The MOD/SDF is proactively undertaking international peace cooperation activities working in tandem with diplomatic initiatives, including the use of Official Development Assistance (ODA) for resolving the fundamental causes of conflicts, terrorism and other problems.

### Section 3 Efforts to Support International Peace Cooperation Activities

The MOD/SDF is proactively undertaking international peace cooperation activities working in tandem with diplomatic initiatives, including the use of Official Development Assistance (ODA) for resolving the fundamental causes of conflicts, terrorism and other problems.

#### 1 Frameworks for International Peace Cooperation Activities

The international peace cooperation activities undertaken by the MOD/SDF to date are as follows: (1) international peace cooperation operations such as United Nations peacekeeping operations (the so-called UN PKO); (2) international disaster relief operations to respond to large-scale natural disasters overseas; (3) activities based on the former Special Measures Act on Humanitarian Reconstruction Assistance in Iraq; and (4) activities based on the former Anti-Terrorism Special Measures Act, and the former Replenishment Support Special Measures Act. In 2007, international peace cooperation activities, which used to be regarded as supplementary activities, were upgraded to become one of the primary missions of the SDF, alongside the defense of Japan and the maintenance of public order.2

#### 2 Continuous Initiatives to Promptly and Accurately Carry Out International Peace Cooperation Activities

To be a proactive contributor to world peace, it is important for the SDF to be fully prepared for any future operation. For this reason, all three branches of the SDF, namely the GSDF, MSDF and ASDF, designate dispatch stand-by units, and the designated units are always ready to be deployed.

In September 2015, the UN launched the Peacekeeping Capability Readiness System (PCRS) so the UN Headquarters to be able to grasp the registered items of each country more specifically in order to ensure the flexibility and readiness of international peacekeeping activities. In light of this change, Japan registered engineering units and staff officers of mission headquarters in March 2016. Additionally, at the Defense Ministers’ Meeting on United Nations Peacekeeping Operations (PKO) held in November 2017, JAPAN announced that it would make arrangements for additional registration of fixed-wing aircraft for PCRS to enable air transport assistance for rapid PKO deployment.

---

1 Affairs prescribed in Article 8 of the SDF Law (miscellaneous provision) or supplementary provisions.
2 Missions defined in Article 3 of the SDF 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 (in 2007) and international peace cooperation activities. In accordance with the entry into force of the Legislation for Peace and Security in 2016, “situations in areas surrounding Japan” was revised to “situations that will have an important influence on Japan’s peace and security.”
Meanwhile, the SDF is enhancing information-gathering abilities and protection abilities, which are required for the SDF units to carry out their missions while ensuring the safety of personnel and unit in international peacekeeping activities, etc. In addition, in order to respond to various environments and prolonged missions, the SDF is improving its capabilities for transport, deployment, and information communication, as well as developing a structure of logistic and medical support for conducting smooth and continuous operations.

With regard to the education necessary for engaging in international peace cooperation activities, the GSDF International Peace Cooperation Activities Training Unit, which belongs to the Ground Component Command, provides training for GSDF personnel to be deployed to international peace cooperation activities, as well as supports their training. In addition, the Japan Peacekeeping Training and Research Center (JPC) of the Joint Staff College offers not only a basic education courses on international peace cooperation activities, but also specialized education to train personnel who can be appointed as contingent commanders of UN PKO missions and staff officers of mission headquarters. These specialized courses are conducted by using UN standard training materials and foreign instructors. Furthermore, since FY2014, the JPC has also provided education for personnel from foreign militaries and other Japanese ministries and agencies. This initiative represents the approach taken by the MOD/ SDF, which emphasize the necessity of collaboration and cooperation with other related ministries and foreign countries, based on the current situation of more multi-dimensional and complicated international peace cooperation activities. The initiative aims to contribute to more effective international peace cooperation activities by enhancing the collaboration in the field of education.

SDF personnel are expected to fulfill their assigned duty under severe working conditions while being far away from their home country and their families. Therefore, it is extremely important to make necessary arrangements so that dispatched SDF personnel can effectively carry out their assigned duty while maintaining both their physical and mental health. For this reason, the MOD/SDF has implemented various measures to support families to reduce anxiety for the dispatched SDF personnel and their families.

