

150 Years of Amity and 50 Years of Alliance: Adopting an Enhanced Agenda for the U.S.-Japan Partnership

Toward a Power-Sharing Alliance: Joint Statement on the Enhanced Agenda for the U.S.-Japan Partnership

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Recalling that the U.S.-Japan alliance, with the Treaty of Mutual Cooperation and Security between the United States and Japan at its core, has been the cornerstone of regional security, economic vitality, and democratic ideals for the past 50 years,

Noting that the Joint Declaration on Security of 17 April 1996 helped to prepare us for the next fifty years of the alliance;

Noting further that the Security Consultative Committee, which identified the regional and global common strategic objectives of the alliance on 19 February 2005, recommended roles, missions, and capabilities on 29 October 2005 and provided a roadmap for the realignment of U.S. forces in Japan on 1 May 2006,

Recognizing that a future global system effectively shaped by this alliance that allows people, capital, goods, knowledge, and ideas to move across borders more freely is the best path to global progress and stability,

Acknowledging that the expansion and the modernization of military capabilities in the region increase unpredictability and uncertainty despite the fact that deepened interdependence in the globalized economy has reduced the risk of large-scale armed conflicts,

Acknowledging further that new challenges that have no respect for borders—such as the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction, transnational terrorism and organized crime, economic upheaval, a deepening divide between the urban wealthy and rural poor, climate change and worsening environmental threats, massive disasters, food safety and security, energy scarcity, and pandemic diseases—could threaten regional and global stability in the near future,

Recognizing that the alliance needs to engage with emerging Asian powers and other regional partners,

Recognizing further that the alliance is essential for regional security architecture and needs to optimize existing frameworks such as the Six-Party Talks, the ASEAN Regional Forum, the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation, and the United Nations,

Aware of the fact that today's vibrant global economy heavily rests on free and fair access to the sea, air, space and cyberspace and that every nation's security also requires stability in these global commons,

Reaffirming the importance of sustained efforts to expand the role of Japan in regional and global security issues,

Emphasizing the importance of a U.S. military presence in Japan while realizing that the people of Okinawa bear a disproportionate burden related to the presence of U.S. forces,

We would like to recommend the following items as an enhanced agenda for the U.S.-Japan



- 1. Work together to improve the global strategic environment by promoting nuclear reduction, non-proliferation, and nuclear security, while enhancing the credibility of U.S. extended deterrence;
- 2. Maintain our leading-edge conventional military capabilities, while enhancing their capacity to defeat asymmetric threats;
- 3. Coordinate U.S. and Japanese policies toward China to better respond to its rise;
- 4. Expand strategic cooperation with other leading regional democracies, including the Republic of Korea, Australia and India;
- 5. Defend the global commons, while cooperating on the creation of regional and global regimes to sustain their openness and stability;
- 6. Create and export a new business model based on renewable energy and environmentally-friendly technologies to sustain long-term economic growth;
- 7. Conclude an Economic Partnership Agreement to expand trade and investment between Japan and the United States;
- 8. Build an inclusive regional architecture that enables cooperation on functional issues like disaster relief, counter-piracy, and public health;
- 9. Work together toward a reform of the United Nations, including the Security Council, to make this universal organ more effective and more democratic;
- 10. Get alliance fundamentals right by developing new mechanisms to manage the alliance that reflect a changed political situation in Tokyo and by reinforcing Japanese domestic support for the alliance by enhancing both government's public outreach;
- 11. Increase bilateral investment in Okinawa's infrastructure and educational system while making the U.S. military footprint on Okinawa more sustainable and handling the relocation of U.S. forces in a flexible manner