Part III  Measures for the Defense of Japan
Chapter 3 Multi-layered Security Cooperation with the International Community

It is extremely difficult for countries to tackle international security challenges on their own today and becoming a matter of great importance for Japan to work together with its ally, friendly nations, and other countries involved to tackle regional or global security issues.

Amidst such circumstances, the new National Defense Program Guidelines (NDPG) position “multi-layered security cooperation with the international community,” through cooperation in the Asia-Pacific region and cooperation as a member of the international community, as one of the pillars of the basic policies for Japan’s security.

To that end, Japan is 1) making efforts to combine bilateral and multilateral security cooperation and create a network in a multi-layered manner, and in line with the Japan-U.S. Alliance, taking effective steps to further stabilize the security environment in the Asia-Pacific region, as well as 2) taking proactive steps in international peace cooperation activities as a member of the international community, in order to contribute to improving the global security environment and to ensuring the security and prosperity of Japan.

This chapter explains the measures relating to 1) further stabilizing the security environment in the Asia-Pacific region in Sections 1 and 2, and the measures relating to 2) improving the global security environment in Sections 3 and 4.

Section 1. Promoting Multilateral Security Cooperation and Dialogues in the Asia-Pacific Region

1. Significance of and Changes in Security Cooperation and Dialogues and Defense Cooperation and Exchanges

After the end of the Cold War, there was increased awareness on the importance of preventing unnecessary arms buildup as well as the occurrence and expansion of contingencies through enhancing transparency in military strength and defense policies, as well as deepening mutual trust through dialogues and exchanges between defense authorities and various joint training among units. In addition, there is also an increasingly pervasive perception of the need for the international community to work together to tackle various security issues today, amidst increasing mutual cooperation and interdependency between countries.

As Japan takes proactive steps to improve the security environment, defense exchanges are developing in quality and expanding in quantity. Specifically, 1) in addition to the confidence building, there is growing significance in establishing and strengthening cooperative relations with the international community, and
2) dialogue and exchange partners are no longer limited within the neighboring countries, but in the other parts of the world, 3) there has been an increasing importance in practical exchanges rather than those for goodwill, as well as in exchanges coupled with activities rather than those that involve only dialogue. With some partners, our defense exchanges have well developed and deepened to include defense cooperation, not limited to exchanges. In addition, 4) with regard to a multilateral security frameworks, efforts in the security field in the Asia-Pacific region are also gradually shifting from dialogues focused on confidence building, to practical cooperation including building regional order and common codes and standards.

In light of these developments, the Ministry of Defense is also taking proactive steps in multi-layered security cooperation in the international community today, while effectively and efficiently making use of limited resources. In doing so, there is a need to undertake security cooperation and dialogues as well as conduct defense cooperation and exchanges in a strategic manner, while considering the characteristics of each country or region.

In particular, in non-traditional security areas such as disaster relief and counter-terrorism, it is important to nurture an overall sense of cooperation and coordination. Based on such activities, it is necessary to promote practical and concrete cooperation for building regional order and establishing common codes and standards. In our neighboring countries and region, it is important to eliminate the sense of confrontation with as well as the sense of vigilance toward Japan, to create a cooperative atmosphere with a future-oriented perspective, and to actively promote cooperation in bilateral or multilateral arenas.

In the new NDPG, “efforts to further stabilize the security environment of the Asia-Pacific region” have also been positioned as one of the roles of defense forces. To that end, the Ministry of Defense and the SDF will promote security cooperation and dialogues, defense cooperation and exchanges, and joint training and exercises in a multi-layered manner.

(See Figs. III-3-1-1, 2, 3)

This section describes the current efforts by the Ministry of Defense and SDF toward security cooperation and dialogues in the Asia-Pacific region. The following section lays out the defense cooperation and exchanges with each country.

See References 55 (pxx), 58 (pxx)

2. Efforts toward the ASEAN Defense Ministers’ Meeting-Plus (ADMM-Plus)

In addition to the ASEAN Regional Forum (ARF) launched in 1994, which serves as a security framework for the region, the ASEAN Defense Ministers’ Meeting (ADMM), a ministerial level meeting between defense authorities in the ASEAN countries, has been held since May 2006. In addition to this,
the establishment of the ADMM-Plus was decided at the 4th ADMM in May 2010. The ADMM-Plus will include eight new member states outside ASEAN, and the 1st ADMM-Plus was held on 12 October 2010 in Hanoi, Vietnam, which was then the chair country of ASEAN. Until the establishment of the ADMM-Plus, there had been no government-hosted meeting in which defense ministers from the Asia-Pacific region, including non-ASEAN countries, participated. The establishment of the ADMM-Plus is highly significant from the perspective of encouraging the development and deepening of security and defense cooperation in the region. Furthermore, ADMM-Plus is a framework that tackles a broad range of security issues that are common to the region; the Ministry of Defense and SDF are also of the view that ADMM-Plus should be developed as a major pillar of defense cooperation in the region, and will provide active support for its efforts.

In the 1st ADMM-Plus, discussions were held on mutually beneficial and practical areas of cooperation including the following five: 1) humanitarian assistance and disaster relief, 2) maritime security, 3) counter-terrorism, 4) military medicine, and 5) peacekeeping operations. The participating countries also discussed issues regarding the South China Sea, which affects the stability of the region, stressing the complete implementation of the Declaration on the Conduct of Parties in the South China Sea (DOC) as well as the resolution of conflicts through international law, such as the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea, and peaceful means.

After the meeting, participants welcomed the establishment of ADMM-Plus and signed the Hanoi Joint Declaration, which called for the future strengthening of security cooperation in the region. The main points raised in the declaration are as follows:

1) ADMM-Plus is the highest ministerial defense and security consultative and cooperative mechanism for regional security issues.
2) Strengthen regional defense and security cooperation through conduct of concrete and practical cooperation such as support for capacity building.
3) Establish an ASEAN Defence Senior Officials’ Meeting-Plus (ADSOM-Plus) to implement the understandings and decisions of the ADMM-Plus.
4) Establish specific Expert Working Groups on the five fields stated in 1) to 5) above.

In the Hanoi Joint Declaration, ADMM-Plus is placed by ASEAN as “an integral part of the ADMM”, which will be a part of the ASEAN Political Security Community, and positioned as a framework for concrete and practical cooperation, not as venue for discussion. For that reason, it was decided that the following decision-making process would be established within ADMM-Plus: 1) ADMM-Plus, the ministerial meeting held once every three years, 2) ADSOM-Plus (ASEAN Defence Senior Officials’ Meeting-Plus) held every year, 3) ADSOM-Plus Working Group, and 4) the Expert Working Groups (EWG) on the abovementioned five areas that ASEAN and ASEAN-Plus countries would co-chair.

In response to the above decision, the ADSOM-Plus Working Group was convened in Da Lat, Vietnam, in December the same year. ASEAN and ASEAN-Plus countries announced their candidacy for co-chairs.
of the respective EWGs, and the co-chairs for each EWG were officially approved in the ADSOM-Plus held in April 2011. Japan will co-chair the Military Medicine EWG along with Singapore in view that 1) it is critical to be actively involved in ADMM-Plus efforts, 2) policy discussions have not been well conducted on the Military Medicine and there is great potential for new developments, and 3) military medicine is a field in which Japan can utilize its rich experience from the Ministry of Defense’s and the SDF’s international disaster relief activities and U.N. peacekeeping operations. After this, Japan will take active steps to promote practical cooperation in the field of military medicine in the region through the convening of workshops, providing support for capacity building, and sharing of experience and expertise.

(See Fig. III-3-1-4)

3. ASEAN Regional Forum

At the ASEAN foreign ministers’ meeting and ASEAN Post-Ministerial Conference in 1993, the foreign ministers from 17 countries and from the European Community (EC)—now the European Union (EU)—agreed to create the ASEAN Regional Forum (ARF) as a political and security forum in the Asia-Pacific region. Since its first ministerial meeting in 1994, the ARF has held its regular ministerial meeting annually. The number of ARF members has gradually increased and currently comprises 26 countries and one organization.

At present, the ARF is different from typical security organizations in Europe, such as NATO and the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe (OSCE); however, the ARF is of significance because it provides opportunities for both foreign and defense officials to attend various inter-governmental meetings on security.

The Ministry of Defense believes that it is important for the respective defense authorities to promote relationships of trust in order for the ARF to develop a sense of community within the Asia-Pacific region, thereby making a framework to stabilize the regional security environment. To this end, the Ministry has been continuing its efforts to deepen mutual understanding within the ARF through continuous participation, encouraging ARF members to increase the transparency of their defense policies while explaining Japan’s policies and efforts, and promoting frank discussion among defense officials.

Meanwhile, in recent years, nontraditional security areas such as humanitarian assistance and disaster relief, maritime security, and peacekeeping and peacebuilding have been discussed as common regional security challenges. Every year, the Senior Officials Meeting (SOM), the Inter-Sessional Support Group (ISG) on Confidence-Building Measures and Preventive Diplomacy (CBM/PD), and the ARF Security Policy Conference are held in addition to the Foreign Ministerial Meeting. Following the ministerial meeting in 2002, Inter-Sessional Meetings (ISM) as well as the ARF Defense Officials’ Dialogue (DOD) have been held ahead of the plenary meeting.
Furthermore, in the maritime security field, an Inter-Sessional Meeting on Maritime Security (ISM-MS) has been held annually since March 2009. In February 2011, Japan, Indonesia, and New Zealand co-hosted the third meeting in Tokyo. Taking these various opportunities, ways for practical cooperation and establishment of rules have been sought for.

In such non-traditional security fields, efforts are currently being made to seek more practical cooperation. For instance, in the field of humanitarian assistance and disaster relief, following the establishment of “the ARF General Guidelines” that serves as guidelines for international cooperation, “the ARF Strategic Guidance for HA/DR is currently being drafted as guidelines that lay down procedures for more detailed cooperation. In May 2009, the first ARF disaster relief field exercise (ARF-VDR) conducted under the ARF framework was held in the Philippines, co-hosted by the United States. Japan dispatched GSDF medical, sanitation, and water supply units, one MSDF rescue amphibian (US-2), and two ASDF transport aircraft (C-130), with about 100 personnel. The number of participating personnel was second largest following that of the Philippines, the host country.

Japan co-hosted the second ARF disaster relief field exercise (ARF-DiREx 2011) with Indonesia in March 2011 in Indonesia. The Ministry of Defense and the SDF had planned to dispatch about 320 personnel from the GSDF, MSDF, and ASDF, as well as two transporters (C-130 and KC-767), two helicopters of each model (UH-1, UH-60J), one transport vessel (LST), and two LCAC. However, in response to the Great East Japan Earthquake disaster that struck on March 11, the units scheduled to participate in this exercise were called up for disaster relief operations in Japan, and the dispatch to the exercise was called off. On the other hand, in order to demonstrate to the international community the resolve of the Japanese Government to fulfill its responsibility as the host country, about ten members from the Ministry of Defense and SDF who had been liaising with the Indonesian Government in preparation for the exercise, as well as key personnel from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and JICA partook in the exercise in Indonesia as representatives from the host country. Such Japan’s attitude toward the event was highly evaluated by the Indonesian Government and served as an opportunity to make a strong appeal for the importance of international cooperation to the international community during earthquake and tsunami disasters.

The ARF disaster relief exercise holds great significance from the viewpoint that ARF serves not only as a venue for the exchange of opinions, but also as a venue for practical field training. In that sense, it plays an important role in promoting practical and concrete security cooperation in the region.

In this way, in various fields, the nations of the Asia-Pacific region have been repeating a process of discussing practical cooperation and coordination methods, setting certain rules, conducting training and exercises, then reflecting the feedback on the cooperation and coordination methods in the region, thereby leading to improving the capacity for addressing challenges such as natural disasters in the region, as well as promoting mutual understanding and confidence building between participating nations. Therefore, it is important for Japan to further advance these efforts.
4. Participation in the Pacific Partnership

In the Pacific Partnership (PP), started in 2007, navy ships primarily from the U.S. Navy visit countries in the region and conduct medical activities and cultural exchanges. Activities carried out during the period include efforts to strengthen collaboration between participating countries and facilitate the smooth implementation of disaster relief activities through cooperation with the governments, military, international institutions, and NGOs from each country. Since 2007, Japan has dispatched several MSDF medical officers and conducted surveys.

In November 2009, then Prime Minister Hatoyama announced his participation in PP2010. In light of that, PP2010 held during the two-month period between May and July 2010 saw the dispatch of SDF troops for the first time, and the MSDF transport vessel (Kunisaki) (about 160 crew members) as well as a medical team from the GSDF, MSDF, and ASDF (about 40 members) participated in the partnership. The SDF also cooperated with civilian organizations such as NGOs (22 members from four organizations) to carry out medical and dental examinations on 1,700 people in Vietnam and 2,700 people in Cambodia over a two-week period in each country, respectively. In addition, they also conducted various cultural exchange activities in local schools, such as sports exchanges and introduction of Japanese culture. During the activity period, Japanese and U.S. vessels worked together to transport personnel and resources, thereby strengthening mutual collaboration between Japan and the United States.

In the PP2011 held in 2011, the scale of participation was diminished due to the response to the Great East Japan Earthquake disaster. A few medical and dental personnel were dispatched from June to July to East Timor and Micronesia. Participation in the PP serves the important purpose of promoting mutual understanding and cooperative relationships between partner nations, improving the international security environment, and helping to strengthen the Japan-U.S. Security Arrangements, thereby ensuring the peace and security of Japan. Moreover, the PP contributes to improving the proficiency and skill level of SDF personnel in terms of medical care and transport operations carried out in international emergency disaster relief and international peace cooperation operations (not implemented at PP2011), while also securing meaningful opportunities for SDF personnel to acquire expertise to coordinate and collaborate with civilian organizations.

