



2025 Quadrennial Defense Review



MINISTRY OF NATIONAL DEFENSE
R.O.C. (TAIWAN)





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Minister's Foreword

The current global geopolitical landscape is marked by ongoing strategic competition between the United States (US) and the People's Republic of China (PRC); the Russia-Ukraine war; the Israel-Hamas war; the PRC's military expansion in the region; and the relationships between the authoritarian countries such as the PRC, North Korea, Iran, and Russia have grown even closer, these all resulting in escalating global geopolitical risks and mounting challenges, also poses a significant threat to the region. In this era of escalating strategic competition, Taiwan Strait is deemed by certain military observers as one of the most dangerous places in the world. This is attributable to the PRC's consistent refusal to renounce the use of force to resolve Taiwan Strait disputes, its ever-growing military might, belligerent and hegemonic behavior. Consequently, we must stay aware and always place national defense and security as our top priority. As an ancient Roman adage states, "Sivis pacem, para bellum." - which means "If you want peace, prepare for war". The ROC Armed Forces' reinforce combat readiness and the consolidation of all-out defense are not intended to create the wartime atmosphere, but to raise public awareness of the need to steadfastly safeguard the nation and its very existence.

Leveraging the results of its modernized military, Beijing authorities have adopted hybrid threat tactics—combining regular and irregular warfare—to undermine peace and stability across Taiwan Strait and erode public trust in the nation and the ROC Armed Forces. Facing a potential PRC invasion, we must expedite the establishment of hard power and make the best of soft power. Military wise, we must continue to integrate all-out defense power and build a robust defense system which is capable of delivering multi-domain deterrence. With this solid military buildup employed through asymmetric approaches, the ROC Armed Forces will be able to defeat Beijing's hegemonic aspirations. The PRC will learn that any attempt to invade Taiwan would not only entail significant costs but also prove futile, thereby delaying their potential military invasion.

As we can see, while Taiwan bears the brunt of the PRC's intensifying gray zone harassment and provocations in recent years, the severe impact on regional stability caused by their coercive actions—including Joint Sword exercises, PLA aerial and maritime incursions into Japan's airspace and waters, and the Scarborough Shoal standoff with the Philippines—have also been felt by other island nations and throughout the South China Sea (SCS). The importance of peace across Taiwan Strait is underscored in the US annual China Military Power Report (CMPR) and emphasized by numerous nations. As these examples have shown, the PRC's military threats are foster deeper and ongoing cooperation among nations, Taiwan will demonstrate our determination and capabilities in self-defense through concrete actions. We would also like to call on the Free World to send a clearer message to the PRC and take active measures to avert any potential conflict in Taiwan Strait.

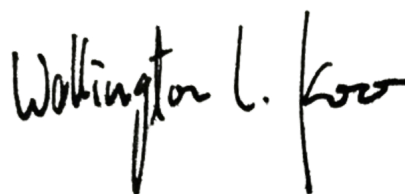
As stipulated in Article 31 of the National Defense Act, the Ministry of National Defense (MND) shall "within ten months after each presidential inauguration, publicly

submits the Quadrennial Defense Review to the Legislative Yuan.” This is the fifth edition of the Quadrennial Defense Review (QDR) since 2009. The QDR aims to articulate the President’s defense policy vision; “Four-pillar plan for peace” which aims at defense, economy, diplomacy, and cross-Strait relations; and reveal priorities of future defense reforms, which can allow our people and the international community to realize our national defense and military strategies as well as our major policy plans.

We are the country which pursues the value of peace through strength, and deeply valuing a life of freedom and democracy, while the ROC Armed Forces remain fully committed to safeguarding our homeland and protecting the people. Looking forward, the responsibility of the ROC Armed Forces is far from over. In addition to pragmatically promoting various defense reforms, we shall continue to learn from conflicts in Ukraine and Gaza, employ innovative thinking and technological applications, and accelerate upgrades for a self-reliant defense industry. In addition, we must seize the opportunities to join the international defense supply chain and establish new partnerships based on shared democratic values and beliefs to dedicate ourselves to peace and stability in the Indo-Pacific region and the world.

War is not only a clash of arms, but a competition of wisdom and resolve. Therefore, the quality of human resources is essentially the backbone and the most cherished asset of the ROC Armed Forces. From the moment they enlist, every service member is committed to safeguarding the homeland and steadfastly fulfilling the promise to the people and the nation. These are not only the mission and mandate of the ROC Armed Forces, but the highest value and honor embraced by service members. To demonstrate an evolving management system, the ROC Armed Forces will steadfastly implement a management style that respects each individual and centered on subtractive thinking to comprehensively review their organizational structure, management culture, and training methodologies. The purpose is to allow service members to feel respected, cared for, and supported; reduce unnecessary administrative burden caused by formalism; and ensure that combat training and readiness remain our top priority. It is my earnest hope that with the collective efforts of civilians and military services, we shall devote ourselves to protecting freedom, democracy, and peace through strength and perseverance; demonstrating our unwavering determination and capabilities in self-defense; and ultimately deter the enemy invasion.

Minister



March 2025

Introduction

The current global geopolitical landscape is perilous and complex. Great power competition and regional conflicts are increasingly becoming a long-term international posture; all of these factors influence the dynamics of Taiwan Strait.

Taiwan, renowned for its democratic achievements and critical role in the global semiconductor supply chain, holds a pivotal geopolitical position in the Indo-Pacific region. Therefore, maintaining peace and stability in Taiwan Strait is vital to global security and prosperity. A robust national defense is fundamental to the stability. As ever, the MND is committed to increasing defense budget, building up defensive capabilities, accelerating innovative development and application of defense technologies, and reforming defense affairs in a careful and practical manner. Furthermore, the MND has taken concrete measures to reinforce comprehensive defensive capabilities against military threats and challenges from the PRC and to improve combat readiness, so as to fulfill the goal of “prepare for war to avoid war”.

The main topic of 2025 QDR is “building agile and reactive capabilities and a resilient whole-of-society defense to ensure national security” and the key takeaways of the six Chapters are as follows:

1. Security in Taiwan Strait amid the International Shifts

(1) Section 1 Great Power Competition and Regional Conflicts

The ongoing competition between the US and the PRC, and the PRC seeks regional dominance and engages in military provocations. The US is enhancing security cooperation with allies and partners and its military deployments in the region. Moreover, regional armed conflicts in Russia, Ukraine, and the Middle East and military cooperation among the PRC, Russia, and North Korea have already exacerbated the complexity and instability of the global security situation.

(2) Section 2 Security Situation in Taiwan Strait

This section underlines the ambitions of the PRC to change the status quo in the Taiwan Strait by manipulating legal warfare and sending its aircraft and vessels crossing the median line of the Strait and approaching 24 nautical miles (nm) off our shorelines. The international community’s concern over security in Taiwan Strait has increased, with multiple countries exploiting naval vessels to assert freedom of navigation. This highlights the importance of stability in Taiwan Strait for regional security and development.

(3) Section 3 PRC Gray Zone Activities

This section explains how the PRC is comprehensively initiating gray zone activities, such as aerial and maritime incursions, joint military exercises, cyberattacks, and cognitive warfare, attempting to test and exhaust our combat preparation and training results and expanding its psychological intimidating effects to erode the morale of the people and the Armed Forces.

(4) Section 4 Changes in Combat Patterns in Taiwan Strait

This section reveals that the People's Liberation Army (PLA) has fielded all-weather multi-domain intelligence, surveillance, and reconnaissance (ISR) capabilities and multi-layered striking firepower able to impose aerial and maritime blockades, which can be transitioned rapidly into an invasion of Taiwan. The ROC Armed Forces will on immediate readiness training, rapid mobilization, defense-in-depth, and sustainable resilience, aiming to disrupt and defeat the enemy's strategy for achieving a swift victory.

2. Strategic Guidance for National Defense and Security

(1) Section 1 National Defense Strategy

Revealing the national defense strategy through five goals “strengthening power for defense resilience,” “reforming defense affairs for organizational efficiency,” “promoting self-reliance for win-win situation,” “collaborating in humanitarian assistance / disaster relief (HA/DR) efforts for public welfare,” and “enhancing strategic cooperation for regional peace.”

(2) Section 2 Military Strategy

- A. This section describes how the ROC Armed Forces follow the military strategy of “Resolute defense and Multi-domain deterrence” to adapt to the overarching strategic environment, address the threats and challenges posed by the enemy, and leverage our geographic advantages and all weapons and equipment to construct combat readiness for “Multi-domain denial and Resilient defense”.
- B. Given the constraints on time, space, and capabilities in defensive operations, the ROC Armed Forces can employ a survivable multi-layered defense posture to defeat and disrupt enemy's invasion operations and its follow-up buildup. By integrating the Whole-of-Society defense resilience and capacities, we can ensure the maintenance and effectiveness of our combat

capabilities, thereby denying the enemy the ability to achieve its operational objectives. If the enemy persists in its invasion, we will ensure the failure of its operational mission.

3. Forging Winning Force

(1) Section 1 Developing Asymmetric and Resilient Capabilities

- A. This section describes that the ROC Armed Forces is building up the overall deterrence and sustainable capabilities based on the following four principles of “constructing asymmetric capabilities,” “enhancing operational resilience,” “reinforcing reserve forces’ capabilities,” and “strengthening capability of responding to gray zone activities”.
- B. The ROC Armed Forces remains committed to refining joint operational command and control (C2) mechanisms and developing various long-range precision strike weapons to fortifying defense- in-depth capabilities. The focus of force buildup is placed on rapid adoption of proven technologies, unmanned platforms, and artificial intelligence (AI). Currently, acquisitions of ISR and combat unmanned aerial vehicles (UAV) are comprehensively planned and executed. Based on the acceptance schedules of new assets, the organic equipment and force structure are to be adjusted in a rolling manner. Each command of the Theater of Operations (TO) may adjust its deployment posture in accordance with its approach for combat readiness.
- C. This section underlines the importance of strategic duration and defensive resilience. The ROC Armed Forces has developed and adopted concepts of Mission command, decentralized operations and multiple redundancies to conduct decentralized deployment and force protection, so as to effectively fulfill defensive operations.
- D. To employ emerging technologies to support information, communications, cyber, and electronic (ICCE) operations, the ROC Armed Forces continues acquiring highly efficient electronic surveillance and jamming equipment and utilizing emerging technologies, such as information security defense; information, communications, and cyber (ICC) security toolkits; and cloud backups, to strengthen our digital resilience.

