

**SINGAPORE’S NATIONAL SUBMISSION ON THE TOPIC OF
ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE IN THE MILITARY DOMAIN AND ITS
IMPLICATIONS FOR INTERNATIONAL PEACE AND SECURITY**

1. As a small State, Singapore has always supported the rules-based multilateral system and the role of the United Nations (“UN”). The UN provides the foundation for international law and norms. Multilateral institutions, systems, and laws are critical for the survival of all States, in particular, small States.
2. Singapore believes that artificial intelligence (“AI”) capabilities in the military domain, including systems enabled by AI, should be applied in a responsible manner throughout their entire life cycle and in compliance with applicable international law, in particular, international humanitarian law.
3. AI has the potential to bring about benefits in the military domain in terms of enhancing precision and situational awareness, and consequently reducing collateral harm to civilians and/or civilian objects. However, AI can also pose risks of conflict escalation and miscalculation in the absence of appropriate governance frameworks. In this regard, Singapore believes that it is important for the international community to engage on this topic.

Singapore’s Approach to the Governance of AI in the Military Domain

4. One of the key objectives of Singapore’s National AI Strategy 2.0 is to foster a trusted environment that protects users and facilitates innovation. To this end, various Government sectors, including defence, are developing frameworks for AI governance to allow for the harnessing of AI’s benefits, while ensuring that the potential harm of its use are mitigated.
5. Through consultations with defence technologists, military planners, international law experts, and policy professionals, Singapore developed national principles on AI in the military domain, which were announced in 2021 and address four key areas of concern.
 - a. **Responsible**. First, the risk of emergent AI behaviour must be addressed. AI systems must have well-defined intended uses, and both developers and users are responsible for the outcomes of AI systems.
 - b. **Reliable**. Second, the risk of errors or inaccuracies in an AI system’s output must be addressed. AI systems should be tested and assured to a level appropriate for their intended use. They should be designed to minimise unintended bias and produce consistent output.

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c. Robust. Third, the risks from the exploitation of AI by malicious actors must be addressed. AI systems should be designed with cyber and adversarial AI threats in mind. In order to address the “black box effect”, their development process should be well-documented to support explainability.

d. Safe. Fourth, we must focus on the risk of AI failure in safety-critical contexts. AI systems should be safe to use, not only in terms of the deployed platforms, but also the surrounding assets and personnel.

These guiding principles have informed Singapore’s governance approach to development, testing, training, and deployment of AI-enabled systems for military purposes.

International and Regional Initiatives on AI in the Military Domain

6. Singapore has engaged actively in international initiatives on AI governance in the military domain. In 2023, Singapore endorsed the Responsible AI in the Military Domain (REAIM) Call to Action, and the Political Declaration on the Responsible Military Use of AI and Autonomy. In 2024, Singapore co-hosted the REAIM Summit in Seoul, Republic of Korea, where we endorsed the REAIM Blueprint for Action.

7. Singapore also recognises the importance of regional initiatives to ensure inclusive and context-specific discussions on AI in the military domain. Singapore co-hosted the 2024 REAIM Regional Consultations for Asia, which provided a platform for regional countries to exchange views, including on the opportunities and risks posed by AI in the military domain.

8. In February 2025, Singapore and other Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) Member States adopted a Joint Statement on Cooperation in the Field of AI in the Defence Sector at the ASEAN Defence Ministers’ Meeting (ADMM) Retreat in Penang, Malaysia. In the Statement, the ASEAN Defence Ministers committed to promote the accountable and responsible use of AI, and aimed to deepen regional understanding and awareness of the implications of AI in the defence sector through information exchange, and to share best practices and lessons learnt among ASEAN Member States.

Way Ahead for Discussions on AI and International Peace and Security at the UN

9. Singapore believes that any further discussions to build upon the international community’s support for this resolution should be of an open and inclusive nature. In that regard, we would be favourably disposed to the creation

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of an Open-Ended Working Group that is centred on AI in the military domain, and within the ambit of the UN. If such an OEWG is created, it should adopt a multistakeholder approach involving, amongst others, technologists, military planners, international legal experts, and policy professionals. We reaffirm our commitment to working with all Member States to advance the responsible application of AI in the military domain.