

# Japan-UK Joint Declaration on Security Cooperation

The Prime Ministers of Japan and the UK,

Recognising that Japan and the UK are global strategic partners which share strategic interests and fundamental values such as freedom, democracy, human rights, and the rule of law;

Committing to exercising their leadership to maintain the rules-based international system as the closest security partners respectively in Asia and Europe;

Recalling the historical ties between Japan and the UK, and recognising the excellent progress of security and defence cooperation between Japan and the UK, based on the Japan-UK Memorandum Relating to Defence Co-operation signed in 2012 as well as on the discussions at the Foreign and Defence Ministers' meetings;

Affirming that free and open access to oceans, space and cyberspace based on the rule of law serves as the foundation of the stability and prosperity of the international community, including in the Indo-Pacific region;

Recognising that Japan and the UK are the closest allies of the US in Asia and Europe respectively, and share a strategic commitment to strengthening cooperation with partners, friends and allies including the US, which share fundamental values or strategic interests, or both;

Recognising that the security challenges for Japan and the UK are now intertwined, requiring further coordination of actions between Japan and the UK on traditional and new type of threats;

Committing to elevate our global security partnership to the next level through comprehensively enhancing security cooperation between Japan and the UK;

Have decided as follows:

## **Strengthening Cooperation**

Building on the global perspectives of Japan and the UK, as embodied by Japan's policy of "Proactive Contribution to Peace" based on the principle of international cooperation and the UK's vision of a Global Britain respectively, Japan and the UK reaffirm their commitment to elevating their global strategic partnership and

cooperation to the next level.

Japan and the UK will strengthen cooperation globally, and particularly in the Indo-Pacific region, conscious of its importance to global security and prosperity.

Based on such common understanding, Japan and the UK will strengthen our cooperation and partnership vis-à-vis common strategic challenges to the rules-based international system.

1. Japan and the UK underscore the importance of maintaining an international order based on the rule of law, and strongly oppose any unilateral actions that seek to increase tensions or change the status quo by force or coercion. Today the world faces an unprecedented threat from North Korea's nuclear and missile programme. Japan and the UK stand shoulder to shoulder in opposing North Korea's destabilising and dangerous policies and provocations. We will continue to work together with our friends and allies towards the denuclearisation of the Korean Peninsula and the strict and full implementation of UN Security Council Resolutions.
2. Japan and the UK will promote timely exchanges of information and analysis, as well as policy coordination regarding regional affairs, long-term strategies, and international challenges, while paying attention to respective security concerns.
3. Japan welcomes the UK's strengthened security engagement in the Asia-Pacific region, including through visits by maritime, land and air forces, such as the potential deployment of a UK aircraft carrier. The UK welcomes Japan's proactive approach to global security under its policy of "Proactive Contribution to Peace" based on the principle of international cooperation. Japan will consider possible opportunities to send its Self-Defense Forces personnel, aircraft or ships to the UK for joint exercises.
4. Japan and the UK will strengthen the implementation of joint exercises through bilateral, trilateral, and multilateral frameworks, and explore making them regular.
5. Japan welcomes the UK's commitment to security of the Asia-Pacific region through the Five Power Defence Arrangement (FPDA).
6. Japan and the UK will enhance cooperation in providing each other with logistic, technical, and professional support on the basis of the recently concluded Acquisition and Cross-Servicing Agreement (ACSA).
7. Japan and the UK will build on the ACSA and, as a priority, work on a framework to improve administrative, policy and legal procedures to facilitate joint operations and exercises between the Japanese Self-Defense Forces and the British Armed Forces.
8. Japan and the UK will promote personnel and unit-to-unit exchanges, joint training and exercises between the Japanese Self-Defense Forces and the British Armed Forces.

