM-Plus. Mr Tsjeng made the following recommendations to that end:
- The ADMM-Plus should avoid adding new members until it is confident that the applicant(s) can add value to the group and their deliberations. The ADMM-Plus might wish to also bear in mind that it has the institutional heft and resources to handle additional members.
- The ADMM-Plus should continue maintaining the observership programme and direct those countries interested in engaging the ADMM-Plus to participate in the programme. The ADMM-Plus could then scrutinise incoming applicant countries carefully and decide via consensus whether the applicant countries are suitable for observership in line with the Concept Paper.
- Apart from the observership programme ADMM could engage with non-Plus members but only via informal meetings. Similar to the observership programme, such meetings should not be construed as a basis or precursor to future ADMM-Plus membership.

Socialist Republic of Viet Nam

Presentation by Sr. Col. Bach Thanh Phuong Researcher, Institute for Defense Strategy (IDS), MOD, Viet Nam

24. In his presentation, Sr. Col. Bach Thanh Phuong highlighted that with more and more states wanting to join the ADMM+, it requires to consider their participation seriously on both opportunities and challenges. In consideration of opportunities, the ADMM-Plus Membership Expansion could enhance the reputation and position of ASEAN and the role of ADMM and consolidate the

ASEAN Centrality; Attract resources and cooperation opportunities from countries outside the region to enhance capability of the ASEAN countries in cooperation to response to the common security; Combine the ADMM and ADMM+ cooperation to enhance the effectiveness of ADMM cooperation.

25. In consideration of challenges, he emphasised that the ADMM-Plus Membership Expansion could affect ASEAN self-reliance and ADMM decision-making role because of the limited resources and capacity of ASEAN member states; Increase the influence of the major powers in the ADMM+ agenda; Pose difficulties for administrating and making decision of ASEAN; Bring about more issues and work to be solved; Affects the ASEAN consensus and ADMM+ agenda because of The bilateral relations between ASEAN member states and Plus countries. In the complicated geopolitical context of the world and the region, the ADMM+ Membership Expansion requires to pay much serious and comprehensive consideration in both mechanisms and institutions in which the most important objectives are to consolidate the internal unity of ASEAN; to enhance capacity and resilience of each ASEAN member state and the whole ASEAN Community.

SESSION III: ADMM and ADMM- Plus Cooperation: Review and Ways Forward Kingdom of Cambodia

Presentation by Lieutenant General Nem Sowathey, Deputy Director-General, General Department of Policy and Foreign Affairs (GDPFA), and Director of Sena Techo Unit, Ministry of National Defence of Cambodia

- 26. LTG. Nem Sowathey provided an overview of defence cooperation under the ASEAN Defence Ministers' Meeting (ADMM) and ADMM-Plus. She highlighted that the ADMM provides an avenue for the ASEAN defence ministers to discuss and enhance mutual trust and confidence through candid exchange of views on defence and security issues. As of 2022, 102 initiatives were adopted and noted by the ADMM, of which 24 are practical and being implemented by the ASEAN Defence Establishments. Regarding the ADMM-Plus, she emphasised that the ADMM-Plus has made its mark in building confidence and promoting norms of engagement among the 18 members through practical cooperation that has enabled security cooperation to go beyond diplomatic dialogue and towards more practical, task-oriented agendas and exercises.
- 27. She underscored that the practical initiatives and cooperation under the ADMM and ADMM-Plus have made remarkable progress and significant outcomes. Such accomplishments have generated interest from external partners to engage with these mechanisms. However, she also noted that the ADMM and ADMM-Plus emerged and progressed during a time when the region was facing newly emerged non-traditional security challenges when circumstances were more conducive for multilateralism in the Asia-Pacific region, but such circumstances are now evolving. She also provided her observation on current and emerging challenges, such as ongoing geopolitical rivalries and the great

power competition, climate change assessment, emerging technologies, and a wider ASEAN defence capabilities gap to address common transnational security challenges.