5. Support for Capacity Building

In recent years, the role of defense authorities and cooperation among them in fields of non-traditional security such as humanitarian assistance and disaster relief (HA/DR), disposal of landmines and unexploded shells, and military medicine, have been expanding and deepening. In particular, there is now
recognition of the importance of cooperation with the international community to build up capacity in such fields among the countries concerned; that is, the importance of providing support for capacity building. In consideration of such circumstances, the new NDPG clearly stipulates the utilization of the SDF capabilities and promotion of concrete and practical cooperation, as well as the establishment and enhancement of regional cooperation practice and support for capacity building of countries in the region. In particular, taking the various opportunities offered by international conferences and bilateral dialogues, requests from Southeast Asian countries have been received for support toward enhancing their own capacity in non-traditional security fields. As such, the Ministry of Defense and the SDF recognize that there is a need to take proactive steps to improve capacity and nurture human resources in the countries concerned, by utilizing Japan’s expertise and experience.

In this regard, in preparation to provide support for capacity building, the Ministry of Defense not only established a new office for the support of capacity building in 2011; there are also plans to conduct an on-site survey and grasp and analyze specific needs in Southeast Asian countries, in order for the Ministry of Defense and the SDF to contribute to the effective and efficient implementation of projects to support capacity building.

(See Fig. III-3-1-5)


1. Tokyo Defense Forum

As Japan’s own effort for considering security in the Asia-Pacific region, the Ministry of Defense has held since 1996 the Asia-Pacific Defense Forum (Tokyo Defense Forum) with the participation of officers in charge of defense policy (Directors General from defense ministries and General-class officers) from the countries of the region. At the forum, opinions are exchanged on the defense policies and on confidence-building efforts in the defense sector of each country. At the 15th forum held in September 2010, opinions were exchanged on “the role of major countries in regional security cooperation” and “the role of defense authorities in the ARF”, with the participation of the EU, 19 countries, and International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC). Since concrete cooperative activities such as the disaster relief exercises have been carried out under the ARF, and active participation of defense authorities in the ARF process is stipulated in the Hanoi Action Plan, which is the concrete plan for promoting cooperation in the ARF, topics that contribute to activities in the ARF and to the efforts of each country were selected, and active exchanges of opinions were carried out.

2. Japan–ASEAN Vice-Defense Ministers’ Meeting
Every year since March 2009, the Ministry of Defense has held the Japan–ASEAN Vice-Defense Minister-level meeting. Based on the awareness that Japan–ASEAN cooperation in security area lags behind that in economic cooperation, this meeting is held with the purpose of creating a foundation for strengthening multilateral and bilateral relationships through establishing human networks between Japanese and ASEAN vice-ministerial level officials. The day after the meeting, inviting security experts, including both academics and government officials, from Japan and other countries, “Tokyo Seminar on Common Security Challenges”, an open seminar, has been held annually, in order to discuss security challenges in the region and roles of defense authorities to tackle them.

The second meeting was held in March 2010 with the participation of vice-ministerial-level officials from ASEAN member states and the ASEAN Secretariat. 1) Views were exchanged on non-traditional security issues as well as security architecture and cooperation in the Asia-Pacific region. In addition, at the Tokyo Seminar on Common Security Challenges held the following day, discussions were conducted on 1) climate change and the role of the armed forces, and 2) building an Asia-Pacific architecture for security cooperation. The third meeting scheduled for the Japan fiscal year 2011 was postponed due to the Great East Japan Earthquake.

See Reference 56 (pxx)

7. Other Efforts

1. International conferences held by private organizations

In the field of security, besides international conferences held by governments, international conferences are also held by private organizations, which are attended by government officials, academics, and journalists. Such conferences not only contribute to disseminating policy and building confidence between governments, but they are also important as venues for sharing and exchanging opinions on medium- to long-term security issues, and are highly appreciated by the Ministry of Defense.

The IISS Asia Security Summit (Shangri-La Dialogue), an international conference held annually in Singapore under the sponsorship of the International Institute of Strategic Studies (IISS), a private institute, is a conference in which a large number of defense ministers in the Asia-Pacific region participate to discuss regional issues and defense cooperation. At the 10th IISS Asia Security Summit held in June 2011, Defense Minister Kitazawa participated on behalf of Japan where he delivered a speech entitled “New Military Doctrines and Capabilities in Asia”. In his speech, Minister Kitazawa posed the following three suggestions: 1) considering establishing a relief base, with stockpiles supplies and equipment, on the Nansei Shoto Islands and other locations in order to respond to large-scale disasters in the Asia-Pacific region; 2) considering the active use of unmanned aerial vehicles and robots to respond to nuclear accidents in cooperation with related organizations and establishing a meeting to discuss the
cooperation among defense authorities for unprecedented issues like nuclear incidents; and 3) dispatching a Japan Self-Defense Force medical doctor to the IAEA to share his or her knowledge and experience of the nuclear incident with the international community. Moreover, at the meeting Minister Kitazawa took the opportunity to meet with the defense ministers, etc. of Russia, Australia, Republic of Korea, China, Singapore, and Vietnam in a series of bilateral discussions. Also, as this marked the 10th anniversary of the meeting, there was more participation of high level than other years, including the first participation by China’s National Defense Minister, Liang Guanglie.

The IISS Regional Security Conference (the Manama Dialogue) is an international conference at which exchanges of opinions on security are carried out primarily among parties concerned such as foreign and defense ministers from countries in the Middle East. The conference is convened every year in Manama, Bahrain. Parliamentary Vice-Minister of Defense Hirota participated in the 7th conference held in December 2010. At the conference, Parliamentary Vice-Minister of Defense Hirota took the opportunity to exchange opinions separately with UK Under Secretary of State of Defence Lord Astor, Parliamentary State Secretary to the Minister of Defence of Germany Schmidt, Minister of State for Defense Affairs of Bahrain Dr. Mohammed, and Commander Fox of the U.S. Fifth Fleet.

2. Asia-Pacific Chief of Defense Conference (CHOD)

The CHOD is a meeting of the chiefs of defense, mostly from the Asia-Pacific region, aimed at nurturing trust among countries in the region and enhancing security relations through free exchanges of opinions on regional security and bilateral dialogues, among other activities. The conference has been held every year since the 1st conference in 1998, and Japan has participated in each conference since the inaugural one. In 2004, Japan hosted the 7th conference together with the United States Pacific Command. In 2010, the 13th Conference, co-hosted by the South Korean Joint Chiefs of Staff and the United States Pacific Command, convened in Seoul, and Chief of Staff General Oriki participated in the conference.

3. Pacific Area Senior Officer Logistics Seminar (PASOLS)

PASOLS is a seminar that serves as a forum for the exchange of opinions between senior officials working in logistics, from countries in the Asia-Pacific and the Indian Ocean regions. The seminar is hosted in rotation by the United States and other member countries, and the 36th seminar was held in Japan in 2007. In 2010, the 39th seminar convened in the Maldives, and representatives from 25 countries exchanged opinions on humanitarian aid and disaster relief activities.

4. Asia-Pacific Intelligence Chiefs Conference (APICCC)
The APICC is an event for the exchange of opinions between the intelligence chiefs of defense institutions in the Asia-Pacific region, and is hosted in rotation by the United States Pacific Command and participating countries. Besides providing a space for the exchange of opinions on regional security issues, the conference aims to contribute to information sharing and to nurturing relationships of trust among the countries. In February 2011, Japan’s Defense Intelligence Headquarters hosted the conference for the first time; 28 countries from the Asia-Pacific region and other areas participated in the conference and conferred on issues such as counter-terrorism measures, maritime security, and humanitarian aid and disaster relief.

See Reference 57 (pxx)

8. Multilateral Joint Training

1. The significance of multilateral joint training in the Asia-Pacific region

Since 2000, in the Asia-Pacific region, in addition to conventional training conducted in preparation for combat situations, steps have also been taken to undertake multilateral training in non-traditional security fields, such as humanitarian assistance and disaster relief, as well as non-combatant evacuation operation. The involvement of many countries in co-hosting and participating in such joint training exercises not only raises the skill level of the SDF; it is also important in creating a cooperative platform through various coordination and exchanges of opinions between the countries involved. The Ministry of Defense and SDF continues to actively engage in such training.

(See Figs. III-3-1-6, 7)

2. Efforts toward multilateral joint training

(1) Participation in, and hosting of, multilateral joint training events

In April 2002, the MSDF hosted Pacific Reach 2002, the second Western Pacific submarine rescue exercise, for the first time. In October the same year, the MSDF also hosted multilateral search and rescue exercises. As described earlier, in March 2011, Japan and Indonesia co-hosted the second ASEAN Regional Forum Disaster Relief Exercise 2011 (ARF-DiREx2011) within the framework of the ARF. Approximately ten officers involved in the preparation of exercises from the Ministry of Defense and SDF participated in the ARF-DiREx2011.

After 2005, Japan’s SDF have also been involved in the annual “Cobra Gold,” a multilateral joint training co-hosted by the United States and Thailand. In Cobra Gold 11 held in February 2011, the SDF
participated in the command post exercises, the medical department of humanitarian and civic assistance activities, and training in transporting Japanese nationals living abroad.

Furthermore, in August 2010, the MSDF participated in the multilateral joint marine training, “KAKADU 10,” hosted by Australia, as well as KAKADU V held in Singapore. In June 2010, the MSDF, U.S. Forces, and Royal Australian Air Force held their third joint Japan-U.S.-Australia trilateral training. The MSDF also took part in the multilateral joint maritime training hosted by Pakistan in March 2011 (AMAN 11) in efforts to promote mutual understanding between participating naval forces.

As described above, Japan is actively involved in many multilateral joint training exercises.

(2) Invitation of observer to multilateral joint training

Efforts have also been made to invite observers from other foreign countries, since observers from eight Asia-Pacific countries participated in the fourth Japan – Russia search and rescue joint training hosted by Japan in September 2001.

In addition, the GSDF has also hosted the Multinational Cooperation Program in the Asia Pacific (MCAP) every year since 2002 as part of its multilateral cooperative efforts. For the MCAP, it invites officers from the respective countries involved, mostly from the Asia-Pacific region. In August 2010, 23 countries and 15 United Nations agencies participated in the event, discussing multilateral collaboration and cooperation aimed at enhancing responsiveness toward international humanitarian aid and disaster relief activities, and nurturing mutual understanding and trust.

Triggered by the sinking of South Korean warship Cheonan in March 2010, the United States and the ROK held a joint exercise “Invincible Spirit” in Japanese seas in July 2010. During this exercise, four MSDF officers were dispatched as observers at the invitation of the U.S. and South Korean naval forces. Following up on that, in the joint Japan-U.S. training, “Keen Sword,” held in December the same year, the United States invited the ROK to participate in the exercise, and the latter dispatched observers for the first time.

In January 2011, in the Japan-U.S. joint exercise, “Cope North Guam,” held between the ASDF and the U.S. Air Force, Australia dispatched observers to the exercise for the first time.

See Sections 2, 3, and 4 (pxx, pxx, pxx)

Section 2. Promotion of Defense Cooperation and Exchanges

1. Significance of Defense Cooperation and Exchanges with Other Countries

To ensure peace and stability in the Asia-Pacific region, it is important to utilize the Japan-U.S. Alliance as an axis, while enhancing bilateral and multilateral dialogue, exchanges and cooperation frameworks of
the region in a complementary and multilayered manner. As stated in Section 1-1, “Significance of and Changes in Security Cooperation and Dialogue, and Defense Cooperation and Exchanges” in regard to the bilateral framework, not only goodwill exchanges but also practical ones, dialogues as well as action-oriented exchanges are becoming increasingly important. Defense exchanges have been developing and deepening from simple exchanges to the stage of defense cooperation, according to partner countries.

In light of these circumstances, the Ministry of Defense and the Self-Defense Forces are conducting strategic defense cooperation and exchanges according to the characteristics of each country and region in question, in order to promote multilayered security cooperation in the international community.

(See Fig. III-3-2-1)

See Reference 58 (pxx)

2. Japan–Australia Defense Cooperation and Exchanges

Australia is an important partner for Japan in the Asia-Pacific region: Japan and Australia are allies of the United States and share not only fundamental values such as democracy, the rule of law, respect for human rights, and capitalist economies, but also strategic stakes and interests in the security field. In particular, the norm that different countries should work in concert to address global challenges is one that has been becoming widespread in the international community in recent years. Therefore, as responsible countries in the Asia-Pacific region, Japan and Australia are strengthening mutual cooperation and collaboration focused primarily on non-traditional security areas such as humanitarian assistance and disaster relief activities.

In terms of Japan–Australia bilateral defense cooperation and exchanges, the Japan–Australia Joint Declaration on Security Cooperation, the first such joint declaration in the realm of security with a country other than the United States, was announced at the Japan-Australia summit meeting in March 2007. It has been making steady progress since then and has now reached the stage of more concrete and practical cooperation.

At the third Joint Foreign and Defense Ministerial Consultations (“2+2”) in May 2010, the Acquisition and Cross-Servicing Agreement (ACSA) and its Procedural Arrangement were signed. During the Japan-Australia “2+2” and the Japan-Australia Defense Ministerial Meeting held on the same day as the signing ceremony, the anticipation was expressed of further promotion of our cooperation with Australian Defence Force in frontline activities such as United Nations peacekeeping operations (PKO) and disaster relief, while it was mentioned that broadening of the areas of future cooperation between our two countries would be considered.

