

## Japan-ASEAN Ministerial Initiative for Enhanced Defense Cooperation: JASMINE

### **【Overview】**

- On November 15, 2023, during the 8<sup>th</sup> ASEAN-Japan- Defence Ministers’ Informal Meeting, Defense Minister Kihara presented this initiative, JASMINE, to advance Japan-ASEAN defense cooperation **to a new level** in the face of an increasingly severe and complex security environment, and at a time when the realization of the shared vision for the Indo-Pacific region was being challenged.
- In line with the spirit of “Vientiane Vision 2.0,” which presents the overall picture of Japan’s direction of defense cooperation with ASEAN, JASMINE proposed specific defense cooperation under **four pillars** in order to realize **the shared vision of the future for the Indo-Pacific region**.
  - ✓ **Shared Vision of the Future for the Indo-Pacific Region:** Japan and ASEAN have affirmed “the shared view to promote a rules-based Indo-Pacific region that is free and open.” Japan’s “Free and Open Indo-Pacific (FOIP)” and ASEAN’s “ASEAN Outlook on the Indo-Pacific (AOIP)” share fundamental principles in promoting peace, stability, and prosperity in the region.
  - ✓ **Four Pillars:** (1) Japan-ASEAN to carry out efforts to create a security environment that does not allow any unilateral attempts to change the status quo by force or coercion  
(2) To continue and expand the Japan-ASEAN defense cooperation  
(3) To pursue further friendship and opportunities between Japan and ASEAN defense officials  
(4) To support defense cooperation between ASEAN, Japan, and the Pacific Island countries

### **【Relation to “Vientiane Vision 2.0”】**

- JASMINE, **in line with the spirit of “Vientiane Vision 2.0,”** presents four pillars of specific defense cooperation that Japan would like to advance together with ASEAN to realize the shared vision of the future for the Indo-Pacific region.
- The **“Vientiane Vision 2.0” presents the overall picture of Japan’s direction of defense cooperation with ASEAN.** The vision, including its **three principles** for cooperation “heart-to-heart cooperation,” “tailored and lasting cooperation,” and “equal and open cooperation” as well as **the basic direction of cooperation** such as contributing to ASEAN centrality and unity by supporting its resilience - **remain unchanged and effective.**

Four Pillars	Projects
<p><b>I. Japan-ASEAN to carry out efforts to create a security environment that does not allow any unilateral attempts to change the status quo by force or coercion</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Working with ASEAN to create a security environment that does not allow any unilateral attempts to change the status quo by force or coercion.</li> <li>● Promoting practical defense cooperation between Japan and ASEAN to secure prosperity through the open and stable seas and air.</li> <li>● Specific interrelated efforts to contribute to the first pillar include ensuring the rule of law and strengthening security of the seas and the air.</li> <li>✓ <b>Ensuring the rule of law:</b> Reaffirming the importance of the rule of law, and becoming the practitioners of the rule of law, further strengthen the rule of law in various domains, including space and cyber, while promoting cooperation in rule-making.</li> <li>✓ <b>Strengthening security of the seas and the air:</b> Continuing working on developing confidence-building measures and strengthening Japan and ASEAN security capabilities towards ensuring the safety and stability of the sea and air in the Indo-Pacific region.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>【NEW】</b> Seminar on the rule of law and security in space domain</li> <li>• <b>【NEW】</b> Seminar on Air Domain Awareness (ADA)</li> <li>• <b>【NEW】</b> Seeking synergies between OSA, transfer of defense equipment and technology, capacity building, etc.</li> <li>• “Japan-ASEAN Cyber International Law Seminar”</li> <li>• “Japan-ASEAN Ship Rider Cooperation Program (SRCP)”</li> <li>• “Professional Airmanship Program (PAP),” etc.</li> </ul>
<p><b>II. To continue and expand the Japan-ASEAN defense cooperation</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● The continuation and expansion of Japan-ASEAN defense cooperation to cover cross-border challenges, which we have traditionally been dealing with, as well as emerging issues.</li> <li>✓ <b>Continuation:</b> Continuing defense cooperation with ASEAN in addressing cross-border challenges such as the impact of climate change, leading to rising sea levels and severe natural disasters, and terrorism which remains serious threat to the region.</li> <li>✓ <b>Expansion:</b> Expanding Japan-ASEAN defense cooperation on emerging issues related to domains such as space or cyber, and cutting-edge technologies including AI.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• “Japan-ASEAN Seminar on Climate Change and Security”</li> <li>• “Japan-ASEAN Cyber Security Training Program for Defense Authorities,” etc.</li> </ul>

<p><b>III. To pursue further friendship and opportunities between Japan and ASEAN defense officials</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● The pursuit of further friendship and opportunities among Japan-ASEAN defense officials.</li> <li>✓ <b>Friendship:</b> Promoting mutual exchanges, strengthening the people-to-people foundation, and deepening the cooperative relationship between Japan-ASEAN.</li> <li>✓ <b>Opportunities:</b> Creating opportunities for all humankind to not merely survive but prosper and live in dignity. Further promoting the “Women, Peace and Security (WPS)” agenda through Japan-ASEAN defense cooperation.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>【NEW】</b> New capacity building program on WPS for ASEAN</li> <li>• Delivering seminars on WPS in capacity building programs on PKO and HA/DR, etc.</li> <li>• Actively engaging in WPS-related trainings and events conducted in ASEAN countries</li> <li>• Having exchange students at the National Defense Academy of Japan, the National Institute for Defense Studies, JSDF Staff Colleges, etc.</li> </ul>
<p><b>IV. To support defense cooperation between ASEAN, Japan, and the Pacific Island countries</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Supporting cooperation between ASEAN and countries from other regions, particularly Pacific Island countries by serving as a bridge, where appropriate. Contributing to the security and stability in the Indo-Pacific region by promoting regional interconnectivity.</li> <li>● ASEAN, Japan, and Pacific Island countries share many common interests and challenges such as maritime security, climate change, and disaster response. Effectively addressing the common challenges by enhancing cooperation in these areas among ASEAN, Japan, and Pacific Island countries.</li> <li>● Continuing to be a close partner with countries of the Indo-Pacific region by supporting regional interconnectivity while respecting ASEAN centrality and unity.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Hosting the “Japan-ASEAN Ship Rider Cooperation Program” and “Japan-Pacific Islands Countries and Timor-Leste Ship Rider Cooperation Program” concurrently, etc.</li> </ul>

※ Some projects are relevant to multiple pillars.