Japan-ROK Defense Ministers' Meeting

On Sunday, July 28, 2024, Minister of Defense Kihara held a meeting with Republic of Korea Minister of National Defense Shin Won-sik, who is visiting Japan.

The two Ministers shared the recognition that Japan-ROK and Japan-ROK-U.S. defense cooperation is becoming increasingly important as the security environment surrounding both countries becomes more severe.

In addition, the two Ministers exchanged views on Japan-ROK defense cooperation and exchanges, and welcomed the resumption of Japan-ROK Defense Bilateral Talks and the high-level exchange between Japan Self-Defense Forces and ROK Armed Forces in July, which was concurred at the Japan-ROK Defense Ministers' Meeting on June 1.

Furthermore, the two Ministers concurred to coordinate the following items and jointly prepare an annual exchange plan in order to activate Japan-ROK defense cooperation and exchanges.

- 1. Activate mutual visits by Defense Ministers
- 2. Resume mutual visits by Chiefs of Staff
- 3. Resume Staff Talks between each service
- 4. Activate unit to unit exchanges including search and rescue exercises (SAREX)