When the SDF and Australian Defence Force (ADF) engage in PKO, international disaster relief, and other activities based on the conclusion of the Japan-Australia ACSA, the reciprocal provision of supplies
and services such as water, food, fuel, and transport is possible through an established and standardized framework, and the strategic partnership between the two countries is further facilitated and consolidated. Furthermore, such facilitated and strengthened cooperation between Japan and Australia is expected to contribute to the peace and prosperity of the Asia-Pacific region, while also being conducive to fostering an intraregional order through cooperation.

To date, Japan had only concluded ACSA with the United States. The conclusion of Japan’s first ACSA other than the one concluded with the United States on the premise of the Japan–U.S. Security Arrangements is considered to have enormous significance for Japan’s future defense cooperation and exchanges.

On October 11, 2010, at the Japan-Australia Defense Ministerial Meeting, which was held in conjunction with the ASEAN Defence Ministers’ Meeting Plus (ADMM Plus), Minister of Defense Toshimi Kitazawa raised the importance of moving defense cooperation to a stage of practical implementation in the near future, including joint exercises and application of the ACSA in areas such as humanitarian assistance and disaster relief activities. Both sides agreed on this point. Diet approval is required for the ACSA to come into force, and prompt adjustment of domestic legislation is necessary for its implementation.

In recent years, trilateral cooperation between Japan, the United States, and Australia has been increasing. As was previously mentioned, Japan and Australia are both allies of the United States, and simultaneously share fundamental values. They have been collaborating and cooperating closely in order to resolve the various challenges the Asia-Pacific region and the international community are facing. In order to ensure the effectiveness and efficiency of such collaboration and cooperation, it is important that trilateral cooperation between Japan, the United States, and Australia be promoted in a manner which includes the United States, whose presence is indispensable for regional peace and stability.

Under this recognition, the first Japan–U.S.–Australia Defense Ministerial Meeting was held on the opportunity afforded by the 6th International Institute for Strategic Studies (IISS) Asia Security Summit (Shangri-La Dialogue) in June 2007. As well as agreeing to pursue continued cooperation among the three countries, it was agreed at the “2+2” in May 2010, to deepen consultation and collaborate in the area of security strategy in the region, under a trilateral framework consisting of Japan, the United States, and Australia.

At the working level too, the Security and Defense Cooperation Forum (SDCF), which is a Director General-level meeting among the three countries, has been held four times—in April 2007, April 2008, November 2009, and January 2011—with consultations being carried out on such issues as trilateral defense cooperation. In addition to this, joint training exercises were carried out in June 2010 for the third time, by Japan, the United States, and Australia involving the MSDF, the U.S. Navy and the Royal Australian Air Force. Furthermore, that month, high-level consultations were held by the air forces of Japan, the United States, and Australia in Guam, where topics such as defense cooperation by the air forces of the three countries were discussed. This led, in January 2011, to the first dispatch of observers
from the Royal Australian Air Force to the “Cope North Guam.”, Japan-U.S. joint exercises by the ASDF and U.S. Air Force held in Guam.

Through these discussions and cooperation, understanding of the situation can be shared by the three countries and policies coordinated. After ASCA comes into force, it will be important to further develop and deepen the collaborative relationship among the three countries, by promoting trilateral cooperation more proactively in the operational area such as disaster relief and joint exercises.

After the Great East Japan Earthquake in March 2011, C-17 transport aircraft of the Royal Australian Air Force provided transportation, in close collaboration with the Self-Defense Forces and the U.S. forces in Japan. At one time, the Royal Australian Air Force had dispatched as many as C-17 transport aircraft to Japan, where one assisted the transport of the GSDF 15th Brigade (Naha) and other relief supplies within Japan, and the other two transported high pressure water pumps to respond to the nuclear disaster. In a telephone conversation, Minister of Defense Toshimi Kitazawa conveyed gratitude to the Australian Minister for Defence Stephen Smith for the dispatch of 75 rescue workers and two rescue dogs transported by the Australian C-17s, as well as for the various transportation support undertaken in Japan by these aircraft.

See Special Feature (pxx)

(See Fig.III-3-2-2)


The Republic of Korea (ROK) is one of the neighboring countries which has historically maintained the closest relations with Japan in economic, cultural, and other areas. Moreover, it is also a country that is extremely vital to Japan from a geopolitical perspective. Just like Japan, the ROK shares fundamental values such as democracy, the rule of law, respect for human rights, and capitalist economies. The two countries also share many strategic interests as allies of the United States, such as permitting the stationing of U.S. armed forces. Therefore, the fact that the two countries collaborate closely on not only the economic front, but also the security front, has enormous significance for the peace and stability of the Asia-Pacific region.

Almost every year since 1994 the defense ministers of Japan and the ROK have made reciprocal visits, held discussions with individuals working in defense at bureau chief and councilor-level, as well as security dialogues including officials involved with foreign affairs. These and other efforts have contributed to the promotion of mutual understanding and trust. In December 2010, Vice Minister of National Defense Yong-Gul Lee, visited Japan, and held vice-ministerial talks, in addition to which, in January 2011, Minister of Defense Toshimi Kitazawa visited the ROK, the first time in six years for a Japanese Defense Minister, and held defense ministerial talks with Minister of National Defense Kwan-jin Kim.
In the meantime, both Japan and the ROK are confronted with wide-ranging and complex security challenges. These include not only the North Korean nuclear and missile issues, but also counter-terrorism, peacekeeping operations, responding to large-scale natural disasters, anti-piracy measures, and maritime security. Therefore, for the two countries to effectively respond to such security challenges, it is important to carry out more broad-ranging and concrete defense cooperation, not just exchanges to promote mutual understanding and trust.

Under such recognition, at the Japan–ROK Defense Ministerial Meeting in April 2009, Japan and the ROK signed the first Memorandum of Intent regarding Defense Exchanges between the Ministry of Defense of Japan and the Ministry of National Defense of the Republic of Korea. In light of the prior tradition of exchange between Japan and the ROK, the two countries strove to both develop defense exchanges and to look into new areas of collaboration to extend their influence further. In the defense ministerial talks in January 2011, views were exchanged on the current security situation in the region, beginning with the patrol ship sinking and bombardment incidents of Yeonpyeong. Meanwhile, they acknowledged the benefits of developing future-oriented cooperation between Japan and the ROK, and extending and deepening collaboration and exchanges between the two countries. With this in mind, they agreed to further exchange views and discuss the contents of ACSA to enable reciprocal provision of water, food, and fuel in PKO activities, humanitarian support, disaster relief, and search and rescue exercises etc. Furthermore, recognizing the importance of information sharing to promote defense cooperation and exchanges between Japan and the ROK, the two ministers also agreed to further exchange views and discuss the contents of information security agreement between the defense authorities of their respective countries. Furthermore, at the Japan-ROK Defense Ministers’ Meeting held at the IISS Asia Security Summit in June 2011, the ministers affirmed the importance of swiftly concluding the ACSA and information protection agreements and agreed to accelerate work being done in these areas.

After the Great East Japan Earthquake in March 2011, Minister of Defense Toshimi Kitazawa held a telephone conversation with Minister of National Defense Kwan-jin Kim during which he conveyed thanks for the ROK government’s dispatch of five rescue workers and two rescue dogs. After their conversation, C-130 transport aircraft belonging to the Republic of Korea Air Force transported the second unit of rescue workers, numbering 102 members, together with relief supplies, between Japan and the ROK.

Furthermore, as both Japan and the ROK are allied with the United States and play an indispensable role for the peace and stability of the Asia-Pacific region, trilateral cooperation among Japan, the United States, and the ROK has been developing in recent years much the same way as one has among Japan, the United States, and Australia. At the 9th IISS Asian Security Summit in June 2010, the second Japan–U.S.–ROK-Trilateral Defense Ministerial meeting was held following on the previous year, during which it was determined to consider trilateral cooperation in the areas of information sharing,
Proliferation Security Initiative (PSI), etc. Further, agreement was reached to move forward with cooperation in the areas of humanitarian aid and disaster relief.

In July 2010, Japan dispatched four MSDF personnel, as observers, to the joint exercises implemented by the United States and the ROK, “Invincible Spirit,” upon an invitation received from those countries. The ROK Armed Forces dispatched observers to “Keen Sword,” the joint exercises staged by Japan and the United States later that year in December. The mutual dispatch of observers to training events with the United States, as carried out for the first time recently, will further strengthen cooperation between Japan, the United States, and the ROK, and thereby contribute to the peace and stability of the region.

Japan considers it important to continue developing future-oriented cooperative relations with the ROK in the fields of defense and security into the future.

(See Fig. -3-2-3)

4. Japan–India Defense Cooperation and Exchanges

India is located in the center of sea lanes which connect Japan with the Middle East and Africa, making it an extremely important country in a geopolitical sense for Japan, which relies on maritime transportation for most of its trade. Furthermore, Japan and India share fundamental values such as democracy, the rule of law, respect for human rights, and capitalist economies. They also have a common interest in the peace, stability, and prosperity of Asia and the world, and have constructed a strategic global partnership. Therefore, in recent years both Japan and India have been strengthening relations in security areas in particular.

In October 2008, Prime Minister Manmohan Singh of India visited Japan and the two Prime Ministers signed the Joint Declaration on Security Cooperation between Japan and India (Joint Declaration), which is a joint declaration regarding the area of security coming after similar declarations with the United States and Australia. This is the third country with whom a joint declaration has been signed in the area of security, after the United States and Australia as mentioned above. The Joint Declaration specifies that cooperation will be conducted between the two defense authorities by way of, for example, meetings between the Defense Ministers, meetings between the Vice-Minister of Defense of Japan and the Defence Secretary of India including Defense Policy Dialogue, military-to-military talks at the Director General/Joint Secretary-level, and service-to-service exchanges including bilateral and multilateral exercises. The declaration serves as a guideline for future cooperation in security areas between Japan and India.

Furthermore, Japan-India Defense Ministerial meetings were held when Minister of Defence A.K. Antony visited Japan in November 2009, and when Minister of Defense Toshimi Kitazawa visited India in April 2010. On these occasions, they exchanged opinions on regional security conditions, maritime security, and the two countries’ defense cooperation and exchanges. At the meeting in November 2009, a joint
press release was announced, which reached an agreement over promoting defense cooperation and exchanges between the two countries across various levels and fields. Both Japan and India have shared the view to promote cooperation in non-traditional security areas such as counter-terrorism, peacekeeping and peacebuilding, and disaster relief. With the interest of strengthening concrete cooperation in the field of maritime security in particular, the two sides held the first Japan–India Maritime Security Dialogue in October 2009. In December 2009 the then Prime Minister Hatoyama visited India. Together with the Indian Prime Minister Singh, he formulated the Action Plan to promote security cooperation between Japan and India. The Action Plan includes items for the actual promotion of cooperation in maritime security such as cooperation in anti-piracy activities and the holding of joint exercises at sea. In addition, the first Administrative Vice-Ministerial “2+2” Dialogue was held in July 2010, based on the Action Plan, as was the second Subcabinet Defense Policy Dialogue. Then, in May 2011, the eighth Japan-India Security Dialogue and the seventh Japan-India Military-Military (MM) Consultation were held, during which topics were discussed including measures to further develop security cooperation between Japan and India. (See Fig. 3-2-4)

5. Japan–China Defense Exchanges and Cooperation

China’s outstanding economic development and the modernization of its military capabilities in recent years have raised its presence within the international community. Although there are pending issues between Japan and China such as resources development in the East China Sea and the question of transparency in regard to military capabilities, comprehensive promotion of the “Mutually Beneficial Relationship Based on Common Strategic Interests”, and further deepening of friendly and cooperative relations are common interests of both countries. Furthermore, from the standpoint of continuing to promote defense exchanges in a continuous and stable manner without being affected by political circumstances, bolstering mutual understanding and trust between Japan and China by striving to improve transparency in respective defense policies is indispensable for the peace and stability of the Asia-Pacific region.

Japan and China have worked to enhance their relationship of trust and mutual understanding on various levels, and momentum is increasing for expanding the sectors of cooperation based on the concept of promoting a “Mutually Beneficial Relationship Based on Common Strategic Interests”. A Japan-China Defense Ministerial meeting was held in Beijing in March 2009, and again in Tokyo in November 2009. At the meeting in November, agreement was met on considering and exchanging views on implementing concrete bilateral cooperation, including the implementation of joint exercises related to maritime search and rescue, sharing experiences and cooperation concerning humanitarian assistance and disaster relief, and swiftly establishing a maritime communication mechanism between the Japanese and Chinese
defense authorities. The ministers also released a Joint Press Statement and after the meeting held their first joint press conference ever. In addition, informal talks between Minister of Defense Toshimi Kitazawa and Minister of National Defense Liang Guanglie in Hanoi on October 11, 2010 led to a consensus understanding that it was important for both countries to go back to the basics and work toward a “Mutually Beneficial Relationship Based on Common Strategic Interests”. Furthermore, at the Japan-China Defense Ministerial Meeting held at the IISS Asia Security Summit in Singapore in June 2011, the two countries agreed that the defense authorities of both countries advancing dialogue in a calm manner and promoting Japan-China defense exchanges in a stable fashion was the basis for such a “Mutually Beneficial Relationship Based on Common Strategic Interests”, and that this would lead to strengthening trust and friendly relations and improving transparency of defense and other policies. The ministers therefore confirmed their will to continue to develop Japan-China defense exchange.

