

## **Section 5 Initiatives for Arms Control, Disarmament and Non-Proliferation**

Causing anxiety not only to Japan and other East Asian nations, but also countries across the globe, especially the United States, North Korea's launch of a missile which it purported to be a satellite in December 2012 and its nuclear test in February 2013 demonstrate that the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction and missiles which serve as their means of delivery still pose a pressing challenge to the peace and stability of the international community.

Moreover, many countries are working on the regulation of certain conventional weapons, while taking into account the need to maintain a balance between the humanitarian perspective and defensive requirements.

One of the initiatives to deal with these issues is the development of an international framework for arms control, disarmament, and nonproliferation, and Japan is playing an active role in this effort.

*See ▶ Fig. III-3-5-1 (Framework for Arms Control, Disarmament and Nonproliferation Relating to Conventional Weapons, Weapons of Mass Destruction, Missiles and Related Materials, etc.)*

### **1 Initiatives Focused on Treaties Relating to Arms Control, Disarmament, and Nonproliferation in Regard to Weapons of Mass Destruction**

Japan actively participates in international initiatives including conventions and management systems relating to frameworks for arms control, disarmament, and nonproliferation in regard to weapons of mass destruction, in the form of nuclear, chemical, and biological weapons, as well as their means of delivery and associated technologies and materials.

Japan has provided contributions in personnel in this field, offering its knowledge in the field of chemical protection from the time when negotiations over the Chemical Weapons Convention (CWC) were taking place, as well as dispatching GSDF personnel, experts on protection against chemical weapons, to the Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons (OPCW), which was established to implement the verification measures stipulated in the convention following its entry into force. Furthermore, small quantities of chemical substances subject to regulation under the convention are synthesized at the GSDF Chemical School (Saitama City), in order to conduct protection research. The school has undergone a total of eight inspections since its establishment, in accordance with the convention regulations.

Moreover, the whole of the government is working on projects aimed at disposing of abandoned chemical weapons in China, in accordance with the CWC, and the Ministry has seconded eight personnel, including GSDF personnel, to the Cabinet Office to work on this project. Since 2000, GSDF personnel with expertise in chemicals and ammunitions have been dispatched to conduct excavation and recovery projects on a total of 13 occasions. In 2013, from August to September, seven GSDF personnel participated in the project undertaken by the Cabinet Office in Hunchun, in China's Jilin Province. In addition, the Ministry of Defense has been cooperating in endeavors aimed at increasing the effectiveness of regulations and decisions, by dispatching officials to major meetings such as those of the Biological Weapons Convention (BWC), as well as international export control regimes in the form of the Australia Group (AG) and the Missile Technology Control Regime (MTCR). Furthermore, from 2011 to 2012, one GSDF personnel was dispatched to the headquarters of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) for the first time.

*See ▶ Reference 60 (Dispatch of Ministry of Defense Personnel to International Organizations)*

## **2 Initiatives Focused on Treaties Relating to Arms Control of Conventional Weapons**

Taking into account both the humanitarian perspective and security needs, Japan has joined various conventions on the regulation of conventional weapons, including the Convention on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Certain Conventional Weapons Which May Be Deemed to Be Excessively Injurious or to Have Indiscriminate Effects (CCW).

In particular, with regard to the issue of the regulation of cluster munitions, it is important to formulate an effective protocol within the CCW framework, in which major producers and owners of such weapons participate, including the U.S., China, and Russia. Discussions within this framework have ended, for the time being, but in the event that a renegotiation is agreed in the future, Japan will continue to make an active contribution to the negotiations.

Furthermore, Japan has also acceded to the Convention on Cluster Munitions (Oslo Convention)<sup>1</sup>, which was negotiated and adopted outside the framework of the CCW; with the entry of this Convention into force in August 2010, the use of all cluster munitions in the possession of the SDF immediately became prohibited. Moreover, the Convention stipulates that all cluster munitions held by signatories be destroyed within eight years of its entry into force, in principle, so such munitions will be safely and steadily disposed of.

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<sup>1</sup> Countries such as the U.S., China and Russia, which are major producers and owners of cluster munitions, have not yet signed the Oslo Convention.

Furthermore, the MOD has actively cooperated in the initiatives of the international community, focused on the problem of anti-personnel mines, such as submitting annual reports that include data on Japan's exceptional stocks to the United Nations<sup>2</sup>.

In addition, the MOD and the SDF participate in various systems introduced by the United Nations with the goal of increasing the transparency of military preparedness and military expenditure (the United Nations Register of Conventional Arms and the United Nations Report on Military Expenditures), and as well as providing the requisite reports, they dispatch personnel as needed to governmental expert meetings held in order to improve and strengthen these systems.

### **3 International Initiatives Aimed at Nonproliferation of Weapons of Mass Destruction**

#### **1 Proliferation Security Initiative**

Harboring grave concerns about the development of weapons of mass destruction and missiles by countries of particular concern in regard to proliferation, such as North Korea and Iran, the U.S. announced its Proliferation Security Initiative (PSI)<sup>3</sup> in May 2003, and sought the participation of other countries therein. Various initiatives are being undertaken based on PSI, such as holding meetings to consider issues related to policy and legislation; in addition, 40 PSI interdiction exercises have been held as of the end of March 2014, in order to improve the ability of participating countries to thwart the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction and related items.

Since the 3rd PSI Meeting in Paris (September 2003), the MOD and the SDF have collaborated with relevant organizations and countries, dispatching MOD officials and SDF personnel to various meetings, as well as engaging in ongoing participation in these exercises since 2004.

To date, Japan has twice hosted PSI maritime interdiction exercises, working in partnership with relevant organizations, including the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the National Police Agency, the Ministry of Finance and the Japan Coast Guard, and for the first time hosted the PSI air

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<sup>2</sup> Between 1999 and December 2006, the MOD nominated retired Self-Defense Officials to the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA), to support antipersonnel mine removal activities in Cambodia; these retired SDF personnel were dispatched to the Cambodian Mine Action Center (CMAC) as maintenance and transport advisors within JICA's long-term expert dispatch framework.

<sup>3</sup> The Proliferation Security Initiative is an initiative that seeks the strengthening of relevant domestic laws of respective countries to the maximum possible extent, as well as considering the measures that participating countries can jointly take while complying with existing domestic and international laws, in order to prevent the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction and related materials.

interdiction exercise in July 2012. In addition, during the PSI maritime interdiction exercise, which was hosted by the ROK in September 2012, Japan sent participants including MOD and SDF personnel, and MSDF naval vessels and aircraft, as well as personnel from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the Japan Coast Guard. Based on the proliferation cases in the areas surrounding Japan, the MOD will continue its efforts to strengthen nonproliferation frameworks in peacetime, including PSI, as well as participating in and holding various meetings and exercises to prevent the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction, and improving the ability of the SDF.

*See ▶ Fig. III-3-5-2 (Participation of MOD/SDF in PSI Interdiction Exercise (Since 2010))*

## 2 United Nations Security Council Resolution 1540 Regarding the Nonproliferation of Weapons of Mass Destruction

In April 2004, the United Nations Security Council unanimously adopted the United Nations Security Council Resolution 1540 regarding the nonproliferation of weapons of mass destruction, which lays the foundations for the international community to deal with the acquisition, development, use, and proliferation of weapons of mass destruction by non-state actors.

Japan supports the adoption of this resolution and hopes that all United Nations member countries will comply with it.