

# **The 6th Sub-committee of the Tokyo Defense Forum (TDF) Summary by the Chair**

**(Tokyo, 31 January 2007)**

## **1. Introduction**

The 6<sup>th</sup> Sub-committee of the Tokyo Defense Forum (Forum for Defense Authorities in the Asia-Pacific Region) was held in Tokyo from January 29<sup>th</sup> through 31<sup>st</sup> 2007, with the participation of twenty-one countries (Australia, Bangladesh, Kingdom of Cambodia, Canada, People's Republic of China, India, Republic of Indonesia, Japan, Malaysia, Mongolia, Union of Myanmar, New Zealand, Islamic Republic of Pakistan, Papua New Guinea, Republic of the Philippines, Republic of Korea, Russian Federation, Republic of Singapore, Kingdom of Thailand, Timor-Leste and the United States of America) and European Union.

The Sub-committee was chaired by Mr. Yukinari Hirose, Director of International Policy Planning Division, Defense Policy Bureau, Ministry of Defense, Japan.

The agenda of the Sub-committee was three-fold: “National Defense Policies” for Session I, “Instances of International Military Cooperation in Peace-Building” for Session II, and “Instances of Civil-Military Cooperation in Peace-Building” for Session III.

Mr. Kenjiro Monji, Director-General for International Affairs, Ministry of Defense, Japan, made opening remarks. In his speech, Mr. Monji pointed out that international military cooperation and civil-military cooperation are gaining significance in peace-building operations. He expected that the Sub-committee would identify essential factors and measures for the success of the cooperation in peace-building activities. He also explained the transition of Japan Defense Agency to Ministry of Defense and the upgrading of international peace cooperation activities to primary missions of Japan Self-Defense Forces.

## **2. Presentation by participants**

### **(1) National Defense Policies**

Kingdom of Cambodia, People's Republic of China, Japan, Union of Myanmar, Papua New Guinea, Republic of the Philippines, Russian Federation, Kingdom of Thailand and Timor-Leste made presentations on this topic.

Participants deepened their mutual understanding of their respective defense policies including posture of defense, defense reform and defense build-up in the recent Asia-Pacific regional security environment.

The Sub-committee shared the view that various activities including international operations for peace and stability in the region as well as national defense are significant missions for armed forces.

Some participants pointed out that the military today has to deal with new threats and diverse contingencies such as international terrorism, transnational crimes, proliferation of weapons of mass destruction, maritime security and natural disasters.

Some participants explained the role of the military in their own nation-building such as construction of infrastructure and medical support.

Some participants suggested that efforts for transparency through such means as publishing white papers should be promoted.

### **(2) Instances of International Military Cooperation in Peace-Building**

Canada, Republic of Indonesia, Japan, Malaysia, Mongolia and Republic of Singapore gave presentations on this topic.

The Sub-committee shared the experiences and lessons learned from past peace-building operations, focusing on military-military cooperation.

Participants shared the view that the military can play a significant role for peace-building. Some participants suggested that improvement of foreign language ability, including English, of members of armed forces should be promoted for smooth peace-building operations.

Some participants pointed out that sharing information on local situation and coordination of activities through liaison officers at headquarters of multinational forces and other places would be beneficial.

Some participants also noted that international military cooperation in the area of logistics such as transport, maintenance of equipment, meals, lodging, base support, communication and medical treatment is useful, for the ability of dispatched troops in foreign operations is limited.

Some participants explained that permission and support for the passage of other countries are indispensable for their international activities because of their geographic position.

The following efforts to foster military-military cooperation in peace-building were proposed by some participants;

- Joint training and exercises
- Establishment of training centers
- Development of doctrines including SOPs (Standard Operating Procedures) and guidelines.

### (3) Instances of Civil-Military Cooperation in Peace-Building

Australia, Bangladesh, India, New Zealand, Islamic Republic of Pakistan, Republic of Korea and European Union made presentations on this topic.

The Sub-committee shared the experiences of civil-military cooperation in peace-building activities including those in Afghanistan and Iraq.

Participants shared the view that military can contribute to various areas in peace-building such as restoration of infrastructure, medical treatment, vocational training and assistance of electoral process. Participants also shared view that cooperation and coordination with various civil actors including international organizations, NGOs and foreign ministries are indispensable in peace building operations.

Some participants noted that a good relationship with local leaders and citizens is significant for smooth peace-building activities and for the safety of members of armed forces. In this aspect, some participants also pointed out that it is important to have respect for local religion, culture and tradition, and familiarization with local religion, culture and tradition through pre-deployment training is necessary.

Some participants pointed out that the military can create a secure environment for peace-building activities and assist to conduct joint risk assessment of local areas before undertaking developmental work.

The following efforts to promote civil-military cooperation in peace-building were proposed by some participants;

- Joint training and exercises with participation of civil actors
- Pre-deployment training for civil-military cooperation
- Establishment of training centers
- Fora, workshops and seminars with participation of civil actors
- Familiarization with regulations and rules of international organizations

### **3. Closing Remarks**

Participants agreed that further discussions on efforts to promote international military cooperation and civil-military cooperation in peace-building are necessary. Participants look forward to the 12<sup>th</sup> Tokyo Defense Forum, which will be held in October 2007 in Tokyo to deepen discussions on peace-building.

Participants hoped that the discussion conducted in the sub-committee would contribute to the work being done within both multinational and individual efforts. It was agreed that the outcome of the sub-committee will be reported by the host country to the next ARF-ISG on CBM/PD, which will be held in March, 2007 in Helsinki, Finland and other ARF meetings.

Participants expressed their appreciation for the chair and the secretariat for organizing this sub-committee to deepen the understanding of the significance of international military cooperation and civil-military cooperation in peace-building activities.