CONCEPT PAPER ON ENHANCING THE LINKAGES BETWEEN THE ASEAN DEFENCE MINISTERS’ MEETING (ADMM) AND THE NETWORK OF ASEAN DEFENCE AND SECURITY INSTITUTIONS (NADI)

Introduction

1. As the highest defence consultative and cooperative mechanism in the ASEAN, the ASEAN Defence Ministers’ Meeting (ADMM) promotes mutual trust and confidence among ASEAN Member States and dialogue partners through the enhancement of transparency and openness in understanding and addressing defence and security challenges. Ideas and perspectives from the Track II could further enhance the ADMM’s contribution in the establishment of an ASEAN Political Security Community.

2. The Network of ASEAN Defence and Security Institutions (NADI) was established as a policy think tank group to support the ADMM. Through the years, NADI, through its activities, has generated ideas and perspectives on regional security. These could serve as useful inputs for the ADMM.

3. In order to harness the fullest potential of NADI as a policy think tank group, it is imperative to enhance linkages between the ADMM and NADI in such a way that the policy recommendations generated at the Track II level are considered by the ADMM.

Purpose and Objectives

4. **Purpose.** The purpose of this concept paper is to provide a framework for enhancing linkages between the ADMM and NADI.

5. **Objectives:**

   5.1 Promote engagement between the support mechanisms of the ADMM, specifically the ASEAN Defence Senior Officials’ Meeting (ADSOM) and ADSOM Working Group (WG), through regular interactions;
5.2 Improve existing channels of communication between the ADMM and NADI; and

5.3 Institutionalize the consideration of NADI inputs.

Modalities

6. On ASEAN consensus, the ADSOM WG Chair shall invite the NADI Chair to have an informal meeting or special session with the ADSOM WG.

7. The special session could discuss NADI Chair reports on NADI’s previous year’s activities and where policy recommendations made by NADI could be reviewed.

8. The ADSOM WG Chair is encouraged to collaborate with the NADI Chair through consultative meetings to update each other on the security issues and concerns, calendar of activities and other matters of mutual concern.

9. The ADMM, through ADSOM and ADSOM WG, shall encourage NADI to undertake policy research of current and future ADMM-identified areas of cooperation which may serve as topics for NADI activities.

10. When invited by the NADI Chair, the ADSOM WG Chair shall consider participating in NADI Meetings, specifically the NADI Annual Meetings, NADI Retreat and NADI-organized workshops.

11. The ADMM shall welcome the conduct of back-to-back meetings between NADI and the ADSOM WG when feasible and as agreed upon by the ADSOM WG Chair and the NADI Chair.

12. The ADMM and its support structures shall endeavor to share information maintained in their respective databanks, if available.

Conclusion

13. The Concept Paper on Enhancing the Linkages between the ADMM manifest the goal to promote regional peace, stability, and development through
dialogue and cooperation. It provides an opportunity to enrich Track I policy discourses with insights, perspectives, and recommendations from ASEAN defence and security think tanks and research institutions. Ultimately, the enhancement of linkages between the ADMM and NADI will bolster the efforts to mutual trust and building confidence in understanding and addressing a wide range of defence and security issues affecting the region.