(2) Section 2 Conducting Realistic Training

- A. The ROC Armed Forces is following the concept of joint operations to conduct all realistic combat training in a “force-on-force, on-site, and real-time” approach, including the development of realistic battlefields for joint training courses, force-on-force drills, and live fire shooting exercises.

- B. The main combat forces will progressively incorporate new weapons into training and evaluation based on their acquisition schedule. The ROC Armed Forces have established the UAV training center, and are currently enhancing training programs for conscripts to ensure their basic combat capabilities.

(3) Sections 3 Enhancing Reserve Forces

- A. The recall training program of reserve force will be gradually intensified based on assigned missions and conduct exercises to enhance the coordinated combat capabilities with the regular forces. At the same time, the ROC Armed Forces continues improving civilian and military (civil-military) coordination and increasing operational efficiency of pre-stocking supplies, and transportation to strengthen operations sustainability.
- B. The ROC Armed Forces is gradually increasing the number of cadre at basic level in the forces each year, and we also continue increasing quota and number of sessions for female volunteers participating in reservist training, establishing a talent database for mobilization, updating equipment and improving maintenance capacities of the reserve forces, combining civilian capacities for reservist training, so as to verify the all-out defense mobilization mechanisms.

(4) Section 4 Optimizing Logistic Support

- A. The ROC Armed Forces has adopted several strategies such as the mobilized approaches to decentralizing pre-stocking and integrating maintenance and supply capacities of services to improve supply efficiency during wartime. Furthermore, the ROC Armed Forces employs a logistic information management system (LIMS) to create a logistical common operational picture (COP), so as to monitor the real-time consumption status of various supplies , and allocate resources to support the frontline operations.
- B. The key points include preposition and pre-stocking supplies, stockpile of combat rations, foreign military exchanges, integrating maintenance capacities, and upgrading LIMS.

(5) Section 5 Psychological Readiness and Morale

- A. The ROC Armed Forces continues co-hosting diversified educational activities with local communities and schools and employing civilian resources like social media to promote defense general education. Additionally, we have designed a mental health care plan to integrate consultation and health education resources and provide diversified consultation and mental support channels for service members.

- B. In order to effectively curb the spread of disinformation and provide correct pieces, the ROC Armed Forces employs big data and AI technologies, with agile and precise media approaches, to quickly identify the activities of PRC's cognitive warfare and clarify controversial information.

(6) Section 6 Responding to PRC Incursions

- A. Facing the PLA incursions, the ROC Armed Forces cooperates with the Coast Guard Administration (CGA) and related governmental agencies to jointly respond to PLA provocations based on the Comprehensive Support Agreement for Maritime Missions and the ROC Armed Forces Regulations on Peacetime Contingencies Responses.
- B. The ROC Armed Forces has conceived various scenarios against possible PLA activities and are incorporating them in combat training regimens for all units. The rules of engagement (ROE) are constantly reviewed and updated to provide frontline units with explicit authorization to respond if required.

4. Priorities for Promoting Defense Reforms

(1) Section 1 Steady Growth of Budget and Proper Allocation

The MND will allocate sufficient defense resources to meet the requirements of force buildup and combat readiness. The government will maintain an incremental growth of the overall defense budget; the MND aligns with the schedule of major military investment projects by planning the acquisition and maintenance of essential equipment and key components, ensuring the proper allocation of financial resources.

(2) Section 2 Adopting Innovative Technologies and Applications

- A. The MND will accelerate the development of defense innovations and leverage civilian research and development (R&D) and advanced manufacturing capacities to gain asymmetric advantages in our defense operations.
- B. The MND has been actively adopting proven commercial technologies, such as AI and unmanned systems, to strengthen our defense capabilities and sustainable resilience. The MND will also refer to the experiences of Europe and the US and gradually develop the legal and ethical regulations of military AI to ensure compliance with international standards.

(3) Section 3 Self-reliant Defense and Diversified Acquisitions

- A. According to the principle of "indigenous production as our priority, foreign procurement as a supplement" from the National Defense Act, the MND is strengthening self-reliant R&D and manufacturing capacities for weapons

and critical components and to implement the indigenous aircraft /ship building policy. In addition, the MND may acquire items through foreign military sales (FMS) or procurement of the commercial off-the-shelf (COTS) items to rapidly attain substantive capabilities.

- B. The MND has implemented certification on and provided incentives and subsidies to qualified domestic suppliers in the defense industry to encourage and help them to upgrade. Additionally, the National Chung-Shan Institute of Science & Technology (NCSIST) has established the “Aerospace and UAV Industrial Park” and worked with the Ministry of Economic Affairs (MOEA) to participate in the non-red international UAV supply chain.

(4) Section 4 Cultivation and Retention of Talents

- A. The ROC Armed Forces continues refining efforts including personnel recruit, assessment, leadership training, and talent retention, so as to meet the manpower requirements for weapon operation and maintenance in forces.
- B. The key points include the expansion of military professional education, AI, unmanned platforms, communications, and cyberwarfare, as well as opportunities for advanced studies abroad. To retain talented individuals, additional attention has been given to on-the-job training (OJT), human-centric management, raising allowances, improving civilian officers’ expertise regarding to the defensive affairs, and fostering a healthy working environment.

(5) Section 5 Modernizing Force Management

- A. This section reveals that the ROC Armed Forces advocate for the Servicemember Relief Act and the Armed Forces Disciplinary Punishment Act to protect service members’ legal rights and ensure their discipline. Moreover, the ROC Armed Forces continues promoting various management reforms, such as alleviating administrative workload, optimizing the quality of living quarters and childcare services.
- B. To mitigate potential hazards and improve internal management, the ROC Armed Forces has been implementing precautionary inspection and flight safety management measures and enhancing transparency and anti-corruption education.

5. All-out Defense Mobilization for Sustaining Operations

(1) Section 1 Refining Mobilization Mechanism and Civil Defense Capacities

- A. Following the All-out Defense Mobilization Readiness Act, the MND continues implementing all-out defense resources integration and exercises with governmental agencies and local governments and providing civil defense education and emergency response training to enable involved parties to transition rapidly from peacetime to wartime so as to maximize our all-out defense power.
- B. The key points include rapid mobilization of personnel and materiel upon receiving exercise orders in response to potential enemy invasions; conducting surveys on manpower and materiel mobilization capacity and establishing an integrated mobilization information system; enhancing personnel training and utilization, conducting inventory of strategic materials, organizing social and medical care services, and ensuring security of communications networks; and incorporating civil defense courses in conscript training to enable conscripts to continue assisting protecting the homeland after their discharge.

(2) Section 2 Interagency Collaboration

- A. The concept of whole-of-society defense involves all governmental agencies. The MND cooperates with the Office of Homeland Security of the Executive Yuan (EY) to coordinate integration of resources with energy, communications, and transportation departments to assist in the protection of our critical infrastructure.
- B. The ROC Armed Forces has established effective resource allocation and adaptability mechanisms through urban resilience exercises and “Zi-Qiang” exercises to ensure civil-military synchronization during wartime.

(3) Destruction and Disaster Prevention and Relief

Through the Joint Emergency Command and Control Center (JECCC) as a coordination and cooperation platform, the ROC Armed Forces is collaborating with governmental agencies and local governments to strengthen HA/DR capabilities and combat casualty care training, preserve wartime medical capacities, and to fulfill warfare and disaster relief assignment.

6. Regional Links to Improve Collective Deterrence

(1) Section 1 Deepening Bilateral Interaction and Cooperation with the US

We continue promoting military exchanges with the US and deepening bilateral cooperation through mutual visits for policy dialogues, information sharing, discussion on operational topics, Joint Tabletop Exercise (JTTX), R&D of military equipment, and defense industrial collaboration.

(2) Section 2 Expanding Security Partnerships with International Partners

We value the exchange and cooperation with other international partners by expanding collaboration in areas of intelligence, scientific R&D, cybersecurity, countering gray zone activities, and cognitive warfare threats. Moreover, the MND will conduct academic exchanges with foreign think tanks to ensure continuous international attention and support for security in Taiwan Strait.

(3) Section 3 Securing Defense Supply Chain

The MND is promoting defense industrial cooperation with our strategic and international partners to jointly create a robust and flexible supply system. The MND has implemented a grading system and security check criteria for defense industry suppliers. At the same time, domestic suppliers are encouraged to obtain production licenses and authorizations of technology transfer from foreign supplier to join the non-red international supply chain and enhance the capabilities and capacities within our defense industrial base.



2025 Quadrennial Defense Review



Chapter 1

Security in Taiwan Strait amid the International Shift

The current international strategic landscape is marked by ongoing US-PRC competition with several ongoing regional conflicts, resulting in a relatively complex and uncertain situation. As countries boost defense spending to address potential threats, the PRC continues expanding its military power and coercion activities in the Indo-Pacific, which exacerbated the security situation in Taiwan Strait.

Section 1 **Great Power Competition and Regional Conflicts**

Through its accelerated military modernization and numerous unilateral actions, the PRC is attempting to overturn the international order and the status quo in Taiwan Strait. Amid the ongoing Russia-Ukraine war and conflicts in the Middle East, the US, Europe and Indo-Pacific nations begin increasing their defense spending, boosting military readiness and technology, and expanding military security cooperation in response to the deepening ties between the PRC, Russia, North Korea, and Iran. The situation has shown that countries among the region are strengthening their military power to ensure the security. This situation underscores the interconnected nature of global security, necessitating collective efforts to maintain from all nations.

