

## Section 3. Efforts towards Security Frameworks and Cooperation in the Asia-Pacific Region

### 1. Significance of Multilateral Security Dialogue

To ensure peace and stability in the Asia-Pacific region, it is important to utilize the Japan–U.S. Alliance as an axis, while enhancing bilateral and multilateral dialogue frameworks of the region in a complementary and multilayered manner. In particular, with respect to future cooperation in the region, a lively discussion has been taking place by various nations in the region. Prime Minister Naoto Kan and former Prime Minister Yukio Hatoyama have proposed a long-term vision of the “East Asian Community.” Australia advocates the “Asia Pacific Community.” In addition to ministerial meetings in the fields of economy, finance, energy and environment, debate is also underway on the construction of regional frameworks in the field of security and others as well. Multilateral security efforts in the Asia-Pacific region are anticipated to further deepen security cooperation in the region, while efforts are already advancing from dialogue and confidence-building stages to concrete cooperation ones.

#### [COLUMN]

#### VOICE

#### Voice of a MSDF Officer Regarding the Symposium for Senior Petty Officers Held in Japan

##### Chief Petty Officer Kazuyasu Hatanaka, Senior Corporal, MSDF

An MSDF Senior Corporal acts as a facilitator for MSDF petty officers, giving orders to the MSDF petty officers and maintaining unit discipline, and working to boost morale.

I have worked as an MSDF Senior Corporal in the Maritime Staff Office since June 2008.

In October of last year we held the Third Western Pacific Naval Symposium for Senior Petty Officers.

From overseas 25 persons from 10 countries participated in the symposium, and 30 senior corporals of major units from around the country and other personnel joined from Japan. The three-day symposium commenced with a presentation on the navies of various nations that introduced naval equipment and education. During the discussion session, participants discussed problems that senior petty officers are tackling in each country’s navy, including the character, capacity, and training required for petty officers to execute leadership as well as education for younger unit members.

Moreover, further understanding was acquired about Japan and the MSDF by using cultural training and naval review training to introduce Japanese culture and the equipment and personnel of the MSDF. At the same time, the symposium contributed significantly to cultivating mutual understanding between naval petty officers in the Asia-Pacific region. I plan to refine my own leadership skills and continue to train admirable classes of personnel in the future on a level equal or higher than that of the navies of other countries.



Naval petty officers of each country receiving an explanation

Under such circumstances, Japan believes that it is of great importance to construct multilayered frameworks in security areas and to steadily work to deepen concrete regional cooperation. Japan takes initiative to advance regional security cooperation.

## 2. ASEAN Regional Forum

At the ASEAN foreign ministers' meeting and ASEAN Post-Ministerial Conference in 1993, the foreign ministers from 17 countries and from the European Community (EC), now the European Union (EU), agreed to create the ASEAN Regional Forum (ARF) as a political and security forum in the Asia-Pacific region. Since its first ministerial meeting in 1994, the ARF has held its regular ministerial meeting annually. The number of ARF members has gradually increased annually and currently comprises 26 countries and one union<sup>27</sup>.

At present, the ARF is different from a security organization typically seen in Europe, such as NATO and the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe (OSCE); however, the ARF is of significance because it provides opportunities for both foreign and defense officials to attend various inter-governmental meetings on security.

The Ministry of Defense believes that it is necessary for defense officials among ARF member countries to enhance mutual confidence so that the ARF can become a forum to generate a sense of community among Asia-Pacific countries, and thereby stabilize the region's security environment. To this end, the Ministry has been continuing its efforts to deepen mutual understanding within the ARF through continuous participation, encouraging ARF members to increase the transparency of their defense policies while explaining Japan's policies and efforts, and promoting frank discussion among defense officials.

In addition, in recent years nontraditional security areas such as humanitarian assistance and disaster relief, maritime security, and peacekeeping and peacebuilding have been discussed as common regional security challenges.

