

Joint Leaders' Statement on the Deepening of the Strategic Partnership between Japan and the Kingdom of Denmark

Prime Minister of Japan, KISHIDA Fumio, and Prime Minister of the Kingdom of Denmark, Mette FREDERIKSEN met in Tokyo on 25 October 2023 on the occasion of Prime Minister Frederiksen's visit to Japan.

1. The two leaders confirmed with satisfaction that the bilateral friendship and cooperation between Japan and Denmark, as strategic partners, is stronger than ever. Based on shared values and principles such as freedom, democracy, the rule of law and respect for human rights, Japan and Denmark have continued to build upon the solid foundation of more than 150 years of diplomatic relations.
2. As the world is facing unprecedented challenges including the war of aggression by Russia against Ukraine and the violation of international law, in particular the Charter of the United Nations (the UN Charter), the two leaders reiterated their commitment to protect human dignity and to uphold and strengthen the free and open international order based on the rule of law, with the UN Charter at its core. In this context, Prime Minister Frederiksen praised the leadership of Japan as the G7 Presidency, including Japan's hosting the G7 Hiroshima Summit and its outcomes.
3. Recognizing that the security of the Euro-Atlantic and the Indo-Pacific is inseparable, the two leaders concurred in working to further strengthen the security cooperation, both bilaterally and among like-minded countries. They both strongly opposed any unilateral attempts to change the peacefully established status of territories by force or coercion anywhere in the world.
4. The two leaders committed to holistically addressing energy security, the climate crisis and geopolitical risks, and working together to achieve global net-zero greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions by 2050 at the latest, leveraging their respective national strengths. The two leaders also renewed their determination to advance together to solve common challenges and create a better society, inspiring each other through advanced science and technology cooperation and business cooperation in a wide range of fields, including renewable energy, food production, healthcare and life sciences, digital and quantum technology, as well as through people-to-people exchanges, including cultural and educational exchanges.

5. The “Strategic Partnership for Growth and Innovation” established in 2014 has guided the joint endeavors to strengthen the relationship even further. To continue this positive development, the two leaders concurred in deepening the strategic partnership through steady implementation of the Joint Strategic Work Program (JSWP), as attached, on the basis of the common positions as stated in this Statement.

Russia’s Illegal War of Aggression against Ukraine

6. The two leaders condemned in the strongest possible terms Russia’s illegal war of aggression against Ukraine, which constitutes a serious violation of international law, including the UN Charter. While stressing the importance of the severe sanctions against Russia and strong support for Ukraine that have been promoted and carried out by both countries, the two leaders reaffirmed their unwavering support for Ukraine for as long as it takes and committed to strengthening their support for recovery and reconstruction.

7. The two leaders expressed their support for the principles of Ukraine's Peace Formula, in line with the UN Charter, and concurred in further intensifying their efforts towards a comprehensive, just and lasting peace in full support of Ukraine's sovereignty and territorial integrity. Prime Minister Kishida praised the special role of Denmark in such efforts, including hosting the meeting of National Security Advisors in Copenhagen. The two leaders also affirmed their close coordination and continued work towards ensuring the widest possible international support for the elements of Peace Formula and a future Summit.

8. The two leaders stressed that threats by Russia of nuclear weapon use, let alone any use of nuclear weapons by Russia can never be allowed and expressed their gravest concern over Russia’s irresponsible actions in and around the Zaporizhzhya Nuclear Power Plant. They also concurred that there must be no impunity for war crimes and other atrocities.

Situation in Israel and Palestine

9. The two leaders expressed their unequivocal condemnation of the terror attacks against Israel committed by Hamas. The two leaders emphasized the right of all states to defend itself and its people in accordance with international law. The two leaders reiterated the paramount importance of the early release of hostages and ensuring safety of civilians and redoubling of diplomatic efforts to calm down the situation at the soonest to prevent further instability in the wider region. They stressed that it is vital to minimize further

deterioration of the humanitarian situation, and affirmed to collaborate in delivering the necessary aid to the people of Gaza as early as possible and to realize evacuation of foreign nationals stranded in Gaza. They reiterated the need for a just, lasting and comprehensive peace in the Middle East based on a “two-state solution”.

