Response to the Great East Japan Earthquake

Special Feature

Outline of Transport System — Transport of Aid Supplies (Diagram)

- Build transport system for aid supplies, to support civilians
- SDF bases etc. store supplies to be received by prefectures, then SDF etc. transports to the prefecture’s warehouse, etc.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Aid supply from local government &amp; private sector</th>
<th>Prefecture</th>
<th>Aid supplies sent to warehouse via Bai-Air SDF base etc.</th>
<th>Supplies warehouse of prefecture etc.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Each prefecture arranges receipt of aid supplies</td>
<td>Arranged aid supplies are stored at local SDF bases throughout Japan</td>
<td>Each prefecture’s aid supplies are stored at local air bases, then sent northeast by air, etc.</td>
<td>Sent to evacuation centers by helicopters and trucks</td>
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</table>

Lifesaving, etc.

- Following the disaster the SDF initially focused all of its efforts on search and rescue operations for disaster victims, successfully saving the lives of approximately 19,000 people.

- As time passed, the SDF’s activities shifted to the search of missing persons.

Transport assistance

- Directly following the earthquake, the SDF provided transport assistance to dispatched medical teams, patients, and the aid teams working on-site from various countries.

- As it was necessary to quickly and accurately transport various relief supplies to the affected areas and distribute them in accordance with the needs of each shelter, the SDF constructed a scheme where relief supplies provided by local governments and private sector across Japan were delivered to shelters of affected area.

Livelihood assistance

- In order to stabilize the lives of disaster victims, the SDF implemented various assistance activities including water supply assistance (provision of drinking water and water for everyday life using water tank vehicles, etc.), food assistance (provision of emergency foods, outdoor meal preparation, etc.), fuel assistance (transport of fuel provided as relief supplies, donation of fuel stored at bases and camps, etc.), bathing assistance (use of outdoor bathing sets, opening of SDF baths on vessels and at bases, etc.), medical assistance (construction of emergency first aid stations in affected areas, traveling medical examinations, etc.).
The Great East Japan Earthquake caused catastrophic damage to the Tohoku region, mainly along the coastal areas. The Japan Self-Defense Forces formed a joint task force and under a posture that was over 100,000 personnel when at its largest numbers, exerted every effort in carrying out various activities to ensure the safety of disaster victims and return stability to their lives.

**Emergency restoration assistance**
- Directly following the disaster, and in consideration of the needs of local governments, dispatched units assisted the removal, transport, and disposal of rubble at collection points so that the reconstruction activities of local governments and citizens could be carried out smoothly. These activities were conducted while prioritizing the opening of sites necessary for lifesaving activities, while making roads that were needed for transporting assistance, as well as airports and ports used as bases, usable again.
- More than three months after the disaster, the SDF continues to implement assistance while coordinating with local governments, including cooperating with private sector enterprises on the removal, transport, and disposal of rubble generated from collapsed houses.

**Response to the nuclear disaster**
- In response to a request from the head of the Government’s Nuclear Emergency Response Headquarters (Prime Minister), the SDF issued an order to dispatch a nuclear response team to the disaster, where after a response was made to the disaster mainly by the GSDF Central NBC Weapon Defense Unit.
- In order to cool the nuclear reactors and used fuel pools, the SDF carried out water dumping operations using helicopters, and used fire trucks to spray water. The SDF also conducted monitoring operations around the Fukushima Daiichi Nuclear Power Station as well as search operations for missing persons in neighboring areas.

**Calling on ready reserves, etc.**
- Ready reserves and reserves were called on to join search operations for missing people and various assistance activities for disaster victims.

**Assistance from other militaries**
- Japan received various assistance from the militaries of many countries, including the U.S. military’s large-scale “Operation TOMODACHI” response.
Chief security issues in the international community

- Various undertakings are being advanced in different countries in response to growing threats in cyberspace.

- In April 2010, the United States and Russia signed a new Strategic Arms Reduction Treaty, which went into effect in February 2011 after being ratified by each countries’ parliament.

