

Japan-Republic of Korea Defense Ministerial Meeting (Summary)

June 3, 2018
Ministry of Defense

On 3rd June, 2018, Defense Minister Onodera, who was visiting Singapore to attend the 17th IISS Asia Security Summit (Shangri-La Dialogue), held a meeting with Republic of Korea Minister of National of Defense Song Young Moo. The summary of the meeting is as follows:

1. North Korea Issues

The two Ministers exchanged views on North Korea issues. Minister Onodera welcomed the positive movements, seen since the Inter-Korean Summit meeting held on April 27, toward the comprehensive solution for issues regarding North Korea. Minister Onodera stated that, for the next step, it is important to extract concrete action from North Korea to realize complete, verifiable, and irreversible dismantlement of all kind of weapons of mass destruction and ballistic missiles of all ranges. In doing so, Minister Onodera expressed his will to maintain the close cooperation of Japan-ROK and Japan-ROK-U.S. In response, Minister Song stated that now is a moment very crucial for achieving stable peace on the Korean Peninsula and the ROK will cooperate with Japan to realize North Korea's complete denuclearization. The two Ministers reaffirmed that, in order to have North Korea take further concrete actions, Japan and the ROK will take concerted actions with the international community which includes the Japan-ROK-U.S. cooperation, in accordance with the United Nations Security Council Resolutions.

2. Japan-ROK Defense Cooperation and Exchanges

The two Ministers exchanged views on the Japan-ROK defense cooperation and exchanges. The two Ministers welcomed the steady progress in the Japan-ROK defense cooperation and exchanges, and agreed to establish the foundation for the Japan-ROK defense cooperation and exchanges by promoting the cooperation in various fields. Such cooperation includes not only high-level and working-level exchanges but also those that serve as the basis of the Japan-ROK defense cooperation and exchanges, such as

personnel exchanges at the intermediate senior officer-level, as well as education and research exchanges. The two Ministers also confirmed that Japan and the ROK will make a coordination for dispatching Japan Maritime Self-Defense Force's vessel for the International Fleet Review, planned to be held in October this year to celebrate the 70th anniversary of the foundation of the ROK Armed Forces.