

ADMM/ ADMM Plus As Cbm Through Non-Traditional Issues (ASEAN)

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Abstract

The ADMM/ADMM Plus is the highest defense consultative and cooperative mechanism in ASEAN. Its primary aim is to promote mutual trust and confidence among participating countries by facilitating a greater understanding of defense and security challenges, as well as enhancing transparency and openness. These initiatives have fostered a conducive atmosphere for military, economic, and socio-cultural cooperation among ASEAN countries. In recent years, non-traditional security issues such as natural disasters, transnational crimes, and pandemics have posed significant challenges to the welfare of ASEAN peoples. This paper examines the ADMM/ADMM Plus as a Confidence-Building Measures through Non-Traditional Issues (ASEAN) using a qualitative approach. The qualitative research methodology allowed for a deep exploration of perceptions of participants in the ADMM/ADMM Plus initiatives, providing valuable insights into the effectiveness of these initiatives in promoting cooperation and addressing non-traditional security challenges. As a result of this research, despite the challenges involved, the ADMM/ADMM Plus has proven to be a highly effective platform for practical cooperation among participating countries' defense establishments. It provides a common ground to further enhance collaboration and associations, and offers a way forward to improving defense relations by implying CBMs. Through the ADMM/ADMM Plus initiatives, a conducive atmosphere for military, economic, and socio-cultural cooperation among ASEAN countries has been promoted, particularly in addressing non-traditional security issues. In conclusion, the ADMM/ADMM Plus has demonstrated its effectiveness in promoting cooperation among ASEAN countries' defense establishments, and in addressing non-traditional security challenges, as revealed through the insights gathered from this qualitative study.

Keywords: ADMM/ADMM-Plus, ASEAN, Non-Traditional Issues

INTRODUCTION

The Association of Southeast Asian Nations, or ASEAN, was established on 8 August 1967 in Bangkok, Thailand, with the signing of the ASEAN Declaration (Bangkok Declaration) by the Founding Fathers of ASEAN, namely Indonesia, Malaysia, Philippines, Singapore, and Thailand. Lately, they were joined by Brunei Darussalam, Viet Nam, Lao PDR, Myanmar, and Cambodia, forming up the ten Member States of ASEAN. The ASEAN Community is anchored on three community pillars: Political-Security Community, Economic Community, Socio-Cultural Community (Acharya, 2014).

The ASEAN Security Community (ASC) Plan of Action, was decided to the convening of an annual ASEAN Defense Ministers' Meeting. Against this background, the Inaugural meeting of the ADMM was held in Kuala Lumpur on 9 May 2006. The ADMM is the highest defense consultative and cooperative mechanism in ASEAN. The ADMM aims to promote mutual trust and confidence through a greater understanding of defense and security challenges as well as enhancement of transparency and openness (Caballero-Anthony, 2014).

The establishment of the ADMM in May 2006 enabled discussions of defense cooperation at the ASEAN level. The ADMM is the highest defense consultative and cooperative mechanism in ASEAN, that enabled discussions of defense cooperation at the ASEAN level. The Work programs of the ADMM have focused on the exchange of perspectives, improving and deepening mutual trust, a better understanding of each other's

defense and security policies, confidence building, practical cooperation including with the Plus countries, and establishing communication procedures among the defense and military establishments of the ASEAN countries (Lin, 2022).

The ADMM-initiated meetings of the chiefs of defense forces, chiefs of the three branches of the military, chiefs of intelligence, and exchange visits of defense colleges, have enhanced defense diplomacy, strengthened interpersonal relations and cooperation, and promoted a better understanding of each other's policies (Rosadi, 2017). These ADMM initiatives have promoted a conducive atmosphere for cooperation among the militaries of the ASEAN countries as well as for economic and socio-cultural cooperation.

However, military cooperation at the ASEAN level remains limited due to ASEAN countries' sensitivities and national sovereignty concerns, such as the differences in approaches to national defense and cooperation and the levels of defense development, equipment, and operational procedures.

The ADMM-Plus is a platform for ASEAN and its eight Dialogue Partners Australia, China, India, Japan, New Zealand, Republic of Korea, Russia, and the United States (collectively referred to as the "Plus Countries"), to strengthen security and defense cooperation for peace, stability, and development in the region. The Inaugural ADMM-Plus was convened in Ha Noi, Viet Nam, on 12 October 2010. Since 2017, the ADMM-Plus meets annually, to allow enhanced dialogue and cooperation among ASEAN and the Plus countries in the midst of an increasingly challenging regional security environment (Haryo Wahyudi, 2021).

Principles for Membership, adopted to the ADMM-Plus process, is as follows (Rosadi, 2017):

- The Plus country shall be a full-fledged Dialogue Partner of ASEAN
- The Plus country shall have significant interactions and relations with ASEAN defense establishment; and
- The Plus country shall be able to work with the ADMM to build capacity so as to enhance regional security in a substantive way in order to promote capacity-building in the region in the fields of defense and security.