- On May 1, 2011 U.S. President Obama announced that Al-Qaeda head Osama bin Laden had been killed in a U.S. operation.

- In March 2011, a United Nations resolution was adopted for the purpose of protecting Libyan civilians and its inhabited areas. In response, on March 19 a coalition comprising the United States, the United Kingdom, France, and others launched a military campaign on Libya.

Security environment neighboring Japan

Korean Peninsula

- Peace and stability on the Korean Peninsula is not only important for Japan, but is a tremendously vital issue for ensuring peace and stability in the East Asian region.

- North Korea has recently shown signs that it is developing a structure to ensure a successor for the country. In September 2010, for example, Kim Jong-un, who is believed to be the third son of National Defense Commission Chairman Kim Jong Il, was elected as Vice-Chairman of the Central Military Commission of the Worker’s Party of Korea.

- In November 2010, as the ROK conducted firing exercises in the Yellow Sea off of Yeonpyeong Island, North Korea fired shells at the island, causing injuries and deaths including civilians on the ROK side.
here have been various developments in the security environment surrounding Japan even in the past year, including continued provocations by North Korea, such as the disclosure of its uranium enrichment facilities and shelling of Yeonpyeong Island, several noteworthy military trends in China, and continually intensifying military activity by Russia.

China ...China continues to modernize its military capabilities with continuously growing national defense expenditures.

- China is believed to be researching and developing the necessary technology to possess aircraft carriers.
- The Yuzheng 201, a fisheries patrol ship from the Fisheries Bureau of the Chinese Ministry of Agriculture, and others navigated the vicinity of the Senkaku Islands on several occasions following a September 2010 incident in which a Japan Coast Guard patrol vessel was rammed by the ship.
- In March 2011, Chinese patrol aircraft and intelligence-gathering aircraft crossed the Japan–China line, coming within approximately 50 km of the airspace of the Senkaku Islands.

China has recently been expanding and intensifying its maritime activities. Japan has visually confirmed Chinese naval ships engaging in what is thought to be training drills and intelligence-gathering activities in the seas neighboring Japan, as well as Chinese ships conducting surveillance activities in order to protect its maritime interests.

Recent Chinese Activities in the Waters near Japan

- **April 2010**
  - Ten vessels including Kilo-class submarines and Sovremenny-class destroyers sailed through the waters off the west coast of Okinotori Island

- **June 2009**
  - Five vessels including a Luhou-class destroyer sailed through the waters off the northeast coast of Okinotori Island

- **October 2008**
  - Four vessels including a Sovremenny-class destroyer sailed through the Tsugaru Strait (the first identified passage by Chinese surface combat ships) before circling Japan

- **September 2010**
  - A Chinese fishing trawler collided with patrol vessels of the Japan Coast Guard off the coast of the Senkaku Islands

- **November 2008**
  - Four vessels including a Luhou-class destroyer sailed to the Pacific Ocean

- **March 2010**
  - Six vessels including a Luhou-class destroyer sailed to the Pacific Ocean

- **July 2010**
  - Two vessels including a Luhou-class destroyer sailed to the Pacific Ocean

- **June 2011**
  - 11 vessels including Sovremenny-class destroyers sailed to the Pacific Ocean

- **December 2008**
  - Two Chinese maritime research ships entered into the territorial waters of Japan near the Senkaku Islands and roved the area

- **May 2011**
  - Movement that China constructed new buildings such as station poles

- **March 2011**
  - A research vessel of the Philippines was ordered to withdraw by a Chinese government ship

- **May 2011**
  - A Chinese government ship cut an investigation cable towed by a Vietnamese resource exploration vessel

Russia ...Activities of Russian military vessels and aircraft in the vicinity of Japan are intensifying, including large-scale exercises and even apparent efforts to modernize its facilities.

