

Japan-Australia Defense Leaders Meeting - Press Release

(2 June 2012, Singapore)

The Ministers for Defense of Japan and Australia reaffirmed their commitment to a strong and robust bilateral defence relationship. As close friends and allies of the US in the Asia-Pacific, both Ministers confirmed that Japan and Australia have developed cooperation in a range of areas, including the signing of the Australia-Japan Acquisition and Cross Servicing Agreement (ACSA) and an Information Security Agreement (ISA), as well as holding foreign and defence ministerial level “2 plus 2” meetings. In regard to the ACSA, the Japanese Defense Minister explained that he would make efforts to implement the ACSA as soon as possible.

Both Ministers welcomed the conclusion of the Australia-Japan Information Security Agreement, which will facilitate the sharing of information between Australia and Japan, including in the defence area and further promote bilateral cooperation.

Both Ministers acknowledged past bilateral cooperation in international peace activities, such as in East Timor and Iraq, and agreed such cooperation should be enhanced further.

Both Ministers would seek opportunities for cooperation and collaboration in the area of defense science and technology, which may include the sharing of information and expertise in areas of mutual interest.

Both Ministers agreed to commence planning for the next Australia-Japan “2 plus 2” Ministerial Consultations in Australia as early as possible.