28. Following the above observations, LTG. Nem Sowathey offered some recommendations as follows:

Firstly, ASEAN must uphold the principal of centrality and unity in order to effectively and appropriately respond to future geopolitical changes. ADMM must ensure ASEAN remains cohesive and in the driving seat. Thus, the discussion agendas and decisions in the interaction with Plus countries or other external partners must be led by the ADMM. Secondly, it is imperative during this time for the ADMM and ADMM-Plus to consider policies in leveraging and building on existing mechanism in place in the region. This in particular for pressing security challenges such as natural disasters exacerbated by climate change as well as for emerging technology cooperation are established amongst ADMM and ADMM-Plus. To cope with emerging challenges, ASEAN defence establishments should also consider cooperation in addressing capabilities gaps among AMS in order to better enhance intra-ASEAN capacity in defence and securities. This is in order to create conducive circumstance for effective and sustain cooperation in building confidence and strengthen ASEAN unity and practical cooperations to address area of common security challenges.

Lastly, that the ADMM and ADMM-Plus should look into the making a compilation of all previous works since their inceptions in order to build records and database for ADMM to have a collection of institutional formal records of memory and history. This is vital in order to draw lessons learned and forging way forwards.

Republic of Indonesia

Presentation by Major General TNI Dr. Priyanto, S.IP., M.SI (Han)

Dean of Defense Strategic Faculty, Republic of Indonesia Defence University (RIDU).

- 29. The ASEAN Defence Ministers' Meeting (ADMM) and ADMM-Plus could implement several strategic initiatives to bolster security and defence cooperation within the ASEAN and Indo-Pacific regions. These initiatives include enhancing regular communication and exchange of information through dialogues and meetings, conducting training programs on modern security challenges, and organising multilateral military exercises to build trust and interoperability.
- 30. Other measures involve integrating issues like climate change into security strategies, maintaining strategic relations with global powers, and strengthening maritime law enforcement and compliance with international norms. Together,

these actions aim to strengthen defence capabilities and promote inclusive, effective regional collaboration.

Malaysia

Presentation by Professor Dr Adam Leong Kok Wey

Director, Centre for Defence and International Security Studies (CDISS)

National Defence University of Malaysia (NDUM)

- 31. The ADMM and ADMM Plus has make significant and respectable progress in enhancing regional security and contributing to dialogues on peace and security in the wider global perspective. both ADMM and ADMM-Plus have sought to conduct practical cooperation efforts in maritime security, counter-terrorism, humanitarian assistance and disaster management, peacekeeping operations, military medicine, humanitarian mine action and cyber security.
- 32. The National Defence University of Malaysia (NDUM) proposes two initiatives as ways forward to strengthen ADMM and ADMM-Plus's capacity and continued relevance. Firstly, to initiate capacity building programs in maritime cyber security, a rising security risk sector. Secondly, to extend NADI partnerships into a NADI Plus platform with ADMM Plus partners. These initiatives will strengthen security and defence cooperation for peace, stability, and development in Southeast Asia, and to ensure ASEAN, ADMM and ADMM-Plus continue to be relevant and successful mechanisms to shape our common strategic future.

Kingdom of Thailand

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

- 33. Gp.Capt.Choosak highlighted the importance of the ADMM and ADMM-Plus as key platforms in the regional security architecture, which facilitate strategic dialogue and practical cooperation for the defence sector within ASEAN as well as between ASEAN and Plus countries while positioning ASEAN at the center. The success of both ADMM and ADMM-Plus are unveiled in their contributions to enhanced security cooperation, capacity building, institutional development, confidencebuilding measures, and the promotion of a peace, security and resilience in the region. However, there are some challenges posed to the ADMM and AMM-Plus cooperation. These include: (i) Major power rivalry and ASEAN's internal problems bring challenges to ASEAN's unity and solidarity and the effectiveness of ADMM-Plus cooperation; (ii) The evolving and emerging non-traditional security threats in the region, covering humanitarian, cybersecurity, phone and internet scams, and climate change, put ASEAN to the test. These threats require extensive cooperation across various sectors and agencies; (iii) The increasing initiatives and activities under the ADMM and ADMM-Plus frameworks along with resource constraints may affect the level of commitment and contribution made to the cooperation.
- 34. In order to strengthen the ADMM and ADMM-Plus cooperation, Gp.Capt.Choosak recommended: (i) ADMM should explore strategies for harmonizing AMS's interests and aligning them towards common goals, with the spirit of upholding ASEAN centrality in engaging with Plus countries; (ii) ADMM should discuss how to mitigate the risks of security issues that tend to appear in the region especially humanitarian assistance and other transnational security issues; (iii) ADMM should continue reviewing existing initiatives to ensure that such initiatives remain relevant with the evolving or emerging regional security challenges.

