



PRESS RELEASE

Public Affairs Service – Department of National Defense

DND Annex Building, Natividad Ave., Camp General Emilio Aguinaldo, Quezon City, 1110 Metro Manila

Website: www.dnd.gov.ph | E-Mail: dnd.opa@gmail.com

Tel: (+632) 982-5679 | 911-6001 to 31 ext. 8229 | Fax: (+632) 911-7113

Date Released: February 29, 2016

Releasing Officer: **ARSENIO R. ANDOLONG**
Chief, Public Affairs Service

Signing of the Philippines-Japan Agreement Concerning the Transfer of Defense Equipment and Technology

Defense Secretary Voltaire T. Gazmin and Ambassador Kazuhide Ishikawa inked today the Agreement Concerning the Transfer of Defense Equipment and Technology, which is another manifestation of the strengthening defense partnership between the Philippines and Japan. The said agreement will provide framework for Japan to transfer defense equipment and technology to the Philippines.

The defense equipment cooperation with Japan would not only reinforce robust ties between the two countries but would also contribute in enhancing defense capabilities of the Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP) needed to address PH' security concerns and to contribute to regional peace and stability.

In line with Japan's security policy of making a proactive contribution to international peace and stability is Tokyo's readiness to transfer defense equipment to its neighbors to develop their respective defense capabilities. This dovetails with the PH thrust to have access to equipment and technology from its partner countries. It may be recalled that when Japan has adopted its new "Three Principles on Transfer of Defense Equipment Technology" in April 2014, various discussions regarding Philippines-Japan defense equipment cooperation were conducted.

Acknowledging the importance of such cooperation on Philippines-Japan defense relations, both sides conducted several consultations regarding an agreement on the transfer of defense equipment and technology. The DND along with the Department of Foreign Affairs (DFA) worked closely with Japan's Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MOFA) and its Ministry of Defense on this matter.

The Philippines is the first ASEAN country with which Japan has concluded such agreement. Both sides are optimistic that tangible cooperation would be drawn up in accordance with the said agreement.

#####