

# **Myanmar-US Retired Military-to-Military Dialogue**

**February 24-25, 2017**

**Yangon, Myanmar**

## **Agenda**

### **Friday, Feb. 24, 2017**

**12:00 Opening Lunch**

**13:15 Registration**

**13:30 Welcome Remarks**

**13:45 Session 1: Perspectives on Political Dynamics**

This session will focus on recent political developments influencing US-Myanmar relations. The US presentation will address key factors shaping current policies toward Myanmar and the impact of the 2016 presidential election on US-Myanmar relations. The Myanmar presentation will address the status of the Myanmar peace process, the NLD foreign policy, and the current perceptions of the Myanmar-US relations. Specific focus should be given to the impact on military-to-military relationship.

Presenters:

US: Ralph Cossa

Myanmar: Ko Ko Hlaing

**15:15 Coffee Break**

**15:30 Session 2: Security Challenges in Southeast Asia**

This session will offer perspectives on the security challenges in Southeast Asia. Each side will outline the nature and sources of the major security challenges in the region, the preferred response to these challenges, and the prospect for enhanced bilateral or multilateral security cooperation in the region as part of the response process.

Presenters:

US: Bill Wise

Myanmar: Than Aye

**17:00 Session Adjourns**

**17:30 Dinner**

### **Saturday, Feb. 25, 2017**

**9:00 Session 3: Civil-Military Relations**

This session will offer perspectives on civil-military relations. Presentations will focus on the role of the military in and attitudes toward the military in the respective societies. The US presentation will specifically address the role of the National Guard and Reserves in

responding to civil emergencies in support of homeland security. The Myanmar presentation will explain the role of the Tatmadaw in the Myanmar peace process and the role of the military in responding to civil emergencies including counter-terrorism operations.

Presenters:

US: Jeff McCausland, Bob Lee

Myanmar: Ko Ko Maung

**10:15 Coffee Break**

**10:30 Session 4: Security Sector Reform**

This session will focus on security reform as a component of good governance. The US presenter will discuss US views on security sector reform (SSR) and explain the US government's Security Sector Reform (SSR) program, which establishes guidelines for planning and implementing reform efforts directed at effective, legitimate, transparent, and accountable security sector development in partner states. Myanmar will explain its efforts to reform its security sector institutions and explain the unique issues associated with security sector reform in Myanmar.

Presenters:

US: Carleton Cramer

Myanmar: Ko Ko Hlaing

**12:00 Lunch**

**13:30 Session 5: Building Confidence within US-Myanmar Relations**

This session will explore opportunities for improving US-Myanmar relations through increased cooperation in areas such as illicit trafficking, countering terrorism, and countering the proliferation of WMD and the means of delivery, including the implementation of United Nations Security Council Resolutions against the Democratic People's Republic of Korea (DPRK). Each presentation will outline opportunities for enhancing cooperation in these areas and expectations regarding these activities by highlighting key metrics for evaluating how this type of cooperation can build confidence and enhance mutual trust.

Presenter:

US: Carl Baker

**15:00 Coffee Break**

**15:15 Session 6: Enhancing Military-to-Military Relations**

This session will reflect on the role of military-to-military cooperation in building bilateral trust between US and Myanmar through bilateral and multilateral military cooperation. Each presentation will offer suggestions for increased military-to-military cooperation over the long term in areas such as peacekeeping, maritime security, military

medicine, and humanitarian assistance/disaster relief. Presenters will also focus on the challenges to increased cooperation in the near term. Presenters should address the major challenges to improving military-to-military relations, milestones to mark progress, and what both sides can do to reduce suspicions and promote security cooperation.

Presenters:

US: Bill Dickey, Tom Cullison

16:45 **Concluding Remarks**

17:00 Open evening