Indonesian Future Strategic Defense Planning

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Article Info

**Abstract**

This paper is intended to examine how strategic defense planning of Indonesia during strategic areas of Southeast Asia (ASEAN) 2015 - 2020. Issues that develop in ASEAN seems so complex and dynamic. Indonesia’s defense is an interesting phenomenon. Based on these timeframes we can formulate a strategic planning for future defense. The results show that besides, developing defense policy and defense planning in the form of comprehensive strengthening of structure and posture of Indonesia’s defense. Indonesia needs to strengthen its defense diplomacy towards countries in Southeast Asia by strengthening the base of posture and defense structure associated with the vision of the world maritime axis so as to achieve a sustainable Minimum Essential Force (MEF).

**Keyword:**

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Introduction

The key to Indonesia’s success in the defense and security sector lies in its well-owned and optimized national capital. But the national capital, in its development can cause various dynamics that can give serious impact to the security of Indonesia.

Firstly, the strategic geographical position opens up threats by leading to more complex maritime and border issues.

Secondly, in terms of security stability, it has not been stable since Indonesia is still experiencing a period of transition and maturation in various sectors of national interest, including political, economic, social, cultural, defense and security. In addition, Indonesia is undergoing a transformation into a more stable democratic state.

Thirdly, the form of multidimensional threats is not limited to just one dimension. It is influenced by advances in various dimensions of knowledge, technology, information, and communication. On the other hand, Indonesia must be prepared to face the threat and make efforts to prevent any threats that might come with a comprehensive defense policy in accordance with national goals and interests.

Indonesia as a country located in a strategic region of Southeast Asia, has a dominant role in the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) regional ties. In response, it can be said that the Southeast Asian region, strategically valued at the same time included ‘a period of uncertainty at best and rising tension at worst.’

It has resulted in the procurement of defense weapons by ASEAN state members, resolution of conflicts within the territory / region after the cold war, the emergence of China as a hegemony in Southeast Asia, and almost uneven ethnic tensions across the region.

Recorded through data from the 2014 International Peace Research Institute (SIPRI) 2014 Survei. Southeast Asian countries increased their armaments budget, as assessed by Collins (2000), by following: Indonesia (US$ 7 billion), Malaysia (US$ 4.9 billion),
Philippines (US$ 3.3 billion), Singapore (US$ 9.8 billion), Vietnam (US$ 4.6 billion), Myanmar (US$ 2.3 billion), Brunei (US$ 0.5 billion), and Thailand (US$ 5.7 billion). The reason for state security efforts to respond to threat is the sovereignty and the integrity of the Republic of Indonesia.

Various efforts will be made to keep these two things by involving all Indonesian citizens in it. This paper will discuss how the ideal formulation with Lerner’s strategic planning model (1999) on Indonesia’s defense posture and structure as a future defense strategy in Southeast Asia (ASEAN).

The issues that are currently developing in Southeast Asia looks so complex and dynamic. Indonesia’s defense policy in the 2015-2020 period is an interesting phenomenon.

Then from that period, we can be formulating a strategic defense planning for future. Because, at that time, issues related to threats or potential disputes over the territorial boundaries of Indonesia’s territorial sovereignty with neighboring countries are still emerging. Besides the establishment of the world’s maritime axis vision.

The issue of future defense is closely related to the issue of sovereignty. Clearly this is very important to be examined, although at the time it was thought that the possibility of a traditional (military) threat, such as war, is minimal (related to the development trend of the strategic environment or estimate the minimal possibility of this traditional military threat is mentioned explicitly in the Defense White Book of the Indonesian Republic (Sulistiyo, 2012).

In this regard, Indonesia’s defense strategy should be able to emerge as an effort to respond to the dynamics of strategic environmental threats that occur in the region in the form of defense posture development and can balance the military power of other countries in Southeast Asia tactically and strategically.

In this paper, the authors propose the issue formulation, namely: how Indonesia’s Future Defense strategic planning in the Strategic Environment of Southeast Asia (ASEAN) Period 2015-2020.
Literature Review

Security Concept

Hertz explains, “in an international environment that is anarchic, created a sense of mutual fear among nations because of a misunderstanding.”

With this mutual suspicion, the security dimension is a top priority so that every nation-state will seek to strengthen security by increasing military expenditure. Thus, there is an arms race between countries.

Which implies that when a country increases its military power, other countries will do the same. With this condition every country is caught in a dilemma. According to Buzan (1987), there are three complementary models, how a country increases its defense strengths.

First, the action-reaction model, which is competitive, is based on the perceptions of threats from other countries. External factors play a role in this, as a driving force for arms race.

Second, the armaments dynamics are produced by the internal forces of the state, which include the power over the dynamics of weaponry with the economic, organizational, and political dimensions of the country.

Third, the technological imperative model, involving the advancement of weapon technology that puts forward the technology aspect rather than the political context.