The ADMM-Plus has become an effective platform for practical cooperation among the participating countries' defense establishments. The ADMM-Plus currently focuses on seven areas of practical cooperation, namely (Haryo Wahyudi, 2021):

- Maritime security (MS)
- Counter-terrorism (CT)
- Humanitarian assistance and disaster management (HADR)
- Peacekeeping operations (PKO)
- Military medicine (MM)
- Humanitarian mine action (HMA)
- Cyber security (CS). Experts Working Groups (EWGs) have been established to facilitate cooperation in these areas. The EWGs are each co-chaired by one ASEAN Member States and one Plus Country, following a three-year cycle.

The ADMM/ADMM-Plus has focused on non-traditional security issues and not traditional security issues. In recent years, non-traditional security issues have posed the greatest challenges to the ASEAN countries and the welfare of their peoples. These issues include natural disasters, earthquakes, tsunamis, transnational crimes, people smuggling, piracy, and pandemics among others (Pinatih, 2015).

The objectives of the ADMM-Plus, are (Pinatih, 2015):

- To benefit ASEAN Member States in building capacity to address shared security challenges, while cognizant of the differing capacities of various ASEAN Member States;
- To promote mutual trust and confidence between defense establishments through greater dialogue and transparency;
- To enhance regional peace and stability through cooperation in defense and security, in view of the transnational security challenges the region faces;
- To contribute to the realization of an ASEAN Security Community which, as stipulated in the Bali Concord II, embodies ASEAN's aspiration to achieve peace, stability, democracy, and prosperity in the region where the ASEAN Member States live at peace with one another and with the world at large;
- To facilitate the implementation of the Vientiane Action Program, which calls for ASEAN to build a peaceful, secure and prosperous ASEAN, and to adopt greater outward-looking external relation strategies with our friends and Dialogue Partners.

The ADMM has engaged in cooperation on non-traditional security issues but not on traditional security issues which could involve major power rivalry and could affect ADMM-Plus cooperation.

RESEARCH METHODS

The journal examines the ADMM/ADMM Plus as a Confidence-Building Measure (CBM) in addressing non-traditional security issues in the ASEAN region. The article employs a qualitative research approach and data was collected through a comprehensive review of literature from various sources such as books, articles, newspapers, and the internet. Qualitative research is a type of research that emphasizes understanding, interpretation, and discovery of meaning. It is often used in social sciences and is particularly useful in exploring complex phenomena, such as social interactions, behaviors, and attitudes. Qualitative research involves collecting data through various methods, including interviews, observations, and literature review, and analyzing them using a set of rigorous and systematic procedures. (Barrett & Twycross, 2018).

The use of literature review in qualitative research is a widely accepted practice as it enables the researchers to examine the existing body of knowledge on a particular topic and identify gaps in the literature. The data collected through literature review are analyzed using relevant theories and concepts to gain insights and deepen the understanding of the phenomenon being studied (Fadli, 2021). The use of a qualitative research approach in this journal provides a rich and nuanced analysis of the ADMM/ADMM Plus as a CBM through Non-Traditional Issues (ASEAN), contributing to the body of knowledge on the topic.

RESULT AND DISCUSSION

Non-Traditional Issue Before And Nowadays

The shift in regional security issues that has occurred is the security faced by Southeast Asia, for example by the existence of various kinds of conflicts originating from territorial claims, trade routes by sea, and security of sea communication lines, to non-traditional security issues such as terrorism, piracy, and piracy at sea, arms smuggling, illegal migration, and illegal fishing (Amijaya, 2018).

One of the phenomena that occur in the Southeast Asian region or region, namely as an area that has a strategic geographical location, changes in the pattern of interaction between countries and with countries outside the region or region are very dynamic, especially in the security order. The extension of this security concept has given rise to non-traditional security which shows the greater the threat that will arise. Threats that arise that will be faced by a country are no longer only about nuclear threats, but also threats to social, cultural, and economic conditions (Zulkarnain, 2014).

The reality in Indonesia is that security issues and threats also include security issues, both traditional and non-traditional. However, the real problems faced by the Indonesian government on a daily basis are threats that are more non-traditional than traditional ones. These threats can consist of issues of terrorism, small arms smuggling, armed separatism, the sale of women and children, forest fires, piracy, money laundering, drugs trafficking (Michel & Passarelli, 2014).

The threat of terrorism in Southeast Asia is a serious problem that must be faced by countries in the ASEAN region, especially after the WTC incident on September 11, 2001. It must be admitted, modernization and globalization have influenced the nature of terrorism to become more complex and complicated. The space and opportunities possessed by terrorist groups to carry out their actions are getting wider. This makes the phenomenon of terrorism relatively difficult to predict in determining when and where terrorist groups will carry out their actions. The facts also show that at this time terrorism is difficult to separate from the development of transnational organized crime organizations in various forms and forms (Rahmat, 2020).