In regards to regular meetings between Japanese and Chinese defense authorities, in January 2011 the 12th Japan-China Security Dialogue was held, marking the first such meeting between the countries’ defense and foreign affairs authorities in nearly two years. At the meeting, the two countries exchanged views on their respective defense policies and agreed on working towards swiftly establishing a liaison communication to prevent maritime contingencies. Moreover, they reached a consensus on their awareness that exchanges between Japanese and Chinese defense authorities on various levels and in various sectors play an important role in strengthening mutual understanding and trust between the two countries.

Furthermore, in consideration of the intensifying activities of the Chinese Navy in recent years, the construction of a maritime communication mechanism between the two countries’ defense authorities has become an urgent matter. Japan urged China to conduct concrete deliberations on the matter and in July 2010 the 2nd Working-Level Talks were held about this issue between the Japanese and Chinese defense authorities. Also, at the June 2011 Japan-China Defense Ministerial Meeting, Defense Minister Kitazawa requested that the Chinese Navy prevent reoccurrences of incidents where Chinese naval aircraft approach MSDF vessels, and the two agreed to hold the 3rd Working-Level Talks in the near future.

In regard to exchanges between units, the Chinese destroyer Shenzhen called at in Tokyo Bay from November to December 2007, the MSDF destroyer Sazanami visited Zhanjiang in China’s Guangdong Province in June 2008, and the Chinese training vessel Zhenghe visited Kure and Etajima in November 2009. At the Japan–China Defense Ministerial meeting in November 2009, the two ministers shared the view that exchanges between the armies of the GSDF and those of the PLA would be carried out, and in June 2010 a group represented by the commander of the Jinan Military Region visited Japan. Both Japan and China are striving to strengthen mutual trust and improve the transparency of defense policies through such efforts.

Furthermore, officer-level exchanges between Japan and China have been implemented since 2001, organized by the Sasakawa Peace Foundation. This project is not limited solely to the area of defense. It
includes programs incorporating a diverse range of approaches including politics, economics, society, and history. It fulfills a significant role not only in the promotion of relationships of mutual trust and understanding between the leaders of the defense authorities of these two countries, but also in increasing the coverage of defense exchanges themselves. Hereafter it is essential to strive to promote mutual trust and understanding between Japan and China at various levels and in a wider range of areas, while also actively promoting concrete cooperation in non-traditional security areas.

(See Fig.III-3-2-5)


Russia has great influence on the security of Europe, Central Asia, and the Asia-Pacific region, and is a neighboring country of Japan. It is therefore very important for Japan to deepen defense exchanges and promote relations of trust and cooperation with Russia. As Japan–Russia relations have continuously been developing in a wide range of areas, the Ministry of Defense has been steadily promoting exchanges with Russia at various levels in accordance with the memorandum on Japan–Russia defense exchanges drawn up in 1999 (revised in 2006). Security consultations between foreign and defense authorities, and Military-Military Talks at Director General-level and Councilor-level, as well as annual meetings based on the Japan–Russia Agreement on Prevention of Incidents On and Over the High Seas and joint search and rescue exercises are all held continuously. Defense exchanges with Russia were relatively restrained in 2009, affected somewhat by the structure reform of the Russian Armed Forces. In 2010, however, their vitality was restored, and high-level visits to Japan were undertaken by the Commander in Chief of the Russian Air Force Aleksandr Zelin in June and the Chief of the General Staff Nikolai Yegorovich Makarov in September. Security consultations and a Military-Military Talks at the working level were held in July. At the unit level, a MSDF vessel visited Russia and the 11th Japan-Russia joint search and rescue exercise was held in July. Vessels of the Russian Navy visited Japan in October. Furthermore, at the IISS Asia Security Summit in June 2011, Defense Minister Kitazawa held a meeting with Deputy Prime Minister Sergei Ivanov (previous Defense Minister), where they agreed that it was very important to work to enhance mutual understanding and trust through various defense exchanges. The two also agreed that Minister Kitazawa would pay a visit to Russia in the near future.

(See Reference III-3-2-6)

7. Defense Cooperation and Exchanges with Southeast Asian Countries

Southeast Asian countries are located in an area strategically important for maritime traffic that connects Japan with the Middle East and Europe, and have long been traditional partners, having close economic
relations with Japan. Promoting trust and cooperative relations for issues in various security challenges with these countries is meaningful for both Japan and Southeast Asian countries.

In particular, Japan has regularly held dialogues at the ministerial and vice-ministerial level with Singapore, Vietnam, Thailand, the Philippines, Malaysia, and Indonesia. At such dialogues, Japan actively exchanges opinions on defense cooperation and exchanges with each country as well as security cooperation architecture in the region. Also, in May 2010, Parliamentary Senior Vice-Minister of Defense Shimba visited Laos, Cambodia, and Timor-Leste to exchange views regarding practical cooperation including cooperation in nontraditional security issues and assistance in capacity-building efforts, while making efforts to strengthen bilateral defense cooperation and exchange with each nation. In October and November of that year, in conjunction with the ASEAN Defence Ministers’ Meeting Plus (ADMM Plus), Minister of Defense Toshimi Kitazawa held bilateral talks with the defense ministers of various Southeast Asian countries including Singapore, Thailand, Indonesia, and Vietnam, at which he held dialogues regarding regional security situation and security cooperation across the region. Furthermore, in January 2011, Parliamentary Vice-Minister of Defense Daisuke Matsumoto visited the Philippines, Thailand, Nepal, Malaysia, and Indonesia, where he engaged in a range of discussions on the security of the region with defense authority officials of the countries. In addition, during the same month, Vice-Minister of Defense Kimito Nakae visited Thailand and Singapore, paid office calls to the defense ministers, and held talks with the defense secretaries, during which he exchanged opinions on the efforts aimed at further development of defense cooperation and exchanges with the two countries.

Cooperation and exchange with the Southeast Asian countries has been steadily developing. In addition to high-level exchanges, Japan has been proactive in consultations between defense officials, as well as exchanges between units, and sending and receiving exchange students. Moreover, in order to strengthen the defense cooperation and exchange with Laos, the defense attaché in Vietnam is now assigned to oversee the country in addition to Cambodia. The Ministry of Defense is also actively contributing to the development of concrete cooperation in the region, while also playing a leading role in stabilizing the regional security environment through hosting the Tokyo Defense Forum and the Japan-ASEAN Defense Vice-Minister-Level Meeting, and serving as co-chair for the Expert Working Group (EWG) on Military Medicine in the ADMM Plus.

(See Reference III-3-2-7)


The United Kingdom, being a major power that has influence not only in the European region but also the rest of the world, has historically maintained close relations with Japan. On the security front, Japan shares the same strategic interests with the United Kingdom, as both countries are important allies of the United States. Given this relationship, it is extremely important for Japan to promote cooperation through
such global issues as international peace cooperation activities and anti-terrorism and piracy, and through information exchange relating to the regional situation.

At the Japan–U.K. summit meeting in January 2007, the Japan–U.K. Joint Statement which encompasses cooperation in security areas was announced. Moreover, in January 2004, the Defense Ministers of both countries signed “Defense Exchanges”, a memorandum on bilateral defense cooperation in order to develop bilateral defense exchanges in various sectors, thereby advancing the two countries’ resolve to promote defense exchanges at all levels and in various fields. In September 2010, then Parliamentary Vice-Minister of Defense Daizo Kusuda visited the United Kingdom, where he held talks with Secretary of State for Defence Liam Fox and Under-Secretary of State and the Lords Spokesman on Defence Lord Astor. He exchanged views on topics including international peace cooperation activities, the security environment around Japan, and security of the sea lanes of communications.

Furthermore, at the IISS Asia Security Summit in June 2011, Administrative Vice-Minister of Defense Nakae met with U.K. Permanent Under Secretary Ursula Brennan, marking the first vice-ministerial level talks in 13 years. The two exchanged views on the response to the Great East Japan Earthquake and future Japan-U.K. defense cooperation.

(See Reference III-3-2-8)

9. Defense Cooperation and Exchanges with European Countries

Europe shares fundamental values with Japan such as democracy, the rule of law, respect for human rights, and capitalist economies. Moreover, it serves as the central core in working to address shared challenges to global security, focusing primarily on non-traditional security areas such as counter-terrorism and combating piracy, as well as international peace cooperation activities. Therefore, developing defense cooperation and exchanges with the countries of Europe provides a foundation for Japan to actively take part in global challenges, and is important for both Japan and Europe.

Under this recognition, in May 2010, then Parliamentary Vice-Minister Kusuda visited Belgium and France, followed in September with a visit to Germany, and exchanged views with officials at NATO and the EU, as well as the French and German defense ministries. Japan is deepening its cooperative relations with European countries and organizations, such as France, Germany, Italy, and the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO), utilizing the framework of multilateral security dialogues as well. For example, then Parliamentary Vice-Minister of Defense Daizo Kusuda visited the headquarters for antipiracy operations of the EU and NATO.

(See Reference III-3-2-9)

Section 3. Efforts to Support International Peace Cooperation Activities
At present, the international community faces a range of global-scale problems, such as proliferation of weapons of mass destruction, international terrorism, complex and various regional conflicts, and international crimes. With deepening mutual dependency among states and regions stemming from the advancement of the telecommunications network and the globalization of the economy, there is a concern that even events that could occur far from Japan may pose a threat or impact on Japan.

In light of the difficulty for a single country to respond to and solve these global threats and the need to take an approach to addressing these threats not only on the military operations, but also on various other fields, it is widely recognized that the international community need to join hands in coping with these threats.

In consideration of such a situation, the “National Defense Program Guidelines for FY2011 and Beyond (New NDPG)” have positioned “efforts to improve the global security environment.” The New NDPG also states that Japan will promote diplomatic efforts including the use of Official Development Assistance (ODA) in order to resolve the fundamental causes of conflict, terrorism, and other problems, and will proactively undertake international peace cooperation activities in tandem with such diplomatic efforts.

This chapter explains the Ministry of Defense’s and the SDF’s efforts for international peace cooperation activities.

(See Fig. III-3-1-1)
See References 25 (pxx)-26 (pxx), 59 ( pxx )

### 1. Proactive Efforts to Support International Peace Cooperation Activities

#### 1. Significance of Stipulating International Peace Cooperation Activities as One of the Primary Missions of the SDF

Amid the current security environment, the peace and security of the international community is considered to be closely linked to the peace and security of Japan. Based on this notion, for the SDF to take part in international peace cooperation activities proactively, improvements need to be made to education and training, stand-by postures of assigned units and transportation capabilities. These improvements should be made upon stipulating international peace cooperation activities, which used to be regarded as supplementary activities, as a primary mission, and in 2007, international peace cooperation activities and activities responding to situations in areas surrounding Japan were stipulated as one of the primary missions of the SDF, alongside the defense of Japan and the maintenance of public order.

#### 2. History of Japan’s Efforts to Support International Peace Cooperation Activities
The Persian Gulf War became a major turning point for Japan to recognize the need to provide military personnel contribution for international cooperation. The SDF dispatched a MSDF minesweeping unit to the Persian Gulf in 1991 to ensure the safe passage of Japanese commercial vessels. For Japan, this dispatch meant an international contribution on the humanitarian arena with the purpose of peaceful and humanitarian support for the reconstruction of devastated, and war-affected countries, as well as to ensure the safe passage of Japanese commercial ships. In 1992, the International Peace Cooperation Law\textsuperscript{15} was enacted and Japan subsequently dispatched GSDF engineer units to Cambodia in September as the country’s first participation in the U.N. peacekeeping operations (PKO). Since then, the Ministry of Defense and the SDF have participated in various international peace cooperation activities. As of May 30, 2011, a total of approximately 380 personnel are assigned to such activities, including 2 to the United Nations Integrated Mission in Timor-Leste (UNMIT), approximately 330 to the United Nations Stabilization Mission in Haiti (MINUSTAH), 2 to the United Nations Mission in Sudan (UNMIS), and 46 to the United Nations Disengagement Observer Force (UNDOF).

The 9/11 attacks on the United States in 2001 led to the enactment of the Anti-Terrorism Special Measures Law\textsuperscript{16} (after that law expired it was succeeded by the Replenishment Support Special Measures Law\textsuperscript{17}), and the Maritime Self-Defense Force (MSDF) conducted replenishment activities in the Indian Ocean for about eight years, with a short interval. In 2003, Japan enacted the Iraq Special Measures Law\textsuperscript{18}, and the GSDF provided medical care, water supply, and assistance for the recovery and improvement of public infrastructure, such as schools and roads in Samawah, Iraq, and the Air Self-Defense Force (ASDF) transported supplies for humanitarian and reconstruction assistance from its base in Kuwait.

These kinds of participation by the SDF in international peace cooperation activities contribute to the maintenance of peace and security of the international community including Japan’s own. It also contributes to enhancing Japan’s credibility with other nations as it provides opportunities to demonstrate the capabilities of the SDF through missions with international organizations such as the United Nations and forces of other countries.

