Case (50): Promotion of safe use of the air

1. Basic concept

- Recognizing that open and stable seas and use of airspace, based on existing international rules, are the foundation of Japan's peace and prosperity as a maritime nation. In addition to the ocean, it is also important to ensure safe and stable use of airspace and to maintain situational awareness from above.

- Russia's invasion of Ukraine has shaken the foundations of the rules that form the international order. As such, in order to show Japan's will and capabilities in a positive and visible manner, it is necessary to enhance joint training/exercises, equipment/technical cooperation, capacity building and information sharing with countries that share the common recognition about the need to ensure maritime security and the stable use of airspace.

- Without knowing what is happening in the air domain, it is impossible to know whether the use of airspace is based on rules. For this reason, understanding what is happening in the air domain (hereafter referred to as Air Domain Awareness) is essential for the use of the airspace based on international rules. In addition, Air Domain Awareness can be seen as a foundation of maritime security as the ability for patrol aircraft to operate is predicated on aviation safety.

   → Enhancing Air Domain Awareness, not only in Japan but throughout the region, will contribute to the utilization of regional airspace based on international rules.

2. Items of cooperation

- Supporting capacity building regarding Air Domain Awareness in partner countries.

(Ex.) Transfer of warning and control radars to the Philippines and associated radar training for Philippine Air Force personnel by the JASDF

- Promoting the view that Air Domain Awareness needs to be improved throughout the region, and sharing knowledge related to Air Domain Awareness.

(Ex.) Subject Matter Expert Exchanges on warning and surveillance, and exchanges on