Indo-Pacific

10. The two leaders affirmed the importance of a free and open Indo-Pacific to both countries, which are maritime states. A free and open Indo-Pacific is inclusive, prosperous, secure, based on the rule of law, and protects shared principles including sovereignty, territorial integrity, peaceful resolution of disputes, as well as freedom and fundamental human rights. They welcomed the EU's increased engagement in the Indo-Pacific and the establishment of the Japan-EU Strategic Dialogue at the foreign ministerial level on the occasion of the 29th Summit between Japan and the European Union in July 2023. They affirmed their support for ASEAN centrality and unity as well as the ASEAN Outlook on the Indo-Pacific (AOIP).

11. The two leaders expressed their readiness to build constructive and stable relationship with China, recognizing the importance of engaging candidly and expressing their concerns directly to China. They concurred in the necessity to cooperate with China on global challenges including climate change and in areas of common interest.

12. The two leaders reaffirmed the importance of upholding freedom of navigation and overflight and emphasized the importance of peaceful resolution of disputes in accordance with international law, in particular the UN Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS). They strongly opposed any unilateral attempts to change the status quo by force or coercion anywhere in the world. In this context, the two leaders shared their serious concern over the situation in the East and South China Seas and stressed that all maritime claims must be based on the relevant provisions of UNCLOS.

13. The two leaders strongly condemned North Korea's ongoing development of nuclear weapons and ballistic missiles, in violation of relevant UN Security Council resolutions (UNSCRs), including the unprecedented number of unlawful ballistic missile launches. They remained committed to the goal of achieving North Korea's complete, verifiable and irreversible dismantlement of all weapons of mass destruction (WMD) and ballistic missiles of all ranges. They urged North Korea to fully comply with all obligations under the relevant UNSCRs and called on all UN member states to fully implement the

relevant UNSCRs on North Korea. They urged North Korea to respect human rights and resolve the abductions issue immediately.

Arctic and North Atlantic

14. The two leaders expressed concern that the momentum for cooperation fostered through the framework of the Arctic Council has been negatively affected by Russia's aggression against Ukraine, and shared the recognition on the growing importance of monitoring the security environment to maintain a low-tension environment in the Arctic region.

(Faroe Islands)

15. The two leaders recalled the Memorandum of Cooperation between the Governments of Japan and the Faroe Islands signed at Tokyo last year. They concurred in further encouraging and supporting the enhancement of relations between Japan and the Faroe Islands in areas covered by the MoC, including economy, trade, science and culture.

(Greenland)

16. The two leaders expressed their encouragement and full support for the ongoing endeavours to strengthen relations between Japan and Greenland, notably through the dialogue on a bilateral Memorandum of Cooperation between Japan and Greenland, which could cover economic cooperation, trade, tourism, science, culture and more.

Security and Defence

17. The two leaders noted that Japan's National Security Strategy formulated in December 2022 and Denmark's Foreign and Security Policy Strategy published in May 2023 expressed similar assessments on the international security environment, and concurred to continue to conduct inter-governmental dialogues, including regular political consultations between the Foreign Ministries of both countries, in order to share their knowledge and information as like-minded countries. Recognizing also the importance of strengthening cooperation, including smooth communication between the defence authorities of both countries, Japan has commenced accrediting a Japanese defence attaché in a third country to Denmark while Denmark has commenced consideration of stationing a Danish defence attaché to Tokyo. Both leaders further concurred in holding consultations between the defense authorities and in pursuing enhanced cooperation in this area.

18. Recalling that both countries are maritime states with a common history of development while enjoying the freedom of navigation and overflight on the high seas, and that they have contributed to the international community through counter-piracy operations and information gathering activities on maritime traffic safety in the Gulf of Guinea and the Northwest Indian Ocean respectively, the two leaders affirmed to maintain and develop cooperation in the maritime security field.

19. The two leaders underlined the importance of increased vigilance and enhanced coordination among like-minded countries to address economic, social and security risks in the digital sphere, including protecting critical infrastructure from challenges posed by exercise of illegitimate influence, espionage, information manipulation including dissemination of disinformation, illegitimate knowledge and information theft, illicit knowledge leakage, sabotage, and others. To that end, they concurred in holding consultations between the authorities in charge of cyber security and to pursue enhanced cooperation in this area.