Characteristics of Non-Traditional Security Issues

- Nature of the Problem

It is multidimensional and also transnational. On environmental issues, for example in an increasingly uncertain climate change, it will have multiple effects, such as floods, droughts, the emergence of new disease viruses and also the extinction of several species on earth (Athiqah Nur Alami, 2015). With global phenomena such as community economic activities, transportation traffic, agriculture and other aspects directly and indirectly will also be affected.

- Actors Involved in the Four Non-Traditional Security Issues

The actors involved are not only state, but non-state as well. This can be seen clearly in one of the issues of international migration, especially in the context of migrant workers. Civil society is also involved in pushing for the implementation of the ASEAN Migrant Workers Declaration agreement which is very significant (Athiqah Nur Alami, 2015).

- Non-traditional security issues cannot be separated from the dynamics of the domestic and international environment.

In the issue of energy security, for example, it is strongly influenced by national interests as well as domestic and international conditions. The interests of the national economy and the demand for the domestic market are the impetus for each country to meet its needs both from domestic sources and exploration or importing energy from abroad (Athiqah Nur Alami, 2015).

- Non-traditional security issues have the same approach both at the national and international levels.

In the issue of international terrorism, for example, this multidimensional and transnational issue requires international cooperation, both at the bilateral, regional and multilateral levels (Athiqah Nur Alami, 2015).

- **Securitization**

Securitization began to be considered a threat to national security. Especially for Indonesia, the form of securitization can be seen clearly from the institutionalization process in response to the multidimensional characteristics of the issue. In environmental issues, for example, the complexity of environmental issues was responded to by the establishment of the National Council on Climate Change (DNPI) (Athiqah Nur Alami, 2015).

Previous Non-Traded Issues

This non-traditional security issue has been on the agenda of Indonesia's foreign policy since the last two decades. Why is that? This is based on the fact that it was influenced by the end of the Cold War and the growing strength of non-traditional security threats, whether transnational in nature, that endanger the lives of its citizens. These non-traditional security threats include issues regarding climate change and environmental damage, energy security, then international migration, as well as international terrorism. The end of the Cold War had consequences for security in Southeast Asia, in which the United States emerged as a hegemonic power that seeks to establish various security cooperations in the region or region, either as a step to penetrate the country in developing national interests and instilling its influence in Southeast Asia. This was greeted with the "war against terror" campaign in early 2001 which had an impact on the security policies of countries in Southeast Asia, which focused on efforts to eradicate terrorist activities which were allegedly moving a lot in Southeast Asia (Kurniasih & Umar, 2022). Terrorist activity in the Southeast Asian region is part of the global terrorist group Al-Qaeda which the United States is fighting with its allies. Indonesian, Malaysian,

Current Non-Traditionl Issues

Previously, the concept of security was limited to the military aspect, but now it has changed, experiencing an expansion of the category and targeting the non-military category which we usually call non-traditional security (NTS) or non-traditional security. The issues found in non-traditional security have a wider scope in different categories and sometimes have links with one another, for example threats to security regarding the environment, economy, food, energy, human, maritime, and others. other. Human, national, regional, and international security have a relationship as well as the impact these issues have (Probowisesa, 2015). Today, variations in security interactions by international actors as well as security issues develop, making the world's security interactions more complex.

Many sea lane interventions are carried out, so that it becomes a non-traditional security threat that is increasingly widespread, thus making Indonesia have a very large interest in the defense of its maritime territory. Indonesia's view has changed due to changing global environmental conditions, so this has influenced Indonesia's view of protecting its territory, especially its maritime security. Maritime security is an important aspect and a concern for Indonesia.

What Are Confidence-Building Measures?

According to Samina Yasmeen and Aabha Dixit (1995), CBMs may be defined as mutually agreed actions taken by states, or groups of states, that set processes in motion that

move parties from a condition of mutual hostility to one of reduced hostility or increased accommodation (Yasmeen & Dixit, 1995).

In line with the definition of Samina Yasmeen and Aabha Dixit before, Simon Mason and Matthias Siegfried (2013), explained that CBMs can be understood as a series of actions that are negotiated, agreed and implemented by the conflict parties to build confidence, without specifically focusing on the root causes of the conflict (Mason & Siegfried, 2013).

From these two definitions, CBMs can simply be interpreted as efforts to build mutual trust between countries at the unilateral, bilateral, and multilateral levels which are carried out before, during, and after conflict with the main objective of reducing tensions, misperceptions, and uncertainty between the conflict parties.

4 (Four) Major categories of CBMS (DESJARDINS 1996 : 5):

- Exchanging information & increasing communication between parties
- Exchanging observers & conducting inspections
- Establishing “rules of the road” for certain military operations
- Applying restraints on the operation & readiness of military forces

Development of CBMS in ASEAN

CBM was first introduced at the First Meeting of the ASEAN Regional Forum (ARF) which was held in Bangkok in July 1994 (Mason & Siegfried, 2013). CBMs in terms of ARF are pursued by strengthening strategic partnerships between countries in the Asia Pacific, which include military transparency, exchange of intelligence information, crisis management procedures, formation of peacekeepers, and maritime security units to protect regional waters.