The next aspect, is related to the security dilemma, namely the enhancement of the security of a country affecting other countries (Hough, 2005). This is as a realist assumed to perpetuate the balance of power between countries.

Specifically, the security dilemma is a situation where attempts to ensure national security have an effect that is a threat to other countries, thus provoking action (Griffiths, 2007). Then this condition occurs excessively because of the circumstances and the situation of the developing environment.

Lerner Strategic Planning

Strategic planning model proposed by Lerner (1999), discussed how to formulate a strategic planning
and programming starting from the vision / mission as part of the purpose of interest.

The model is relevant to strategic planning in the field of defense in terms of plot, communication, and strategic implementation at each stage. The scheme is as follows:

**Figure 1. Lerner (1999) Strategic Planning Model**

**Research Methods**

The formation of a strategic vision requires an optimal planning by prioritizing aspects of strategic planning. The capability of the defense institutions and the tools contained within them is crucial at the level of strategic planning for national defense and security. To produce a chosen strategy to secure future interests.

The derivation of the strategic vision takes the form of discussions on issues considered...
strategic, both in terms of threats and opportunities.

This research used a qualitative approach with descriptive research methods and research techniques make use of literature to examine incremental alternative strategies to anticipate the possibilities. This can be done after the analysis of Strength, Weakness, Opportunities, and Threat (SWOT Analysis).

**Result and Discussion**

**Strategic Planning for Indonesia’s Future Defense**

According to Law No. 3 of 2002 on State Defense, Indonesia’s main objective of defense policy is to “... protect and uphold the sovereignty of the state, defend the territory of the Unitary State of the Republic of Indonesia, and ensure the security of the nation against all forms of threat and disturbance.”

These objectives, as set out in the White Book (2008), will be accomplished through the fulfillment of five key strategic objectives: (1) Indonesia’s state defense posture policy which includes aspects of posture development, posture strength and ability; (2) the policy of deploying the existing defense components; (3) involving and empowering the domestic defense industry; (4) establishing international cooperation with friendly countries; (5) Particularly in the region focused on strengthening the centrality of ASEAN as a modality for ASEAN countries to build security architecture in the Asia Pacific region in order to promote security stability in the Asia Pacific region especially in Southeast Asia.

The five strategic objectives of Indonesian defense are synergistically carried out by the Ministry of Defense and the Indonesian National Army (TNI), as well as all components of the nation that are understood as the main components of national defense, through War Operation (White Book, 2008), and Military Operation Other Than War (Sukma, 2010).

In relation to the regional environment of Southeast Asia, a dialogue in the form of defense diplomacy can be the first line of defense. Indonesia realizes that no country can overcome security challenges by working alone.

A bilateral, regional and international cooperation will
contribute significantly to defense necessity and efforts to address security challenges, particularly trans-national security issues. Regional cooperation has become even more relevant and important to address the security challenges stemming from strategic uncertainty brought about by the geo-political aspects of change in the region.

In this regard, Indonesia has a strong preference for a cooperative security approach rather than a collective defense or defense system of alliances, especially with extra-regional powers, which are internalized into state foreign policy.

In the context of regional change, countries in Southeast Asia are particularly vulnerable to regional external problems, such as illegal immigrants, human trafficking, and smuggling. International trade and smuggling protocols provide tight and controlled border mandates (Daase and Friesendrof, 2010).

The problem of defense and security, it is impossible to understand world politics without any cause arising from various aspects of the life of the country. These aspects make security issues interesting (Williams, 2008).

The security dilemma taking place in Southeast Asia is only at the level of conventional arms competitions, not yet at the level of a fierce arms race.

More specifically, in the next ten years, at least in 2024, Indonesia will gradually strengthen its defense posture in addition to increasing the size of the Gross Domestic Product (GDP). So that the allocation for the defense budget for the purchase of the Main Weapon System (Alutsista) also increases, it is predicted that his can lead to the solution of regional security dilemma.

The findings of the study relate to an analysis of defense planning. It is said that every country has a plan in the development of defense forces on the influence of internal and external factors. Defense planning includes strategic planning, programming, budgeting and development of defense forces and supporting infrastructure (Prasetyono, 2011).

The defense planning has implications for both operational implementation and subsequent
planning. In his writings, there are three things produced by defense planning.

First, institutionally establishing an organizing structure of defense function or defense management with the main task of determining the line of defense policy until the allocation of national resources for the sake of defense.

Second, defense planning will result in a defense commitment in the form of placement and use of defense forces to perform certain defense functions and tasks.

Third, defense planning will result in a framework of development programs of defense force in the form of posture and defense posture and force structure.

Based on this understanding, it can be understood that defense planning is very important to do to optimize the strength and defense capabilities for the interests and objectives of an Indonesian defense.

