

Joint Statement on
the Establishment of a Strategic Partnership for Growth and Innovation
Between the Government of Japan
and the Government of the Kingdom of Denmark

On the occasion of her visit to Japan from the 3rd to the 5th of March 2014, H.E. Mrs. Helle Thorning-Schmidt, Prime Minister of Denmark, met with H.E. Mr. Shinzo Abe, Prime Minister of Japan.

The two leaders reviewed the progress in the bilateral relations and the fruitful cooperation since the conclusion of the "Treaty of Friendship, Commerce and Navigation between Japan and Denmark" in 1867.

Noting the further strengthening of Japanese-Danish relations in the political, economic, scientific, cultural, and other fields, the two leaders shared the fundamental values of freedom, democracy, respect for human rights and the rule of law, and a common interest in working closer together on bilateral, regional, multilateral and global issues.

To mark the mutually beneficial relations and to further strengthen their cooperation, the two leaders decided to launch a Strategic Partnership encompassing the most significant areas of present and future cooperation.

Political and Diplomatic Cooperation

The two leaders decided to strengthen the political cooperation by promoting regular meetings and dialogue, including enhancing friendly exchanges between the governments and legislative bodies as well as local authorities in various forms, and meetings in the margins of international and regional forums as appropriate.

Recalling the "Memorandum on Political Consultations between the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Denmark" signed in 2012, the two leaders encouraged to pursue yearly political consultations at the level of Foreign Ministers alternately Permanent State Secretary/State Secretary/Under Secretary.

International Peace and Security

Japan and Denmark both fully support a fair, just and rules-based multilateral system, with the United Nations playing the central role in addressing global issues and bringing political solutions to international disputes through consultations, dialogue and negotiations in accordance with international law including the UN Charter. The two leaders emphasized the central role of the UN in international peace keeping and in addressing global security issues.

The two leaders acknowledged their shared responsibility in ensuring security, stability and prosperity. The two leaders recognized the close linkage between security in Asia and in Europe and underlined the importance of dialogue between the two regions. Prime Minister Abe explained Japan's security policy and Japan's determination to act as a "Proactive Contributor to Peace" based on the principle of international cooperation. Prime Minister Thorning-Schmidt supported Japan's intention to proactively contribute to international efforts for peace and stability.

The two leaders reaffirmed that North Korea's continued nuclear and missile development, including its uranium enrichment activities, are grave threats to the peace and stability of the international society. The two leaders urged North Korea to fully comply with its obligations under the relevant United Nations Security Council Resolutions and commitments under the 19 September 2005 Joint Statement of the Six Party Talks, and to take concrete actions towards

its denuclearization. The two leaders also strongly urged North Korea to address, without delay, humanitarian concerns of the international community, including the abduction issue.

The two leaders decided to cooperate on Disarmament, Non-Proliferation and Arms Control, including Mine Action, utilizing the margins of multilateral disarmaments meetings.

The two leaders affirmed the importance of promoting freedom of navigation and overflight of the high seas and peaceful resolution of disputes in accordance with international law, including the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea.

Noting their counter-piracy efforts under the framework of the Contact Group on Piracy off the Coast of Somalia and Combined Task Force 151 (CTF-151), and their contribution to developing maritime law enforcement capacity in Somalia and its neighboring countries, the two leaders reaffirmed their commitment to maintain international cooperation in combating piracy.

The two leaders stressed that today's changing security environment call for international defense cooperation between like-minded states. Tackling asymmetric threats, including the threat of piracy, requires a concerted effort in all domains, including land and air. The two leaders decided to explore possibilities for bilateral cooperation within security issues where the two nations share common interests.

International and Multilateral Cooperation

The two leaders decided to strengthen dialogue and cooperation in multilateral and regional forums, especially the United Nations, and ASEM, as well as in Japan-EU cooperation and other multilateral mechanisms on issues of mutual concern. The two leaders recognized the importance of UN reform, with a particular emphasis on the Security Council, emphasizing the necessity to improve its effectiveness, transparency and representativeness in order to reflect the reality of today's international community and in view of the 70th anniversary of the UN in 2015. In this respect, the two leaders reiterated their will to work together to achieve its reform.

Reaffirming their commitment to the on-going negotiations for a Strategic Partnership Agreement between Japan and the EU, the two leaders mutually confirmed that much is to be gained from a closer relationship between Japan and the EU, and decided to work together toward this end.

The two leaders stressed the importance of tackling climate change and reaffirmed their support to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change as the main channel for reaching global agreement on climate change. The two leaders also shared the common recognition that the United Nations' Secretary General's Sustainable Energy for All-initiative was an important framework for all countries in the promotion of renewable energy, energy efficiency and energy access for all by 2030.

