



March 15, 2023

Joint Staff

Signing of Administrative Arrangement
between Japan's Deployment Surface Force for Counter-Piracy Enforcement
off the Coast of Somalia and in the Gulf of Aden
and EU Naval Force Atalanta
for Communication and Coordination on Joint Anti-Piracy Exercises

On Wednesday, 15 March 2023, General YAMAZAKI Koji, Chief of Staff, Joint Staff, held a signing ceremony in Japan for the Administrative Arrangement concerning the Japan-EU joint anti-piracy exercises with Vice Admiral Jose M. Nunez, the Commander of Operation Atalanta of the EU Naval Force Somalia.

The two senior leaders welcomed that the arrangement reached to signature. They also concurred to further promote joint anti-piracy exercises through newly clarified the procedures and points of contact for bilateral exercise under the arrangement.

Following the ceremony, they discussed future Japan-EU defense cooperation and exchanges. General YAMAZAKI stressed that the Japan-EU cooperation off the Coast of Somalia and in the Gulf of Aden contributes to peace and stability not only in the region, but also in Europe and Indo-Pacific, and also emphasized that he would like to further strengthen defense cooperation and exchanges between Japan and EU.