



# ASEAN DEFENCE MINISTERS' MEETING

11 July 2008

The establishment of the ASEAN Defence Ministers' Meeting (ADMM) in Kuala Lumpur in 2006 represents a significant milestone in the evolution of ASEAN. Coming nearly forty years since ASEAN's inception, the ADMM is a formal forum where defence ministers gather to discuss current defence and security issues thus enhancing cooperation between ASEAN Member States. This further facilitates the promotion of regional peace and stability.

The ADMM also aims to promote mutual trust and confidence through greater understanding of defence and security challenges as well as enhancement of transparency and openness.

The ADMM would have a pivotal role in realising the ASEAN Political Security Community, a key pillar of the ASEAN Community, and establish a regional security architecture that is both resilient and effective.

The activities under the ADMM are guided by the 3-year Work Programme (2008-2010) which was adopted at the 2<sup>nd</sup> ADMM held in Singapore in November 2007. The major thrusts of the Work Programme are:

- Promoting Regional Defence and Security Cooperation by promoting understanding of defence and security policies, structures, systems and developments. This would also involve building upon existing and future defence and military interaction and cooperation.
- The Shaping and Sharing of Norms through supporting the development and adoption of norms that promote regional peace and security. Promoting the development of norms that enhance ASEAN defence and security cooperation is also outlined.
- Conflict Prevention by promoting mutual trust and confidence through greater understanding of defence and security issues and challenges as well as strengthening confidence-building measures.
- Conflict Resolution through promoting the development of mechanisms for the peaceful settlement of disputes and developing regional cooperation for maintenance of peace and stability.

- Post-conflict Peace Building by strengthening rendition of humanitarian assistance in conflict areas.

In the implementation of the Work Programme, the ADMM will be assisted by the ASEAN Defence Senior Officials' Meeting (ADSOM) and where necessary, by Working Groups on selected issues. Alongside the Work Programme, military cooperation between ASEAN Member States will continue to be strengthened through activities such as seminars and workshops on a voluntary basis.

The 2<sup>nd</sup> ADMM also adopted the ADMM-Plus Concept Paper which lays down the groundwork to engage ASEAN friends and Dialogue Partners in dialogue and cooperation on defence and security matters. The Protocol to the Concept Paper for the Establishment of the ADMM, which provides for the institutional framework and procedures of the ADMM, was also adopted at the 2<sup>nd</sup> ADMM. -

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# FACT SHEET

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