

(Press Release, provisional translation)

29 October, 2026

Ministry of Defense

Japan-Australia Defense Ministers' Meeting

On 29th October 2026, Minister of Defense Koizumi held the meeting with Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Defence of Australia the Hon Richard Marles MP.

- 1 The Ministers shared their views on the increasingly challenging regional security environment and confirmed that they would further advance concrete defense cooperation under the Japan-Australia "Special Strategic Partnership".
- 2 With regards to defense equipment and technology cooperation, building on their discussions at the Japan-Australia Defense Ministers' Meeting in this August, the Ministers confirmed the steady progress of Australia's general purpose frigate program, and also welcomed the continued progress in working-level coordination on the use of Australian test ranges for Japan's hypersonic guided missile program and other projects, including the dispatch of a Japanese survey team to Australia in September. The Ministers agreed to continue close coordination toward conducting testing in Australia.
- 3 Furthermore, the Ministers reaffirmed the importance of Japan and Australia, as a core of cooperation among like-minded countries, building a multi-layered cooperative relationship, and agreed to continue contributing to peace and stability in the Indo-Pacific.