(See Fig. III-3-3-2)

3. Continuous Efforts to Carry Out Prompt and Accurate International Peace Cooperation Activities

In order to undertake international peace cooperation activities proactively, the SDF must continue peacetime efforts to establish various systems. Since July 2007, the GSDF has designated candidates from regional armies in rotation for possible missions assignments, in order to maintain a posture allowing them to respond promptly and continuously to operational requirements. In March 2008, the GSDF
established the Central Readiness Regiment under the Central Readiness Force, so that the advance unit
can quickly carry out preparations for deployment for the main unit that is to follow it.
Since 2008, the SDF has implemented, once every year, drills to ensure preparedness for deployment of
personnel to international cooperation missions, with the objective of maintaining and improving the
capacity to implement swift overseas operations and the ability to precisely execute duties abroad. The
successful deployment of PKO personnel in the aftermath of the massive earthquake that struck Haiti in
January 2010 only about two weeks after the request from the United Nations for dispatch of SDF troops
is seen as a result of such drills and other efforts for establishment of a framework for participation in
international peace cooperation activities.
In 2009, Japan participated in the United Nations Stand-by Arrangement System (UNSAS) in order to
participate more actively in U.N. peacekeeping operations. As of the end of June 2011, Japan has
registered its preparedness to provide SDF personnel capable of providing logistic support for the
following activities and operations: 1) medical care (including epidemic prevention measures), 2)
transportation, 3) storage (including stockpiling), 4) communications, 5) construction, 6) SDF units
capable of logistic support for installation, inspection, and repair of equipment and devices; 7) military
observers; and 8) HQ officers.
The SDF also promotes the improvement and enhancement of equipment for international peace
cooperation activities. The GSDF has improved a range of vehicles fitted with bulletproof glass and
run-flat tires as well as high capacity generators to enable troops to carry out operations in areas with
underdeveloped infrastructure. And, in order to ensure that activities can be carried out under diversified
environments, the engines of transport helicopters (CH-47JA) are upgraded. Equipment including a sniper
locator is also under development. The MSDF has improved transport ships and destroyers equipped with
helicopters for helicopter operations overseas. The MSDF is conducting operational studies on portability
and deployability of the Marine Air Command and Control System (MACCS) to promote the effective
operation of fixed-wing patrol aircrafts overseas. The ASDF promotes the acquisition of aviation satellite
phones in order to maintain the command communication between aircraft and the ground controllers,
and countermeasure dispensers for transport aircraft. These equipment are also useful for responding to
domestic contingencies.
The GSDF is promoting communication among the deploying units and their families to ensure the
readiness of units and their personnel for their international peace cooperation activities with peace of
mind. The International Peace Cooperation Activities Training Unit (unit assigned to Central Readiness
Force) at Camp Komakado (Shizuoka Prefecture) conducts education to GSDF personnel to be deployed
to international peace cooperation activities, and also supports training related to international peace
cooperation activities.
The International Peace Assistance Center (IPAC) established by the Ministry of Defense as a new
educational institution for peacekeeping under the Joint Staff College in March 2010 will launch basic
training courses on international peace cooperation activities from FY2011. Furthermore, from FY2012 onwards, it is scheduled to provide specialized education to officers in charge of planning and policy-building for management and implementation of international peace cooperation activities and to HQ command officers deployed to U.N. contingents. The SDF is exploring the possibilities to make such education available not only to SDF personnel, but also to staff related to international peace cooperation activities in relevant ministries and agencies, international institutions, as well as NGOs.

4. Welfare and Mental Health Care of Dispatched SDF Units

It is extremely important to make necessary arrangements so that dispatched SDF personnel, who are expected to fulfill their assigned duty under severe working conditions while being far away from their home country and their families, can effectively carry out the assigned duty while maintaining both their physical and mental health.

The Ministry of Defense and the SDF have taken a series of measures to ease the anxiety of SDF members dispatched overseas for participation in international peace cooperation activities and the anxieties of their families in Japan so that the members can devote themselves to their assigned duties with peace of mind. Welfare services are provided for the deployed SDF members to support them to maintain close bonds with their families in Japan.

Specifically, direct communication between the dispatched SDF members and their families in Japan is ensured via video conference systems, and they can also communicate through recorded video correspondence. Moreover, briefing sessions for families of the dispatched members are held to provide them with a variety of information, and family support centers and family counseling rooms have been established to respond to various questions raised by the families.

The SDF also offers mental health care services, such as a course on stress reduction methods for SDF members with scheduled dispatch when engaging in overseas missions, and dispatched SDF members can consult with designated counselors who have completed specialized training. Such counselors provide dispatched members with sufficient mental care. The Ministry of Defense is prepared to assign medical officers to the SDF units engaged in overseas missions and send qualified psychiatrists (mental healthcare support teams, etc.) from Japan on a regular basis and provide education on methods to deal with stress on the ground and points of caution in communication with families or fellow force members after return to Japan. Upon completion of the mission or return of mission personnel, ad-hoc special health examinations and mental health checks will be conducted.

5. Debates on “General Law”

In recent years, there has been debate in the Diet and at other venues over a law that governs
international peace cooperation activities, also known as the “general law”.
While no specific actions have been taken so far by the Government toward enacting a “general law,” it is necessary to examine various issues including what specific activities Japan should engage in, as Japan actively assists in ensuring peace and stability of the international community.

2. Efforts to Support U.N. Peacekeeping Operations, etc.

As a way to maintain peace in the world’s regions of conflicts, the United Nations carries out 14 peacekeeping operations including ceasefire monitoring, election monitoring, and reconstruction assistance and 11 political and peace building missions (as of May 2011). International organizations, such as the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), governments and non-governmental organizations (NGO) conduct relief and reconstruction activities for the victims of conflicts and large-scale disasters from a humanitarian perspective and from the viewpoint of stabilizing affected countries.

Japan, in a bid to fulfill a role commensurate to its international status and responsibilities, has been cooperating both in terms of funding and personnel, with global efforts being led by the United Nations to build a peaceful and stable international community.

In order to help improve the global security environment, based on the International Peace Cooperation Law, the Ministry of Defense and the SDF have actively engaged in international peace cooperation activities by sending troops.

In August 2010, U.N. Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon visited Japan and held talks with Defense Minister Kitazawa on Japan’s efforts in support of U.N. peacekeeping activities. The Secretary-General showed appreciation for the SDF’s contributions to U.N. peacekeeping activities, and expressed his expectations for future contributions.

1. Outline of International Peace Cooperation Law

The International Peace Cooperation Law, enacted in 1992, is designed to allow Japan to actively contribute to global efforts led by the United Nations to achieve international peace by establishing an implementation structure for Japan to appropriately and swiftly cooperate in 1) U.N. peacekeeping operations, 2) humanitarian international relief operations, and 3) international election monitoring activities. The law also enables Japan to implement measures for providing assistance in the form of supplies in response to each of the three activities listed above.

The law stipulates a set of basic guidelines (so-called five principles for participation) for Japan’s participation in a U.N. peacekeeping force.

(See Figs. III-3-3-3, 4)
2. United Nations Integrated Mission in Timor-Leste (UNMIT)

(1) Background of Dispatch to UNMIT

East Timor had been a scene of conflicts for independence for years, but in April 1999 a peace consensus was reached, and successive U.N. missions were established. East Timor became independent in May 2002. In 2006, however, the security situation deteriorated again. Against this backdrop, the United Nations Integrated Mission in Timor-Leste (UNMIT) was established in August 2006 with the objective to restore and maintain stability. On May 25, 2010 Japan received a request for dispatch of military liaison officers to UNMIT, and on September 10 the same year the dispatch was decided at a Cabinet meeting. As a result, on September 27 Japan dispatched to UNMIT two officials of the GSDF to act. (See Fig. III-3-3-5)

(2) Activities Implemented by Dispatched Personnel

UNMIT was established with the objective to restore and maintain stability. Under this mission civilian police officers provide local police with assistance through training and other activities while military liaison officers monitor the security situation until the national police have been reconstructed. The scale of UNMIT encompasses 1,465 civilian police officers and 33 military liaison officers. As part of this mission, the two military liaison officers dispatched by Japan participate in unarmed operations in order to monitor compliance with the cease of armed conflict in East Timor and are dispatched in various zones across the country to visit leaders of local administrative bodies, the international security forces dispatched by Australia and New Zealand, the national forces of East Timor, the national police, and the national armed forces of Indonesia in order to collect intelligence on issues such as the security situation in East Timor, and the state of the economy, education, medical care, and social infrastructure.

The second detachment, which includes the first female SDF officer individually dispatched to a U.N. mission, took over the duties of the first detachment on March 29, 2011, and is engaged in activities on the ground in East Timor.

3. United Nations Stabilization Mission in Haiti (MINUSTAH)

(1) Background

A major earthquake struck Haiti on January 13, 2010, causing the deaths of over 300,000 people. In
response, Japan dispatched a Japan Disaster Relief Medical Team consisting with primarily civilian doctors as well as the SDF international disaster relief medical unit on January 14.

On January 19, 2010, the U.N. Security Council adopted Resolution 1908 to increase the strength of the United Nations Stabilization Mission in Haiti (MINUSTAH) to support efforts for immediate recovery, reconstruction, and stability following the earthquake, and requested member states to send troops. In response, Japan responded to the United Nations on January 25 that it was prepared to send an SDF engineer unit to the mission. After receiving a formal request from the UN on January 29 to dispatch an SDF engineer unit, the Japanese Government decided to send a GSDF engineer unit (about 350 personnel) to MINUSTAH with Cabinet approval on February 5.

(See Figs. III-3-3-6, 7, and 8)

(2) SDF Activities

The first detachment was organized primarily from troops of the GSDF Central Readiness Force, and began to dispatch from Japan to the disaster site on the following day, February 6, upon an order issued by Minister of Defense Kitazawa to the SDF troops to undertake international peace cooperation activities in Haiti. The first detachment began its relief operation as one of the U.N. PKO units on February 16. Past operations for participation of SDF units in U.N. PKO have required a preparation period of several months for advance surveys, selection and inoculation of personnel, procurement of necessary equipment, etc. In this case, however, the first detachment departed from Japan approximately two weeks after the Minister of Defense issued instructions for launch of dispatch preparations. Such a speedy dispatch was made possible by the fact that an SDF medical unit engaged in international disaster relief operations in Haiti provided a clear picture of the situation on the ground, the experience accumulated through numerous overseas missions, and the fact that the detachment was organized primarily from troops of the GSDF Central Readiness Force, which implements drills for swift dispatch and advance preparation activities, including inoculation, on a daily basis.

The GSDF unit began its relief operation as one of the U.N. PKO units on February 16, 2010, besides their own camp construction adjacent to the combined campsite of the PKO units in Port au Prince, the capital of Haiti. The fourth detachment organized primarily from troops of the GSDF Middle Army, which took over duties on February 19, 2011, is currently engaged in activities on the ground. The deployment of the troops to Haiti was carried out smoothly through private transportation means, as well as ASDF-dedicated Japanese government aircraft, KC-767 aerial refueling and strategic transport aircraft, and C-130 military transport aircraft.

The GSDF unit is equipped with heavy equipment such as bulldozers, hydraulic shovels, and truck cranes, and is assigned with reconstruction and recovery tasks, such as removal of the massive amounts of rubble from the earthquake, building and repairing camps for displaced populations, repair of roads along the
border with the Dominican Republic, disposal of the rubble from city roads and destroyed government buildings, and construction of facilities for orphaned children. Haitian people from the disaster-stricken areas and U.N. officials have expressed their gratitude for the earnest and sincere efforts of the SDF troops.

In mid-October 2010, the worsened sanitary environment mainly in central Haiti caused an outbreak of cholera, which caused 4,120 fatalities (according to an announcement by the Ministry of Public Health and Population released on January 30, 2011). In response, the SDF has added medical activities (including epidemic prevention measures) to its action plan in order to enable cooperation for the cholera countermeasures implemented for those related to MINUSTAH by MINUSTAH, and currently SDF medical corps are poised to take on duty at the Cholera Medical Treatment Center.

The GSDF units have been cooperating with the forces of other countries in the reconstruction support efforts in Haiti. For example, they have been cooperating with forces of the Republic of Korea in operations for dismantling of schools and medical centers and removal of rubble, and have engaged in exchange activities, such as mutual camp visits. The GSDF have also been cooperating with Brazilian, Chilean, and Ecuadorian engineer units. Regarding the relations with the U.S. forces, the SDF has, as a member of the MINUSTAH, participated in and cooperated in humanitarian assistance initiatives of the U.S. forces, engaged in dispatch and replacement of personnel, and has promoted operational cooperation and coordination such as on the use of U.S. bases in California and Miami as relay bases between Haiti and Japan.

See Reference 60 (pxx)

4. The United Nations Mission in Sudan (UNMIS)

(1) Background to Japan’s Decision to Send Personnel to UNMIS

In Sudan, the Sudanese Government and the Sudan People’s Liberation Movement signed the Comprehensive Peace Agreement (CPA) in January 2005. Based upon this agreement, UNMIS was formed to support the implementation of the CPA and to perform ceasefire surveillance, etc. In addition to the military section that performs ceasefire surveillance, etc., UNMIS has a civilian component in charge of election support and humanitarian assistance coordination. UNMIS is a multi-functional, large-scale U.N. peacekeeping operation that involves more than 10,000 people.

In October 2008 the Cabinet decided to dispatch SDF personnel to the UNMIS headquarters, and two SDF officers were dispatched to serve as members of the UNMIS headquarters. In addition, one defense attaché was dispatched to the Japanese Embassy in Sudan to support the activities of the UNMIS headquarters personnel. In April 2011, the two members of the fifth detachment at the Headquarters were replaced by the sixth detachment, which is recurrently engaged in the assignment.
Since Sudan is the largest country in Africa, bordering nine countries, its stability is crucial to the improvement of the security environment of Africa as a whole. Furthermore, in light of the fact that terrorist organizations such as Al-Qaeda had located their bases in Sudan, Japan’s proactive involvement on its own initiative in international efforts for the stability of Sudan by dispatching SDF officers to UNMIS is of great significance from the viewpoint of the effort against terrorism and the security of Japan. Moreover, not only Group of Eight (G8) countries but also Asia-Pacific countries have been deeply involved in various issues facing Africa; thus, participating in UNMIS will help to strengthen cooperation between Japan and these countries. It will also expand the SDF’s approach to international peace cooperation and is useful from the perspective of human resources development and improving practical capabilities of the SDF.