Every year, the Senior Officials Meeting (SOM), the Inter-Sessional Support Group (ISG) on Confidence-Building Measures and Preventive Diplomacy (CBM/PD), and the ARF Security Policy Conference are held in addition to the Foreign Ministerial Meeting. Following the ministerial meeting in 2002, Inter-Sessional Meetings (ISM) have been held and also the ARF Defense Officials' Dialogue (DOD) meetings have been held ahead of the main meeting. In the maritime security field, an Inter-Sessional Meeting on Maritime Security (ISMMS) has been held annually co-hosted by Japan, Indonesia, and New Zealand, since March 2009. Japan utilizes these various opportunities to promote concrete cooperation and rule-making.

Furthermore, efforts for more practical cooperation in the fields above are now being made. In the humanitarian assistance and disaster relief fields, for instance, ARF General Guidelines for DR Cooperation have been approved as guidelines posed on international cooperation and ARF strategic guidance for HA-DR is currently being drafted that lays down procedures for more detailed cooperation. In May 2009, the first disaster relief field training exercise was conducted in the Philippines, and Japan's dispatch was on the largest scale following the Philippines, with nearly 100 people; MSDF medical, epidemic-prevention, and water supply units; one MSDF rescue amphibian (US-2); and two ASDF transport aircraft (C-130). This exercise was significant



Personnel that participated in the ARF-Voluntary Demonstration of Response (ARF-VDR) exercise

## [COLUMN]

## VOICE

**Voice of SDF Personnel that Participated in Multinational Joint Training (ARF-VDR)<sup>1</sup>**

**Major Masaru Moronaga, Education and Training Section, Ground Staff Office  
(Currently assigned to the Research and Development Command)**

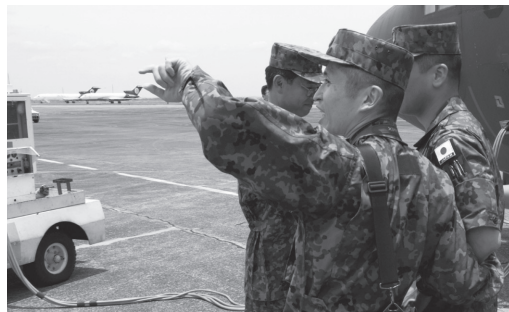
I participated in the ASEAN Regional Forum (ARF) Voluntary Demonstration of Response (AFR-VDR) in Luzon Island in the Philippines in May last year. There, I worked as the planning and communications director of the unit that was participating from the GSDF.

This exercise was the first field exercise held under the ARF framework. The exercise envisioned a major disaster resulting from a large-scale typhoon, whereupon maritime search and rescue drills, medical activities, construction activities, etc., were conducted by disaster relief personnel from the participating countries (26 countries<sup>2</sup>, 2 organizations, and approximately 500 people). Nearly 100 personnel from Japan, including Ground, Maritime, and Air Self-Defense Forces participated in the exercise.

Because this was the first exercise and due to the short four-month period of time between the first planning session and the actual exercise, I was frantic making arrangements via telephone and email with the host and participating nations until just before the actual exercise. However, these efforts proved to be worthwhile, as we were able to collaborate and cooperate smoothly with personnel from the participating nations at the exercise to execute the operations.

I felt that through this experience the building up of a series of processes —from planning to execution of the exercise— while cooperating with troops and private organizations of various nations with disparate cultures and customs will lead to promoting defense cooperation between relevant nations. I also felt sincerely proud as a representative of Japan of the activities in which we were engaging.

We are currently preparing for the second round of exercise (planned to be jointly hosted between Japan and Indonesia in Indonesia in March 2011), and I plan to organize an exercise that will be even more fruitful based on this experience.



Major Moronaga (front-center) coordinating activities at the airfield



A rescue amphibian US-2 landing in the Gulf of Manila

- 1) Voluntary Demonstration of Response.
- 2) There were 26 participating countries and 2 organizations, including Japan, Philippines, United States, Australia, EU, Indonesia, Brunei, Mongolia, New Zealand, Papua New Guinea, Republic of Korea, Singapore, China, and Sri Lanka.

because the ARF moved from the level of opinion exchanges to the level of conducting a field training. Japan will co-host the 2nd ARF disaster relief exercise (ARF-DiREx 2011) with Indonesia in March 2011.