Recognizing the significant amounts spent on fossil fuel subsidies, the two leaders stressed the need to strengthen the international efforts on reforms in this area.

The two leaders reaffirmed their commitment to the promotion and protection of human rights. The two leaders underlined the importance of cooperation in strengthening the universality of human rights in various multilateral fora, such as the United Nations.

The two leaders attached great importance to the cooperation between Arctic and non-Arctic states on trans-regional Arctic issues such as protection of the environment, respect for international law and sustainable development for the benefit of the peoples living in the Arctic. The two leaders decided to encourage more information sharing on such issues and to examine areas for possible cooperation.

The two leaders affirmed their continued efforts to assist developing countries in fighting poverty and in fostering inclusive economic growth and employment based on human security.

The two leaders reaffirmed their respect for the principles of aid effectiveness, including developing country ownership. The two leaders recognized the particular challenge in ensuring peace and stability in fragile and conflict-affected states and reaffirmed their commitment to implementing the principles of the New Deal for fragile states. The two leaders shared the view on the priority of promoting growth and fighting poverty in Africa. In this connection, Prime Minister Abe explained Japan's initiative and its achievement on the Fifth Tokyo International Conference of African Development (TICAD V).

The two leaders reaffirmed their full commitment to the Millennium Development Goals and underlined their commitment to work towards an ambitious post-2015 development agenda focusing on poverty eradication and sustainable development. The two leaders reiterated the importance of the work within the OECD's Development Assistance Committee.

Prime Minister Abe informed about the Third World Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction in Sendai in March 2015. Prime Minister Thorning-Schmidt appreciated Japan's hosting of the conference and expressed her wish for a successful conference.

Gender Equality

The two leaders exchanged views on gender equality and decided to cooperate internationally to promote the empowerment of women, especially in developing countries. The two leaders shared the view that enhancing gender equality, including active participation of women in the labor market, is the key to further economic growth in developing as well as in developed countries. The two leaders confirmed their continued willingness to be actively engaged in the promotion of gender equality.

Growth and Innovation Cooperation

Recognizing the enormous potential for cooperation within research and innovation as well as trade and investment between Japan and Denmark in a number of sectors, the two leaders decided to deepen and expand mutually beneficial cooperation with a particular focus in the areas of food and agriculture; energy, green technology and environment; welfare technology and life sciences; science, innovation and higher education; as well as in the maritime sector. Cooperation within these areas aims to promote growth and innovation in Japan and in Denmark.

The two leaders decided to support partnerships between Japanese and Danish authorities, businesses and research institutions with a view to further expanding cooperation, exchange of know-how and experience as well as development of new technology. The two leaders emphasized the importance of creating favorable conditions for the establishment and operation of Japanese and Danish enterprises on the two markets.

The two leaders reconfirmed their commitment to a successful outcome and the earliest possible conclusion of the on-going negotiations for an Economic Partnership Agreement (EPA)/Free Trade Agreement (FTA) between Japan and the EU, while they recognized the importance of an open and rule-based multilateral trading system for global growth under the WTO.

Food and Agriculture

Recognizing the growing global demand for food, and the need to be able to meet this demand through sustainable, safe and efficient food and agricultural production, the two leaders emphasised the importance of enhancing the cooperation between Japanese and Danish authorities, businesses and research institutions within the areas of Veterinary Safety and Sustainable, Efficient and Innovative Food, Fisheries and Agricultural Production. This includes cooperation within:

- *Efficient and effective veterinary disease, food safety and residue control.*

- *Food safety, transparency, traceability and risk management* in the food production process.
- *Technology, know-how, genetics and equipment* to ensure efficient and sustainable food, fisheries and agricultural production.
- *Innovative and knowledge based production methods* to ensure sustainability and resource efficiency in the production, including related to agricultural reforms.

Energy, Green Technologies and Environment

The two leaders decided to further explore possibilities for cooperation as well as promotion and facilitation of networks and partnerships in energy and green technology between Japanese and Danish institutions and businesses.

Referring to the challenging energy situation in Japan and the transition towards an energy system independent of fossil fuels in Denmark, the two leaders considered:

- *The strategic role of energy production, distribution, consumption and security of energy supply.*
- *The need to transition towards the best mix of various energy sources.*
- *The urgency of scaling up cost-effective and lasting solutions to energy issues fully compatible with the need for economic growth.*

The two leaders discussed further improvements of energy efficiency with a focus on the development of new technologies within areas such as industry, transport, and the building sector.

Recognizing the crucial role of the private sector in contributing to and sustaining the transition of the energy sector, the two leaders encouraged the respective industrial organizations and businesses in each of the countries to enhance their cooperation to this end, thus promoting mutual business opportunities and sharing of best practice and information of technologies to reduce energy consumption and increase the introduction of renewable energy in the domestic energy mix.

