

U.S.-Japan-Republic of Korea Trilateral Video Teleconference

The United States, Japan, and the Republic of Korea (ROK), held a trilateral video-teleconference on September 19 (EST) to share information regarding the September 14 (EST) North Korean missile launch and to continue to develop strategy with respect to North Korea.

Mr. Andrew Winternitz, Acting Principal Director for East Asia, Mr. Taro Yamato, Japan Director for Defense Policy, and Brigadier General Park Cheol Kyun, ROK Deputy Director General for International Policy, led their respective interagency delegations.

The representatives of the United States, Japan, and the ROK condemned in the strongest terms the North Korean missile launch as a clear and flagrant violation of multiple United Nations Security Council resolutions, including Resolution 2375 adopted on September 11 (EST).

The officials described the recent North Korean ballistic missile launch that overflowed Japan and impacted the Pacific Ocean as a grave and serious threat to regional peace and stability, and emphasized that the act is totally unacceptable.

The three sides resolved to continue bolstering trilateral security cooperation and coordination to deter and respond to threats posed by North Korea. They also concurred on continuing to apply maximum pressure on North Korea, in concert with the international community, to compel it to take concrete action to abandon its nuclear and ballistic missile programs and not to take any further provocative actions.

The United States reaffirmed its ironclad security commitments to Japan and the ROK.