

**Statement between NATO Secretary General
and the four Indo-Pacific partners in the context of
the NATO Summit in The Hague**

We, NATO Secretary General Rutte and NATO's Indo-Pacific partners, reaffirm the importance of our relationship. We are committed to strengthening our dialogue and cooperation, based on shared strategic interests and common values, and on the recognition that the security of the Euro-Atlantic and Indo-Pacific is interconnected. Secretary General Rutte expresses NATO's gratitude to the Indo-Pacific partners for their steadfast support to Ukraine, including through NATO. Our cooperation is also deepening through our Flagship Projects.

Driven by a more dangerous and unpredictable global security environment, we recognise the extraordinary changes currently happening, with NATO Allies developing more defence capacity and more defence innovation.

To protect our citizens, uphold the international rules-based order, and support a secure, stable and prosperous world, we are all transparently increasing our respective defence spending and will look to enhance our defence industrial cooperation. We are committed to doing so in various ways, building on our respective strengths and interests.

In this regard, we will progress our dialogue to continue to learn from each other on key topics, including the security of supply chains, development, production and procurement processes. We will explore collaboration on projects to deliver capabilities together with interested NATO Allies and partners, including in the space and maritime domains, and in the area of munitions. We will continue to build on our regular cooperation on emerging and disruptive technologies and will look for opportunities to foster cooperation on innovation through relevant actors, including dual-use start-ups. We recognise the importance of enhancing the interoperability of our forces including through pursuing the same standards, where appropriate, so that we can continue to work together effectively. It will also create further collaborative defence industrial opportunities.

Increasing NATO – Indo-Pacific partners' cooperation is important in this unpredictable security environment. We owe it to our security today, and for our future generations.