Annex

Fundamentals of Security Sector Reform
Rouben Azizian

Security Sector
- Narrow definition: includes military, paramilitary, police, intelligence, and border and customs authorities.
- Broad definition: also includes civil society, parliament, and other oversight bodies, that contribute to debate on "security sector" policy.
- Securitization: transfer of issues into the realm of national security, after which they begin to be viewed as challenges and threats.

Sources of Reform
- Adequate response to internal and external challenges.
- Developmental needs.
- Regional and international interoperability.

Balancing Act
- Democracy and/or Stability
- Globalization and/or National Identity
- Traditional and/or Universal
- Professionalism and/or Patriotism

New International Security Paradigm
- Redefinition of national security after September 11
- Integration of new priorities with traditional national security concerns
- Balancing democratic norms with tighter security measures
- Nexus of political reforms and economic development
- Democratic setbacks in the Asia-Pacific: trend or aberration?
Context of Domestic Security Reform

- Reform varies substantially according to specific context and historic/cultural traditions.
- No common model exists.
- Three specific categories of reform:
  1. Tool to facilitate coordination and integration of security forces in post-authoritarian and democratizing states
  2. Post-conflict reconstruction after an internal or inter-state conflict.
  3. Instrument to improve efficiency and effectiveness of development assistance

Comprehensive Nature of Reform

- Transformation of the security system includes all the actors, their roles, responsibilities and actions-working together to manage and operate the system in a manner that is more consistent with democratic norms and sound principles of good governance and thus contributes to a well-functioning security framework.

Reform Focus

- Focus on human and state security
- Subordinate to goals of good governance
- Consistent with democratic principles
- Accountable to international norms of conduct
- Conscious of the burden of moral authority in the use of coercion and force

Uncertainties of Transformation

- The process is complex and affects many vested interests
- Change is always resisted in favor of status quo
- The parties involved often had antagonistic relations in the past
- Security transformation competes for attention and resources with other national sectors
• Transformation is a journey, not a destination

Commitment to Reform
• Strong commitment at the highest level of government and security forces
• Build-up of constituency for change
• Understand interests and perspectives of key stakeholders
• Create “comfort zone” through informal consultation and debate (seminars, workshops)
• Develop Defense White Papers as a basis for wider reform

Pace of Reforms
• Take account of resource limits
• Take account of human capacity limitations
• Build on existing institutional capabilities
• Prioritize
• Be politically realistic
• Reforms must be set in the wider context

Conflict-to-Peace Transition
• Post-conflict situations may require radical restructuring
• Restore basic state security capacity and lay the groundwork for longer-term institutional reforms
• Short-term and long-term objectives

Key Political and Policy Choices
• Military disengagement from politics or political preference
• Civilian policy-making role
• Re-professionalization of the security forces and securitization of civilians

Legal and Institutional Framework
• Role of legislature in screening security policy
- Prevent overlaps between army, police and other security forces
- Define internal security role of military during peace-time as well as civil emergency or natural disasters
- Define roles of security agencies, including mechanisms of oversight and accountability
- The extent and nature of the security forces' roles in public life

**Independent Oversight Mechanisms**
- Public complaints bodies with powers of access and investigation
- Human Rights Commission
- Ombudsmen to investigate alleged human rights abuses by state bodies

**Human Resource Management**
- Promote sense of public duty and political neutrality among the security forces
- Promote respect for human rights, democratic accountability, and international humanitarian law
- Strengthen conflict resolution and negotiation skills
- Increase awareness of the responsibilities of the security forces to the public
- Create appropriate incentives for security personnel

**Regular Security Assessment and Planning**
- Ensure that governments deal with security threats by drawing upon full range of resources and policy instruments at their disposal
- Security sector needs to work within a national security policy worked out with civil authorities
- Expand security review process
- Establish security studies centers and expand education in security studies
Discussant

Fundamentals of Security Sector Reform

Brig Gen (Retd) Shahedul Anam Khan

- Security sector reform is a relatively new concept.
- Non-state actors should also be considered at the time of security sector reform.
- Security sector is not restricted to the defense forces, the defense forces are part of security sector.
- The two major issues - Democracy and Governance - predicate the functioning as well as the reform of the security sector.
- The need to reform must come from within.
- The term security sector is eclectic and it encompasses much more than what we are disposed to think or include.
- More often the donor countries claim security sector reform of the recipient country which is not finally smoothly implemented.
- Three dimensions of reform could be identified: structure-size-cost, professionalism and effective civilian control.
- The reform agenda should ensure accountability.
- An environment should be created where the civil society can monitor and be consulted on resource allocation and defense policy.
- The civil society should be encouraged to play this role.
- In Bangladesh, the armed forces are used as instrument of control.
Discussant
Fundamentals of Security Sector Reform
Mr. Nurul Huda

- In the Third World countries like Bangladesh, the security threats to the state apparatus are far more frequently internal than external.