(See Fig. III-3-3-9)

(2) Activities of Dispatched Personnel

In line with the policy of the United Nations that personnel at headquarters work without arms, in the same manner as mentioned below for UNMIT and UNMIN, the SDF officers dispatched to UNMIS do not carry weapons, and are dispatched on an individual basis.

One SDF officer in Sudan is undertaking coordination duties within UNMIS relating to the general logistical demands of the military sectors in the Logistics Office of the Military Component located in the capital, Khartoum. The other officer is managing the database at the Joint Information Analysis Center in the Office of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General of the United Nations.

GSDF officers have earned high acclaim from UNMIS personnel for their discipline, professionalism, and sincere approach to their work.

5. United Nations Disengagement Observer Force (UNDOF)

(1) Background of Dispatch to UNDOF

UNDOF is a U.N. peacekeeping force active in the Area of Separation (AOS) established in the Golan Heights following the agreed ceasefire between the Israeli and Syrian forces. Its function is to supervise the ceasefire between the two countries and the status of implementation of the disengagement agreement. The SDF provides logistic support to these activities.

For Japan, which imports most of its petrol supplies from the Middle East, the stability of this region is extremely important, and the participation in the UNDOF operations has the significance of humanitarian cooperation provided to the efforts of the international community for peace in the Middle East. It is also
an important effort for fostering of human resources for international peace cooperation activities.

In December 1995, the Government of Japan decided to dispatch SDF troops to UNDOF, and the first transport unit composed of 43 members was dispatched to the Golan Heights in February 1996 to replace the transport unit of Canada. Since then, replacement teams have been dispatched every six months until February 2008, when the SDF changed the dispatch format to replacing only the team members while maintaining the unit, and reorganized the transport unit dispatched to the Golan Heights.

(See Figs. III-3-3-10, 11)

(2) SDF Activities

The SDF transport unit conducts transportation of daily commodities necessary for UNDOF activities from ports, airports, and markets in Israel, Syria, and Lebanon to UNDOF camps. It also provides logistic support for repair of roads and snow clearing at mountainous ranges with an altitude of over 2,800 m. Since March 2006, the SDF transport unit has been sharing a camp with the Indian unit that took over the functions of the Canadian forces, and has been implementing joint food provision operations. The ASDF dispatches C-130H military transport aircraft and U-4 multipurpose support aircraft once every six months to ship goods for the SDF transport unit.

Also, the SDF increased the number of HQ staff officers dispatched to UNDOF from two to three in 2009. They are engaged in planning and coordination of transportation and other logistic support, and PR and budget-related activities for the UNDOF operations. The HQ staff officers are replaced once a year, and as of the end of May 2011 the 16th detachment has dispatched to the UNDOF mission.

Initially, the period of dispatch of SDF troops to UNDOF was set at two years, but their dispatch was continued and remains under way because of the strong request from the United Nations coupled with the high evaluation from the United Nations and relevant countries regarding the efforts of Japan’s troops, and with consideration of the significance of such humanitarian cooperation for the Middle East peace process, which has enormous impact on the prosperity of Japan. So far approximately 1,340 SDF members in 31 detachments have been dispatched as transport units to the Golan Heights and are making contribution in the field.

6. United Nations Mission in Nepal (UNMIN)

(1) Background of Japan’s Decision to Send Personnel to UNMIN

After the civil war between the Nepalese Government then and the Maoists Unified Communist Party of Nepal (Maoist) in a bid to capture power, an accord aimed at achieving permanent peace was signed in November 2006 thanks to repeated peace talks under the new government formed in May 2006.
Subsequently, a comprehensive peace agreement was reached, marking the end of the conflict. In response to a request from the Nepalese Government and a recommendation by the Secretary-General of United Nations, UNMIN was established in January 2007 through U.N. Security Council Resolution 1740. Nepal’s Constituent Assembly election was held in April 2008 and marked the transition from a monarchy to a federal democratic republic, representing a certain degree of progress in Nepal’s peace process. Nevertheless, some issues remained unsolved, such as the integration of the national army and Maoists militia groups. In May 2010, the United Nations extended UNMIN’s tenure until January 15, 2011, at the request of the Nepalese government.

The Government of Japan, in response to a request by the United Nations for the dispatch of arms monitors to UNMIN operations, decided to dispatch personnel to the mission, and in March 2007, GSDF officers were dispatched to UNMIN. In addition, the Ministry of Defense and the International Peace Cooperation Headquarters of the Cabinet Office respectively, dispatched two liaison officers for coordination with relevant local agencies and information collection.

In January 2011, the U.N. Security Council announced the chairman’s intent regarding the end of the UNMIN mission due to the lack of a request to continue from the Nepalese Government, and the mission was completed on the 15th of the same month. (See Fig. III-3-3-12)

(2) Activities of GSDF Officers at UNMIN

The primary mission of UNMIN was to monitor the management of the weapons and troops of both sides according to the comprehensive peace accord between the Nepal army and the Maoists. The SDF officers dispatched to UNMIN did not carry weapons, in accordance with the provisions of the United Nations concerning the dispatch of military observers. Personnel from Japan were dispatched to seven Maoist camps and barracks of the Nepal Army where troops from different countries came together to form joint teams of several personnel to inspect weapons and ammunition, monitor troop management, and collect intelligence. In order to maintain a 24-hour monitoring posture, groups of military observers carried out monitoring operations while continuously working and living together as teams.

Also, UNMIN marked the first time that SDF officers alone were dispatched as Arms Monitors, whereas for international peace cooperation activities prior to the UNMIN dispatch, some personnel contingent were dispatched individually as ceasefire observers or as staff officers along with.

During the approximately four-year period from the March 2007 dispatch to the completion of the mission in January 2011, a total of 24 Arms Monitors were dispatched with the rotation up to 4th contingent with a total of 48 liaisons in support.

(3) Evaluation of the activities
In the small scale military monitoring mission totaling 70 personnel (180 personnel at the time of the mission, reduced after July 2008), the contribution of Japan for dispatching six SDF personnel continuously and the high professionalism, responsibility, leadership, and sincere work ethic were highly praised by the local U.N. office, the UNMIN Arms Monitors of other nations, the Nepalese Government, and the Maoists. Furthermore, the monitoring of weapons and troop management was a task that the Ministry of Defense and the SDF had not previously experienced, and it helped expand the scope of Japan’s international peace cooperation activities.

7. Dispatch of SDF Personnel to the U.N. Department of Peacekeeping Operations

The Ministry of Defense/SDF dispatch one personnel member to the Military Planning Service, Office of Military Affairs of the U.N. Department of Peacekeeping Operations to proactively contribute to the U.N. efforts for international peace, and the experience gained by the dispatched personnel is leveraged for Japan’s peacekeeping activities. The dispatched personnel member is involved in U.N. peacekeeping policy decision making, developing standards, and creating plans for a two-year period starting in January 2011.

See Reference 66 (pxx)

8. Dispatch of Instructors to the PKO Center in Africa

In a joint press conference held in June 2008 the then Prime Minister and the Secretary-General of the United Nations announced their intention to enhance the capacity of the PKO center in Africa, including sending SDF personnel as instructors. Following this, two GSDF officers were dispatched to the PKO center in Egypt (Cairo Regional Center for Training on Conflict Resolution and Peacekeeping in Africa: CCCPA) during November 21–30, 2008. The aim of this dispatch was to support the peacekeeping efforts undertaken by the African nations themselves. It was the first time that SDF instructors had been dispatched to a foreign educational and training institution for PKO. The dispatched SDF personnel delivered lectures on the importance of building relationships with local residents in international peace cooperation activities which were highly commended by CCCPA staff as well as the audience. Furthermore, there was a third request for sending instructors in April 2010, and a female SDF personnel member was dispatched for the first time. Requests were also received from the peacekeeping school in Bamako, Mali, and a GSDF instructor was sent to the school from August 14 to August 30, 2010 for the second time. These GSDF officers provided desktop exercises relating to peacekeeping activities for participants including military and civilian personnel from African nations, and gave instruction and advice on what they had learned about civil-military cooperation through humanitarian and reconstruction
activities in Iraq and a variety of U.N. peacekeeping activities.

3. International Disaster Relief Operations

The Ministry of Defense and the SDF are determined to step up international disaster relief operations from the viewpoint of humanitarian contributions and improvement of the international security environment for the purpose of contributing to the advancement of international cooperation. To this end, the SDF maintain their readiness to take any necessary action based on prepared disaster relief operation plans, whenever a situation in which their operations are deemed necessary arises. The SDF has been proactively conducting international disaster relief operations which fully utilize the capabilities of the GSDF, MSDF, and ASDF, while taking into consideration specific relief requests by the governments of affected countries and disaster situations in these countries. (See Fig. -3-3-13)

1. Outline of the Law concerning the Dispatch of International Disaster Relief Teams

Since the enactment of the International Disaster Relief Law\(^2\) in 1987, Japan has engaged in international disaster relief activities in response to requests from the governments of affected countries and international organizations. In 1992, the International Disaster Relief Law was amended to enable the SDF to participate in international disaster relief operations and to transport its personnel and equipment. Since then, the SDF has maintained its readiness for international disaster relief operations in an independent manner with the use of its own equipment, organizations, and the benefits of regular training. See Reference 25 (pxx)

2. International Disaster Relief Operations by the SDF and the SDF’s Posture

Judging from the past experience of SDF dispatched to various disaster sites in Japan, the SDF’s capabilities in international disaster relief operations encompass 1) medical services, such as first-aid medical treatment and epidemic prevention, 2) transport of goods, patients, and disaster relief personnel by helicopter, and 3) ensuring water supplies using water-purifying devices. Also, the SDF uses transport planes and transport ships to carry disaster relief personnel and equipment to the affected area. International disaster relief operations conducted by the SDF may take different forms according to factors such as the scale of the disaster, the degree of damage, and the requests of the governments of affected countries or international organizations. For example, it provided air transport and medical support after the major earthquake in Haiti in January 2010, after receiving a request from the
Government of Haiti and consultations with the Foreign Minister. The Central Readiness Force and regional units of the GSDF maintain their readiness to ensure that they can carry out international disaster relief operations in an independent manner anytime the need arises. The MSDF and ASDF maintain their readiness to dispatch fleet and air support units, respectively, to transport supplies to units participating in international disaster relief operations, including their own, as the need for disaster relief arises.

3. Disaster Relief Activities in Response to the Flooding in Pakistan

(1) Background of the Dispatch

Record torrential rains in Pakistan since the latter half of July 2010 caused large-scale flooding, killing more than 2,000 people, and affecting approximately 20 million people. The Ministry of Defense received a request from the Government of Pakistan to send helicopters, and, together with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, sent a team to investigate the situation.

In light of the investigation, there was a request for consultation from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs on August 19, and the Defense Minister issued an order the next day on the 20th to commence international disaster relief activities. Japan sent an international disaster relief air relief unit consisting of three UH-1 utility helicopters and three CH-47 transport helicopters to be based at Multan airbase in Punjab, Pakistan, to transport materials and, when conditions require, personnel in the disaster area. To transport the helicopters and other materials and equipment, the MSDF dispatched an international disaster relief maritime transport unit consisting of the Shimokita transport vessel etc., and the ASDF dispatched an international disaster relief air transport unit consisting of six C-130H aircraft. Further, for stronger joint operation, a joint operations coordination center was established for the first time for the smooth execution of the mission where coordination with related Pakistani organizations and other nations was carried out.

(2) SDF Activities

The international disaster relief air relief unit that was dispatched consisted of 180 personnel primarily from the GSDF Western Army who carried out the transportation of supplies and personnel in the disaster area. At the time, there was close cooperation with other countries and organizations in the region under a mission assigned by the Pakistani Government, such as transporting Australian medical personnel and supplies with the SDF helicopters and transporting the large amounts of support supplies from the United Nations World Food Programme (WFP).

Based on a request by the Pakistan Government in October of the same year due to a reduced requirement
for air transport when roads became usable in the disaster area, the Minister of Defense issued orders to conclude the international disaster relief activities on the 5th of that month. Local activities were finished on the 10th, and the unit was withdrawn via maritime and air transport.

During the 41 days of activities from August 31 through October 10 of that year, the international disaster relief air relief unit transported 49 relief workers including medical staff and U.N. personnel as well as a total of 260 tons of support materials to the disaster area including food, water, and medical supplies.

(See Fig. III-3-3-14)

(3) Evaluation of the Activities

U.N. Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon expressed his deepest gratitude for the activities of the SDF unit, and members of the Pakistan government expressed their deep gratitude for the excellent performance of the Japanese SDF helicopter unit.

4. Personnel Involved in International Disaster Relief Activities and Supply Transport for the 2011 Christchurch Earthquake

(1) Background of the Dispatch

On February 22, 2011, an earthquake occurred on New Zealand’s South Island with its epicenter in the vicinity of Christchurch destroying homes and buildings and resulting in numerous people killed or missing. A request was received from the New Zealand Government that evening, and after being requested by the Minister for Foreign Affairs the following day on the 23rd, the Ministry of Defense/SDF formed an international disaster relief air transport unit comprising B-747 government aircraft and airlifted an international disaster relief rescue team by air to the disaster area.

(2) SDF Activities

The New Zealand international disaster relief air transport unit (40 personnel) comprising two government use aircraft (one of which remained on call in Japan) transported an international disaster relief rescue team of 70 personnel consisting of fire, police, and the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) personnel other than SDF, arriving in Christchurch International Airport on February 24. The unit then moved to Auckland International Airport on the same day after the international disaster relief rescue team disembarked.

