

STATEMENT OF INTENT
ON DEFENSE COOPERATION AND EXCHANGES
BETWEEN
THE DEPARTMENT OF NATIONAL DEFENSE
OF THE REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES
AND THE MINISTRY OF DEFENSE OF JAPAN

The Department of National Defense of the Republic of Philippines and the Ministry of Defense of Japan, hereinafter collectively referred to as the “Participants” and individually referred to as a “Participant”;

RECOGNIZING their shared interests in the area of defense such as the United Nations Peacekeeping Operations (PKO), Humanitarian Assistance /Disaster Relief (HA/DR) and maritime security;

REALIZING that the development of defense cooperation between them will promote mutual understanding and trust and contribute to peace and stability in the Asia-Pacific region and beyond;

Have decided to make this Statement of Intent, hereinafter referred to as the “Statement”, in accordance with the laws and regulations of their respective countries:

PARAGRAPH I
SCOPE OF COOPERATION

The Participants have decided to conduct the following defense cooperation and exchanges:

1. High Level Exchanges
 - a. Hold bilateral Defense Ministerial meetings;
 - b. Hold bilateral meetings between the Undersecretary of the Department of National Defense of the Republic of the Philippines and the Vice-Minister of Defense of the Ministry of Defense of Japan; and
 - c. Conduct visits between the Chief of Staff, Armed Forces of the

Philippines (AFP) and the Chief of Staff, Joint Staff of the Japan Self-Defense Forces (JSDF), and between the Commanding Generals/Flag Officer in Command of the Philippine Army, Navy and Air Force and the Chiefs of Staff of the Japan Ground, Maritime and Air Self-Defense Forces, respectively.

2. Working Level Exchanges

- a. Hold military-to-military consultations/policy talks on security and defense matters at the Director General/Deputy Director-General level; and
- b. Hold staff talks between the Philippine Navy (PN) and the Japan Maritime Self-Defense Force (JMSDF).

3. Unit-to-Unit Exchanges

- a. Participate, including as observers, in training activities and exercises conducted by either Participant, subject to mutual consent for each of the exercises; and
- b. Conduct unit-to-unit exchanges between the AFP and the JSDF, including training activities and exercises on the occasion of mutual ship visits between the PN and the JMSDF.

4. Education and Research Exchanges

- a. Conduct exchange of students between defense educational institutions of the Participants; and
- b. Conduct exchange between defense educational and research institutions of the Participants.

5. Capacity Building

Promote cooperation between the Participants on capacity building support in the sphere of non-traditional security.

6. Exchange of Information

Conduct exchange of views on matters of mutual interest at various levels for the purpose of sharing knowledge for further cooperation in the following areas:

- a. Regional situations and security;

- b. Maritime security;
- c. Humanitarian Assistance/Disaster Relief;
- d. United Nations Peacekeeping Operations;
- e. Regional framework for cooperation in the sphere of defense; and
- f. Other areas as may be mutually decided upon by the Participants.

7. Cooperation in International Activities

Promote cooperation between the Participants in international peace cooperation activities, including talks and exchanges between the Peacekeeping Operations Center of the AFP and Japan Peacekeeping Training and Research Center under Joint Staff College of the JSDF.

8. Multilateral Cooperation

- a. Strengthen cooperation in multilateral frameworks such as the ASEAN Regional Forum (ARF) and the expanded ASEAN Defense Ministers' Meeting (ADMM-Plus); and
- b. Actively participate in multilateral workshops, conferences and seminars organized or supported by either Participant, including the Meeting of Senior Defense Officials on Common Security Challenges in the Asia-Pacific Region and the Tokyo Defense Forum organized by the Ministry of Defense of Japan.

9. Other forms of cooperation and exchanges as may be mutually decided upon by the Participants.

PARAGRAPH II CONFIDENTIALITY

The Participants will ensure that any information acquired in the process of their defense cooperation is treated appropriately and will not be released to third parties without prior consent of the originating Participant, subject to the relevant laws and regulations of the respective countries and by fully taking into account the requests from the originating Participant.

PARAGRAPH III IMPLEMENTING ARRANGEMENTS

For better implementation of this Statement, the Participants will make implementing arrangements for specific defense cooperation or exchanges, as may be necessary.

PARAGRAPH IV CONSULTATIONS

Disputes, if any, arising from the implementation of this Statement will be resolved amicably through consultations between the Participants.

PARAGRAPH V NON-BINDING EFFECT

This Statement does not give rise to legally binding rights or obligations under international law and will be implemented subject to the laws and regulations of the respective countries.

PARAGRAPH VI COMMENCEMENT, TERM AND TERMINATION

1. The cooperation and exchanges under this Statement will commence on the date of signature.
2. This Statement may be modified upon mutual written consent of the Participants.
3. The cooperation and exchanges under this Statement will continue for a period of five (5) years, and will thereafter be automatically extended for successive periods of five (5) years each, unless a Participant notifies the other Participant of its desire in writing to suspend or terminate the cooperation and exchanges under this Statement. In such a case, the cooperation and exchanges under this Statement will continue until ninety (90) days after the date of receipt of such notification by the other Participant.

Signed in Tokyo, Japan, on 2 July 2012, in duplicate in the English and Japanese languages, both texts having equal value. In case of any divergence of interpretation, the Participants will resolve such divergence through their consultation based on the English text.

VOLTAIRE T. GAZMIN
Secretary of the Department
of National Defense
of the Republic of Philippines

SATOSHI MORIMOTO
Minister of Defense
of Japan