In subsequent developments, CBMs have become one of the three main instruments for conflict resolution in ARF, the other two main instruments are preventive diplomacy and conflict resolution.

Some examples of CBMs being carried out in resolving inter-ASEAN and intra-ASEAN conflicts are (Pinatih, 2015):

- CBMs became a tool for resolving the Thailand-Malaysia conflict through the establishment of the Malaysia-Thailand Annual Consultation in 2008.
- CBM is also carried out in efforts to resolve the South China Sea conflict which involves the Philippines and Vietnam.
- There have been two CBMs in resolving the South China Sea conflict, those are, through the ASEAN Summit 4 November 2002 which resulted in a Declaration on the Conduct of Parties in the South China Sea, and the ASEAN Regional Forum Meeting in 2012 which resulted in the Six-Point Principles on the South China Sea.

In line with regional dynamics, sending a delegation of the minister of defense to the ARF Meetings is one of the fixed agendas in the Meetings of the ARF Inter-sessional Support Group on Confidence Building Measures. This action plan also led to the establishment of the ADMM.

ADMM /ADMM-Plus Challenges

Firstly, is the challenge of ensuring synergy between the ADMM and the ADMM-Plus. While the ADMM serves as the core of the ADMM-Plus, there is a need to ensure that the activities are done within the ADMM and the ADMM-Plus complement each other. Ideally, the ADMM and the ADMM-Plus should have the same set of initiatives, only that the ADMM-Plus has more states involved. Unfortunately, this is not the case. A look at the current list of

initiatives in the ADMM and the ADMM-Plus indicates that each of these platforms has different sets of initiatives.

Secondly, there is the challenge of ensuring that beyond serving as security dialogue mechanisms and promoting practical cooperation, both the ADMM and the ADMM-Plus can create synergy with other regional fora such as the ARF. The two defense mechanisms should also be able to feed inputs into the ASEAN Summit and the East Asia Summit (EAS), the leaders' fora that mirror the memberships of the ADMM and the ADMM-Plus respectively. Both the ADMM and the ADMM-Plus have great potential in being key regional defense and security cooperative mechanisms. For these mechanisms to be optimally utilized, however, challenges need to be addressed.

Thirdly, the strategic challenge facing the ADMM and the ADMM Plus platforms is the dynamics in the geopolitical environment of the region itself—the emerging power shifts in the Asia Pacific. The rise of China has ushered in a period of a grand chessboard game with the United States—the status quo power—for dominance in the Asia Pacific region. This power transition, in turn, has added a great power rivalry dimension to the key geostrategic hotspots in the region, one of which is the South China Sea (SCS). In a nutshell, the emerging power shifts in the Asia Pacific, as manifested in the SCS disputes, challenge ASEAN Centrality and thus ASEAN and ASEAN-led platforms such as the ADMM and the ADMM Plus.

ADMM/ADMM-Plus Disadvantages

Firstly, is Military cooperation at the ASEAN level remains limited. Military cooperation at the ASEAN level remains limited due to ASEAN countries' sensitivities and national sovereignty concerns such as the differences in approaches to national defense and cooperation, as well as in the levels of defense development, equipment, and operational procedures. Hence, political and defense diplomacies are necessary to manage cooperation and good relations among the ASEAN countries. ASEAN-level defense cooperation will continue to progress very gradually due to diversity in national ideologies, concerns and outlooks of the militaries of the ASEAN countries, and the differences in the levels of development. Due to the diversity of member states, ASEAN will never be like the European Union where the organizational structures and policies naturally are supranational.

Secondly is there is no implementation of ASEAN Defense Industry Collaboration. Another idea in the ADMM which is still awaiting concrete realization is the ASEAN Defense Industry Collaboration (ADIC). Four workshops have already been convened to develop the framework for the implementation of the ADIC. Now, it is time for action. Like in Europe, despite the competition, they also formed regional organizations such as NATO in which they share technology. This cooperation within the defense industry can be implemented in Southeast Asia within ASEAN Nations to potentially increase the combined defense industry capability.

The deficiency of functional cooperation initiatives to spill over traditional security concerns. While the two platforms appear to have made progress on such non-traditional security issues, there has yet to be a clear and definitive indication that the ASEAN and its dialogue partners have moved towards cooperation on more contentious geopolitical issues. As noted earlier, the ADMM and ADMM-Plus pronouncements have not even mentioned major security developments in the SCS, let alone specific policy initiatives that would at least manage tensions in the maritime heartland of the region. Anarchy is the ordering principle of the international system, therefore if a state is faced with a scenario in which it has to choose between its interest, on the one hand, and international interest, on the other, the former will prevail.

