

# Future Security Environment

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# STRATEGIC OVERVIEW – EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

## Key Findings

- Terrorism and the spread of Weapons of Mass Destruction (WMD) are likely to be the principal threats over the period
- A growing range of actors may acquire or seek to develop capabilities to conduct both physical attacks and Computer Network Attacks (CNA)
- Criminal organisations and networks will expand the scale and scope of their activities; piracy will also grow as a challenge.
- China, India and Russia will become major players in the future security environment.
- North Korea, Iran and Syria will continue to be countries of major concern.
- Energy security will continue to be a concern.

# GEOPOLITICAL CHALLENGES

- Rising powers
- Countries of concern
- Globalisation

# GEOPOLITICAL CHALLENGES

## Key Findings

- Rising Powers: China and India.
- China's emergence as a new superpower will define global economy and security in the 21st Century.
- Growing population, robust military establishment and country's increasing high technology are shaping India as one of the rising political, economic and military powers.
- Russia's re-emergence will be highlighted by its control of energy resources.
- Democratic People's Republic of Korea (DPRK), Iran and Syria will continue to be countries of WMD proliferation concern.
- Globalisation will continue speeding-up, increasingly affecting socio-cultural, economic and political life.

# GLOBAL SECURITY RISKS

- Extremism and terrorism
- Proliferation
- Reliance on computer networks
- Cyber war
- Information operations
- Criminal issues of concern
- Criminal organisations and networks
- Illegal immigration and human trafficking
- Diminished law and order

# GLOBAL SECURITY RISKS

## Key Findings

- The main weapon for enemies will be asymmetric warfare including terrorism.
- The most immediate threats to security in 21st century will come from weak, failing and rogue states, safe heaven for terrorist and criminal organisations.
- Terrorism will continue to be a major risk to global security.
- The impact of technological advances will provide to terrorists with new capabilities; more decentralized organization and more lethal acts.
- Continuing diffusion of existing technology and knowledge will allow proliferation of WMD and their means of delivery.
- Trans-national criminal organisations will become increasingly adept at exploiting disorder expanding the scope of its activities from drugs trafficking to services to terrorists.
- Growing range of actors, including terrorist, will be able to achieve offensive INFO OPS and computer network capabilities.

# GLOBAL SECURITY CONCERNS

- Physical trends
- Social trends
- Economic trends
- Legal trends
- Military domain

# GLOBAL SECURITY CONCERNS

## Key Findings

- Climate change will have profound effects on the future global environment. Global warming threatens water and food production on vast areas of the world.
- New epidemics are likely to spread faster since linked to greater connectivity through global air travel.
- Energy will be a key driver of future global economy and energy security will become an essential issue and the driver in transformation from oil to new sustainable forms of energy.
- Immigration pressures could increase the risk of social disturbances.



# FUTURE CHALLENGES AND OPPORTUNITIES

- Science and technology trends
- Military domain
- Political trends
- Legal trends

# FUTURE CHALLENGES AND OPPORTUNITIES

## Key Findings

- The Future Security Environment will be revolutionised by the growing effect of multidisciplinary technology
- The revolution of information availability and utility will continue to affect the world
- Advances in Information Technology (IT) are affecting most segments of the world today, they will continue in the future and might lead to new threats
- State military forces are likely to have an increased role in engaging terrorism
- The will and capability for armed Non-State Actors to seek strategic effect and to act internationally will continue to increase, particularly through international terrorism.

# FUTURE CHALLENGES AND OPPORTUNITIES

## Key finding (cont.)

- Terrorism is likely to become more widespread, extreme, international and autonomous.
- Advances in military technology are likely to lead to wider development and employment of electromagnetic and blast effect weapons
- An important driver of change in military operations is likely to be the increasing dominance of unmanned capabilities
- Globalisation has enhanced the need for strengthening and increasing the effectiveness of the role of nation states, governments and the public sector.

Q & A