

Japan-Germany Defense Ministerial Meeting (Summary)

February 15, 2020
Japan Ministry of Defense

On February 15, 2020, from 12:45 (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 Hon. Annegret Kramp-Karrenbauer, German Minister of Defence. The summary of the meeting is as follows:

1. Opening Remarks

At the beginning of the meeting, Minister Kono stated that he welcomes the realization of defense ministerial meeting at the occasion of the Munich Security Conference in which the Japanese Defense Minister participated for the first time in about 10 years.

In response, Minister Kramp-Karrenbauer expressed desire to make further advance the Japan-Germany defense cooperation and exchanges through efforts including her visit to Japan this year.

2. Japan-Germany Defense Cooperation

Both Ministers confirmed that the security and defense cooperation is advancing, and shared the view that they would promote concrete cooperation to realize the vision of a “Free and Open Indo-Pacific.”

Minister Kono also expressed gratitude for the participation of the Staff Band of Bundeswehr as a guest band in the Japan Self-Defense Forces Marching Festival held at the end of last November. He added that he would like to promote further interaction in the music field through future opportunities.

3. Regional Situation

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

(End)