In this way, the nations of the Asia-Pacific region has been undertaking a process of discussing concrete cooperation and coordination methods in various different fields after having set certain rules, and then conducting training and exercises and providing feedback on various cooperation and coordination in the region. This process leads to improving the capacity for addressing issues such as natural disasters in the region, as well as promotes mutual understanding and confidence building between participating nations. Therefore, Japan believes it important to further advance these types of efforts.

## [COLUMN]

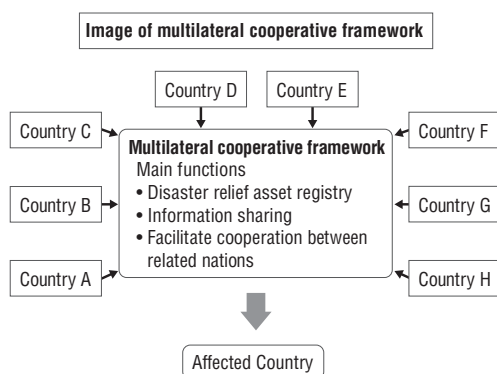
## COMMENTARY

### Frameworks in the Asia-Pacific for Addressing Large-scale Disasters

The Asia-Pacific region is hit frequently by numerous large-scale disasters, and disasters in the region account for nearly 70% of all deaths from natural disasters in the world. The lessons learned teach us the importance of being able to provide effective assistance during the early stages of a disaster. In order to provide such assistance, it is vital to advance organic and effective cooperation with the militaries of multiple countries so as to address disasters in the region on a daily basis, and to construct multilateral frameworks that allow for taking prompt response. We must work to improve readiness.

The ARF, the current regional security cooperative framework, has been constructing various forms of cooperative frameworks for disaster relief; however, the creation of a registry system for disaster relief capabilities and a multilateral cooperative framework remains a future issue.

Based on this, the concept for a multilateral cooperative framework related to disaster relief was presented by the GSDF at the August 2009 Pacific Armies Chiefs Conference (PACC). In addition, the Ministry of Defense is advancing opinion exchanges with related ministries and agencies as well as relevant countries at international conferences such as the ARF, aiming to construct a disaster relief asset registry system and multilateral cooperative framework for times of disaster.



GSDF Chief of Staff Hibako delivering the opening remarks at the joint opening of PACC and PAMS



### 3. Efforts towards the ASEAN Defense Ministers' Meeting-Plus (ADMM-Plus)

In addition to the ARF, The ASEAN Defense Ministers' Meeting (ADMM), ministerial level meeting between defense authorities in the ASEAN countries, has been held since May 2006. In addition to this, the establishment of the ADMM-Plus was decided at the 4th ADMM in May 2010. The ADMM-Plus will include eight new member states outside ASEAN, and the 1st ADMM-Plus will be held in October 2010 in Vietnam, which currently chairs ASEAN. Until the establishment of the ADMM-Plus, there had been no multilateral cooperation framework in the area of security for the Asia-Pacific region other than the ARF, and there was no government-hosted meeting in which defense ministers participated. The establishment of the ADMM-Plus will build a ministerial level cooperation framework among defense authorities in the region, and therefore, is highly significant. Japan will actively participate in this framework in accordance with the decision of ASEAN.

### 4. Participation in Pacific Partnership 2010

In this way, security architecture in the Asia-Pacific region in recent years has not only seen an increase in mutual understanding and trust, but also an accumulation of concrete and practical cooperation. Yukio Hatoyama, then Prime Minister, announced his vision of the “East-Asian community” structure initiative based on the accumulated cooperation carried out through these frameworks. As part of those efforts, Prime Minister Hatoyama gave a speech entitled, “Japan’s New Commitment to Asia — Toward the Realization of an East Asian Community” in November 2009 at the S. Rajaratnam School of International Studies when he attended the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) Summit meeting in Singapore. It was during this speech that Prime Minister Hatoyama also expressed Japan’s participation in the United States-organizing Pacific Partnership (PP) 2010.