1. PRC Seeks Regional Dominance

- (1) The PLA is increasing strategic intimidation with the expansion of long-range power projection and nuclear capabilities. Recently, the PLA has intensified activities in the West Pacific and has shown signs of aggression, including Carrier Strike Group exercises and intercontinental missiles (ICBMs) launch test. It also engages in frequent provocations and gray zone activities in the SCS and the East China Sea (ECS), attempting to challenge the existing international norms through military coercion.
- (2) Driven by its growing comprehensive national power and aspiration for regional dominance, the PRC leverages the Belt and Road Initiative (BRI), Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO), and BRICS mechanism to advance its great-power diplomacy, cultivate ties with developing countries, and expand its political and economic linkage, attempting to form a viable alternative to the value system and international power structure dominated by the US and European nations.

2. US Deepens Indo-Pacific Cooperation to Maintain Regional Stability

- (1) In recent years, the US has strengthened security cooperation with Japan, Philippines, and Australia, and enhanced its military presence in the West Pacific. It has deployed Marine Littoral Regiments (MLRs) to Hawaii, Guam, and Japan, stationed mid-range capability (MRC) missile systems in the Philippines, and planned the reactivation of bases on Pacific islands. These actions are intended to enhance US military forward deployment and maneuver capabilities in the region and provide additional overall deterrence for the nations in the First Island Chain.

- (2) Looking ahead, the US administration remains upholding the America First policy doctrine and addressing competition in critical technologies with the PRC by implementing foreign economic policy initiatives such as raising tariffs, regulating technologies, and imposing sanctions. Additionally, the US may employ diversified military and diplomatic approaches to work with allies and partners in the Indo-Pacific to maintain regional peace and stability, curb the expansion of PRC's influences, and ensure US leadership in the world.

3. The Impact of Russia-Ukraine War on Global Security System

The Russia-Ukraine war has caused a profound impact on European and global security situations. The member states of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) are increasing their defense budgets to proactively bolster their collective defense mechanism through realignments of diplomatic and defense policies. In contrast, the PRC, Russia, and North Korea are seeking closer strategic cooperation, trying to lower the impacts from various sanctions imposed by western countries. Furthermore, the prices of raw materials, such as food, energy, and rare earth minerals have been raised due to the ongoing warfare, resulted in a series of chaotic situation of international economic and trade such as supply chain disruption and high inflation.

4. The Impact of Geopolitical Conflication on Regional Stability

The current conflicts between Israel, Hamas, Iran, and Hezbollah in Lebanon have made security situation escalation in the Middle East and also caused international humanitarian crisis and turbulence in the international economy. The PRC is promoting its militarization in the SCS and has been involved in sovereignty disputes over several islets and reefs with the Philippines, rendering the SCS into a hotspot for regional conflicts. Meanwhile, North Korea has amended its constitution to identify South Korea as its primary adversary and it also deepened its alliance with Russia by providing arms supplies. North Korea continues developing nuclear weapons and conducting ICBM launch test, undermining the stability in Northeast Asia.

Section 2 **Security Situation in Taiwan Strait**

The PRC continues employing a combination of military, diplomatic, legal, and economic approaches toward Taiwan to serve its purposes of intimidation, attempting to weaken our international position, changing the status quo in Taiwan Strait, and preventing third-party intervention. In the last few years, it has frequently initiated military incursions and gray zone tactics as its coercion activities toward Taiwan. Numerous nations have publicly stressed the importance of maintaining peace and stability in Taiwan Strait, showing the growing concern of the security situation in Taiwan Strait from the international community.

1. PRC's Legal Warfare to Extend Control around Taiwan Strait

The PLA continues engaging in provocative actions around Taiwan and our offshore islands by sending aircraft and vessels that intentionally cross the median line of Taiwan Strait, approaching 24 nm off the Taiwan shorelines. These activities are intended to nullify Taiwan Strait as international waters and exclude the norms of international law, thereby impeding all nations from the freedom of navigation and overflight in Taiwan Strait.

2. Peace and Stability in Taiwan Strait Vital to Global Development

Standing on the very front line against the expansion and intrusion of an authoritarian communist regime, The ROC (Taiwan) is a linchpin in the high-tech semiconductor supply chain, serves as a model of freedom and democracy in the Indo-Pacific region. Our nation reside at the center of the First Island Chain which serves as a critical conduit for global maritime commerce and international flights, demonstrating our geopolitical significance. Any crisis in Taiwan Strait would entail severe worldwide consequences. Maintaining unimpeded air and sea passage through Taiwan Strait is therefore crucial for global prosperity and development.

3. The Growing International Attention towards the Security Situation in Taiwan Strait

To show the support for the freedom of navigation in Taiwan Strait, the US, Canada, the United Kingdom, Germany, France, the Netherlands, Australia, and New Zealand have sent naval vessels to traverse this waterway, demonstrating an international consensus against unilateral changes to the status quo in Taiwan Strait. The US and the international community have responded with growing attention to PRC's potential military recklessness in the Strait, while regional democracies are strengthening coordination and cooperation to deter the potential aggressor. At this critical moment, where both challenges and opportunities coexist, we must strive to secure and leverage international support. By making concrete contributions, we can become a trusted partner around the globe, cooperating with international partners to jointly confront global challenges and safeguard regional security.

Section 3 PRC Gray Zone Activities

Gray zone activity aims to achieve political, strategic, and military objectives by using diversified non-traditional and irregular means to coerce, harass, and even ignite conflicts below the threshold of war. Recently, the PRC has initiated multiple gray zone activities such as aerial and maritime incursions, cyberattacks, and cognitive warfare operations, attempting to test and deplete our readiness and training results, and ratchet up the psychological intimidation against Taiwan. We shall adapt our response flexibly and collaborate with international partners to counteract PRC's efforts to undermine our grit and morale.

1. Aerial and Maritime Incursions

The PRC employs UAVs, civilian aircraft, coast guard vessels, and maritime militia motorized fishing vessels, and naval vessels for joint combat readiness patrols, targeted military exercises, and pre-arranged joint training around Taiwan and its offshore islands. Furthermore, the PRC is testing the defense plans, reaction capabilities, and ROEs of the ROC Armed Forces by crossing the median line of Taiwan Strait and intruding into our air defense identification zone (ADIZ) and restricted waters. These activities have resulted in frequent responses from the ROC Armed Forces and the CGA vessels, thus depleting the readiness of our assets and reducing the available force during wartime.

2. Cyberattacks

In peacetime, the PLA conducts tremendous online infiltrations to gather intelligence and identify security vulnerability and weaknesses in our critical infrastructure and is poised to engage in hacking and disinformation campaigns. During wartime, the PLA could launch mass cyberattacks on our critical infrastructure, command and control centers, and ISR systems to disrupt our government and military responses to facilitate their military operations.

3. Cognitive Warfare

The PLA actively leverages social media as a channel to spread disinformation and controversial messages both within Taiwan and around the globe, even fabricating exaggerated and misleading videos, such as the one titled "PLA aircraft approaching Taiwan." Economically, the PLA coerces Taiwanese individuals and private enterprises into backing their political agenda through their economic advantages. Militarily, they generate intimidation through displays of advanced weaponry, missile test fires, and various joint exercises, seeking to dominate the public discourse.

Section 4 **Changes in Combat Patterns in Taiwan Strait**

The PRC's growing military capabilities, evolving operational approaches and the newly fielded technologies such as unmanned systems and AI are reshaping possible combat patterns in Taiwan Strait. These changes include reduced early-warning time, the increase of battlefield transparency, faster operational tempo, and multiple attack patterns. In wartime, the PLA may employ multi-domain approaches in the land, sea, air, space, cyberspace, electromagnetic, and cognitive warfare to paralyze the combat capabilities of the ROC Armed Forces, launch a rapid military invasion of Taiwan, or conduct isolation or blockade operation so as to force Taiwan to submit under the military pressure. The ROC Armed Forces will focus more on capabilities of immediate combat readiness, rapid mobilization, in-depth defense, and sustainable resilience, aiming to disrupt the enemy's plan to seize rapid and decisive victory.

1. Characteristics of PRC Operations against Taiwan

(1) All-weather Multi-domain ISR, Operational Command and Control

The PRC continues expanding its capability of satellites, manned and unmanned aerial reconnaissance platforms, land-based radars and electronic intelligence (ELINT) stations, naval intelligence vessels, and cyber intelligence collection systems. These new assets are being integrated into an all-weather, multi-domain ISR, and operational command and control system, which shall be used in large-scale campaigns against Taiwan. In addition, jamming systems and cyber warfare attacks will be utilized by PLA to paralyze or degrade our command, control, communications, computers, intelligence, surveillance, and reconnaissance (C4ISR) systems and sabotage our joint operations capabilities.

(2) Aerial and Maritime Blockades to Gradually Shrink LOC of Taiwan

In recent years, a large number of naval and coast guard vessels have been constructed by the PRC. These vessels can be used in coordination with each other, enabling PLA to potentially isolate or conduct blockade operation toward the vital ports and Sea Lines of Communication (SLOCs) surrounding Taiwan, thereby jeopardizing the transport security of critical strategic materials and commercial activities in this region. The deployment of PLA naval and air forces as well as the pre-positioning of forces in surrounding Taiwan may also rapidly enforce a blockade operation, or can be transitioned into an outright conventional invasion of Taiwan.

(3) Ports, Beaches, and Airfields will be Primary Targets During PLA Landing Operations

Once gaining the superiority of air, sea and electromagnetic domains, the PLA, under the support of joint fires, may utilize various amphibious vessels and requisition civilian Roll-on/Roll-off (RoRo) ships accompanied by helicopters and transport aircrafts to launch multiple waves of aerial and maritime landing assault operations on the main island of Taiwan. These operations may prioritize vital ports, beaches, and airfields as primary targets to establish landing lodgments for follow-on echelons to conduct ground operations.