How Far Has ADMM/ADMM Plus as CBM Has Been Realized Through Non-Traditional Issues?

Practically, the period in which ADMM framework emerged was punctuated by a number of high profile non-traditional security challenges, including 2002 and 2003 terrorists attacks in Indonesia, the 2004 Indian Ocean tsunami, the 2013 Super Typhoon Haiyan, other natural disasters, and an uptick in piracy attacks in the early 2000s in the area of the Malacca Strait. Maritime tensions associated with China's activity in the South China Sea have also heightened interest in security framework.

Which is why with ADMM Plus as a platform has a role to build CBMs based on a sense of trust and openness between the participants to focus on non-traditional security issues. ADMM Plus as CBM has been able to facilitate dialogue and consultation, exchange of strategic information, limit defense capabilities, declaration of strategic cooperation, military visitations & exchanges, and military education. Particularly, ADMM Plus has done well in engaging the dialogue partners.

CBMs among nations is a long process. Through joint efforts by participants of the ADMM-Plus, various partnerships have been gradually formed and mutual trust has been deepened.

The ADMM has come a long way since its inaugural meeting in 2006. Its major achievements include deepening networking and confidence building among the defense and military establishments of ASEAN countries, avoiding politicization of its cooperation and engaging the ASEAN dialogue partners or the Plus countries in practical and functional cooperation, particularly in humanitarian assistance and disaster relief (HADR).

In the realization of ADMM plus as CBM, the ADMM and ADMM Plus has some achievements, as achieved from the ADMM Plus participants that conduct 7 areas of practical cooperation, such as:

- a. Experts' Working Group
- b. Tabletop exercise
- c. HADR/Military medicine exercise conducted in Brunei in June 2013
- d. Maritime and Counter-Terrorism exercise in 2016
- e. Maritime Security Field Training Exercise
- f. Workshop on Counter-Piracy Operations
- g. Establishment of ASEAN Military Medicine Coordination Centre (AMMCC), Etc.

Both the 2013 ADMM Plus HADR/Military Medicine Exercise and the 2016 ADMM Plus Maritime and Counter-Terrorism Exercise are still the largest ADMM Plus exercises to date (Maulidati, 2020). And although the ADMM has made progress to reach a consensus on security and defense issues in the region with the cooperative platform, it is not without its challenges.

- a. Inconsistencies. ADMM-Plus has recently faced inconsistencies in its institutional capacity, which means that the agenda and achievements of ADMM-Plus will vary from year to year, depending on the capacity or capability and leadership of the country holding the position of the Chair of ADMM Plus. As a result, there is a need to narrow the capability gap among countries in the region to ensure that ADMM Plus performance is relatively consistent from year to year.
- b. Second, military cooperation remains limited due to the ASEAN countries' sensitivities and national sovereignty concerns such as the differences in approaches to defense and cooperation, as well as in the levels of defense development, equipment and operational procedures. Hence, political and defense diplomacies are necessary to manage cooperation and good relations among ASEAN countries.

- c. Scope of ADMM/ADMM Plus cooperation overlaps with other forums such as the ARF and East Asia Summit. This proliferation of engagements runs the risk of both confusion about the roles and scopes of various defense-related forums and inefficient allocation of resources by participants as all frameworks work toward their respective goals.

ADMM Plus Participation as Part of Indonesia's CBM

ADMM Plus is a platform to build CBMs, because basically it is stated that ADMM Plus has the objectives where it aims to (Rosadi, 2017):

“To promote mutual trust and confidence between defense establishments through greater dialogue and transparency.”

So taken into account with Indonesia's CBM, Indonesia being a participant of ADMM plus is sufficient to develop confidence, friendly relations, trust and understanding of defence and security challenges with ADMM-Plus participants, which also creates transparency in the development of military capabilities. Thus, existing defense cooperation creates defense modernization and promotes defense stability in the region.

Ongoing Issue or Discussion in ADMM/ADMM Plus

Three cycle year of ADMM/ADMM cooperation

As the achievement of the ADMM made the cooperation in practical on defense sector had rapidly developed by the inception which cover areas such as the maritime security, counter-terrorism, peacekeeping operations, humanitarian assistance and disaster relief, military medicine, and defense industry. In line with that, the ADMM-Plus has become an effective platform to support the ADMM on the practical cooperation among the participating countries' defense establishments.

The ADMM-Plus currently focuses on seven areas of practical cooperation, namely maritime security (MS), counter-terrorism (CT), humanitarian assistance and disaster management (HADR), peacekeeping operations (PKO), military medicine (MM), humanitarian mine action (HMA) and cyber security (CS). However, we have to be aware here that the ADM or ADMM+ is not an organization, it is just cooperation to strengthen one other in a form of a meeting or dialogue partner to implement the confidence-building measures (CBMs) because the organization is the ASEAN itself. By this point, most of the activity of the ADMM or ADMM+ was done through the cooperation frameworks is by the field training or exercise. Moreover, it can also shape a way of dialogue in expert working groups. Whereby this, the ADMM or ADMM+ experts Working Groups (EWGs) have been established to facilitate cooperation in these areas.