The PP has been held since 2007, where vessels mainly led by the U.S. Navy visit the various countries of the region to conduct such activities as medical activities and cultural exchanges. The cooperation of national governments, militaries, international organizations, and NGOs is promoted on those visits. It also strengthens partnerships among partner nations and facilitates international disaster relief activities.

Japan dispatched several personnel, including medical officers from the MSDF since 2007 to conduct surveys and research. Japan participated in PP 2010 with its MSDF LST Kunisaki as well as medical teams from the GSDF, MSDF, and ASDF. Moreover, in cooperation with NGOs, the SDF carried out medical activities for approximately 1,700 people in Vietnam and approximately 2,700 people in Cambodia, and held cultural exchanges in local schools.

Participation in PP 2010 had the important purpose of promoting mutual understanding and cooperative relationships between partner nations, improving the international security environment, and helping to strengthen



An NGO which conducts examinations of residents in Vietnam



An SDF personnel teaching Cambodian elementary school students kendo (Japanese fencing)

the Japan–U.S. Security Arrangements, therefore, serving the important purpose of ensuring peace and security of Japan. Furthermore, participation will also serve to improve the medical and transport proficiency and skills for the SDF in carrying out international disaster relief activities and international peace cooperation operations. In addition, it will make available valuable opportunities to learn know-how for coordinating and collaborating with civilian organizations.

## **5. Multilateral Security Dialogue Hosted by the Ministry of Defense and the SDF**

### **1. Tokyo Defense Forum**

As Japan’s own effort for considering security in the Asia-Pacific region, the Ministry of Defense has held since 1996 the Asia-Pacific Defense Forum (Tokyo Defense Forum) with the participation of officers in charge of defense policy (Director Generals from defense ministries and general-class officers) from the countries of the region. At the Forum, defense policy and confidence-building efforts of each country have been discussed.

At the 14th forum in October 2009, opinions were exchanged on “Civil-Military Coordination in Disaster Relief” and “National Defense Policies” with the participation of 23 countries, the EU, International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC), and others. In addition, in July 2009 the 8th Sub-committee of the Tokyo Defense Forum was held with the participation of 24 countries, the EU, the International Maritime Organization (IMO), and the Japanese Shipowners’ Association (JSA) under the theme of national military cooperation against piracy and armed robbery at sea, where experiences were shared and views were exchanged in order to gain clearer understanding on the role of military forces.



Defense Minister Kitazawa delivering an address at the Tokyo Defense Forum

### **2. Japan–ASEAN Vice-Defense Ministers’ Meeting**

In March 2009, the Ministry of Defense held the Meeting of Senior Defense Officials on Common Security Challenges in the Asia-Pacific Region (Japan–ASEAN Vice-Defense Ministers’ meeting) in Tokyo. Based on the awareness that Japan–ASEAN cooperation in security lags behind that of the economy, this meeting is held with the purpose of creating a foundation for strengthening multilateral and bilateral relationships through building human networks between Japanese and ASEAN vice-ministerial level officials. At the first meeting, the Administrative Vice-Minister of Defense served as the chairperson and a frank and constructive exchange of views was made on common security challenges in such fields as humanitarian assistance and disaster relief, maritime security, and peacekeeping and peacebuilding. Furthermore, experts and defense officials from Southeast Asian nations and Japan were invited to the first Tokyo Seminar on Common Security Challenges, which was held for the general public, where such topics were discussed as: 1) security issues which could be shared within the



Vice-Minister of Defense Nakae giving a speech at the Japan–ASEAN Vice Defense Ministers’ Meeting

region, 2) ways to promote regional cooperation toward common challenges, and 3) roles and responses of defense authorities for regional cooperation.

