

**PRESS RELEASE**

May 7, 2026  
Maritime Staff Office

(Announcement)

Participation in Multilateral Exercise “ASWEX 2026” hosted by the Royal Australian Navy

The JMSDF participated in the multilateral exercise “ASWEX 2026” hosted by the Royal Australian Navy as described below in order to strengthen cooperation to realize a “Free and Open Indo-Pacific.”

1. Objectives

- (1) To improve the JMSDF’s tactical capabilities
- (2) To strengthen mutual understanding and relationship with the participating navies

2. Period

- April 1–May 5  
(Harbor Phase: April 1–4)  
(Sea Phase: April 5–May 5)

3. Area

Sydney, Bass Strait and in the vicinity of Bass Strait

4. Participating Unit

*JS KUMANO*

5. Type of Exercises

- (1) Harbor Phase  
Pre-Exercise Workshops
- (2) Sea Phase  
Tactical exercise (Ground Gunnery Exercise, Anti-Submarine Warfare Exercise) and Replenishment at Sea



From the front, JS *KUMANO*, HMAS BRISBANE



JS *KUMANO* and MH-60R



Replenishment at Sea (From the left, JS *KUMANO*, HMAS *SUPPLY*)



JMSDF members conducting training