Section 2 Outline of the Medium Term Defense Program

1 Program Guidelines

Based on the NDPG, the Mid-Term Defense Program (FY2014-FY2018) (MTDP) states that an appropriate defense buildup is to be achieved under the following six basic program guidelines.

❖ Emphasis will be placed on the following functions and capabilities in particular: (1) ISR capabilities; (2) intelligence capabilities; (3) transport capabilities; (4) C3I capabilities; (5) response to an attack on remote islands; (6) response to ballistic missile attacks; (7) response to outer space and cyberspace threats; (8) response to large-scale disasters; and (9) international peace cooperation efforts

❖ Prioritize development of capacities to ensure maritime supremacy and air superiority, development of rapid deployment capabilities, and achievement of greater efficiency and rationalization of preparations for invasions such as landing invasions

❖ Efficiently secure defense capabilities adequate both in quality and quantity

❖ Promote measures to reform the personnel management system

❖ Strengthen the deterrence and response capabilities of the Japan-U.S. Alliance

❖ Achieve greater efficiencies and streamline the buildup of the defense forces

2 Reorganization of the Major SDF Units

❖ Ground Self-Defense Force (GSDF)

For the purpose of carrying out swift and flexible nationwide operations of basic GSDF units under the joint operations, the GSDF will establish the Ground Central Command. As part of such efforts the Central Readiness Force will be disbanded and its subsidiary units will be integrated into the Ground Central Command.

In order to respond swiftly to an attack on remote islands and various other situations, the GSDF will transform two divisions and two brigades into two rapid deployment divisions and two rapid deployment brigades. In addition, by establishing a coast observation unit and area security units, the defense posture of the remote islands in the southwest region will be strengthened. In order to enable the SDF to land, recapture and secure without delay any remote islands that might be invaded, an amphibious rapid deployment brigade will be established.

From the perspective of thoroughly facilitating efficiencies and rationalization of preparations for full-scale invasions, and swift and flexible operations, the GSDF will deploy mobile combat vehicles and remove tanks deployed in basic operational units stationed in locations other than Hokkaido and Kyushu. In addition, howitzers deployed in basic operational units stationed in locations other than Hokkaido will be concentrated into field artillery units to be newly organized under the direct command of the respective regional armies.

❖ Maritime Self-Defense Force (MSDF)

For the purpose of defending the seas surrounding Japan and ensuring the security of maritime traffic in the region, through the effective conduct of various operations such as persistent ISR operations and anti-submarine operations, as well as for agile response in international peace cooperation activities, the MSDF will retain

1 The Yonaguni Coast Observation Unit was newly established on March 28, 2016.

Christening / launching ceremony of JS Sekiryu
four escort flotillas mainly consisting of one helicopter destroyer (DDH) and two Aegis-equipped destroyers (DDG), and five escort divisions consisting of other destroyers. Necessary measures to increase the number of submarines will also be taken continuously.

### 3 Air Self-Defense Force (ASDF)

To enhance the air defense posture in the southwestern region, the ASDF will relocate one fighter squadron to Naha Air Base, and newly organize and deploy one airborne early warning squadron at Naha Air Base. To prevent the relative decline of Japan’s air defense capabilities and ensure sustained air superiority, ASDF units equipped with training support functions will be integrated for further effective enhancement of advanced tactical skills.

### 4 Authorized Number of SDF Personnel

The total number of authorized GSDF personnel at the end of FY2018 will be approximately 159,000, with approximately 151,000 being SDF Regular personnel.

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2 An additional fighter squadron was relocated to Naha Air Base, resulting in the abolition of the 83rd Air Wing and the establishment of the 9th Air Wing composed of 2 fighter squadrons on January 31, 2016.
and approximately 8,000 being Reserve Ready personnel. The authorized number of SDF Regular personnel of the MSDF and ASDF through FY2018 will be approximately at the same levels as at the end of FY2013.

3 Major Programs Regarding SDF’s Capabilities

1 Effective Deterrence and Response to Various Situations

The SDF will carry out various programs, including the buildup of defense equipment, in order to respond to each of the important situations described in “The Role of the Defense Force” addressed in the NDPG.

See>> Fig. II-2-2-2 (Programs Related to Effective Deterrent of and Response to Various Situations)

2 Stabilization of the Asia-Pacific Region and Improvement of the Global Security Environments

Japan will enhance bilateral and multilateral cooperative relations and conduct various activities including training and exercises in a timely and appropriate manner, as well as actively engage in international peace cooperation activities.

See>> Fig. II-2-2-3 (Programs for the Stabilization of the Asia-Pacific Region and Improvement of the Global Security Environments)

3 Basic Structure to Maximize Defense Capability

In order to maximize the effectiveness of functions and capabilities which are to be emphasized in seamlessly and dynamically fulfilling the role of the defense force, the SDF will steadily develop various basic structures.

See>> Fig. II-2-2-4 (Measures Related to the Basic Structure to Maximize Defense Capability)

4 Measures for the Strengthening of the Japan-U.S. Alliance

In order to maintain and strengthen the U.S. commitment to Japan and the Asia-Pacific region and to ensure Japan’s national security, Japan will continue the revision of the Guidelines for Japan-U.S. Defense Cooperation.3

3 On April 27, 2015, new Guidelines were approved between Japan and the United States.
Meanwhile, Japan will expand bilateral training and exercises, joint ISR activities and the joint/shared use of facilities and areas between the SDF and the U.S. Forces. In addition, Japan will further deepen various Japan-U.S. operational cooperation and policy coordination in areas such as BMD, bilateral planning, and bilateral Extended Deterrence Dialogue.

Japan will also strengthen cooperation in the fields of counter-piracy, capacity building assistance, HA/DR, peacekeeping, counter-terrorism, maritime affairs, outer
and information security, and defense equipment and a broad range of fields, including intelligence cooperation and expand the Japan-U.S. cooperative relationship over space and cyberspace. Furthermore, Japan will strengthen and expand the Japan-U.S. cooperative relationship over a broad range of fields, including intelligence cooperation and information security, and defense equipment and technology cooperation.

Moreover, from the perspective of making the stationing of the U.S. Forces in Japan more smooth and effective, Japan will steadily ensure the Host Nation Support (HNS).
5 Quantities of Major Procurement

The Annex Table shows details of the quantities of major procurement described in Section 3. Japan aims to develop the defense forces described in the Annex Table of the NDPG over a 10-year time frame.

See>> Fig. II-2-2-5 (Annex from the Medium Term Defense Program)

6 Expenditures

The expenditures required to implement the defense force developments described in this program amount to approximately ¥24,670 billion in FY2013 prices. For the duration of this program, in harmony with other measures taken by the Government, approximately ¥700 billion will be secured by means of further streamlining and rationalization through efforts such as equipment procurement reform. The annual defense budgets for the implementation of this program will be allocated within a limit of approximately ¥23,970 billion over the next five years.

This program will be reviewed after three years as necessary, in consideration of such factors at home and abroad as the international security environment, trends in technological standards including information communication technology, and fiscal conditions.

7 Other

While maintaining the deterrence of the U.S. Forces, Japan will steadily implement specific measures including the realignment of the U.S. Forces in Japan and SACO (Special Action Committee on Okinawa) related programs to mitigate the impact on local communities, including those in Okinawa.