The second meeting was held in March 2010 with the participation of vice-ministerial-level officials from ASEAN member states and the ASEAN Secretariat where views were exchanged on nontraditional security issues—including maritime security, humanitarian and disaster relief assistance, and peacekeeping and peacebuilding—as well as security architecture and cooperation in the Asia-Pacific region. In addition, at the Tokyo Seminar on Common Security Challenges discussion was conducted on 1) climate change and the role of the armed forces, and 2) building an Asia-Pacific Architecture for security cooperation. (See Reference 60)

## [COLUMN]

## VOICE

### Behind the Scenes at International Conferences

**Katsuhisa Sato, International Policy Section, Defense Policy Bureau**

Behind Every Classy International Conference is the Hard Work of Staff.

At the March 2010 Japan–ASEAN Vice-Ministerial meeting, there were many adjustments that had to be made by back-office personnel. As a staff of those operations, I faced truly trying circumstances.

Beginning from around October 2009 I spent nearly a month on setting an agenda, explaining the purpose of the meeting to ministers, and then sent invitations to the defense ministries of each nation. That was only the beginning of preparations. When it comes to inviting high-level officials from 11 nations and organizations, it is important to stay sharp for the more major details—coordinating with the relevant ministries and agencies for immigration and other procedures and welcoming at the airport—as well as detailed adjustments, such as those made with the hotel venue. Also, I took virtually every opportunity to ask ASEAN countries for the presentations of their vice-minister-level officials. We also had to prepare presentation materials for Japan to introduce policy suggestions to make the meeting fruitful. I worked closely with my boss to complete these materials.

Nevertheless, despite these hardships, after seeing all of the ASEAN members go home happy I was able to forget about all of the hard times and it motivated me to work hard again next year.



The reception of the Japan–ASEAN Vice-Ministers' meeting (Sato at center)

## 6. Other efforts

The IISS Asia Security Conference, an international conference held annually in Singapore under the sponsorship of the International Institute of Strategic Studies (IISS), a private institute, is the only conference in which a large number of defense ministers in the Asia-Pacific region participate. Minister of Defense Kitazawa participated in the 9th conference in June 2010, delivering a speech entitled “Japan’s Policies Regarding the Ocean as a Global Commons”. During the conference, bilateral meetings were held with the defense ministers of the United States, ROK, Singapore, and the United Kingdom, and the Japan–U.S.–ROK Defense Ministerial Meeting was held.



Defense Minister Kitazawa giving a speech at the 9th IISS Asia Security Summit

Also, in December 2009, Senior Vice-Minister for Defense Kazuya Shimba participated in the Sixth IISS Asia Security Conference (the Manama Dialogue), which was held in Manama, Bahrain. This marked the first time that a parliamentary-level official participated in the conference and Senior Vice-Minister Shimba gave a speech entitled, “Japanese Efforts for Nuclear Abolition.” At the conference, Senior Vice-Minister Shimba individually exchanged views with India’s National Security Advisor (NSA) to the Prime Minister, Mayankote Kelath Narayanan; Commander in Chief of Bahrain Defense Forces, Shaikh Salman Bin Hamad Al Khalifa; and Bahrain’s Minister of Foreign Affairs, Shaikh Khalid Bin Ahmed Bin Mohamed Al Khalifa.

In addition, the Pacific Area Senior Officer Logistics Seminar (PASOLS) was organized for the first time in Japan in September 2007 and co-hosted with the U.S. Army Pacific Headquarters, with 91 participants from 28 countries and 2 organizations. In August 2009, the Pacific Armies Chiefs Conference (PACC) and Pacific Armies Management Seminar (PAMS) were held in Japan jointly with the GSDF and the U.S. Army. In particular, it was the first time for Japan to host the PACC, where army chiefs of staff from 22 countries all came together to discuss creating a multilateral cooperative framework related to humanitarian assistance and disaster relief activities in the region based on the theme of international rescue activities in times of man-made or natural disaster.

