

[Press Release]

December 19, 2023

Ministry of Defense

Japan-United States-Republic of Korea Trilateral Ministerial Joint Press Statement

Minister of Defense Kihara Minoru announced the Japan-United States-Republic of Korea Trilateral Ministerial Joint Press Statement with the United States (U.S.) Secretary of Defense Lloyd J. Austin III and Republic of Korea (ROK) Minister of National Defense Shin Wonsik on December 19.

It is clearly announced at this joint statement that Japan, the U.S., and ROK have fully activated a real-time DPRK missile warning data sharing mechanism and jointly established a multi-year trilateral exercise plan.

The activation of the real-time DPRK missile warning data sharing mechanism enables the three countries to share the missile warning data in a continuous and persistent manner. This initiative opens a new page for the trilateral defense cooperation among Japan, U.S., and ROK.

In addition, the established multi-year trilateral exercise plan will regularize trilateral exercises and execute them more systematically and efficiently moving forward.

The trilateral collaboration by Japan, U.S., and ROK is indispensable for the regional peace and stability under the increasingly severe security environment including the Korean Peninsula. They continue to further strengthen the trilateral cooperation.