- Repairs being made to the Varyag (imaginechina/AFLO)
- Intelligence-gathering aircraft flying in the East China Sea (ASDF)
- A Chinese fishing patrol boat navigating the vicinity of the Senkaku Islands (Japan Coast Guard)
- Large-scale military exercise Vostok 2010 (Photoshot/AFLO)
- Mistral class amphibious assault ship (Pool/AP/AFLO)
The Basics of Japan’s Defense Policy and Build-up of Defense Capability

Part II

Drafting the New National Defense Program Guidelines

Following a historical transition with the change of administrations, energetic deliberations commenced within the Ministry of Defense and Government and in December 2010 the National Defense Guidelines for 2011 and Beyond (new National Defense Program Guidelines) were drafted.

Development of dynamic defense forces

The security issues and instability factors that surround Japan are diverse, complex, and multi-tiered. It is vital to implement a solid response to contingencies that spawn from these issues, while also cooperating with relevant countries on initiatives for global security issues.

It is important to focus on utilizing Japan’s defense capabilities and build them up as dynamic, and active resources in order to effectively carry out various roles rather than relying on the conventional Basic Defense Force Concept that emphasizes deterrence through the “existence of defense forces.”

For that purpose, Japan will develop “Dynamic Defense Forces” supported by advanced technology and intelligence capacities and characterized by readiness, mobility, flexibility, sustainability, and versatility, in consideration of the trends in military technology standards.

Japan will operate defense forces focusing on a seamless response to various contingencies in such a way that allows for the strategic and continuing implementation of normal activities, and promotes cooperation with other countries on multiple levels.
In the past, Japan has worked to develop its defense capabilities based on the most appropriate methods in accordance with international frameworks, the current situation of the SDF, the situation in countries neighboring Japan, and economic and financial circumstances. The Defense Program Guidelines outline a basic security policy, the significance and roles of Japan’s defense forces, and a basic policy for future defense forces, including a specific structure of the SDF and development objectives for major equipment based on the aforementioned policy.

Chapter 1: The Basic Concepts of Japan’s Defense Policy and Related Issues
Chapter 2: The New National Defense Program Guidelines

### Role of defense forces
- Japan’s defense forces will carry out the following three roles under new security environment:
  - Effective deterrence and response
  - Realizing the further stabilization of the security environment in the Asia-Pacific region
  - Improving the global security environment

### Posture and structure of the SDF
- Strengthen an SDF posture of readiness, joint operations, and international cooperation.
- Reduce equipment and organizations from the Cold War era, and revise the geographical alignment and operation of units.
- Focus on developing the warning and surveillance, maritime patrol, air defense, ballistic missile response, transport, command communications, and other functions, including for Southwest Japan, and expand Japan’s defense posture.
- Develop the SDF’s structure by focusing on strengthening joint operations, response capabilities to island issues, response to international peace cooperation activities, intelligence functions, and the development of scientific technologies.

### GSDF units
- Proper alignment of units that are highly mobile and equipped with advanced warning and surveillance capabilities. Units will be able to effectively execute diverse operations and are deployed in accordance to regional characteristics.
- Maintain mobile units equipped with specialized functions.
- Realignment of surface-to-air missile units to protect vital airspace.

### MDF units
- Maintain a structure for regular intelligence gathering and surveillance, defending surrounding waters and ensuring safe maritime passage, international peace cooperation activities, etc.
- Mobile destroyer units to be operated in highly mobile manner
- Strengthened submarine units
- Fixed-wing patrol craft units
- Minesweeper units

### ASDF units
- Maintenance of air warning and control units and surface-to-air missile units in order to continuously monitor surrounding sea and air space and defend vital air space.
- Maintenance of fighter units, air reconnaissance units, air transport units, and aerial refueling and transport units in order to provide air defense that unifies fighter and assistance functions.

### Ballistic missile defense
- Strengthen the structure of Aegis destroyers
- Strengthen and realign the PAC-3 system
- Promote joint Japan–U.S. development
Establishment of the new Mid-Term Defense Program

- In consideration of the new National Defense Program Guidelines, a new Mid-Term Defense Program was established that covers FY2011 to FY2015.
- The Program stipulates major programs concerning SDF capabilities, including the reorganization of major units and strengthening the defense posture in Southwestern Japan, measures to enhance Japan–U.S. security arrangements, procurement amounts for major equipment, and necessary expenses.