(See Fig. III-3-3-1, 2) (See Reference 62–63)



Group photo of the Army Chiefs of Staff from each country that participated in PACC



Fig. III-3-3-1 Participation in Multilateral Exercises (Since Last Year)

| Date           | Exercises                                    | Hosts                                      | Participating Nations  | Participation by Defense Ministry and SDF  |
|----------------|--|--|--|--|
| February 2009  | Cobra Gold 2009                              | U.S. and Thai militaries                   | Thailand, U.S., Indonesia, Singapore, Japan, etc.  | Participation of 78 personnel  |
| March 2009     | Exercise Aman 2009                           | Pakistani Navy                             | Pakistan, Australia, Bangladesh, France, Kuwait, Malaysia, Nigeria, China, Turkey, U.K., U.S., Japan | Participation of 2 P-3-C patrol aircraft and about 40 personnel  |
| April 2009     | Malabar 2009                                 | Indian Armed Forces                        | U.S., India, Japan   | Participation of 2 destroyers and 3 P-3C patrol aircraft   |
|                | Third WPNS Multilateral Sea Exercise         | Singapore Armed Forces                     | Japan, U.S., Singapore, France, Australia, Thailand, New Zealand, Bangladesh, Malaysia               | Participation of 1 destroyer   |
| May 2009       | ARF disaster relief field exercises          | Philippines United States                  | Philippines, U.S., Australia, EU, Indonesia, ROK, Japan, etc.  | Participation of 1 US-2 search and rescue amphibian, 2 C-130H transport airplanes and about 90 personnel |
| September 2009 | Japan-U.S.-Australia joint military exercise | Japan                                      | Japan, U.S., Australia   | Participation of 2 destroyers and a P-3C patrol aircraft   |
| February 2010  | Cobra Gold 2010                              | U.S. Armed Forces, Royal Thai Armed Forces | Thailand, U.S., Indonesia, Singapore, Japan, ROK, etc.   | Participation of approximately 100 personnel   |
| June 2010      | Japan-U.S.-Australia joint military exercise | Japan                                      | Japan, U.S., Australia   | Participation by 4 destroyers, 1 missile equipped vessel, 2 submarines, and several aircraft             |

Fig. III-3-3-2 Dispatch of Observers to Multilateral Joint Exercises (since 2009)

| Date      | Exercise  | Overview  |
|-----------|---|---|
| June 2009 | Eighth Multilateral Cooperation program in the Asia Pacific (MCAP 2009) | An event hosted by the GSDF, service members from 14 Asia-Pacific nations and strategists from 14 civilian organizations were invited to exchange views on the theme, "Military and Military-Civilian Cooperation in Effective United Nations Peacekeeping Activities." |

## Voice of SDF Personnel Involved in Preparations for and Implementation of the PACC and PAMS

**Colonel Amahiko Kudo, Ground Research & Development Command  
(Currently assigned to the Defense Intelligence Headquarters)**

The GSDF co-hosted jointly with the U.S. Army the two most major international conferences since the Force's establishment in Tokyo in August 2009, and I was given the lucky opportunity to be involved in the preparations and implementation of the conferences as the manager of the office of the GSDF.

These two conferences were the 6th Pacific Armies Chiefs Conference (PACC) and the 33rd Pacific Armies Management Seminar (PAMS). Nearly 250 personnel participated in these, included top-level army personnel from 22 nations including the United States, Republic of Korea, Australia, and India, and they exchanged views on international relief activities during times of serious disaster.

The conferences presented the perfect opportunity to acquire the understanding of each country's participants regarding the strength of the Japan-U.S. Alliance, the high operational capacity of the GSDF, and about Japanese culture. For that reason, a total of over 3,000 support personnel and I worked in an organized and effective manner harnessing the close cooperation of the United States and Japan as professionals of battle. We took care to treat every guest carefully, paying respect to participants of different race, religion, and culture. As an example of using Japanese culture, a weeklong menu was created that took into consideration all of the preferences, allergies, and religious food restrictions of the participants and their spouses. For the guests from Islamic nations, we provided a room where they could quietly rest and pray during the afternoon, during the Ramadan period.

After the conference many participants commented, "This was the best conference ever." I felt the greatest happiness to know that all of the participants had experienced a taste of Japanese culture. In conclusion, I would like to again thank everyone involved in these conferences.



Keynote lecture by former U.N. Under-Secretary-General Yasushi Akashi at the joint opening ceremony of PACC and PAMS



Colonel Kudo (right) coordinating with the U.S. Army