Asia Security Initiative factsheet

1. Where and when is the Official Launch of the MacArthur Foundation Asia Security Initiative held?
   It will be held on Friday, 29 May 2009, at 12:15pm at the Four Seasons Hotel.

2. Who is organising the Official Launch?
   It is co-organised by RSIS and the MacArthur Foundation.

3. How long a period will the research undertaken by RSIS be under the Initiative?
   The US$2.5 million grant to be given to RSIS will cover research over a 3-year period.

4. How much is the RSIS Centre for NTS Studies receiving under the grant?
   It is receiving US$2.2 million of the US$2.5 million given to RSIS, under the Asia Security Initiative.

5. How much is the RSIS Multilateralism and Regionalism Programme receiving under the grant?
   It is receiving US$300,000 of the US$2.5 million given to RSIS, under the Asia Security Initiative.

6. Has RSIS received any grants from the MacArthur Foundation in the past?
   Yes, RSIS had previously received US$55,000 from the MacArthur Foundation for a first formal collaboration in the form of a RSIS-MacArthur Foundation workshop on "Assessing the Shifting Security Agenda in the Asia-Pacific: A Meeting of Experts" in mid-October 2007, as part of their informal discussions on Asia Security.

7. How many research institutions are participating in this initiative?
   27 international research institutions have been chosen to take part in this initiative.

8. What is a research cluster?
   Due to the diversity of security issues that will be studied under the Initiative as well as the vast number of organisations involved, institutions have been divided into 3 research clusters according to their research agendas.

9. What are the research themes of the respective research clusters?
• Cluster 1 will study “Regional Security Cooperation”;
• Cluster 2 will focus on “Northeast Asia Security”; and
• Cluster 3 will conduct research on “Internal Challenges”.

10. How many research institutions are there in each cluster?
• Cluster 1 comprise 15 institutes;
• Cluster 2 has 8 institutes; and
• Cluster 3 consists of 6 institutes.

11. What is a core institution?
A core institution is the institution selected to head research in a research cluster. There are 3 core institutions selected for the Asia Security Initiative. They are:
• Peking University (Beijing, China) for Cluster 1;
• East Asia Institute (Seoul, South Korea) for Cluster 2; and
• S. Rajaratnam School of International Studies, RSIS (Singapore) for Cluster 3.

12. Which are the research institutes under RSIS’ research cluster?
They are:
• The National Bureau of Asian Research (Washington)
• The Nautilus Institute for Security and Sustainability (San Francisco)
• The Centre on Asia and Globalisation in the Lee Kuan Yew School of Public Policy (Singapore)
• The Centre for Humanitarian Dialogue (regional HQ in Singapore)
• The Strategic Foresight Group (India)