To prepare for further operations in light of the scope of the earthquake damages, the air transport unit, waiting on site from February 24 to March 2, received a request from the Ministry for Foreign Affairs and
transported the personnel and supplies of the returning international disaster relief rescue team from New Zealand back to Japan. The government use aircraft left Christchurch on March 2 and arrived at Narita airport on the 3rd, thus ceased the activity the international disaster relief air transport unit.

(3) Evaluation of the Activities

Government use aircraft were used for this air transport mission, of which there are only two. These aircraft have other missions to carry out including the transport of state guests and Japanese nationals living abroad. Thus, they are not kept on hand for international disaster relief activities. However, based on the request from the Minister for Foreign Affairs, it was possible to quickly prepare for departure and smoothly transport the international disaster relief rescue team. This speedy handling led to the commencement of search and rescue operations by the team only two days after the earthquake struck.

4. Activities Responding to International Terrorism

1. Efforts of the International Community

Since the 9/11 attacks in 2001, the international community has continued its fight against terrorism not only on the military front but also on diplomatic, police, judicial, intelligence, and financial fronts. However, the threat of terrorist attacks still prevails in the international community, and the international community has been taking a unified stance in efforts to eradicate terrorism.

Strongholds of terrorist groups such as Al-Qaeda are believed to exist along the national border between Afghanistan and Pakistan. As Afghanistan continues to serve as a production center for narcotics, a source of major funding for terrorist activities, international forces including the U.S. military have conducted Operation Enduring Freedom (OEF) to counter Al-Qaeda and Taliban operations in the region, and to eradicate terrorism. Many countries have been deploying troops to participate in the International Security Assistance Force (ISAF) to support the reconstruction and maintenance of public security in Afghanistan. As it is essential that Afghanistan have adequate capability to maintain public security for the country’s stability and reconstruction, the personnel training of public security organizations including the Afghanistan army is an important issue. For this reason, the U.S. military and NATO are engaged in this with priority as one of the most important issues.

2. Japan’s Efforts

International terrorism is a global threat, and it is important for Japan to cooperate with the international community in making appropriate efforts for its prevention and eradication. From this perspective, Japan
has made a variety of efforts to enhance anti-terrorist measures. Since December 2001, with occasional lapses, the MSDF had been conducting maritime replenishment activities in the Indian Ocean as one of such efforts to support the counter-terrorism maritime interdiction operations by military vessels from countries such as the United States, the United Kingdom, France, Germany, as well as the Islamic Republic of Pakistan, based on the former Anti-Terrorism Special Measures Law and the Replenishment Support Special Measures Law (and later the Replenishment Support Special Measures Law following the expiration of the former law). These replenishment activities allowed the military vessels of those countries to receive supplies of fuel and water without returning to port, so that they could continue their activities over a broad range at sea.

Although these replenishment activities continued for about eight years, with a temporary break by the expiration of the former Anti-Terrorism Special Measures Law in recent years, the number of replenishments has declined compared to the earlier period, as has the significance of the replenishment activities. Because of this situation, the Government did not extend the term of the Replenishment Support Special Measures Law, and while continuing anti-terrorist measures mainly in the form of civil assistance to Afghanistan, replenishment support activities based on the Replenishment Support Special Measures Law were concluded when the law expired on January 15, 2010. Furthermore, considering that the personnel training of Afghanistan public security organizations including the military is currently one of the important issues, the Ministry of Defense is examining how the SDF could assist in such efforts.

3. Replenishment Activities Carried Out by the Maritime Self-Defense Force

Based on the former Anti-Terrorism Special Measures Law (and the Replenishment Support Special Measures Law following the expiration of the former) since December 2001, with an interruption in the middle, until January 2010, about 13,300 personnel (about 2,400 personnel under the Replenishment Support Special Measures Law) had participated in the replenishment activities, and the JMSDF replenished military vessels of all countries engaged in anti-terrorist measures with ship fuel, fuel for helicopters on ships, and water.

See References 61-62 (pxx)

4. Evaluation of the Replenishment Support Activities

In order to continue the activities on the wide area of sea without returning to ports for supplies of fuel and water, military vessels have to rely on the replenishment of supplies at sea. The MSDF conducted replenishment activities at sea for military vessels of other countries engaging in anti-terrorism maritime interdiction activities. The prevention of movement of terrorists and drugs over the ocean by those
activities had a certain effect on limiting the freedom of movement of terrorists and materials, as well as their financing within Afghanistan. In addition, through these activities, it was confirmed that the MSDF replenishment skills are extremely reliable, and by advancing the accumulation and sharing of know-how and knowledge, the MSDF improved its capability to provide replenishment at sea continuously over a long period of time.

5. Cooperation in Global Efforts to Reconstruct Iraq

1. Details of Japan’s Efforts to Support Iraqi Reconstruction

Since May 2003, the international community has been proactively engaged in activities to help rebuild Iraq, following the adoption of U.N. Security Council Resolution 1483 and subsequent resolutions. Japan began dispatching SDF units to the Middle East in December 2003 based on the Law Concerning Special Measures on Humanitarian and Reconstruction Assistance in Iraq, or the Iraq Special Measures Law, approved in the Diet in July of the same year. The dispatched SDF units conducted humanitarian and reconstruction assistance activities in cooperation with support provided by Official Development Assistance from December 2003 to December 2008. The SDF units also assisted troops of foreign countries in their efforts to restore security and stability in Iraq as support activities for ensuring security with a scope which would not affect the units’ humanitarian and reconstruction assistance activities.

2. SDF Operations Based on the Iraq Special Measures Law

Since December 2003, based on the Iraq Special Measures Law, the SDF had provided humanitarian and reconstruction support, such as medical care, water supply, reconstruction and improvement of public infrastructure such as schools and roads, and transportation of personnel and aid materials for the local people facing hardship. These activities helped Iraq rebuild proactively. In June 2006, the Government of Japan determined that activities of the GSDF in Al-Muthanna province should be concluded, considering that the reconstruction in Al-Muthanna province had shifted to the stage of being conducted on Iraqi people’s own initiative. In September of the same year, the GSDF concluded its operations which had lasted up to approximately two and a half years.

Moreover, in order to cooperate for the stability and reconstruction of Iraq, the ASDF units provided air transport support for the GSDF units dispatched to Al Muthanna Province as well as for the United Nations, and other multinational forces. Following the Government’s November 2008 decision to terminate air transport support considering the objects of Japanese activities were accomplished, the air transport mission, which had lasted for about five years ended in December 2008.
Japan received high evaluation from the international community and the Iraqi people for its cooperation in rebuilding Iraq. These activities not only strengthened trust in Japan, but were also meaningful to make Japan–U.S. relationship closer and more effective in the matter of security, because Japan cooperated with the United States in these activities.

Section 4. Efforts for Arms Control, Disarmament, and Non-Proliferation

In recent years, the international community has become keenly aware of a new kind of threat: the acquisition of weapons of mass destruction (WMD), the missiles which serve as their means of delivery, and related equipment and materials by terrorists and countries of concern as a consequence of proliferation. For this reason, efforts toward non-proliferation based on strict regulation and control on their export have become an urgent challenge to maintain the peace and stability of today’s international community.

From a humanitarian point of view, international public opinion demanding regulation of certain conventional weapons has also been rising. For this reason, responding to the issue of regulating certain conventional weapons, while continuing to maintain the balance between such humanitarian demands and defense necessity, has become an important challenge for each country.

As an effort to address these challenges, a regime dealing with arms control, disarmament, and non-proliferation has been developed with the cooperation of all nations.

Based on the above, Japan has been playing an active role in efforts to create a world free of nuclear weapons by taking realistic and step-by-step measures for disarmament and non-proliferation, as well as in international efforts related to the disarmament and non-proliferation of other weapons of mass destruction and the missiles which serve as their means of delivery, and furthermore in those related to the issue of regulating certain conventional weapons.

This section will explain the commitments made by the Ministry of Defense and the SDF toward the efforts carried out by international organizations including the United Nations concerning arms control, disarmament, and non-proliferation.

1. Efforts on Treaties Related to Arms Control, Disarmament, and Non-Proliferation of Weapons of Mass Destruction

1. Nuclear Weapons

(1) Related Treaties
Treaties and export control regimes for the purpose of arms control, disarmament, and non-proliferation of nuclear weapons, are shown in Reference 64 (Arms Control, Disarmament and Non-Proliferation Treaties for Weapons of Mass Destruction (Nuclear Weapons)).

(2) Japan’s Efforts

From the perspective of reinforcing the disarmament and non-proliferation regime, Japan has been making continuous efforts to realize the early enforcement of the Comprehensive Nuclear Test Ban Treaty (CTBT) and to strengthen International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) safeguards. Moreover, Japan has been proactively participating in discussions on better implementation of the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons (NPT) as well as discussions held in the Nuclear Suppliers Group (NSG).

2. Biological Weapons/Chemical Weapons

(1) Relevant Treaties

Treaties and export control regimes for the purpose of arms control, disarmament, and non-proliferation of biological and chemical weapons are shown in Reference 65 (Arms Control, Disarmament and Non-Proliferation Treaties for Weapons of Mass Destruction (Biological and Chemical Weapons)).

(2) Japan’s Efforts

a. In 1980 the Ministry of Defense and the SDF started to dispatch chemical protection specialists to the negotiations of the Chemical Weapons Convention (CWC) when required. As members of the Japanese delegation, they made contribution toward drafting the convention. Since 1997, when the convention came into effect, GSDF experts on protection against chemical weapons have been dispatched to the Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons (OPCW) in Hague, the Netherlands, to implement verification measures stipulated in the convention. Currently there is one GSDF officer serving in the OPCW.

See Reference 66 (pxx))

At the GSDF Chemical School (Saitama City), small quantities of chemical substances which are subject to regulation in the convention are synthesized for the purpose of protection research. Therefore, in accordance with the stipulations of the convention, inspections have been implemented a total of seven times since the initial establishment of the organization.

In addition, the government as a whole has been working on projects to dispose of abandoned chemical
weapons in China, according to the CWC. Based on results of investigations so far, it is estimated that
even now up to approximately 300,000 to 400,000 chemical weapons of the former (Imperial) Japanese
Army remain buried in Haerbaling District, Dunhua City, Jilin Province, China. The Ministry of Defense
and the SDF have sent 5 personnel including GSDF officers on loan to the Cabinet Office, which is
responsible for the disposal of abandoned chemical weapons in accordance with the CWC. Since 2000,
GSDF chemical and ammunition specialists have been dispatched to China for excavation and recovery
projects a total of ten times. From October through November 2010, seven SDF personnel participated in
excavation and recovery projects conducted by the Cabinet Office in Lianhuapao, Dunhua City, Jilin
Province, China, where they carried out the identification of shells for Chinese workers, checked for the
presence of pollution, and provided guidance for the safety, etc., of workers.

b. With regard to the Biological Weapons Convention (BWC), SDF officers who are pharmaceutical and
medical specialists have been sent to relevant meetings to work in cooperation to strengthen BWC.

c. Every year since 1994, personnel have been dispatched to the Australia Group (AG) Meeting to
collaborate in making the AG’s regulations and agreements more effective.

3. Delivery Means (Missiles)

(1) Relevant Agreements

International political agreements and export control regimes for the purpose of arms control,
disarmament, and non-proliferation of means of delivery (missiles) are shown in Reference 67 (Arms
Control, Disarmament and Non-Proliferation Treaties for Weapons of Mass Destruction (Transportation
Methods (Missiles))).

(2) Japan’s Efforts

The Ministry of Defense has been dispatching personnel to the assembly of the Missile Technology
Control Regime (MTCR) every year since 1992, and they have been collaborating to increase the
effectiveness of the MTCR’s regulations and agreements.

2. Efforts on Arms Control-Related Treaties on Certain Conventional Weapons

1. Related Treaties
Treaties and export control regimes for the purpose of arms control, disarmament and non-proliferation of certain conventional weapons recognized as being inhumane, are shown in Reference 68 (Arms Control Treaties for Specific Conventional Weapons).

2. Japan’s Efforts

(1) The Convention on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Certain Conventional Weapons Which May Be Deemed to Be Excessively Injurious or to Have Indiscriminate Effects (CCW)

In recent years, negotiations and reviews have been conducted to reduce the humanitarian risk that may be brought about by explosive remnants of war (ERW) such as unexploded ordnance. At the 2003 Conference of the State Parties to the CCW, the protocol related to ERW (called Protocol V) was adopted and came into effect in November 2006.

However, discussions regarding ERW continued, particularly due to the necessity of dealing with the problem caused by unexploded cluster munitions (munitions that have multiple sub-munitions in themselves). At the Conference of the State Parties in November 2007, it was decided to carry out negotiations in order to deal with the humanitarian concern of cluster munitions. However, a final consensus has yet to be reached as of present.

With regard to the issue of cluster munitions regulations, Japan believes that in addition to contributing to the convention on cluster munitions, it is important to establish an effective protocol on cluster munitions under the CCW framework, in which major producers and possessors of cluster munitions, including the United States, China, and Russia, are participants. Japan therefore engages in active discussions with relevant countries by dispatching a delegation, including personnel of the Ministry of Defense, to the conferences of the State Parties and sessions of Group of Governmental Experts (GGE), where discussion and negotiations are taking place for the purpose of the addition of the protocol.

(2) Convention on Cluster Munitions

Outside the CCW framework, as a result of negotiations (Oslo Process) at a series of international conferences carried out during 2008 with the objective of drafting an international agreement that prohibits cluster munitions, the Convention on Cluster Munitions was adopted by 107 countries, including Japan, at the Dublin Conference in May 2008. The Convention was signed by 94 states (including Japan) in Oslo in December 2008 and Japan submitted the acceptance of the treaty in July 2009.

