



PRESS RELEASE

Department of National Defense – Republic of the Philippines

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Date Released: 17 July 2017

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Ph Hosts Cybersecurity Experts Conference

In line with the 50th Anniversary of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN), the Philippines is hosting the inaugural meeting of the Experts Working Group (EWG) for Cybersecurity of the ASEAN Defense Ministers Meeting (ADMM) - Plus on July 17-19, 2017 at the Hotel Crowne Plaza Manila Galleria.

The ADMM-Plus is a platform for ASEAN and its eight dialogue partners to strengthen security and defence cooperation for peace, stability, and development in the region. It includes ten ASEAN Member States, namely, Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, Indonesia, Lao PDR, Malaysia, Myanmar, the Philippines, Singapore, Thailand and Viet Nam, and eight Plus countries, namely Australia, China, India, Japan, New Zealand, ROK, Russian Federation and the United States.

The Department of National Defense, through its Management Information System Service headed by Dir. Jesus V. Lomeda, Jr. holds the Co-Chairmanship of the said EWG, together with Mr. Mike Thompson, Director (Asia) of the International Branch, Ministry of Defence of New Zealand. Meanwhile, Prof. Raymund Jose G. Quilop, DND Assistant Secretary for Assessments and International Affairs (OASAIA) is the Working Group Leader of the ASEAN Defense Senior Officials' Meeting (ADSOM) Plus.

The first leg of the inaugural meeting aims to establish confidence-building and rapport among ADMM-Plus countries by designating a Point-of-Contact (POC) for each member country. Expert delegates will be presenting their respective country's cyber security structure, concerns, and current focus to fellow member-countries.

In addition, the meeting will provide a venue for experts to examine the current state of existing cyber security policies and capabilities, enhance awareness on cyber security challenges, responsibilities of each nation and the international community to address such challenges, and how to leverage on the capabilities of each nation in addressing cyber security threats.

The group will also endeavor to encourage the ASEAN member statements and the international community to take a common stand and exert efforts for the protection of cyberspace, and develop appropriate mechanisms for cooperation among the defense and military establishments of ADMM Plus in addressing cyber security.

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