

Summary for CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Presentation by Mr Henrick Z. Tsjeng, Associate Research Fellow, Institute of Defence and Strategic Studies, S. Rajaratnam School of International Studies

Mr Henrick Tsjeng focused on three major NTS issues: counter-terrorism, cybersecurity, and humanitarian assistance and disaster relief. It will highlight how ASEAN governments should strengthen national organisational structures and laws to deal with radicalization, including developing long-term plans for the military and police to work. For cybersecurity, he highlighted how Singapore's Ministry of Defence is developing capabilities as part of a total national effort, and how Singapore has been building cooperation with regional countries. However, momentum for HADR cooperation appears to have slowed in recent times due partly to the affected ASEAN Member States making a greater effort to manage their situation. The presentation will highlight the lack of clear framework for national coordination centres, the need to promote a regional monitoring and coordination centre to be more effective in responding to regional disasters as proposed by NADI in previous meetings and workshops, and how technological advancements could be used to expedite HADR efforts.

In view of the above, Mr Tsjeng suggested the following recommendations for the consideration of the ADMM:

(1) On the growing terrorist threats in the region, the ADMM should cooperate closely with the Plus countries in the sharing of information and intelligence as well as to enhance the capabilities of the AMS so that they would be able to as to respond more effectively to the terrorist threats. AMS should also develop longer term plans for the military and police to work together.

(2) On HADR, each ASEAN country could enhance its current focal point into a national coordination centre that will include the military, civilian disaster response agency and other related organisations. ASEAN and ADMM could continue to study the possibility of establishing a "Regional Crisis Management and Response Centre" to coordinate HADR efforts with the proposed national coordination centres. In addition to existing centres such as the AHA Centre, ACMM and AMRG, the RHCC and the IFC could be part of the regional coordinating efforts to develop better and more effective regional level responses to national disasters and crises in the region. AMS should also consider using technological advancements to expedite HADR efforts.

(3) ASEAN could promote national and regional capacity building in the cybersecurity sectors and closer cooperation among the ASEAN countries. The Singapore International Cyber Week (SICW)

and the ADMM-Plus Experts' Working Group on Cybersecurity will be useful platforms for further networking and the enhancing of cooperation in the ICT sectors among regional countries and with the ASEAN Dialogue Partners to promote a safer digital domain. An ASEAN-wide cybersecurity training centre should be established. AMS should also strengthen governance of the cyber and digital domains and start to develop cyber norms and rules.