(4) PLA Newly and Traditional Assets as Multi-layered Firepower

During its military strike towards Taiwan, the PLA will be supported by real-time intelligence to employ various types of missiles and long-range rockets accompanied by aerial and naval striking power on our critical ground infrastructure and forces to destroy our naval combat ships. With air, sea, and electromagnetic dominance secured, the PLA will continue to employ aerial firepower, long-range rockets combined with UAVs and loitering munitions to suppress ground forces and combat platforms of the ROC Armed Forces to weaken our counterattack capabilities.

(5) PLA is Enhancing its Civil-military Integration to Rapidly Transition into Operations

The PLA plans to mobilize civilian resources and transportation capacities to support their operations. This could include requisitioning civilian RoRo ships, semi-submersible vessels, civilian airlines, and railway/highway transport vehicles for equipment and material transportation. They will go through operational drills and plans to validate these measures. In addition, these measures could address potential shortage in regular transport platforms and might also obscure any signs of invasion, reducing both domestic and international awareness to their “Drill to Operations” tactics and minimize the reaction time for combat readiness of the ROC Armed Forces.

(6) PLA is Expanding its Strategic Weapon to Deter Foreign Intervention in Taiwan Strait

To deter and deny any potential foreign intervention, the PLA plans to conduct anti-access/area denial (A2/AD) operations through various types of strategic

weapons such as anti-ship ballistic missiles, hypersonic weapons, cruise missiles, nuclear-powered submarines, carrier groups. The objective of these operations is to achieve PLA's localized military dominance within the First and Second Island Chains and the SCS as well as to deter or strike key air bases and naval stations of our neighboring nations to prevent the international intervention.

2. Combat Pattern Shifts in Taiwan Strait

- (1) Presently, our time of strategic warnings to the PLA invasion has been reduced and the early warning signs are difficult to identify. Therefore the transition from peacetime to wartime is relatively rapid and ambiguous.
- (2) Given the widespread of commercial reconnaissance satellites and global communications and positioning systems, the transparency of battlespace has significantly increased. Therefore, military forces must prioritize its concealment, camouflage, and signature management. Furthermore, they must be able to disperse and assemble more flexibly and rapidly so as to effectively conduct the force protection under fire.
- (3) The rapid evolution of long-range weapons and unmanned systems have allowed both the adversary and friendly forces to inflict precision strikes against targets in battlefields from longer distances and in multiple ways, blurring the boundary between the front and the rear and generating higher demand for ammunition and supplies. The key to success will depend on uninterrupted military supplies.
- (4) The enemy's offensive EW operations, coupled with hard-kill strikes, pose a significant threat to the ROC Armed Forces. Our capabilities to maximizing and sustaining our operational forces' combat power hinges on the ability to secure our communications, positioning, and navigation systems.
- (5) Massive employment of unmanned systems such as autonomous attack drones and loitering munitions has shifted the patterns of ground and air defense operations. These systems can coordinate in executing maritime target strikes and long-range strike missions.
- (6) After the outbreak of the conflict, the enemy will employ traditional, hybrid, and irregular warfare forces to inflict multi-domain attacks on our homeland. Therefore, we must ensure effective defensive operations supported from the whole-of-society effort. This includes the swift and effective mobilization of all-out defense power to ensure the continuity of basic operation of critical governmental and public functions.



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Chapter 2

Strategic Guidance for National Defense and Security

In line with the President’s national security concept of the “four pillars of peace” and EY’s policy guidance for national defense, the MND continues carrying out all defense undertakings. These include mapping out overall defense policy efforts, reforming defense affairs, allocating and utilizing defense resources, realizing all-out defense, building up forces with asymmetric concepts, establishing security exchanges and cooperation with international partners, and formulating force buildup and employment concepts. In addition, the MND is executing all force buildup activities and combat preparations based on our comprehensive arrangements for defensive operations.

Section 1 National Defense Strategy

Mandated by the Constitution of the Republic of China and the National Defense Act, our defense undertakings aim to ensure the security of the nation and its people and maintain the world peace. Externally, our national defense strategy must effectively address current imminent gray zone incursions and potential war threats from adversaries. Internally, the MND must establish a framework for the comprehensive long-term development of defense base, thereby ensuring our resilient and sustainable defensive and deterrent capabilities.

1. Fundamental Concept of National Defense

- (1) Our defense commitments focus on the goals of preventing war and maintaining peace by relying on our national defense capabilities as a strong pillar to deter foreign aggression and protect our national sovereignty, territory, and people's security.
- (2) To address rapid changes in complex modern warfare and multi-domain security threats, we must plan and establish a defensive force capable of making rapid responses and achieving resilient defense, develop and introduce emerging technologies and capabilities.
- (3) To generate consensus and provide an approach to mobilize all-out defense power to protect our homeland, we must unite efforts from military, civilian and interagency to construct a resilient whole-of-society defense.
- (4) In the international security arena, we must preserve our strategic autonomy in our national defense, actively engage in military exchanges and cooperation with international partners and build up security partnerships to collectively address regional threats and challenges.

2. Goals of National Defense Strategy

(1) Strengthening Defense Power for Resilient Overall Defense

As the adage goes “averting war by preparing for it; being capable of war to stop it” The ROC Armed Forces embraces this principle and exploits the asymmetric concept to forge defense capabilities, aiming to deter reckless hostile actions, avert war, and maintain peace.

(2) Reforming Defense Affairs to Enhance Organizational Efficiency

By anticipating patterns of modern high-tech warfare and demands of defense missions, the MND must improve organizational efficiency, reform defense affairs, cultivate quality manpower, and develop a modernized, knowledgeable, and professional elite force.

(3) Promoting Self-reliant Defense to Generate Win-win Results

By executing programs to build aircraft, vessels, and UAVs domestically and applying innovative technologies such as AI, the MND must deepen the integration of civil-military technologies and enhance self-production and maintenance capabilities. Furthermore, it must promote upgrades to defense technologies and industries to achieve win-win results for both the defense and economic development.

(4) Collaborating HA/DR Efforts to Protect People's Wellbeing

In the face of non-traditional security threats such as natural disasters and epidemics, the ROC Armed Forces must provide HA/DR support as directed by the government to offer timely aid and reassure the public. In addition, it must collaborate with governments at all levels through an area defense mechanism to jointly protect critical infrastructure and provide contingency reactions. Furthermore, the ROC Armed Forces must follow national ocean policies to enhance maritime patrol and implement joint fishery escort missions with CGA to protect maritime rights of the nation.

(5) Tightening Strategic Cooperation to Maintain Regional Peace

We must remain steadfast in our role as a reliable guardian for peace and continue working with global democracies to foster a peaceful unity to jointly deter threats, protect the security and stability in Taiwan Strait, and maintain peace and prosperity in the Indo-Pacific region.

Section 2 **Military Strategy**

To adapt to the overarching strategic environment and address the threats and challenges posed by the enemy, the ROC Armed Forces, upholding the military strategy of “resolute defense and multi-domain deterrence,” have paved a path to achieve combat readiness called “multi-domain denial and resilient defense” as a guiding principle for drafting force buildup and combat readiness plans. A viable defense plan shall consider constraints on time, space, and capabilities to encompass combat preparations in peacetime and responses to gray zone incursions. With these in mind, the ROC Armed Forces adopts the following approaches, “rapid transition to readiness and reaction,” “asymmetric methods,” “decentralized operation,” “by denying instead of controlling,” and “raising risks for adversarial operations.” By adopting these approaches, the ROC Armed Forces may pose a survivable multi-domain defensive posture, coupled with the resilience and capacities from the whole-of-society defense, to ensure the sustainability and exertion of our combat power, disrupt the enemy's operations and aggression, hold the enemy at bay in peacetime, and ultimately thwart their operations in wartime.

1. Multi-domain Denial: Establish Multi-layered Defense in Depth

- (1) Based on the erosion strategy and concept of asymmetric warfare, the ROC Armed Forces must develop a variety of successful techniques and tactics against various kinds of adversarial threats and combat scenarios. Following the principle of maintaining “mobility, agility, lethality, cost-effectiveness, and stealth,” the ROC Armed Forces must establish a mission-oriented defense system in the land, sea, air, space, and cyberspace domains that can provide early warning of enemy invasion, thus creates Common Operations Pictures to share intelligence through all command and control systems and datalinks to present the enemy’s real time information to commanders at all levels, and connect them closely with frontline forces to form a responsive kill web. In response to enemy attacks, the ROC Armed Forces will deliver precision strikes targeting their vulnerabilities, maximizing total defensive effects.
- (2) Once the enemy invades, the ROC Armed Forces must fully exploit the geographical advantages of the strait and our homeland defense posture that favors protracted operations to expand the space for defensive operations externally and strengthen civil-military integration mechanisms internally. Our operations are divided into the following phases: Routine Crisis Management, Combat Readiness Deployment, Joint Anti-landing, Littoral and Coastal Combat, Defense in Depth, and Protracted Operations. Each phase, designed to degrade enemy offensives and deny occupation of key operational nodes, comprises of multiple perimeters defended by multi-layered forces. Concurrently, the ROC Armed Forces will employ striking, garrison, and reserve forces to vigorously delay, disrupt and deny enemy intents in all offensive phases, including Transit, Foothold, Formation, Penetration, Consolidation, and Force Buildup. Our forces will make the best of favorable terrains and fortifications and employ available firepower to continually neutralize and debilitate waves of enemy offensives in each phase till they grind to a halt after suffering heavy losses and ultimately give up the invasion.
- (3) In response to a variety of PRC’s gray zone activities, the ROC Armed Forces, upholding the principle of “being prepared, not provocative; being responsive, not evasive,” is actively integrating all ISR and early warning assets, such as various radars, satellites, airborne early warning (AEW) aircraft, UAVs, and naval vessels, and enhancing joint ISR capabilities and responsive mechanisms. In collaboration with interagency efforts, the ROC Armed Forces continues analyzing the modes and patterns of PRC’s gray zone activities as a reference for formulating and refining our response rules and courses of action to counteract their provocations aptly and effectively.

