

## **Meeting between Defense Minister Kono and NATO Secretary General (Summary)**

February 15, 2020  
Japan Ministry of Defense

On February 15, 2020, from 16:10 (local time) for approx. 15 minutes, Defense Minister Kono, who was visiting Germany to attend the 56th Munich Security Conference, held a meeting with H. E. Stoltenberg, NATO Secretary General. The summary of the meeting is as follows:

### **1. Opening Remarks**

At the beginning of the meeting, Minister Kono stated that he welcomes the reunite with Secretary General Stoltenberg since their last meeting in 2017. He also stated that NATO is a “reliable natural partner” for Japan, and expressed his hope for advancement of bilateral cooperation based on the Individual Partnership and Cooperation Program (IPCP).

In response, Secretary General Stoltenberg welcomed the reunite as well, and stated that he would like to promote Japan-NATO cooperation.

### **2. Japan-NATO Security Cooperation**

They welcomed that the cooperation is advancing especially in the field of cyber and maritime security, and shared the view that they would work towards the upcoming revision of IPCP.

Minister Kono also mentioned the dispatch of the third female Self-Defense Force Personnel to NATO since last year as part of personnel exchange related to the field of WPS (Women, Peace and Security), and stated that he would like to continue cooperation in this field as well.

### **3. Regional Situation**

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

(End)