Structural reform to improve the effectiveness of defense forces

- Working toward establishing dynamic defense forces it is necessary to fundamentally streamline and rationalize the equipment, personnel, and alignment of the entire SDF from a comprehensive and cross-cutting perspective, while carrying out a structural reform on the defense forces, concentrating selectively on truly necessary functions as resources.
- Based on lessons learned from SDF responses in the wake of the Great East Japan Earthquake, the ministry is proactively studying various issues at such arenas as the Committee on Promoting Structural Reform to Improve the Effectiveness of the Defense Forces.
Japan must develop its defense forces in a continued and planned manner with a concrete mid-term forecast in sight. The New Mid-Term Defense Program outlines a path for realizing new defense forces in accordance with the concepts laid out in the new National Defense Program Guidelines. In addition, working to construct dynamic defense forces as stipulated in the new National Defense Program Guidelines and new Mid-Term Defense Program, the Ministry of Defense is advancing active consideration in order to promote a structural reform that will improve the effectiveness of its defense forces.

Chapter 3: Toward a New Defense System

FY2011 defense force development and defense-related expenditures

- In FY2011, the first year of the new National Defense Program Guidelines and new Mid-Term Defense Program, Japan’s defense forces were steadily developed with the aim of constructing dynamic defense forces.
- In order to address Japan’s new defense roles of:
  - Effective deterrence and response
  - Realizing the further stabilization of the security environment in the Asia-Pacific region
  - Improving the global security environment
  Japan focused on developing its warning and surveillance, maritime patrol, air defense, ballistic missile response, transport, command communications, and other functions.
- Development of effective defense forces by thoroughly surveying program content and employing the concept of “selection and concentration” as financial circumstances grow increasingly stern.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Main topics for consideration related to the structural reform of defense forces</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Topic</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| Considering the enhancement of joint functions and the roles of units | - Command system and basic units
- Mobile deployment
- Joint transport/joint medical
- Joint communications/cyber operations
- Emergency exercises, training, and education
- Intelligence gathering, warning and surveillance, reconnaissance operations
- Air defense posture and anti-aircraft units |
| Considering the unification and optimization of cross-cutting resource allocation | - Visualization and assessment of unit capabilities
- Revision of planning structure
- Optimization of budget and program structure
- Information communications program management
- Research and development program management
- Logistics streamlining |
| Promote structural reform related to personnel infrastructure | - Revision of personnel management system and rank/age structure
- Backend appointment system
- Early retirement system
- Active use of senior and high ranking officers
- Role of recruitment and backup |
| Promotion of comprehensive procurement reform | - Policies for responding to changes in the international environment
- Defense production and technical infrastructure strategy
- Contract systems, etc.
- PBL |
| Enhancement of medical functions | - Medical infrastructure
- Human resource development and international cooperation activities |
Ensuring the safety of Japan’s surrounding waters

- In order for the SDF to speedily respond to various contingencies, it is extremely important that Japan work to ensure the safety of its waters, airspace, and surrounding areas, such as through intelligence-gathering, warning and surveillance, and reconnaissance activities conducted on a continual basis during times of peace.

- The MSDF uses patrol aircraft to monitor ships navigating Japan’s surrounding waters once per day. Furthermore, ASDF coastal surveillance units and MSDF guard posts conduct 24-hour surveillance operations of major straights.

- The ASDF monitors Japan’s airspace and surrounding airspace 24 hours a day using nationwide radar sites, early warning aircraft, and early warning and control aircraft. At the same time, in the event that an aircraft is spotted that could encroach on Japanese airspace, the ASDF has fighters on standby for scramble operations.

Responding to island attacks

- Japan is special because of its vast number of islands, and one form of armed attack on Japan that is conceivable is an attack on one of its islands.