2. Resilience Defense: Enhance Defense Mechanisms of Whole-of-Society

- (1) To effectively defend against military threats, the ROC Armed Forces is fully committed to strengthening defense capabilities and resilience, optimizing capacities for asymmetric warfare, enhancing force mobility, and flexibly spreading out forces based on operational status. Guided by the concept of redundant configuration, all important assets have multiple backups to avoid paralysis from a single strike. To improve supply efficiency, critical logistics supply hubs will be prepositioned in important operational areas. To avoid exposing movement, signal transmissions of electronic equipment will be seriously regulated, and all movements of forces will be concealed and covered. Upon any indication of enemy invasion, mobilization will be activated swiftly. The ROC Armed Forces must routinely strengthen coordination between regular and reserve forces to be highly combat ready in peacetime and survivable in wartime. In the event of war, forces must first try to preserve capability from enemy firepower before engagement, exploit nearby terrains and barriers to enhance resilience for protracted operations, and then lash out at enemy forces in due time to deny their invasion.
- (2) The ROC Armed Forces must integrate whole-of-society defense resilience and exert full potential of all-out defense mobilization, through civil-military integration, civilian materials and manpower requisition to support military operations, enhance critical infrastructure protection, and maintain core functions of the society and continuous operations of the government. Additionally, The ROC Armed Forces must improve the mobilization efficiency of reserve forces, improve weapons and equipment and training programs, and coordinate their operations with active duty forces to maximize collective combat potential and achieve strategic endurance, thereby dissuading the PRC from resorting to the use of force even at substantial cost.
- (3) Strengthening cooperation with our international partners is the cornerstone for us to rally international support to enhance our defense resilience. As a critical node in the passages to the West Pacific and the SCS, Taiwan resides at the center of the first island chain and is playing an important strategic role to confront the expansion of authoritarian regimes, and maintaining the status quo of peace and stability within the deterrence and defense framework of the democratic world in the Indo-Pacific. Our nation remains committed to expanding and deepening military exchanges and security ties with our international partners, and we will act together with concrete measures to counter enemy's provocation and intimidation.



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Chapter 3 Forging Winning Force

Envisioning enemy threats, technological development, patterns of warfare, and battlefield scenarios, the ROC Armed Forces, guided by the military strategy of “resolute defense and multi-domain deterrence,” is transforming into a resilient combat force capable of prevailing in future patterns of warfare through the following approaches: proactively promoting reserve forces transformation and civil-military integration, enhancing logistical support and training effectiveness, strengthening ICCE defensive capabilities, and consolidating psychological power.

Section 1 Developing Asymmetric and Resilient Capabilities

The ROC Armed Forces continues developing asymmetric capabilities focused on replenishing reserve forces rapidly, reducing erosion from hostile gray zone activities, and effectively preserving combat power for swift recovery during wartime. These efforts are aimed at ensuring effectiveness and sustainability of their combat power.

1. Integrating Deterrent and Asymmetric Capabilities

- (1) The ROC Armed Forces is continuously refining the joint operational command mechanism, developing various long-range precision strike weapons, and integrating ISR measures to form a kill chain, to attack the centers of gravity and key nodes of the enemy's landing operations, thereby disrupting and impeding their planned operations and tempo and ultimately thwarting their missions.
- (2) "Constructing asymmetric capabilities," "improving operational resilience," "reinforcing reserve forces' capabilities" and "strengthening capability of responding to gray zone activities" are our four force buildup principles. These principles were conceived to bolster the ROC Armed Forces' overall deterrent and sustainable capabilities to ensure security and stability in the region and defend against any invasion.
- (3) The ROC Armed Forces is strengthening capabilities for homeland defense in depth by acquiring asymmetric weapons, including various man-portable and vehicle-mounted anti-armor weapons and UAVs, which will inflict precision strikes on all types of enemy's vessels and vehicles at littoral, coastal areas, and ports during landing operations.
- (4) The ROC Armed Forces has been comprehensively planning for the acquisition of surveillance, reconnaissance and attack UAVs that can be module upgraded based on future operational requirements to ensure continued maintaining the latest equipment performance.
- (5) Rapid adoption of proven technologies; unmanned systems; AI; and assets for cyber warfare, information warfare, EW, and ISR operations are highlighted in our force buildup plans. The ROC Armed Forces must continue adjusting weapon inventory and organizational structure of all the strike, garrison, and reserve forces based on respective acceptance schedules of new weapons and equipment.
- (6) Each TO command must adjust its defensive posture as per combat readiness plans. The Navy has set up littoral strike groups to improve mobile, agile, lethal, cost-effective, and concealed striking and operational capabilities.

2. Stressing Strategic Endurance and Defense Resilience

- (1) The ROC Armed Forces must integrate surveillance, reconnaissance, command and control systems, and all applicable weapons and equipment to collect real-time battlefield intelligence and monitor hostile activities in the vicinity of Taiwan and targeted areas. Processed intelligence will be available for all relevant units in support of their precautionary measures, decision making processes, and operational responses.
- (2) Major command posts implement the concept of Mission Command, decentralized operation, and fielded redundant backup systems, along with mobile command and control vehicles to strengthen communications resilience and commercial telecommunications devices and software applications to enhance command and control efficiency.
- (3) By reviewing battlefield environments, all units strengthen their camouflage and concealment arrangements; strictly regulate electronic signals and information flow to mitigate the risks of enemy detections, and complete the plans for evacuation and sheltering, conduct force dispersal and preservation of capability.

3. Supporting ICCE with Emerging Technologies

- (1) The MND must set up a virtual cyber warfare training ground, and conduct drills with governmental agencies, simulating mass hacking and information security incidents. The MND also exchanges interagency information to enhance its defensive cyber warfare skills and capacities. Furthermore, The MND will adopt ICC security toolkits and emerging AI technologies to improve information protection and full-time monitoring and reporting mechanisms, ensuring effective control of the ROC Armed Forces' cyber security status.
- (2) Acquiring high-performance electronic surveillance, reconnaissance, and jamming equipment. These pieces of equipment will be utilized for battlefield management and on-site real-time training sessions to ensure participants' familiarity with all procedures and scenarios. Furthermore, the ROC Armed Forces must develop defensive training items with UAV scenarios and similar threats to validate EW techniques and capabilities.
- (3) Optimizing spectrum management. The ROC Armed Forces regulates and allocate specific frequency bandwidths for both peacetime and wartime operations in accordance with established communication protocols and different UAV models, such as ISR, land-based, and ship-borne configurations.
- (4) The ROC Armed Forces must adopt cloud technologies and design a system infrastructure featuring a distributed multi-cloud architecture, ensuring the backup systems can switch over seamlessly and without interruption. In addition, concepts of zero trust architecture (ZTA) and multi-layered cyber security defense must be adopted to enhance the security and stability of information flow and to improve the digital resilience of the ROC Armed Forces.

Section 2 Conducting Realistic Training

The ROC Armed Forces conducts highly realistic force-on-force exercises and joint training to ensure participating units possess combat ready capabilities. In conjunction with conversion training for new equipment, the training course and intensity will be increased to enrich combat skills of troops at all levels and enhance their immediate combat-readiness capabilities.

1. Using On-site Scenarios for Realistic Training and Exercises

- (1) In response to the enemy's diversified threats and rapid changes in battlefields, the ROC Armed Forces, following the concept of joint operations, conduct various realistic combat training, which is carried out in a "force-on-force, on-site, and real-time" manner.
- (2) The ROC Armed Forces will construct realistic battlefield environments for joint training and exercises, force-on-force drills, and live-fire shooting practices to validate their results under near realistic combat conditions.
- (3) All drills and exercises are centered on executing joint operational plans and missions, aiming to empower all units to independently estimate the situation and execute the operations plans. During these activities, participants are required to know their areas of responsibilities (AORs), combat positions, and all contingency rules to ensure a high level of readiness during both peacetime and wartime.
- (4) The MND continues developing and fielding various types of simulators to enhance troops' combat and response capabilities in diverse and realistic battlefield scenarios.

2. Incorporating New Weapons in Drills and Training

- (1) Aligning with the acceptance schedules of their newly acquired weapons, main forces will be validated in base training sessions, drills, and exercises with realistic scenarios to ensure their competence in authentic operations.
- (2) A UAV training center was established to train seed instructors and so as to fulfill the talent pool of UAV operators continually.
- (3) Unmanned platforms are employed for defensive operations. The MND is formulating tactics, techniques, and doctrines to address both offensive and defensive roles of UAVs.

3. Strengthening Conscript Training and Capabilities Stepwise

- (1) In response to enemy threats, the MND has activated the "military force realignment plan" to enlist one-year conscripts since 2024, aiming to significantly enhance immediate combat capacities for all units.
- (2) New conscripts undergo basic military training (BMT), followed by station unit and base training stepwise. Additionally, they will learn to operate man-portable air-defense (MANPAD) systems, anti-armor weapons, and UAVs to build up combat readiness capabilities.

Section 3 Enhancing Reserve Forces

The recall training programs are gradually intensified based on mission types of reserve units and conducted at designated tactical locations for the assigned reservists to practice planned operations and acquire the ability to fight with regular forces. Furthermore, the ROC Armed Forces will improve civil-military integration and increase operational efficiency of pre-stocking, supply, and transportation to strengthen operational sustainability.

1. Enriching Mobilization Resources

- (1) To achieve the objectives of “being mobilized, organized, and combat ready on site,” the number of cadre members within reserve forces is being increased annually. This allows them to conduct recall training and equipment maintenance independently.
- (2) The MND is increasing recall training slots and batches for voluntary female reservists. All reserve units are instructed to gain experience in training preparation and gender-specific security measures during this process to gradually optimize the management and recall programs for them.
- (3) A talent mobilization database is established to consolidate information of civilian specialists listed by governmental agencies. Especially, listed personnel with specialized skills in medicine, information, unmanned platforms, and heavy machinery operations will be called upon if needed by operational requirements.

