

ADMM-Plus, Countries, Members, Highlights

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ADMM-Plus Meetings took place in New Delhi from 19 March to 20 March 2025 with India and Malaysia taking up the chairmanship. ADMM-Plus covers ASEAN Nations and eight dialogue partners including: United States, India, China, Japan, Australia, New Zealand, Russia and South Korea. In this article, we are going to learn about the ADMM-Plus organisation and its objectives and achievements.

ADMM-Plus Full Form

ADMM-Plus Full Form is the ASEAN Defence Ministers Meeting Plus. It is an important meeting that discusses defence and security between ASEAN and its eight dialogue partners. ADMM-Plus was established in 2010 and promoted collaboration on regional security problems. This ensures peace is maintained in the Asia-Pacific region and defence ties are strengthened.

ADMM-Plus Overview

ADMM-Plus is an organisation of defense ministers of ten ASEAN countries and eight partner countries- Australia, India, China, New Zealand, Japan, South Korea, Russia and the United States. Here is an overview of ADMM-Plus Organisation:

ADMM-Plus	
Establishment	12 October 2010
Inaugural Meeting	Ha Noi, Vietnam
Members	10 ASEAN member countries and 8 Dialogue Partners: Australia, China, India, Japan, New Zealand, Republic of Korea, Russia, and the United States (collectively known as “Plus Countries”).
Key Areas of Cooperation	Focuses on seven areas: 1. Maritime Security 2. Counter-Terrorism 3. Humanitarian Assistance and Disaster Relief 4. Peacekeeping Operations 5. Military Medicine 6. Humanitarian Mine Action 7. Cyber Security
Meeting Frequency	The ADMM-Plus meets annually, with additional retreats or special meetings as necessary.
Chairmanship	The Chairmanship of the ADMM-Plus follows that of the ADMM. Currently chaired by Malaysia.
Working Groups	Experts’ Working Groups (EWGs) are established for specific security issues, co-chaired by one ASEAN member state and one Plus country.
Decision-Making	Decisions are made based on consultation and consensus among member states.

ADMM-Plus 14th Meeting Highlights

The 14th Meeting of the ADMM-Plus took place from 19 March to 20 March 2025. The Experts Working Group(EWG) will be discussing matters on counter-terrorism. The meetings were co-chaired by Malaysia and India and was attended by 10 ASEAN members and eight dialogue partners along with Timor Leste and ASEAN Secretariat. The highlights of the ADMM-Plus EWG Meeting were:

- Shri Rajesh Kumar Singh, the Defence Secretary delivered the keynote address.
- This meeting laid down the grounds of 2024-2027 counter-terrorism initiatives.
- Focus has been on evolving terrorist threats and extremist activities.

- On -ground defence experiences were discussed to strengthen strategies.
- The meeting laid down the foundation of seminars, exercises and workshops of upcoming years.

ADMM-Plus Objectives

ADMM-Plus objectives aim to foster defence cooperation among member nations. These objectives include security, resilience, stability in Asia-Pacific region:

- Improve defence cooperation between ASEAN and partner countries.
- Combat emerging threats and strengthen regional security frameworks.
- Promote transparency and confidence building measures between defence establishments.
- Motivate organisations to participate in intelligence sharing and counter terrorism efforts.
- Strengthen maritime security cooperation and counter terrorism efforts.
- Create better interoperability by conducting joint military exercises.
- Creating cybersecurity strategies against cyber threats and warfare.
- Creating frameworks for disaster relief and humanitarian aid.
- Improve military and diplomatic ties for regional stability.

ADMM-Plus Achievements

Over the years, ADMM-Plus has made significant progress in addressing security challenges through collaborative efforts. Some of its key achievements include:

- Joint Military Exercises: Regular multilateral defence drills to enhance coordination and readiness.
- Maritime Security Enhancement: Strengthened naval cooperation to safeguard critical trade routes.
- Cybersecurity Initiatives: Implemented measures to counter cyber threats and strengthen digital defences.
- Disaster Response Operations: Improved regional coordination for effective disaster relief efforts.
- Counter-Terrorism Strategies: Strengthened frameworks to prevent and combat terrorist activities.
- Defence Technology Exchange: Promoted joint research and innovation for advanced security solutions.
- Diplomatic and Defence Engagement: Fostered strong diplomatic ties among member nations.
- Policy Standardisation: Encouraged harmonisation of defence policies across the region.
- Regional Stability and Peace: Contributed to maintaining security and stability in the Asia-Pacific.

In summary, ADMM-Plus continues to play a vital role in regional security cooperation. Its 14th meeting is expected to reinforce commitments to counter-terrorism, cybersecurity, and military collaboration, further strengthening the security framework of the Asia-Pacific region.

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