The EWGs are each co-chaired by one ASEAN Member States and one Plus Country whose rotation has been set, here is the following three-year cycle:

- In the 2011-2013 cycle, there were five EWGs, namely on MS, CT, HADR, PKO, and MM. During this cycle three Field Training Exercises (FTXs) were conducted namely: (i) ADMM-Plus MS FTX; (ii) ADMM-Plus HADR/MM Exercise and (iii) ADMM-Plus CT Exercise;
- In the 2014-2017 cycle, the areas of cooperation were expanded, to include the EWG on Humanitarian Mine Action. This cycle saw the conduct of three joint FTXs, namely: (i) ADMM-Plus MS/CT Exercise; (ii) ADMM-Plus MM/HADR Exercise (AMHex); and (iii) ADMM-Plus HMA/PKO FTX (Exercise Force 18). The Standard Operating Procedures on

Multinational Coordination Centre, adopted by the 11th ADMM in 2017 was developed during this cycle;

- In the 2017-2020 cycle, the areas of cooperation were further expanded, with another EWG established in the area of cyber security. This cycle saw the conduct of five FTXs namely: ADMM-Plus MS FTX; (ii) ADMM-Plus MM FTX (Medex 2019); (iii) ADMM-Plus CT FTX; (iv) ADMM-Plus PKO FTX; and (v) ADMM-Plus HMA FTX. In addition, the EWG on HADR staged a staff exercise/communications exercise, while the EWG on CS organized a tabletop exercise. Other major deliverables of the cycle are the launching of the Handbook on Military Medicine and the establishment of the ADMM-Plus EWG on CS portal.

From that point, we may also concern why there is no period of 2021/2022 years while it's already the time. The answer for that is since the pandemic happened in 2020, some of the project or event in this cycle hasn't been going yet or haven't been done perfectly. Therefore, the ASEAN countries and the partner countries through the framework of ADMM or ADMM+ are still working together to take the action to the unfinished agenda and planning to continue the cycle.

Initiatives

In line with the aim of ADMM to promote mutual trust and confidence through greater understanding of defense and security challenges as well as enhancement of transparency and openness. Here some achievement of ADMM in promoting confidence-building measures through the initiatives under the ADMM/ADMM Plus;

1. Logistics Support Framework (Brunei Darussalam)
2. Interaction Program (Brunei Darussalam)
3. Direct Communication Infrastructure in the ADMM Process (Brunei Darussalam)
4. Our Eyes (Indonesia)
5. Defense Industry Collaboration (Indonesia)
6. Peacekeeping Centre Network (Malaysia)
7. Militaries Ready Group on Humanitarian Assistance and Disaster Relief (Malaysia)
8. Military Medicine Conference (Myanmar)
9. Guidelines for Maritime Interaction (The Philippines)
10. Wide Training and Education Exchanges (The Philippines)
11. Network of the Chemical, Biological and Radiological Defense Experts (Singapore)
12. Guidelines for Air Military Encounters (Singapore)
13. Establishments and Civil Society Organizations Cooperation on Non-Traditional Security (Thailand)
14. Center of Military Medicine (Thailand)
15. Supporting Border Management (Thailand)

From that initiatives and in line with the non-traditional issue for the big theme of the discussion, ADMM and ADMM+ had proved the implementation through the civil society organization (CSOs) which is aimed to shape regional and global policies through advocacy campaigns and mobilization of people and resources. Appropriate CSOs participation and involvement, in a value-added manner, have also contributed to the efficiency and effectiveness of the public sector's work and the betterment of people and society.

Current Event

6th Meeting of the Working Group on ASEAN Our Eyes

The “Our eyes” was Indonesia initiatives which form as a working group level for which also involving the intelligent. ‘Our Eyes’ is a collaborative program inspired by the 'Five Eyes' concept of the United States. This cooperation involves elements of military defense and the exchange of strategic information in order to strengthen regional security to face the threat of terrorism and radicalism. This 'Our Eyes' cooperation will certainly have a big positive impact on ASEAN regional stability and security. This strategic information exchange concept has a one-door mechanism, which is only conveyed between the Ministers of Defense of ASEAN member countries that have been discussed in the forum of ADMM. In line with the ADMM+, the country such as Australia and the United States as ASEAN partner countries even expressed their willingness to provide assistance if needed and offered to join.

