

Asia Pacific Centre for the Responsibility to Protect (APR2P) Statement during the UN GA Interactive Dialogue on R2P given by Dr Noel Morada.

New York, 6 September 2016

The Asia Pacific Centre for the Responsibility to Protect would like to congratulate the Secretary General for delivering his eighth annual Report on R2P, which focuses on the need to further mobilise collective action in preventing mass atrocities.

Our Centre would also like to recognise the remarkable commitment of Secretary General Ban Ki-moon to R2P throughout his term. This was clearly manifested in his tireless efforts to rally Member States to honour their commitment to the principle and for upholding universal human rights and the protection of vulnerable populations.

This year's Report resonates well in the Asia Pacific where a number of societies still face major risks for atrocities. Our Centre has been working with our partners in developing home-grown strategies in implementing R2P, including holding of national dialogues for atrocities prevention and seminars on risk factors using the UN Framework of Analysis. From these dialogues, a set of recommendations for national action plans were generated, which includes the appointment of a national focal point and developing an early warning system.

Mainstreaming R2P at the regional level is also critical in implementing the principle. Aside from public seminars on the HLAP Report on R2P in Southeast Asia, we are also convening the Asia Pacific Partnership for Atrocities Prevention (APPAP) before the end of the year. We believe that this network would be useful in deepening the commitment of states and other stakeholders in implementing the norm. The launching of this network also comes at an auspicious time when some countries in the region are moving forward in addressing the root causes of internal conflicts even as others are facing increased risks of atrocities due to heightened political violence and systematic violations of human rights at home.

Thank you Mr. Chair for giving us the privilege of responding to the Secretary General's Report.