2. Divest Obsolete Equipment

- (1) To meet mission objectives, deployment plans, and training requirements for defensive operations, MND will progressively restructure reserve forces and update their weapons and equipment to align with the equipping status of regular forces.
- (2) The MND is acquiring new communications equipment, UAVs, MANPADs, and anti-armor weapons and phasing out obsolete ones annually.
- (3) The maintenance and support manpower and facilities for weapons and equipment will be augmented to ensure logistic support during wartime.

3. Enhancing Coordinated Capabilities of Reserve Forces

- (1) During the force-on-force phase of annual Han Kuang exercise, reserve forces are required to participate in the “active duty and reserve force synchronization” drills. During wartime, reserve forces will join main and garrison forces to protect Emergency Command Centers of local governments and critical infrastructure and ensure the continuity of government and society.
- (2) Recall training is extended to 14 days with additional courses and hours on marksmanship, battle drill, and civil defense. Furthermore, the training is held at reserve unit’s designated tactical locations to familiarize participants with their AOR terrains, aiming to establish capabilities of urban garrison and defense in depth.
- (3) During recall training, reserve units follow their assigned missions to accomplish ensuing tasks, including critical infrastructure protection, medical evacuation (MEDVAC) within AORs, unified relief center protection, and personnel withdrawal to air-raid shelters. Additionally, reserve force will collaborate with military police, law enforcement, fire department, and civil defense personnel to validate the mechanisms for all-out defense mobilization.

Section 4 Optimizing Logistic Support

To ensure operational sustainability and efficiency, the ROC Armed Forces will implement several measures such as dispersal prepositioning of logistic support, enhancing maintenance capacities of the three services, and upgrading the logistical information management system (LIMS) to strengthen comprehensive logistic support arrangement,.

1. Dispersing and Prepositioning of Logistic Support

- (1) The ROC Armed Forces must arrange multiple pre-stocking spots for supplies at important tactical locations. If alarmed by potential invasions, the ROC Armed Forces will begin stockpiling various supplies at these spots in a mobilized manner to shorten the time to attain combat readiness and enhance transportation efficiency during wartime.
- (2) The MND must raise the offshore islands' inventory level for stockpiling combat rations and distributed warehouse stocks to forward locations. Furthermore, the inventory level for Meals Ready-to-Eat (MREs) of all units will be formulated based on their mission types.

2. Strengthening and Integrating Military Maintenance Capacities

- (1) Through programs of “establishing maintenance capacities for main weapons,” “integration of maintenance capacities of rotary-wing aircraft,” “test and repair for mainboards,” and “integration of maintenance capacities for missile systems” to establish and integrate maintenance capacities for specific and general-purpose equipment of all services.
- (2) The MND are sending professional maintainers to US and France militaries or original source companies for exchange and training, which are provided through FMS channel and program management review (PMR) meetings in foreign original source companies. The efforts are aimed at getting maintenance capacities released by original sources to enhance the skills and techniques of the maintainers of the ROC Armed Forces.

3. Upgrading LIMS

- (1) The LIMS with full life cycle management functions will be established with cloud technology to share real-time information within the services, aiming to monitor the maintenance statuses of all major weapons and equipment and timely distribute spare parts and supplies to those in need.
- (2) Through the LIMS, the MND creates a Common Logistic Picture (CLP) dotted with locations of operational and logistical units. This CLP will display specific equipment, facilities, and transportation activities and allows logistic centers at all levels to monitor current logistical status and provide timely support to frontline operations.

Section 5 Psychological Readiness and Morale

Faith, camaraderie, and fighting spirit are embodied in a soldier's psychological readiness. Stating from basic training, service members have gone through military education and training to foster resilient psychological fitness and a calling to safeguard the nation. Additionally, the MND must actively dismantle formalities to eliminate futile management approaches that hinder service members focus and weaken morale.

1. Solidifying Faith and Boosting Morale

- (1) The MND instills the awareness of national security and cognitive warfare through defense common education courses in basic training and recall training. In addition, regularly scheduled television programs of “Ju Guang Park” serve to foster a strong military ethos.
- (2) The MND will collaborate with government agencies, local governments, all-out defense mobilization system, schools at all levels, and civilian organizations to periodically host diversified educational activities and produce video programs with social media. Moreover, the MND occasionally hosts civilian instructors' training courses on defense common education and collaborates with civilian educational resources to assist in all-out defense educational activities.
- (3) Trainees in basic training must undergo mental stress resistance training in a simulated combat environment and before base training. Through simulated scenarios and scientific assessments, they can experience the pressure of impending combat, thereby strengthening their mental fitness for real combat.

2. Merging Counseling and Health Resources

- (1) The MND has formulated the “ROC Armed Forces Mental Healthcare Initiative” to bring cadre members, counselors at all levels, and mental health units into the fold and horizontally linked with counseling resources and family support systems in the society, aiming to provide diversified counseling and self-aid channels for all service members.
- (2) The MND is hiring national certified civilian psychologists and social workers to expand the pool of counselors, collaborates with all military hospitals to carry out suicide prevention/health education and case reporting measures to deeply concern about mental status of subject individuals and provide them with timely counseling services.

3. Achieving Information Superiority

- (1) The MND must utilize diversified broadcasting channels and strategic communications mechanisms with international partners to jointly address PRC propaganda warfare.
- (2) The PRC is launching a series of disinformation campaigns including falsified intelligence generated by AI deepfake technology, bogus video clips to demoralize our people and the military, fake satellite images to subvert surveillance assessments, and spreading controversial messages. The MND will employ big data and AI technologies to distinguish the purposes and approaches of these campaigns, aiming to verify and clarify those subject matters, hold their sources accountable, and provide accurate information in a timely manner.
- (3) Any information regarding “Taiwan Surrenders” is erroneous and false. Facing PRC’s military threats, the MND combines interagency efforts to send a clear message both domestically and internationally that undoubtedly our government and society are committed to safeguarding the nation and defying threats to the end.
- (4) The MND is using flexible and targeted broadcasting approaches to provide multi-language content presented by AI anchors/reporters, improves websites and social media platforms and cooperate with key opinion leaders (KOLs) to counter the PRC’s cognitive warfare operations with diversified approaches.

In response to PRC’s verbal attacks and saber-rattling and elusive and murky cognitive warfare, the MND has established interagency channels and integrated ISR capacities to monitor their status in a real-time manner and are working with related agencies to counter every act of infringement.

Section 6 Responding to PRC Incursions

1. In accordance with the Comprehensive Support Agreement for Maritime Missions and the ROC Armed Forces Regulations on Peacetime Contingencies Responses, the ROC Armed Forces are closely monitoring the situation in Taiwan Strait and direct the Navy, interoperating with the CGA, to respond immediately if PRC military and government vessels are spotted loitering around our waters.

2. The MND will develop scenarios after reviewing possible PLA operations and incorporated them into combat training. Each TO command must integrate all ground forces and units of the CGA, military police, military intelligence, law enforcement, fire department, and medical services under its designated AOR into a comprehensive contingency reaction system, which embodies an interagency effort to confront PRC military and non-military incursions.

3. The MND will build up the people's legal understanding of the all-out defense operations and raise their legal awareness towards incursions of gray zone tactics. Through diversified channels, the MND will reveal PRC's attempts to infringe the norms of international law to the global community and form coordination and communication mechanisms regarding legal affairs with friendly countries to shape favorable narratives to our nation.

4. The ROC Armed Forces has formulated the Standing Rules of Engagement (SROE) to serve as a doctrine for all units to conduct missions. Derived from the SROE, the Mission Rules of Engagement (MROE) will be formulated as the basis for peacetime and wartime operations to ensure all units abide by international law. The SROE, MORE and related rules and regulations are subject to be reviewed and amended and will be applied in the annual routine exercises and unscheduled contingency operations as the foundation for authorizing frontline units to counteract PRC's gray zone activities during peacetime.



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Chapter 4

Priorities for Promoting Defense Reforms

To address new defense challenges and security needs, the MND will take the following approaches: optimizing resources allocation, adopting innovative technologies, achieving self-reliant defense, diverse weapons procurement, recruiting talented personnel, and improving force management, to support sustainable development of defense capabilities.

Section 1 **Steady Growth of Budget and Proper Allocation**

After contemplating factors of national security, fiscal burdens and overall economic development, the MND formulates the defense budget and allocates financial resources adequately and properly. Additionally, the MND will strive for a steady growth of its budget and will also resort to special budgets to fulfill the comprehensive operational requirements of the ROC Armed Forces.

1. Proposing Visionary and Pragmatic Budget Plans

Military investments will focus on constructing asymmetric capabilities, improving defense resilience, reinforcing reserve forces and strengthening capabilities to respond gray zone activities. The MND has proposed the budget for these programs pragmatically according to their respective timelines and will maintain a reasonable growth for the overall defense budget. Following the President's announcement, the MND will prioritize on formulating special budgets to increase the defense budget to over 3% of the GDP to invest in building up our defense capabilities.

2. Allocating Financial Resources Steadily and Properly

Based on the principle of zero-based budgeting (ZBB), the MND has reviewed the demands of policy implementation, the priority of military investment programs, the timelines of these programs and those of indigenous aircraft and vessels development to adequately and properly allocate financial resources. In addition, the MND will estimate and plan the required budget for spare parts, components, and maintenance services for main equipment to maintain their high combat readiness.

Section 2 Adopting Innovative Technologies and Applications

Currently, new unmanned systems, cyber and EW, surveillance and reconnaissance technologies, communications technologies, AI, and novel weapons are emerging rapidly and becoming core competencies in the modern battlefield. Our defense force buildup must be able to swiftly and flexibly adopt these civilian technologies to meet the challenges of a rapidly-changing battlefields.

1. Application of Critical Innovative Technologies

- (1) The MND has been and will continue leveraging R&D and production capacities of the private sector's advance technologies to expedite defense innovations and achieve asymmetric superiority for defense operations.
- (2) The MND has established the Defense Innovation Office (DIO) with the priority on unmanned systems, anti-UAV systems, AI applications, communications, and information security that the private sector has shown substantive achievements. To identify promising applications and trends in both international and domestic emerging technologies, the MND conducts industrial capacity surveys, analyzes commercial trends and engages in technology exchanges, so as to support force buildup and acquisition plans.
- (3) To establish principles for an accountable, traceable, trustworthy, and controllable development in line with international norms, the MND will refer to NATO and US regulations and guidelines pertaining to AI development to form relevant regulations and ethical norms for military AI applications.