- In order to respond to such an attack, it is important to detect signs early through such measures as continued surveillance. If it is possible to detect signs beforehand, Japan can conduct operations to prevent an attack carried out by enemy units. Furthermore, if such signs are not detected beforehand and the island is seized, Japan will conduct operations to recapture its territory.
Japan must make proactive effort in working to achieve its security objectives. For this reason, Japan is making various joint and strategic efforts on the national level, while the SDF also employs different measures to improve its response capabilities, in addition to the operation of the SDF in response to various contingencies.

Chapter 1: Operations of Self-Defense Forces for Defense of Japan and Responses to Diverse Situations

Response to cyber attacks

- Risks concerning the stable use of cyberspace have become a new issue in recent years.

- The SDF will respond to Cyber attacks by operating functions necessary for defending its information system in an integrated manner. By accumulating advanced expertise and skills needed to tackle cyber attacks, the SDF will contribute to the government-wide response to cyber attacks.

Response to large-scale, special disasters, etc.

- The SDF maintains an initial posture in order to promptly dispatch its forces in response to disasters.

- The GSDF has personnel, vehicles, and helicopters on standby as initial response units at bases and camps across Japan. Moreover, the MSDF has designated ships that can be dispatched in emergencies for each base, and also has emergency and combat aircraft on standby. The ASDF has emergency and transport aircraft on standby at each base.

* See the Special: Response to the Great East Japan Earthquake

Response efforts to pirates

- Acts of piracy are a significant threat to public safety and maintaining order on the sea. Japan relies on maritime transport for most of the resources and foods that form the foundation of its existence and prosperity. It is therefore necessary for Japan to actively carry out its international responsibilities.

- For this reason, since 2009 Japan has dispatched destroyers and fixed-wing patrol aircraft to the coast of Somalia and Gulf of Aden, where piracy incidents are frequent, and is working to protect private sector ships from piracy.


Significance of the Japan–U.S. security arrangements

- Ensuring safety for Japan
  - Japan maintains a proper amount of defense forces and ensures its safety by effectively utilizing the deterrent capabilities provided by U.S. military forces.

- Ensuring peace and stability for the region surrounding Japan
  - The U.S. military presence in Japan functions as a deterrent against unpredicted situations that arise as a result of unclear and uncertain factors in the region.

- Improving the international security environment
  - Japan further solidifies its own peace and prosperity by working with the U.S., a country of distinguished capabilities, in advancing efforts to improve the international security environment.

Significance and role of the U.S. forces in Okinawa

- Compared to mainland U.S., Hawaii, or Guam, Okinawa is relatively closer to various East Asian areas and has the geographical quality of creating a distance between Japan and its neighbors.

- U.S. forces stationed in Okinawa include marine units with a high level of mobility and readiness that oversee primary response to various emergencies. Their presence contributes significantly to the security of Japan and the peace and stability of the Asia-Pacific region.

- The U.S. marines in Okinawa have various roles, including response to the 2006 earthquake in Java, Indonesia, as well as prompt response to the 2011 Great East Japan Earthquake.

Japan–U.S. joint exercises

- Japan–U.S. joint exercises are beneficial for improving tactical skills, while improving interoperability is essential for smoothly carrying out joint response operations. Furthermore, regular Japan–U.S. coordination and cooperation exercises contribute to maintaining and bettering the credibility and deterrent capacity of the Japan–U.S. security arrangements.

- The smooth cooperation of Japan and the U.S. in response to the Great East Japan Earthquake was the result of efforts made at past Japan–U.S. joint exercises.
The Japan–U.S. security arrangements are a pillar of Japanese defense as well as the cornerstone of peace and stability in the Asia-Pacific region. Furthermore, the tight-knit cooperative relationship between the two countries plays an important role in Japan effectively engaging in multilateral security cooperation and responding to global security issues. The new National Defense Program Guidelines also indicate that the Japan–U.S. Alliance is to be enhanced and developed in a manner suited to the new security environment.

