

ESTABLISHMENT OF LOGISTICS SUPPORT FRAMEWORK

- CONCEPT PAPER -

Introduction

1. ASEAN regional cooperation in defence and military has flourished over the years and cooperation in logistics, in particular through a Logistics Support Framework, would contribute to enhance coordination and cooperation in upholding and defending peace, security and stability.
2. This will help enhance ASEAN's capacity, develop further capabilities, strengthen interoperability and thus, contribute to operational effectiveness and efficiency in ASEAN militaries in addressing non-traditional security challenges.
3. This proposed Framework shall guide existing and future cooperation in non-traditional security challenges to include but not limited to Humanitarian Assistance and Disaster Relief (HADR), Search and Rescue (SAR), Peacekeeping Operations (PKO) and anti-piracy.
4. The proposal to establish the framework is drawn from the aspirations of several ASEAN documents such as:
 - 4.1 The Joint Declaration of ASEAN Defence Ministers on Strengthening ASEAN Defence Establishments to Meet the Challenges of Non-Traditional Security Threats adopted in Pattaya, Chonburi, Thailand on 26 February 2009 supports the establishment of more links and coordination mechanisms between the ASEAN Member States to enable efficient and faster delivery of aid in times of emergency.
 - 4.2 The Concept Paper on the Use of ASEAN Military Assets and Capacities in Humanitarian Assistance and Disaster Relief adopted at the Third ADMM, in Pattaya, Chonburi on 26 February 2009 sets to accelerate the ASEAN militaries' operational effectiveness in the said issue.
 - 4.3 The ADMM Three-Year Work Program of 2011 – 2013 adopted at the Fifth ADMM in Jakarta, Indonesia on 19 May 2011 stipulates the development of coordination mechanisms for military participation and enhance practical cooperation to improve cooperation in defence and security.
 - 4.4 The Ha Noi Joint Declaration on the First ASEAN Defence Ministers' Meeting-Plus adopted in Hanoi, Viet Nam on 12 October 2010 welcomes the strengthening of regional defence and security cooperation through the conduct of concrete and practical cooperation to address defence and security issues of

mutual interests, with a view to building capacity, developing expertise and enhancing coordination in areas that can contribute to regional peace and security.

- 4.5 The Joint Statement of the Eighth ASEAN Chiefs of Defence Forces Informal Meeting (ACDFIM) adopted in Jakarta on 31 March 2011 encourages the strengthening of cooperation amongst ASEAN militaries through practical and concrete cooperative activities, with a view to enhancing ASEAN's capacity to address transnational security challenges, including disaster relief.

Purpose and Objectives

5. **Purpose.** The Logistics Support Framework is aimed at promoting and achieving effective cooperation among ASEAN defence and military establishments in areas of common interests.
6. **Objectives.** It will have the following objectives:
 - 6.1 To promote and enhance operational effectiveness and efficiency through smooth logistical processes conducted at the regional level;
 - 6.2 To support training and exercises with the view to promote interoperability among ASEAN militaries;
 - 6.3 To establish close liaison among member states to ensure a rapid flow of information for effective and timely response;
 - 6.4 To further encourage and enhance sharing of relevant information on logistics support that may contribute for more effective response; and
 - 6.5 To complement existing mechanisms and institutions such as the ASEAN Agreement on Disaster Management and Emergency Response (AADMER) and ASEAN Coordination Centre for Humanitarian Assistance on disaster management (AHA), and engender a multiplier effect on present initiatives.

Scope and Form of Activities

7. The Logistics Support Framework may cover items that support cooperative operations and exercises such as fuel, food, water and also waste management. It does not cover strategic items such as weapon systems, major end use items of equipment and spares that are prohibited by national laws and regulations.

8. The form of activities may be through meetings/workshops that could entail discussions of the following:
 - 8.1 Introduce to and familiarize relevant bodies with the principles underlying the Framework;
 - 8.2 Information sharing on national priorities and existing logistics resources arrangements and infrastructures;
 - 8.3 Establish Points of Contact (POC) that link designated logistics centres among ASEAN Member States;
 - 8.4 Conduct Table-Top Exercises (TTX) to validate the Framework; and
 - 8.5 Utilise the Framework to guide future Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) and help facilitate military operations.

Participation

9. Participation in the logistics support framework initiatives, including but not limited to specific projects, initiatives or proposals shall be voluntary and non-binding. Participation shall take into account ASEAN Member States' capacities and shall also be consistent with the rights and obligations of ASEAN Member States under any existing agreements to which they are parties.

Review and Report

10. Authorized bodies of respective member states shall meet periodically at agreed locations to review the Framework's guidelines and activities that adopt it.
11. The outcome of the meetings shall be duly reported to and assessed by the ASEAN Defence Ministers' Meeting (ADMM) through the ASEAN Defence Senior Officials' Meeting (ADSOM) and ASEAN Defence Senior Officials' Meeting Working Group (ADSOM WG).

Conclusion

12. The Concept Paper on the Establishment of Logistics Support Framework seeks to further strengthen regional cooperation in addressing non-traditional security challenges and contribute to regional peace, security and stability by enhancing coordination and interoperability.