9. Japan and the UK will utilise the agreement on defence equipment and technology transfer to strengthen cooperation in this area. Japan and the UK will also cooperate in export control of arms, and dual-use items and technologies. As co-authors, Japan and the UK will continue to strongly support universalisation and implementation of the Arms Trade Treaty.
10. Japan and the UK will also cooperate on disarmament and non-proliferation and uphold the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons as the cornerstone of the international nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation regime.
11. Japan and the UK will further promote concrete collaboration in assistance for capacity-building of developing countries in Southeast Asia, South Asia and Africa in areas such as maritime security and safety, including counter-piracy; counter terrorism; cyber security; humanitarian assistance and disaster relief; gender; peacekeeping operations; and fulfilling our international commitments on demining.
12. Japan and the UK will strengthen whole-of-government cooperation ahead of the Rugby World Cup 2019, Olympic and Paralympic Games Tokyo 2020, and other major events, in areas such as counter terrorism and cyber security, including through the partnership between the National Police Agency of Japan and the Home Office of the UK.
13. Japan and the UK will promote international stability frameworks for cyberspace consisting of the application of existing international law, agreed voluntary, non-binding norms of responsible state behaviour, confidence building measures and capacity building measures, and strengthen cooperation, including information exchange, to deter, mitigate and attribute, through appropriate frameworks, malicious cyber activities in accordance with relevant domestic laws and existing international law.
14. Japan and the UK will strengthen and support industrial and academic cooperation on cyber security, including human resource development, to strengthen the capability for both countries.
15. Japan and the UK will continue to cooperate to increase transparency in space activities, and strengthen norms of responsible behaviour for all outer space activities.
16. Japan and the UK will continue their cooperation in multilateral frameworks such as the UN, G7 and G20. Japan and the UK will work together to expedite the reform process of the UN, in support of Secretary-General Guterres' initiatives on the reform in the Peace and Security architecture. Especially on UN Security Council (UNSC) reform, recognising the importance of expanding permanent and non-permanent categories of its membership and launching text-based negotiations, the UK reiterates its strong support for Japan's permanent

membership of the UNSC.

17. Japan and the UK will continue to work together to counter serious and organised crime, including through sharing best practice; working to combat modern slavery globally; and active participation in the WePROTECT Global Alliance to end child sexual exploitation online.

### **Areas of Cooperation**

The scope of security cooperation between Japan and the UK will include, but not be limited to, the following:

1. Exchange of strategic assessment and relevant information
2. Joint exercises
3. International peace cooperation activities including UN Peacekeeping operations
4. Humanitarian assistance and disaster relief
5. Overseas development
6. Defence equipment and technology cooperation
7. Disarmament, non-proliferation and export control of arms, dual-use items and technologies
8. Capacity-building of developing countries
9. Maritime security and safety including maritime domain awareness (MDA) and counter-piracy
10. Coordinated international activities for countering terrorism and violent extremism, including aviation security
11. Cyber security
12. Space
13. Prevention of sexual violence in conflict
14. Women, Peace and Security
15. Combating serious and organised crime, including modern slavery and online child sexual exploitation
16. Major event security

### **Implementation**

1. Japan and the UK will develop an action plan with specific measures relating to above-mentioned bilateral security cooperation between relevant authorities.
2. Japan and the UK will annually convene their Foreign and Defence Ministers' meeting, Foreign Ministers' Strategic Dialogue, Defence Ministers' meeting, and Foreign and Defence Director-General level consultation.
3. Japan and the UK will hold quarterly dialogues between their National Security

Advisors / National Security Secretariats, including to oversee the action plan process.

4. Japan and the UK will hold working level meetings where the two countries discuss the strategy and future direction of collaboration on our assistance for capacity-building of developing countries.
5. Japan and the UK will continue other working-level dialogues, including launching one on South Asia, and meetings between relevant ministries and agencies to deliver the above agenda.

Tokyo, 31 August, 2017

Mr. Shinzo Abe  
Prime Minister of Japan

Rt Hon Theresa May  
Prime Minister of the UK