Chapter 2: Strengthening of the Japan–U.S. Security Arrangements

Japan–U.S. Security Consultative Committee (2+2)

- Japan and the U.S. held the first “2+2 Meeting” in four years in Washington D.C. on June 21, 2011.
- Achievement documents of the 2+2 Meeting (included at end of document)
  - Toward a Deeper and Broader U.S.–Japan Alliance: Building on 50 Years of Partnership
  - Progress on the Realignment of U.S. Forces in Japan
  - Cooperation in Response to the Great East Japan Earthquake
  - Host Nation Support

Key achievements of the 2+2 Meeting

1. Confirmation of security and defense results achieved through a discussion process held in commemoration of the 50th anniversary of the Japan–U.S. Security Treaty to enhance the Japan–U.S. Alliance.

2. In consideration of increasing uncertainty in Japan and in terms of regional security, joint strategic objectives were revises and reconfirmed in 2005 and 2007.
   - Strengthening of military capabilities in the region, including North Korea, China, and Russia; trilateral cooperation between Japan–U.S.–ROK and Japan–U.S.–Australia, etc.; assistance for vulnerable countries; terrorism; disaster response; nuclear safety; freedom of navigation; space and cyberspace, etc.

3. Enhancing and expanding Japan–U.S. security and defense cooperation
   - Warning and surveillance cooperation; third country transfer of SM-3 block II A; extended deterrence; space; cyberspace; trilateral and multilateral cooperation; humanitarian assistance and disaster relief; environment-related assistance; considerations of Japan–U.S. cooperative frameworks; considerations for responding to the flow of international joint development and production; etc.

4. Supplement the 2006 roadmap and confirmation of its steady implementation
   - Completion of verifications and confirmations regarding transfer plans for Futenma Air Station (decided on V-shape runway); confirmation of gradual implementation of the transfer of troops to Guam; decision to revise the target of transferring Futenma Air Station and moving troops to Guam by 2014, while also committing to finish the process as quickly as possible in order to avoid stalemate; promotion of burden-cutting measures; etc.

5. Agreement to strengthen Japan–U.S. joint capacity to respond to diverse contingencies in consideration of the two country’s joint response to the Great East Japan Earthquake and nuclear power station accident

Operation Tomodachi (For more details see, “Special: Response to the Great East Japan Earthquake”)

- The U.S. military named its mission of humanitarian assistance and disaster relief activities conducted in response to the Great East Japan Earthquake “Operation Tomodachi,” under which it implemented a vast amount of assistance activities.
- Specifically, the U.S. engaged in search and rescue operations, supplies transport, restoration of Sendai Airport, cleaning of schools, removal of rubble in Kesennuma Oshima, etc.

A gift from the U.S. side commemorating Operation Tomodachi containing individual messages

Work to remove mud

- Japan–U.S. coordination offices were established in order to promote prompt and tight-knit cooperation between the SDF and U.S. military.
- Locally-dispatched units cooperated with the U.S. military in the transport of supplies and removal of rubble.
Promoting multilateral security cooperation and dialogue in the Asia-Pacific

Multilateral security efforts in the Asia-Pacific region are shifting from dialogue that focuses on confidence building to a stage of concrete cooperation on forming regional order and constructing common norms.

**ASEAN Defense Ministers’ Meeting-Plus (ADMM Plus)**

In October 2010, the First ASEAN Ministers’ Meeting-Plus (ADMM Plus) was held in Hanoi with Vietnam serving as Chair. This was an extremely important meeting from the perspective of promoting the development and enhancement of regional security cooperation, as there has never been a government-hosted multinational meeting with the attendance of defense ministers from countries in the Asia-Pacific.

**Shangri La Dialogue**

The IISS Asia Security Summit (Shangri La Dialogue) is an international conference hosted by the IISS, a private think-tank, in which many defense ministers, etc. from the Asia-Pacific regions participate every year.

In June 2011 at the 10th IISS Asia Security Summit, Defense Minister Kitazawa participated for the second consecutive year from Japan, where he gave a speech entitled, “New Military Doctrines and Capabilities in Asia”.

