

**PUBLIC SUMMARY OF
FUTURE DEFENSE VISION OF THE REPUBLIC OF KOREA (ROK) – U.S. ALLIANCE**

The ROK-U.S. Alliance has contributed to the deepening political, social, and economic ties between the United States and the ROK over the past 66 years, while also growing into a mutually beneficial Alliance based on the common values and robust trust between the two nations. ROK and U. S. authorities are closely coordinating defense activities to support the establishment of complete denuclearization in a verifiable manner and a permanent peace on the Korean Peninsula, while maintaining a steadfast combined defense posture with the ROK-U.S. Alliance as the linchpin for peace, stability, and prosperity of the Korean Peninsula and the region.

At the 50th Security Consultative Meeting on October 31, 2018, the ROK Minister of National Defense and the U.S. Secretary of Defense pledged to engage in discussions on a joint defense vision to advance Alliance defense cooperation in a mutually reinforcing and future-oriented manner while taking into consideration dynamic changes in the security environment. These discussions were based on the understandings of the Presidents of the ROK and United States during the ROK-U.S. summit of June 30, 2019, where both Presidents pledged to pursue harmonious cooperation between the ROK New Southern Policy and the U.S. Indo-Pacific strategy under the regional cooperation principles of openness, inclusiveness, and transparency.

The U.S. and ROK defense cooperation flows from a commitment to common principles that underpin order of the Korean Peninsula, the region, and the global arena. These principles include:

- a. Striving towards peace and prosperity of the Korean Peninsula, Northeast Asia, and the world;
- b. Respect for sovereignty and independence of all nations;
- c. Peaceful resolution of disputes in accordance with internationally established laws and norms; and

- d. Adherence to international rules and norms, including those of free access, navigation, and overflight.

The ROK and United States intend to develop defense cooperation in a future-focused manner, based on the aforementioned common principles even following the establishment of peace on the Korean Peninsula. Going forward, both countries pledge to protect shared national security interests on the Korean Peninsula, in the Northeast Asian region, and the global arena.

Alliance defense cooperation is to be pursued so that the two nations may be able to effectively respond to new challenges and security threats. To this end, the U.S. and ROK decide to deepen and expand the degree and scope of defense cooperation to incorporate new non-traditional and transnational threats such as cyber, space, maritime, and environmental issues. The two countries also decide to cooperate to build regional partner capacity to respond to transnational and non-traditional security threats to advance shared values and common principles.

The Alliance decide to deepen cooperation in traditional areas, such as preventing and responding to potential chemical, biological, radiological, and nuclear (CBRN) threats, and preventing the proliferation of CBRN capabilities and delivery system-related materials. The United States and ROK decide to continue to strengthen extended deterrence, ensuring that deterrence remains credible, capable, and enduring. The Alliance also intends to collaborate to identify opportunities for future-oriented defense science and technology cooperation, including cyberspace, unmanned and autonomous technologies, and supply networks of strategic materiel and technology.

Moving forward, the United States and ROK reaffirm to continue to work to ensure that the ROK-U.S. Alliance works to ensure security, stability, and prosperity on the Korean Peninsula, the Northeast Asian region, and the world.