In addition, the SDF also provides the following mental health checkups on an ongoing basis for all the personnel to be sent: (1) a pre-dispatch course to acquire necessary knowledge on stress reduction; (2) mental health assessment conducted several times during the pre-dispatch to post-dispatch period; (3) counseling on anxiety, trouble and other matters among the dispatched personnel provided by mental health personnel being dispatched; (4) dispatch of mental healthcare support teams from Japan consisting mainly of medical officers with specialized knowledge; (5) education before returning to Japan for reducing stress upon return; (6) temporary health checkups after returning to Japan.

2 Initiatives to Support UN Peacekeeping Operations, etc.

As a means to promote peace and stability in conflict regions around the world, UN Peacekeeping Operations (PKO) have expanded their missions in recent years to include such duties as the Protection of Civilians (POC), the promotion of political processes, providing assistance in Disarmament, Demobilization and Reintegration (DDR) into society of former soldiers, Security Sector Reform (SSR), the rule of law, elections, human rights, and other fields, in addition to such traditional missions as ceasefire monitoring. To date, there are 14 UN PKO missions ongoing (as of the end of May 2018).

International organizations, such as the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), respective governments, and non-governmental organizations (NGO) conduct relief and restoration activities for the victims of conflicts and large-scale disasters from a humanitarian perspective and from the viewpoint of stabilizing affected countries.

Japan has been promoting international peace cooperation activities in various regions including Cambodia, the Golan Heights, Timor-Leste, Nepal, and South Sudan for more than 25 years, and the results of these activities have been highly praised both inside and outside of Japan. From the perspective of “Proactive Contribution to Peace” based on the principle of international cooperation, and in light of the appreciation and expectations from the international community, Japan will continue to actively engage in international peace cooperation operations in a multilayered way. In this regard, to maximize the effect of Japan’s contribution to
the international community, it is necessary to deliberate more deeply about how the SDF should contribute to the international community. Therefore, regarding international peace cooperation operations and other relevant missions, the SDF will continue to proactively take part in peacekeeping activities by utilizing their accumulated experiences and advanced skills in fields such as engineering, as well as by expanding the dispatch of SDF personnel to further responsible positions, such as mission headquarters and the Department of Peacekeeping Operations in the UN. As such, the SDF places more emphasis on taking more of a leading role, and the MOD/SDF will be proactively involved in Japan’s initiatives for international contribution.

1 International conferences related to UN Peacekeeping Operations

The Ministry of Defense held the “preparatory meeting,” in Tokyo in August 2017 which covers administrative discussion, ahead of UN peacekeeping Defense Ministerial conference. The preparatory meeting’s participants were 32 countries, including co-host Bangladesh and Ministerial conference host Canada, and two international agencies. This meeting involved opinion exchanges on training and capacity building assistance for Troop /Police contributing (TCC/TPP) and confirmed of UN needs and best practices of other countries.

In light of the preparatory meeting results, State Minister of Defense Yamamoto commented at the UN peacekeeping Defense Ministerial conference held in Vancouver in November 2017 that Japan hopes that capacity gaps in the UN peacekeeping can be harrowed through collaboration by the UN Member Stated and international organizations, that the Triangular Partnership Project of collaboration among the United Nations, supporting UN Member States, TCC/PCC, including the UN Project for African Rapid Deployment of Engineering Capabilities (RDEC) led by Japan is effective, and Japan intends to make further contributions to this project and promote to increase female peacekeepers.

The JGSDF Central Readiness Force Commanding General (then) participated in the UN PKO Military Chiefs Meeting held in July as a related meeting to the Defense Ministerial conference and exchanged opinions regarding the current situation and issues for PKO.

2 United Nations Mission in the Republic of South Sudan (UNMISS)

(1) Background to the Decision to Dispatch Personnel to UNMISS

The UN Mission in Sudan (UNMIS) was established following the signing of the Comprehensive Peace Agreement (CPA) between the Government of Sudan and the Sudan People’s Liberation Movement/Army in January 2005.