**Promoting defense cooperation and exchange with other countries**

On the bilateral level there is a growing importance for exchanges that are not only with amicable purposes but with practical character, as well as exchanges that go beyond dialogue alone to promote action. Exchanges with some countries have developed and deepened from simple exchanges to the level of defense cooperation.
In order to ensure peace and stability in the Asia-Pacific region, it is important for Japan to utilize the Japan–U.S. Alliance as an axis to strengthen bilateral and multilateral frameworks for dialogue, exchange, and cooperation in the region in a multilevel manner. Furthermore, it is also important that Japan reach accord and cooperate with the international community in engaging in activities in various sectors, including military, in order to improve the global security environment.

Chapter 3: Multi-layered Security Cooperation with the International Community

International peace cooperation activities

Active participation in international peace cooperation activities not only contributes to maintaining the peace and security in Japan and the international community, but also serves to create opportunities to present the capabilities of the SDF to other countries, building up trust with other countries.

United Nations peacekeeping operations

- Japan has dispatched military liaison officer to the Integrated Mission in Timor-Leste (UNMIT) since September 2010 as a new participation in U.N. peacekeeping operations. The dispatched personnel are undertaking a mission of gathering the security information in various area to maintain and restore public order in the country.

- Furthermore, Japan has dispatched the SDF unit to the U.N. Stabilization Mission in Haiti, which has been underway since January 2010 in response to the Haiti earthquake disaster. About 330 personnel are dispatched to support efforts for recovery, reconstruction and stabilization.

- In addition to these U.N. peacekeeping operations, the SDF continues to participate in the U.N. Mission in Sudan and the United Nations Disengagement Observer Force. Moreover, the SDF dispatch the SDF personnel to the Department of Peacekeeping Operations and instructors to the PKO Center in Africa.

International disaster relief operations

- In August 2010, Japan dispatched an international disaster relief air transport unit of GSDF consisting of three UH-1 utility helicopters and three CH-47 Cargo helicopter to Pakistan for transporting supplies and personnel in the areas affected by a record-breaking heavy rain (mission completed in October 2010).

- Also, in February 2011, Japan dispatched an international disaster relief air transport unit of ASDF consisting of two government aircraft including a reserve aircraft and transported an international disaster relief team consisting of fire fighters and police officers along with relief supplies to the South Island of New Zealand affected by an earthquake with its epicenter in the vicinity of Christchurch (mission completed in March 2011).
Part III

Measures for Defense of Japan

### Human resource base reform

- Established the committee on reform of human resource base in order to promote efforts for a drastic reform of the HR system, control and streamline human resource costs, and improve the strength of the system by employing younger personnel, etc.
- Currently considering various measures for effectively utilizing human resources while working with the Structural Reform Promotion Committee to Improve Defense Force Effectiveness.

### Reform of the National Defense Academy

- It is an urgent task to enhance human infrastructure so that the SDF can respond to the internationalization and diversification of its activities, gain the genuine trust of the people, and continue to develop its activities at home and abroad.
- The National Defense Academy is the SDF high education institution which graduates play core roles in SDF. However, amidst the falling population of 18-year olds and rise in university advancement rates with declining birthrates, it is important to continue to secure good students, maintain a high level of discipline, and provide education to produce outstanding SDF officers.
- To that end, the Committee on the Reform of the National Defense Academy was established to review those efforts. The results of the review were reported on June 1, 2011.

### Key Points of the Report from the Committee for Reform of the National Defense Academy

1. **New roles of the National Defense Academy**
   - There are changing demands for the quality of SDF officers under new environment surrounding SDF. Education at the Academy should respond to the needs of the new era, and to carry out improvements, in addition to traditions that have been in place since the founding of the school. New roles of the Academy have been drafted as follows.
     1. Education aimed at the well balanced development of “intellect,” “virtue,” and “body,” with the cadet code — honor, courage, and propriety — remains unchanged.
     2. Cultivation of flexible thinking and intellectual foundations that are essential to undertake a wide range of missions in global environment.
     3. Social dissemination of knowledge pertaining to security through means such as open lectures and publications.
     4. To earn recognition as the pride of the region, and based on that understanding, to work together with the regional community in order to fulfill its role as an institution of higher education and a research institute.