20. The two leaders recognized the close linkage between the security of the Euro-Atlantic and the Indo-Pacific, and highlighted the importance of strengthening collaboration between NATO and its partners in the Indo-Pacific region, including Japan. Prime Minister Frederiksen welcomed Prime Minister Kishida's attendance at the NATO Summit held in Lithuania in July 2023 and the formulation of the Individually Tailored Partnership Programme, a new program for Japan-NATO cooperation. Prime Minister Kishida praised the contribution of Denmark in facilitating communications between Japan and NATO, through the Danish Embassy in Japan serving as NATO's Contact Point Embassy.

Trade and Investment

21. The two leaders recognized the importance of promoting the use of the Japan-EU Economic Partnership Agreement and maintaining and strengthening the rules-based multilateral trading system with the WTO at its core for trade and investment relationship between both countries, and concurred in working together on the WTO reform, including working towards having a fully and well-functioning dispute settlement system accessible to all members by 2024. They also acknowledged the importance of working together in advancing plurilateral initiatives including the Joint Statement Initiatives, especially on E-Commerce negotiations and making permanent the Moratorium on Customs Duties on Electronic Transmission.

22. The two leaders welcomed the recent increase in large-scale investments by Japanese companies to Denmark in areas such as digital, healthcare and life sciences as well as renewable energy, and shared the hope that further two-way investment would provide a positive stimulus to the economies and societies of both countries, strengthen the value chain between both countries, and ultimately contribute to improving the welfare of the people of both countries.

Economic Security

23. The two leaders appreciated the G7 Leaders' Statement on Economic Resilience and Economic Security, adopted at the G7 Hiroshima Summit, and concurred in enhancing cooperation on economic security, including in addressing non-market policies and practices, economic coercion and other harmful practices.

24. The two leaders recognized that transparency, diversification, security, sustainability, and trustworthiness and reliability are essential principles on which to build and strengthen resilient supply-chain networks among trusted partner countries and supported these principles on resilient and reliable supply chains. They also recognized the need to reduce excessive dependencies on specific countries, as well as build and strengthen resilient supply chains among trusted partners for advanced technologies and critical materials, including products essential for a clean energy transition.

25. The two leaders expressed concerns on economic coercion and the comprehensive strategies to use a range of non-market policies and practices that distort global level playing field, such as pervasive, opaque, and harmful industrial subsidies, market distortive practices of state-owned enterprises, and all forms of forced technology transfers as well as other practices to create strategic dependencies and systemic vulnerabilities and determined to address such policies and practices through utilization and strengthening of tools and rules. They oppose the illegitimate transfer of critical and emerging technologies through research activities and the misuse of such technologies by malicious actors. They also expressed their intention to work together to prevent cutting-edge technologies developed by Japan or Denmark from being used to enhance military capabilities that threaten international peace and security.

26. The two leaders affirmed the importance of close communication between both countries regarding import and export control and investment screening, so as to prevent negative impacts on smooth trade and investment between both countries.

Digitalization

27. The two leaders underlined the fundamental importance of the promotion of digitalization for achieving economic growth and a sustainable society, and confirmed the importance of mutual learning and cooperation between Japan and Denmark, both of which have strengths in this field. They also welcomed the ongoing cooperation between Japan and Denmark in the digital sector, including in the commercial sector, and confirmed that they would continue to work together to promote inclusive digitalization of our societies, including digital government (e-government) and to materialize Data Free Flow with Trust (DFFT) in compliance with relevant rules in the respective jurisdictions, including data protection rules.

Climate Change and Green Transition

28. The two leaders concurred that this decade represents a closing window of opportunity to get on track with limiting global warming to 1.5 degrees, and that it will require bold decisions. Taking note of Japan's initiatives in introducing clean energy, such as the Asia Zero Emission Community Initiative, and Denmark's advanced and proactive activities in the field of renewable energy, particularly offshore wind power, the two leaders concurred to work together to promote a clean energy transition globally, including in Pacific Island countries as well as in the Middle East and Africa, and to achieve net-zero GHG emissions by 2050 at the latest.