Beginning in October 2008, Japan dispatched two GSDF officers to UNMIS headquarters as staff officers (logistics and database officers), but UNMIS ended its mission in July 2011 following South Sudan’s independence. Meanwhile, with the objective of consolidating peace and security as well as helping establish necessary conditions for the development of South Sudan, the UN Mission in the Republic of South Sudan (UNMISS) was established. The Japanese Government was requested by the UN to cooperate with UNMISS, particularly through the dispatch of GSDF engineering units. The Cabinet approved the dispatch of two staff officers (logistics and database officers) to UNMISS in November 2011, and in December it decided to dispatch an SDF engineering unit, Coordination Center, and an additional staff officer (engineering officer). In addition, the Cabinet also approved the dispatch of one staff officer (air operations officer) in October 2014.

South Sudan shares borders with six countries and is positioned in a highly important location, connecting the African continent on all four points of the compass. The peace and stability of South Sudan is not only essential for the country itself; but also for the peace and stability in its neighboring countries, and by extension, Africa as a whole, as well as crucial issue that should

---

3 A partnership for supporting the capability building of the personnel from UN PKO troop contributing countries through cooperation among the UN, UN PKO troop contributing countries, and third countries that possess technologies and equipment.
be dealt with by the international community. Based on the accumulated experience through past PKO, the MOD/SDF has contributed to the peace and stability of South Sudan by providing personnel-based cooperation in infrastructure development, on which the UN places great expectations.

See Part I, Chapter 3, Section 1-3-7 (Situation in South Sudan)

(2) Activities by the SDF
In January 2012, a then Coordination Center of the SDF was established for the first time in the SDF’s participation in UN PKO, both in the South Sudan capital city of Juba and in Uganda, in order for coordination of the activities conducted by the dispatched engineering unit. Since the commencement of its engineering activities within UN facilities in Juba in March 2012, the dispatched engineering unit has steadily expanded its activities. The SDF has continued to dispatch over 300 personnel after the second unit took over in June of the same year, and carried out activities with great significance such as repairing roads and constructing facilities for displaced people while ensuring the safety of the personnel.

On November 15, 2016, the Cabinet approved the changes to the International Peace Cooperation Assignment Implementation Plan for South Sudan after the deliberations by the National Security Council (9-minister meeting). After the 11th rotation took over in December 2016, the dispatched unit was assigned the task of so-called “kaketsuke-keigo” operations, which was approved by the Legislation for Peace and Security, as well as the task to carry out joint protection of camps.

The deployment of SDF engineering units marked a milestone of five years in January 2017 since the dispatch of the first engineering rotation. In all of the PKOs conducted by Japan, the unit has made a record number of achievements. The major achievements include a total of approximately 260 km of road repair and a total of approximately 500,000 m² of development.

Japan could move on to a new phase regarding engineering activities in Juba that the SDF was in charge of. Considering the above-mentioned issues in a comprehensive manner, on March 10, 2017, the Government of Japan came to the conclusion that the SDF engineering unit would withdraw from Juba around

---

**UNMISS Headquarters activities**

**Assignment:** UNMISS Engineer Staff Officers  
**Rank:** Major, Fumiyasu Morishita

I have been working in Juba as the engineering staff officer in the 9th UNMISS Headquarters since June 2017.

There are four headquarters members at UNMISS – myself, the intelligence officer, the logistics staff officer, and the air operations officer. The Japanese embassy also has two Self Defense Forces members as liaison personnel.

The engineer Division that I belong to is the largest UNMISS organization with about 300 civilians, military people, and local staff. I provide direct support to the engineer Division chief at the group Chief’s office. Specifically, I handle national projects, such as development of main roads in South Sudan.

I am very excited about using knowledge and skills cultivate as a commander in the Ground Self Defense Forces on behalf of South Sudan and the United Nations despite facing numerous issues, such as difficult coordination with local agencies, equipment and materials shortages, rainy season with intense rainfall that cripples work efforts, and poor infrastructure. I also feel responsibility as someone wearing the Japanese uniform to serve as a goodwill ambassador for Japan in the area.
government and the International Peace Cooperation Corps in South Sudan with the aim of ensuring smooth and efficient cooperation with UNMISS. They will continue to contribute to activities as UNMISS members.

The Ministry of Defense and Self Defense Forces actively contribute to efforts of the United Nations to achieve international peace and dispatch personnel to the United Nations Secretariat for the purpose of utilizing experiences of dispatched personnel in Japan’s PKO activity. As of June 2018, one Self Defense Forces member (working level) is involved in formulation of United Nations PKO policies and plans at the UN Department of Peacekeeping Operations (UN DPKO). There is also one administrative official (working level) working on activities related to the Triangular Partnership Project at the UN Department of Field Support. Since December 2002, including personnel currently dispatched, Japan has sent six Self Defense Forces members (one manager level, five working level) to the UN DPKO and two administrative officials (working level) to the UN Department of Field Support.