The two leaders decided to further explore possibilities for enhanced cooperation, facilitation of technology transfer and joint-research agreements in the environmental sector, including within:

- *Sustainable urban development and management of urban water.*
- *Enhanced waste water treatment and water supply sectors.*
- *Mitigation and adaptation* to counteract climate change impacts, including from sea level rises, changes in rainfall patterns and extreme water events, such as floods.
- *Reduction of air pollution* from thermal power plants and traffic, e.g. through development and implementation of anti-pollution equipment for trucks, busses and cars.

Reconfirming their commitment to the "Japan-Denmark Dialogue on Water", the two leaders decided to enhance collaboration and knowledge exchange focusing on their respective development cooperation with third countries aimed at prevention and the handling of water related natural disasters, as well as within the areas of water and sanitation.

Welfare Technologies and Life Sciences

The two leaders decided to establish concrete cooperation within welfare technology (assistive products and technologies, e.g. robotics) with the aim of developing better treatment and care for citizens within the welfare sector.

The two leaders further confirmed their commitment to strengthen cooperation between Japanese and Danish authorities, businesses and research institutions, and to explore possibilities for enhanced cooperation in the welfare sector, including within:

- *Sharing of knowledge about clinical researches and investigations between private, academic, and public sectors.*
- *Promotion of open international standards on welfare technology within ISO (International Organization for Standardization) and product certification system.*
- *Testing and demonstration of welfare technology and e-health to develop user-friendly and cost effective technology.*
- *Favorable framework conditions for research and innovation in relation to welfare technology, e-health and life sciences.*
- *Exchange of knowledge on the development and uptake of e-health and mobile health solutions.*

Within the field of life sciences, the two leaders confirmed their commitment to promote Intellectual Property Protection and Enforcement, and decided to work together in the area of Innovative Medicines through exchange of information and knowledge on systems facilitating early introduction of innovative medicines to market.

The two leaders decided to explore the possibility to strengthen government to government cooperation in the pharmaceutical sector and between the Japanese and Danish health authorities, including within:

- *Innovation and how to optimize cooperation between the private, academic and public sector.*
- *Safety with a focus on sharing of best practices.*
- *Patient centricity with a focus on the basic principles and framework for health care regulations.*

Science, Innovation and Higher Education

The two leaders emphasized the importance of enhancing cooperation in science, higher education and innovation and further exploring possibilities for enhanced cooperation as well as promotion and facilitation of networks and partnerships in science, higher education and innovation between Japanese and Danish research and higher education institutions and businesses.

The two leaders encouraged dialogues among relevant institutions with the aim of identifying potential research areas of joint interest.

The two leaders underlined the importance of further cooperation between Japanese and Danish institutions of higher education with regard to:

- *Exchange of students, researchers and lecturers including mutual recognition of merits and harmonization of study abroad programs.*
- *Development and implementation of existing and new collaborative educational programs at all levels.*

The two leaders further encouraged Japanese and Danish students to enroll in full-degree programs and obtain academic degrees at each other's institutions of higher education.

Maritime Cooperation

Building on the longstanding cooperation in maritime affairs and wishing to further strengthen cooperation, the two leaders decided to establish concrete cooperation in the maritime sector with the aim of confirming and promoting the two sides' common interests in quality shipping, environmentally friendly maritime technology and solutions, and liberalization of international shipping.

The two leaders further decided to take measures to reduce air pollution and improve energy efficiency through cooperation in the International Maritime Organization (e.g. NOx Tier III implementation), and to strengthen cooperation on the area of international shipping (e.g. Consultative Shipping Group).

Social and Cultural Cooperation

The two leaders emphasized the importance of enhancing the exchange of knowledge, experience and culture between the peoples of Japan and Denmark.

The two leaders underlined their willingness to further develop the possibilities for mobility, cultural cooperation, people-to-people exchanges and tourism between the two countries as a means to strengthen the bonds between Japan and Denmark.

The two leaders reaffirmed their commitment to promoting bilateral exchanges in the field of sport and culture. In this context, Prime Minister Abe explained his intention to promote bilateral exchanges under the initiative of "Sport for Tomorrow". The two leaders confirmed their commitment to the fight against doping and reached the common recognition that the important work of the World Anti-Doping Agency will contribute to the success of the 2020 Olympic and Paralympics Games in Tokyo.

Confirming that the meeting was held in an atmosphere of long-standing friendship, the two leaders noted with satisfaction that the meeting represented an important milestone in the development of the bilateral relations between Japan and Denmark.

Recalling that in 2017 Japan and Denmark will celebrate the 150th anniversary of bilateral diplomatic relations, the two leaders decided to mark this occasion by further strengthening bilateral and cultural cooperation.

Tokyo, 4th of March 2014