29. The two leaders applauded the partnership on offshore wind between the energy authorities of both countries and mutually welcomed the close government-to-government collaboration on offshore wind energy and integration of variable renewable electricity production from wind and solar energy. They also saw an industrial perspective in exploring the opportunity to set-up an International Innovation Centre for Floating Offshore Wind Energy that can either be a virtual or a physical centre. They shared their views on the need to significantly accelerate the deployment of energy efficiency measures and renewable energies as well as the development and deployment of next-generation technologies to ensure sustainable, inclusive and resilient economic growth and circular social development. In this context, they welcomed the announcement that the world's first e-methanol production and sales project, based on green hydrogen produced using electricity derived from renewable energy sources will be launched in Denmark with investment from Japanese companies.

30. The two leaders acknowledged the common view on the decarbonization pathway for shipping and appreciated the close coordination during negotiations of 2023 IMO Strategy on Reduction of GHG Emissions from Ships for international shipping. They underlined the importance of continuous exchange and cooperation between Japanese and Danish authorities on the development of future IMO mid-term measures to implement the strategy. The two leaders also recalled the collaboration between Japanese and Danish companies on the decarbonization of the shipping sector, and shared the hope that the results of cooperation between shipping and energy companies from both sides will contribute to the ambitious strategy by the International Maritime Organization (IMO) for decarbonization of the maritime industry by or around 2050.

Food Safety, Security and the Development of Sustainable Food Systems

31. The two leaders recognized the need for building and maintaining sustainable food systems that ensure our respective citizens sufficient, affordable, safe, nutritious and sustainable foods particularly in light of current demographic, climate change and geopolitical challenges.

32. The two leaders paid tribute to the longstanding collaboration between the two countries in agriculture and food production and welcomed the recent signing of Memorandum of Cooperation (MoC) between the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries of Japan and the Ministry of Food, Agriculture and Fisheries of Denmark on cooperation on reduction of GHG emissions and climate change mitigation in agriculture and food systems, seeking not only to address and mitigate the climate change impacts of modern agriculture and food systems, but also to expand bilateral collaboration and knowledge sharing in areas intended to support and facilitate increased national outputs of agricultural goods and food products.

Science and Innovation

33. The two leaders shared the importance of learning from each other's experiences and knowledge and advancing together through science and innovation towards achieving equitable and vibrant societies against the backdrop of aging demographics. They underlined the importance of further collaboration between the two countries to promote concrete initiatives on science, research and advanced technology collaboration and the application of new ideas and innovation in society, particularly in areas such as digital technologies and AI, quantum technologies as well as healthcare and life sciences. From this perspective, they welcomed the renewal of the Memorandum of Cooperation

(MOC) on Science, Technology and Innovation to further promote such cooperation.

34. Furthermore, the two leaders welcomed the newly signed MOC on Hydrogen, Ammonia and its Derivatives and affirmed that they would promote cooperation between the industries in the production of clean hydrogen and ammonia and building supply chains through the MOC.

35. The two leaders welcomed the close consultations and cooperation that have taken place based on the existing MOCs between the relevant government agencies on maritime cooperation, health, science and technology, digital, offshore wind power generation, as well as agriculture, and resolved to concretely promote cooperation between both countries including through these MOCs, in line with the JSWP.

36. The two leaders recalled the extensive and active scientific research cooperation between both countries, including on global warming, and concurred in continuing to promote research cooperation between Japan and Denmark.

Development and International Partnerships

37. The two leaders recognized the importance of strengthening international outreach and partnerships. In the face of multiple global crises, international partnerships are essential to ensure both renewed international hope and action. Japan is recognized internationally for its advocacy of the concept of human security and the importance of quality infrastructure, and Denmark for its long-lasting commitment and action to promoting sustainable development globally. Recalling their commitments at the SDG Summit, both countries recognized the importance of advancing their partnerships with the developing countries to ensure renewed action and stronger partnerships to achieve the SDGs in a comprehensive manner. Further, they confirmed their continued support to vulnerable countries and displaced populations disproportionately affected by climate change as well as the global food and energy crisis brought about by Russia's war of aggression.

