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Non-Traditional Security in Asia

Issues, Challenges and Framework for Action

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This book has been a collaborative effort from the very beginning and draws on the research conducted by a dedicated, young and dynamic team. The mission of the Centre for Non-Traditional Security (NTS) Studies in the S. Rajaratnam School of International Studies (RSIS) is to conduct research and produce policy-relevant analyses aimed at furthering awareness and building capacity to address NTS issues and challenges in the Asia-Pacific region and beyond. Indeed to fulfil its mission, this collection is an important contribution to the dissemination of knowledge and understanding of the salient policy challenges Asia faces today. Through this book, we aim to inform scholars, students and policy-makers about the range of prevalent NTS issues and how to approach them in a systematic and informed fashion. We recognize that the policy areas covered are not an exhaustive list of NTS challenges. Rather, we see this book as the starting point of a much larger conversation about Asian human security and the multiple policy dilemmas faced across this region. It is through this contribution that we and the contributors hope to advance the understanding of NTS issues and challenges in Asia by highlighting gaps in knowledge and policy, and identifying best practices among state and non-state actors in responding to these challenges. We also hope to contribute to building the institutional capacity of governments, and regional and international organizations to respond to NTS challenges through this conversation.

We are grateful to the Ford Foundation for providing the funding to establish a regional network of scholars and institutions from which this collection has benefited greatly. Known as NTS-Asia, with its secretariat housed at the RSIS Centre for NTS Studies, network members include nineteen members apart from the RSIS Centre for NTS Studies. These are the Asia Human Community (AHC), Japan; Asia-Pacific Centre for the Responsibility to Protect (APR2P); Bangladesh Institute of International and Strategic Studies (BIISS); Bangladesh Institute of Peace and Security Studies (BIPSS); Centre of Asian Studies (CAS), University of Hong Kong; Centre
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