RECOMMENDATIONS

The meeting made recommendations for ADMM as follows:

Session I: Enhancing ASEAN Defence Cooperation for Regional Peace, Security and Resilience

- 35. ADMM should review and update domains of cooperation by assessing the effectiveness and streamlining the existing initiatives.
- 36. ADMM should support ASEAN cross-pillar collaboration in adapting to a future-ready cooperation.
- 37. ADMM should consider the establishment of a new EWG or expand the scope of the existing EWG in addressing evolving security threats particularly climate security and emerging technologies.
- 38. ADMM should enhance existing cybersecurity frameworks and engage in international cyber dialogues based on international law.

39. ADMM needs to continuously strengthen AMS in capacity building to address security challenges.

Session II: ADMM-Plus Membership Expansion: Opportunities and Challenges

- 40. ADMM should lay out the strategic direction on the expansion of ADMM-Plus membership, by emphasising the prospective benefits for ASEAN, geopolitical dynamics, and appropriate timing.
- 41. There should be consultation and dialogue among ADMM regarding the criteria of membership acceptance. The ADMM should avoid adding new members to ADMM-Plus until it is confident that the applicant(s) can add value to the group and their deliberations. The ADMM might wish to also bear in mind that it has the institutional heft and resources to handle additional members.
- 42. The ADMM should maintain control of the observership programme in deciding which countries could be put forward to the ADMM-Plus to participate as observers.
- 43. ADMM could also engage with non-Plus members but only via informal meetings. Such meetings should not be construed as a basis or precursor to future ADMM-Plus membership.

Session III: ADMM and ADMM-Plus Cooperation: Review and Ways Forward

- 44. ADMM could create an online database of previous ADMM and ADMM-Plus efforts in dealing with regional and international defence and security issues. The data and analysis gathered could contain relevant lessons that may be applied to address current and emerging issues.
- 45. ADMM should enhance multilateral dialogue platforms, facilitating information exchange, capacity building and joint training exercises, building trust and strengthening cooperation, integrating with the cross-sectoral issues in security agendas, responding to great power dynamics and supporting the international law and norms enforcements.
- 46. ADMM should discuss and implement measures to mitigate the risks of regional security issues, especially humanitarian assistance and disaster relief and other transnational security issues.
- 47. ADMM should build cooperative programs to ensure the Women in Peace and Security Agenda have meaningful impact.

OTHER MATTERS

- 49. The meeting considered Timor-Leste's NADI activity observership and reached a consensus on inviting representatives from Timor-Leste to participate in the forthcoming NADI activities as an observer.
- 50. The meeting also discussed and endorsed the changing names of NADI workshop to NADI Meeting and the NADI Annual Meeting to NADI Annual General Meeting. The new changing names of NADI will be applied in the upcoming NADI activities onward, while the modalities of the activities remain unchanged.

51.Th	e Meeting	updated	the	forthc	omina	NADI	activities	as	follows:

Date	Activities	Country		
15-18 July 2024	NADI Meeting on Evolving and Emerging	Krabi,		
	Non-Traditional Security Challenges in	Thailand		
	the Era of Disruptive World			
September 2024	NADI Meeting	Siem Reap,		
		Cambodia		
4-7 November	NADI Meeting on Conflicts Affecting the	Singapore		
2024	Region, and the ADMM/ ADMM-Plus'			
	Role in Conflict Prevention and			
	Management			

Consideration of the Chairman's Report

- 52. The Meeting considered and endorsed the draft Chairman's Report of the Track II Network of ASEAN Defence and Security Institutions (NADI) 17th Annual Meeting.
- 53. The Chairman will submit the Report to the ADSOM Chairman for consideration at the ADMM Track.

Closing Remarks

- 54. The Chairman extended his sincere appreciation and thanks to all NADI participants for their active participation in and constructive contribution to the successful conclusion of the 17th NADI Annual Meeting.
- 55. The NADI delegates expressed their appreciation to the MSHD, MND of the Lao PDR for their generous hospitality and excellent arrangements for the Meeting.