**Diplomatic Defense**

The correlation between defense forces and the role of the military is bridged by a general concept of a pattern of planned interaction by a state against another to achieve a goal, called defense diplomacy.

In line with this understanding, the pattern of defense diplomacy is aimed at cooperating with strategic allies or alliances based on real-political considerations and national defense interests.

In the Indonesian context, defense diplomacy can be said to be part of a strategic defense strategy based on strategic thinking that places defense cooperation in peace efforts as one of the pillars to protect Indonesia’s defense interests.

The important goal of this step is to enhance Indonesia’s defense capabilities and build mutual trust with other countries, build common perceptions of security issues in general, and contribute to the efforts to create international stability and peace.

In line with the concept described above, in this paper, it can be said Indonesia’s defense diplomacy is a strategic instrument in response to defense development of countries in Southeast Asia region in the period of 2015 - 2020.

If we observe, more intended to achieve the Confident Building
Measure (CBM) and strength deterrence effort rather than building offensive forces. In addition, to achieve the world’s maritime vision and infrastructure of Southeast Asia’s most comprehensive defense.

The policy is conducted due to the perception that countries in Southeast Asia have the potential to threaten Indonesia’s security and sovereignty. Moreover, the existence of countries incorporated into the Five Power Defense Arrangement (FPDA).

With the development efforts of Indonesia’s defense posture and with Indonesia’s defense diplomacy will be able to balance even beyond the defense development of countries in Southeast Asia to deterrence and achieve ‘defense posture and force structure’.

That is, there is a defense plan in the form of a framework of strength development programs in the form of posture and the composition of defense forces. Through this ‘defense posture and force structure’, it will be seen whether to rely on deterrence or will rely on the development of defense cooperation.

The development of defense forces is one of the determinants of defense budget allocation (White book, 2008), mentioned that the dynamics of the strategic environment in an area from time to time does have various dimensions of threat, both military and non-military, including terrorism, separatist movements, natural disasters, infectious diseases, weapons smuggling, and so on. Indonesia considers that ‘aggression’, territorial violations, armed rebellion, sabotage, espionage, acts of armed terror, maritime and air security threats, and communal conflicts are part of military threats.

Defense policy is the future of Indonesia as part of government policy in creating national and international political conditions to protect national vital values against threats from internal and external environment. Current state defense posture conditions, including the main components, include: defense capability, personnel strength, and degree.

With the problems faced, in the form of military and non-military threats, changes in
regulations/legislation, lack of facilities and infrastructure and TNI (National Army of Indonesia) Alutsista, public participation in defense building has not been optimal, and limited defense budget support (National Defense Posture Concept, 2014).

In line with Indonesia’s future defense plans with various threats emerging in the strategic environment of Southeast Asia, it can formulate a period of gradual defense planning. Offset the existing dynamics and help shape the perception of partner countries for ASEAN countries. Based on this and referring to Lerner’s strategic planning model, it can be described as figure 2.

**Figure 2. Implemented Strategic Planning Based on Lerner Model (1999)**

Based on the above strategic planning scheme, the development of strategic environmental trends in Southeast Asia, Indonesia will respond by taking preventive and
defense planning measures tailored to national goals and political direction.

Strategic defense vision/mission, identified through the grouping of strategic issues covering the maritime field, dispute boundary, defense industry, Alutsista, and defense resources or military personnel.

By doing gap analysis on the policy of national defense doctrine, with the consideration of the fundamental paradigm of Minimum Essential Forces (MEF). MEF as the grand design of Indonesia’s future defense plan was formed comprehensively to address various challenges and threats that may and will occur in the future.

Indonesia’s strategic defense measures and optimization on every available channel of defense diplomacy will be able to identify strategic issues and future goals of Indonesia’s defense.

Conclusion

Future strategic planning of Indonesia’s defense with the pattern of planning formulation is influenced by issues and phenomena developing in Southeast Asia. Dynamics that occur between ASEAN countries in the form of dispute and conflict on a small scale, giving rise to policy actions for security and defense. Increasing defense budget and weapons expenditure is a way of deterring every country from responding to the environment and dynamics in Southeast Asia. Elements of defense diplomacy and Indonesian defense policy instruments focuses on strengthening national defense posture and structures.

Selected strategic planning in the form of Minimum Essential Forces (MEF) is the main strategy in responding, deterring and running national defense policy. In multiyears MEF is directed to be able to counteract and be able to harmonize with the domestic defense policy and foreign politics and foreign policy applicable.

Future defense policy is part of government policy in creating national and international political conditions to protect national vital values against threats from internal and external environment. Current state defense posture conditions, including the main components, such as: defense capability, personnel strength, and degree. That will be a
key input in the future of strategic defense with diverse challenges and threats.

Southeast Asia as a strategic area for Indonesia, has both serious threat and opportunities in carrying out its political, economic, social, cultural and especially defense and security missions.

Reference


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