## JOINT STAFF PRESS RELEASE

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19 Nov 2021 Joint Staff

Video conference with Chief of the General Staff, Viet Nam People's Army and Deputy Defense Minister of Socialist Republic of Viet Nam

General YAMAZAKI Koji, Chief of Staff, Joint Staff, had a video conference with Senior Lieutenant General Nguyen Tan Cuong, Chief of the General Staff, Viet Nam People's Army and Deputy Defense Minister of Socialist Republic of Viet Nam, on Friday, 19 Nov 2021.

At the meeting, the two leaders confirmed the significance to further advance the Japan-Vietnam defense cooperation, which has elevated to a "New level", and to deepen the cooperation for realizing a "Free and Open Indo-Pacific." In addition, General Yamazaki expressed his sincere gratitude for Vietnam's continued support to the SDF aircraft and vessels making stops and port calls for their activities in the Middle East and the Gulf of Aden off Somalia. Adding to that, they shared the awareness of the increasingly severer security environment in the Indo-Pacific region, and agreed to further strengthen their relations at multi-levels between the SDF and the Viet Nam People's Army for the peace and stability in the region and response to global challenges.