- Internal security situations have arisen from insurgency, ethnic tensions, mismanagement of energy and natural resources, organized crime, financial corruption including money-laundering, religious terrorism, transnational banditry, women and child trafficking, drug trafficking, illegal migration, and violence at public events, etc.

- In Bangladesh, there is a spate of reform ventures that includes the regulatory outfit like Police. The overawing police set up has to be replaced by a customer friendly outfit by concerted efforts, including statutory amendments.

- The importance of independent oversight mechanism is substantively relevant in our socio-political scenario. The professional competence of investigative and intelligence bodies need to be increased with a holistic approach. Intelligence activities need to be strictly professional and in the interest of the State and not the political government. The intelligence activities need clear policy guidelines.

- Empowering the security sector to counter economic crimes would require a multi-disciplinary approach.

- Security sector reform entails that organization needs to be modern.
- Separation of the judiciary must be effective. Police forces should be neutral in their activities. Safety Commission like that in Japan should be established.

- It is time we should be pragmatic. In this regard, much would depend on the political will and determination to ensure security sector reform and human security.
ABOUT THE AUTHORS

Professor Dr. Begum Asma Siddiqua is Dean, Faculty of Law, Rajshahi University and ex-Chairman, Department of Law and Justice, Rajshahi University. She is also a member of the Bangladesh Judicial Service Commission. She did her LL.B (Hons.) from Dhaka University and Masters in International and Comparative Law (MICL) from the University of Brussels. She did her LLM and Ph.D under Commonwealth Scholarship from School of Oriental and African Studies (SOAS), London. Her area of interests are law of evidence, Muslim comparative law of succession, family justice system, human rights, migration, women rights, gender issues and contemporary legal issues. Her email is: asma_edu@yahoo.com

Brigadier General A T M Amin, psc, Ph.D is Director, Counter Terrorism Intelligence Bureau, Directorate General of Forces Intelligence (DGFI). He is responsible for forecasting strategic vision of Bangladesh in the field of counter terrorism. He is a postgraduate on Defence Management, Business Administration and War Studies. He holds a Ph.D in International Security Studies and is a fellow of National Defence University Washington D.C. His email is: atm_1207@yahoo.com

Abul Haseeb Khan is Director, Resource Integration Centre (RIC). He graduated from the Department of Economics of Dhaka University. Ashoka Foundation, a USA based organization awarded him for innovation in the development field in Bangladesh. His area of specialization/expertise lies in strategic planning, project design and implementation, project appraisal, advocacy, networking and coordination, organizational analysis and
development, human resource management, monitoring and evaluation. Mr. Khan has participated in various seminars and workshops, both at home and abroad. His email is: ricdirector@yahoo.com

**Dr. Mizanur Rahman Shelley** is the founder Chairman of the Centre for Development Research, Bangladesh (CDRB) and Overseas Director of American Institute of Bangladesh Studies (AIBS). He obtained Ph.D in International Politics from the University of London, UK in 1972-75. He was Minister for Information and later for Irrigation, Flood Control and Water Resources Development. Dr. Shelley contributes regularly to national dailies, weekly journals and other national and international periodicals. He has several publications of poems, stories, novels, travelogues and some research volumes to his credit. His email is: edrb@dhaka.agni.com

**Major General Mohd Aminul Karim, ndc, ldmc, psc, Ph.D,** was commissioned in the Regiment of Artillery of Bangladesh Army in 1975. He is a graduate of the Malaysian Armed Forces Staff College (1984-1985) and the College of Defense Management, India (1991-1992). He did his Masters in Political Science from the Dhaka University and in Defense Studies from the National University of Bangladesh. He also completed two separate 'Executive Programmes' from the John F Kennedy School of Government, Harvard University, U.S.A (2000) and the Near East South Asian Centre of Strategic Studies, National Defense University, U.S.A (2003). He is also a graduate of the National Defense College, Bangladesh (2001). He obtained Ph.D in Political Science from the University of Dhaka in 2007. He has a number of publications and has presented papers in many national and international seminars. His email is: mdaminulkarim@yahoo.com