

# Vientiane Vision: Japan's Defense Cooperation Initiative with ASEAN

## Introduction

- “Vientiane Vision: Japan’s Defense Cooperation Initiative with ASEAN” is Japan’s own initiative for the future Japan-ASEAN defense cooperation
- Annually follow up the implementation of the specific and practical activities listed in the Vision through the Japan-ASEAN Defense Vice-Ministerial Forum starting next year and on

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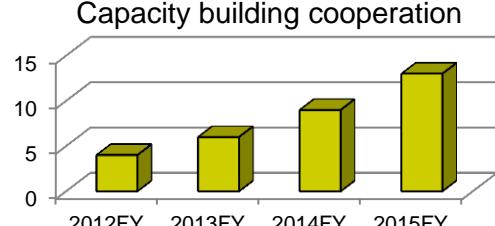
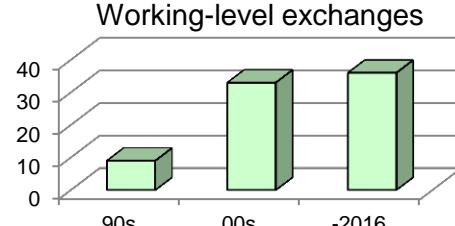
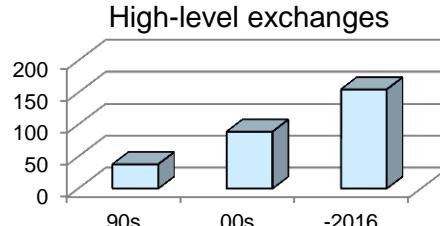
### 1. Background of Japan-ASEAN Defense Cooperation

- (1) The Asia-Pacific region faces increasingly serious challenges for the security, which makes more difficult for any single country to respond alone
- (2) ASEAN is a hub for the regional cooperation in the Asia-Pacific region with an increasing importance. Japan and ASEAN have traditionally maintained strong ties; Further enhancement of bilateral/multilateral cooperation is crucial in ensuring a stable regional security environment
- (3) Japan welcomes the establishment of ASEAN Community at the end of 2015 and supports its centrality and unity. Since the establishment, ASEAN-Wide multilateral cooperation has become even more important, in addition to bilateral cooperation with its individual member states

### 2. Evolution of Japan-ASEAN Defense Cooperation: deepening “exchanges” toward “cooperation”

- (1) Starting defense exchanges from 1990s: enhancing mutual understanding and confidence through defense exchanges
- (2) Developing defense cooperation from 2000s: more practical/ operational defense cooperation with ASEAN member states
- (3) Deepening defense cooperation from 2010s: starting new projects such as capacity building cooperation with further specific and practical activities and promoting multilateral cooperation through regional frameworks such as ADMM-Plus

### [Reference] Development of Japan-ASEAN Defense Exchanges and Cooperation



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### **3. Future Direction of Japan-ASEAN Defense Cooperation: Toward the “ASEAN-Wide” Practical Cooperation**

(1) **Purpose:** In addition to the cooperation with “Individual ASEAN Member States,” “ASEAN-Wide” cooperation will be expanded through promoting practical cooperation with a view to 1. respecting and promoting shared principles such as freedom, democracy and basic human rights, 2. promoting and enhancing the rule of law, 3. supporting ASEAN efforts to strengthen its centrality and unity which is a cornerstone of regional cooperation

(2) **Direction:** In order to contribute to regional peace, security and prosperity, future Japan-ASEAN defense cooperation will be focused on the following three points

- To consolidate the order based on the principles of international law governing peaceful conduct among states, Japan supports ASEAN efforts to uphold principles of international law, especially in the field of maritime and air space
- To promote maritime security which is a foundation for the regional peace and prosperity, Japan supports ASEAN efforts to build up capabilities for Intelligence, Surveillance and Reconnaissance (ISR) and Search and Rescue (SAR) at sea and air space
- To cope with increasingly diversifying and complex security issues, Japan supports ASEAN efforts to build up capabilities in various fields

(3) **Measures:** Conducting practical defense cooperation by effectively combining the following diverse measures

- ① Promotion of International Law (PIL): sharing understanding and experience regarding international law, especially in the field of maritime security, through i.e. conducting researches and sponsoring seminars, etc., with a view to its effective implementation.
- ② Capacity Building Cooperation (CBC): conducting CBC in various fields such as HA/DR, PKO, landmine and UXO clearance, cybersecurity, defense buildup planning (sharing know-how), etc.
- ③ Defense Equipment and Technology Cooperation (DETC): transferring equipment and technology, developing human resources regarding DETC, holding seminars on defense industries, etc.
- ④ Joint Training and Exercises (JTE): continued participation in multilateral joint training and exercises, inviting ASEAN observers to Self-Defense Forces' training, etc.
- ⑤ Human Resource Development and Academic Exchange (HRD/AE): Inviting Opinion Leaders from ASEAN, etc.

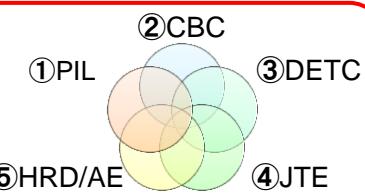
#### [Present]

Mainly bilateral/ country by country, field by field cooperation



#### [Future]

In addition to the cooperation with “Individual ASEAN Member States,” “ASEAN-Wide” cooperation will be expanded through combining diverse measures



(4) The JMOD institutional development to better address “ASEAN-Wide” practical cooperation based on the Vision