In February 2010, the 30th ratification, which was required to make the convention effective, was received by the United Nations Secretary-General and the convention came into effect on August 1 of the
same year. In accordance with this, the use of all Cluster Munition that SDF retains was banned immediately. Meanwhile, however, major producers and possessors of cluster munitions such as the United States, China, and Russia have not signed the convention to date.

At present, in order to secure the national security, the Ministry of Defense and SDF are promoting the introduction of precision-guided equipment that will immediately supplement part of the functions of cluster munitions.

Moreover, all cluster munitions that Japan has stockpiled must be destroyed as a rule within eight years after the treaty enters into force. Therefore, Japan plans to work safely and steadily to destroy all the stockpiles.

(3) The Convention on the Prohibition of the Use, Stockpiling, Production and Transfer of Anti-Personnel Mines and on Their Destruction (Ottawa Treaty)

International interest in anti-personnel mines has increased since the beginning of the 1990s. In 1999, the Ottawa Treaty went into force, and as of present the number of signatories of the treaty has reached 156. As of February 2003, the destruction of all anti-personnel mines was completed by the Ministry of Defense and SDF, excluding the minimum necessary amount retained as an exception, recognized in the convention for the purpose of developing technology and training in landmine detection and clearance.

Meanwhile, in order to maintain the security of Japan, as an alternative that does not pose danger of injuring civilians indiscriminately nor does fall into the category of anti-personnel mines banned in the convention, the acquisition of an anti-personnel obstacle system, which includes directional fragmentation charges, is proceeding.

Only 13 out of 26 ARF participating nations have concluded this convention. For this reason, the Ministry of Defense has been encouraging participating nations of ARF which have not yet concluded the convention to conclude it.

Moreover, the Ministry of Defense has been actively contributing to the international efforts against anti-personnel mines, through the efforts such as submitting annual reports including the data on exceptional possession to the United Nations.

(4) U.N. Register of Conventional Arms

Every year, the Ministry of Defense registers data on the amount of imported defense equipment with the United Nations and also voluntarily provides information related to its holdings, domestic procurement of such equipment, and its domestic procurement of small arms and light weapons.

It also dispatches its staff to expert meetings when required, which are held to improve and strengthen this system.

The United Nations Standardized Instrument for Reporting Military Expenditures was established in 1980 as a means to increase transparency of and to reduce military expenditure. The three categories requested to report are “Personnel, Operation and Maintenance”, “Procurement and Construction”, and “Research and Development”. The Ministry of Defense submitted its first report in 1982 and has been reporting annually since 1997.

This instrument has come to be recognized in recent years as a means to improve transparency rather than to reduce military expenditure, and in November 2010, the first-ever meeting of governmental experts on this Instrument was held since the start of this Instrument, where discussions were held on the revision of the Instrument. Discussions were continued through meetings, etc., based on the understanding that it is important to increase the number of participating countries and to improve the quality of the reported information in order to secure the measure’s effectiveness as an international confidence-building measure, and at the third round of the meeting of governmental experts held in May 2011, recommendations were made that included revisions of the report forms.

3. International Efforts for Non-Proliferation of WMD

1. Proliferation Security Initiative (PSI)

(1) Background of the Establishment of the PSI

The United States was deeply concerned that countries such as North Korea and Iran had been engaged in the development of WMD and missiles. Therefore, in December 2002 it announced the National Strategy to Combat Weapons of Mass Destruction, and advocated the comprehensive three-pillared approach consisting of “non-proliferation”, “counter-proliferation”, and “consequence management to respond to WMD use”.

As a part of this, the United States launched the Proliferation Security Initiative (PSI) in May 2003, and asked other nations to endorse it. As a result the PSI has developed into an international effort endorsed by over 100 countries, as of May 2011, including Japan.

In support of this effort, there have been undertakings to improve the capability to prevent WMD proliferation such as PSI interdiction exercises, which have been carried out 37 times by the end of May 2011, and meetings to discuss policy and legal challenges.

(2) Efforts by the Ministry of Defense and the SDF
The Ministry of Defense and the SDF regard participation in PSI efforts as important and necessary to make efficient use of SDF capabilities in support of the PSI while working in harmony with relevant organizations and countries. Therefore, after the third Paris Plenary Meeting held in September 2003, the Ministry of Defense began to send delegations consisting of MOD officials including uniforms to various PSI meetings as well as to take part in overseas PSI interdiction exercises in observer status in order to gather necessary information. Since 2004, the SDF has successively participated in PSI exercises. To date, Japan has hosted PSI Maritime Interdiction Exercises on two occasions, and the Ministry of Defense made commitments along with relevant organizations such as the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the National Police Agency, the Ministry of Finance, and the Japan Coast Guard. Moreover in October 2010, personnel from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs/Japan Coast Guard and Ministry of Defense/SDF participated in seminars in the Korean-sponsored Maritime Interdiction Exercise, while destroyers of the MSDF participated in the associated maritime search and rescue and boarding exercises. Considering the current cases of proliferation around Japan, the Ministry of Defense considers it necessary to regard PSI as a security issue which covers a wide range of domains including defense, diplomacy, law enforcement, and export control and to continue the ceaseless efforts to prevent the proliferation of WMD. Because of the necessity to improve SDF capability to deal with proliferation challenges, the Ministry intends to continue participating in or hosting various exercises and meetings, as well as making a commitment to activities to strengthen the comprehensive non-proliferation mechanisms, including the PSI.
(See Fig. III-3-4-2)

2. United Nations Security Council Resolution 1540 Concerning the Non-Proliferation of Weapons of Mass Destruction

In April 2004, the United Nations Security Council unanimously voted for the adoption of Security Council Resolution 1540 on the Non-Proliferation of Weapons of Mass Destruction, which aims to take appropriate and effective action, because the proliferation of nuclear, biological, and chemical (NBC) weapons and their means of delivery pose a threat to the peace and stability of the international community. Under Chapter VII of the United Nations Charter, its details include: 1) to refrain from providing any kind of support to non-state actors attempting to develop weapons of mass destruction and their means of delivery; 2) to adopt and execute appropriate and effective legislation to prohibit the production, etc., of weapons of mass destruction and their means of delivery by terrorists in particular; and 3) to establish border controls and export control measures for the purpose of preventing the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction and their means of delivery. Based on the danger imposed by the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction on the peace and
stability of the international community including Japan, the prevention of proliferation of these weapons of mass destruction to non-state actors such as terrorists, is an urgent challenge for the international community. Based on the recognition of this fact, Japan supports the adoption of this resolution, and hopes that all United Nations members will observe the resolution.

1 Other than Japan, Australia, China, India, New Zealand, Russia, South Korea and the United States.
2 Declaration that clearly lays out the fundamental principles for the peaceful resolution of conflicts in the South China Sea, signed between ASEAN and China in 2002.
3 The countries holding co-chairmanship of the respective Expert Working Groups (EWG) are as follows: Vietnam and China for the Humanitarian Assistance and Disaster Relief (HADR) EWG, Malaysia and Australia for the Maritime Security EWG, Indonesia and the United States for the Counter-Terrorism EWG, Singapore and Japan for the Military Medicine EWG, and the Philippines and New Zealand for the Peacekeeping Operations (PKO) EWG.
4 The 27 ARF members include the 10 member countries of ASEAN (Brunei, Indonesia, Laos, Malaysia, Philippines, Singapore, Thailand, Vietnam, Cambodia (from 1995), and Myanmar (from 1996)), as well as Japan, Australia, Canada, China, India (from 1996), New Zealand, Papua New Guinea, ROK, Russia, United States, Mongolia (since 1998), North Korea (from 2000), Pakistan (from 2004), Timor-Leste (from 2005), Bangladesh (from 2006), Sri Lanka (from 2007), and the European Union.
5 The four organizations are HuMA, Operacion-uni, Peace Winds Japan, and Civic Force.
8 This is a multilateral meeting that gathers defense minister-level officials from the Asia-Pacific region, and it is held with the objective of discussing defense issues and regional defense cooperation. It began under the sponsorship of the International Institute for Strategic Studies, a private research facility in the United Kingdom. Since the first meeting in 2002, it has been referred to as the Shangri-La Dialogue, after the name of the hotel where it is held every year in Singapore. See http://www.mod.go.jp/j/approach/exchange/dialogue/iiss.html.
13 Activities prescribed in Article 8 of the Self-Defense Forces Law (a miscellaneous provision) or supplementary provisions.
14 Missions defined in Article 3 of the Self-Defense Forces Law. The primary mission is to defend Japan. The secondary missions are the preservation of public order, activities in response to situations in areas surrounding Japan and international peace cooperation activities.
19 This is a system adopted by the United Nations in 1994 in order to make mobilized deployment possible for U.N. peacekeeping operations. The system aims to enable the United Nations to request, in
a swift and smooth manner, dispatch of troops from member nations in the event of peacekeeping
operation deployment, by having member nations register beforehand their available scope of
contribution, number of personnel for dispatch, and time required for dispatch. However, even when
the United Nations approaches member nations with a request for dispatch based on the registered
information, it is up to each country to decide whether to actually dispatch personnel or not.
20 Tires that allow vehicles to maintain mobility, even when punctured and deflated.
21 Conflict-related activities carried out under the jurisdiction of the United Nations based on a U.N.
Resolution to maintain international peace and stability including ensuring the observance of
agreements between combatants regarding the prevention of the recurrence of armed conflict, support
for the establishment of governing bodies through democratic means carried out following the end of
conflict, and others.
22 Activities being conducted by the United Nations, other international organizations, or countries based
on a humanitarian spirit for the relief of victims of military conflicts, and reconstruction activities in
connection with war-related damage. Such activities are initiated in accordance with a U.N. Security
Council Resolution or requests from international organizations such as the Office of the United
Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR).
23 A general term that refers to functions that support combat, and that maintain and enhance the fighting
capabilities of units, such as supply, equipment, retrieval, transport, hygiene, construction, real estate,
labor, and staff work.
24 Since the legal framework for the dispatch of (then) Defense Agency personnel to the U.N. Department
of Peacekeeping with the revision of the (then) “Act on Treatment of Personnel of the Defense Agency
Dispatched to International Organizations, etc.” (Law Number 122 of 1995) in November 2001, an
individual from the GSDF was dispatched from December 2002 to June 2005, and from November
25 The Law concerning the Dispatch of International Disaster Relief Teams
26 As of April 2010, 46 countries are participating in ISAF in support of the Afghanistan government by
maintaining public security in Afghanistan to prevent it from becoming a nest for terrorism again.
27 Japan is pursuing various anti-terrorism measures with a central focus on such fields as immigration
controls; collection and analysis of intelligence; measures to prevent hijackings and similar acts;
measures against attacks using nuclear, biological, and chemical weapons; security of important
domestic facilities; and countermeasures against terrorist funding. Furthermore, the Government of
Japan formulated an “Action Plan for Preventing Terrorist Attacks” containing 16 specific measures in
December 2004, and has been addressing such issues as the international exchange of information
concerning lost or stolen passports, strengthening of immigration controls, introduction of the sky
marshal program, strengthening of identity verification of foreign hotel guests, strengthening of
controls of materials feared to be used for terrorism, and enhancement of information gathering
capabilities.
28 Since January 2008, based on the Replenishment Support Special Measures Law, support was limited
to replenishment of military vessels of the countries performing anti-terrorist duties to stop terrorism on
the ocean. Counter-terrorism maritime interdiction operations are activities undertaken by international
militaries such as inspections, verifications, and other necessary measures to ships navigating the
Indian Ocean in order to interdict and deter the transportation of terrorists, weapons, etc., through
concerted efforts by the international community, as part of the activities contributing to the
achievement of U.N. Charter objectives.
29 In November 2009, the government prepared the “New Strategy to Counter the Threat of Terrorism” (a
new Japanese aid package for Afghanistan and Pakistan) in which it determined to provide up to US$5
billion over five years beginning in 2009 depending on future conditions in Afghanistan to replace the
already promised total of US$2 billion in aid, while also providing ¥80 billion in urgently needed aid.
30 The process started on the initiative of participating countries including Norway and other sponsors
(Peru, Austria, New Zealand, Ireland, etc.) and NGOs. Many developing countries such as Latin
American and African countries also participated.
32 Explosives used in anti-infantry combat, which obstruct the approach of enemy soldiers. They are not
designed to detonate in the presence, approach, or contact of people but are controlled by a person who
makes them explode when a target is detected by sight so that civilians will not get indiscriminately
The Ministry of Defense continued to make recommendations of retired SDF members to the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) from 1999 to December 2006 in order to provide support for anti-personnel mine removal activities in Cambodia. These retired SDF members were dispatched as maintenance and transport advisers for the Cambodian Mine Action Centre (CMAC) under the JICA framework of long-term dispatched specialists.

As a consequence of those revisions, the problems of the Standardized Reporting Form and Simplified Reporting Form were rectified, particularly the discrepancy found in total expenditures of the two forms due to the lack of consistency between report categories in these two forms. Moreover, revisions were made regarding items difficult to report due to the situation for each country, making the reporting format more user-friendly. As a result, an improvement of the quality of the reported content and an increase in the number of participating countries are expected.

The Proliferation Security Initiative (PSI) is an initiative to prevent the proliferation of WMD and related materials in accordance with existing international and domestic laws and at the same time considers steps which participating nations can take together. It also works toward the legislation of stricter related domestic laws wherever possible for each country.