

Information Note¹

- Event:** 19th Asian Export Control Seminar
- Date and Location:** 7-9 February 2012, Tokyo, Japan
- Organizers or Sponsors:** The host Government of Japan, the European Union, and the Government of the United States, with the assistance of the Center for Information on Strategic Technology Controls (CISTEC)
- Participants:**
- States:* Australia, Bangladesh, Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, China, France, Germany, India, Indonesia, Japan, Lao PDR, Malaysia, Myanmar, Pakistan, Philippines, Republic of Korea, Singapore, Sri Lanka, Thailand, United Arab Emirates, United States, Viet Nam
- International Organizations:* Association of South East Asian Nations (ASEAN) Secretariat, European Union, 1540 Committee, UNSCR 1874 Panel, UNSCR 1929 Panel, World Customs Organization
- Others:* Hong Kong Special Administrative Region (HKSAR), Macao Special Administrative Region (MSAR), Chinese Taipei, Amokor Technology Korea, Canon, Inc., Center for Information on Strategic Technology Controls (CISTEC), Center for International Trade and Security (CITS), Korea Strategic Trade Institute (KOSTI)

1. **Objectives of the workshop**

- Share information on existing and best practices, emerging issues and standards, and possible next steps for export control practices and policies globally, but for Asian economies in particular
- Expand the network of expert level contacts in the region

2. **Background**

This seminar series annually attracts the largest number of expert-level export control officials of any event in the region. The 19th Asian Export Control Seminar brought together government and other officials from Asian countries and other regions to discuss trends in the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction, Asia's latest trends and challenges in export controls, challenges to effective licensing, enforcement and other elements of export controls, export controls by industries, transit and transshipment regulations, international cooperation, and similar topics. Japan, with CISTEC, has been one of the primary organizers of this seminar series since its inception.

¹ For information – not an official report. The views expressed here do not necessarily represent the view of the 1540 Committee nor of the organizers or participants in the workshop.

3. **Highlights**

Participants explored five major themes of the seminar, as well as conducting a visit to the facilities of Japanese Customs in Tokyo. The five major themes covered were: the current international situation; recent developments and challenges in export controls in Asia; the challenges for establishment and implementation of export control systems; three enforcement challenges (i.e., licensing, inspection, and customs activities); and strengthening non-proliferation efforts in Asia. Some key findings and conclusions of the seminar include:

- Several countries in the region have taken recently or plan to take in the near future steps to adopt effective export controls;
- The need to have inter-agency mechanisms for cooperation on licensing and enforcement;
- Several international activities, such as the implementation of the Bangkok Treaty and the formation of a single window system for ASEAN, are converging to foster the need for greater cooperation in the region; and
- States seek a better understanding of where to ask for and request assistance on export controls.

4. **Additional comments**

For further information, please contact the 1540 Committee experts by e-mail at 1540experts@un.org