To support PKO undertaken by African and other countries, the MOD/SDF has dispatched SDF personnel as instructors to PKO centers in Africa that provide education and training for UN peacekeepers to contribute to peace and stability by enhancing the capacity of the centers. Following the speech by State Minister of Defense Yamamoto that pledged to promote initiatives to increase female peacekeepers at the UN peacekeeping Defense Ministerial conference held in Vancouver (Canada) in November 2017, Japan dispatched two Self Defense Forces personnel, including one female member, as teachers on gender in the PKO field to the Peace Support Training Center in the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia (FDRE-PSTC) in December 2017. It has sent a total of 31 Self Defense Forces members (26 times to eight countries) thus far since November 2008, including the latest dispatch.

Based on experiences and lessons learned in
overseas activities by Self Defense Forces, dispatched Self Defense Forces personnel provide courses on the importance of building relationships with local residents at locations where international peacekeeping activities take place and gender issues.

Part III, Chapter 2, Section 1-2-4 (1) (International Conferences Hosted by International Organizations)
Reference 58 (Dispatch of Ministry of Defense Personnel to International Organizations)

5 Support to the UN Project for Africa Rapid Deployment of Engineering Capabilities

Japan has so far earned unquestionable trust in the areas of facilities and transport that are essential for promoting smooth peacekeeping operations. To continue to support the rapid deployment of peacekeeping missions and implement high quality activities, Prime Minister Abe expressed Japan’s active support at the PKO Summit in September 2014, and it was embodied by the RDEC.

In the RDEC, the UN Department of Field Support (DFS) procures heavy equipment and carries out training for engineers using funds provided by Japan. Japan has been dispatching SDF personnel to the International Peace Support Training Centre (IPSTC) in Nairobi, Kenya as instructors since the trial training in September 2015. Training took place twice during May-October 2017, to which SDF personnel were dispatched who provided training regarding the operation of heavy equipment for personnel in the Tanzanian national military and others. Training has been provided in five sessions to date for a total of approximately 130 members from five East African countries.

The Ministry of Defense plans to actively support
future training, particularly following the speech by State Minister of Defense Yamamoto at the UN peacekeeping
Defense Ministerial conference held in Vancouver (Canada) in November 2017

3 International Disaster Relief Operations

In recent years, the role of military affairs has become more diverse, and opportunities for military to use their capabilities in humanitarian assistance and disaster relief are growing. To contribute to the advancement of international cooperation, the SDF has also engaged in international disaster relief operations proactively from the viewpoint of humanitarian contributions and improvement of the global security environment.

To this end, the SDF maintains their readiness to take any necessary action based on prepared disaster relief operation plans. In consultation with the Minister of Foreign Affairs, the SDF has been proactively conducting international disaster relief operations, which fully utilize their functions and capabilities, while taking into consideration specific relief requests by the governments of affected countries and disaster situations in these countries.

1 Outline of the Japan Disaster Relief Team Law

Since the enactment of the Law Concerning the Dispatch of the Japan Disaster Relief Team (Japan Disaster Relief Team Law) 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 Japan Disaster Relief Team Law was partially amended, enabling the SDF to participate in international disaster relief activities and to transport its personnel and equipment for this purpose.

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

Responding to specific relief requests by the governments of affected countries and the scale of disaster situations in these countries, 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 relief items, patients and personnel by helicopter and other means; and (3) water supply activities using water-purifying devices. In addition, the SDF uses transport aircraft and ships to carry disaster relief personnel and equipment to the affected area.

The Ground Component Command and regional units of the GSDF and other relevant GSDF units maintain their readiness to ensure that they can carry out international disaster relief operations in an independent manner anytime when needed. The Self Defense Fleet of the MSDF and Air Support Command of the ASDF also constantly maintain their readiness to transport personnel and their supplies to disaster affected areas. Furthermore, in April 2015, the MOD/SDF also improved its readiness to be able to swiftly respond to a request for search activities using P-3C patrol aircraft.