

**Joint Statement**  
**on the occasion of the visit of His Royal Highness**  
**Prince Salman bin Abdulaziz Al Saud**  
**Crown Prince and Deputy Premier and Minister of Defense**  
**of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia**  
**to Japan**

Upon the kind invitation of His Excellency Mr. Shinzo Abe, Prime Minister of Japan, His Royal Highness Prince Salman bin Abdulaziz Al Saud, the Crown Prince and Deputy Premier and Minister of Defense of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, made an official visit to Japan from 18 to 21 Rabie Thani 1435, from 18 to 21 February 2014.

His Imperial Highness the Crown Prince of Japan received His Royal Highness Crown Prince Salman bin Abdulaziz at the Haneda International Airport in Tokyo. His Majesty the Emperor of Japan received His Royal Highness Crown Prince Salman bin Abdulaziz and held a Court Luncheon in his honor at the Imperial Palace. His Royal Highness Crown Prince Salman bin Abdulaziz and His Excellency Prime Minister Shinzo Abe held a meeting in Tokyo on 19 Rabie Thani 1435, 19 February 2014 in which they discussed bilateral relations, and regional and international issues of mutual interest.

The two sides recalled the visit of Their Imperial Highnesses the Crown Prince and Crown Princess of Japan to the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia in 1994, the visit of the Custodian of the two Holly Mosques King Abdullah Bin Abdulaziz Al Saud to Japan in 1998 on his capacity as the Crown Prince, the visit of His Royal Highness Prince Sultan bin Abdulaziz (May Allah bestow his mercy upon him) to Japan in 2006 and the visit of His Excellency Prime Minister Shinzo Abe to the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia last year when the two sides issued the Joint Statement and decided to strengthen the Comprehensive Partnership between the two countries towards stability and prosperity.

During the current visit to Japan, His Excellency Prime Minister Shinzo Abe and His Royal Highness Crown Prince Salman bin Abdulaziz expressed their appreciation for the considerable progress in bilateral political, economic and cultural relations. They also expressed their determination to strengthen the Comprehensive Partnership in all fields within the framework of the Joint Statement issued on 30 April, 2013, and continue discussion and cooperation on it at various levels.

Bilateral cooperation will be strengthened in the following fields:

1. Cooperation in the Political and Security Fields

(Political and Security Dialogues)

- Japan expressed its aspiration to become a permanent Security Council member as well as its candidacy for a non-permanent member for 2016-17.
- The two sides decided to promote exchanges of young diplomats and intellectual dialogues on diplomatic issues organized by either side or both sides.
- Dialogue among senior officials of relevant ministries and government agencies of both countries at an earliest opportunity in such fields as regional situations including the Middle East peace process and Syria, maritime security, the safety of sea lanes of communications, counter-piracy, non-proliferation, counter-terrorism, humanitarian assistance and disaster-relief.

(Japan-GCC Strategic Dialogues)

- Strengthening the Japan-GCC Strategic Dialogue.

(Aid Coordination)

- Further cooperation in aid coordination.

2. Defense Exchanges and Cooperation

- Consultations between the defense authorities of both countries at an earliest opportunity to discuss ways to further promote bilateral defense exchanges and cooperation.

3. Cooperation in the Economic field

(Energy Cooperation)

- Both sides stressed the importance of the stability of the oil market for the global economy. The Japanese side expressed its appreciation for the balanced oil policy pursued by the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia as a secure and reliable source in supplying oil to the international markets in general, and to the Japanese market in particular. The Saudi side stressed its commitment to continuing its stable supply of oil to the Japanese market. Both sides also stressed the importance of further promoting the bilateral cooperation in the field of energy, including energy efficiency and exchange of expertise in this area, through Japan-Saudi Energy Consultation, based on the close relationship between the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia and Japan.
- Continued cooperation in joint oil storage.
- Cooperation in the fields of conventional, alternative and renewable energy.
- Japan's technical assistance to Saudi Arabia in developing its policy on energy efficiency through such means as the dispatch of experts and the holding of seminars.

(Cooperation between Private Sectors of both countries)

- Further promotion of two-way investments and continued constructive discussion on promoting business environment.

#### (Industry Cooperation)

- Cooperation in industrial investment, technology transfer and infrastructure by relevant ministries and agencies of both countries.
- Cooperation in formulating Memorandum of Cooperation between Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry of Japan and Ministry of Commerce and Industry of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia and a pilot project for the development of the small and medium enterprises of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia.

#### (Infrastructure)

- Metro projects in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia.
- Water and wastewater cooperation between the Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry of Japan and the Ministry of Water and Electricity and the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia.

#### (Human Resources Development)

- Cooperation in human resources development.
- Reaching a proper arrangement for the office of Japan International Cooperation Agency in Riyadh.

#### (Health)

- The Japanese side asked for the Saudi side's further efforts in easing and lifting restrictions on the imports of Japanese food imposed after the Great East Japan Earthquake in March 2011. The Saudi side stated that it is a health issue and expressed its willingness to look into the subject when the Saudi Food & Drug Authority determines that the causes for the restrictions are no longer present including the health issue.

#### 4. Culture, Education, and People-to-People Exchanges

- Exchanging cultural activities of both countries in particular to celebrate the 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relationship between two countries in the Year 2015.
- "Sport for Tomorrow" to promote the Olympic Movement around the world including the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia.
- Cooperation in the field of science and technology.
- Further promoting the exchange of the youth visits.
- Cooperation in the fields of education and higher education.

The two sides also welcomed the continuing activities within the framework of the initiative of the Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques King

Abdullah Bin Abdulaziz Al Saud for dialogue among the followers of religions, civilizations and cultures and welcomed the activities of the King Abdullah Bin Abdulaziz International Center for Interreligious and Intercultural Dialogue in Vienna.

They also reiterated the importance of continuing political consultation between the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia and Japan through the Foreign Ministries of both countries.

They also decided to continue to encourage relations among the youth in both countries.

The two sides also stressed the importance of enhancing cooperation in industrial investment, technology transfer and infrastructures, as well as cooperation between the private sectors of both countries in industrial and investment fields in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia.

The two sides concurred to encourage cooperation in sciences, the transfer of technology for the diversification of industries and the development of infrastructure. They also reiterated the importance of exchanging expertise and programs of human resources development between the two countries, and intensifying cooperation among universities and research centers, as well as enhancing cooperation in the field of knowledge based economics.

The two sides reaffirmed their commitment to just, lasting, and comprehensive peace in the Middle East in accordance with the Arab peace initiative and related UN resolutions, stressing the need for consolidated international efforts to push the peace process forward towards a two-state solution aimed at establishing a Palestinian state that is sovereign, independent, united and viable.

The two sides expressed their grave concern towards the developments in Syria and the continuing bloodshed of innocent people. They shared the recognition that the Syrian regime should be held responsible for this situation. In this regard, they also expressed their concern and disappointment on the fact that the Geneva II has failed to achieve its desired results, for which the Syrian regime is responsible. They reaffirmed the commitment to seek a peaceful and urgent political settlement through full implementation of the Geneva Communiqué of 30 June 2012, including the establishment of a transitional governing body exercising full executive powers. They also underlined the continuation of humanitarian aid and relief to Syrian refugees and encouraging governments and organizations to provide more support for Syrians, both in the country and abroad.

His Royal Highness Crown Prince Salman bin Abdulaziz thanked His Majesty the Emperor, His Imperial Highness the Crown Prince, His Excellency the Prime Minister and the Government and people of Japan for the warm reception and hospitality he and his accompanying delegation enjoyed during the visit.