ASEAN Defense Senior Officials Meetings (ADSOM):

This year ADMM within the cooperation on the ADSOM was led by Cambodia as 2022 chairman. The theme in this meeting is about the ADMM Solidarity for Harmonious Security. In this year, Cambodia and Singapore were drafting a common ASEAN vision on the role of member states in preventing Covid-19 and supporting post-pandemic recovery. This meeting is aimed to testament to the eagerness of member states to strengthen ASEAN defense cooperation for the common good. Within this meeting, the ADSOM also tried to conduct deliberate discussions which needed to broaden all forms of initiatives and reflect the actual need for practical cooperation to address the current and future challenges for ASEAN. Moreover, the ADSOM+ Working Group was followed by the ADSOMs Plus meeting.

ASEAN Defense Senior Officials Meetings Plus (ADSOM+)

This ADSOM+ is the continuation of the ADSOM which is also chaired by Cambodia as the following agenda to the ADSOM. In this meeting, the senior officials will also be given an insight into the reports and plans under the frameworks which have been decided through the ADSOM. Moreover, the ADMM+ Defense Ministers also add some points in this meeting which include the cooperation on humanitarian aid, disaster assistance, maritime security, military healthcare, anti-terrorism, peacekeeping mission, mine clearance, and cybersecurity. From this, we can see that the ADSOM or the ADSOM+ will fully reflect the issues of common concern in the region of ASEAN itself.

16th ADMM-Plus Experts' Working Group on Maritime Security

Following the joint communiqué of the ASEAN foreign ministers meeting in 2021, the ASEAN underlined that one of the most serious non-traditional security challenges is currently the COVID-19 pandemic, which requires international cooperation, especially from major countries with great scientific, technological, and resource potential. Therefore, within ADMM and the ADMM+ countries underscored the importance of maintaining and promoting peace, stability, prosperity, security, safety, and freedom of navigation and aviation as well as the necessity to further enhance mutual trust, exercise self-restraint, avoid actions that may further complicate the situation, and pursue measures to settle disputes in a peaceful and non-coercive manner in accordance with international law, including the UNCLOS 1982 within this, ADMM aimed to have a serious abide by the principles of addressing divergences through peaceful means on the basis of international law.

The Impact of ADMM/ADMM Plus

The ADMM /ADMM Plus has become an effective platform for practical cooperation among the participating countries' defense establishments. The ADMM/ADMM Plus provides an institutionalized framework for the member states to diversify and broaden their scope for military cooperation. This includes enhancing networks and building confidence among them. The ADMM/ADMM Plus is also able to avoid politicization and maintain the peace condition of regional defense cooperation. For example, in 2012 in the South China Sea dispute, the claimant states of SCS disputes wanted ASEAN to acknowledge perceived Chinese aggressiveness in the SCS, but Cambodia, as the chair, was disagreed and the Philippine President disagreed with the chair. The disagreement was extraordinary for ASEAN, but the ADMM seems to be able to maintain peace as both countries still work together and cooperate in the ADMM. The impact of this CBM is that each country believes in each other's good intentions though there is slightly a disagreement between them.

The same thing goes for Indonesia and Singapore's bad relations in 1965 when Indonesia's warships carried out the deadly bombing. This event did not influence the two countries' ADMM cooperation. Indonesia and Singapore continued to participate in ADMM meetings and exercises. This shows that the CBM in ADMM has been successful in maintaining trust between member countries, maintaining peace, stability in the Asia Pacific. This also shows the impact of CBM in ADMM is to exercise self-restraint to avoid the conflict into a bigger issue.

To enhance mutual trust and confidence between ADMM/ADMM plus also pushing closer interactions and contacts among member countries. In 2017, Singapore and Vietnam are proposing ADMM Plus to be annualized from 2017 onwards. This shows the political commitment to meet every year and ensure that discussions remain up-to-date. This will also foster regional defense diplomacy and security, though for the 10 ADMM members they already meet annually to enhance mutual trust and confidence where the ADMM Plus meets once every two or three years.

One of the most significant results of ADMM and ADMM Plus is the cooperation in humanitarian assistance and disaster relief. In June 2013 approximately 3200 personnel, seven ships, 15 helicopters, and military medical assets from 18 nations were involved in HADR and Military Medicine Exercise in Brunei Darussalam, the biggest and the first of its kind in the region. In the following years, at the 8th ADMM held in Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar (19-21 May) 2014, Brunei recommended the establishment of "a Direct Communication Link to keep the channel of communications open in the event of a crisis or emergency". The proposal was adopted by ADMM to provide a quick response in handling crisis and emergency situations.

