



PRESS RELEASE

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ASEAN Defense Ministers' Meeting (ADMM) Retreat



Defense Secretary Voltaire T. Gazmin joins his ASEAN counterparts during the ADMM Retreat on 28 August 2013 in Brunei Darussalam.

Together with other ASEAN defense ministers, Secretary Voltaire T. Gazmin attended the ADMM Retreat on 28 August 2013 in Brunei Darussalam. The Retreat is an informal meeting among the ministers that was intended to be a follow up to the 7th ADMM, which was held on 07 May 2013.

The ADMM Retreat facilitated discussions on the activities initiated by the ADMM for the year as well as important regional and international security issues, particularly on future ASEAN defense cooperation in anticipation of establishing the ASEAN Community by 2015. In addition, the Retreat also enabled the Ministers to review the ADMM-Plus

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process as part of the strategic efforts to engage major powers and ensure ASEAN centrality in promoting regional defense and security cooperation.

The Ministers explored initiatives that are intended to help reduce tensions and risks and manage potential conflict in the region. Such initiatives include proposals to establish a hotline platform, common lines and information sharing, and an agreement not to use force to address disputes.

After the Retreat, the ASEAN defense ministers had an informal meeting with US defense secretary Chuck Hagel to discuss regional security issues and ASEAN-US political security cooperation as well as compare security outlooks. Such an informal meeting has been regularly held between US and ASEAN defense ministers at the sidelines of the Retreat since 2011.

This year, the Retreat was held prior to the ADMM-Plus, which was held for the second time on 29 August 2013 since its establishment in 2010. The ADMM-Plus is a formal meeting among the defense ministers of ASEAN Member States and eight (8) Plus countries, including Australia, China, India, Japan, New Zealand, Republic of Korea, Russia, and the US. It was established to broaden defense and military cooperation between the ASEAN and its key external partners as well as pool together resources to deal with common security challenges. ###



Defense Secretary Voltaire T. Gazmin in the ADMM Retreat on 28 August 2013 in Brunei Darussalam.