38. Highlighting the leading role of women in the prevention of violent conflicts, delivering efforts for relief and recovery efforts and forging lasting peace, the two Prime Ministers encouraged the advancement of the Women, Peace and Security (WPS) agenda including its application to disaster risk reduction (DRR). The two Prime Ministers welcomed the Sendai Framework for DRR 2015-2030, adopted at the Third

UN World Conference on DRR in 2015, which reaffirmed the need to promote women's engagement and agency in policy-making, planning, and implementation processes in order to ensure that DRR efforts are gender-responsive."

39. Concerned about serious challenges over the debt sustainability in low and middle-income countries, the two leaders called on all relevant countries and organizations adhere to international rules and standards for development cooperation, including the "G20 Principles for Quality Infrastructure Investment" and the "G20 Operational Guidelines for Sustainable Financing," and to promote transparent and fair development finance.

Exchange Networks

40. The two leaders welcomed the continuing strong interest among the people of both countries in the other's culture, including literature, art and design, sports and education, as well as the active exchanges between sister and friendship cities. In this connection, they appreciated the efforts to promote exchanges and cooperation by the Embassy of Japan in Denmark, in cooperation with the City of Copenhagen, the City of Vejle and other Danish municipalities, and the Embassy of Denmark in Japan in cooperation with Akita, Ogata (Akita), Fukushima, Moriya (Ibaraki), Shibuya (Tokyo), Inabe (Mie), Kitakyushu (Fukuoka) and other Japanese prefectures and municipalities.

41. The two leaders shared the recognition on the significance of opportunities given to young Danish people to experience Japan, through programs promoted by the Government of Japan, such as the Japanese Government (MEXT) Scholarship, the Mutual understanding, Intellectual Relations and Academic exchange Initiative (MIRAI) and the Japan Exchange and Teaching Programme (JET), from the perspective of enhancing people-to-people exchange which contributes to the promotion of mutual understanding in young generations.

42. The two leaders expressed their hopes for a successful organization of the Expo 2025 Osaka, Kansai, Japan with the participation of the Nordic countries, including Denmark.

Cooperation in the International Arena

43. The two leaders mutually appreciated the responsible role that Japan is currently playing as a non-permanent member of the Security Council of the UN and the proactive contributions of Denmark in areas such as peace, humanitarian affairs, human rights and

climate change while hosting the United Nations Office for Project Services (UNOPS) headquarters in Copenhagen and many other UN agencies, and confirmed that both countries would continue to cooperate in the international fora including the UN. They also underlined the need for the UN reform and concurred in working closely towards the UN Security Council reform, including expansion in permanent and non-permanent categories of membership and enhancing the role of the UN General Assembly.

44. Denmark welcomed “G7 Leaders’ Hiroshima Vision on Nuclear Disarmament”, adopted at the G7 Hiroshima Summit, and the two leaders concurred to strive for the goal of a world without nuclear weapons, achieved through a realistic, pragmatic and responsible approach. They deeply regretted Russia’s decision to suspend the New Strategic Arms Reduction Treaty (New START). Furthermore, they shared their concerns on China’s build-up of its nuclear arsenal without transparency, and called on China and Russia to engage substantively in all relevant for a on disarmament and risk reduction in line with their obligations under the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons (NPT) and commitments including the Joint Statement of the Leaders of the Five Nuclear-Weapon States on Preventing Nuclear War and Avoiding Arms Races of 3 January 2022.

45. Regarding the discharge of Advanced Liquid Processing System (ALPS) treated water into the sea, the two leaders took note of the Comprehensive Report by the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), which concludes that the discharge of ALPS treated water into the sea is consistent with relevant international safety standards, and confirmed that the continued review and monitoring carried out by the IAEA are of significant importance. Prime Minister Kishida stressed that the discharge of ALPS treated water is an important step in the reconstruction following the Great East Japan Earthquake, and reiterated his heartfelt appreciation to Denmark for its countless support and messages of encouragement in the wake of the disaster. Prime Minister Frederiksen appreciated Japan’s efforts to provide explanations to the international community based on scientific evidence and in a highly transparent manner. The two leaders also shared concerns about some claims and activities that are not based on scientific evidence and stressed the importance of discussions based on scientific evidence.

46. They concurred in facilitating cooperation between Japan and The Nordic Council of Ministers.

25 October 2023 in Tokyo, Japan.