ADMM/ADMM Plus Relation to Other Countries Outside ADMM/ADMM Plus in Terms of CBM

The agenda of ADMM-Plus, as well as the mechanism of the Association of Working Groups, also known as Experts' Working Groups (EWGs), which focuses on non-traditional special security fields, and the ASEAN Defense Senior Officials' have so far focused on increasing the formation of cooperation practice among regional countries to combat their transnational security challenges. On the other side, there is an issue with capacity gaps among member nations, which is generating an overstretching of scarce resources in numerous security-related procedures:

- ADMM-Plus roles drive the development of CBMs through cooperation. The military training between Indonesia and Brunei Darussalam is a concrete step in the implementation of the fifth ADMM-Plus meeting of joint military training cooperation between the

Republic of Indonesia and the Republic of Brunei Darussalam, which took place in the Republic of Indonesia in July 2014. This partnership began with a visit to the Indonesian Ministry of Defense in Jakarta by the Commander of the Armed Forces of the Kingdom of Brunei Darussalam, YDM Pehin Datu Pekerma Jaya Major General Dato Seri Pahlawan Mohd. Military training cooperation has resulted in major modernisation progress in Indonesia and Brunei Darussalam. This is an example of ADMM-role, Plus's in which the Indonesian state held a meeting in July 2014 to discuss cooperation in conducting joint military training with Brunei Darussalam following the sixth ADMM-Plus meeting, which resulted in the development of joint military training cooperation carried out by the two countries. The Indonesian defense equipment budget is a renewal of obsolete defense equipment utilized for the protection of the Indonesian state against future threats.

- In addition to military training, ADMM-Plus plays a role in fostering good relations among member nations through updating the defense equipment system. Modernization of the defense equipment system is a type of defense cooperation that is used to modify partner nations' military mindsets as well as to help partner countries' defense progress. ADMM-Plus plays a role in modernizing this defense system, which is utilized by Indonesia to purchase marine defense assets. The creation of the Electric Diesel Submarine (KSDE) DSME-209 (H.7713), one of the TNI's military equipment sanctioned by the Indonesian National Armed Forces, is one example. Indonesian President Joko Widodo and South Korea have agreed to spend the cash until 2024. This is due to ADMM-role Plus's in encouraging defense equipment modernization and growing the resources of each ADMM-Plus member countries.
- Cooperation in the field of Peacekeeping Operations (PKO) has grown significantly, including the development of the ASEAN Peacekeeping Centers Network (APCN), a forum for cooperation among ASEAN Member Countries' Peacekeeping Centers to share knowledge and capabilities. APCN has had five meetings to far, in Thailand in 2012, Indonesia in 2013, Cambodia in 2015, the Philippines in 2016, and Indonesia in 2017. a forum for exchanging information about activities in each CCP, as well as agreeing on the implementation of joint training and courses, such as Pre-deployment Training (PDT) in Indonesia in 2013, the UN Military Observer Course (UNMOC) in Thailand in 2014, and the Future Leaders Program (Exchange of Officers) in Indonesia in 2015.
- Aside from APCN, another PKO cooperation achievement is the implementation of the ADMM-Plus EWG Peace Keeping Operation / Humanitarian Mine Action Exercise or joint exercise with the theme of PKO and HMA in Pune, India, in January 2016. Another area of cooperation that is experiencing rapid progress is Humanitarian Assistance and Disaster Relief (HADR) (HADR). Various achievements have been made, including the establishment of the ASEAN Center of Military Medicine (ACMM) which is the center for coordinating the provision of military medical assistance in disaster management in the region; the adoption of the TOR from the ASEAN Militaries Ready Group (AMRG) on HADR and efforts for its full operationalization, as well as the implementation of the ADMM-Plus EWG Humanitarian Assistance and Disaster Relief / Military Medicine Joint Exercise (AM-Hex) activity in Chonburi, Thailand, in September 2016.
- The Maritime Security/Counter-Terrorism Exercise in Brunei Darussalam and Singapore in May 2016 is another area of Indonesia's primary priority in the ADMM/ADMM-Plus cooperation. Previously, Indonesia has previously sponsored the ADMM-Plus Counter-Terrorism Exercise at Sentul, Bogor in September 2013.
- In addition, the rapid advancement of Maritime Security (MS) cooperation was marked by the establishment of the ADMM Direct Communication Link (DCL), which is now the ASEAN Direct Communication Infrastructure/ADI, which is a hotline between ASEAN

Defense Ministers to respond to emergency situations that occur at sea, minimizing misinterpretation and escalation between countries.

CONCLUSION

The ADMM-Plus has become an effective platform for practical cooperation among the participating countries' defense establishments while focusing on multiple practical cooperation. There are also Experts Working Groups established to facilitate cooperation in these areas. It can be seen that through CBM which is implemented in the form of ADMM Plus, every country included in it can achieve their goals in maintaining defense and security both within their own countries through bilateral and multilateral/regional diplomatic agreements. From several collaborations that have taken place over the past 10 years, the cooperation between the ADMM Plus countries will be increasingly well established due to the dynamics of the current regional situation which can affect several elements of the defense of each country.

There are also certain challenges involved in such arrangement, including transparency, limited Military cooperation at the ASEAN level due to ASEAN countries' sensitivities and national sovereignty concerns, lack of implementation of ASEAN Defense Industry Collaboration, and the deficiency of functional cooperation initiatives to spill over traditional security concerns. But still, this platform provides a common ground to further enhance the collaboration and associations and provides a way forward to improving the defense relations by implying CBMs.

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