

Japan-Canada Defense Ministerial Meeting (Summary)

February 15, 2020
Japan Ministry of Defense

On February 15, 2020, from 11:00 (local time) for approx. 20 minutes, Defense Minister Kono, who was visiting Germany to attend the 56th Munich Security Conference, held a meeting with the Canadian Minister of Defence, H.E. Harjit Sajjan. The summary of the meeting is as follows:

1. Opening Remarks

At the beginning of the meeting, Minister Kono extended gratitude for Minister Sajjan's visit to Japan in June last year, which was the first of its kind by a Canadian Defence Minister in about 13 years. In response, Minister Sajjan expressed desire to further advance the Japan-Canada defense cooperation and exchanges.

2. Japan-Canada Defense Cooperation

Minister Kono welcomed the progress in the bilateral defense cooperation in various fields, including the effectuation of the Japan-Canada ACSA in July last year and cooperation in monitoring North Korea's illicit "ship-to-ship transfers."

Both Ministers reviewed recent bilateral defense cooperation and exchanges and shared the view to continue to foster cooperation in the Indo-Pacific region.

In addition, regarding cooperation in the field of peace keeping, Minister Kono expressed gratitude for the Canadian Army's sending observers to engineering training conducted in Vietnam last year under the TPP framework, to which Japan has been contributing. He also expressed desire to continue to go hand in hand with the Canadian side to achieve further cooperation in this area.

3. Regional Situation

Both Ministers exchanged views on issues security situations in the Indo-Pacific region.

(End)