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DPM Teo Attends ADMM Retreat in Thailand

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The ASEAN Defence Ministers at the ADMM Retreat where they had discussed security issues and the ADMM-Plus

Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Defence Teo Chee Hean is in Bangkok, Thailand, to attend the ASEAN Defence Ministers' Meeting (ADMM) Retreat from 2 to 4 November 09. During discussions held today, the ASEAN Defence Ministers exchanged views on regional security issues. They also made further progress on the ADMM's external engagement with non-ASEAN countries through the establishment of the ADMM-Plus.

As part of the ADMM programme, the ASEAN Defence Ministers made a joint call on Thailand's Prime Minister Abhisit Vejjajiva today. Mr Teo also held bilateral meetings on the sidelines of the ADMM with a number of defence ministers, including the Vietnamese Defence Minister GEN Phung Quang Thanh, Laotian Deputy Prime Minister/Minister of National Defense LG Douangchay Phichit, Cambodian Deputy Prime Minister/Minister of National Defence GEN Tea Banh, Bruneian Deputy Defence Minister Yasmin Umar, Indonesian Defence Minister Purnomo Yusgiantoro, Malaysian Defence Minister Ahmad Zahid Hamidi, Myanmar Deputy Defence Minister MG Aye Myint and Thai Defence Minister GEN Prawit Wongsuwon.

The ASEAN Defence Ministers had met in Pattaya in February this year for the third ADMM. The idea of the retreat was mooted during this meeting. The retreat allows the defence ministers to discuss issues of shared interest in particular the ADMM-Plus initiative, and enhance mutual trust and understanding. It is also an opportunity for the defence ministers to get to know one another better.

Mr Teo is accompanied by Permanent Secretary (Defence) Chiang Chie Foo and other MINDEF officials.

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