2. Shaping Ecosystem for Defense Innovation

- (1) The MND is adopting proven commercial technological for applications in military operations and is subsidizing qualified contractors to improve or enhance their COTS items to meet battlefield demands at an affordable cost.
- (2) The MND is releasing purchase requirements to private sector and encouraging their investment and R&D efforts in defense industrial.
- (3) To improve self-reliant armament supply capacities, the MND supports various Defense Advanced Technological Research Programs with resources consolidated by 7 Centers for National Defense Technology and Research supervised by the National Science and Technology Council, to commission experts and specialists in domestic academic and research institutions to develop critical technologies, which will be integrated by entities such as the NCSIST and subsequently released to the private sector to upgrade our industrial level.

Section 3 **Self-reliant Defense and Diversified Acquisitions**

The semiconductors, AI, defense industry, and information security in the Five Most Reliable Industries are identified by the MND as priority investment areas. Developing advanced semiconductors and AI applications, forging a UAV supply chain, and creating a standard-compliant information security infrastructure will boost domestic demand and help upgrade industries. The MND also maintains diversified acquisition channels to support both military security and self-reliant defense.

1. Realizing Self-reliant Defense and Forging UAV R&D Center

- (1) The MND will merge R&D outcomes from industries, academia, and research institutions and local industrial advantage technologies to promote advanced defense technology and indigenous weapon systems research and manufacturing. The MND will gradually increase indigenous production capability for key modules and components to achieve self-sufficiency in supply and maintenance.
- (2) Given the evolving modern battlefield, the MND assigns the NCSIST to propose R&D plans for domestic production of weapon equipment or key parts and components that are initially applicable in the market or derived from technology programs at qualified Technology Readiness Level (TRL).
- (3) Throughout the R&D timelines of various weapon systems, the MND is seeking key technological breakthroughs. The MND must review developing trends of global military aircraft to devise weapons and equipment R&D and acquisition plans for air operations. As for naval assets, the MND will adopt a long-term batchwise approach to acquiring key technologies or equipment for naval vessels. The MND remains committed to realizing domestic production of aircraft and vessels, thereby achieving the goal of self-reliant defense.
- (4) The NCSIST is constructing the “Aerospace and UAV Industrial Park” as a venue to accommodate companies in this sector. In collaboration with the Asia UAV AI Innovation Application R&D Center of the MOEA, the Park will aim to develop UAV and aerospace industries and take part in the “non-red” international UAV supply chain.

2. Diversified Weapon Acquisition Channels for Quality Items

As per Article 22 of the National Defense Act, acquisition should prioritize domestic over foreign sources. If weapons and equipment cannot be sourced or produced locally in the short term, the MND shall purchase COTS items or go through FMS channels to quickly acquire capabilities. The MND is also seeking US assistance through diversified acquisition channels to shorten the timelines of acceptance and conversion training and the process to achieve full operational capability (FOC).

3. Utilizing Policy Tools for Defense Industry Upgrade

- (1) The MND implements a certification system as stipulated in the Defense Industry Development Act to identify qualified contractors and provides rewards and subsidies for them to pursue technological R&D and upgrade our defense industry.
- (2) Through releasing defense requirements, The MND motivates qualified contractors to boost production, enhance domestic R&D and production rates, helps maintain a steady development of our defense industry, and reinforce the resilience of the defense supply chain.

Section 4 **Cultivation and Retention of Talents**

The ROC Armed Forces continues optimizing recruitment activities, personnel appraisals, leadership training, and retention efforts to meet the manpower requirements necessary for operational and maintenance duties.

1. Anticipating Future Specialty Needs and Expanding Manpower Pool

- (1) To stay informed of developing trends in modern and emerging technologies and changing patterns of warfare, planning to activate courses on AI, unmanned systems, communications, and cyberwarfare for service members, sending qualified members abroad to learn advanced technologies and skills, and establishing a system for On-Job-Training(OJT) courses and professional certification.
- (2) Encouraging service members with science and engineering backgrounds to apply for domestic and international advanced research institutions to learn new technologies and skills. Additionally, the NCSIST and the MND are recruiting service members with science and engineering backgrounds to foster their practical experience and cultivate them as skilled technology cadres.

2. Emphasizing OJT, Allowances for Talent Retention

- (1) With a focus on human-centric management, the MND is reviewing and refining management approaches within the forces, furthermore, increasing volunteer service allowances, combat allowances, and similar incentives to retain service members and motivate discharged members to re-enlist.
- (2) Service members who graduated from foreign military academies are given priority for management positions and liaison officer roles, subsequently advancing to higher positions within their respective career tracks.
- (3) Continues improving OJT and encourages service members to attend degree or certification programs off-duty to foster their expertise.
- (4) New recruits will be instructed step-by-step and progressively to perform their tasks and assimilate into the military community.

3. Cultivating Civilian Officers and Strengthening Expertise

- (1) To Foster better relations between military and civilian personnel and improve the bridging education, the MND plans military profession training courses for defense civilian officers to enhance expertise in national defense; sends qualified senior and middle-ranking civilian officers to attend in-service strategic courses, together with a functioning promotion system, aiming to cultivate a group of civilian officers with military professionalism.
- (2) In alignment with the national policy to promote bilingualism, the MND has launched courses in English and other foreign languages for civilian officers. Additionally, various learning channels have been offered to enhance English or the other foreign language comprehension levels and competence in the workplace.
- (3) To retain defense civilian officers, the MND publicly praises and recognizes long-serving individuals who have been recently promoted; undertakes various approaches, such as offering positions to applicable individuals qualified in civil service examinations and requesting the reassignment of qualified civil servants from other governmental agencies to increase the number of civil servants.

Section 5 **Modernizing Force Management**

To uphold and pass down an exemplary organizational culture characterized by honor, discipline, and adherence to orders, and to address leadership demands in the new era, the ROC Armed Forces has kept on pragmatically reviewed organizational structure, management culture, and training methodologies to improve organizational efficiency.

1. Revamping Discipline Education and Protecting Individual Rights

- (1) The ROC Armed Forces promotes legal procedures for the Servicemember Relief Act and the Armed Forces Disciplinary Punishment Act to protect service members' rights in public law disputes and to maintain discipline within the units.
- (2) Under the prerequisite of in compliance with laws and regulations, reducing administrative formalities to encourage service members to develop a sense of self-discipline.
- (3) Continue implementing renovation and construction programs for military facilities and living quarters with consolidated relevant funds and in priority. The MND is committed to providing well-organized housing, office buildings, recreational areas, and living quarters to enhance the quality of life for service members.
- (4) In accordance with the government's policy to promote public childcare and provide optimal childcare environment, the MND has outsourced non-profit legal entities to operate and manage its childcare centers, thereby meeting the childcare needs of service members.

2. Improving Oversight Efforts and Realizing Risk Management

- (1) Ingraining a sense of precaution into daily operations and decision-making processes across units at all levels to improve their risk management awareness. Precautionary inspections must be conducted to eliminate potential risks.
- (2) The experience and new technical knowledge of commercial airlines are utilized as a reference for conducting flight management and formulating flight safety policies. The MND has established exchange channels among the services for them to observe actual management practices from one another, so as to improve their risk management protocols.

3. Upholding Integrity and Competence to Shape an Anti-Corruption Military Culture

To promote anti-corruption education, the MND has started instructor training courses and competence-building workshops for participants to identify risks of corruption and take timely precautionary measures. The MND has established a collaboration platform to exchange anti-corruption information with governmental agencies and private entities; is striving for reputation in the Government Defense Integrity Index (GDI) assessment to reflect the ROC Armed Forces' commitment to maintaining a clean and transparent image.



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Chapter 5

All-out Defense Mobilization for Sustaining Operations

To construct a powerful democratic society and ensure national security, the Whole-of-Society Defense Resilience Committee was inaugurated on 19th June 2024 in the Presidential Office, aiming to put forward solutions from all aspects of society. To realize this purpose, the MND has drawn on the practices of the US and European democratic countries to construct an interagency civil-military integration and coordination mechanism to support HA/DR and military operations in which mobilization mechanisms and contingency response will be validated through realistic drills and exercises.

Section 1 Refining Mobilization Mechanism and Civil Defense Capacities

As mandated by the All-out Defense Mobilization Readiness Act, the MND undertakes preparation tasks for each stage of mobilization. It consistently integrates all-out defense resources, conducts drills and exercises with governmental agencies and local governments, and promotes civil defense education and contingency training. These efforts ensure a rapid transition to combat ready status for all parties involved, thereby maximizing our all-out defense power.

1. Boosting up All-out Defense Power

- (1) Upon credible signs of an enemy invasion, the MND will immediately issues an order to recall all reservists. Each TO command then gives instructions to those under its jurisdiction and assigns them to fill in regular units and bolster reserve units and completes manpower and materiel preparations in advance.
- (2) Guided by the EY's all-out defense mobilization mechanism, the MND endeavors to maintain emergency capacities of governmental agencies and meet the demands for maintaining necessities of life during wartime through mobilization committee meetings and mobilization plans at all governmental levels, surveys on manpower and materiel capacity, an integrated mobilization information system, personnel training, and validation through drills and exercises.
- (3) Through interagency collaboration and coordination, the MND is strengthening training and employment of civil defense power, conducting strategic materials inventory, organizing social and medical care services, and ensuring security of communications networks, and seeking opportunities to share views and experiences with like-minded countries so as to amend reserve mobilization policies.