2. **Academy’s education philosophy**
   - The National Defense Academy must fulfill the above roles, and develop as a first class institution, education and research in the field of defense and security in Japan. To that end, its education philosophy, to respond the need of a new era while revisiting the “essence of the Academy’s founding,” is organized as follows.
     1. To protect Japan’s independence and peace, and to nurture SDF leaders who can contribute to the stability of the international community.
     2. To cultivate a rich sense of humanity apt for leaders, as in the saying, “to become true warriors by being true ladies and gentlemen.” This core philosophy is reflected on the cadet code of honor, courage, and propriety.
     3. To cultivate basic quality with flexibility and a good balance between intellect, virtue, and body, with a particular focus on cultivating a broad perspective and scientific thinking.
     4. To build up a strong will and sense of responsibility, assume roles of providing defense for Japan in the international community, and to arm cadets with basic knowledge and ability as SDF leaders.

3. **Measures to secure human resources**
   - Reform of the entrance examination system
     - Introduction of an integrated selection process based on AO (admissions office) system. In addition to existing general entrance examinations, new general entrance examinations to be held from February to March will be introduced from FY2012 examinations.
     - From the FY2012 examinations, the first round of selections (currently held in November) will be pushed back as far as possible. In addition, from the FY2011 examinations, interviews will be better counted, and thereby applicants’ qualities and motivation will be taken into account more than ever.
   - Securing a diverse range of human resources
     - In order to secure human resources in the fields of science and engineering, a system is being considered in which technical college graduates can transfer from the Department of General Education to a level equivalent to that of the third year in the science faculty.

4. **Enhancing education and training, and research**
   - Strengthening instruction and guidance in basic academic skills and physical fitness ability, and enhance education for personal qualities and human character. Disseminate the achievements and results of education research in defense and security areas.
   - Strengthening foreign language education, and enhance interaction and exchange with foreign military academies. In addition, implement measures enhancing and improving training, including training management that takes female students into consideration.
   - Educating National Defense Medical College freshman for approximately one month at the National Defense Academy as part of their leadership education.

5. **Reform of the management and posture of the National Defense Academy**
   - In addition to enhancing cross-departmental functions such as in teaching and training, implementing measures to recruit faculty members under fixed-term contracts and expand the employment of visiting professors.
   - From the perspective of ensuring fairness to other university students, introduce systems to obtain reimbursements from those who reject appointment, have students bear the fees of their graduating examinations, and consider the charge of entrance examination fees.
Chapter 4: The Relationship between the Japanese People and the Ministry of Defense and the SDF

Maintaining and cultivating defense production and technological bases

- Maintaining and cultivating defense production and technological bases that support the production and maintenance of various equipment vital to Japan’s defense forces is a pressing issue.
- Recent financial pressures make it tremendously difficult to maintain all defense manufacturing and technological infrastructure within Japan. Therefore, from the perspective of the importance of security and strengthening the competitiveness of domestic industry, Japan shall designate vital defense production and technological bases that should remain in Japan, and focus efforts on maintaining and cultivating those sectors (“selection and concentration”).
- The Study Group on Defense Production and Technological Bases held meetings to survey, analyze, and consider the roles of defense production and technological bases. The Group submitted an interim report in July 2011.

Promoting Comprehensive Acquisition Reform

- Against a backdrop of various problems associated with the acquirement of equipment, including a stern financial situation and increasingly higher prices of equipment, in order to appropriately and efficiently acquire equipment in accordance with defense needs, the SDF is promoting the Comprehensive Acquisition Reform in view of the development and concept stage of equipment to the operations and discard stages, including revising equipment procurement systems and the roles of maintenance and development.
- In order to promote the reform, the Comprehensive Acquisition Reform Project Team is currently conducting considerations on the items listed below:
  - Strengthening life cycle cost management
  - Enriching the incentive contracts system
  - Efforts to suppress costs
  - Efforts to improve fairness and transparency

Interaction with local society

- Various activities are underway in order to acquire the understanding and cooperation of local governments as well as all national citizens.