2. Assisting in Developing Civil Defense capability

- (1) During peacetime, each municipal government is responsible for organizing civil defense units within its jurisdiction to fulfill civil defense affairs. In times of contingency, the MND will coordinate with local JECCCs to assign available and applicable civil defense manpower to assist in defensive operations of the ROC Armed Forces.
- (2) Civil defense courses are incorporated into conscript training, imparting survival and mutual aid skills to enable conscripts to continue protecting our homeland after discharge.

Section 2 Interagency Collaboration

Guided by the National Security Council, the Whole-of-Society Defense Resilience Committee, and the EY, the MND serves as a part of the secretariat of the mechanism, holds quarterly meetings, and delegates to the All-out Defense Mobilization Agency (ADMA) to assign specific staff to oversee the processes and facilitate action plans in five key areas, aiming to strengthen HA/DR capacities of central and local governments. Additionally, through conducting urban resilience (all-out defense mobilization and air-raid defense) exercises and contingency plans, the MND unites the efforts of the government and the civil to jointly protect our critical infrastructure and establish effective resource allocation and contingency mechanisms to ensure civil-military coordination during wartime.

1. Protecting Critical Infrastructure

- (1) Regarding infrastructure and assets crucial to national security, public safety, societal functioning, and economic well-being, the MND will review the operations plan for overall defense and force availability to put those entities that registered in the EY's national critical infrastructure list under the protection of the ROC Armed Forces to maintain their functions and recovery abilities.
- (2) During wartime, the MND will collaborate with local governments, law enforcement units, fire departments, civil defense units, and special protection teams to handle crises and tasks related to the protection of critical infrastructure. In peacetime, as directed by the EY's Office of Homeland Security, the ROC Armed Forces incorporates relevant drills and security protection measures into major exercises and training sessions for the purpose of validation.

2. Unifying Civil-military Collaborative Defense Mechanisms

- (1) The ROC Armed Forces routinely host urban resilience drills and "Zi-Qiang" exercises to validate the efficiency of mobilization preparation and emergency reaction of local governments.
- (2) The main themes of these drills and exercises include emergency command and control; siren broadcasting; personnel evacuation; HA/DR; setting up shelters, commissaries, and first-aid stations; ration supply; and urgent production during wartime. This arrangement aims to improve local government responses during emergencies, update mobilization databases, and combine manpower and materiel resources to support military operations.

Section 3 **Destruction and Disaster Prevention and Relief**

To prepare for hybrid disasters and major wartime destructions, the MND is working with governmental agencies and local governments to create an integrated civil-military medical system and emergency reaction mechanisms in advance. This aims to preserve medical capacities and execute HA/DR missions collectively during wartime.

1. Destruction and Disaster Prevention and Reaction

- (1) To manage and coordinate the medical capacities of hospitals within its AOR, each TO command has established connections with local governments through their JECCCs. During wartime, each TO command can requisition medical products and request their production from pharmaceutical manufactures that have signed mobilized production contracts with the ROC Armed Forces.
- (2) During Han Kuang exercises, the ROC Armed Forces simulates joint operations mechanisms through wargames and force-on-force drills. Units at all levels must compile operational surveys for HA/DR in their respective AORs and get manpower and gears ready. Liaison officers are assigned, and necessary forces are prepositioned immediately if a disaster is imminent.
- (3) If extended relief support is needed and regular forces are insufficient during major domestic disasters, each TO command can direct reserve units that are undergoing annual recall training to provide support in due time. Additionally, TO commands can use recall training to improve reservists' practical HA/DR skills.

2. Expanding Capacities for Battlefield Medical Care

- (1) Drawn on US experience in tactical combat casualty care (TCCC), the ROC Armed Forces will establish Forward Surgical Teams, which may join level 2 medical units during wartime to provide recovery and surgical treatments for critically wounded personnel who cannot be immediately evacuated, and stabilize them for subsequent evacuation.
- (2) The ROC Armed Forces has created a combat casualty care training mechanism. Each service and TO has a specific unit that trains service members on self and mutual treatment when wounded under fire.
- (3) To meet wartime medical needs, the ROC Armed Forces hospitals in each TO will increase beds for burn victims and intensive care units (ICUs), amplify the stockpile of artificial skin and pharmaceutical products, and expand storage space for blood.
- (4) The ROC Armed Forces continues hosting joint medical drills with public and private hospitals to enhance the proficiency of military medical units in treating combat injuries.



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Chapter 6 Regional Links to Improve Collective Deterrence

To address strategic challenges in the Indo-Pacific region, our nation, adhering to the universal values of freedom and democracy, is seeking deepening security exchange and cooperation with international partners, also playing a pivotal role in the international industrial supply chain and promoting a regional collective defense mechanism to work closely with democratic international partners, aiming to consolidate the democratic camp's efforts to collectively deter the PRC and respond to geopolitical risks.

Section 1

Deepening Bilateral Interaction and Cooperation with the US

The US is an important strategic partner of our nation, keeping a close military exchange and cooperation relation to assist in strengthening our self-defense capabilities. Building upon the existing foundation of cooperation, the ROC Armed Forces is deepening defense and security strategic partnerships with US counterparts across multiple domains and levels to jointly maintain the peace and stability in Taiwan Strait.

1. Bilateral Interaction and Cooperation

- (1) Based on the Taiwan Relations Act and the Six Assurances, Taiwan and the US are expanding exchanges and cooperation in all domains in recent years. To ensure effective deterrence against potential threats, the MND plans to progressively increase and deepen further cooperation through various measures, including arranging high-level strategic and security policy dialogues and mutual visits, observing bilateral drills and exercises, sharing information, discussing operational issues, conducting joint wargaming, advancing armament R&D, and promoting defense industrial collaboration.
- (2) Through the established bilateral military exchange framework and mechanism, the MND continually expresses our policy positions and self-reliant defense policy, aiming to primarily seek cooperation in areas of military interoperability, defense industry, and reserve mobilization, and join hands with the US counterparts to address emerging threats and challenges collectively.

2. Strategic Communication to Build Mutual Trust

The MND bolsters policy dialogues and strategic communication with US counterparts and also boost exchanges and cooperation in defense R&D, cybersecurity, and lessons-learned in operations and training to enhance our overall ISR, long-range precision strike, and battlefield command and control capabilities, thereby strengthening bilateral relations as security partners.

Section 2

Expanding Security Partnerships with International Partners

The geostrategic importance of Taiwan has caught international spotlight in recent years. As a responsible stakeholder in the region, the ROC will make the most of favorable atmosphere in international democratic communities to collaborate with like-minded countries to form a multilateral security network. This effort aims to collectively address potential risks and threats, and to protect the values and life of freedom and democracy.

1. Expanding Exchanges with International Partners

- (1) The MND is expanding exchanges with international partners in areas of intelligence sharing, scientific R&D, cybersecurity, anti-gray zone activities, and cognitive warfare threats with the goal of establishing a regional defense mechanism.
- (2) The MND is working with the Institute for National Defense and Security Research (INDSR) to expand academic and policy dialogues through international forums and exchanges and mutual visits with foreign think tanks. By increasing strategic communication and interaction with international communities, the MND continues drawing greater attention and support to the security in Taiwan Strait.

2. Building Friendly Security Alliance

The MND fosters close cooperation through activities such as mutual visits, topic discussions, technical exchanges, and military assistance with counterparts from countries that share similar strategic interests. The goal is to maintain military cooperation, pursue the establishment of an international collective defense, and achieve collective security and deterrence.

Section 3 Securing Defense Supply Chain

By introducing innovative technologies, increasing productivity, and establishing diversified supply channels, the MND intends to reduce reliance on critical parts and components from sole sources, aiming to foster a self-reliant defense industry. The MND is committed to strengthening connections with industrial supply chains formed by international and strategic partners to construct a robust and flexible defense supply system for handling complex and dynamic security challenges.

1. Strengthening Security for Defense Supply Chain

- (1) The MND is establishing a grading system and security check criteria for defense industry suppliers to exclude those funded by PRC entities or employing PRC personnel to ensure the security of their facilities, equipment, and sensitive information.
- (2) The MND has been laying a collaboration foundation with international partners' supply chains to facilitate the delivery of urgently needed armaments and defense items and streamline the acquisition process.

2. Promoting International Armament Cooperation

- (1) Pursuant to the Defense Industry Development Act, the MND motivates domestic suppliers to obtain production licenses and authorizations of technology transfer from foreign original sources, aiming to foster the development of our defense industry and enhance our domestic technological capacities. Furthermore, the MND is promoting domestic participation in the international defense industrial supply chains to show our strategic value, endeavoring to increase and strengthen international exchanges and cooperation to establish regional partnerships.
- (2) The MND is facilitating connections between defense industry and the international partners, intending to collaborate with international partners to enhance the capabilities and capacities of industrial base, promote defense innovation, share information, and remove obstacles to cooperation. Additionally, the MND is taking part in international activities to work with counterparts in democratic partner countries to construct a safer and more resilient “non-red” supply chain.

Conclusion

In today's rapidly changing global landscape, our nation is facing an increasing threat from the PRC and diverse challenges presented by the comprehensive strategic environment. By maintaining vigilance and preparedness, strengthening combat readiness, enhancing defense capabilities, and cooperating with like-minded international partners, we can develop a viable deterrence to transform crises into opportunities.

With these in mind, the MND remains proactive in defense reforms, upward defense spending, capability buildup, better training, and all-out defense readiness.

Looking into the future, the MND is committed to its comprehensive force buildup plan, which emphasizes improving operational resilience, enhancing reserve forces, and leveraging innovative technologies to increase our defense advantages. Moreover, the MND will optimize civil-military integration mechanisms to effectively respond to the threats of gray zone activities and deter enemy invasion.

Concerning the rapidly evolving nature of defense challenges and changing patterns of warfare, the support and concerted efforts of the people are indispensable for national defense and security. Through the cooperation between the people and the ROC Armed Forces, we can raise our comprehensive combat readiness and construct a whole-of-society defense resilience characterized by high adaptability. Our belief is that "safeguarding the nation is a shared responsibility" and that every citizen has a role in sustaining peace and prosperity across the Taiwan Strait and the region.

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